

2011

Wisconsin Births and Infant Deaths



Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health
Office of Health Informatics

Foreword

The Department of Health Services is mandated by section 69.03 (9), Wisconsin Statutes, to prepare an annual report on vital statistics. This report summarizes data collected from the confidential portion of the birth record and related infant death information compiled from resident death certificates.

The Department of Health Services produced this publication, which was prepared in the Office of Health Informatics, Division of Public Health.

In the Office of Health Informatics, staff of the Vital Records Section, Registration and Statistics Unit, collected and compiled the birth, infant death, and fetal death records. Laura Ninneman, Audrey Nohel, Karl Pearson, and Yiwu Zhang prepared the report and updated the narrative. Patricia Nametz edited the report. Draft review and comments were provided by staff in the Bureau of Community Health Promotion, Division of Public Health. The report was prepared under the supervision of Oskar Anderson, State Registrar, Vital Records Section and Director of the Office of Health Informatics, and Milda Aksamitauskas, Section Chief, Health Analytics Section.

Beginning with the 2011 data year, individual tables and other components of the report will be posted as they become available. Wisconsin Births and Infant Deaths, 2011 will also be posted as a single large document after all its components have been released.

Additional health-related statistical information for Wisconsin is available through the Internet on the Department of Health Services website, at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/stats/>. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) is a data query system that allows users to obtain birth and other data tailored to their specifications, at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/>.

Comments, suggestions and requests for further information may be addressed to:

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Introduction

This report presents information about births that occurred in 2011 to Wisconsin residents. Information from previous years is also presented to show changes over time. Information is included on the number and rate of live births; demographic characteristics of the mother, such as age, race/ethnicity, marital status, education and number of previous births; characteristics of the pregnancy and delivery, including the trimester that prenatal care began, number of visits, and whether the mother smoked during pregnancy; and characteristics of the newborn. Also included is information about infants who died before their first birthday and fetuses of more than 20 weeks of gestation who were stillborn.

Beginning January 1, 2011, Wisconsin began collecting birth data using a new web-based data entry system for hospitals. The new system adopted the 2003 U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth. Previously, Wisconsin had been collecting data based on the 1989 U.S. Standard Certificate of Live Birth. Many changes have been made to the data collection process for Wisconsin births. Some information is no longer collected, new information has been added, and some information is still collected but using a different definition. Comparisons between 2011 data and data from previous years should be made only with great caution. Please refer to the Technical Notes for a more complete description of changes.

All data in this report refer to Wisconsin residents unless otherwise noted. In most tables, events have been assigned to the place where the person lives (usually legal residence), regardless of the place of the event. For births, the reference is to the residence of the mother. For deaths, the reference is to the residence of the infant.

The data files used are the Wisconsin resident birth certificate file, the matched birth-death file, and the fetal death file. Most tables include the frequencies of events or conditions, along with percentages or rates.

Chapter 69 of the Wisconsin Statutes mandates the Department of Health Services to supervise and direct the collection of birth data from hospitals and birth attendants. State law also requires the Department to protect the confidentiality of birth data, and to ensure that statistical information based on the data (such as that contained in this report) does not identify any individual. The Office of Health Informatics in the Department of Health Services scrupulously follows written procedures to protect the confidential data entrusted to it.

The National Center for Health Statistics works with representatives of all 50 states to select the specific data items collected on the birth record. Data items are chosen for their usefulness in understanding and improving maternal and child health outcomes.

The Office of Health Informatics acknowledges and thanks the Wisconsin hospitals and birth attendants who reported birth information, and their counterparts in neighboring states who submitted out-of-state birth data for Wisconsin residents.

Key Findings

- In 2011, there were 67,741 live births to Wisconsin residents, 626 fewer than in 2010 (68,367).
- The 2011 crude birth rate in Wisconsin was 11.9 births per 1,000 total population, compared to 12.0 in 2010. The United States crude birth rate for 2011 was 12.7 per 1,000 population. (The crude birth rate is the number of live births per 1,000 total population.)
- The 2011 general fertility rate of 62.0 births per 1,000 Wisconsin females aged 15-44 was lower than the 2011 United States general fertility rate of 63.2 (see Technical Notes for source of U.S. data).
- In 2011, the fertility rate for Wisconsin teens aged 15-19 was 23.2 births per 1,000 females in this age group, compared to 26.2 in 2010. In 2011, the U.S. teen fertility rate was 31.3.
- In 2011, non-Hispanic white women accounted for 74 percent of Wisconsin resident births, Hispanic/Latina women for 10 percent, and non-Hispanic black/African American women for 9 percent. (2011 was the first year mothers could indicate more than one race on the birth certificate. See Technical Notes for explanation of race/ethnicity values).
- In 2011, 13 percent of Wisconsin women who gave birth had not finished high school. Forty-two percent of women who gave birth in 2011 had earned an associate degree or higher. Nineteen percent attended some college but had not yet earned a degree.
- The overall proportion of women who received first-trimester prenatal care was 76 percent in 2011, down from 84 percent in 2010. (Beginning in 2011, month prenatal care began was calculated as the difference between the date of last menstrual period and date of first prenatal care visit. Previous to 2011, mothers were asked what month of pregnancy they began prenatal care.)
- Births to unmarried women constituted 36 percent of births in 2011 compared to 37 percent in 2010. The national percent of nonmarital births in 2011 was 40.7 percent.
- The proportion of Wisconsin women giving birth who reported smoking was 19 percent in 2011. (This is not comparable to previous years' data. Beginning in 2011, mothers were asked how many cigarettes they smoked per day during the three months prior to pregnancy, the first three months of pregnancy, the second three months of pregnancy, and the third trimester of pregnancy. In 2010, mothers were asked how many cigarettes they smoked during pregnancy (which did not include the three months prior to pregnancy). If we excluded mothers who quit smoking when they realized they were pregnant, the 2011 percent would be 14.3.)
- Cesarean sections as a percent of all births dropped from 26.1 percent in 2010 to 25.7 percent in 2011.
- In 2011, 4,877 Wisconsin infants were low birthweight; that is, they weighed less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth. This total represented 7.2 percent of all births (7.0 in 2010). In comparison, 8.1 percent of all infants born in the United States in 2011 weighed less than 2,500 grams.

- Among low birthweight infants, 898 (1.3 percent of all births) were born at *very* low birthweight (less than 1,500 grams or about 3.3 pounds) and were thus at the highest risk for health problems. The very low birthweight percentage was 1.1 percent of births to whites, 3.2 percent of births to blacks/African Americans, 0.8 percent of births to American Indians/Alaska Natives, 1.3 percent of births to Hispanics/Latinas and 1.4 percent of births to Laotians or Hmong. (The percentages by race/ethnicity are not comparable to findings from previous years. See Technical Notes for explanation of race/ethnicity categories.)
- In 2011, 6,863 Wisconsin infants were born prematurely (with a gestation of less than 37 weeks). This total represented 10.1 percent of all births, down from 10.8 in 2010. (See Technical Notes for full definition of prematurity.)
- In Wisconsin, 427 infants under the age of one year died in 2011. The 2011 infant mortality rate was 6.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 5.7 in 2010 and 7.1 in 2001. The 2009 U.S. infant mortality rate (the latest available) was 6.4 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
- The black/African American infant mortality rate for 2011 was 13.9 deaths per 1,000 births to black/African American women, the same as in 2010. (The comparable rate in 2001 was 18.7.) The 2011 white infant mortality rate was 5.3 deaths per 1,000 births to white women, compared to 4.9 in 2010 and 5.7 in 2001. The Hispanic/Latino infant mortality rate for 2011 was 6.3 deaths per 1,000 births to Hispanic/Latina women, compared to 4.4 in 2010 and 7.0 in 2001.
- Based on three-year rolling average infant mortality rates, American Indian infant mortality has dropped markedly since 1989. The rate was 13.9 per 1,000 live births in 1989-1991 and 6.9 per 1,000 in 2009-2011. The black/African American infant mortality rate has remained much higher than the rate for other populations in Wisconsin for at least two decades. The three-year average rate was 17.5 per 1,000 live births in 1989-1991, and 14.0 in 2009-2011. The Hispanic/Latino infant mortality rate was 7.9 per 1,000 live births in 1989-1991 and 5.4 per 1,000 in 2009-2011. Total infant mortality and white infant mortality declined gradually over the 1988-2011 period.
- The disparity ratio between the black/African American infant mortality rate and the white infant mortality rate increased from 2.2 in 1990-1992 to 2.8 in 2009-2011. The disparity ratio in 2008-2010 was 2.7. The disparity ratio is the black/African American rate divided by the white rate, and is one measure of the difference in magnitude between the two rates.

25 Most Popular Names for Newborns, Wisconsin, 2011

Females		Males	
1.	SOPHIA	1.	MASON
2.	EMMA	2.	LIAM
3.	AVA	3.	WILLIAM
4.	OLIVIA	4.	OWEN
5.	ISABELLA	5.	JACOB
6.	ADDISON	6.	LOGAN
7.	ABIGAIL	7.	NOAH
8.	ELLA	8.	JACKSON
9.	EVELYN	9.	BENJAMIN
10.	GRACE	10.	ETHAN
11.	EMILY	11.	ALEXANDER
12.	NATALIE	12.	CARTER
13.	LILY	13.	ELIJAH
14.	MADISON	14.	LANDON
15.	BROOKLYN	15.	AIDEN
16.	ELIZABETH	16.	MICHAEL
17.	CHLOE	17.	SAMUEL
18.	AMELIA	18.	WYATT
19.	LILLIAN	19.	EVAN
20.	AUBREY	20.	GAVIN
21.	HAILEY	21.	LUCAS
22.	ALEXIS	22.	HENRY
23.	CHARLOTTE	23.	JAMES
24.	HANNAH	24.	JACK
25.	CLAIRE	25.	NOLAN