

2013

---

# 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 Wis. Stat. § 69.03 (9) 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 records.

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, Internal Operations 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 in the Bureau of Operations 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, 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 are posted as they become available.

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:

Laura Ninneman  
Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
Division of Public Health  
Office of Health Informatics  
1 W. Wilson St., Rm. 118  
Madison WI 53703  
Telephone: (608) 267-9055  
Email: [laura.ninneman@wi.gov](mailto:laura.ninneman@wi.gov)

**Suggested citation:**

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health, Office of Health Informatics.  
*Wisconsin Births and Infant Deaths, 2013* (P45364-13). November 2014.

## Introduction

This report presents information about births that occurred in 2013 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 definitions have changed. Comparisons between 2013 data and data from years prior to 2011 should be made with 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 2013, there were 66,566 live births to Wisconsin residents, 663 fewer than in 2012 (67,229).
- The 2013 crude birth rate in Wisconsin was 11.6 births per 1,000 total population, compared to 11.8 in 2012. The United States crude birth rate for 2012 was 12.6 per 1,000 population. (The crude birth rate is the number of live births per 1,000 total population.)
- The 2013 general fertility rate was 61.4 births per 1,000 Wisconsin females aged 15-44, compared with 61.9 in 2012. The 2012 United States general fertility rate was 63.0. (See Technical Notes for source of U.S. data.)
- In 2013, the fertility rate for Wisconsin teens aged 15-19 was 19.7 births per 1,000 females in this age group, compared to 21.9 in 2012. In 2012, the U.S. teen fertility rate was 29.4.
- In 2013, non-Hispanic white women accounted for 73 percent of Wisconsin resident births, Hispanic/Latina women for 10 percent, and non-Hispanic black/African American women for 9 percent. (See Technical Notes for explanation of race/ethnicity categories.) These percentages were the same in 2012.
- In 2013, 12 percent of Wisconsin women who gave birth had not finished high school, 44 percent had earned an associate degree or higher, and 19 percent had attended some college but had not yet earned a degree. In 2012, these percentages were 13 percent, 43 percent, and 20 percent, respectively.
- The overall proportion of women who received first-trimester prenatal care was 76 percent in 2013, compared to 77 percent in 2012.
- Births to unmarried women constituted 36.3 percent of births in 2013 compared to 36.5 percent in 2012. The national percent of nonmarital births in 2012 was 40.7 percent.
- The proportion of Wisconsin women giving birth who reported smoking was 18 percent in 2013, compared with 19 percent in 2012. (This is not comparable to data from years prior to 2011.) If we excluded mothers who quit smoking when they realized they were pregnant, the 2013 percentage would be 13.6.
- Cesarean sections as a percent of all births was 26.2 percent in 2013, compared to 26.3 percent in 2012.
- In 2013, 4,665 Wisconsin infants were low birthweight; that is, they weighed less than 2,500 grams (about 5.5 pounds) at birth. This total represented 7.0 percent of all births (7.2 in 2012). In comparison, 8.0 percent of all infants born in the United States in 2012 weighed less than 2,500 grams.
- Among low birthweight infants, 854 (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. This is the same percentage as in 2012. The 2013 very low birthweight percentage was 1.0 percent of births to whites, 2.9 percent of births to blacks/African Americans, 1.6 percent of births to American Indians/Alaska Natives, 1.2 percent of births to

Hispanics/Latinas, 1.6 percent of births to Laotians or Hmong, 2.0 percent of births to Other Asians/Pacific Islanders, 1.3 percent of births to mothers of other races, and 1.7 percent of births to mothers who reported two or more races. (See Technical Notes for explanation of race/ethnicity categories.)

- In 2013, 6,653 Wisconsin infants were born prematurely (with a gestation of less than 37 weeks). This total represented 10.0 percent of all births, compared to 10.2 in 2012. (See Technical Notes for full definition of prematurity.)
- In Wisconsin, 414 infants under the age of one year died in 2013. The 2013 infant mortality rate was 6.2 infant deaths per 1,000 live births, compared to 5.7 in 2012 and 6.5 in 2003. The 2010 U.S. infant mortality rate (the latest available) was 6.1 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
- The black/African American infant mortality rate for 2013 was 15.8 deaths per 1,000 live births to black/African American women, compared to 13.2 in 2012. The 2013 white infant mortality rate was 4.9 deaths per 1,000 births to white women, compared to 4.7 in 2012. The Hispanic/Latino infant mortality rate for 2013 was 5.0 deaths per 1,000 births to Hispanic/Latina women, compared to 4.6 in 2012.
- Based on three-year rolling average infant mortality rates, the American Indian infant mortality rate was 10.7 per 1,000 in 2011-2013. The black/African American rate was 11.8 in 2011-2013. The Hispanic/Latino infant mortality rate was 5.1 per 1,000 in 2011-2013.
- The disparity ratio between the black/African American infant mortality rate and the white infant mortality rate was 2.4 in 2011-2013. The disparity ratio in 2010-2012 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.

## Twenty-five Most Popular First Names for Newborns, Wisconsin, 2013

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