



Table 27.1: Causes of Infant Mortality

[Click for Excel table](#)

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	N	IMR																		
All live births	125563		124023		122937		124345		124099		122725		125506		128961		127680		126774	
NYC overall	839	6.7	760	6.1	742	6.0	807	6.5	760	6.1	732	6.0	740	5.9	697	5.4	698	5.5	668	5.3
Select causes of infant mortality																				
Birth defects	171	13.6	178	14.4	149	12.1	156	12.5	154	12.4	131	10.7	148	11.8	149	11.6	151	11.8	135	10.6
Short gestation and low birthweight	132	10.5	98	7.9	110	8.9	144	11.6	107	8.6	109	8.9	117	9.3	100	7.8	114	8.9	128	10.1
Cardiovascular disorders	94	7.5	111	9.0	87	7.1	131	10.5	104	8.4	111	9.0	108	8.6	91	7.1	96	7.5	77	6.1
Injury	36	2.9	46	3.7	53	4.3	47	3.8	61	4.9	66	5.4	65	5.2	64	5.0	69	5.4	60	4.7
SIDS	50	4.0	20	1.6	24	2.0	25	2.0	11	0.9	10	0.8	10	0.8	5	0.4	12	0.9	1	0.1
Respiratory distress	60	4.8	38	3.1	45	3.7	45	3.6	52	4.2	53	4.3	42	3.3	44	3.4	41	3.2	34	2.7
All other causes	296	23.6	269	21.7	274	22.3	259	20.8	271	21.8	252	20.5	250	19.9	244	18.9	215	16.8	233	18.4
Leading causes of neonatal infant mortality																				
Short gestation and low birthweight	127	10.1	94	7.6	102	8.3	124	10.0	78	6.3	81	6.6	89	7.1	80	6.2	105	8.2	114	9.0
Respiratory distress	56	4.5	38	3.1	41	3.3	43	3.5	48	3.9	50	4.1	42	3.3	42	3.3	40	3.1	34	2.7
Cardiovascular disorders	90	7.2	109	8.8	80	6.5	121	9.7	102	8.2	108	8.8	101	8.0	91	7.1	96	7.5	75	5.9
Birth defects	103	8.2	115	9.3	96	7.8	96	7.7	99	8.0	75	6.1	89	7.1	79	6.1	96	7.5	90	7.1
All other causes	207	16.5	168	13.5	178	14.5	158	12.7	189	15.2	167	13.6	163	13.0	138	10.7	129	10.1	131	10.3
Leading causes of postneonatal infant mortality																				
Birth defects	68	5.4	63	5.1	53	4.3	60	4.8	55	4.4	56	4.6	59	4.7	70	5.4	55	4.3	45	3.5
SIDS	44	3.5	20	1.6	20	1.6	24	1.9	10	0.8	10	0.8	10	0.8	5	0.4	11	0.9	1	0.1
Injury	26	2.1	36	2.9	44	3.6	39	3.1	45	3.6	55	4.5	58	4.6	58	4.5	62	4.9	55	4.3
Other respiratory causes	5	0.4	12	1.0	13	1.1	10	0.8	3	0.2	3	0.2	11	0.9	5	0.4	4	0.3	10	0.8
All other causes	113	9.0	105	8.5	115	9.4	132	10.6	131	10.6	127	10.3	118	9.4	129	10.0	100	7.8	113	8.9

Technical Notes:

- Causes of death correspond to the following ICD-10 codes: Birth defects (Q00-Q99), Short gestation and low birthweight (P07), Cardiovascular disorders (P29), Injury (V01-Y89), SIDS (R95), Respiratory distress (P22), and Other respiratory causes (P23-P28).
- Citywide infant mortality is expressed as a rate per 1,000 live births. Cause-specific infant mortality, neonatal mortality (under 28 days), and postneonatal mortality (28 days to 1 year) are expressed as a rate per 10,000 live births.

Source: Bureau of Vital Statistics data compiled by Bureau of Maternal, Infant, and Reproductive Health, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, August 2011.

Highlights

- From 2000 to 2009:
 - Due to changes in the classification of infant deaths in 2000, many infant deaths that were once certified as SIDS were subsequently coded as injury (Figure 27.2).
- In 2009:
 - The leading cause of infant death was birth defects, followed by short gestation and low birthweight, cardiovascular disorders, and injury (Figure 27.1, Table 27.1).
 - The leading cause of death in the neonatal period was short gestation and low birthweight (Table 27.1).
 - The leading cause of death in the postneonatal period was injury, surpassing birth defects for the second consecutive year (Table 27.1).

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