

Death (vital statistics) Indicators

I. Definitions

Total deaths

Total deaths per 1000 population are calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{number of deaths} \times 1000}{\text{total population}}$$

Infant mortality is defined as the number of infant deaths (deaths within the first year of life) per 1000 live births.

The **infant mortality rate** is calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{number of infant deaths} \times 1000}{\text{total births}}$$

II. Precautions and Information regarding use of data

Address information was unavailable on death certificates prior to 1997; therefore, we were unable to determine the tracts and neighborhoods of the decedents from 1990-1996.

Deaths are assigned to the place of residence of the deceased regardless of where the death occurred. Deaths of Ohio residents, occurring in other States, are included in Ohio data.

The Center geocodes the data to assign the census tract, city, county, and other geographic identifiers to the records. The county assigned during geocoding and the county provided by the Ohio Department of Health do not always match.

Infant mortality is an event that occurs infrequently, and it is suggested that three-year averages be used when analyzing the data at the neighborhood or census tract level.

Rates per 1000 are commonly used when reporting vital statistic related indicators at the national and state levels. Most of the vital related indicator rates in NEO CANDO are per 1000. The variable names in NEO CANDO will indicate what denominator is used when calculating the rate.

III. Data source and suggested citation

Source of Vital Statistics Data: Ohio Department of Health, Vital Statistics Division

Update Schedule: Annually in October (this varies)

Years Available: Earliest year available – 1997

Information death (vital statistics) indicators in NEO CANDO

Geographic Coverage: 8 County Cleveland-Akron Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (CMSA), which includes Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit Counties, and the following counties: Ashland, Columbiana, Erie, Huron, Mahoning, Richland, Stark, Trumbull and Wayne Counties

Suggested Citation: NEO CANDO system, Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development, MSASS, Case Western Reserve University (<http://neocando.case.edu>).

IV. Links to related web sites

[National Vital Statistics System](#)

[Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse](#)