

About the Data – Child Mortality

Indicator Description

The child mortality rate is the number of deaths per 100,000 children aged 1–9 years.

Data Sources

California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics and Informatics. Death Statistical Master File, 2010–2013: Compiled from information on death certificates, including demographic information related to the decedents.

California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics and Informatics. California Comprehensive Death File, 2014–2022: Compiled from information on death certificates, including demographic information related to the decedents.

State of California, Department of Finance. Demographic Research Unit. State and County Population Projections 2010–2060 [P-3: Complete State and County Projections Dataset]. Sacramento, California. July 14, 2021.

State of California, Department of Finance. Demographic Research Unit. State And County Population Projections 2020–2060 [P-3: Complete State and County Projections Dataset]. Sacramento, California. July 2023.

National Comparison

Maternal and Child Health Bureau. [Federally Available Data \(FAD\) Resource Document](#). April 1, 2023; Rockville, MD: Health Resources and Services Administration. Retrieved April 3, 2023.

Data Analysis

The child mortality rate shown in these dashboards is the number of deaths per 100,000 children aged 1–9 years who resided in California at the time of death, stratified by county, age, race/ethnicity, and sex. The distribution, or percent, of the leading causes of death is the number of child deaths by stated cause among all child deaths aged 1–9. The 95% confidence interval presented in the tooltips indicates there is a 95% chance that the range contains the true prevalence or rate in the population. Rates or percentages with wide confidence intervals should be interpreted with caution. The state dashboard uses single-year data that are comparable with national single-year data.

See Category and Subcategory Definitions below for additional inclusion/exclusion criteria.

Data Suppression

The numerator, rate, and confidence interval are not shown when the numerator is less than 10.

Category and Subcategory Definitions

Age: Age of decedent at time of death. Excludes records with unknown age.

Cause of death: The leading causes of child death are defined based on International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD-10) coding provided in the National Center for Health Statistics' List of 113 selected causes of death and Enterocolitis due to *Clostridium difficile* (Heron M. Deaths: Leading causes for 2019. National Vital Statistics Reports; vol 70 no 9. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2021.). The following causes are shown in this dashboard: Malignant neoplasms (Cancer) (ICD-10 C00–C97); Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities (Congenital malformations) (ICD-10 Q00-Q99); Diseases of the heart (Heart disease) (ICD-10 I00–I09, I11, I13, I20–I51); Assault (Homicide) (*U01–*U02, ICD-10 X85–Y09, Y87.1); Influenza and pneumonia (ICD-10 J09–J18); Accidents (Unintentional injuries) (ICD-10 V01–X59, Y85–Y86); and All other causes. An asterisk (*) preceding a cause-of-death code indicates that the code is used only in the United States and not included in the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision (ICD–10).

Geography: State or county of decedent's residence at time of death.

Race/ethnicity: Hispanic includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race, including Other and Unknown race. Multi-Race includes those of non-Hispanic origin who reported more than one race. The remaining groups are of non-Hispanic origin who reported a single race: American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN), Asian, Black, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (Pacific Islander), and White.

Sex: Sex of decedent is defined as either male or female. Excludes records with unknown and nonbinary sex.

Suggested Citation

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go.cdph.ca.gov/Child-Mortality-Dashboard