

INFANT HEALTH

FACT SHEET



HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Prince George's County

Many factors can impact the health of infants in Prince George's County, including maternal health, access to health care and other social and environmental influences. Although the infant mortality rate in the county decreased significantly over the past five years, racial and ethnic disparities continue to exist for infant deaths. In 2017, the infant mortality rate among Black, non-Hispanic infants was twice the infant mortality rate among Hispanic infants. Babies born to Black, non-Hispanic mothers are also more likely to have a low birth weight (less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces), which is a risk factor for several immediate complications, such as feeding and digestive issues, as well as the potential for other physical and mental health problems later in life.

A Prince George's County infant born in 2017 has a life expectancy of 79.1 years.

12,422

infants were born to Prince George's County women in 2017.



1 OUT OF EVERY 10

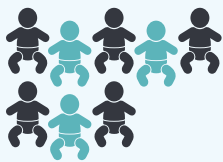
births in the county was preterm (less than 37 weeks).

↓
16%

The average infant mortality rate declined significantly by 16% from 2008-2012 to 2013-2017.

Infant mortality rates (deaths in the first year) differ significantly by race and ethnicity.

The percentage of low birth weight infants has remained relatively unchanged for most populations over the past five years.



8.2

Overall infant deaths for every 1,000 babies born in 2017.



12.0

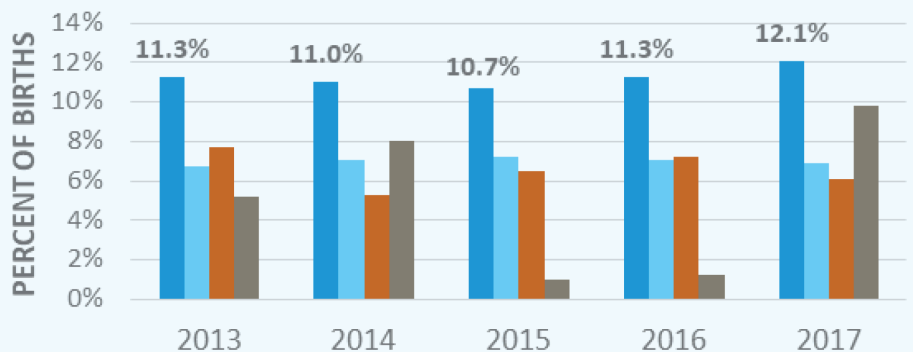
deaths for every 1,000 Black, non-Hispanic babies born in 2017.



5.0

deaths for every 1,000 Hispanic babies born in 2017.

Percentage of Low Birth Weight Infants by Race/Ethnicity of Mother.

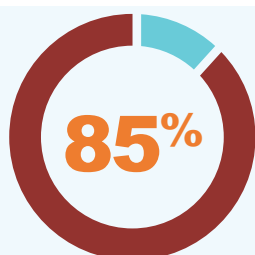


*Includes births to mothers of Hispanic origin (any race)

**Starting in 2015, Asian or Pacific Islander was reclassified as Asian or Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic

Breastfeeding holds many nutritional and immunity benefits for infants.

Births to Hispanic women are on the rise.



of county newborns in 2015 were breastfed when discharged from medical care.

31%

of births in 2017 were to Hispanic mothers, an increase from 26% in 2013.