

Infant Mortality

Socio-Economic Trends, 2008-2010



Reducing Infant Mortality (defined as the death of infant before their first birthday) is a priority in Michigan. The infant mortality rate (IMR) has decreased from 8.0 in 2008 to 7.0 in 2010.

Despite this decrease, significant racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities remain.

- Non-Hispanic Blacks (NHB) have the **highest IMR** in Michigan and are **nearly 3 times more likely** than Non-Hispanic White (NHW) infants to die within the first year of life.

Socioeconomic Disparities: [See Figures 1 & 2]

- Infant mortality decreases as maternal educational attainment increases.
- Mothers with Medicaid have a higher IMR than mothers with private insurance.

Racial/Ethnic Differences by Socioeconomic Status: [See Figures 1 & 2]

- Infant mortality is higher among NHB mothers **who attended college** than NHW mothers with **who did not complete high school**.
- Infant mortality is higher among NHB mothers with **private insurance** than NHW mothers with **Medicaid**.
- The Black-White disparity is larger among the most-educated mothers than among the least-educated mothers; a similar disparity exists with insurance status.

Figure 1. Trends in Infant Mortality by Race/Ethnicity and Maternal Education in Michigan, 2008-10

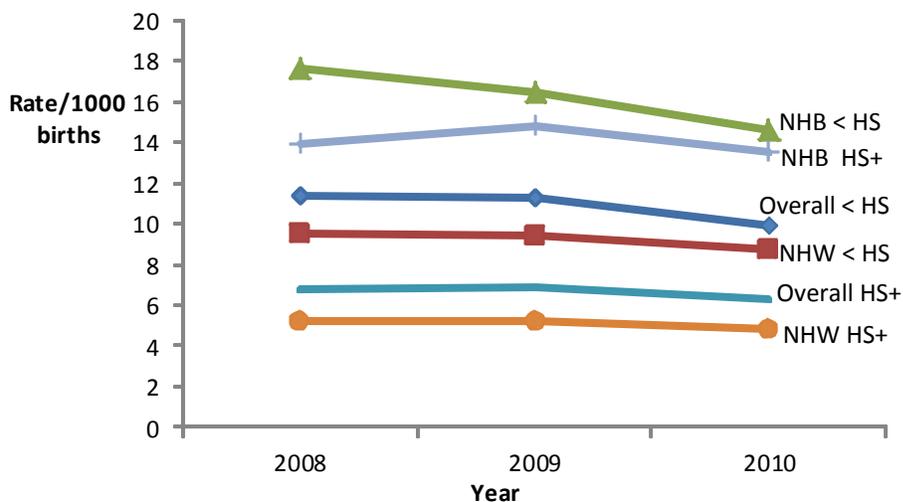
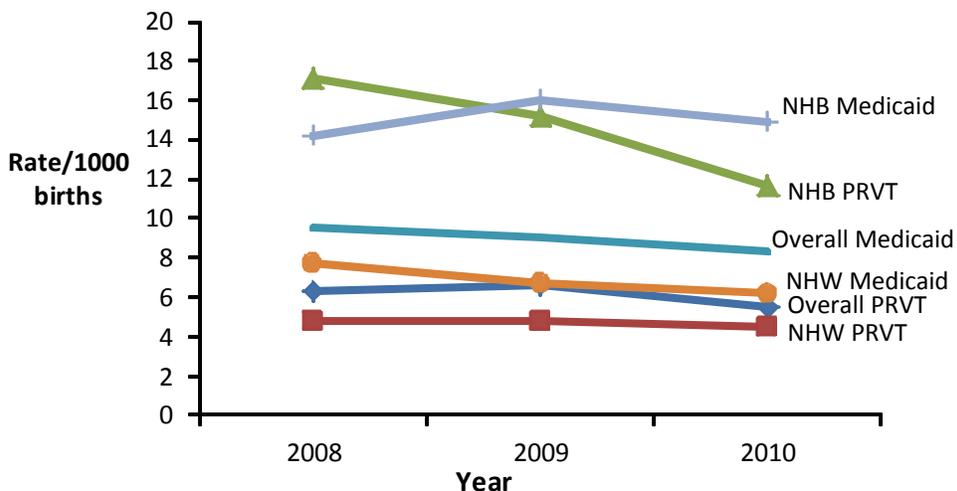


Figure 2. Trends in Infant Mortality by Race/Ethnicity and Insurance Status in Michigan, 2008-10



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Neonatal mortality and postneonatal mortality are two distinct types of infant mortality. Neonatal mortality is defined as any infant death within the first 28 days of life, while postneonatal mortality is any infant death between 28 days and 1 year. In the state of Michigan in 2010, the neonatal mortality rate (NMR) was 4.8 deaths (in the first 28 days) per 1,000 live births, and the postneonatal mortality rate (PNMR) was 2.1 deaths (between 28 days and 1 year) per 1,000 live births.

Socioeconomic trends:

As **maternal education** increases...

- the likelihood of a neonatal death increases
- the likelihood of a postneonatal death decreases

Compared to mothers with private insurance, **mothers with Medicaid** are...

- **less likely** to experience a neonatal death
- **more likely** to experience a postneonatal death

Racial/Ethnic Differences

- In 2010, Non-Hispanic Whites (NHWs) and Non-Hispanic Blacks (NHBs) are **equally likely** to experience a neonatal and postneonatal death.
- The NMRs, PNMRs, and IMRs are **almost 3 times higher** among NHBs than NHWs.

Summary: There are significant racial/ethnic and socioeconomic disparities in infant mortality in Michigan. Additional public health programs and interventions are needed to support not only to NHB mothers, but also to mothers who are less educated or without private insurance.

Figure 3.

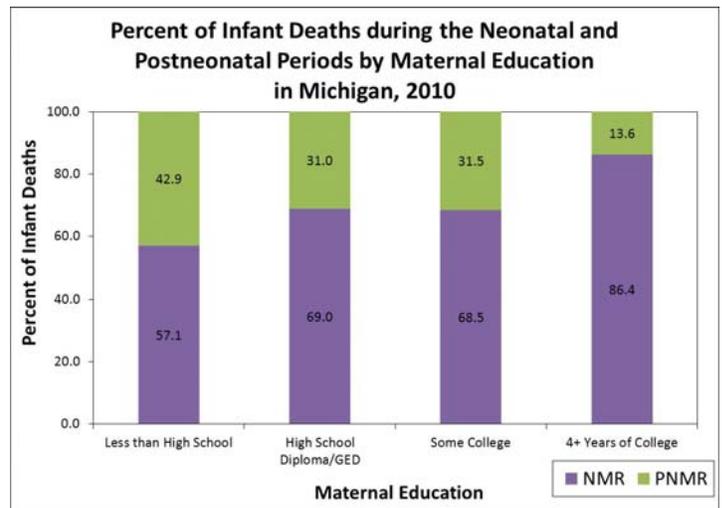


Figure 4.

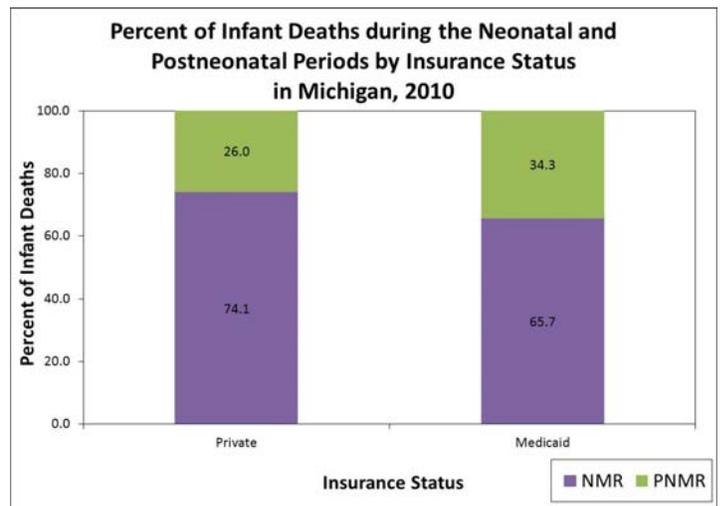


Figure 5.

