

# NEBRASKA CHILD AND MATERNAL DEATH REVIEW TEAM — INTERIM REPORT FOR 2017

The Nebraska Child and Maternal Death Review Team (CMDRT) was established by the Nebraska Legislature in 1993, and charged with undertaking a comprehensive, integrated review of existing records and other information regarding each child death. Authority to conduct a similar process with maternal deaths was added in 2013.

The purpose of the CMDRT includes developing an understanding of the number and causes of maternal and child deaths, and advising the Governor, Legislature, other policymakers and the public on changes that might prevent them in the future. All deaths are reviewed, not just “suspicious” or violent ones. The team uses information in written records from state and local agencies, hospitals, private medical providers and others, along with the expertise of its members, to identify situations where, in retrospect, reasonable intervention might have prevented a death. The specific goals of these reviews are to:

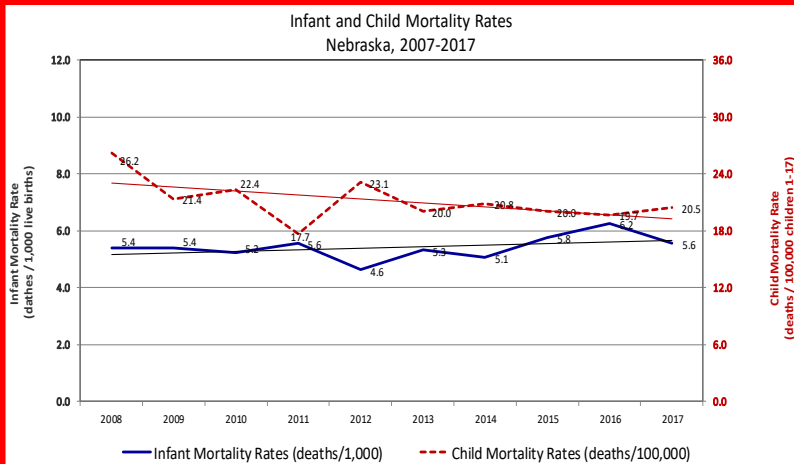
- Identify patterns of preventable deaths;
- Recommend changes in system responses to deaths;
- Refer to law enforcement newly-suspected cases of abuse, malpractice, or homicide; and,
- Compile findings into reports designed to educate the public and state policymakers about child deaths.

## TRENDS IN INFANT AND CHILD DEATHS, NEBRASKA, 2007-2017

Year	Number of Live Births	Number of Infant Deaths (age <1)	Infant Mortality Rate (deaths / 1,000)	Total Child Population* (ages 1-17)	Number of Child Deaths (ages 1-17)	Child Mortality Rate (deaths / 100,000)
2008	26,992	146	5.41	427,389	112	26.2
2009	26,931	145	5.38	430,332	92	21.4
2010	25,916	136	5.25	433,671*	97	22.4
2011	25,722	143	5.56	435,441*	77	17.7
2012	25,939	120	4.63	437,223*	101	23.1
2013	26,094	139	5.33	439,185*	88	20.0
2014	26,794	136	5.08	441,427*	92	20.8
2015	26,662	154	5.78	444,159	89	20.0
2016	26,594	166	6.24	447,256	88	19.7
2017**	25,833	144	5.57	449,393	92	20.5

\*Child population estimates from U.S. Census Bureau, Vintage 2016, and are updated from Vintage 2017.

\*\*2017 data are provisional.



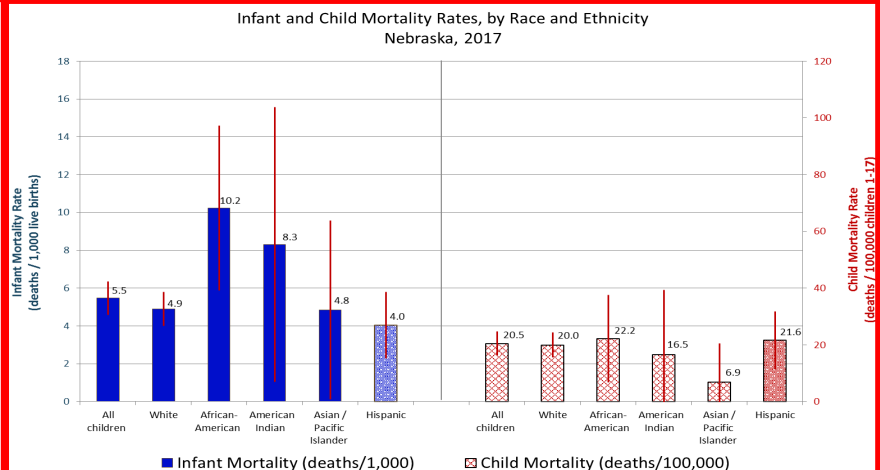
Source: Nebraska Vital Records; National Center for Health Statistics, Bridged-Race Postcensal Population Estimates Vintage 2017 (2010-2017)

### Infant and Child Mortality Rates

- ◆ **Infants (less than 1 year old):** In 2017, at least 144 children died before their first birthday, a mortality rate (IMR) of 5.6 deaths per 1,000 live births. Overall, Nebraska’s IMR has been increasing since 2013. There has been no significant change in the IMR over the past 10 years (2008-2017). In 2017 the US IMR was 5.8 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- ◆ **Children (ages 1 to 17):** 92 child deaths were recorded in 2017, a mortality rate (CMR) of 20.5 per 100,000 children. The rate has declined only modestly since 2013 and has not regained the low level seen in 2011. There has been no significant change in the CMR over the past 10 years (2008-2017). In 2017 the CMR was the 32nd highest in the US.

### Race and Ethnicity-Specific Mortality Rates

- ◆ **Infants (less than 1 year old):** The 2017 mortality rate (IMR) for African American infants was significantly higher than that of all other racial/ ethnic groups .
- ◆ **Children (ages 1 to 17):** The rate for African-American children was higher than that of Hispanic and White children. There were no other significant differences in Nebraska’s 2017 child mortality rates (CMR).



\*Vertical red lines represent the 95% confidence intervals around each rate.  
Source: Nebraska Vital Records; National Center for Health Statistics, Bridged-Race Postcensal Population Estimates Vintage 2017 (2010-2017)

# INTERIM REPORT FOR 2017

Acquiring records for a calendar year of deaths, reviewing and analyzing the information and developing recommendations typically requires about 18-24 months. The team is currently finalizing the full report on deaths from 2014. However, in accordance with Nebraska Revised Statute §71-3407 (2012), this Interim Report presents an overview of deaths from calendar year 2017, using preliminary data derived solely from Nebraska death certificates. Causes of death, demographic and other factors, or even total number of deaths will likely change after in-depth review.

## CAUSES OF INFANT & CHILD (0-17) DEATHS, NEBRASKA, 2017

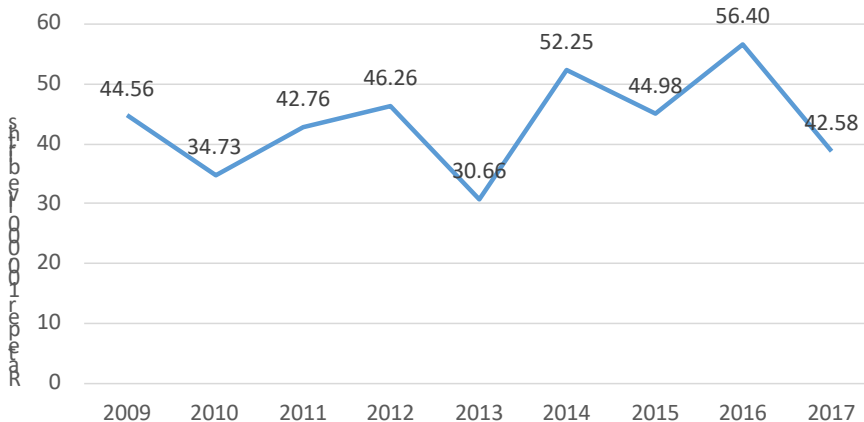
Manner and Cause of Death	Infants (< 1 year)		Children (1-17 years)			All Children (0-17 years)			
	Number of Deaths (%)	Infant Mortality Rate (deaths / 1,000)	Number of Deaths (%)	Child Mortality Rate (deaths / 100,000)	Number of Deaths (%)	Child (0-17) Mortality Rate			
Natural	118	70%	4.57	51	30%	11.35	169	72%	35.52
Cancer	0	0.0%	0.00	19	37.3%	4.23	19	11.2%	3.99
Respiratory Disease	1	0.8%	0.04	8	15.7%	1.78	9	5.3%	1.89
Prematurity	8	6.8%	0.31	0	0.0%	0.00	8	4.7%	1.68
Perinatal Conditions	54	45.8%	2.09	0	0.0%	0.00	54	32.0%	11.35
Congenital Anomalies	29	24.6%	1.12	6	11.8%	1.34	35	20.7%	7.36
*SUID Abnormal Signs & Symptoms	7	5.9%	0.27	0	0.0%	0.00	7	4.1%	1.47
Other Natural Causes	19	16.1%	0.74	18	35.3%	4.01	37	21.9%	7.78
Accidental	9	27%	0.35	24	73%	5.34	33	14%	6.94
Motor Vehicle-Related	1	11.1%	0.04	17	70.8%	3.78	18	54.5%	3.78
Drowning	0	0.0%	0.00	2	8.3%	0.45	2	6.1%	0.42
*SUID	7	77.8%	0.27	0	0.0%	0.00	7	21.2%	1.47
Other Unintentional Injury	1	11.1%	0.04	5	20.8%	1.11	6	18.2%	1.26
Homicide	2	40.0%	0.08	3	60.0%	0.67	5	2%	1.05
Homicide by Firearm	0	0.0%	0.00	1	33.3%	0.22	1	20.0%	0.21
Other Homicide	0	0.0%	0.00	2	66.7%	0.45	2	40.0%	0.42
Maltreatment	2	100.0%	0.08	0	0.0%	0.00	2	40.0%	0.42
Suicide	0	0.0%	0.00	12	100.0%	2.67	12	5%	2.52
by Suffocation / Strangulation	0	0.0%	0.00	6	50.0%	1.34	6	50.0%	1.26
by Firearm	0	0.0%	0.00	6	50.0%	1.34	6	50.0%	1.26
by Other Means	0	0.0%	0.00	0	0.0%	0.00	0	0.0%	0.00
Could Not Be Determined	15	93.8%	0.58	1	6.3%	0.22	16	7%	3.36
*SUID Abnormal Signs & Symptoms	10	66.7%	0.39	0	0.0%	0.00	10	62.5%	2.10
Other / Undetermined	5	33.3%	0.19	1	100.0%	0.22	6	37.5%	1.26
Pending (open investigation)	0	0.0%	0.00	1	100.0%	0.22	1	0.0%	0.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>61.0%</b>	<b>5.57</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>20.47</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>49.61</b>

\*SUID (Sudden Unexplained Infant Death) is a death that occurs in a baby under 1 where the cause of death is not obvious; these usually happen in the babies sleep area. Manner of death varies.

### NEBRASKA MATERNAL MORTALITY, 2009-2017

### MATERNAL MORTALITY 2017

PREGNANCY ASSOCIATED MORTALITY RATE, NEBRASKA 2009-2017



The CMDRT began monitoring pregnancy-associated deaths in 2014. In 2017, at least 10 Nebraska resident women are known to have died either during or within one year of a pregnancy. Nebraska death certificates include a field for recent pregnancy, and provide basic details on causes of death. More details will be available when the Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) reviews these deaths.

Pregnancy-related causes included:

- ◆ Embolism (1 death)
- ◆ Unspecified obstetric causes (5 deaths)

Non-medical causes included:

- ◆ Motor vehicle-related accident (1 death)
- ◆ Other unintentional injury (2 deaths)
- ◆ Suicide (1 death)
- ◆ Homicide (1 death)

The Nebraska Child and Maternal Death Review Team is mandated by Nebraska Revised Statutes §71-3404 - 71-3409

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CMDRT reports are available at [http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/lifespanhealth\\_cdrteam\\_index.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/lifespanhealth_cdrteam_index.aspx).