

Cradle to Grave



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AFRICAN-AMERICANS/BLACKS

DEATH:

THE OVERALL DEATH RATE IS AN IMPORTANT MEASURE OF HEALTH STATUS ACROSS POPULATIONS. AFRICAN AMERICANS IN CONNECTICUT HAVE THE STATE'S HIGHEST OVERALL DEATH RATE.

Connecticut's overall death rate per 100,000 is:

Black	882.2
Latino	558.4
White	707.4

Like other ethnic groups, heart disease and cancer are the leading causes of death for African-Americans, but blacks in Connecticut also are more than 10 times more likely than whites and more than twice as likely as Latinos to become victims of homicide. The homicide rate per 100,000 of population in Connecticut is:

Black	12.3
Latino	5.4
White	1.2

Blacks had the highest cancer death rate among all ethnic groups in Connecticut from 2000 to 2004. The age-adjusted cancer death rates per 100,000 for state residents by ethnicity, 2000-2004 were:

Black	206.7
White	180.6
Latino	114.0
Asian	71.6

African-Americans also have Connecticut's highest death rate for heart disease _ about 1.2 times higher than that of white residents. Death rates per 100,000 for heart disease in Connecticut are:

Black	233.8
White	198.6
Latino	139.6

Sources: March of Dimes; Connecticut Department of Public Health; NAACP, A Health Status Report on African Americans in Connecticut, 2007; The 2009 Connecticut Health Disparities Report, Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Together we can eliminate health disparities.

An initiative of the Hispanic Health Council

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BIRTH:

IN CONNECTICUT AND NATIONWIDE AFRICAN-AMERICAN BABIES ARE ALMOST TWICE AS LIKELY AS WHITES TO BE BORN TOO EARLY OR TOO SMALL. BABIES WHO ARE BORN PREMATURE OR WITH A VERY LOW BIRTH WEIGHT CAN FACE A LIFETIME OF DISABILITIES AND MEDICAL COMPLICATIONS. SOME OF THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS CAN INCLUDE CEREBRAL PALSY, MENTAL RETARDATION AND LEARNING PROBLEMS, CHRONIC LUNG DISEASE, AND VISION AND HEARING PROBLEMS. HALF OF ALL NEUROLOGICAL DISABILITIES IN CHILDREN ARE RELATED TO PREMATURE BIRTH.

In Connecticut, the rate of babies born at a low birth weight (less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces) is:

Black	12.9 %
Latino	8.5 %
White	6.7 %

The rate of premature birth (less than 37 weeks gestation) is:

Black	12.8 %
Latino	10.75 %
White	9.1 %

African American babies also are more likely than others to die during the first year of life. The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births in Connecticut is:

Black	13.0
Latino	6.5
White	3.9

Entering pre-natal care during the first trimester of pregnancy is sometimes associated with better birth outcomes. Blacks and Latinos in Connecticut are three times more likely than whites to enter prenatal care late or get no care during pregnancy. Connecticut women receiving late or no prenatal care are:

Latino	23.6 %
Black	21.8 %
White	7.8 %

[See Reverse>>](#)

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