

## International Comparisons of Infant Mortality Rates, 1998

The United States infant mortality rate ranked 28th among selected countries<sup>1</sup> in 1998. The 1998 US infant mortality rate of 7.2 per 1,000 live births was more than twice as high as the number 1 ranked country Hong Kong, with a rate of 3.2. The 1999 US infant mortality rate was 7.0 per 1,000 live births.

Rank	Country	Rate
1	Hong Kong	3.2
2	Sweden	3.5
3	Japan	3.6
4	Norway	4.0
5	Finland	4.1
6	Singapore	4.2
7	France	4.6
7	Germany	4.6
9	Denmark	4.7
10	Switzerland	4.8
11	Austria	4.9
12	Australia	5.0
13	Netherlands	5.2
13	Czech Republic	5.2
15	Canada	5.3
15	Italy	5.3
17	Scotland	5.5
17	New Zealand	5.5
19	Belgium	5.6
19	Northern Ireland	5.6
21	England and Wales	5.7
21	Greece	5.7
21	Israel	5.7
21	Spain	5.7
25	Portugal	5.9
26	Ireland	6.2
27	Cuba	7.1
<b>28</b>	<b>UNITED STATES</b>	<b>7.2</b>
29	Slovakia	8.8
30	Kuwait <sup>2</sup>	9.4
31	Poland	9.5
32	Hungary	9.7
33	Puerto Rico	10.5
34	Chile	10.9
35	Costa Rica	12.6
36	Bulgaria	14.4
37	Russian Federation	16.4
38	Romania	20.5

<sup>1</sup> Includes countries that reported infant mortality rates to the World Health Organization

<sup>2</sup> Rates are for 1999 provisional data

Notes: Rates are per 1,000 live births

Source: