

Provisional Vital Statistics for December 2007

Live births decreased slightly in December as 6,762 Missouri babies were born compared with 6,843 one year earlier. However, cumulative births for the 12 months ending with December increased slightly from 81,353 to 81,720, the highest annual number since 1964.

Deaths increased slightly in December, but decreased by 1.3 percent for the 12 months ending with December. The 2007 provisional crude death of 9.1 per 1,000 population is the lowest ever recorded in the state.

The **Natural increase** in December was 1,984 (6,762 births, minus 4,778 deaths). The 2007 Provisional natural increase of 27,964 was the highest since 1982.

Marriages decreased in December and for 12 months ending with December. There was 40,283 marriages in 2007 compared with 40,399 in 2006.

Dissolutions of marriage decreased slightly in 2007 from 22,358 to 22,149. The marriage to divorce ratio increased from 1.81 to 1.82 for the 12 months ending with December.

Infant deaths decreased slightly in December, but increased slightly for the 12 months ending with December. The provisional infant death rate for 2007 remained the same as the previous year, 7.4 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL RESIDENT VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Item	<u>December</u>				<u>12 months ending with December</u>									
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>				<u>Rate*</u>					
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	
Live Births	6,843	6762	13.8	13.5	77,709	78,547	81,353	81,720	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.9	13.9	
Deaths	4,738	4,778	9.5	9.3	53,787	54,324	54,475	53,756	9.7	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.1	
Natural increase	2,105	1,984	4.2	3.8	23,922	24,223	26,878	27,964	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.6	4.8	
Marriages	2,645	2,487	5.3	4.8	40,824	40,675	40,399	40,283	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	
Dissolutions	1,846	1,715	3.7	3.3	21,700	21,013	22,358	22,149	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.8	
Infant deaths	42	39	6.1	5.8	583	588	599	603	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.4	
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,843	5,885	...	...	...	...	5,712	5,753	5,798	5,843	5,885

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1,000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Beginning with provisional July 2006 data numbers and rates are based on month of event rather than month of report. This will result in a delay in reporting, but will more accurately reflect current trends.

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