Provisional Vital Statistics for January 2021

Live Births decreased in January as 5,413 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,819 born one year earlier. Cumulative births for 12-month period ending with January show a decrease of 4.4 percent from 72,029 in 2020 to 68,871 in 2021. The provisional count for 2020 of 69,277 births represents the lowest number of Missouri resident births since 1976.

Deaths increased in January as 7,333 Missourians died compared with 5,715 in January, 2020 as the COVID pandemic continued. Cumulative deaths for the 12 months ending with January show a 21 percent increase from 62,321 to 75,502. The 2020 provisional count of 73,884 Missouri resident deaths is about 19 percent higher than the 2019 final death count, representing the largest single year percentage increase in deaths on record.

The Natural Increase in January was a decrease of 1,920 (5,819 births minus 7,333 deaths). For the 12 months ending with January, the natural decrease continued to grow as there were 6,631 more deaths than births.

Marriages increased in January, but decreased for the cumulative 12 months ending with January by 5.7 percent from 36,600 to 34,503.

Dissolutions of Marriage decreased in January as 1,232 couples divorced compared with 1,396 one year earlier. For the 12 months ending with January, dissolutions decreased by 8.9 percent from 17,831 to 16,238. For the 12 months ending with January, the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 2.05 to 2.12.

Infant Deaths decreased slightly in January as 31 Missouri infants died compared with 36 one year earlier. The 2020 provisional infant death rate of 5.7 per 1,000 live births is the lowest on record.