

Provisional Vital Statistics for December 2023

Live Births decreased in December as 5,468 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,937 born one year earlier. Cumulative births for calendar year 2023 decreased by 2.7 percent from 68,954 in 2022 to 67,065 in 2023, the lowest number of Missouri resident live births since 1945.

Deaths decreased in December as 6,045 Missourians died compared with 6,780 in December 2022. Total deaths decreased by 7.4 percent from 71,776 in 2022 to 66,476 in 2023 as the COVID pandemic wound down.

The **Natural Increase** in December for Missourians was actually a decrease of 577 (5,568 births minus 6,045 deaths). For all of 2023, there were 589 more births than deaths, the state's first natural increase since the pre-pandemic year of 2019.

Marriages decreased in December as well as for the 12 months ending with December. Total marriages in 2023 decreased by 6.7 percent from 36,103 in 2022 to 33,684.

Dissolutions of Marriage also decreased in December and for the 12 months ending with December. Dissolutions decreased by 2.9 percent from 16,543 in 2022 to 16,148 in 2022. In 2023 the marriage to divorce ratio decreased from 2.18 to 2.09.

Infant Deaths in December decreased as 25 Missouri infants died compared with 31 in 2022. For 2023, the infant death rate decreased from 6.5 in 2022 to 5.9 per 1,000 live births in 2023.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI 2023

<u>Item</u>	<u>December</u>				<u>12 months ending with December</u>									
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>				<u>Rate*</u>					
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	
Live Births	5,937	5,468	11.3	10.4	69,277	69,269	68,954	67,065	11.7	11.3	11.2	11.2	10.8	
Deaths	6,780	6,045	12.9	11.5	73,883	73,831	71,776	66,476	10.1	12.0	12.0	11.6	10.7	
Natural increase	-843	-577	-1.6	-1.1	-4,606	-4,562	-2,822	589	1.6	-0.7	-0.7	-0.5	0.1	
Marriages	2,321	2,025	4.4	3.8	34,425	37,254	36,103	33,684	6.0	5.6	6.0	5.8	5.4	
Dissolutions	1,435	1,242	2.7	2.4	16,406	18,107	16,543	16,148	2.9	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.6	
Infant deaths	31	25	5.2	4.6	392	393	450	394	6.0	5.7	5.7	6.5	5.9	
Population base (in thousands)			6,170	6,178					6,140	6,155	6,170	6,178	6,196	

* 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 1,000 live births.

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