

Provisional Vital Statistics for February 2024

Live Births increased in February as 5,246 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,015 born one year earlier. Note that part of this increase reflects the fact that there were 29 days in February 2024 compared to 28 in 2023. All the February rates shown below adjust for this fact. For January-February births also increased but decreased for the 12-month period ending with February. For the 12 months ending with February, births decreased by 2.5 percent from 69,067 to 67,323.

Deaths increased in February as 5,473 Missourians died compared with 5,356 in February 2023. Deaths also increased for January-February but decreased for the 12-month period ending with February. For the 12 months ending with February, deaths decreased by 2.6 percent from 68,617 to 66,844.

The **Natural Increase** in February for Missourians was actually a decrease of 227 (5,246 births minus 5,473 deaths). There was also a natural decrease for January-February. However, for the 12 months ending with February, births outnumbered deaths as there was a natural increase of 479.

Marriages decreased for all three time periods shown in the table below. For the 12 months ending with February, marriages decreased by 2.3 percent from 35,818 to 34,997.

Dissolutions of Marriage decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the 12 months ending with February, the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 2.14 to 2.17.

Infant Deaths increased in February as 35 Missouri infants died compared with 31 in February of 2023. For the 12 months ending with February, the infant death rate decreased from 6.4 to 6.0 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

<u>Item</u>	<u>February</u>				<u>Jan. — Feb. Cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with February</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Live Births	5,015	5,246	10.6	10.7	10,597	10,855	10.6	10.7	69,067	67,323	11.2	11.2	10.9
Deaths	5,356	5,473	11.3	11.1	11,462	11,834	11.4	11.6	68,617	66,844	12.2	11.1	10.8
Natural increase	-341	-227	-0.7	-0.5	-865	-979	-0.9	-1.0	450	479	-1.0	0.1	0.1
Marriages	1,487	1,298	3.1	2.6	2,796	2,397	2.8	2.4	35,818	34,997	6.0	5.8	5.6
Dissolutions	1,208	1,197	2.5	2.4	2,548	2,408	2.5	2.4	16,716	16,080	2.9	2.7	2.6
Infant deaths	31	35	6.2	6.7	67	75	6.3	6.9	439	402	5.8	6.4	6.0
Population base (in thousands)	....	....	6,196	6,210	....	....	6,196	6,210	....	....	6,171	6,179	6,197

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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