

# DELAWARE VITAL STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT, 2008



Photo courtesy of the Delaware Tourism Office



*DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES*

Division of Public Health

Fall 2010  
Delaware Health Statistics Center

Selected Characteristics: Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 2008

Population			Number*	Percent	First Trimester Care		Number*	Percent
Delaware			871,630	100.0%	White		5,332	65.2%
Kent			155,142	17.8%	Black		1,918	59.0%
New Castle			528,536	60.6%	Hispanic		832	45.1%
Sussex			187,952	21.6%	Delaware		7,614	63.4%
Kent					Kent		1,488	64.9%
New Castle					New Castle		4,818	66.6%
Sussex					Sussex		1,308	52.5%
Marriages			Number*	5-yr Rate <sup>1</sup>	Reported Pregnancies		Number*	5-yr Rate <sup>5</sup>
Delaware			4,828	5.9	Delaware		15,400	87.5
Kent			984	6.7	Kent		2,925	87.6
New Castle			2,429	5.1	New Castle		9,382	85.6
Sussex			1,415	7.5	Sussex		3,093	94.6
Divorces			Number*	5-yr Rate <sup>1</sup>	Pregnancy Outcomes		Number*	Percent
Delaware			3,057	3.7	Live Births		12,016	78.0%
Kent			704	4.8	Fetal Deaths		77	0.5%
New Castle			1,753	3.4	Induced Terminations (ITOP)		3,307	21.5%
Sussex			600	3.9	ITOP by Place of Residence			
Delaware			12,016	67.9	Delaware		3,307	71.8%
Kent			2,294	69.0	Kent		611	18.5%
New Castle			7,229	64.8	New Castle		2,105	63.7%
Sussex			2,493	78.4	Sussex		591	17.9%
<b>Births to Teenagers (15-19)</b>					Other States		1,296	28.2%
White			701	35.2	Infant Mortality		Number*	5-yr Rate <sup>6</sup>
Black			512	66.4	Delaware		101	8.4
Delaware			1,229	43.1	White		49	6.1
Kent			234	44.3	Black		52	15.3
New Castle			678	37.7	Hispanic		15	7.7
Sussex			317	60.3	Mortality		Number*	Adj. Rate <sup>7</sup>
<b>Race</b>			Number*	Percent	Delaware		7,602	762.4
White			8,172	68.0%	Kent		1,367	883.4
Black			3,251	27.1%	New Castle		4,290	772.3
Hispanic Origin <sup>4</sup>			1,846	15.4%	Sussex		1,945	692.7
<b>Marital Status</b>					<b>Race and Gender</b>			
Married			6,247	52.0%	White Males		3,108	881.8
Single			5,769	48.0%	White Females		3,201	632.1
<b>Births to Single Mothers<sup>3</sup></b>					Black Males		608	1031.8
White			3,335	40.8%	Black Females		609	739.6
Black			2,360	72.6%	Leading Causes of Death		Number*	Percent
Hispanic			1,199	65.0%	Malignant neoplasms		1,903	25.0%
<b>Low Birth Weight (&lt;2500 gms)</b>					Diseases of heart		1,769	23.3%
All Races			1,021	8.5%	Chronic lower respiratory diseases		470	6.2%
White			563	6.9%	Dementia		374	4.9%
Black			414	12.7%	Cerebrovascular diseases		363	4.8%
Hispanic			131	7.1%				

Notes:

\* Numbers are for 2008.

1. The 5-year rate is per 1,000 population and refers to the period 2004-2008.

2. The 5-year rate refers to total live births per 1,000 women 15-44 years of age during the 2004-2008 period.

3. Percentages for births to single mothers are based on total births for the race-group.

4. People of Hispanic origin may be of any race. The percentage is based on total resident births for 2008.

5. The 5-year pregnancy rate represents the number of reported pregnancies per 1,000 women 15-44 years of age for 2004-2008.

6. The 5-year (2004-2008) infant mortality rates represent the number of deaths to children under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

7. The 2008 mortality rates (deaths per 100,000 population) for Delaware and counties are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. population.

SUMMARY

Source: Delaware Health Statistics Center

**Jack Markell, Governor**  
State of Delaware

**Rita M. Landgraf, Secretary**  
Delaware Health and Social Services

# Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report, 2008



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## PREFACE

I am pleased to present the 2008 Vital Statistics Annual Report, issued by the Division of Public Health's Delaware Health Statistics Center.

This report features statistics that are essential to identify and understand the challenges facing Delaware as it strives to improve the health of its residents. Our challenges are significant, and include the reduction of infant mortality, promoting healthy lifestyles to reduce morbidity and mortality due to preventable diseases, and closing the health disparities gap that exists when comparing racial and ethnic groups. In order to meet these challenges, we must measure outcomes and monitor trends to learn what we can do to improve the quality of life for all Delawareans.

The 2008 Delaware Vital Statistics Annual Report presents a wide variety of data and statistics that can assist us in this endeavor. Information in this report identifies racial differences, such as the large disparity between black and white mortality rates for HIV, homicide, diabetes, kidney disease, and hypertension; it presents health indicators such as life expectancy, the leading causes of death, teen birth rates, general fertility rates, and infant mortality rates; and it provides historical data that demonstrate movement over time.

The primary sources of data used in preparing this report are certificates of marriage, divorce, live birth, death, fetal death, and reports of induced termination of pregnancy. We are indebted to the hard work and dedication of the professionals who provide these certificates.

Karyl Thomas Rattay MD, MS, FAAP,  
FACPM

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Rattay MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Director  
Delaware Division of Public Health

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was prepared by Barbara Gladders and Maridelle Dizon, and reviewed by Denese Welch of the Delaware Health Statistics Center.

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of Brenda Conner and the staff of the Office of Vital Statistics, Edward C. Ratledge and the staff of the Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research at the University of Delaware, and the Health Statistics Center staff, including: Jean Hreczan, Louise Wishart, Rosemary Zimmerman, Amanda Griffith and Georgette Ahiamadjie. We also recognize local registrars, physicians, nurses, medical records staffs, midwives, funeral directors, and county clerks for their help in collecting and providing us with these data. Finally, special thanks go to the Delaware Tourism Office for providing the cover photograph.

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### Visit our website at:

<http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dph/hp/healthstats.html>

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