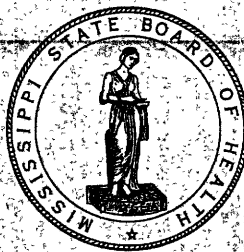


PUBLIC HEALTH STATISTICS

STATE OF
MISSISSIPPI
1957



Part I VITAL STATISTICS STATE SUMMARY

Mississippi State Board of Health
Jackson, Mississippi

A. L. Gray, M.D., Executive Officer

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

STATE SUMMARY

VOLUME 1

1957

VITAL STATISTICS

of

ANNUAL BULLETIN

General

Table

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

16.

Bir

Dea

Pla

Page 1

General Summary

1. Estimated Population as of July 1, 1956, by County, by Race

2. Live Births, by County and City of Occurrence, Reallocated to Mother's Usual Residence, by Race, with Rates

3. Live Births, by County and City of Usual Residence of Mother, by Race and attendant, and by Sex

4. Fetal Deaths, by County and City of Occurrence, Reallocated to Mother's Usual Residence, by Race and attendant, and by Sex

5. Deaths, by Cause, by Race

6. Deaths, by County and City of Occurrence, Reallocated to Place of Residence, by Race, with Rates

7. Deaths from Selected Causes, by Race, Sex, and Age, with Rates

8. Deaths from Selected Causes, by Month of Occurrence

9. Deaths Under 1 Year, shown for Selected Causes, by Race and Age, with Rates

10. Deaths Due to Injuries which Occurred in Mississippi, by County of Injury, by Type of Injury

11. Marriages, by County of Occurrence and of Residence of Bride, and Divorces, by County of Occurrence, by Race

12. Divorces, by Cause, by number of Minor Children, by Number of Years Married, by Race

13. Births, Deaths, and Marriages, by Month of Occurrence

14. Live Births, Deaths, Maternal Deaths, Deaths Under 1 Year of Age, and Deaths Under 1 Month of Age, 1948-1957, by Year, by Race, with Rates ..

15. Deaths from Heart Diseases, Nephritis (all forms), Vascular Lesions, Cancer, and Tuberculosis (all forms), 1948-1957, by Year, by Race, with Rates

16. Births, Fetal Deaths, Deaths Under 1 Year, Deaths Under 1 Month, and Deaths from Certain Selected Causes, on Basis of Place of Occurrence and Place of Residence, by Race, with Rates

VOLUME 1
TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Faint, illegible text covering the majority of the page]

per
fre
di

co
Su

Por

pre
si
of
in
po
to
po

ci
ci

Occ

re
the
dat
re
de
the
occ
des
yes
tot
Bir
rec
Ala

rec
den
the
den
to

*
**

SUMMARY OF 1957 VITAL STATISTICS

INTRODUCTION

The 1957 Vital Statistics Bulletin is the fifteenth consecutive issue prepared by the Public Health Statistical Service for the Division of Vital Statistics* from data obtained from records of live births, fetal deaths, deaths, marriages and divorces collected through the Division of Vital Statistics.

Volume 1 contains an analysis of the data and tables for the State, the 82 counties and in some instances the 15 cities with population of 10,000 or more. Summary tables for each county are included in Volume 2.

Population and Rates

Population figures used in this bulletin are estimates as of July 1, 1956, prepared by Dr. Herald A. Pedersen, formerly of the Sociology Department, Mississippi State College**, according to Method #II described by the United States Bureau of the Census. Some changes were made by the Public Health Statistical Service to include military population and also to adjust the estimates by race to the total population of each county. Later adjustments by Dr. Pedersen equalizing the county totals to a recent state estimate by the Census Bureau were not incorporated into the population figures used in this volume.

No age or sex-specific rates (except for maternal and infant deaths) and no city rates were calculated for 1957 because current estimates by age, sex, and for cities are not available.

Occurrence and Residence Allocation

Births, fetal deaths, deaths, and marriages were classified by occurrence and residence. Occurrence data were obtained from certificates filed in Mississippi at the place of birth, fetal death, death, or issuance of marriage license. Residence data include transcripts of these events (except marriages) occurring to Mississippi residents outside the State, and exclude records filed in Mississippi for nonresidents. There were 1,065 births to residents of Mississippi which occurred outside the State in 1957 and were reported to the Division of Vital Statistics; births occurring inside Mississippi to residents of other states numbered 1,674. Fetal death transcripts totaled only 20 and the nonresident certificates 52. During the year, 805 death transcripts were received and 562 nonresident deaths recorded. The total number of states sending transcripts was 38 including the District of Columbia. Birth records came from 32 states, fetal death records from 7 states, and death records from 31 states. Births to 17 Mississippi residents were reported from Alaska. In Table 4 the states furnishing the largest numbers of records are listed.

Some of the tables contain both residence and occurrence data; but, following recommended procedures, most of the tables and all of the rates are based on residence data only. Residence assignment for births and fetal deaths was determined on the basis of usual residence of mother; and for deaths, on the basis of usual residence of decedent. Deaths of inmates or employees of institutions were reallocated to previous residence regardless of length of stay in the institution.

* Changed July 1, 1958 to Division of Public Health Statistics.
** Changed July 1, 1957 to Mississippi State University.

Faint, mostly illegible text covering the majority of the page, appearing to be a document or report.

Urb
con
Cla
Int
wer
wit
res
Res
was
the
the
rat
the
to
Cha
Neg
Bir
a s
for
Apr
rur

Table A. Transcripts received, by place of occurrence

Place of Occurrence	Live Births	Deaths	Fatal Deaths
Total	1,065	805	20
Alabama	169	89	3
Arkansas	17	12	0
Colorado	26	3	0
Florida	16	12	0
Illinois	79	26	2
Louisiana	159	183	1
Missouri	19	12	0
Tennessee	433	382	11
Texas	21	27	0
Other places	126	59	3

Urban-Rural Classification

Towns with populations of 2,500 or more according to the 1950 census were considered as urban areas. All other areas were classified as rural.

Classification of Causes of Death

Causes of death were assigned according to the Sixth Revision (1948) of the International Statistical Classification of Causes of Death. Only underlying causes were coded. Changes in coding procedures since 1949 have been minor, but comparisons with earlier years should be made with caution, since revision of the code was responsible for several shifts in the distribution of deaths by cause.

LIVE BIRTHS

Resident Births

Live births to residents of Mississippi numbered 60,712 in 1957. This total was 1,466 less than that for 1956 and was the lowest since 1945. Declines of 474 for the whites and of 992 for the nonwhites were noted. The crude birth rate of 28.8 was the lowest since 1949. The state rate for the whites in 1957 was 23.4 and the county rates varied from 9.8 in Carroll County to 33.6 in Washington County. For nonwhites, the state rate was 35.2 and the range for the counties was from 24.0 in Union County to 60.0 in Smith County.

Characteristics

A breakdown of the 33,908 nonwhite births by specific race shows 33,741 were Negro, 132 were Indian, 22 were Chinese, 11 were Japanese, and 2 were other nonwhites. Births of males numbered 30,893 and there were 29,819 females. These totals yielded a sex ratio of 1,036 males to 1,000 females. August was the peak month of occurrence for live births. There were 5,689 in this month in comparison with only 4,388 in April when the fewest occurred.

During 1957, 20,056 children were born to urban residents and 40,656 to rural residents. Over half (54 per cent) of the urban resident births were white,

but 61 per cent of the rural were nonwhite. This percentage distribution was the same as for 1956. Of the births to rural residents, 25,299 or 62 per cent were born to farm residents; 12,566 were born to nonfarm residents; and on 2,791 certificates information pertaining to farm residency was not stated. Comparison of the occurrence and residence figures indicates that well over one-half of the white mothers living in rural areas went to cities for delivery as compared with only a small percentage of the nonwhite mothers.

The number of illegitimate births during 1957 was 7,815 or 12.9 per cent of the total. This was a slight increase over 1956 following the trend which has been upward since 1947 when the percentage was 9.1. White births classified as illegitimate totaled 272 or 1.0 per cent, and 7,543 or 22.2 per cent of the nonwhite births were illegitimate.

Livborn infants classified as immature (birth weight $\frac{5}{8}$ pounds or less) numbered 5,462 in 1957, or 8.9 per cent of the total. The incidence of immaturity was greater among the nonwhites than among the whites, 10.6 per cent in comparison with 6.7 per cent.

Classification by attendant

In Table B which gives the distribution of live births by attendant and race, it may be seen that, in 1957, over 68 per cent of all births occurred in hospitals or clinics (including physicians' offices or clinics which provide in-patient care). A small proportion, 5.3 per cent, was delivered by physicians in places other than hospitals or clinics; and 26.3 per cent were delivered at home by nonmedical attendants. Almost half of the nonwhite mothers, but less than one per cent of the white mothers, had no medical attendant.

Table B. Live births by attendant and race

Attendant	Total		White		Nonwhite	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Total	60,712	100.0	26,807	100.0	33,908	100.0
Physician in hospital	41,458	68.3	26,259	98.0	15,199	44.8
Physician in home	3,239	5.3	393	1.5	2,846	8.4
Midwife	15,936	26.2	138	0.5	15,798	46.6
Other	79	0.1	17	0.05	65	0.2

There has been a steady increase in the proportion of live births occurring in hospitals in recent years (see Table C). The year 1951 was the first in which at least half of the deliveries took place in hospitals, and the proportion of hospital deliveries has increased each year since. The progress made by the nonwhites has been more rapid, but there is still a large difference between the percentages for the two racial groups.

In 1952 the registration of all fetal deaths, regardless of length of gestation, was initiated in Mississippi. Prior to that time, only stillbirths of 20 or more weeks of gestation were reported. Registration of early fetal deaths is still far from complete, but there is no estimate of the degree of underregistration. There were 2,486 fetal death certificates filed during 1957 and 2,454 certificates

FETAL DEATHS

Age of Mother		Total		White		Nonwhite	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
10-14 years	333	0.5	30	0.1	303	0.9	
15-17 years	60,137	99.0	26,727	99.7	33,413	98.5	
15-24 years	30,205	49.8	13,414	50.0	16,791	49.5	
25-34 years	22,955	37.8	10,629	39.6	12,326	36.4	
35-44 years	6,977	11.5	2,681	10.0	4,296	12.7	
45-54 years	138	0.2	32	0.1	106	0.3	
Unknown	104	0.2	18	0.1	86	0.2	

Table E. Live births by age of mother and race, with per cent of total births

nonwhite. were 15-24 years of age and well over one-third were 25-34 years old. In the periods 15-24 and 25-34 years the percentages of white mothers were slightly larger than the this distribution has occurred in recent years. Approximately half of the mothers Table E gives the age distribution of mothers by race. Little variation in

Age of Mother

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1957	73.6	99.5	53.2
1956	72.2	99.3	51.0
1955	70.4	99.1	48.3
1954	70.4	98.9	47.7
1953	69.6	98.8	46.5

Table D. Percentage of live births attended by physicians, 1953-1957, by race

The proportions of live births attended by physicians during 1953-1957 are shown in Table D. The improvement shown in this table is less spectacular than that in the preceding table, but is also steady. This is the second year in which more than half the nonwhite mothers were attended by physicians.

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1957	68.3	98.0	44.8
1956	65.7	97.2	41.0
1955	62.4	96.0	36.4
1954	60.2	94.4	33.0
1953	58.2	93.3	30.5

Table C. Percentage of live births in hospitals or clinics, 1953-1957, by race