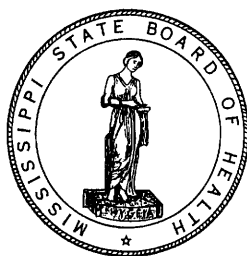


VITAL STATISTICS
MISSISSIPPI
1962



Public Health Statistics
Mississippi State Board of Health
Jackson, Mississippi
A. L. Gray, M. D., Executive Officer

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SYNOPSIS OF 1962 VITAL STATISTICS

INTRODUCTION

The 1962 Vital Statistics Bulletin is the twentieth consecutive issue prepared from data obtained from records of live births, fetal deaths, deaths, marriages, and divorces collected by the Division of Public Health Statistics.

Population and Rates (See Table 1.)

Population figures used in this bulletin are estimates as of July 1, 1962, prepared by the Division of Sociology and Rural Life, Mississippi State University. The new figures show an increase of about 80,000 or 3.7 per cent since the census of 1960, about 63,000 or 5.0 per cent more whites and about 16,400 or 1.8 per cent more nonwhites. County distributions showed that 58 counties gained population since 1960, in one there was no change, and 23 lost population.

These figures were used to calculate rates for the state and counties by race, but no age or sex-specific rates (except the infant and maternal death rates which are based on live births) and no city rates were calculated because current estimates by age and sex and by city are not available.

Urban-Rural Classification

Incorporated towns with populations of 2,500 or more according to the 1960 census were considered as urban areas. All other areas were classified as rural.

Occurrence and Residence Allocation

Births, fetal deaths, and deaths were classified by place of occurrence and by place of residence. Some of the tables contain both occurrence and residence data, but most of the tables are based on residence data only, as these data are considered more suitable for studying public health problems.

Occurrence data were obtained from certificates filed in Mississippi at the place of the event. Residence data include transcripts of records of events that occurred to Mississippi residents in other states and exclude records filed in this state for nonresidents. Residence assignment for births and fetal deaths was determined by the usual residence of the mother. For deaths it was determined by the usual residence of the decedent, except that deaths of inmates of institutions were reallocated to place of previous residence regardless of length of stay in the institution.

During 1962, transcripts were received from other states for 1,033 births to residents of Mississippi, and 1,484 births to nonresidents occurred in this state. Fetal death transcripts numbered 24 and certificates for nonresidents, 67. There were 924 death transcripts and 658 certificates for nonresidents. The transcripts came from 37 states and the District of Columbia, and 2 came from foreign countries.

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Table A shows the states which furnished the largest number of records; the four border states accounted for 84 per cent.

Table A. Transcripts received, by place of occurrence, and nonresident certificates

Place of Occurrence	Total Records	Live Births	Fetal Deaths	Deaths
<u>Transcripts</u>	<u>1,981</u>	<u>1,033</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>924</u>
Tennessee	977	494	17	466
Louisiana	327	143	1	183
Alabama	312	211	3	98
Arkansas	52	20	0	32
Illinois	43	14	0	29
Texas	35	8	1	26
Missouri	32	23	0	9
Kentucky	30	28	0	2
Other places	173	92	2	79
Nonresident certificates	2,209	1,484	67	658

Marriages were classified according to place of issuance of marriage license and also place of residence of bride. Since there is no exchange among the states of transcripts of marriage records for nonresidents, out-of-state marriages of Mississippi brides were not included in the tabulations. Divorces were classified only according to place where the divorce was granted.

Classification of Causes of Death

Causes of death were assigned according to the seventh revision (1955) of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death. Only the underlying cause of death was coded. Since the seventh revision differs only slightly from the sixth revision used from 1949 through 1957, figures for 1949-1962 are comparable, but comparison of data by cause for these years with those for the years prior to 1949 should be made with caution.

LIVE BIRTHS (See Tables 2, 3, 11)

In 1962, there were 58,921 live births to residents of Mississippi. This was 602 or one per cent less than in 1961 and the smallest number recorded since 1945. The crude birth rate was 26.1 per 1,000 population, 4.4 per cent lower than in the previous year and the lowest since 1942. (Preliminary figures for the United States for 1962 show that the nation as a whole has experienced a similar decline.) Births to white mothers totaled 27,512, or slightly more than in 1961, but the birth rate of 20.8 was the lowest since 1936. County rates for the white population ranged from 9.6 in Carroll County to 31.2 in Harrison County. The number of births to nonwhite Mississippians was 31,409. This figure was 679 less than in 1961 and the rate of 33.5 also showed a drop. Birth rates for the nonwhites varied from 22.9 in Lamar County to 45.8 in Issaquena County.

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Urban-Rural

There were 22,392 children born to urban residents in 1962 and 36,529 to rural residents. Although only 38 per cent of the total births were to urban residents, 64 per cent occurred in urban places. Comparison of the data shows that about 10,000 white and about 6,000 nonwhite mothers who live in rural areas went into cities and towns for delivery.

Attendant

The distribution of live births by attendant and race is given in Table B. According to these figures, nearly 75 per cent of all births to Mississippi residents in 1962 occurred in hospitals or physicians' offices and clinics which provide in-patient care. Over 2 per cent were delivered by physicians in places other than hospitals and clinics, and the remaining 23 per cent had no medical attention at delivery. Less than one per cent of the white mothers, but 43 per cent of the non-white mothers were delivered by midwives and other non-medical personnel.

Table B. Live Births by attendant and race

Attendant	Total		White		Nonwhite	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<u>Total</u>	<u>58,921</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>27,512</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>31,409</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Physician in hospital	43,932	74.6	27,310	99.3	16,622	52.9
Physician in home	1,422	2.4	95	0.3	1,327	4.2
Midwife	13,461	22.8	94	0.3	13,367	42.6
Other	106	0.2	13	*	93	0.3

* Less than 0.06 per cent.

There has been a steady increase in the proportion of live births occurring in hospitals in recent years. (See Table C.) In 1962, about 75 per cent of the live births in Mississippi were in hospitals or clinics; in 1942 only 20 per cent were in hospitals, and in 1952, 55 per cent were in hospitals. Although the rate of increase recently has been more rapid for nonwhites than for whites, there is still a large discrepancy between the current percentages for these two groups.

Table C. Percentage of live births in hospitals and clinics, by race, 1942, 1952, 1958-1962

Year	Total	White	Nonwhite
1942	20.1	39.9	4.0
1952	54.8	91.5	26.5
1958	70.4	98.6	47.0
1959	72.1	98.9	49.1
1960	73.2	99.0	51.3
1961	73.2	99.2	51.0
1962	74.6	99.3	52.9