

# Infant Mortality

## Why Is This Important?

Infant mortality is considered one of the most comprehensive measures of health in a society. In addition to measuring the health status of a population, it is an indicator of the effectiveness of preventive care, maternal and child care and broader social factors such as maternal education, smoking and relative deprivation.

The leading causes of infant deaths are congenital anomalies, preterm birth and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

## What Is Being Done?

Saskatoon Health Region Infant Mortality [report](#)

Child death review [report](#)

## To Learn More:

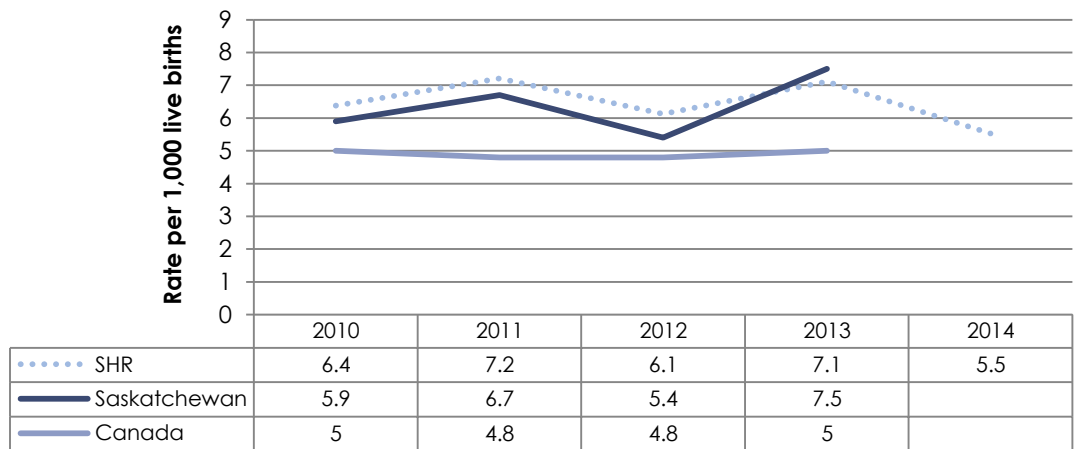
Chief Medical Health Officer's [Call to Action](#)

## Highlights

**Infant mortality rates in Saskatoon Health Region are higher than the Canadian average.**

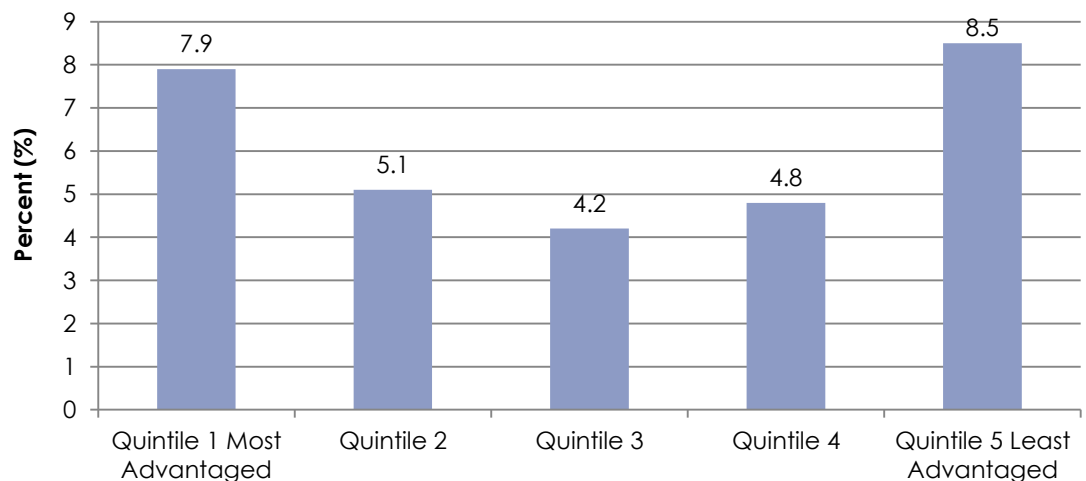
- Saskatoon Health Region infant mortality rates have been higher than Canadian rates since 2010 (Figure 1). In 2014, the infant mortality rate was 5.5 per 1,000 live births in the Region, with 26 infant deaths in that year.
- Interestingly, infant mortality rates were highest in the least and most disadvantaged areas of Saskatoon compared to other areas (Figure 2).

**Figure 1: Infant Mortality Rates, Saskatoon Health Region, Saskatchewan, Canada, 2010 to 2014**



Source: Statistics Canada (Canada and SK); Vital Statistics, eHealth Saskatchewan

**Figure 2: Infant Mortality, Areas of Advantage, Saskatoon, 2010 to 2014 Combined**



Source: Vital Statistics, eHealth Saskatchewan