

Provisional Vital Statistics for December 2020

Live Births decreased in December as 5,502 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,835 born one year earlier. Cumulative births for calendar year 2020 decreased by 3.9 percent from 72,103 in 2019 to 69,276 in 2020.

Deaths increased by more than 50 percent in December as 8,215 Missourians died compared with 5,401 in December, 2019 as the COVID pandemic peaked in mortality. Total deaths increased by 18.8 percent from 62,155 in 2019 to a record 73,831 in 2020.

The **Natural Increase** in December for Missourians was actually a decrease of 2,713 (5,502 births minus 8,215 deaths). For all of 2020, there were 4,555 more deaths than births, which was the first time Missouri had a natural decrease for a complete year in 110 years of vital records centralized data collection.

Marriages increased in December, but decreased for the 12 months ending with December. Total marriages in 2020 decreased by 6.1 percent from 36,636 in 2019 to 34,417, the lowest Missouri marriage count since 1959.

Dissolutions of Marriage also increased in December, but decreased for the 12 months ending with December. Dissolutions decreased by 7.5 percent from 17,740 in 2019 to 16,402 in 2020, the lowest dissolution total since 1967. In 2020 the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 2.07 to 2.10.

Infant Deaths in December decreased slightly as 31 Missouri infants died compared with 33 in 2019. For 2020, the infant death rate decreased from 6.0 to 5.6 per 1,000 live births, the lowest Missouri infant death rate on record.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI DECEMBER 2020

<u>Item</u>	<u>December</u>				<u>12 months ending with December</u>									
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>				<u>Rate*</u>					
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	
Live Births	5,835	5,502	11.2	10.6	73,017	73,281	72,103	69,276	12.3	11.9	11.9	11.7	11.3	
Deaths	5,401	8,215	10.4	15.8	61,866	63,110	62,155	73,831	9.6	10.1	10.3	10.1	12.0	
Natural increase	434	-2,713	0.8	-5.2	11,151	10,171	9,948	-4,555	2.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	-0.7	
Marriages	2,284	2,402	4.4	4.6	40,316	39,692	36,636	34,417	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.0	5.6	
Dissolutions	1,564	1,644	3.0	3.2	19,187	18,630	17,740	16,402	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	
Infant deaths	33	31	5.7	5.6	456	459	432	391	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.6	
Population base (in thousands)	....	....	6,152	6,155	....	....	....	....	6,111	6,126	6,140	6,152	6,155

* 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. Beginning with provisional July 2006 data numbers and rates are based on month of event rather than month of report. This will result in a delay in reporting, but will more accurately reflect current trends.

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