

# Life Expectancy & Fertility

Recent US averages/rates in relation to the rest of the world

## LIFE EXPECTANCY THROUGH THE AGES

A brief outline of how the average life expectancy has changed due to diseases and societal outcomes.

### 30 Years

Neanderthals (30,000 years ago)

Neanderthals did not divide labor duties, which caused both men and women to die of injuries caused by rock falls and hunting accidents. These hunter-gatherer groups contracted diseases that originally spread from animals. Rabies, tuberculosis, and yellow fever were wide spread.

### 38 Years

Neolithic (8500 BC to 3500 BC)

Agriculture irrigation and urbanization caused for rapid population growth, which consequently increased fecal contamination of water. Influenza, smallpox, and measles spread from animals to humans. An estimated 23 million people died from cholera, while millions more died from plague, malaria, and tuberculosis.

### 35 Years

Classical Greece & Roman (500 BC to 500 AD)

Tuberculosis, typhoid fever, smallpox, and scarlet fever spread among the denser urban populations. Malnutrition, violence and gastroenteritis were also leading causes of death.

### 48 to 38 Years

Medieval Period (500 AD to 1500 AD)

Life expectancy grew with urbanization, but famine caused by crop failures and bubonic plague were the leading causes. The Black Death (1348-1350) wiped out 25 million people in Europe and 60 million in Asia. By 1500, life expectancy had dropped back to 38.

### 40 Years

Victorian (1850s to 1900)

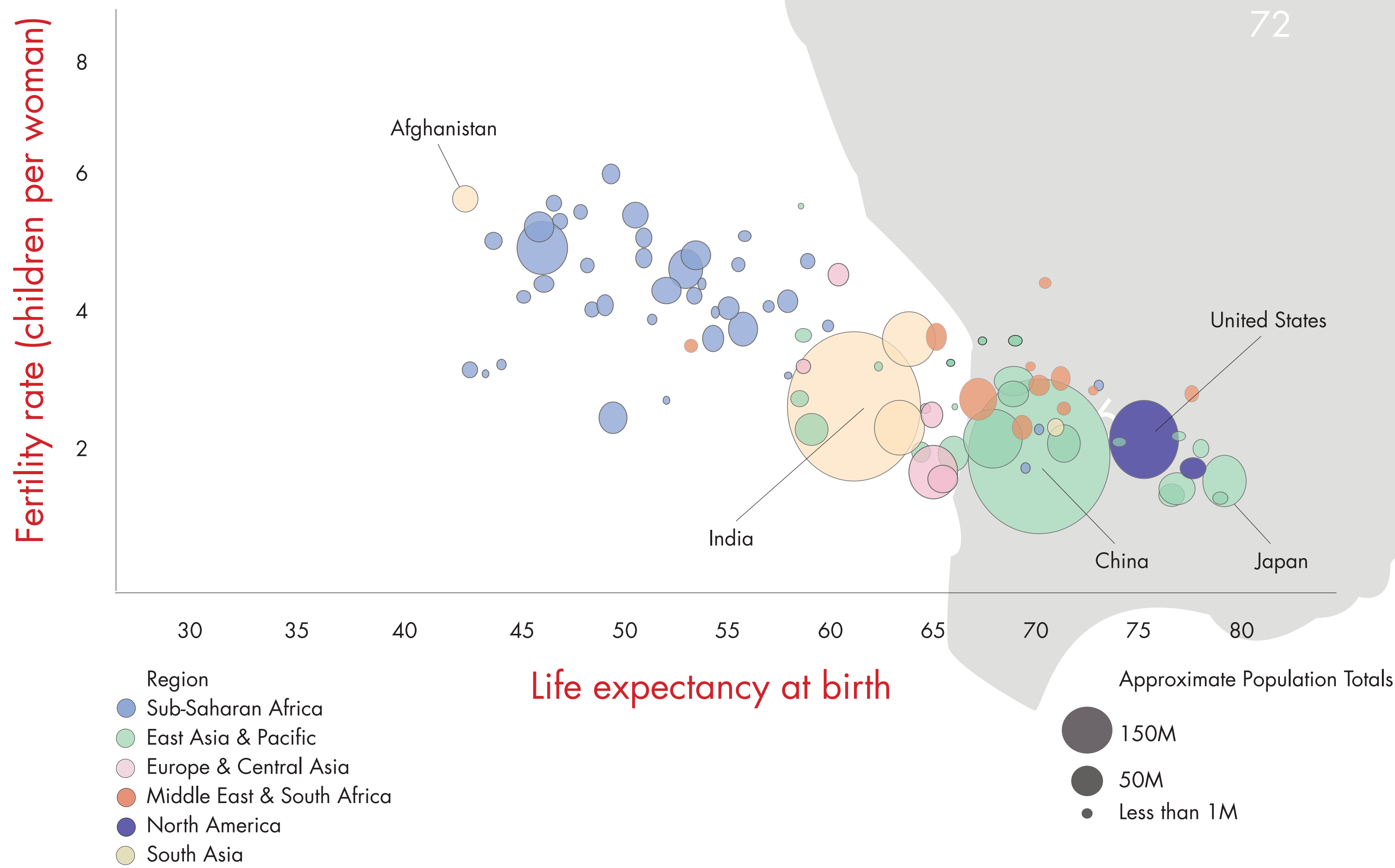
Due to the rapid industrial growth of the Victorian era, individual health was unable to reach the levels of appropriateness to adapt to new diseases. Tuberculosis, typhus, typhoid fever, rickets, diphtheria, scarlet fever, and cholera were the leading causes of death during this time period.

### 78 Years

United States (1980s-Present)

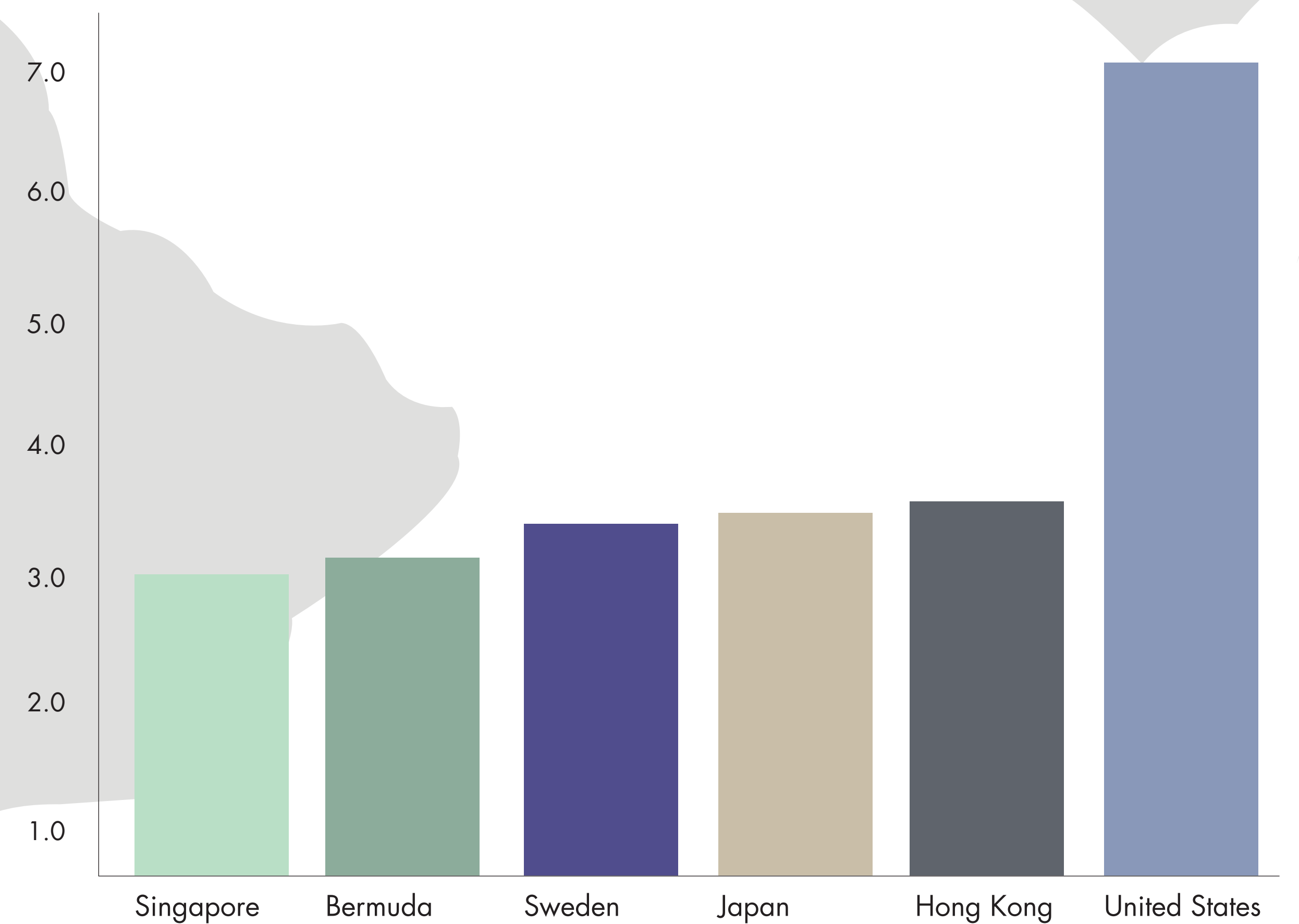
Better health care, sanitation and living conditions boosted life expectancy. Cancer, heart disease, and strokes are the leading causes of death in developed countries, such as the United States.

## FERTILITY RATE in relation to LIFE EXPECTANCY in 2008



## INFANT MORTALITY (DEATHS/1,000 BIRTHS)

Top Five Countries w/ lowest infant mortality in relation to the United States



## REFERENCES:

1. National Vital Statistics Report: 2007  
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2. United States Census Bureau  
<http://www.census.gov/population/www/pop-profile/natproj.html>
3. World Health Organization
4. Google Public Data Explorer: The World Bank  
[http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators?cid=GPD\\_WDI](http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators?cid=GPD_WDI)

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## LEADING CAUSES OF INFANT MORTALITY IN 2007

Infant Mortality is defined as the death of an infant before his or her first birthday

1. Congenital malformations, deformations and chromosomal abnormalities
2. Disorders related to short gestation and low birth weight (low birth weight)
3. Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS)
4. Newborn affected by maternal complications of pregnancy)
5. Accidents (unintentional injuries)
6. Newborn affected by complications of placenta, cord and membranes
7. Bacterial sepsis of newborn
8. Respiratory distress of newborn
9. Diseases of the circulatory system
10. Neonatal hemorrhage