

Infant Mortality

Disease Information Packets – Slide Sets

Public Health Services,
Community Health Statistics

5/2012



What is Infant Mortality?

- Infant mortality is defined as the death of a baby less than one year of age.
 - It is often used as an indicator of the health status of a nation and to compare the health of different populations.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities. Eliminate Disparities in Infant Mortality. <http://www.cdc.gov/omhd/amh/factsheets/infant.htm>.

Demographic Risk Factors

- **Age**
 - Births to teenagers less than 16 years of age or to mothers aged 44 years and older have a higher risk of infant mortality.
- **Race/Ethnicity**
 - African Americans, Native Americans /Alaska Natives, and Puerto Ricans have higher rates of infant mortality.
- **Marital Status**
 - Marital status may be an indicator of social, emotional, and financial support.
 - Mothers who are married had lower rates of infant mortality than single mothers.
- **Maternal Education**



Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities. Eliminate Disparities in Infant Mortality. <http://www.cdc.gov/omhd/amh/factsheets/infant.htm>. Matthew TJ, MacDorman MF. Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2006 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set. National Vital Statistics Report. National Center for Health Statistics, 2010.

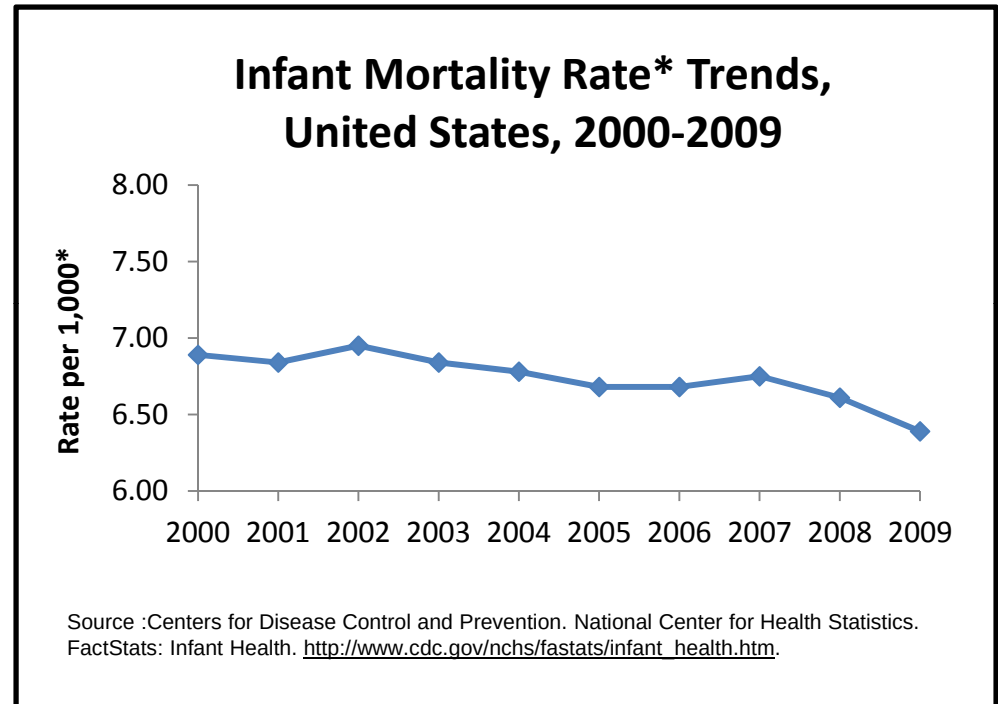
Social and Behavioral Risk Factors

- **Lack of Prenatal Care**
- **Poor Nutrition**
- **Alcohol and Drug Use**
- **Smoking During Pregnancy**
 - Mothers who smoke during pregnancy have nearly twice the risk of infant mortality than mothers who do not smoke during pregnancy.
- **Medical Complications**
 - Maternal complications of pregnancy or newborn complications may increase risk of mortality to infant.
- **Plural/Multiple Births**
 - The risk of infant death increases with multiple births.
- **Low Birth Weight**
 - Birth weight is an important predictor of an infants health and survival.

Source: Matthew TJ, MacDorman MF. Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2006 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set. National Vital Statistics Report. National Center for Health Statistics, 2010.

National Statistics

- In 2009, there were 26,412 infant deaths in the United States.
- Nationally, the infant mortality rate for 2009 was 6.39 deaths per 1,000 live births.
- Since 2000, infant mortality rates have declined slightly, from 6.89 deaths per 1,000 live births to 6.39 deaths per 1,000 live births.



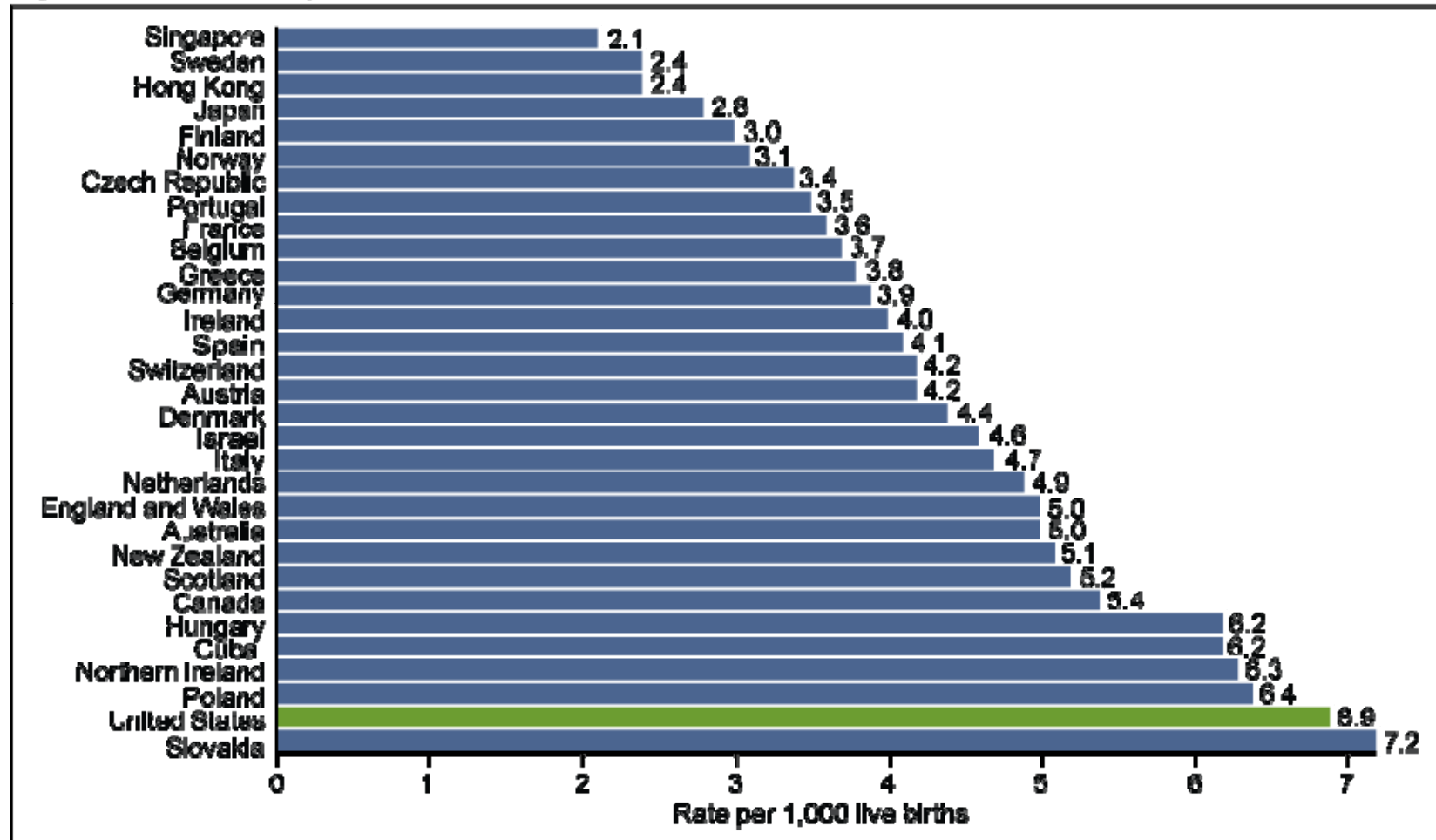
Sources: -Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. FactStats: Infant Health. http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/infant_health.htm. -Matthew TJ, MacDorman MF. Infant Mortality Statistics from the 2009 Period Linked Birth/Infant Death Data Set. National Vital Statistics. National Center for Health Statistics, 2011.

National Statistics and Disparities

- Infant death rates are significantly higher than the U.S. average in the South-Eastern Region of the United States and significantly lower than the U.S. average in the Western Region.
- In 2009, the infant mortality rate among African Americans was the highest at 12.68 deaths per 1,000 live births, whereas among Asian/Pacific Islander Americans, the rate was the lowest at 3.80 deaths per 1,000 births.

National Statistics and Disparities

Figure 1. Infant mortality rates, selected countries, 2005

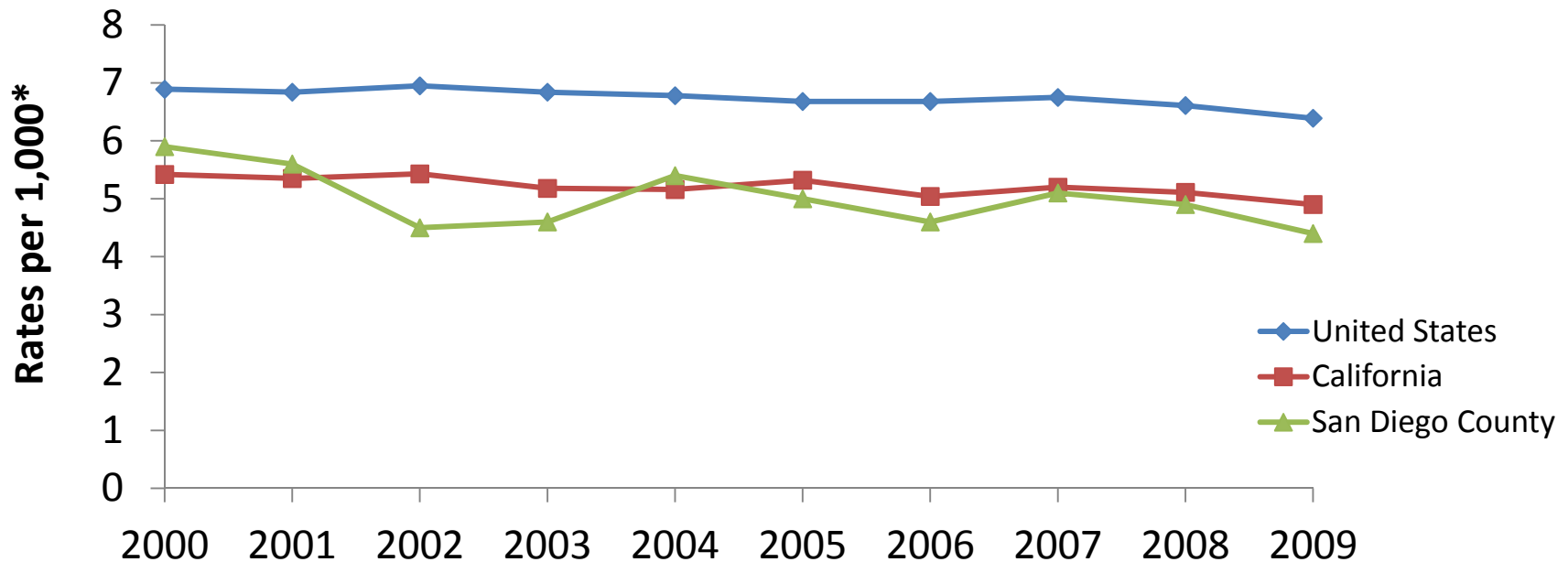


SOURCE: Health, United States, 2006.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics.
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db23.htm>. Reprinted with permission.

Local Statistics

National, State, and Local Infant Mortality Rates*, 2000-2009



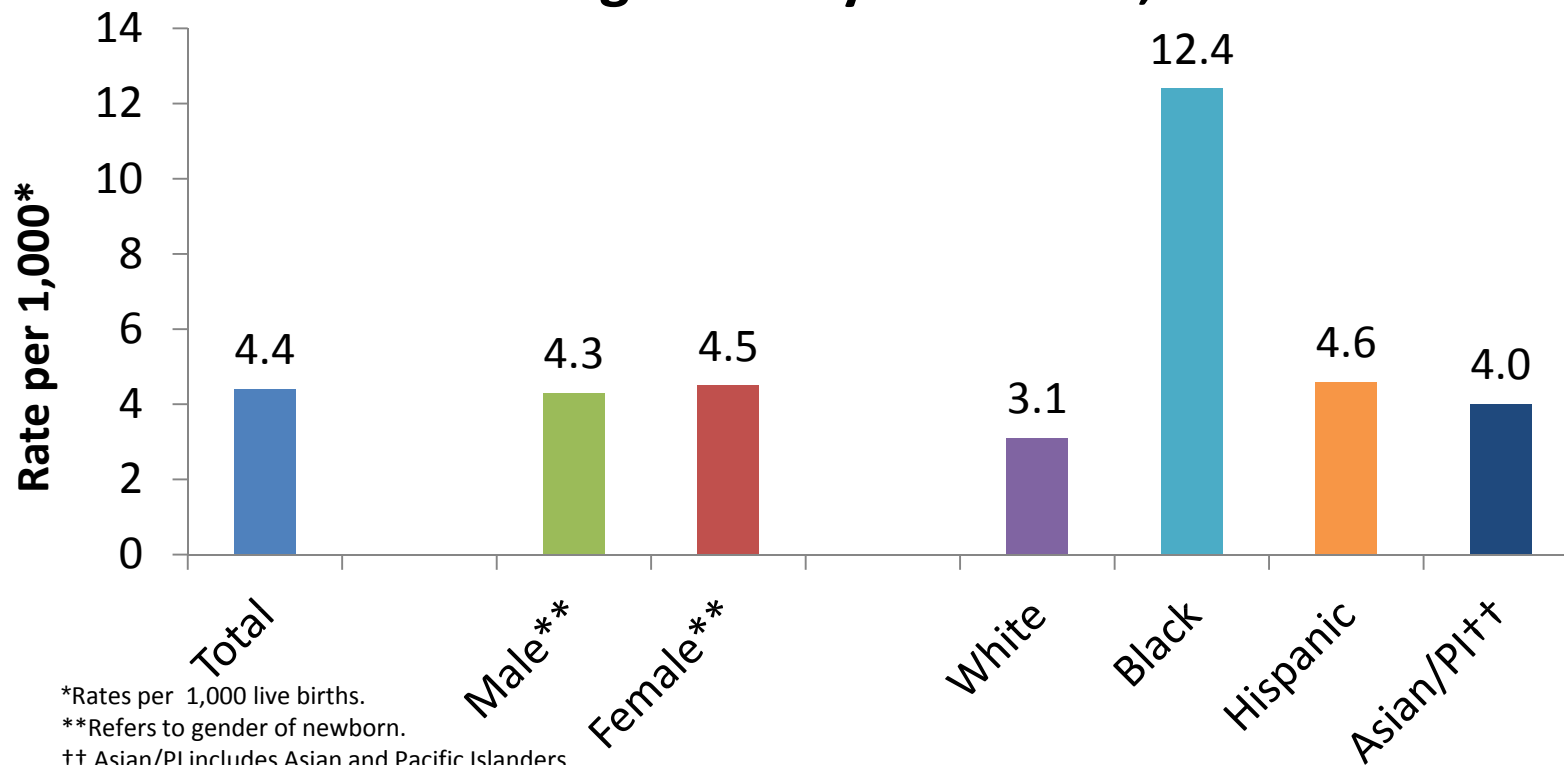
*Rates are per 1,000 live births.

Source: CA. DPH, Center for Health Statistics, Birth & Death Statistical Mater Files. County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Maternal, Child and Family Health Services.

Prepared by County of San Diego (CoSD), Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA), Community Health Statistics, 05/21/2012.

Local Statistics and Disparities

Infant Mortality Rates* Among San Diego County Residents, 2009



*Rates per 1,000 live births.

**Refers to gender of newborn.

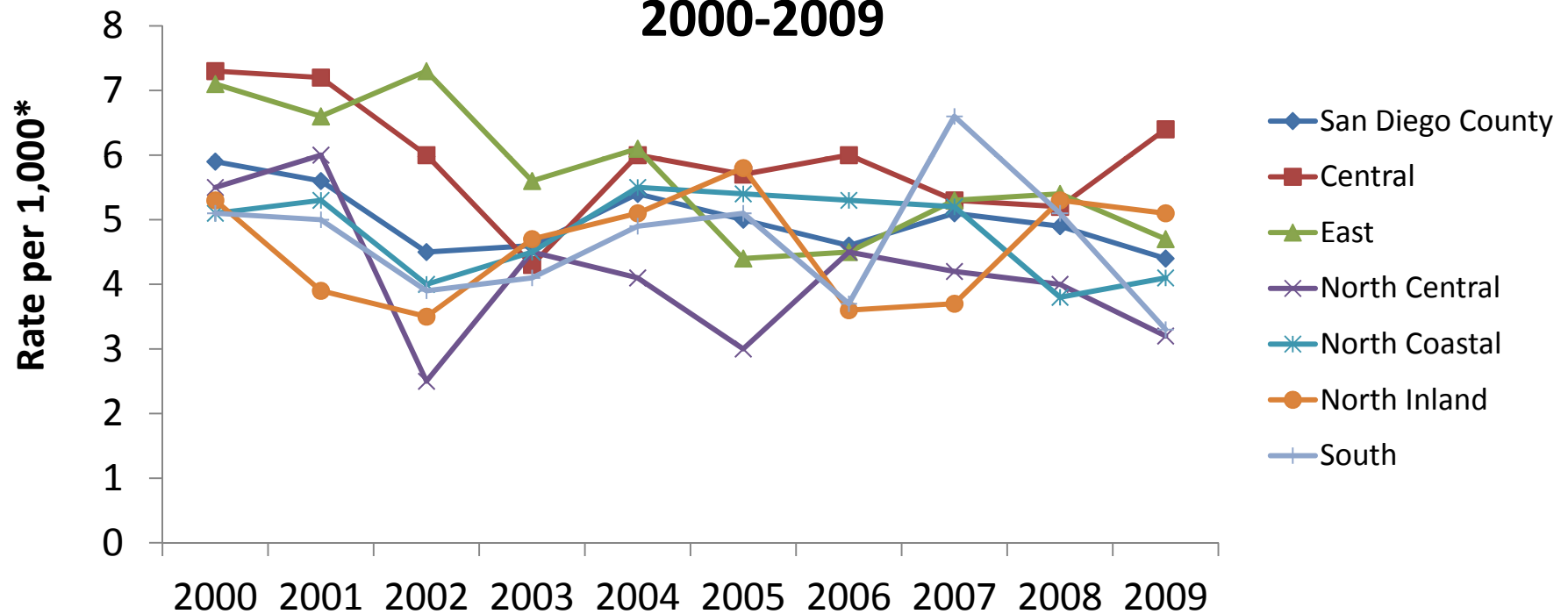
†† Asian/PI includes Asian and Pacific Islanders.

Source: CA, DPH, Center for Health Statistics, Birth & Death Statistical Master Files. County of San Diego, Health & Human Services Agency, Maternal, Child and Family Health Services.

Prepared by County of San Diego (CoSD), Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA), Community Health Statistics, 5/24/2012.

Local Statistics and Disparities

Infant Mortality Rates* Among San Diego County Residents by Region, 2000-2009



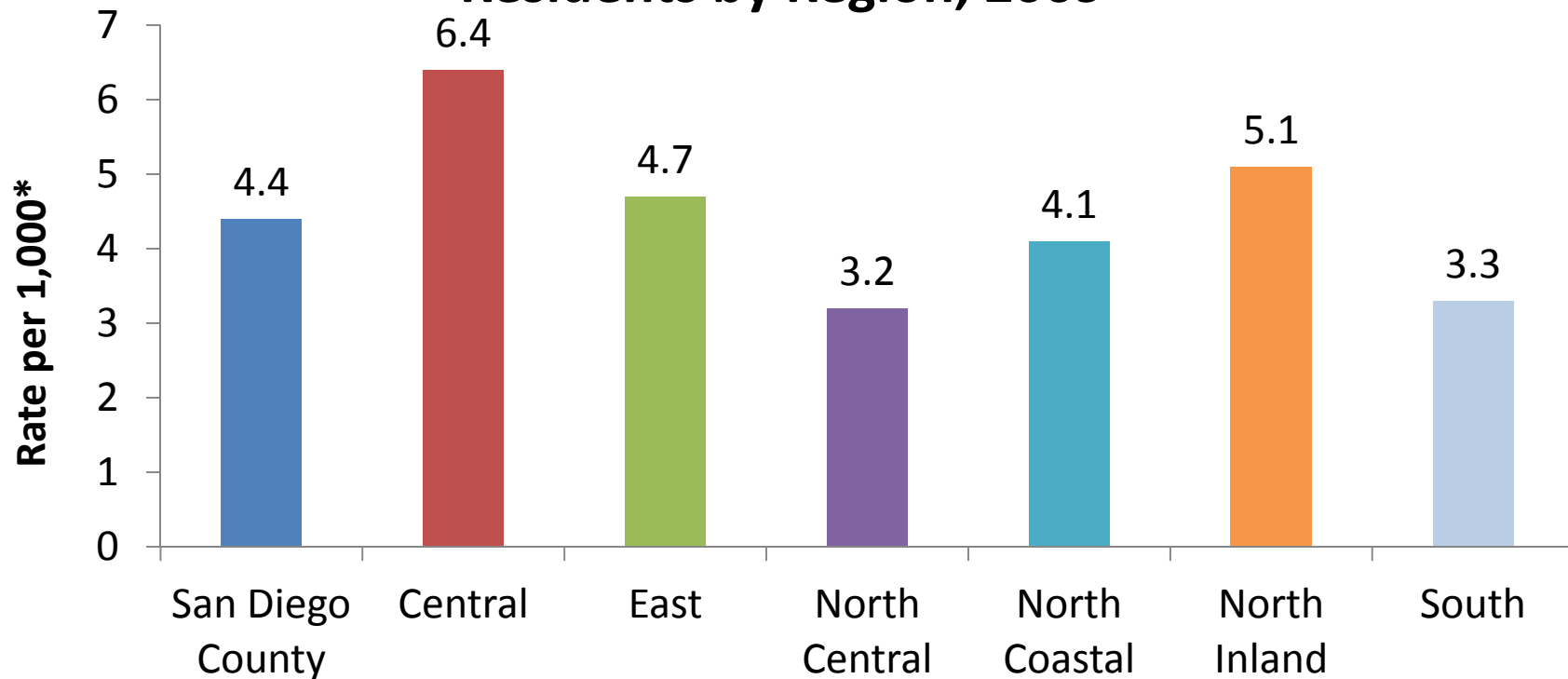
* Rates are number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

Source: CA, DPH, Center for Health Statistics, Birth & Death Statistical Master Files. County of San Diego, Health & Human Services Agency, Maternal, Child and Family Health Services.

Prepared by County of San Diego (CoSD), Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA), Community Health Statistics, 5/24/2012.

Local Statistics and Disparities

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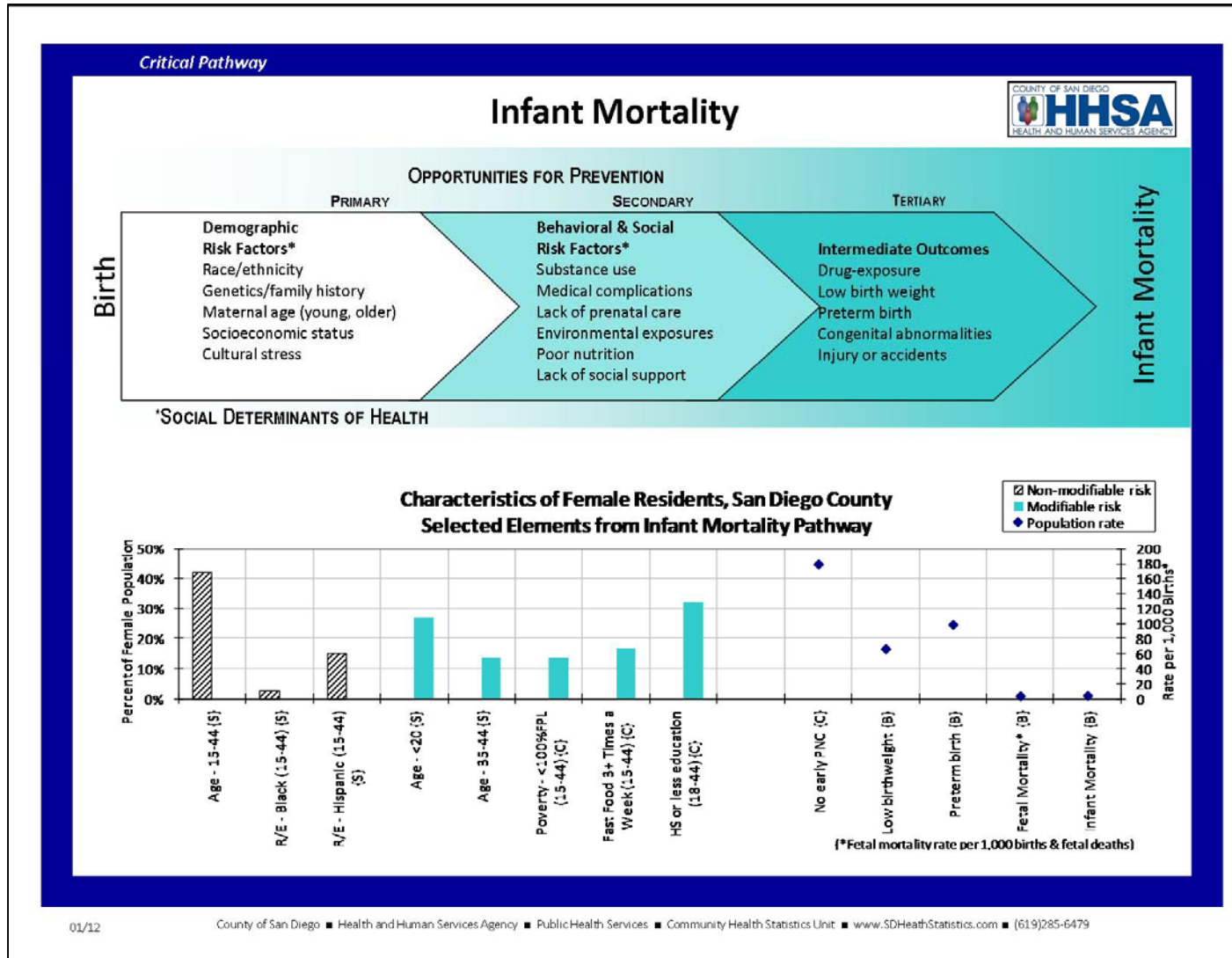
Prevention

- Avoid smoking during pregnancy
- Do not use alcohol or drugs during pregnancy
- Seek prenatal care
- Maintain a healthy diet during pregnancy
 - Lack of a healthy diet can impair the development of the baby.
- Always place sleeping infants on their backs
 - Infants who sleep on their side or stomach have an increased risk for SIDS.



Sources: - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities. Eliminate Disparities in Infant Mortality. <http://www.cdc.gov/omhd/amh/factsheets/infant.htm>. Last Updated June 5, 2007. Accessed May 12, 2010. - U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy Pregnancy: Staying Healthy and Safe. <http://www.womenshealth.gov/pregnancy/you-are-pregnant/staying-healthy-safe.cfm>. Last Updated March 5, 2009. Accessed May 25, 2010.

Critical Pathway to Infant Mortality



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