

9. Community Health

Health and human service agencies are involved in treating and monitoring the health care needs of the community. Community health indicators measure the success of programs and services that provide access to physical and mental support for the community.

When considering community health indicators, it is helpful to look not only at traditional medical indicators (births, deaths, etc.), but those that measure individual and collective health as well. Individual health may be influenced by a variety of factors, including educational attainment, employment, environmental factors, and even community relations. Other indicators measure the availability, and perhaps the adequacy, of health care services in the area.

Indicators in this section can be linked to issues of unemployment and poverty addressed in sections four and five, as health issues affect a person's ability to earn income and improve their standard of living. These issues can also be linked to welfare and education in sections ten and eleven, as health issues may prevent the acquisition of the skills and higher education needed to attain adequate income levels.

In this section:

Births, Deaths, & Leading Causes of Death	96
AIDS Cases	99
Teenage Pregnancy	100
Low Birth Weight Infants	102
Infant Mortality	103
Medical Service Providers	105
Alcohol & Drug Program Clients	106
Persons Living with a Disability	108

Births, Deaths, & Leading Causes of Death

Overview

Births and deaths is the total number of live births and deaths reported to the California Department of Health Services. Stillbirths are not included in either count. The data is reported by place of residence at the time of birth or death, and as long as the birthmother and decedent were permanent residents of El Dorado County at the time of birth or death, they are included. Occurrence data is also included, which reports the number of birth and death occurrences in the county, regardless of whether the birth mother or decedent was a permanent resident. The live birth rate is the number of live births per thousand people in the county.

Each birth and death is reported with certain characteristic information. For births, this includes age of mother (see the teenage pregnancy indicator), race/ethnicity of the mother, birth weight (see the indicator for low birth weight infants), and other characteristics.

For deaths, this includes age and race/ethnicity of decedent, place of residence at time of death, and cause of death, among other characteristics. This indicator includes data on the ten leading causes of death in California each year, broken out by county. Some categories are not available when, during that year, the cause of death was displaced among the top ten by another cause in California. This table shows the eleven most common causes of death between 1990 and 2004.

Birth and death statistics are essential when evaluating public health. This data is used for planning educational initiatives, identifying health issues in the community, and targeting public health programs and services. A population's birth rate can also be used to plan maternal and childcare services. For example, an increase in the birth rate over the last five years indicates a need for more child care facilities in the upcoming five to ten years.

Number of Live Births, El Dorado County

Year	Residence		Occurrence
	Number	Rate	
1990	1,993	16.1	1,566
1991	1,956	15.0	1,504
1992	1,773	13.1	1,333
1993	1,789	12.9	1,359
1994	1,792	12.6	1,346
1995	1,726	12.0	1,353
1996	1,664	11.4	1,329
1997	1,666	11.2	1,271
1998	1,677	11.1	1,311
1999	1,637	10.7	1,229
2000	1,628	10.5	1,169
2001	1,698	10.6	1,192
2002	1,765	10.8	1,164
2003	1,751	10.5	1,126
2004	1,897	11.2	1,187
2005	1,930	11.2	n/a

Source: California Department of Health Services. Rates calculated by CED.

Number of Live Births, California

Year	Residence		Occurrence
	Number	Rate	
1990	611,666	20.7	612,834
1991	609,228	20.2	610,393
1992	600,838	19.6	602,037
1993	584,483	18.8	585,344
1994	567,034	18.0	567,892
1995	551,226	17.4	552,083
1996	538,628	16.9	539,487
1997	524,174	16.3	525,246
1998	521,265	16.0	522,653
1999	518,073	15.6	519,248
2000	531,285	15.8	532,611
2001	527,371	15.3	528,609
2002	529,245	15.1	530,204
2003	540,827	15.2	541,835
2004	544,685	15.0	545,758
2005	548,700	14.9	n/a

Source: California Department of Health Services. Rates calculated by CED.

El Dorado County

There was a total of 1,897 live births to El Dorado County residents in 2005, with 1,187 births occurring in El Dorado County.

In 2004, the number of deaths that occurred in El Dorado County totaled 1,011, with 1,235 deaths to El Dorado County residents. The lower number of deaths occurring in El Dorado County may be a result of fewer health care facilities available to county residents. Similar to the rest of California, cancer and heart disease are the top two causes of death in the county.

Number of Deaths, El Dorado County

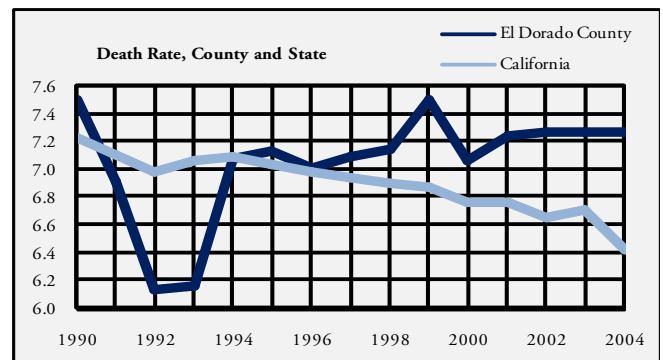
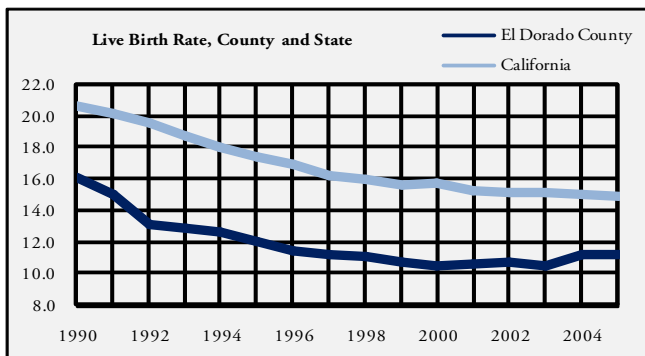
Year	Residence		Occurrence
	Number	Rate	
1990	929	7.5	824
1991	901	6.9	774
1992	827	6.1	733
1993	856	6.2	739
1994	1,004	7.1	861
1995	1,026	7.1	873
1996	1,024	7.0	862
1997	1,053	7.1	895
1998	1,078	7.1	926
1999	1,149	7.5	960
2000	1,101	7.1	947
2001	1,161	7.2	916
2002	1,191	7.3	968
2003	1,213	7.3	1,004
2004	1,235	7.3	1,011
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: California Department of Health Services. Rates calculated by CED.

Number of Deaths, California

Year	Residence		Occurrence
	Number	Rate	
1990	213,766	7.2	214,919
1991	214,220	7.1	216,006
1992	214,586	7.0	216,379
1993	220,271	7.1	222,330
1994	222,854	7.1	224,733
1995	222,626	7.0	224,604
1996	222,308	7.0	224,084
1997	223,438	6.9	225,243
1998	225,450	6.9	227,897
1999	227,965	6.9	230,054
2000	228,281	6.8	230,505
2001	232,790	6.8	234,683
2002	233,246	6.7	235,180
2003	239,325	6.7	239,977
2004	232,464	6.4	232,958
2005	236,220	6.4	n/a

Source: California Department of Health Services. Rates calculated by CED.



Leading Causes of Death, El Dorado County

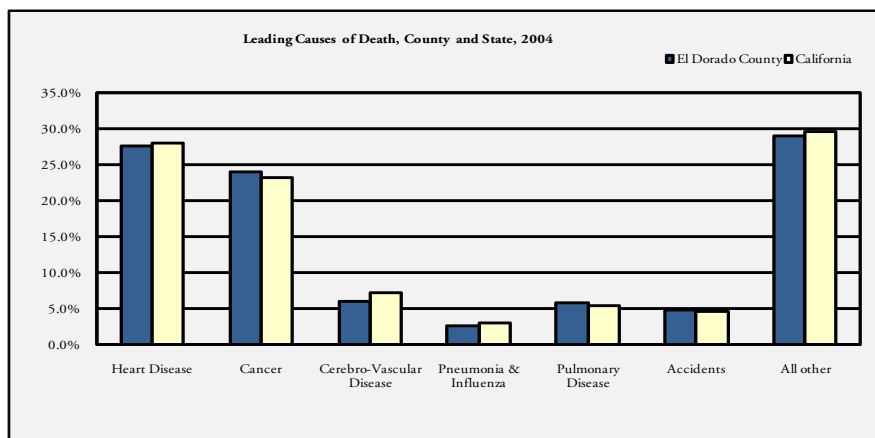
	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All causes	1004	1026	1024	1053	1078	1149	1101	1161	1191	1213	1235
Heart Disease	279	298	286	268	283	343	275	324	329	292	341
Cancer	259	283	253	275	291	302	300	295	323	324	296
Cerebro-Vascular Disease	67	63	66	97	69	76	69	66	72	74	76
Pneumonia & Influenza	48	58	42	61	60	40	29	38	35	24	33
Pulmonary Disease	55	51	59	41	72	51	67	71	84	75	73
Accidents	55	45	67	61	33	47	54	65	47	55	59
Cirrhosis	12	11	16	17	15	21	18	13	17	22	30
Diabetes	23	20	16	23	23	28	28	23	19	18	26
Suicide	19	31	33	26	23	21	19	25	22	29	14
Homicide	7	5	2	2	5	3	5	1	4	3	4
Alzheimers	4	9	12	11	15	17	22	33	32	36	33
All other causes	176	152	172	171	189	200	215	207	207	261	250

Source: California, Department of Health Services

Leading Causes of Death, California

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All causes	222,854	222,626	222,308	223,438	225,450	227,965	228,281	232,790	233,246	239,325	232,464
Heart Disease	68,312	67,990	67,676	68,273	68,946	69,900	68,533	69,004	68,387	69,013	65,002
Cancer	51,247	51,217	50,904	51,818	51,186	52,880	53,005	53,810	53,926	54,307	53,708
Cerebro-Vascular Disease	15,703	16,176	16,481	16,649	16,385	18,079	18,090	18,078	17,551	17,686	16,884
Pneumonia & Influenza	10,237	10,548	11,134	12,286	13,316	8,014	8,355	8,167	8,098	8,184	7,331
Pulmonary Disease	11,017	10,765	11,373	11,737	12,261	13,187	12,754	13,056	12,643	13,380	12,519
Accidents	9,233	9,372	9,217	8,762	8,620	8,940	8,814	9,274	9,882	10,470	10,614
Cirrhosis	3,630	3,575	3,501	3,502	3,460	3,546	3,673	3,759	3,725	3,832	3,686
Diabetes	4,918	5,096	5,380	5,611	5,796	6,004	6,203	6,457	6,783	7,088	7,119
Suicide	3,821	3,823	3,408	3,424	3,215	3,047	3,113	3,256	3,210	3,396	3,364
Homicide	3,690	3,623	3,007	2,780	2,265	2,042	2,084	2,301	2,459	2,481	2,489
Alzheimers	1,521	1,717	1,972	2,057	2,087	3,934	4,398	4,897	5,405	6,585	6,962
All other causes	37,937	37,566	39,027	38,596	40,000	40,434	41,343	43,032	43,636	45,384	45,275

Source: California, Department of Health Services



AIDS Cases

Overview

The California Department of Health Services (DHS) requires all health care service providers in California to report the diagnosis of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) to their agency. DHS records the cumulative incidence of diagnoses since AIDS was first discovered in the early 1980s. This table shows all first-time diagnoses of AIDS in El Dorado County. The actual number of people living with AIDS in the county may differ if the subject population has changed residences.

The epidemic of HIV and AIDS has attracted much attention both within and outside the medical and scientific communities. Much of this attention comes from the many social issues related to this disease, such as sexuality, drug use, and poverty. Although an overwhelming amount of scientific evidence points to HIV as the cause of AIDS,

AIDS Cases & Cumulative Incidence (1983 - February 29, 2008)

	AIDS cases	Deaths	
		Number	Percent
El Dorado County	174	113	64.9%
California	148,505	84,829	57.1%

Source: California Department of Health

the disease process is still not completely understood.

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) has become a worldwide epidemic since it was first reported in the U.S. in 1981. Over 800,000 AIDS cases have been reported in the U.S. since 1981, and many more people may be infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS and may be passed from one person to another when infected blood, semen, or vaginal secretions come in contact with an uninfected person's broken skin or mucous membranes. In addition, infected pregnant women can pass HIV to their baby during pregnancy or delivery, as well as through breastfeeding. People with HIV have what is called HIV

infection. Some of these people will develop AIDS as a result of their HIV infection.

HIV destroys a certain kind of blood cell (CD4+ T cells) which is crucial to the normal function of the human immune system. Loss of these cells in people with HIV is an extremely powerful indicator of the development of AIDS. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), AIDS includes all people infected with the HIV virus in its most advanced stage. At this advanced stage, people have fewer than 200 CD4+ T cells, whereas healthy adults not infected normally have CD4+ T cell counts of 1,000. The definition also includes twenty-six clinical conditions that affect people with advanced HIV. Most of these conditions are opportunistic infections that rarely cause harm in healthy individuals. To people with AIDS, these infections can be fatal. People infected with AIDS are also prone to developing various cancers that can be very difficult to treat. Young children with AIDS are susceptible to the same opportunistic infections as well as some severe forms of bacterial infections.

AIDS can be contracted by people of any race, gender, or sexual preference. The epidemic, however, is growing most rapidly among minority populations and is the leading killer of African-American males, according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID).

El Dorado County

From 1983 to February 29, 2008, there have been a total of 174 AIDS cases reported in El Dorado County, and 113 (65 percent) of these cases have terminated in death to the patient. In California, 148,505 AIDS cases have been reported since 1983, and 84,829 (57 percent) have resulted in death.

Teenage Pregnancy

Overview

Teen births are reported by the California Department of Health Services as births to mothers under the age of twenty. It is a subset of the data presented in the previous indicator on births, deaths, and cause of death.

NOTE: “a” denotes rates that are not calculated for fewer than five births.

Teen pregnancy is a major national and state concern because teen mothers and their babies face increased risks to their health and economic status. According to the National Center for Health Statistics, teen mothers are more likely than mothers over age twenty to give birth prematurely (before thirty-seven completed weeks of pregnancy). Although teenage birth rates slowed to the lowest point ever in 2003, teenage pregnancy remains an important concern throughout the United States. In 2002, the 7,315 girls under age 15 who gave birth were more than twice as likely to deliver prematurely than women ages 30-45 (21 percent versus 9 percent). Many factors contribute to the increased risk of health problems of babies born to

teenage mothers. Teens often have poor eating habits and neglect taking their vitamins, and many smoke, drink alcohol, or even take drugs. Evidence also shows that many teens are less likely than older women to be of adequate pre-pregnancy weight and/or to gain an adequate amount of weight during pregnancy leading to an increased chance of having a low birth weight baby.

Early and regular health care during pregnancy is vital to both the mother and child; however, many teens either do not have access to necessary services or simply choose not to utilize them. In 2002, 6.6 percent of mothers, ages 15-19 years, received late or no prenatal care, compared to 3.6 percent for all ages.

Teenage mothers are more likely to drop out of high school than those who wait until later years to have their own children. Lacking necessary education skills, teenage mothers potentially have a harder time finding and keeping well-paying jobs. As a result, a child born to an unmarried teenage high school dropout is ten times as likely as other children, ages 8-12, to be living in poverty.

Teen Birth Rates by Age of Mother

Year	El Dorado County		California	
	10-14	15-19	10-14	15-19
1990	a	45.1	1.4	69.4
1991	a	47.1	1.4	70.9
1992	0.0	35.8	1.5	68.6
1993	0.0	44.2	1.4	67.0
1994	a	44.4	1.5	65.5
1995	a	47.4	1.5	62.9
1996	0.0	39.6	1.3	58.2
1997	a	38.9	1.1	53.8
1998	a	34.5	0.9	50.9
1999	0.3	31.6	0.9	48.5
2000	0.3	23.0	0.7	46.7
2001	0.0	24.3	0.6	43.7
2002	0.1	22.3	0.6	40.6
2003	0.1	16.8	0.5	38.9
2004	0.0	17.4	0.5	38.1
2005	0.2	18.4	0.5	37.2

Source: California Department of Health Services

Total Teen Births (15-19 Years Old)

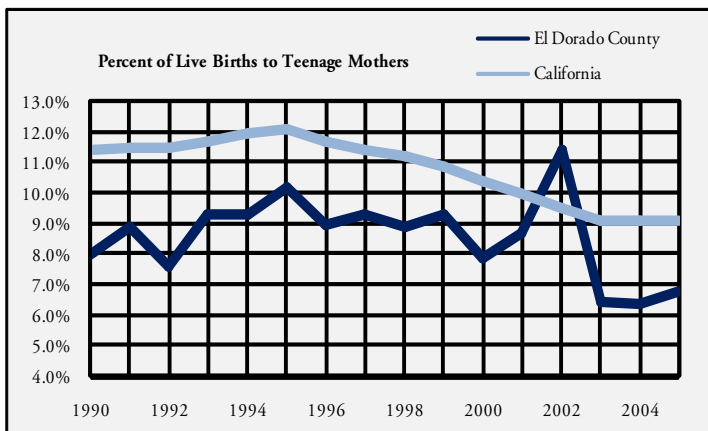
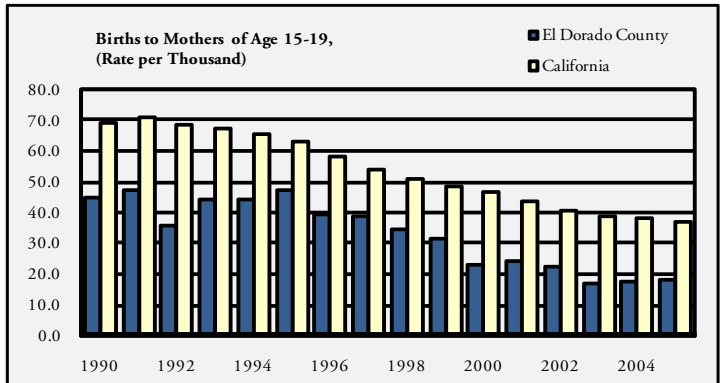
Year	El Dorado County		California	
	Total teen births	Percent of live births	Total teen births	Percent of live births
1990	159	8.0%	69,560	11.4%
1991	174	8.9%	70,322	11.5%
1992	135	7.6%	69,272	11.5%
1993	167	9.3%	68,519	11.7%
1994	167	9.3%	68,198	12.0%
1995	176	10.2%	66,644	12.1%
1996	150	9.0%	63,118	11.7%
1997	155	9.3%	59,851	11.4%
1998	149	8.9%	58,141	11.2%
1999	153	9.3%	56,577	10.9%
2000	129	7.9%	55,373	10.4%
2001	148	8.7%	52,966	10.0%
2002	144	11.4%	50,201	9.5%
2003	113	6.5%	49,330	9.1%
2004	122	6.4%	49,737	9.1%
2005	131	6.8%	50,017	9.1%

Source: California Department of Health Services

In addition, a child born to a teenage mother is 50 percent more likely to repeat a grade in school, and is more likely to perform poorly on standardized tests and drop out before finishing high school.

El Dorado County

Teen pregnancies in El Dorado County represented 10 percent of all pregnancies in 1995, but have since been decreasing even though the population has grown (with the exception of 2002). Also, teen pregnancy rates in El Dorado County have always been lower than the overall incidence throughout California (with the exception of 2002). Only 6.8 percent of all births in the county were from teen mothers in 2005, lower than the California average of 9 percent. The majority of births were to teen mothers 15-19 years old.



Low Birth Weight Infants

Overview

Births of infants with a low birth weight (less than 2,500 grams, about 5.5 pounds, or about 5 pounds and 8 ounces) are reported by the California Department of Health Services as subset of the data presented in the previous indicator on births, deaths, and cause of death.

Low birth weight is a major cause of infant mortality. Birth weight is also an important element in childhood development. There are many factors that lead to low birth weights, such as smoking tobacco during pregnancy, using alcohol or other nonprescribed substances, poor nutrition, lack of or late prenatal care, and premature birth. Low birth weight babies are at a higher risk to be born with underdeveloped organs. This can lead to lung problems, such as respiratory distress syndrome, bleeding of the brain, vision loss, and/or serious intestinal problems. Low birth weight babies are more than twenty times more likely to die in their first year of life than babies born at a normal weight.

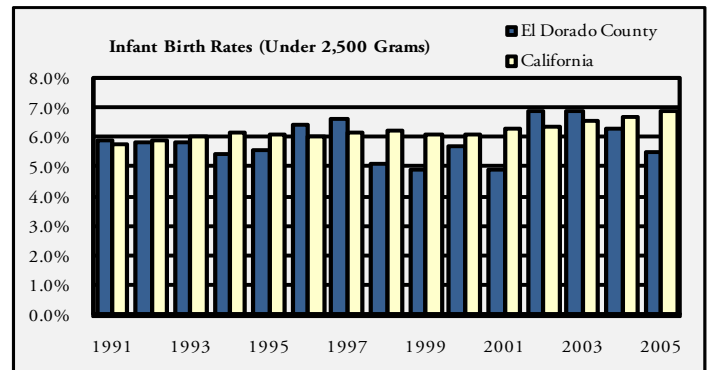
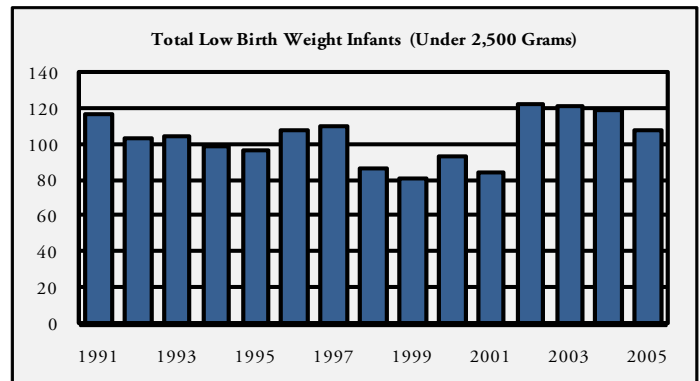
Low Birth Weight Infants (Under 5.5 Pounds)

Year	El Dorado County		California	
	Number	Percent of total live births	Number	Percent of total live births
1991	116	5.9%	35,359	5.8%
1992	104	5.9%	35,608	5.9%
1993	104	5.8%	35,116	6.0%
1994	98	5.5%	34,876	6.2%
1995	96	5.6%	33,588	6.1%
1996	107	6.4%	32,649	6.1%
1997	110	6.6%	32,232	6.1%
1998	86	5.1%	32,438	6.2%
1999	81	4.9%	31,686	6.1%
2000	93	5.7%	32,853	6.1%
2001	84	4.9%	33,196	6.3%
2002	122	6.9%	33,859	6.4%
2003	121	6.9%	35,659	6.6%
2004	119	6.3%	36,481	6.7%
2005	107	5.5%	37,653	6.9%

Source: State of California, Department of Health Services, Birth Records

El Dorado County

The total number of low birth weight babies was 107 in El Dorado County in 2005, which was 5.5 percent of the total number of births in the same year. This percentage has decreased from 7 percent in 2002 and 2003, and is 1.4 percent less than the rate of low birth weight babies across California.



Infant Mortality

Overview

Infant deaths are defined by the California Department of Health Services as the death of a baby prior to its first birthday. It is a subset of total deaths presented in the previous indicator on births, deaths, and cause of death.

Infant mortality is used to compare the health and well-being of populations across and within countries. The infant mortality rate has continued to steadily decline over the past several decades, from 26 per 1,000 live births in 1960, to 6.9 per 1,000 live births in 2000. The U.S. ranked twenty-eight in the world for infant mortality in 1998 (CDC, National Center for Health Statistics, 2000). In the U.S., the state of California was ranked twenty-two among the fifty states in 2003, dropping from a ranking of thirty-three in 1990 (CDC, NCHS, 2003). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, California's strengths include a low prevalence of smoking at 16.4 percent of the population, a low infant mortality rate at 5.4 deaths per 1,000 live births, and a low rate of cancer deaths at 191.9 deaths per 100,000 population.

California's challenges include a high violent crime rate with 617 offenses per 100,000 in population, a high incidence of infectious disease with 29.8 cases per 100,000 population, and a high uninsured population at 18.2 percent. The state is ranked twenty-six for the combined measures of risk factors and ranked twenty for the combined measures of outcomes, possibly indicating that, without changes, the relative health of California will slightly decline in the future if the risk factors are not improved.

Infant mortality represents many factors surrounding birth, including but not limited to the health and socio-economic status of the mother, prenatal care, quality of the health services delivered to the mother and child, and infant care. In addition, high infant mortality rates are

Number of Infant Deaths

Year	El Dorado County		California	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
1991	7	3.6	4,596	7.5
1992	14	7.9	4,174	6.9
1993	8	4.5	3,970	6.8
1994	16	8.9	3,948	7.0
1995	6	3.5	3,478	6.3
1996	10	6.0	3,186	5.9
1997	3	1.8	3,091	5.9
1998	6	3.6	2,994	5.7
1999	8	4.9	2,787	5.4
2000	3	1.8	2,884	5.4
2001	9	5.3	2,815	5.3
2002	12	6.8	2,875	5.4
2003	4	2.3	2,819	5.2
2004	10	5.3	2,811	5.2

Source: California Department of Health Services

often considered preventable and can be influenced by various education and care programs.

Infant mortality rates are the sum of infant and neonatal deaths, which are described below:

□ **Neonatal death** is a death occurring within the first twenty-eight days of life.

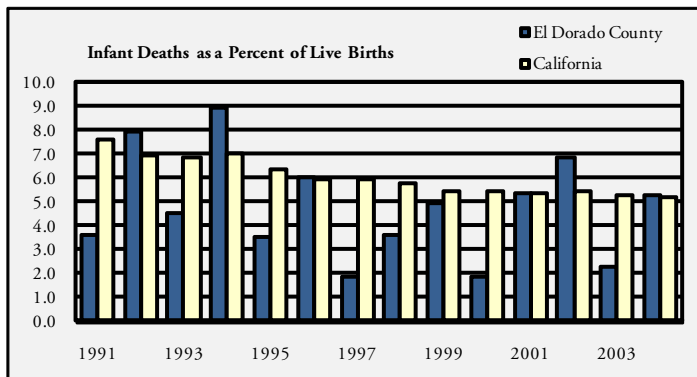
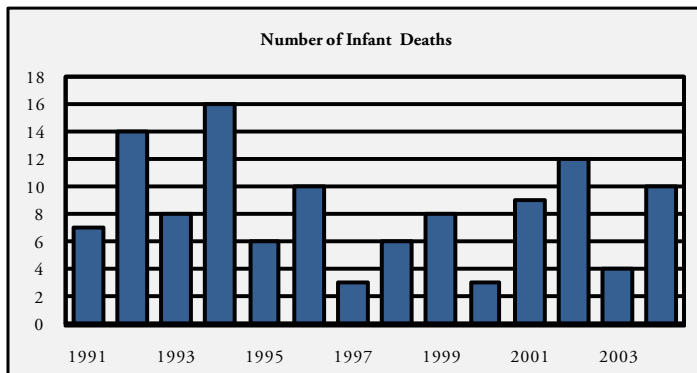
□ **Infant death** is a death occurring during the first year of life.

*Percent of infant deaths out of every 1,000 live births.

El Dorado County

There were a total of ten infant deaths in El Dorado County in 2004, an increase of six deaths from the previous year. In 2002, El Dorado County saw the highest number of infant deaths since 1994.

At this time the most current data available is from 2004.



Medical Service Providers

Overview

The Medical Board of California is the state's licensing agency for practicing physicians. The table in this section presents the number of licenses where the primary address of the practice is in El Dorado County. This may not entirely represent health care availability in the area if there are a significant number of physicians practicing part-time in El Dorado County with a primary address in neighboring places.

The number of practitioners providing services within an area can indicate the available health care resources in a community. Access to health care and preventative services, such as immunizations and health screenings, are important to an individual's health. Those lacking preventative services are at a higher risk for some diseases, especially those that are preventable by vaccine.

El Dorado County

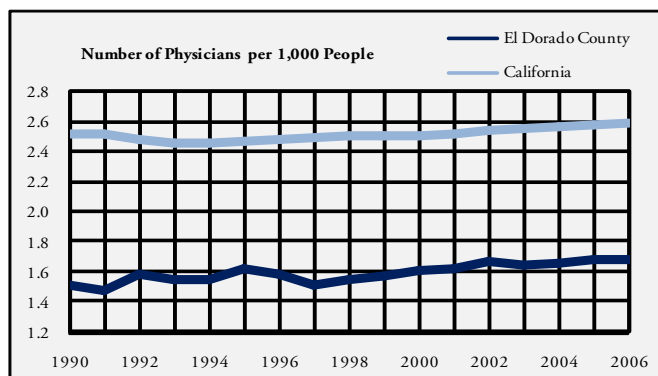
Physicians

The Medical Board of California regulates the majority of medical issues and concerns in California, and is responsible for reporting the number of physicians in specific areas in their annual report. As of 2006, there were 297 physicians actively practicing in El Dorado County, an increase of five physicians from the previous year. As the number of physicians in California and El Dorado County continues to rise, community health and preventative care services will continue to improve. Also, an influx of physicians in a particular area raises that area's economic and educational status.

Number of Physicians

Fiscal Year	Number of physicians	Total physicians in CA
1990	188	74,437
1991	193	76,043
1992	214	76,367
1993	215	76,411
1994	220	77,311
1995	234	78,169
1996	232	79,048
1997	224	80,341
1998	234	81,762
1999	242	82,872
2000	251	84,675
2001	261	86,934
2002	274	89,025
2003	276	91,049
2004	282	92,852
2005	292	94,546
2006	297	96,299

Source: Medical Board of California



Over 100 physicians have set up practices in El Dorado County since 1990.

Dentists

The state of California's Department of Consumer Affairs is responsible for recording the number of licensed dentists for each county. As of November 2007, there were 165 licensed dentists located within El Dorado County.

The number of physicians in California has increased more rapidly than the state's population in the last two decades! According to the Office of Statewide Planning and Health Development (OSPHD), in 1995, California had 77,732 practicing physicians and a ratio of one physician for every 364 persons, compared with one in 457 persons twenty years earlier. Although there are no universally accepted standards on what the ratio of patients per doctor needs to be, there is a general agreement that California has a sufficient number of physicians.

Alcohol & Drug Program Clients

Overview

The data collected here was provided by RAND California and based on California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs data systems. The department develops, administers, and financially assists treatment and prevention programs throughout the state and also offers certification of residential and nonresidential programs.

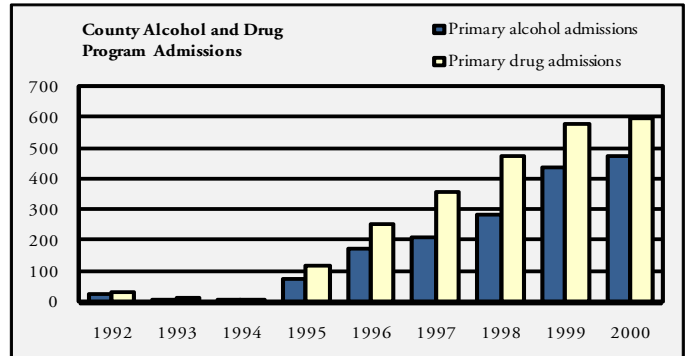
Drug program admissions include problems with one or more of the following: heroin, barbiturates, methamphetamines, amphetamines, stimulants, cocaine/crack, marijuana/hashish, PCP, hallucinogens, tranquilizers (benzodiazepine), other tranquilizers, nonprescription methadone, inhalants, and other opiates and synthetics. It does not include other sedatives or hypnotics, over-the-counter drugs, or secondary problems.

Most of the information reported is submitted by treatment providers who receive state or federal funds. Licensed narcotic treatment programs, which may or may not receive public funds, and drug Medi-Cal providers, are required to submit information. Analysis and compilation of the data is performed, excluding client names and any identifying personal information.

Data on the number of participants in an area's available substance addiction and abuse programs can be useful in determining the need of public funds for such services, as well as identifying the extent of drug abuse in a community. Where the problem is extensive, it may also identify one of the causes of chronic problems with unemployment and poverty in the area.

El Dorado County

A total of 1,079 El Dorado County residents were admitted into some kind of substance abuse program in 2000. Of the total, 594 were admitted to alcohol programs and 594 were admitted into drug abuse programs.



County Alcohol and Drug Program Admissions

	Primary alcohol admissions	Primary drug admissions	Total admissions
1992	25	29	54
1993	6	14	20
1994	9	9	18
1995	72	114	189
1996	172	250	422
1997	209	355	564
1998	280	472	757
1999	437	579	1,020
2000	473	594	1,079

Source: RAND California

City of Placerville Alcohol and Drug Program Admissions

	Primary alcohol admissions	Primary drug admissions	Total admissions
1992	n/a	8	8
1993	n/a	4	4
1994	2	2	4
1995	21	28	49
1996	35	67	102
1997	31	82	113
1998	69	130	200
1999	98	172	270
2000	111	169	285

Source: RAND California

**City of South Lake Tahoe Alcohol and Drug Program
Admissions**

	Primary alcohol admissions	Primary drug admissions	Total admissions
1992	14	9	23
1993	4	2	6
1994	n/a	3	3
1995	20	6	27
1996	71	71	142
1997	104	124	228
1998	119	152	273
1999	169	174	345
2000	185	188	373

Source: RAND California

Persons Living with a Disability

Overview

The following totals are included for the six major categories of disabilities as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. Only persons 16-64 years of age were asked about employment disabilities. Only persons 65 years of age and older were asked about a disability that prevents them from leaving their home (a going outside the home disability). Six of the major disabilities are listed below:

▣ **Sensory disabilities** are conditions that affect the sensory organs, such as blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment.

▣ **Physical disabilities** are conditions that substantially limit one or more basic physical activities, such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying.

▣ **Mental disabilities** are conditions that affect thinking processes, such as learning, remembering, or concentrating.

▣ **Self-care disabilities** are conditions preventing affected individuals from performing everyday personal

tasks, such as bathing and dressing oneself, or getting around inside the home without assistance.

▣ **Going outside the home disabilities** are conditions where people are confined to their home and cannot leave it without assistance.

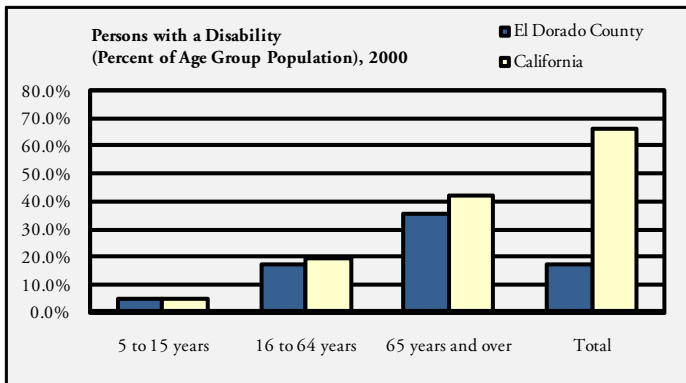
▣ **Employment disability** is the inability to work at a job or business.

In order to understand the special needs of a community, it helps to quantify the problem in terms of the number of people in a community who live with a disability, and the types of facilities and services that are needed by them and are available to them.

El Dorado County

As of 2000, the total number of people living in El Dorado County with reported disabilities was 25,535, a number which represents 17 percent of the total population in the county. Of these, 1,273 were 5 to 15 years of age, 17,378 were between the ages of 16 and 64, and 6,884 were 65 and over. Of disabled residents between the ages of 16 and 64, 11,371 had some kind of employment disability.

Statewide, 5,923,361 Californians reported some kind of disability in 2000, which is 66 percent of the state's total population.



Persons with a Disability, 2000

Age	El Dorado County			California		
	Employment disability	Total with a disability	Percent of age group population	Employment disability	Total with disability	Percent of age group population
5 to 15 years	n/a	1,273	4.7%	n/a	277,503	4.8%
16 to 64 years	11,371	17,378	17.3%	2,770,128	4,180,265	19.4%
65 years and over	n/a	6,884	35.7%	n/a	1,465,593	42.2%
Total	11,371	25,535	17.4%	2,770,128	5,923,361	66.4%

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census