

9	Diseases of circulatory system	2.0	11.6
10	Neonatal hemorrhage	2.1	9.9

Modified from [Osterman MJK, Kochanek KD, MacDorman MF, et al](#): Annual summary of vital statistics: 2012-2013, *Pediatrics* 135(6): 1115-1125.

When infant death rates are categorized according to race, a disturbing difference is seen. Infant mortality for Caucasians is considerably lower than for all other races in the United States, with African-Americans having twice the rate of Caucasians. The LBW rate is also much higher for African-American infants than for any other group. One encouraging note is that the gap in mortality rates between Caucasian and non-Caucasian races (other than African-Americans) has narrowed in recent years. Infant mortality rates for Hispanics and Asian-Pacific Islanders have decreased dramatically during the past two decades.

## Childhood Mortality

Death rates for children older than 1 year of age have always been lower than those for infants. Children ages 5 to 14 years have the lowest rate of death. However, a sharp rise occurs during later adolescence, primarily from injuries, homicide, and suicide ([Table 1-3](#)). In 2013, accidental injuries accounted for 34.4% of all deaths. The second leading cause of death was homicide, accounting for 10.7% of all deaths ([Osterman, Kochanek, MacDorman, et al., 2015](#)). The trend in racial differences that occurs in infant mortality is also apparent in childhood deaths for all ages and for both sexes. Caucasians have fewer deaths for all ages, and male deaths outnumber female deaths.

**TABLE 1-3**

**Five Leading Causes of Death in Children in the United States: Selected Age Intervals, 2013 (Rate per 100,000 Population)**

	1 TO 4 YEARS OLD		5 TO 9 YEARS OLD		10 TO 14 YEARS OLD		15 TO 19 YEARS OLD	
Rank	Cause	Rate	Cause	Rate	Cause	Rate	Cause	Rate
	All causes	25.5	All causes	11.8	All causes	14.1	All causes	44.8
1	Accidents	8.3	Accidents	3.6	Accidents	3.8	Accidents	17.3
2	Congenital anomalies	3.0	Cancer	2.2	Cancer	2.2	Suicide	8.3
3	Homicide	2.1	Congenital anomalies	0.9	Suicide	1.9	Homicide	6.6