

Provisional Vital Statistics for February 2023

Live Births decreased in February as 4,977 Missouri babies were born compared with 5,041 born one year earlier. For January-February births increased, but decreased for the 12-month period ending with February. For the 12 months ending with February, births decreased from 69,343 to 69,004.

Deaths decreased in February as 5,319 Missourians died compared with 6,370 in February 2022. Deaths also decreased sharply for the 2- and 12-month periods ending with February. For January-February, there were 11,399 Missouri resident deaths or 22 percent less than the 14,621 deaths for the similar time period in 2022.

The **Natural Increase** in February for Missourians was actually a decrease of 342 (4,977 births minus 5,319 deaths). There was also a natural decrease for January-February. However, for the 12 months ending with February, births outnumbered deaths for the first time since October 2020 (early in the COVID pandemic) as there was a natural increase of 451 compared to a natural decrease of 6,049 one year earlier.

Marriages decreased for all three time periods shown in the table below. For the 12 months ending with February, marriages decreased by 7.5 percent from 37,304 to 34,514.

Dissolutions of Marriage increased in February and January-February, but decreased for the 12 months ending with February. For the 12 months ending with February, the marriage to divorce ratio increased from 2.04 to 2.07.

Infant Deaths decreased in February as 29 Missouri infants died compared with 39 in February of 2022. For the 12 months ending with February, the infant death rate increased at 5.8 to 6.3 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 2023

<u>Item</u>	<u>February</u>				<u>Jan. — Feb. Cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with February</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Live Births	5,041	4,977	10.6	10.5	10,484	10,534	10.5	10.5	69,343	69,004	11.1	11.2	11.2
Deaths	6,370	5,319	13.4	11.2	14,621	11,399	14.6	11.4	75,491	68,431	12.2	12.2	11.1
Natural increase	-1,329	-342	-2.8	-0.7	-4,137	-865	-4.1	-0.9	-6,049	451	-1.2	-1.0	0.1
Marriages	1,714	1,152	3.6	2.4	3,080	2,402	3.1	3.4	37,304	64,514	5.5	6.0	5.6
Dissolutions	1,073	1,193	2.3	2.4	2,375	2,514	2.4	2.5	18,045	16,673	2.6	2.9	2.7
Infant deaths	39	29	7.7	5.8	78	63	7.4	6.0	402	435	5.8	5.8	6.3
Population base (in thousands)	....	.....	6,178	6,190	....	....	6,178	6,190	....	....	6,153	6,172	6,180

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.

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