

BIRTHS AND DEATHS: MAINE 1998

(Preliminary Data)

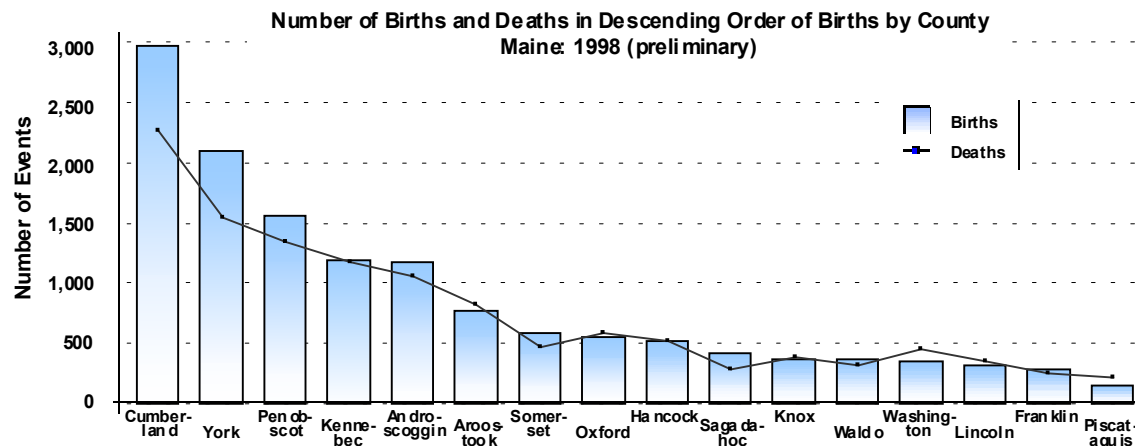
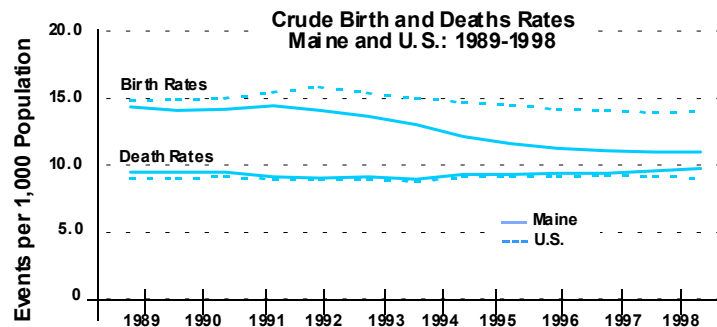
➔ In 1998, there were 13,720 births to Maine residents, an increase of 63 births (½%) over the previous year. Nationally, there was a 1½% increase in births. This was the first increase observed in births since 1990, both nationally and in Maine. The Maine birth rate, 11.0 births/1,000 population, was significantly smaller than the national rate of 14.0 births.

➔ 12,070 Maine residents died in 1998 resulting in an age-adjusted death rate of 4.6 deaths per 1,000 population. This rate was comparable to the U.S. death rate.

➔ Over the past 10 years, the crude death rate in Maine has increased slightly, by approximately ½ event/1,000, and the birth rate has declined by nearly 3½ events/1,000. The

result has been a relatively flat crude death rate and a decreasing birth rate with the gap between the two rates narrowing. In 1998, the difference between the two rates was just over 1 event/1,000 population. Nationally, the difference in rates was 5 events/1,000.

➔ In 7 of Maine's 16 counties - Aroostook, Oxford, Hancock, Knox, Washington, Lincoln, Piscataquis – the number of deaths exceeded the number of births in 1998.



➔ Of the six New England states, Maine had the lowest birth rate and the highest age adjusted death rate in 1998.

Notes: All rates are for underlying cause of death, and are age-adjusted to the US 1940 standard population; these are rates that have been standardized to eliminate differences due solely to variations in the age composition of the populations. All national data (national data are for whites only) were obtained from CDC Wonder.

Unless noted, differences in rates are not statistically significant, i.e., they could be accounted for by chance alone.

For further data on this topic, please contact:

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