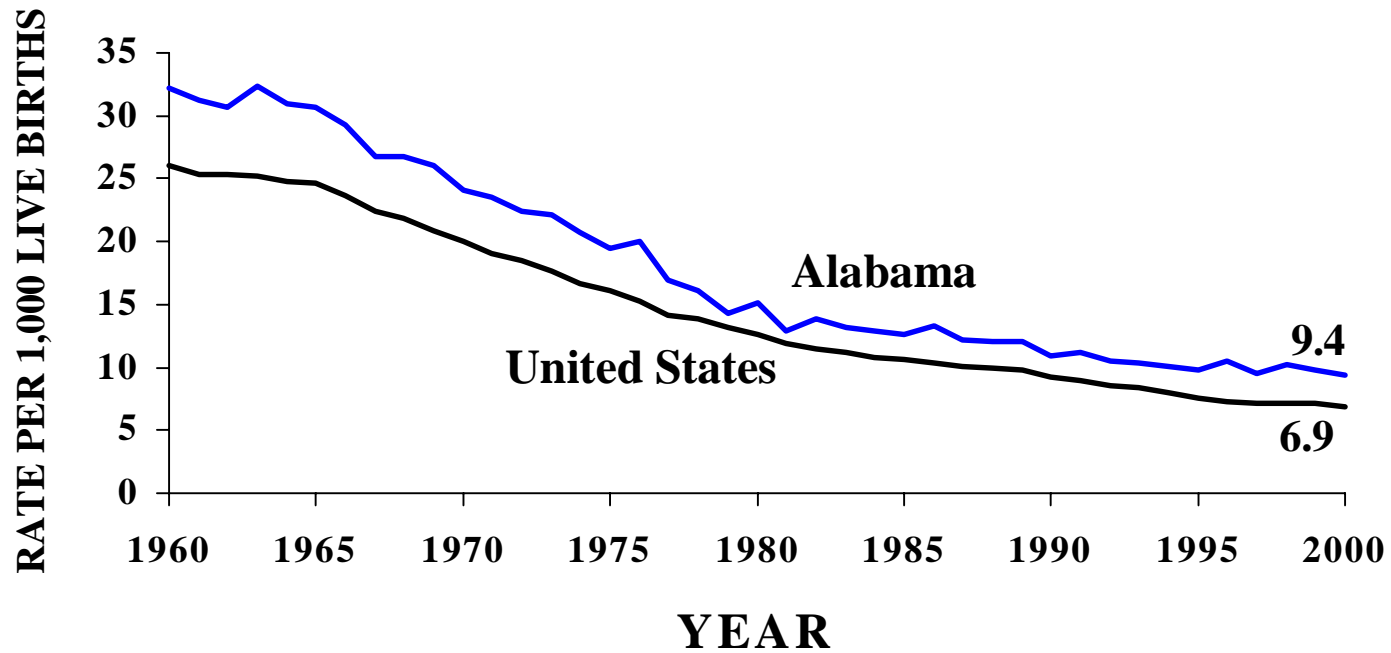


# INFANT MORTALITY IN ALABAMA, 2000



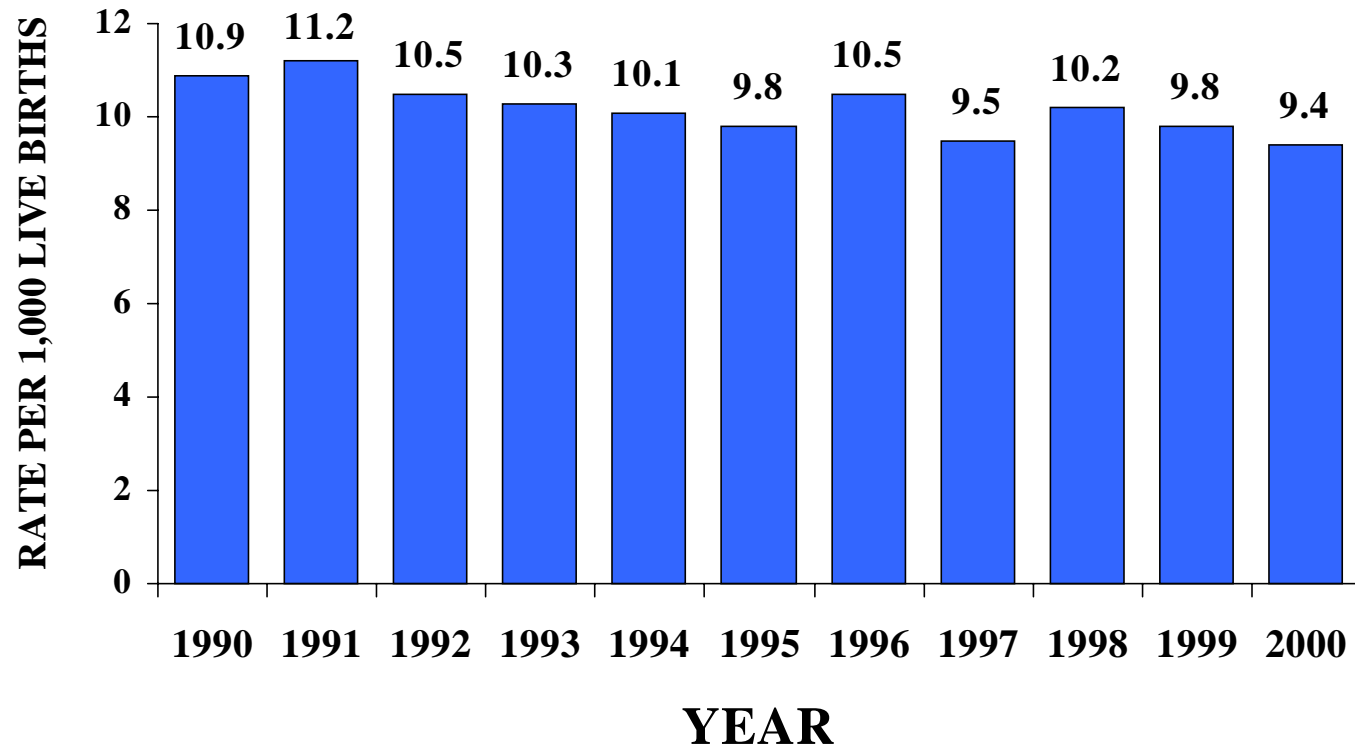
## INFANT MORTALITY RATES ALABAMA AND UNITED STATES,<sup>1</sup> 1960-2000



<sup>1</sup> 2000 US rate is preliminary.

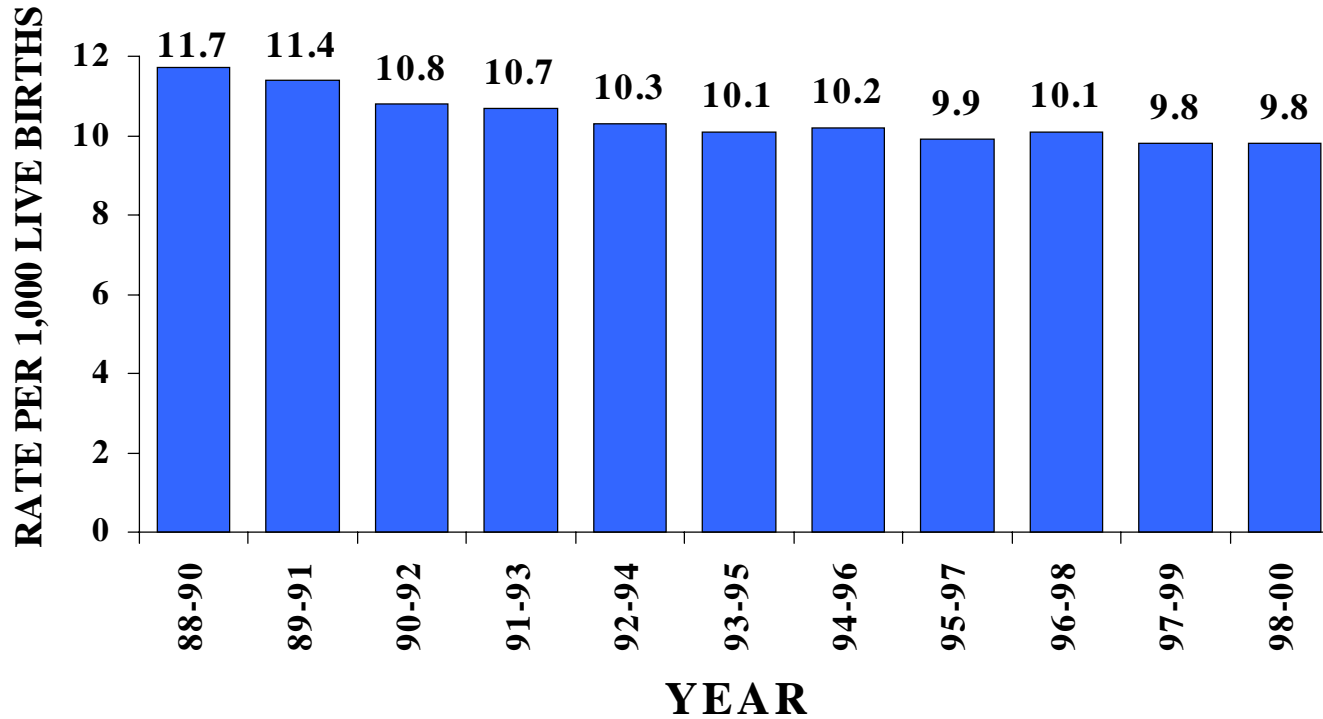
- Infant mortality rates have been steadily decreasing for Alabama and the US since 1960.
- Alabama's infant mortality rate (9.4 in 2000) remains higher than that of the US (6.9).
- The infant mortality rate in 2000 was the lowest in Alabama's history.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES ALABAMA, 1990-2000



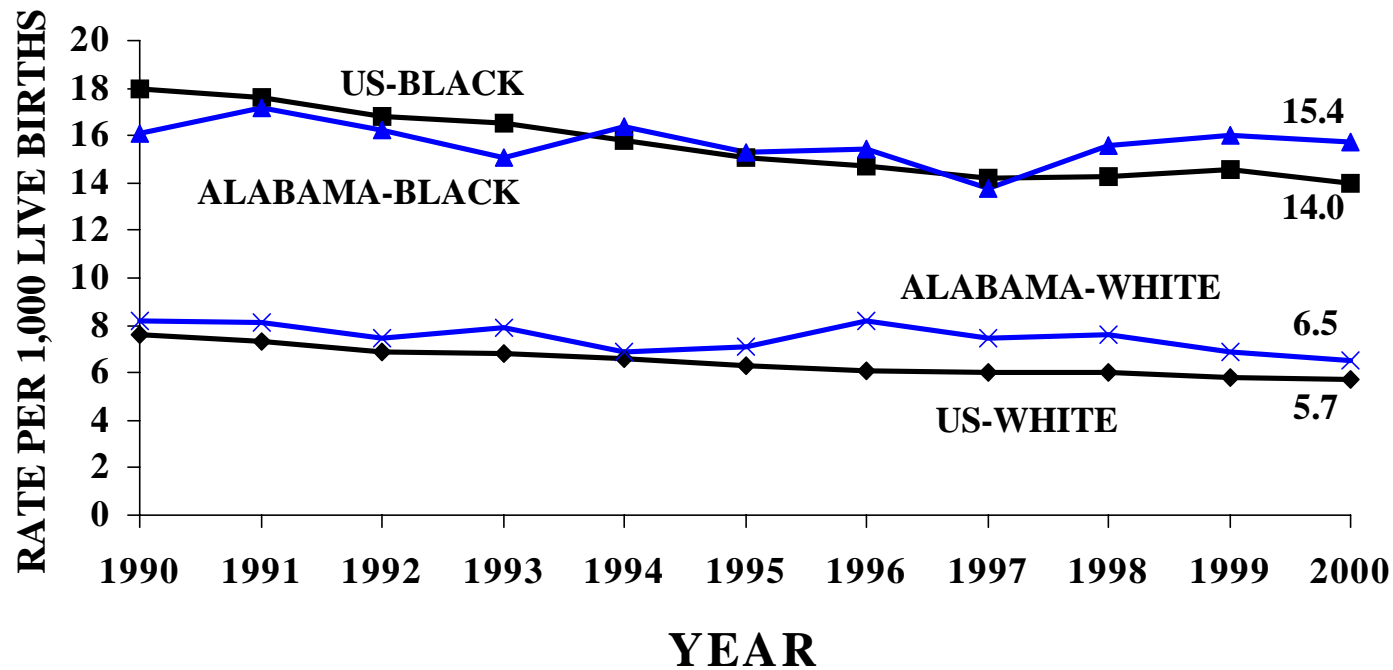
- The infant mortality rate in Alabama has dropped 37.7% since 1980 (15.1).
- Rates have fluctuated throughout the 1990s, but have a slight downward trend.

## THREE YEAR INFANT MORTALITY RATES ALABAMA, 1988-1990 TO 1998-2000



- The rate has been declining since the 1988-1990 period, but remains steady at around 10 infant deaths per 1,000 live births.
- Most of the decline occurred in the first half of the decade.

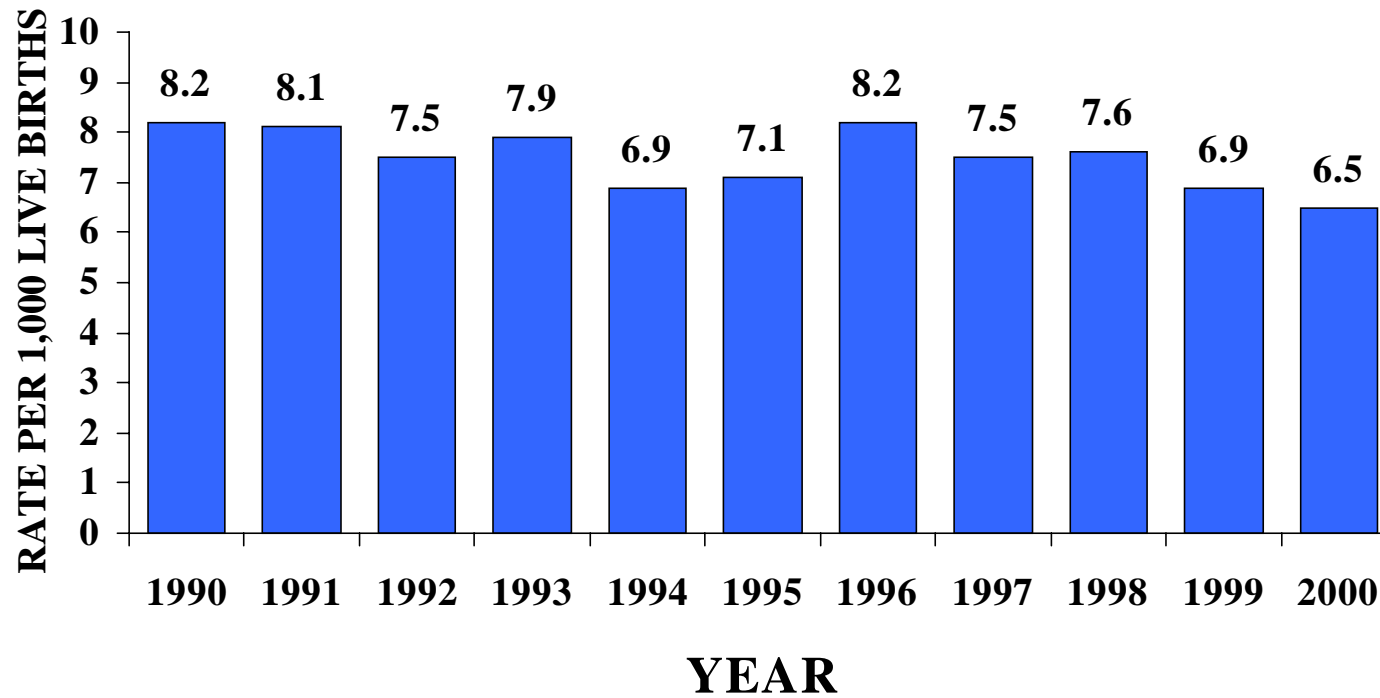
## INFANT MORTALITY RATES BY RACE ALABAMA AND UNITED STATES<sup>1</sup>, 1990-2000



<sup>1</sup> 2000 US rate is preliminary.

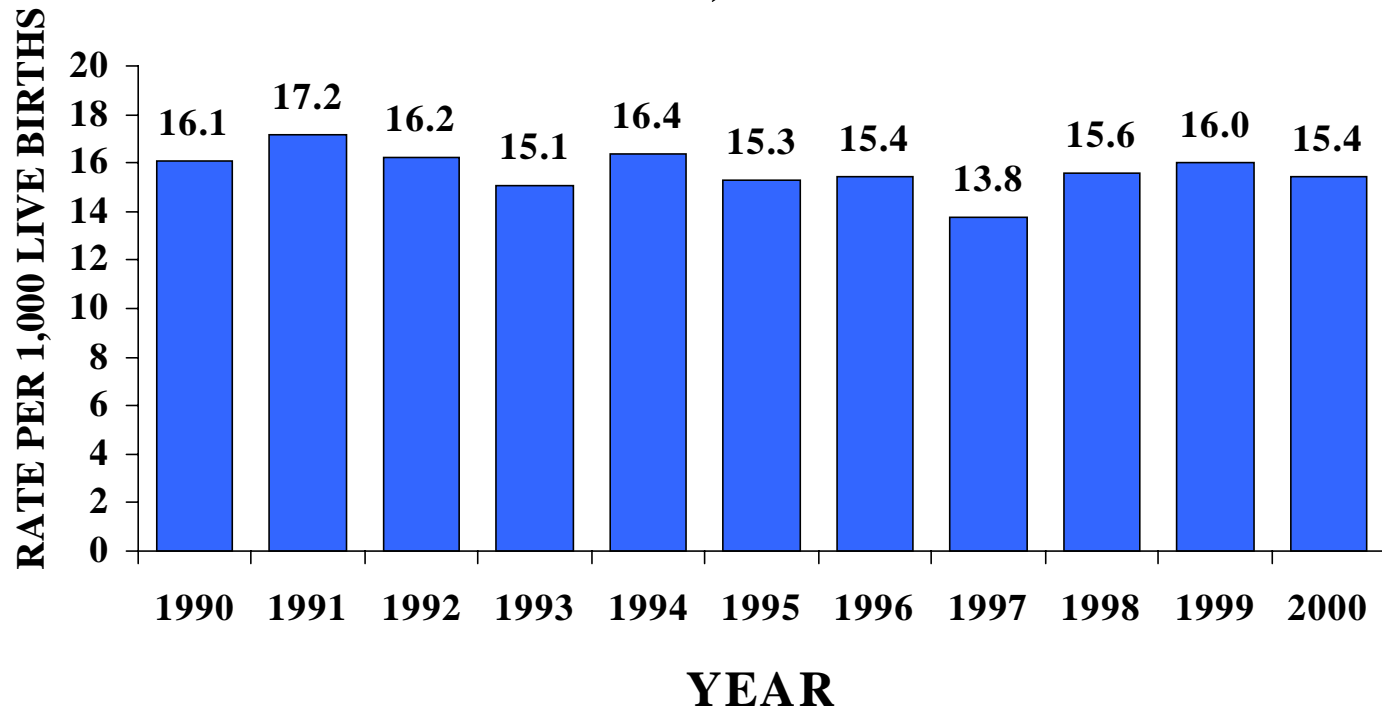
- While Alabama's rate for Blacks was 12% higher than that of US Blacks in 2000, it has been lower than the US rate at times in the past.
- Alabama's Whites have consistently had a higher infant mortality rate than US Whites.
- A large differential remains between Whites and Blacks in both Alabama and the US.
- The infant mortality rate for Black mothers was nearly two and a half times that of White mothers in 2000 for Alabama and the US.

# INFANT MORTALITY RATES WHITE INFANTS ALABAMA, 1990-2000



- The White infant mortality rate has declined 26% since 1990, despite fluctuations throughout the decade.

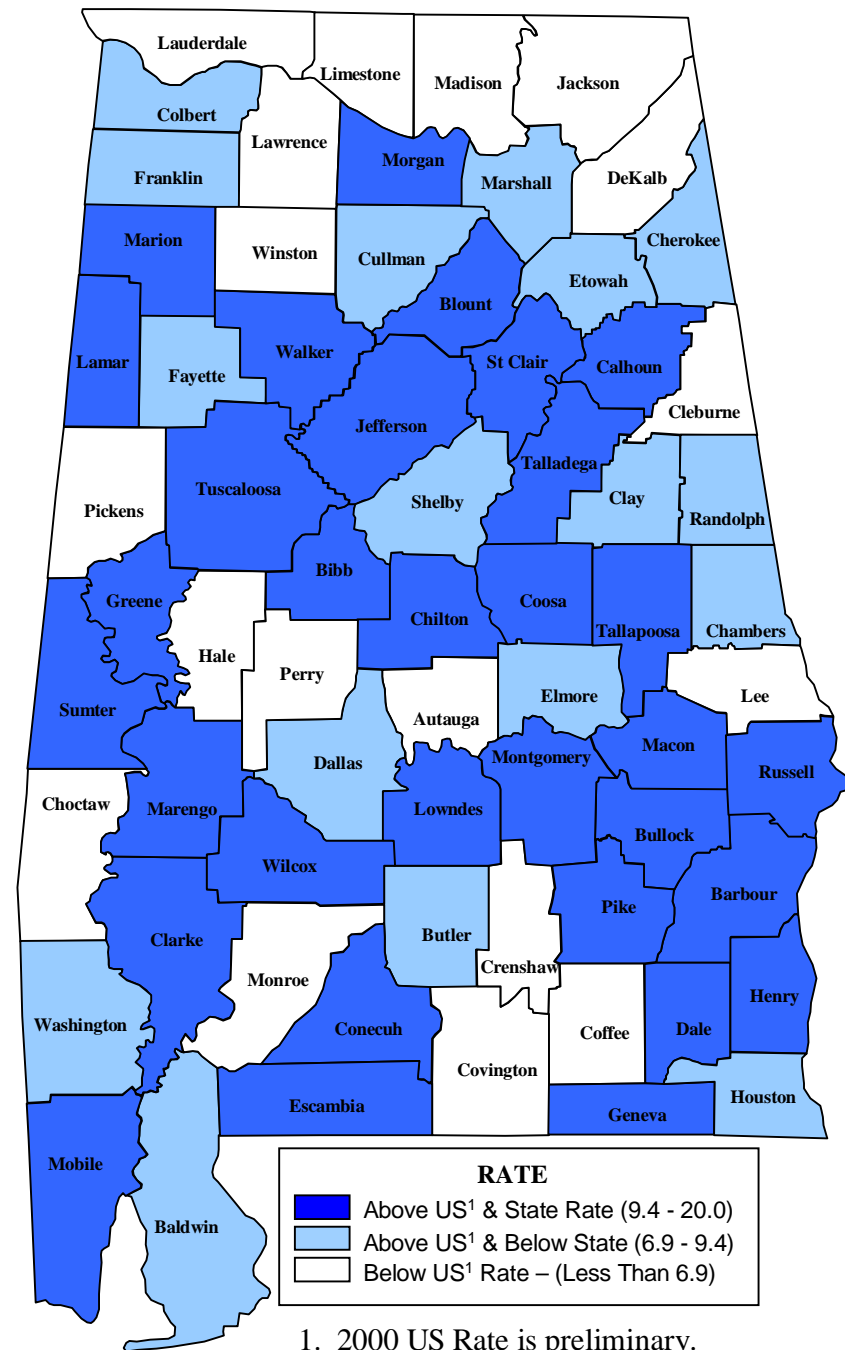
## INFANT MORTALITY RATES BLACK INFANTS ALABAMA, 1990-2000



- The Black infant mortality rate has fluctuated since 1990, but has remained around 16 deaths per 1,000 births.
- The Black rate was 2.4 times higher than the White rate in 2000.
- While the White rate has declined, the Black rate has had very little change during the decade.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE ALABAMA, 1998 - 2000

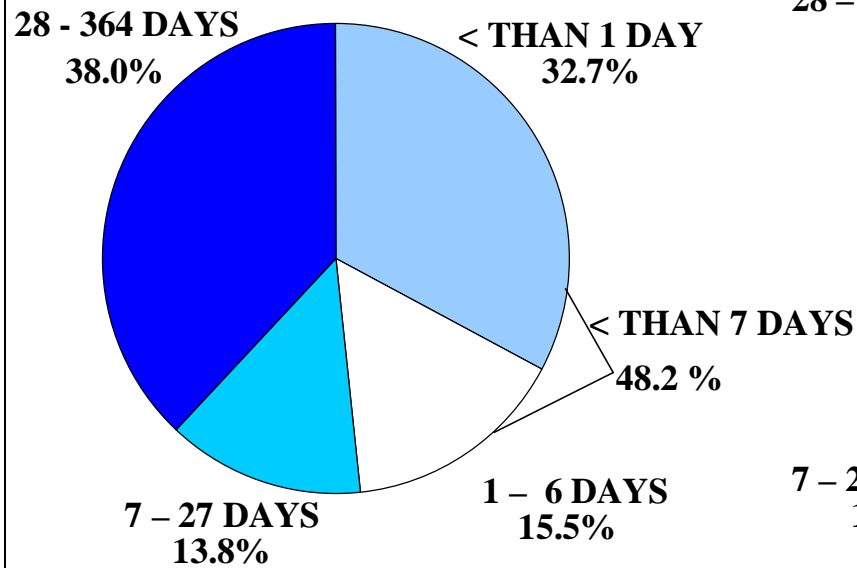
- Sumter County had the highest infant mortality rate (20.0) for 1998 to 2000, while Pickens had the lowest rate (3.5).
- The counties with the lowest three year rates are generally in the northern part of the state. Those with the highest rates are scattered throughout the middle and lower part of the state.



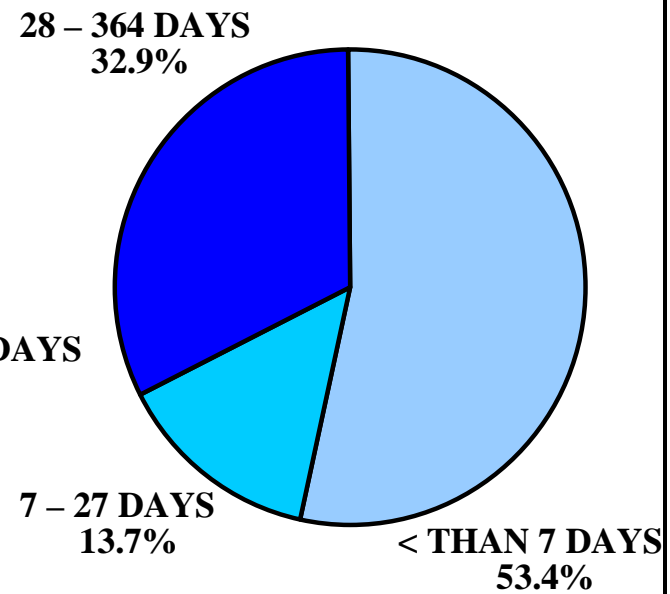


## PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF INFANT DEATHS BY AGE AT DEATH ALABAMA, 2000 AND US, 1999

ALABAMA, 2000

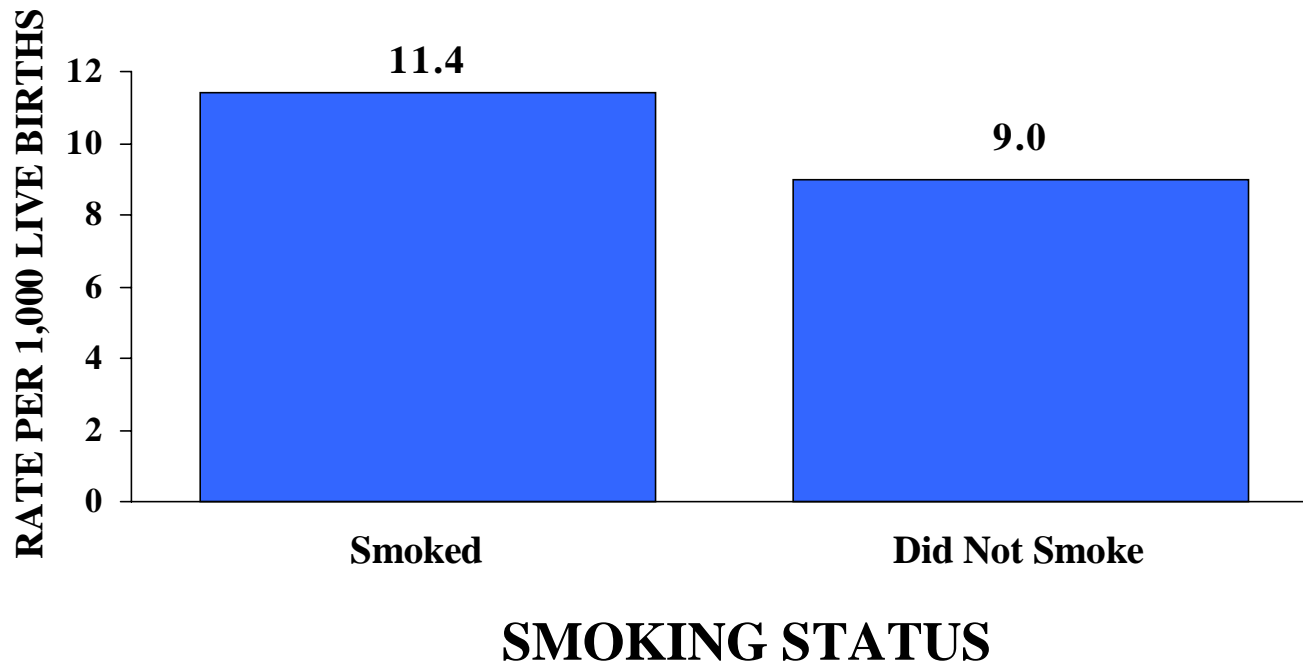


US, 1999



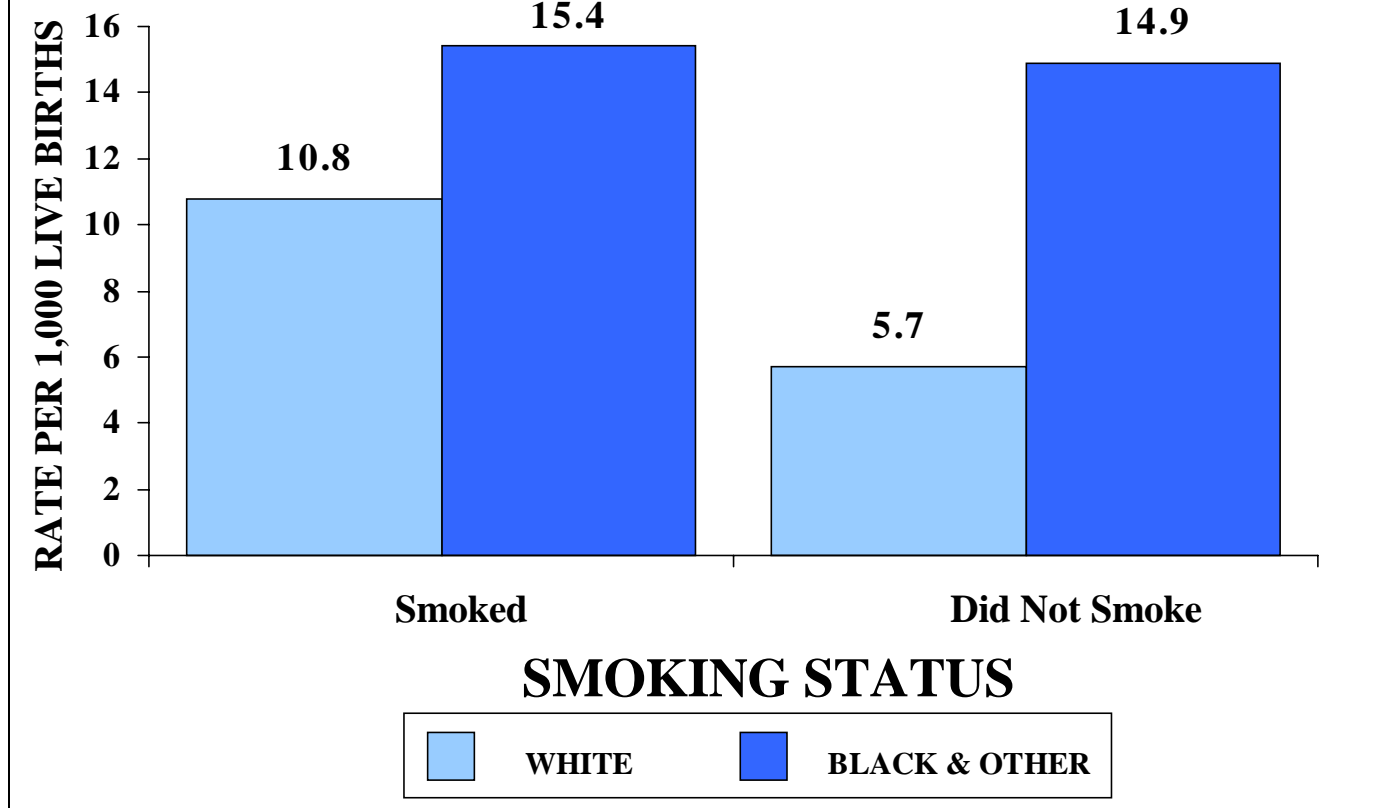
- Slightly less than half of the infant deaths in Alabama in 2000 occurred within the first week of life, while slightly over half of the deaths in the US in 1999 happened in the first 6 days.
- A third of the infants who die in the first year survive past the first month, only to die before their first birthday.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES BY SMOKING STATUS ALABAMA, 2000



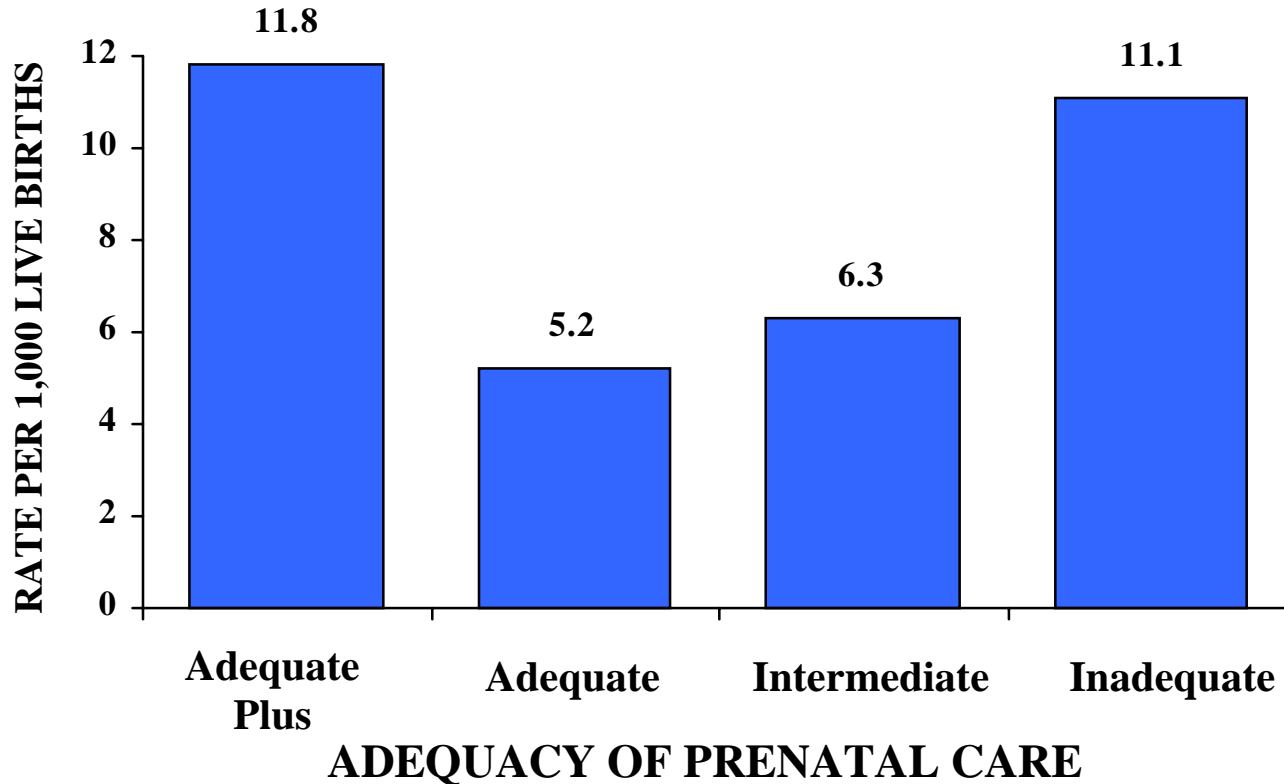
- Mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy were 27% more likely to lose their infant than mothers who did not smoke, making smoking a significant risk factor for infant mortality.
- The Surgeon General has determined that smoking leads to low birth weight which, in turn, increases the risk of infant mortality.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES BY SMOKING STATUS AND RACE ALABAMA, 2000



- White mothers were more likely to smoke than Black and Other mothers.
- Both White and Black and Other mothers who smoked were more likely to lose their infant.
- White mothers who smoked were almost twice as likely to have an infant death as those who did not smoke, but Black and Other mothers who smoked were only slightly more likely to lose their baby than those who did not smoke.

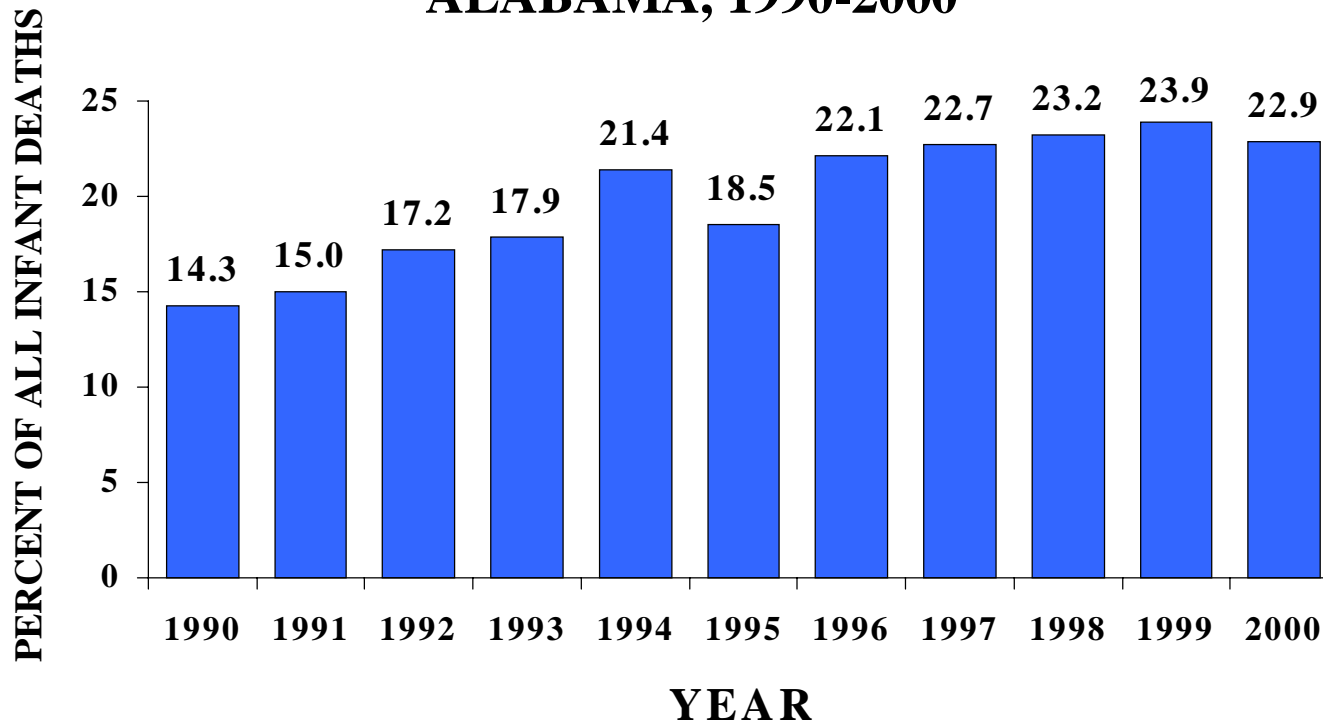
## INFANT MORTALITY RATES BY ADEQUACY OF PRENATAL CARE<sup>1</sup> ALABAMA, 2000



<sup>1</sup> Kotelchuck classification of prenatal care.

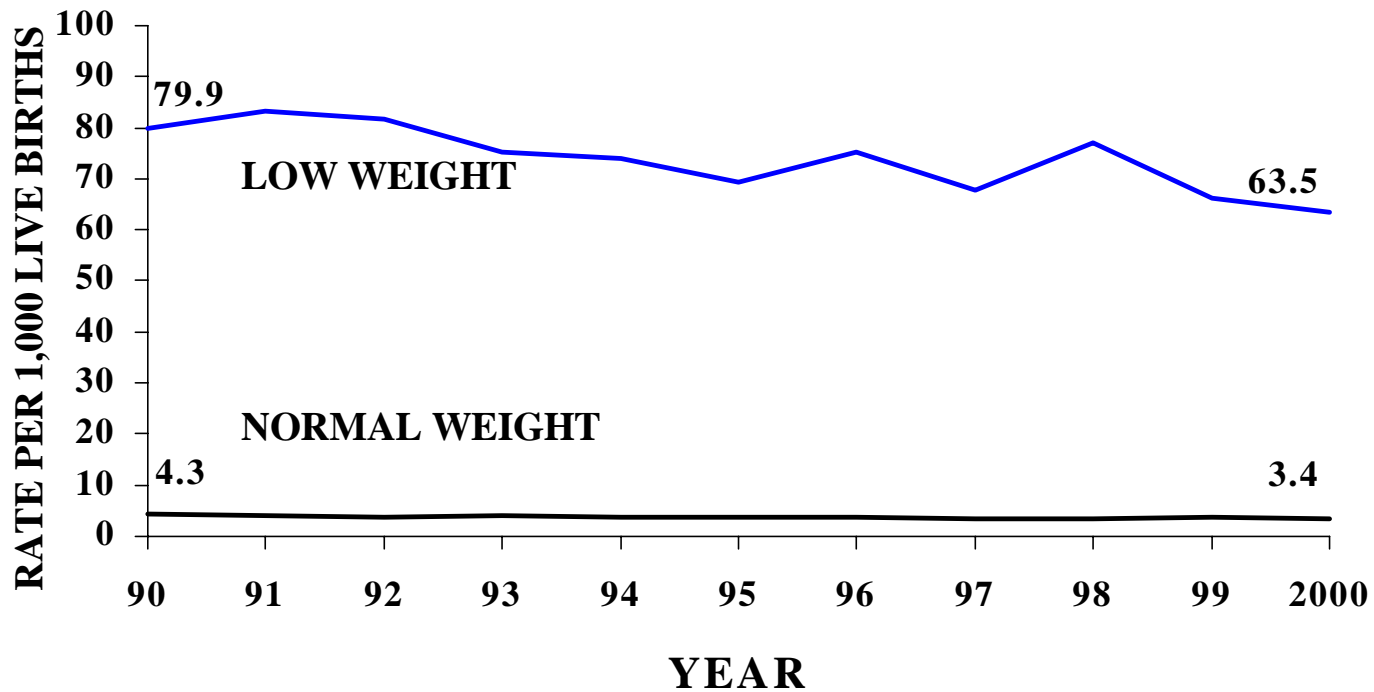
- Infant deaths were over twice as likely to occur when the mother received inadequate prenatal care compared with those mothers who received adequate care.
- Women who received more than the recommended number of prenatal visits (Adequate Plus) were more likely to be at "high risk" and to have complicated medical conditions and/or pregnancy complications that could contribute to an increased risk for infant death.

## PERCENT OF INFANT DEATHS WITH A BIRTHWEIGHT OF LESS THAN 500 GRAMS ALABAMA, 1990-2000



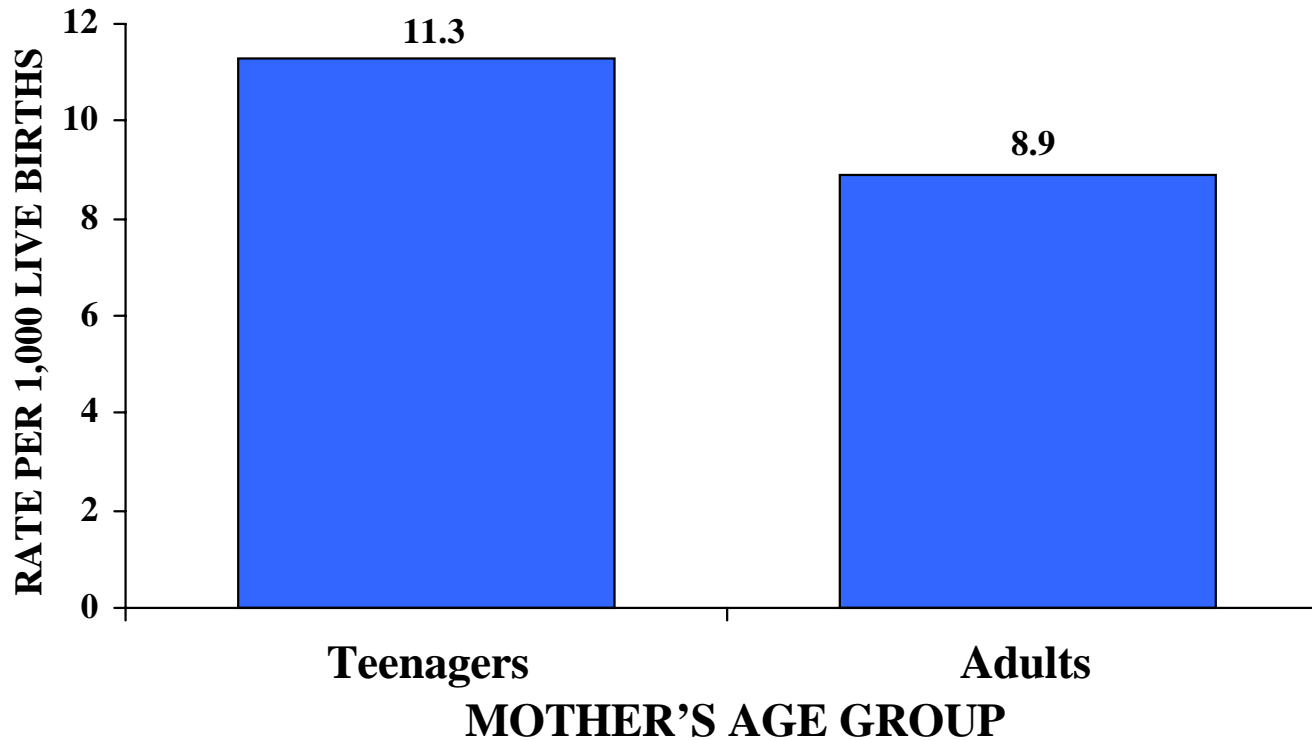
- The percent of infant deaths with a birthweight of less than 500 grams has increased 60% since 1990.
- In 2000, almost a quarter of infants who died weighed less than 500 grams.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES LOW vs. NORMAL WEIGHT BIRTHS ALABAMA, 1990-2000



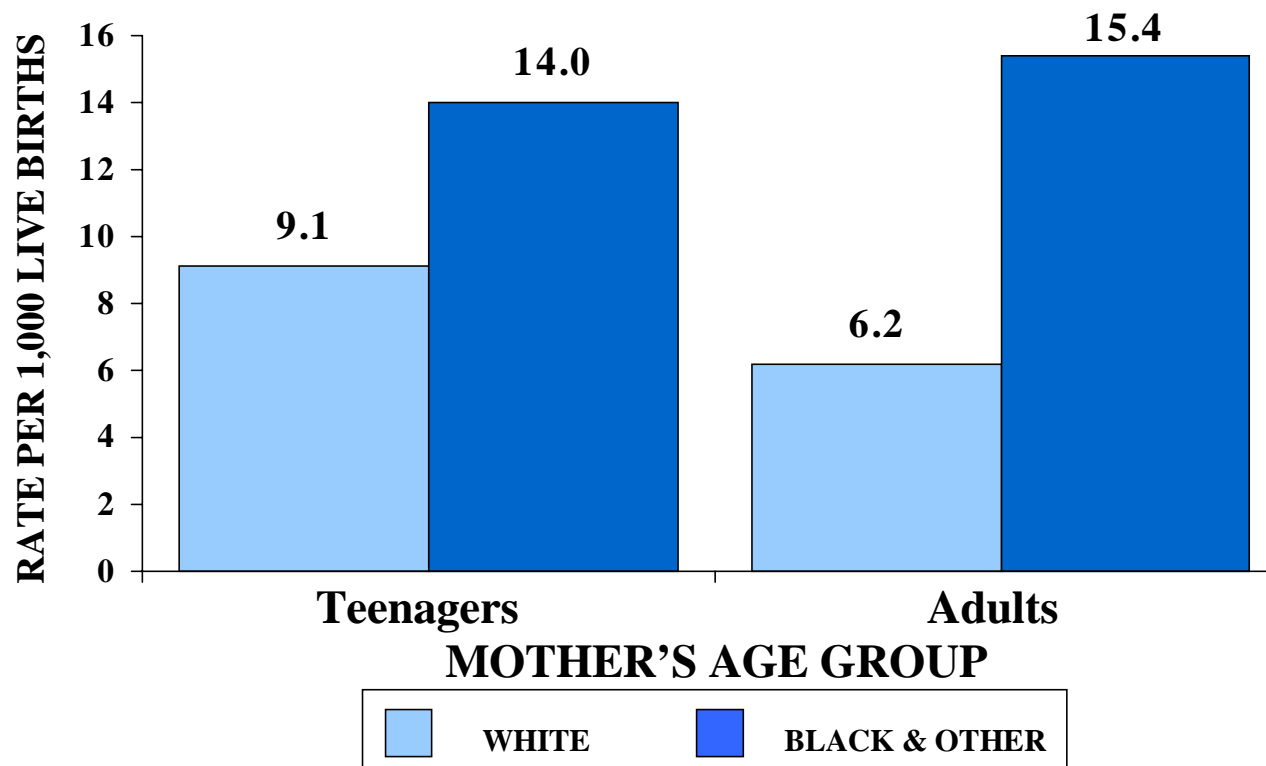
- Low weight babies (less than 2500 grams) were almost 18 times more likely to die than normal weight babies.
- Since 1990, the infant mortality rate has decreased 21% for low weight babies as the ability to care for low weight babies has improved.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES TEENAGERS vs. ADULTS ALABAMA, 2000



- Overall, babies of teenage mothers in 2000 had a 27% higher infant mortality rate than babies born to adult mothers.

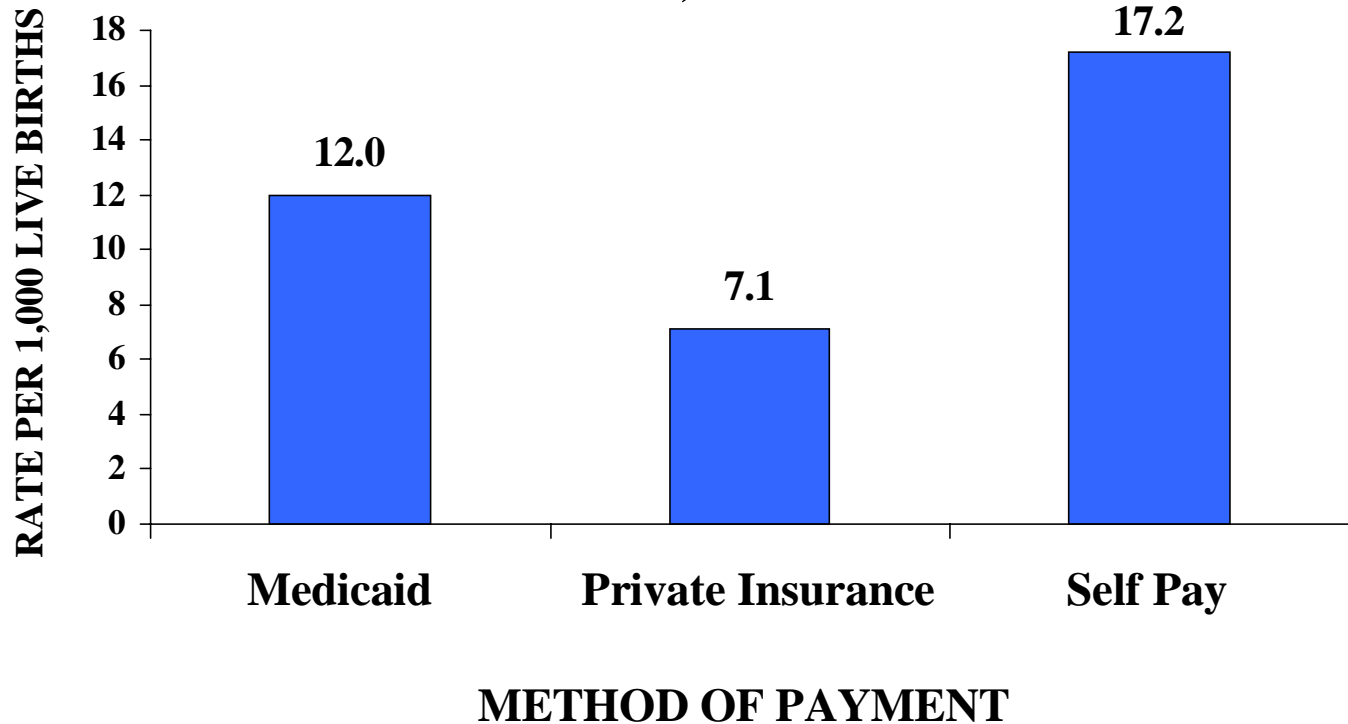
## INFANT MORTALITY RATES TEENAGERS vs. ADULTS BY RACE ALABAMA, 2000



- In 2000, when comparing teens and adults by race, Black and Other adults had the highest infant mortality rate (15.4) and White adults had the lowest rate (6.2).
- Black and Other teens are 54% more likely to have had an infant die than White teens, while Black and Other adults were 148% more likely to lose their infant than White adults.

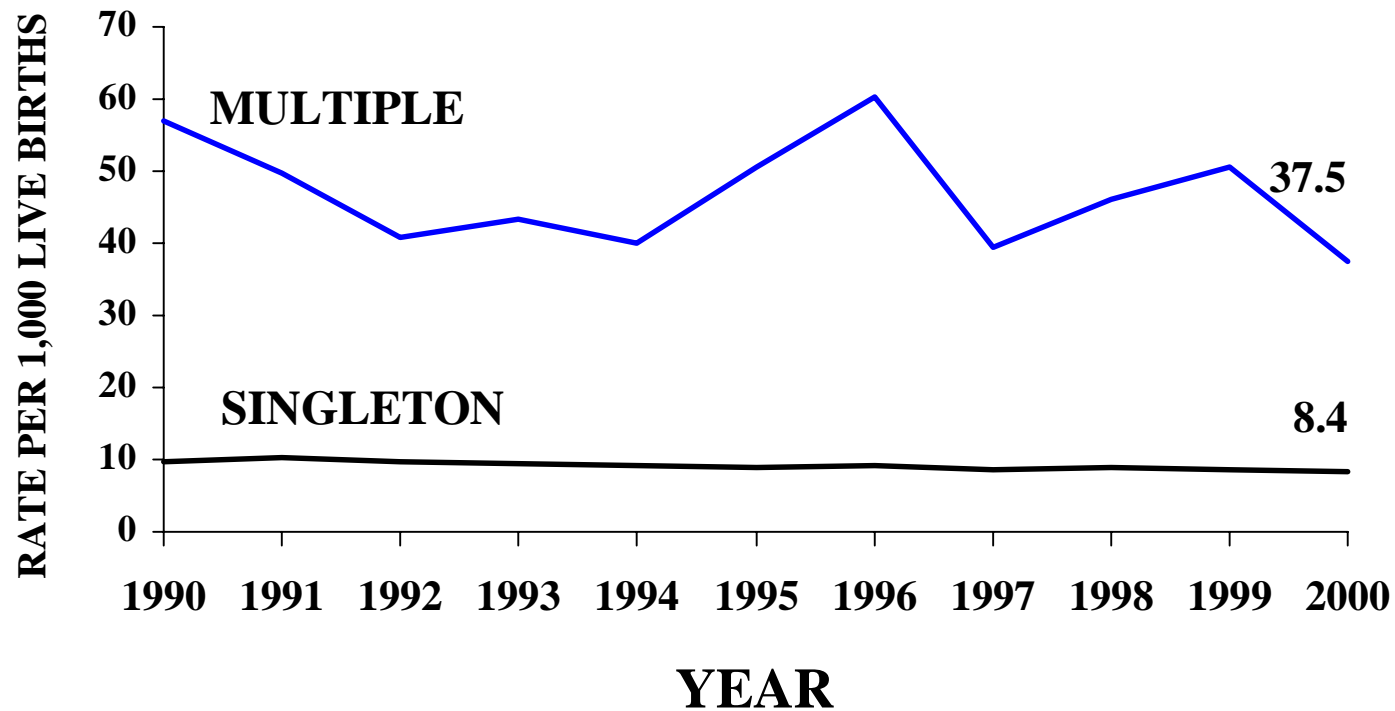


## INFANT MORTALITY RATE BY METHOD OF PAYMENT FOR DELIVERY ALABAMA, 1998-2000



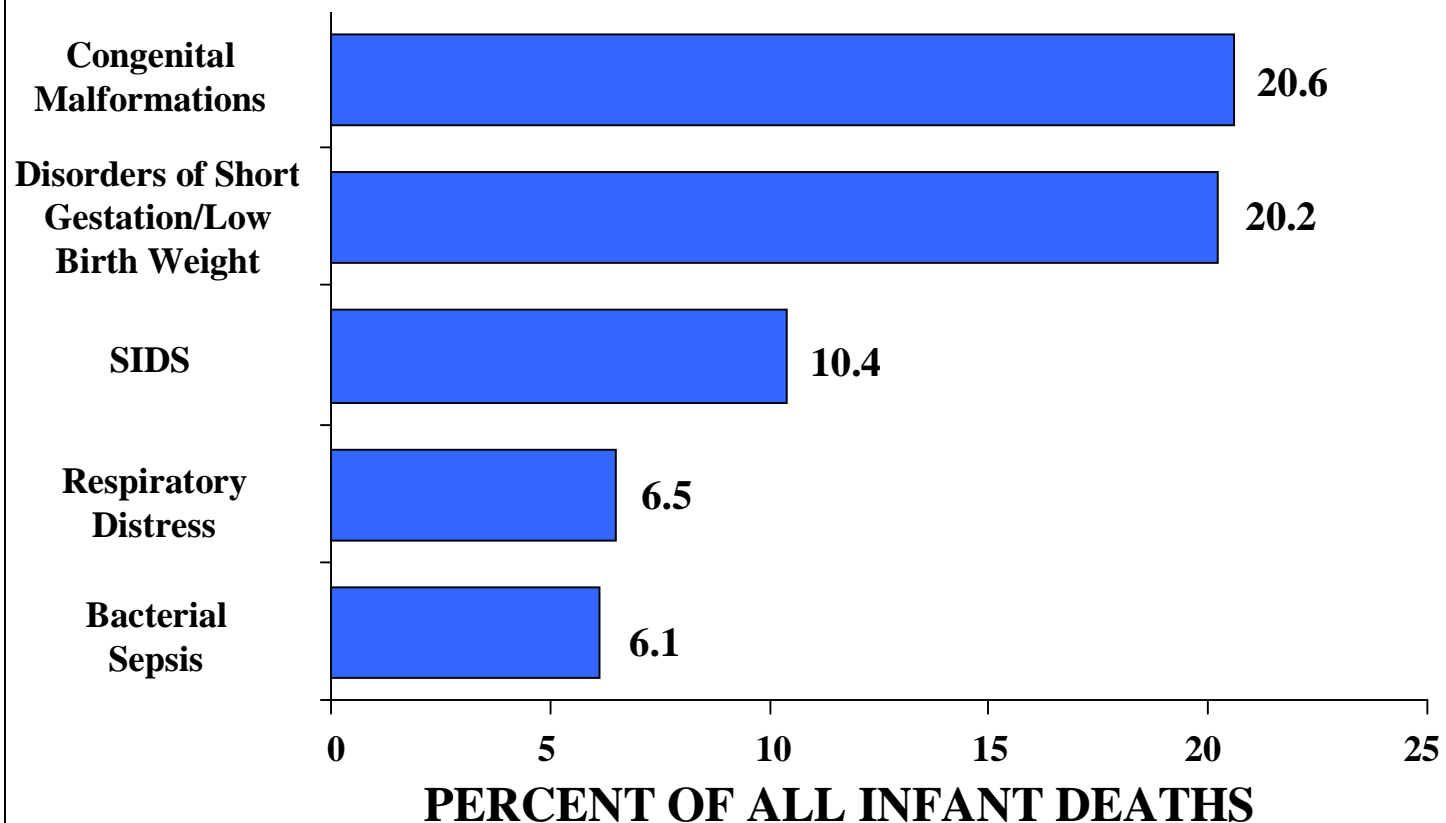
- Mothers with private insurance had the lowest infant mortality rate at 7.1 deaths per 1,000 births.
- Mothers whose births were covered by Medicaid were almost two times as likely to lose their babies as mothers whose births were covered by private insurance.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES SINGLETON AND MULTIPLE BIRTHS ALABAMA, 1990-2000



- Babies born as multiple births were over 4 times more likely to die in infancy as singleton infants.
- Mortality rates for multiple births in 2000 (37.5) have decreased 34% since 1990 (56.9).

## FIVE LEADING CAUSES OF INFANT DEATH ALABAMA, 2000



- Congenital Malformations was the leading cause accounting for 20.6% of infant deaths, followed closely by Disorders of Short Gestation accounting for 20.2% of deaths.
- SIDS was the cause of death in 10% of infant deaths and the leading cause of postneonatal mortality.