


# Island Health Performance Measures

## Infant Mortality



Year to Date Performance	3.85	Performance Assessment	 Yellow
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 3.32	Performance is outside acceptable range; monitor and take action as appropriate.	

### What do we measure and why?

The Infant Mortality Rate is the number of infant deaths (children younger than 1 year of age) that occur for every 1,000 live births in Island Health. Because annual numbers are small, the rate is reported as a 5-year aggregate.

Infant mortality is recognized globally as a key indicator of child and maternal health and, more generally, of societal wellbeing. It is influenced by many factors including not only the health care system but also the economic, social, and physical conditions of women, their infants, the communities in which they live.

### What is the target?

Island Health's target is 3.32 or fewer deaths per 1,000 live births.

This target reflects a decline towards the provincial goal of 2.6 per 1,000 by 2023, set by the Ministry of Health in [BC's Guiding Framework for Public Health](#).

Lower rates are better.

### How are we doing?

Island Health did not meet its target in 2024/25.

### What actions are we taking?

Island Health's Infant Mortality Review Committee works with partners to reduce preventable infant deaths. The focus is on deaths with preventable or modifiable risk factors to improve outcomes & support healthier starts for infants.

New urgent prenatal care services, referral processes to connect patients with primary care, and targeted public health programs support healthier starts for families, especially those facing inequities.