

## IMR and Household Food Insecurity

### Abstract

Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), or the number of infant deaths per 1,000 live births within the first year of life, can be used as a measure for the health of a nation. In comparison to similar countries, the United States has a much higher IMR. Though numerous factors could have an impact on IMR, this research examines the relationship between the IMR of US states and the percentage of households per state that experience food insecurity. Utilizing data from the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) between the years of 2014 and 2016, in this research, we hypothesize that there is a positive correlative relationship between food insecurity and IMR per state in the US. Furthermore, this research will examine the potential role the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) could play in IMR and household food insecurity. These findings may be useful in determining a potential factor in IMR in order to discover the role current federal nutrition programs can play in improving the health prospects of our youngest citizens.