The infant mortality rate (IMR) for a region or country, is defined as the number of children who die before their first birthday for every 1,000 live births.

The second version (v2) of SEDAC’s Global Subnational Infant Mortality Rates data set compiles IMR data for 249 countries and territories, 153 of which include subnational units. The data are benchmarked to the year 2014. Version 1 (v1) was benchmarked to the year 2000.

Data are drawn from national offices, Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), and other sources dating from 2008 to 2014. Where available, data is adjusted to be consistent with 2014 IMR estimates from the UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (IGME). This temporal adjustment facilitates comparisons at regional or global scales.

The data are available in the following formats:

1. Tabular:
   - Global (admin 0 → admin 5)
2. Grids and Shapefiles:
   - Global – National (admin 0)
   - Global – Sub-national (admin 2)
   - Country – Sub-national (higher resolution varies by country)

Additionally, we are working on live births, infant deaths, and IMR by gender.

Boundary inputs are derived primarily from the Gridded Population of the World, Version 4 (GPWv4) and DHS.

A proportional allocation gridding algorithm is used to assign values to 30 arc-second (~1 km) grid cells.

We expect to complete data processing, documentation (including detailed methodology), and maps and map services by the end of 2017.

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The authors appreciate the support received from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) under Contract NNG13HQ04C for the Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC).

The Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center (SEDAC) is one of 12 Distributed Active Archive Centers (DAACs) in the NASA Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS). SEDAC has developed a variety of operational data services aimed at providing online access, visualization, and analytic functions for socioeconomic and environmental data.