Abstract: The race of infants who died in Washington State 1968-1977 was ascertained by two different methods: 1) race on the death record, and 2) race on the corresponding linked birth record. The second method resulted in substantial increases in the numbers of infant deaths for the nonwhite races: Indian 39 per cent (n = 114/293), Filipino 56 per cent (n= 19/34), Japanese 121 per cent (n = 23/19), and Chinese 117 per cent (n = 14/12). For Indians, the discrepancy between birth and death records was greatest when the age at death was less than seven days (p < 0.01).

The article was prepared by Frost F and Kirkwood K, on the Am J Public Health 1980; 70:974-976.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Knowledgebase