

# PREFACE

This publication provides readers with the 2002 data on live births and infant deaths by census tract in Maricopa County, Arizona. Census tracts are relatively permanent subdivisions of a county, delineated by local census statistical areas committees following Census Bureau guidelines. Census tracts do not cross county boundaries.

Information on live births and deaths is compiled from the original documents (i.e., certificates of live births and certificates of death) filed with the Arizona Department of Health Services. The tabulated data include:

- ▶ Selected characteristics of newborns and mothers giving births (mother aged 19 years or younger, early prenatal care, women giving birth who had 5 or more prenatal visits, women giving birth who had no prenatal care during pregnancy, the incidence of low-birthweight (LBW) newborns, births to unwed mothers),
  
- ▶ Supplementary indicators focused on socio-demographic characteristics of the Maricopa County women giving birth in 2002 (births by mother's race/ethnicity, births by mother's age group, births by the payee);
  
- ▶ Infant mortality by race/ethnicity and census tract.

Many percentages or rates calculated from the data shown in this report would be based on a small number of events. The rates based on fewer than 10 events are not statistically reliable. Caution must be exercised when interpreting data based on small numbers of events and/or events occurring in small populations.

The census tract map for Maricopa County is available online at  
[http://ftp2.census.gov/plmap/pl\\_trt/st04\\_Arizona/c04013\\_Maricopa/](http://ftp2.census.gov/plmap/pl_trt/st04_Arizona/c04013_Maricopa/)