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INFANT MORTALITY RATE CONTINUES DOWNWARD TREND
AS FLUORIDATION GROWS

The infant mortality rate in the U.S. has continued on a downward trend since the introduction of fluoridation as a public health measure, despite an allegation to the contrary that is currently being circulated by opponents of fluoridation. The following statement has been prepared by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development:

During the debate in the Swedish Parliament in 1971 concerning the repeal of the law that had allowed water fluoridation, it was stated that infant mortality in the USA rose after the introduction of fluoridation. Actually, the opposite is true.

The infant mortality rate in the U.S. has long been on a downward trend. The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development has compared the trend of the infant mortality rate (infant deaths per 1000 live births) and the trend of population served by water systems using adjusted fluoridation over the past 26 years. In 1945, the year that adjusted fluoridation was first instituted, the infant mortality rate was 38.3; in 1971, when nearly half the people of the U.S. were using fluoridated water, the rate was 19.2. The sharpest fall in the infant mortality rate in recent years occurred from 1965 to 1971, which was also a period of especially rapid growth in the adoption of fluoridation. Thus, the evidence completely refutes the allegation.

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