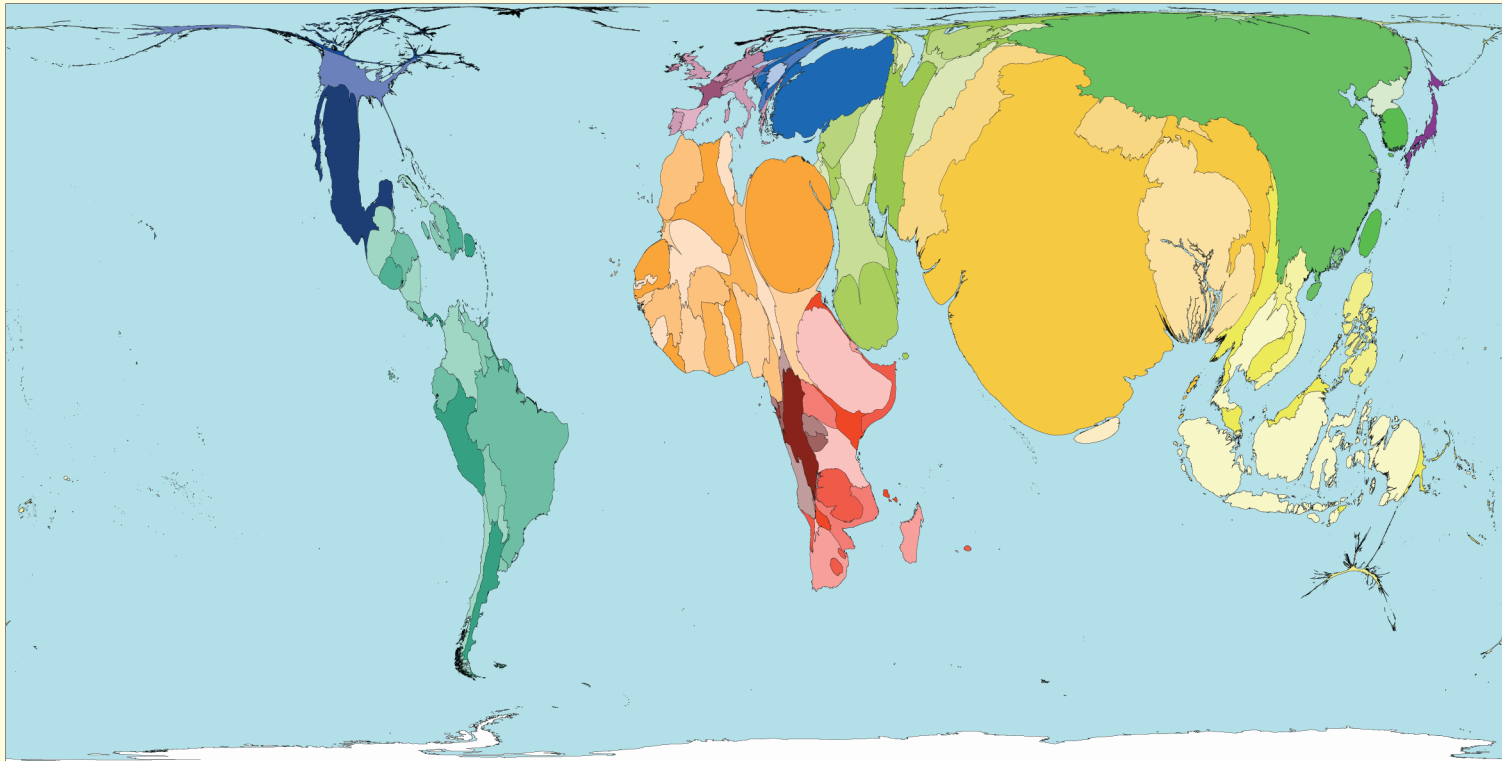


# Infant Mortality Change



Since 1970, the number of infant deaths per thousand live births worldwide has been reduced by 51. Infant deaths are when babies die during their first year of life. This means that 6.8 million children born in 2002, reached the age of one, who would not have done if the infant mortality rate had remained at 1970 levels.

The biggest improvements in infant mortality rates between 1970 and 2002 have been in the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Every territory with data available recorded reduced infant mortality over this period.

Territory size shows the proportion of all reduction in infant mortality worldwide, between 1970 and 2002, that has occurred there. The map shows the children born in 2002 who will reach their first birthday, when their counterparts in 1970 did not.



Land area

**Technical notes**

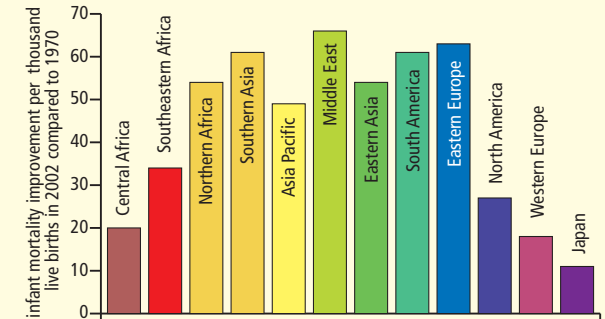
- Data are from the United Nations Development Programme's 2004 Human Development Report.
- \*5 territories reported an infant mortality improvement rate of 10 / 1000 live births. Shown in the table are those with the most births. Switzerland, Iceland and Denmark are not shown.
- See website for further information.

**MOST AND LEAST INFANT MORTALITY IMPROVEMENT**

Rank	Territory	Value	Rank	Territory	Value
1	Egypt	122	188	Nigeria	10
2	Yemen	115	188	Zimbabwe	10
2	Oman	115	193	Finland	9
4	Turkey	114	193	Norway	9
4	Tunisia	114	195	Netherlands	8
6	Algeria	104	195	Sweden	8
7	Mali	103	197	Ukraine	6
8	Comoros	100	198	Belarus	5
9	Nepal	99	199	Latvia	4
9	Maldives	99	200	Zambia	1

reduction in infant deaths under 1 year old per 1000 live births in 2002 compared to 1970\*

**IMPROVEMENT IN INFANT MORTALITY RATE**



*“We thought it was evil spirits that made our babies sick ... we have been taught it is the lack of clean water and the absence of cleanliness.”*

Zeytu, 2004