

## INFANT MORTALITY IN MISSISSIPPI, 1976-1987

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There are two United States of America: The favorable U.S.A. which is portrayed, televised, and narrated in the American information centers around the world; and the unfavorable U.S.A. which is menaced by all kinds of evils that characterize developing nations. Put differently, the U.S.A. is an example of "status inconsistency" in the developed world with regard to the relatively high level of its population's infant mortality. This paper analyzes infant mortality in Mississippi counties, a single menace that has persisted for decades.

Infant mortality has been, and still is, a measure of societies' population social and economic well-being (United Nations, 1988: 116) as well as the biological and environmental conditions (United Nations, 1973: 122). Table 1 presents rates of county infant mortality for white and non-white populations in Mississippi based on an aggregated 12-year period (1976-1987).

The twelve-year cumulative mortality county rates are the sum of infant deaths for a 12-year period per 1,000 live births reported for the same period. Data for "non-white" events can roughly express same events for the "black" population since the percentage of non-black population is very small.

Although Mississippi has made significant progress over the past decade in reducing the number of infant deaths, the state's

infant mortality rate is still among the highest in the nation. At 13.3 deaths for every 1,000 births (Mississippi State Department of Health, 1988), an infant born in East Germany (9.2), Spain (9.0), or even Singapore (9.4) has a much better chance to survive her/his first year than an infant born in Mississippi (Population Reference Bureau, 1988) or even in the United States (10.0) at large (National Center for Health Statistics, 1989). The 12-year aggregated data give the state's infant mortality rate (IMR) at 16.2 (Table 1). The cumulative nonwhite IMR (21.8) is almost twice that of the white (10.9). The counties with the highest and lowest IMR are Humphreys (37.5) and Benton (10.8) for nonwhite and Humphreys (20.1) and Carroll (3.3) for white, respectively.

#### County Infant Mortality Structure

Tables 2 and 3 give county distributions of infant mortality (IM) in Mississippi for the 12-year period which has been aggregated into two six-year categories (1976 to 1981) and (1982-1987). for white and nonwhite populations. The overall change in IM in the state is a decline of 25.5 percent as compared with 20.6 and 28.1, for white and nonwhite, respectively.

The concentration index (CI) is utilized in order to assess the entire change in the IM structure during the assumed period. Tables 2 and 3 present the calculations of that index and the summary is presented in Table 4. The CI is obtained by computing for the two formulated periods the difference, county by county, in the percentage distribution of the given population throughout

all counties. The resulting differences, which are positive and negative, constitute the specific coefficient of concentration. Their algebraic sum is zero, but the total of either the positive or negative differences provide the overall index of concentration or distribution (Hoover, 1941). To illustrate, Table 2 shows that the percentage of white IM in Adama county increased from 0.83 in 1976-81 to 0.97 in 1982-87, yielding a county CI of 0.14. Its nonwhite counterpart is 0.07 (Table 3). The entire shift (sum of negative or positive values) in the redistribution of IM in the state amounted to 13.32 and 10.75 percentage points in the 12-year period for white and nonwhite, respectively. In other words, gaining counties increased by 1,332 and 1,075 infant deaths for every 10,000 infant deaths they experienced in 1976-81 for white and nonwhite, respectively. The reverse was true for losing counties. These computations indicate that, although the overall percentage change in the state's IM shows a decline of 20.6 and 28.1 (Tables 2 and 3), Table 4 indicates that the relative gain in IM in certain counties (18.2 and 37.3, (for white and nonwhite) significantly exceeds that of losing counties (16.8 and 24.9, for white and nonwhite). These data indicate that the suffering of the nonwhite population in this regard is as twice as that of the white, which becomes conspicuous when considered in the light of relative size of births (Table 4) for each group (28.0 and 29.5 percent for white and nonwhite, respectively).

TABLE 1.-- COUNTY NONWHITE AND WHITE INFANT MORTALITY AND BIRTHS, MISSISSIPPI, 1976 TO 1987

| County      | Nonwhite      |         |                   | White         |         |                   |
|-------------|---------------|---------|-------------------|---------------|---------|-------------------|
|             | Infant Deaths | Births  | Infant Mort. Rate | Infant Deaths | Births  | Infant Mort. Rate |
| State       | 5,600         | 256,600 | 21.8              | 3,017         | 276,536 | 10.9              |
| Adams       | 103           | 4651    | 22.14             | 27            | 3357    | 8.042             |
| Alcorn      | 13            | 840     | 15.47             | 43            | 4573    | 9.403             |
| Amite       | 30            | 1409    | 21.29             | 8             | 1820    | 4.395             |
| Attala      | 38            | 1863    | 20.39             | 12            | 1616    | 7.425             |
| Benton      | 8             | 793     | 10.08             | 6             | 738     | 8.130             |
| Bolivar     | 229           | 9410    | 24.33             | 36            | 2726    | 13.20             |
| Calhoun     | 27            | 1090    | 24.77             | 16            | 2606    | 6.139             |
| Carroll     | 29            | 857     | 33.83             | 2             | 614     | 3.257             |
| Chickasaw   | 49            | 2043    | 23.98             | 25            | 1954    | 12.79             |
| Choctaw     | 13            | 816     | 15.93             | 7             | 922     | 7.592             |
| Claiborne   | 53            | 2210    | 23.98             | 5             | 444     | 11.26             |
| Clarke      | 28            | 1608    | 17.41             | 19            | 1791    | 10.60             |
| Clay        | 67            | 3079    | 21.76             | 20            | 1753    | 11.40             |
| Coahoma     | 206           | 7203    | 28.59             | 26            | 2059    | 12.62             |
| Copiah      | 81            | 3593    | 22.54             | 17            | 2126    | 7.996             |
| Covington   | 51            | 1843    | 27.67             | 20            | 1783    | 11.21             |
| DeSoto      | 31            | 2237    | 13.85             | 91            | 7689    | 11.83             |
| Forrest     | 102           | 5167    | 19.74             | 108           | 7911    | 13.65             |
| Franklin    | 18            | 865     | 20.80             | 14            | 824     | 16.99             |
| George      | 10            | 514     | 19.45             | 35            | 2931    | 11.94             |
| Greene      | 11            | 573     | 19.19             | 20            | 1439    | 13.89             |
| Grenada     | 52            | 2304    | 22.56             | 19            | 1977    | 9.610             |
| Hancock     | 9             | 644     | 13.97             | 37            | 4019    | 9.206             |
| Harrison    | 164           | 9570    | 17.13             | 267           | 26003   | 10.26             |
| Hinds       | 571           | 37570   | 15.19             | 165           | 21573   | 7.648             |
| Holmes      | 113           | 5050    | 22.37             | 15            | 966     | 15.52             |
| Humphreys   | 109           | 2907    | 37.49             | 16            | 795     | 20.12             |
| Issaquena   | 8             | 331     | 24.16             | 2             | 145     | 13.79             |
| Itawamba    | 5             | 308     | 16.23             | 32            | 2718    | 11.77             |
| Jackson     | 141           | 6620    | 21.29             | 196           | 18505   | 10.59             |
| Jasper      | 54            | 2380    | 22.68             | 18            | 1324    | 13.59             |
| Jefferson   | 34            | 2049    | 16.59             | 0             | 442     |                   |
| Jeff. Davis | 32            | 1945    | 16.45             | 8             | 977     | 8.188             |
| Jones       | 105           | 4252    | 24.69             | 95            | 7854    | 12.22             |
| Kemper      | 30            | 1318    | 22.76             | 4             | 634     | 6.309             |
| Lafayette   | 29            | 2074    | 13.98             | 26            | 2530    | 10.27             |
| Lamar       | 11            | 744     | 14.78             | 34            | 4210    | 8.076             |
| Lauderdale  | 150           | 7299    | 20.55             | 100           | 8704    | 11.48             |
| Lawrence    | 21            | 1091    | 19.24             | 9             | 1523    | 5.909             |
| Leake       | 51            | 1984    | 25.70             | 15            | 1684    | 8.907             |
| Lee         | 95            | 3823    | 24.84             | 98            | 8423    | 11.63             |
| LeFlore     | 204           | 6980    | 29.22             | 49            | 3009    | 16.28             |
| Lincoln     | 47            | 2267    | 20.73             | 29            | 3427    | 8.462             |
| Lowndes     | 118           | 5682    | 20.76             | 80            | 7254    | 11.02             |
| Madison     | 122           | 6242    | 19.54             | 31            | 3892    | 7.965             |
| Marion      | 39            | 2040    | 19.11             | 38            | 3261    | 11.65             |
| Marshall    | 77            | 3975    | 19.37             | 31            | 2456    | 12.62             |
| Monroe      | 59            | 2998    | 19.67             | 64            | 4262    | 15.01             |
| Montgomery  | 31            | 1529    | 20.27             | 14            | 1046    | 13.38             |
| Neshoba     | 49            | 2235    | 21.92             | 24            | 2559    | 9.378             |
| Newton      | 32            | 1709    | 18.72             | 28            | 3423    | 8.179             |
| Noxubee     | 64            | 2501    | 25.58             | 9             | 795     | 11.32             |
| Oktibbeha   | 85            | 3681    | 23.09             | 33            | 3102    | 10.63             |
| Panola      | 118           | 2519    | 46.84             | 23            | 2380    | 9.663             |
| Pearl River | 33            | 1338    | 24.66             | 75            | 5462    | 13.72             |

TABLE 2 CHANGES AND CONCENTRATION OF NONWHITE INFANT MORTALITY,  
MISSISSIPPI, 1976-1987

| County      | Number    |           | Change |        | Distribution |           | Index |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|--------------|-----------|-------|
|             | 1976-1981 | 1982-1987 | Number | Pct.   | 1976-1981    | 1982-1987 |       |
| State       | 3,257     | 2,343     | -914   | 28.06  | 100.00       | 100.00    | -     |
| Adams       | 59        | 44.00     | -15.00 | -25.42 | 1.81         | 1.88      | .07   |
| Alcorn      | 9         | 4.00      | -5.00  | -55.56 | .28          | .17       | -.11  |
| Amite       | 19        | 11.00     | -8.00  | -42.11 | .58          | .47       | -.11  |
| Attala      | 24        | 14.00     | -10.00 | -41.67 | .74          | .60       | -.14  |
| Benton      | 4         | 4.00      | .00    | .00    | .12          | .17       | .05   |
| Bolivar     | 148       | 81.00     | -67.00 | -45.27 | 4.54         | 3.46      | -1.09 |
| Calhoun     | 18        | 9.00      | -9.00  | -50.00 | .55          | .38       | -.17  |
| Carroll     | 19        | 10.00     | -9.00  | -47.37 | .58          | .43       | -.16  |
| Chickasaw   | 34        | 15.00     | -19.00 | -55.88 | 1.04         | .64       | -.40  |
| Choctaw     | 5         | 8.00      | 3.00   | 60.00  | .15          | .34       | .19   |
| Claiborne   | 35        | 18.00     | -17.00 | -48.57 | 1.07         | .77       | -.31  |
| Clarke      | 20        | 8.00      | -12.00 | -60.00 | .61          | .34       | -.27  |
| Clay        | 39        | 28.00     | -11.00 | -28.21 | 1.20         | 1.20      | .00   |
| Coahoma     | 117       | 89.00     | -28.00 | -23.93 | 3.59         | 3.80      | .21   |
| Copiah      | 46        | 35.00     | -11.00 | -23.91 | 1.41         | 1.49      | .08   |
| Covington   | 36        | 15.00     | -21.00 | -58.33 | 1.11         | .64       | -.46  |
| DeSoto      | 21        | 10.00     | -11.00 | -52.38 | .64          | .43       | -.22  |
| Forrest     | 67        | 35.00     | -32.00 | -47.76 | 2.06         | 1.49      | -.56  |
| Franklin    | 9         | 9.00      | .00    | .00    | .28          | .38       | .11   |
| George      | 5         | 5.00      | .00    | .00    | .15          | .21       | .06   |
| Greene      | 6         | 5.00      | -1.00  | -16.67 | .18          | .21       | .03   |
| Grenada     | 30        | 22.00     | -8.00  | -26.67 | .92          | .94       | .02   |
| Hancock     | 4         | 5.00      | 1.00   | 25.00  | .12          | .21       | .09   |
| Harrison    | 91        | 73.00     | -18.00 | -19.78 | 2.79         | 3.12      | .32   |
| Hinds       | 305       | 266.00    | -39.00 | -12.79 | 9.36         | 11.36     | 1.99  |
| Holmes      | 52        | 61.00     | 9.00   | 17.31  | 1.60         | 2.60      | 1.01  |
| Humphreys   | 59        | 50.00     | -9.00  | -15.25 | 1.81         | 2.13      | .32   |
| Issaquena   | 7         | 1.00      | -6.00  | -85.71 | .21          | .04       | -.17  |
| Itawamba    | 1         | 4.00      | 3.00   | 300.00 | .03          | .17       | .14   |
| Jackson     | 82        | 59.00     | -23.00 | -28.05 | 2.52         | 2.52      | .00   |
| Jasper      | 33        | 21.00     | -12.00 | -36.36 | 1.01         | .90       | -.12  |
| Jefferson   | 19        | 15.00     | -4.00  | -21.05 | .58          | .64       | .06   |
| Jeff. Davis | 19        | 13.00     | -6.00  | -31.58 | .58          | .56       | -.03  |
| Jones       | 56        | 49.00     | -7.00  | -12.50 | 1.72         | 2.09      | .37   |
| Kemper      | 19        | 11.00     | -8.00  | -42.11 | .58          | .47       | -.11  |
| Lafayette   | 17        | 12.00     | -5.00  | -29.41 | .52          | .51       | -.01  |
| Lamar       | 5         | 6.00      | 1.00   | 20.00  | .15          | .26       | .10   |
| Lauderdale  | 86        | 64.00     | -22.00 | -25.58 | 2.64         | 2.73      | .09   |
| Lawrence    | 12        | 9.00      | -3.00  | -25.00 | .37          | .38       | .02   |
| Leake       | 24        | 27.00     | 3.00   | 12.50  | .74          | 1.15      | .42   |
| Lee         | 51        | 44.00     | -7.00  | -13.73 | 1.57         | 1.88      | .31   |
| LeFlore     | 118       | 86.00     | -32.00 | -27.12 | 3.62         | 3.67      | .05   |
| Lincoln     | 29        | 18.00     | -11.00 | -37.93 | .89          | .77       | -.12  |
| Lowndes     | 72        | 46.00     | -26.00 | -36.11 | 2.21         | 1.96      | -.25  |
| Madison     | 70        | 52.00     | -18.00 | -25.71 | 2.15         | 2.22      | .07   |
| Marion      | 26        | 13.00     | -13.00 | -50.00 | .80          | .56       | -.24  |
| Marshall    | 43        | 34.00     | -9.00  | -20.93 | 1.32         | 1.45      | .13   |
| Monroe      | 32        | 27.00     | -5.00  | -15.63 | .98          | 1.15      | .17   |
| Montgomery  | 18        | 13.00     | -5.00  | -27.78 | .55          | .56       | .00   |
| Neshoba     | 27        | 22.00     | -5.00  | -18.52 | .83          | .94       | .11   |
| Newton      | 20        | 12.00     | -8.00  | -40.00 | .61          | .51       | -.10  |
| Noxubee     | 41        | 23.00     | -18.00 | -43.90 | 1.26         | .98       | -.28  |

TABLE 2, Continued

|              |     |        |        |        |      |      |      |
|--------------|-----|--------|--------|--------|------|------|------|
| Oktibbeha    | 57  | 28.00  | -29.00 | -50.88 | 1.75 | 1.20 | -.55 |
| Panola       | 76  | 42.00  | -34.00 | -44.74 | 2.33 | 1.79 | -.54 |
| Pearl River  | 14  | 19.00  | 5.00   | 35.71  | .43  | .81  | .38  |
| Perry        | 10  | 2.00   | -8.00  | -80.00 | .31  | .09  | -.22 |
| Pike         | 54  | 40.00  | -14.00 | -25.93 | 1.66 | 1.71 | .05  |
| Pontotoc     | 8   | 5.00   | -3.00  | -37.50 | .25  | .21  | -.03 |
| Prentiss     | 13  | 3.00   | -10.00 | -76.92 | .40  | .13  | -.27 |
| Quitman      | 45  | 26.00  | -19.00 | -42.22 | 1.38 | 1.11 | -.27 |
| Rankin       | 22  | 24.00  | 2.00   | 9.09   | .68  | 1.02 | .35  |
| Scott        | 27  | 32.00  | 5.00   | 18.52  | .83  | 1.37 | .54  |
| Sharkey      | 23  | 16.00  | -7.00  | -30.43 | .71  | .68  | -.02 |
| Simpson      | 17  | 18.00  | 1.00   | 5.88   | .52  | .77  | .25  |
| Smith        | 20  | 6.00   | -14.00 | -70.00 | .61  | .26  | -.36 |
| Stone        | 5   | 4.00   | -1.00  | -20.00 | .15  | .17  | .02  |
| Sunflower    | 115 | 64.00  | -51.00 | -44.35 | 3.53 | 2.73 | -.80 |
| Tallahatchie | 61  | 33.00  | -28.00 | -45.90 | 1.87 | 1.41 | -.46 |
| Tate         | 25  | 12.00  | -13.00 | -52.00 | .77  | .51  | -.26 |
| Tippah       | 17  | 6.00   | -11.00 | -64.71 | .52  | .26  | -.27 |
| Tishomingo   | 0   | 2.00   | 2.00   | 100.00 | .00  | .09  | .09  |
| Tunica       | 40  | 26.00  | -14.00 | -35.00 | 1.23 | 1.11 | -.12 |
| Union        | 10  | 7.00   | -3.00  | -30.00 | .31  | .30  | -.01 |
| Walthall     | 22  | 16.00  | -6.00  | -27.27 | .68  | .68  | .01  |
| Warren       | 75  | 53.00  | -22.00 | -29.33 | 2.30 | 2.26 | -.04 |
| Washington   | 134 | 127.00 | -7.00  | -5.22  | 4.11 | 5.42 | 1.31 |
| Wayne        | 26  | 15.00  | -11.00 | -42.31 | .80  | .64  | -.16 |
| Webster      | 12  | 7.00   | -5.00  | -41.67 | .37  | .30  | -.07 |
| Wilkinson    | 16  | 13.00  | -3.00  | -18.75 | .49  | .56  | .06  |
| Winston      | 21  | 23.00  | 2.00   | 9.52   | .64  | .98  | .34  |
| Yalobusha    | 19  | 9.00   | -10.00 | -52.63 | .58  | .38  | -.20 |
| Yazoo        | 65  | 49.00  | -16.00 | -24.62 | 2.00 | 2.09 | .10  |

Source: Mississippi State Department of Health, Vital Statistics, different years, Jackson, Mississippi.

TABLE 3. CHANGES AND CONCENTRATION OF WHITE INFANT MORTALITY,  
MISSISSIPPI, 1976-1987

| County      | Number        |               | Change |       | Distribution  |               |       |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------|-------|---------------|---------------|-------|
|             | 1976-<br>1981 | 1982-<br>1987 | No.    | Pct.  | 1976-<br>1982 | 1982-<br>1987 | Index |
| State       | 1682          | 1335          | -347   | -20.6 | 100.00        | 100.00        | 0.00  |
| Adams       | 14            | 13            | - 1    | - 7.1 | 0.83          | 0.97          | 0.14  |
| Alcorn      | 27            | 16            | -11    | -40.7 | 1.61          | 1.20          | -0.41 |
| Amite       | 1             | 7             | 6      | 600.0 | 0.06          | 0.52          | 0.46  |
| Attala      | 7             | 5             | - 2    | 28.6  | 0.42          | 0.38          | -0.04 |
| Benton      | 2             | 4             | 2      | 100.0 | 0.12          | 0.30          | 0.18  |
| Bolivar     | 24            | 12            | -12    | -50.0 | 1.43          | 0.90          | -0.53 |
| Calhoun     | 13            | 3             | -10    | -76.9 | 0.77          | 0.23          | -0.54 |
| Carroll     | 1             | 1             | -      | -     | 0.06          | 0.08          | 0.02  |
| Chickasaw   | 7             | 18            | 11     | 157.1 | 0.42          | 1.35          | 0.93  |
| Choctow     | 4             | 3             | - 1    | -25.0 | 0.24          | 0.23          | -0.01 |
| Claiborne   | 3             | 2             | - 1    | -33.3 | 0.18          | 0.15          | -0.03 |
| Clarke      | 11            | 8             | - 3    | -27.3 | 0.65          | 0.60          | -0.05 |
| Clay        | 11            | 9             | - 2    | -18.2 | 0.65          | 0.67          | 0.02  |
| Coahoma     | 17            | 9             | - 8    | -47.1 | 1.01          | 0.67          | -0.34 |
| Copiah      | 7             | 10            | 3      | 42.9  | 0.42          | 0.75          | 0.33  |
| Covington   | 11            | 9             | - 2    | -18.2 | 0.65          | 0.67          | 0.02  |
| De Soto     | 42            | 49            | 7      | 16.7  | 2.50          | 3.67          | 1.17  |
| Forrest     | 66            | 42            | -24    | 36.4  | 3.92          | 3.15          | -0.77 |
| Franklin    | 10            | 4             | - 6    | -60.0 | 0.59          | 0.30          | -0.21 |
| George      | 19            | 16            | - 3    | -15.8 | 1.13          | 1.20          | 0.07  |
| Greene      | 15            | 5             | -10    | -66.7 | 0.89          | 0.38          | -0.51 |
| Grenada     | 13            | 6             | - 7    | -53.8 | 0.77          | 0.45          | -0.32 |
| Hancock     | 14            | 23            | 9      | 64.3  | 0.83          | 1.72          | 0.89  |
| Harrison    | 144           | 123           | -21    | -14.6 | 8.56          | 9.21          | 0.65  |
| Hinds       | 86            | 79            | - 7    | - 8.1 | 5.11          | 5.92          | 0.81  |
| Holmes      | 9             | 6             | - 3    | -33.3 | 0.54          | 0.45          | -0.09 |
| Humphreys   | 6             | 10            | 4      | 66.7  | 0.36          | 0.75          | 0.39  |
| Issaquena   | 2             | -             | - 2    | 100.0 | 0.12          | -             | -0.12 |
| Itawamba    | 18            | 14            | - 4    | -22.2 | 1.07          | 1.05          | -0.02 |
| Jackson     | 115           | 81            | -34    | -29.6 | 6.84          | 6.07          | -0.77 |
| Jasper      | 9             | 9             | -      | -     | 0.54          | 0.67          | 0.13  |
| Jefferson   | -             | -             | -      | -     | -             | -             | -     |
| Jeff. Davis | 5             | 3             | - 2    | -40.0 | 0.30          | 0.23          | -0.07 |
| Jones       | 57            | 39            | -18    | -31.6 | 3.39          | 2.92          | -0.47 |
| Kemper      | 2             | 2             | -      | -     | 0.12          | 0.15          | 0.03  |
| Lafayette   | 17            | 9             | - 8    | -47.1 | 1.01          | 0.67          | -0.34 |
| Lamar       | 15            | 19            | 4      | 26.7  | 0.89          | 1.42          | 0.53  |
| Lauderdale  | 59            | 41            | -18    | -30.5 | 3.51          | 3.07          | -0.44 |
| Lawrence    | 6             | 3             | - 3    | -50.0 | 0.36          | 0.23          | -0.13 |
| Leake       | 8             | 7             | - 1    | -12.5 | 0.48          | 0.52          | 0.04  |
| Lee         | 58            | 40            | -18    | -31.0 | 3.45          | 3.00          | -0.45 |
| Leflore     | 29            | 20            | - 9    | -31.0 | 1.72          | 1.50          | -0.22 |
| Lincoln     | 16            | 13            | - 3    | -18.8 | 0.95          | 0.97          | 0.02  |
| Lowndes     | 50            | 30            | -20    | -40.0 | 2.97          | 2.25          | -0.72 |

TABLE 3, Continued

|              |    |    |     |       |      |      |       |
|--------------|----|----|-----|-------|------|------|-------|
| Madison      | 13 | 18 | 5   | 38.5  | 0.77 | 1.35 | 0.58  |
| Marion       | 17 | 21 | 4   | 23.5  | 1.01 | 1.57 | 0.56  |
| Marshall     | 20 | 11 | - 9 | -45.0 | 1.19 | 0.82 | -0.37 |
| Monroe       | 35 | 29 | - 6 | -17.1 | 2.08 | 2.17 | 0.09  |
| Montgomery   | 9  | 5  | - 4 | -44.4 | 0.54 | 0.38 | -0.16 |
| Neshoba      | 11 | 13 | 2   | 18.2  | 0.65 | 0.97 | 0.32  |
| Newton       | 18 | 10 | - 8 | -44.4 | 1.07 | 0.75 | -0.32 |
| Noxubee      | 6  | 3  | - 3 | -50.0 | 0.36 | 0.23 | -0.13 |
| Oktibbeha    | 21 | 12 | - 9 | -42.9 | 1.25 | 0.90 | -0.35 |
| Panola       | 14 | 9  | - 5 | -35.7 | 0.83 | 0.67 | -0.16 |
| Pearl River  | 36 | 39 | 3   | 8.3   | 2.14 | 2.92 | 0.78  |
| Perry        | 17 | 3  | -14 | -82.4 | 1.01 | 0.23 | -0.78 |
| Pike         | 19 | 20 | 1   | 5.3   | 1.13 | 1.50 | 0.37  |
| Pontotoc     | 18 | 9  | - 9 | -50.0 | 1.07 | 0.67 | -0.40 |
| Prentiss     | 19 | 20 | 1   | 5.3   | 1.13 | 1.50 | 0.37  |
| Quitman      | 3  | 3  | -   | -     | 0.18 | 0.23 | 0.05  |
| Rankin       | 46 | 42 | - 4 | -8.7  | 2.73 | 3.15 | 0.42  |
| Scott        | 19 | 19 | -   | -     | 1.13 | 1.42 | 0.29  |
| Sharkey      | 3  | 4  | 1   | 33.3  | 0.18 | 0.30 | 0.12  |
| Simpson      | 15 | 21 | 6   | 40.0  | 0.89 | 1.57 | 0.68  |
| Smith        | 14 | 7  | - 7 | -50.0 | 0.83 | 0.52 | -0.31 |
| Stone        | 7  | 2  | - 5 | -71.4 | 0.42 | 0.15 | -0.27 |
| Sunflower    | 12 | 4  | - 8 | -66.7 | 0.71 | 0.30 | -0.41 |
| Tallahatchie | 9  | 5  | - 4 | -44.4 | 0.54 | 0.38 | -0.16 |
| Tate         | 19 | 12 | - 7 | -36.8 | 1.13 | 0.90 | -0.23 |
| Tippah       | 25 | 21 | - 4 | -16.0 | 1.49 | 1.57 | 0.08  |
| Tishomingo   | 19 | 19 | -   | -     | 1.13 | 1.42 | 0.29  |
| Tunica       | 4  | 2  | - 2 | -50.0 | 0.24 | 0.15 | -0.09 |
| Union        | 17 | 13 | - 4 | -23.5 | 1.01 | 0.97 | -0.04 |
| Walthall     | 6  | 5  | - 1 | -16.7 | 0.36 | 0.38 | 0.02  |
| Warren       | 39 | 40 | 1   | 2.6   | 2.32 | 3.00 | 0.68  |
| Washington   | 40 | 18 | -22 | -55.0 | 2.38 | 1.35 | -1.03 |
| Wayne        | 13 | 15 | 2   | 15.4  | 0.77 | 1.12 | 0.35  |
| Webster      | 11 | 10 | - 1 | - 9.1 | 0.65 | 0.75 | 0.10  |
| Wilkinson    | 2  | 4  | 2   | 100.0 | 0.12 | 0.30 | 0.18  |
| Winston      | 10 | 10 | -   | -     | 0.59 | 0.75 | 0.16  |
| Yalobusha    | 9  | 2  | - 7 | -77.8 | 0.54 | 0.15 | -0.39 |
| Yazoo        | 17 | 13 | - 4 | -23.5 | 1.01 | 0.97 | -0.04 |



TABLE 4. CONCENTRATION INDEX OF WHITE AND NONWHITE INFANT MORTALITY, MISSISSIPPI, 1976 TO 1987

| Item              | Mortality Relativly |         |           |         |           |        |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|
|                   | Increased           |         | Decreased |         | No change |        |
|                   | White               | NW      | White     | NW      | White     | NW     |
| Index             | 13.32               | 10.75   | -13.32    | -10.75  | -         | -      |
| No. of counties(  | 40                  | 39      | 42        | 40      | -         | 3      |
| Percentage (      | 49.8                | 47.6    | 51.2      | 48.8    | -         | 3.7    |
| Infant mortality: |                     |         |           |         |           |        |
| rate              | 10.5                | 20.5    | 11.3      | 24.3    | -         | 21.3   |
| (State=10.9 white |                     |         |           |         |           |        |
| 21.8 nonwhite)    |                     |         |           |         |           |        |
| Number            | 1570                | 3216    | 1447      | 2145    | -         | 239    |
| Percentage        | 18.2                | 37.3    | 16.8      | 24.9    | -         | 2.8    |
| Births:           |                     |         |           |         |           |        |
| Number            | 149,033             | 157,258 | 127,503   | 88,114  | -         | 11,228 |
| Percentage        | 28.0                | 29.5    | 23.9      | 16.5    | -         | 2.1    |
| Pop., 1980        |                     |         |           |         |           |        |
| Number            | 849,824             | 490,156 | 765,366   | 375,892 | -         | 39,400 |
| Percentage        | 33.7                | 19.4    | 30.4      | 14.9    | -         | 1.6    |