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Feb. 5, 2013

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Births Decrease, Longevity Increases, No Quadruplets According to Latest Vital Statistics Report

Lincoln – Did you know? Approximately 60,000 records of vital events are filed every year with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. The 2011 Nebraska Vital Statistics report contains information on births, deaths, marriages and divorces. Here's a quick snapshot of the report by the numbers.

Births:

- 25,722 live births occurred among Nebraska women in 2011.
- It's the lowest number of births to Nebraska residents since 2002 (25,381).
- The average age of a Nebraska woman giving birth to her first child increased over the past decade – 24.5 years in 2000 to 25.2 years in 2011.
- The age also increased for women giving birth to a second or third child.
- The majority of births occur among women in their 20s.
- The number and rate of live births among unmarried Nebraska women decreased for the second straight year in 2011, a rare event in recent decades.
- In 2011, there were 392 sets of twins and 13 sets of triplets. It was first year since 1992 that there wasn't at least one set of quadruplets born.

Deaths:

- The average age at death for Nebraskans in 2011 was 75.5 years old, a slight increase from 75.4 years old in 2010.
- 75.5 years old ties the state's all-time record which was first set in 2003.
- Average age at death breakdown by gender:
 - Nebraska women - 78.7 years.
 - Nebraska men - 72.2 years. This is a new state record breaking the previous record of 72 years set in 2010.

- Cancer is Nebraska's leading cause of death. This is the third year in a row cancer surpassed heart disease as the state's leading cause of death.
- Heart disease is the second leading cause of death.

Marriage and Divorce:

- The number of marriages in Nebraska has been on the decline since 1970.
- The majority of people getting married in Nebraska are in their 20s.
- The number of divorces in Nebraska declined. There were 6,367 in 2011 versus 6,603 in 2010. Overall, the divorce rate has been on a slow decline since the 1990s.
- More divorces were granted to people in their 30s.
- Almost one of every four Nebraska divorces in 2011 ended a marriage that lasted three years or less.

To see more information in the report, go to: <http://1.usa.gov/VBL5re>.