Maternal Mortality in the U.S.

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U.S. Maternal Mortality Ratio

1935-2007

Source: Singh GK. Maternal Mortality in the United States. A 75th Anniversary Title V Publication. HRSA 2010
U.S. Maternal Mortality Ratio

1987-2011

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/MaternalInfantHealth/PMSS.html
CDC defines severe morbidity as a potentially life-threatening maternal condition or complication during a delivery hospitalization.
Increasing overweight & obesity among U.S women of childbearing age; 1965-2005


- Overweight (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m²)
- Obese (BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²)
- Extreme obesity (BMI ≥ 40 kg/m²)

Year of survey
- 1965
- 1975
- 1985
- 1995
- 2005

Proportion of women (%)

*Ages 20-35 through NHANES 1988-94
Leading Causes of Maternal Deaths in U.S. 2011

Causes of pregnancy-related death in the United States: 2011

- Cardiovascular disease: 15.1%
- Non-cardiovascular disease: 14.1%
- Infection/sepsis: 14.0%
- Hemorrhage: 11.3%
- Cardiomyopathy: 10.1%
- Thrombotic pulmonary embolism: 9.8%
- Hypertensive disorder of pregnancy: 8.4%
- Anomiotic fluid embolism: 5.6%
- Cerebrovascular accident: 5.4%
- Anesthesia complications: 0.3%

Note: The cause of death is unknown for 5.9% of all pregnancy-related deaths.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
http://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/MaternalInfantHealth/PMSS.html
Figure 3. Cesarean delivery, by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 1990–2013

U.S. Maternal Mortality Ratio

Racial Gap

Source: March of Dimes Peristat
http://www.marchofdimes.com/peristats/
Putting the “M” Back in the Maternal and Child Health Bureau: Reducing Maternal Mortality and Morbidity

Michael C. Lu · Keisher Highsmith · David de la Cruz · Hani K. Atrash
Maternal Health Initiative
Strategic Priorities

- Improve women’s health before, during, and after pregnancy
- Improve the quality and safety of maternity care
- Improve systems of maternity care including clinical and public health systems
- Improve public awareness and education
- Improve research and surveillance
Improve Women’s Health
Improve Women’s Health

• Affordable Care Act & Women’s Health
  • Prohibits gender rating
  • More than 7.7 million women under 65 signed up for health insurance coverage during the first Open Enrollment period.
  • More than 1 million women between the ages of 19 and 25 who would have been uninsured now have coverage under their parent’s plan.
  • As many as 65 million women with pre-existing conditions can no longer be discriminated against or charged higher premiums for their health coverage.
  • An estimated 8.7 million women with individual insurance coverage gained coverage for maternity services because of the health care law.
  • An estimated 55 million women with private health insurance have access to recommended preventive services
Improve Quality & Safety
Maternal Health Initiative
Patient Safety Bundles
100,000 Mothers
Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health (AIM)

• **Goal:**
  • Prevent 100,000 U.S. maternal deaths and severe morbidity in 5 years

• **Strategies**
  • Improve women’s health before and between pregnancies
  • Reduce low-risk (NTSV) cesarean deliveries
  • Disseminate and integrate patient safety bundles into every birthing hospital across the U.S.
Maternal Mortality Rate, California and United States; 1999-2013

**HP 2020 Objective – 11.4 Deaths per 100,000 Live Births**

Disparities in Maternal Mortality by Race/Ethnicity, California Residents; 1999-2013

SOURCE: State of California, Department of Public Health, California Birth and Death Statistical Master Files, 1999-2013. Maternal mortality rates for California (deaths ≤ 42 days postpartum) were calculated using ICD-10 cause of death classification (codes A34, O00-O95, O98-O99). Produced by California Department of Public Health, Center for Family Health, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health Division, March, 2015.
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