

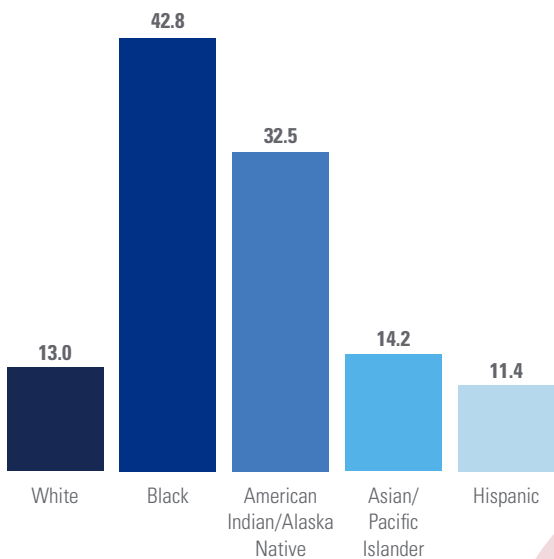
Better Health for Mothers & Babies

Improving Maternal Health Outcomes

The U.S. maternal mortality rate is the highest of any high-resource country with **26.4** deaths per **100,000** live births.

Racial & Ethnic Disparities

Complex clinical, social and structural determinants contribute to racial & ethnic disparities in pregnancy-related mortality.¹



Pregnancy-related Mortality Ratio, 2011-2015

The Need to Consider the Continuum of Care

Almost **two-thirds** of pregnancy related deaths occurred outside the week of birth.²

Pre-delivery

During Pregnancy 31.3%

Week of Delivery

Day of Delivery 16.9%

1-6 Days PPM 18.6%

Postpartum

7-42 Days PPM 21.4%

43-465 Days PPM 11.7%

Sources:

1. CDC Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System
2. Creanga A et al. Pregnancy Related Mortality in the U.S., 2011-2013. Obstet and Gynec 2017 & MMRIA (2017).

AHA Action Plan

The American Hospital Association (AHA) recommends the following actions that hospitals and health system leaders can implement to improve maternal health care.

Evaluate and Act on Your Data

- Implement a review of data and take action to reduce variation for specific ailments.
- Use a systematic approach to review maternal health complications.
- Implement strategies for improvement.

Examining Disparities

- Stratify data beyond one year by place, race, ethnicity and other variables appropriate to your community.
- Address unconscious and implicit bias among staff and deliver training as appropriate.
- Train staff in cultural and linguistic competence.

Engage Mothers and Families

- Engage mothers and families through patient and family advisory councils and discussion tools.
- Identify ways to partner with other community groups.

Partner with Clinicians and Organizations in Your Community

- Partner with your state hospital association, department of health, perinatal quality collaborative, etc.
- Partner with community-based organizations to improve health literacy, address social factors and provide wraparound services.

To learn more, visit www.aha.org/bhmb.



Advancing Health in America
July 2019

