Maternal mortality rates in the United States are rising. The U.S. has the highest rate of maternal death among developed nations with significant racial disparities and large differences in rates between states. The Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine (SMFM) has identified five important ways that states are addressing the rising rates of maternal mortality: 1) the establishment of maternal mortality review committees, 2) the establishment of perinatal quality collaboratives, 3) the expansion of Medicaid, 4) reporting of maternal death data stratified by race/ethnicity, and 5) participation in the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health program. This fact sheet details the progress California has made toward reducing maternal mortality. To view other state fact sheets, visit SMFM.org/scorecard.

### Efforts by California to Prevent Maternal Deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Maternal Mortality Review Committee</th>
<th>Perinatal Quality Collaborative</th>
<th>Medicaid Expansion</th>
<th>Reports Maternal Mortality Data by Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Efforts</th>
<th>California’s Medicaid program covers pregnant people up to</th>
<th>California’s Medicaid program covers pregnant people up to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exists in the State</td>
<td>In Progress</td>
<td>Does Not Yet Exist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>☑</td>
<td>☑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio (PRMR)

(number of pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>California</th>
<th>USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>28.3*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13.8*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic Black</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>41.7*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11.6*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>13.4*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17.3*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*PRMR data is forthcoming | **2017 | *2014-2017

### Insurance Coverage for Reproductive-Aged Women and New Mothers in California

- 10% of women 15-44 years of age are without health insurance.

California’s Medicaid program covers pregnant people up to 213% of the federal poverty level.

- Pregnant people and new mothers with monthly incomes of $3,855 or less are eligible for Medicaid coverage (family of 3).

- Many new mothers lose Medicaid coverage 60 days after giving birth.
SMFM recommends that states provide 12 months of comprehensive postpartum Medicaid coverage to all new mothers.

*California provides 12 months of postpartum Medicaid coverage for women diagnosed with a maternal mental health condition. This limited coverage extension could be suspended on December 31, 2021, without further action by California lawmakers.

State Actions Aimed at Reducing Maternal Deaths

Maternal Mortality Review Committees
- Gather and analyze data and
- Make recommendations

Perinatal Quality Collaboratives
- Build the infrastructure for and advance system-wide quality improvement efforts

AIM
- Implement patient safety bundles

Policymakers
- Advance policy reforms, including expanding and extending Medicaid coverage

Website

Most Recent Report

Year Most Recent Report Released
2019

Does Most Recent Report Include Recommendations?
Yes

Local Resources

Maternal Quality Collaborative
https://www.cmqcc.org/

Perinatal Quality Collaborative
https://www.cpqcc.org/

Medicaid

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