



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 Vermont has made toward reducing maternal mortality. To view other state fact sheets, visit [SMFM.org/scorecard](http://SMFM.org/scorecard).

**Efforts by Vermont to Prevent Maternal Deaths**

2018	2019	2020	
✓	✓	✓	Maternal Mortality Review Committee
✓	✓	✓	Perinatal Quality Collaborative
✓	✓	✓	Medicaid Expansion
✗	✗	✗	Reports Maternal Mortality Data by Race/Ethnicity
*	*	✓	Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health

Exists in the State: ✓  
 In Progress: ●  
 Does Not Yet Exist: ✗  
 Not Measured in Past Years: \*

**Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio (PRMR)**

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

Race	Vermont*	USA
American Indian	-	28.3 <sup>^</sup>
Asian or Pacific Islander	-	13.8 <sup>^</sup>
Non-Hispanic Black	-	41.7 <sup>^</sup>
Hispanic	-	11.6 <sup>^</sup>
Non-Hispanic White	-	13.4 <sup>^</sup>
Overall	-	17.3 <sup>**</sup>

\*\*2017 | <sup>^</sup>2014-2017

\*Vermont does not release PRMR data due to the small number of maternal deaths in the state. It does report on the number of pregnancy-related deaths: <http://bit.ly/VTMMRCReport2021>.

**Insurance Coverage for Reproductive-Aged Women and New Mothers in Vermont**

5%

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

Vermont'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).

Most new mothers lose Medicaid coverage

60

days after giving birth.

## Postpartum Medicaid Extension

SMFM recommends that states provide 12 months of comprehensive postpartum Medicaid coverage to all new mothers.



### State Actions Aimed at Reducing Maternal Deaths



#### Maternal Mortality Review Committees

- Gather and analyze data and
- Make recommendations

Driving Action by



#### 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

#### Vermont's Maternal Mortality Review Committee

##### Website

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##### Most Recent Report

<http://bit.ly/VTMMRCReport2021>

##### Year Most Recent Report Released

2021

##### Does Most Recent Report Include Recommendations?

No

### Local Resources

#### Perinatal Quality Collaborative

<https://www.nnepqin.org>

#### Medicaid

<http://bit.ly/VTPregnancyMedicaid>

**Questions?** Contact Rebecca Abbott  
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Review data sources and methodology at  
<https://www.smfm.org/scorecardmethodology>.

Last updated January 20, 2021.

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