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 Ohio has made toward reducing maternal mortality. To view other state fact sheets, visit SMFM.org/scorecard.

### Efforts by Ohio to Prevent Maternal Deaths

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- **9%** of women 15-44 years of age are without health insurance.
- Ohio's Medicaid program covers pregnant people up to **205%** of the federal poverty level.
- Pregnant people and new mothers with monthly incomes of **$3,711** or less are eligible for Medicaid coverage (family of 3).
- Many new mothers lose Medicaid coverage **60** days after giving birth.

### Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Ohio*</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>29.5</td>
<td>41.7*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>11.6*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Hispanic White</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>13.4*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>17.3**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Black women in Ohio are **2.5 times more likely to die** from pregnancy-related causes than white women.
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

---

**Website**

**Most Recent Report**

**Year Most Recent Report Released**
2019

**Does Most Recent Report Include Recommendations?**
Yes

---

Local Resources

**Perinatal Quality Collaborative**
https://www.opqc.net/

**Medicaid**

---

SMFM State Liaisons

Edward Chien, MD
Maged Costantine, MD
Kelly Gibson, MD, FACOG
Emily Hamburg-Shields, MD, PhD
Michael Krew, MD, MS
Mark Libertin, MD
Tani Malhotra, MD
Melissa March, MD
Monique McKiever, MD
Brian Mercer, MD
Maria Phillips, MD, JD
Angela Ranzini, MD
Stephen Thung, MD
Kartik Venkatesh, MD, PhD

---

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

- **No Extension**
- **Enacted**
- **Implementing Limited Coverage Extension**
- **Implementing Full Coverage Extension**

---

Questions? Contact Rebecca Abbott (rabbott@smfm.org)

Review data sources and methodology at https://www.smfm.org/scorecardmethodology.

Last updated January 18, 2021.