

Virginia

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 four 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; and 4.) reporting of data stratified by race/ethnicity. This fact sheet details the progress Virginia has made towards reducing maternal mortality. To view other state fact sheets, visit SMFM.org/USA.



State Activities Aimed at Reducing Maternal Deaths

- ✓ Maternal Mortality Review Committee
- ✓ Perinatal Quality Collaborative
- ✗ Medicaid Expansion
- ✓ Reports Maternal Mortality Data by Race

Exists in the State



Does Not Yet Exist



In Progress



Medicaid Coverage for Pregnant Women

Virginia's Medicaid program will cover pregnant women with a family income up to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL). In 2018, the FPL for a family of three is \$20,780.

SMFM State Liaisons

Dana Block-Abraham, DO
J.T. Christmas, MD
Alfred Abuhamad, MD

Local Resources

Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative
vdh.virginia.gov/virginia-neonatal-perinatal-collaborative

Virginia Medicaid
benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/1363

Rate of Maternal Mortality per 100,000 Live Births

Race	Virginia	USA
White	11.0	18.1
Black	36.6	47.2
Other	N/A	23.8
Overall	15.9	20.7

Black women are nearly three times more likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white women in U.S. In Virginia, the discrepancy is even greater; the rate of death among black women is more than three times higher than that of white women.

Questions? Contact Katie Schubert at kschubert@smfm.org.

Data Sources: 1.) America's Health Rankings ("Maternal Mortality in the United States in 2018"); 2.) Kaiser Family Foundation ("Medicaid and CHIP Income Eligibility Limits for Pregnant Women as a Percent of the Federal Poverty Level"); 3.) Review to Action ("MMR Map"); and 4.) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "State Perinatal Quality Collaboratives". Last updated: **December 10, 2018**.