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

### Arkansas

Insurance Coverage for Reproductive-Aged Women

90% of women aged 19-64 years old have health insurance. Arkansas’s Medicaid program will cover pregnant women up to 214% of the federal poverty level.

**SMFM State Liaisons**

Abigail Ramseyer, MD
Curtis Lowery, MD

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### Local Resources

Arkansas Medicaid

humanservices.arkansas.gov/about-dhs/dco/programs-services/medicaid-program-eligibility-and-enrollment

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### Maternal Mortality Ratio

(number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Arkansas</th>
<th>USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>26.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>76.3</td>
<td>63.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>19.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>29.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Women in Arkansas are more likely to die from a pregnancy-related death compared to the rest of the US population, regardless of race.

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

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