


South Carolina

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



State Activities Aimed at Reducing Maternal Deaths

- | | | |
|------|------|---|
| 2018 | 2019 | |
| ✓ | ✓ | Maternal Mortality Review Committee |
| ✓ | ✓ | Perinatal Quality Collaborative |
| ✗ | ✗ | Medicaid Expansion |
| ✓ | ✓ | Reports Maternal Mortality Data by Race |

Exists in the State  In Progress  Does Not Yet Exist 

Insurance Coverage for Reproductive-Aged Women

85% of women aged 19-64 years old have health insurance.

South Carolina's Medicaid program will cover pregnant women up to 199% of the federal poverty level.

SMFM State Liaison

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Local Resources

South Carolina Birth Outcomes Initiative
scdhhs.gov/service/south-carolina-birth-outcomes-initiative

South Carolina Medicaid
scdhhs.gov/how-to-apply

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

Race	South Carolina	USA
White	25.7	26.1
Black	77.3	63.8
Hispanic	--	19.6
Overall	39.4	29.6

Black women in South Carolina are three times as likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women.

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

Data Sources: 1.) America's Health Rankings ("Maternal Mortality in the United States in 2019"); 2.) Kaiser Family Foundation ("Medicaid and CHIP Income Eligibility Limits for Pregnant Women as a Percent of the Federal Poverty Level" and "Health Insurance Coverage of Women 19-64"); 3.) Review to Action ("MMR Map"); 4.) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "State Perinatal Quality Collaboratives"; and 5.) American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists ("State Maternal Mortality Review Committees, PQC's, and AIM").

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