

# March of dimes

WHY ARE AFRO-AMERICAN  
WOMEN AT HIGH RISK OF DYING  
FROM PREGNANCY  
COMPLICATIONS



# Black Women are at high risk during pregnancy:

- Black women are three to four times more likely to die from pregnancy -related causes than whites , according to CDC & Prevention.
- This has climbed over the past two decades ; making the maternal mortality rate in the United States worse.
- This is now a public health and human rights emergency, because it has been noted that a significant portion of these death could be prevented.

# Why?

- Lack of access and poor quality care are the leading factors; but this is not always the case.
- Black women are under-valued. They are not always monitored as carefully as white women/other nationalities.
- When they do present their symptoms, they are often dismissed.
- Racism affects so many things before the patient gets to clinical setting. This all affects how women are cared for in the health care systems.

# America is failing its Black mothers:

- Finally, policymakers are beginning to pay attention.
- The CDC now estimates that 700-900 new and expectant mothers die in the US each year. An additional 500,000 women experience life-threatening postpartum complications.
- This rate is higher among Black women 2011-2014 ; 40.0 deaths per 100,000.
- Women of other races; 17.8 deaths per 100,000.
- White women; 12.4 deaths per 100,000.
- The health of the moms and babies are intertwined .
- We welcome and join the movement for change.



# References

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## AMERICA IS FAILING ITS BLACK MOTHERS

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