



FACT SHEET

United States

# Maternal Mortality

\*2018 Data

## Causes of Pregnancy Related Deaths:

- Hemorrhage
- Preeclampsia
- Stroke
- Cardiovascular Disease
- Infection
- Thrombotic Pulmonary Embolism
- Amniotic Fluid Embolism
- Mental Health Conditions



## FACTS AT A GLANCE (2018)

### 700 Women Die

Per year due to pregnancy or delivery complications

### 17.4

The maternal mortality rate is 17.4 per 100,000 live births

### Georgia is ranked #1

Georgia has the highest maternal mortality rate at 46.2 per 100,000 live births, (2011-2015)

### 83%

Of maternal deaths do not happen on the day of delivery

### 60%

Of maternal deaths are preventable in the US

Half of the White medical students and residents surveyed believed at least one myth about racial differences in pain perception, such as the idea that Black people have thicker skin than White people

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4843483/>

**Maternal Mortality** is the death of a woman during pregnancy, at delivery, or soon after delivery (CDC).

In 2018, the US had the highest number of maternal deaths per capita out of 10 similarly wealthy countries.

Around the country, Black pregnant and birthing women are increasingly reporting that doctors disregarded their concerns, ignored their wishes, and put them at risk.

## In the United States, Maternal Mortality disproportionately affects Black women

- The maternal mortality rate for Black women is **37.1 deaths per 100,000 births**, compared to **14.7 deaths per 100,000 births** for White women
- Black Women are more likely to die in childbirth at **three to four times** the rate of any other woman in the United States
- **11.5%** of Black Americans are uninsured, compared to just **7.5%** of White Americans
- Black mothers are almost **twice as likely** as White mothers to say they felt pressured into getting a C-section
- Nearly **one-third** of Black Women said hospital staff did not encourage them to make their own decisions about the birth

Women are looking outside of hospitals to midwives, birthing centers, and home births because they feel they are more likely to receive the care they deserve there