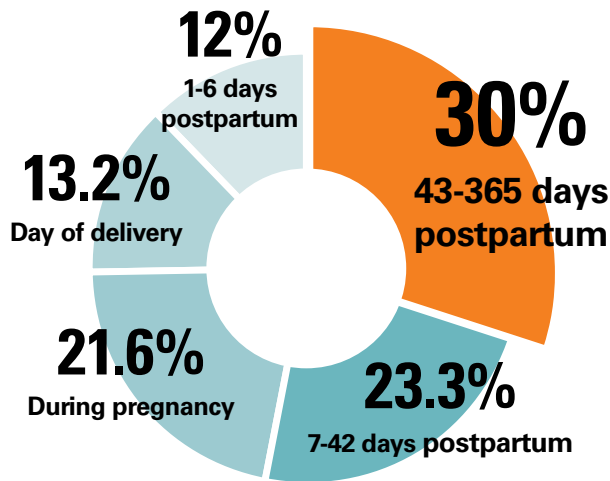




Make Becoming a Mom Safe in Texas

Ensuring comprehensive health coverage for women of reproductive age is key to improving maternal health in Texas.

The journey to motherhood in Texas carries excessive risks, ranging from pregnancy complications to death. And the risks don't end when the baby is born, as many pregnancy deaths occur within the first year following delivery. Recent findings from Texas' panel of maternal health experts showed nearly all – 90% – of these deaths could have been prevented.¹ Another study reviewing pregnancy-related deaths in 36 states, including Texas, indicates 80% were preventable.²

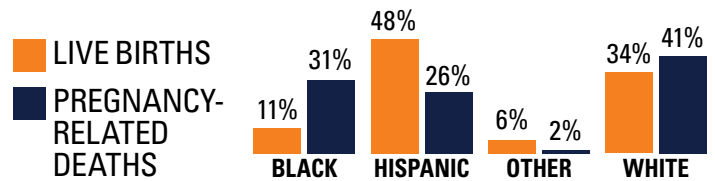


Occurrence of Pregnancy-Related Deaths
(2017-19 data from 36 states)

Comprehensive Coverage Matters

- Healthy pregnancies begin years earlier with identification, treatment, and management of other health conditions, such as diabetes and hypertension. Managing chronic conditions becomes more challenging and costly once a woman is pregnant.
- Maternal complications and deaths have decreased in states that have extended Medicaid to working-age women. These changes can have a considerable impact in communities of color and low wealth, where chronic diseases and a lack of health insurance can be more prevalent.
- Ongoing care during the year following delivery – beginning with the “fourth trimester” immediately after birth – is needed to address conditions or complications that may arise.

Black women in Texas account for 31% of maternal deaths but only 11% of births.



What Texas Lacks

- Medicaid covers more than half of births in Texas. Current comprehensive coverage ends 60 days postpartum, leaving a gap during the period when one-third of pregnancy-related deaths occur (43 to 365 days postpartum).
- The state's women's health programs – Family Planning Program, Healthy Texas Women (HTW), and HTW Plus – fill important gaps but carry limited benefits. Women with multiple complex conditions do not receive recommended care.
- More than 26% of Texas working-age women don't have health insurance.³

The Texas Public Health Coalition Recommends:

1. **Extend comprehensive coverage to low-income, uninsured, working-age adults.**
2. **Provide 12 months' comprehensive postpartum coverage.**
3. **Maintain robust funding for women's health programs.**
4. **Preserve funding for TexasAIM, a state-run collaborative of hospitals, physicians, and nurses to advance adoption of proven maternal safety protocols.**
5. **Reduce health inequality by screening, connecting, and coordinating care across medical and social domains throughout a woman's lifespan.**
6. **Fully invest in systems to collect and analyze key maternal and perinatal data that can inform timely recommendations for improving quality of care.**

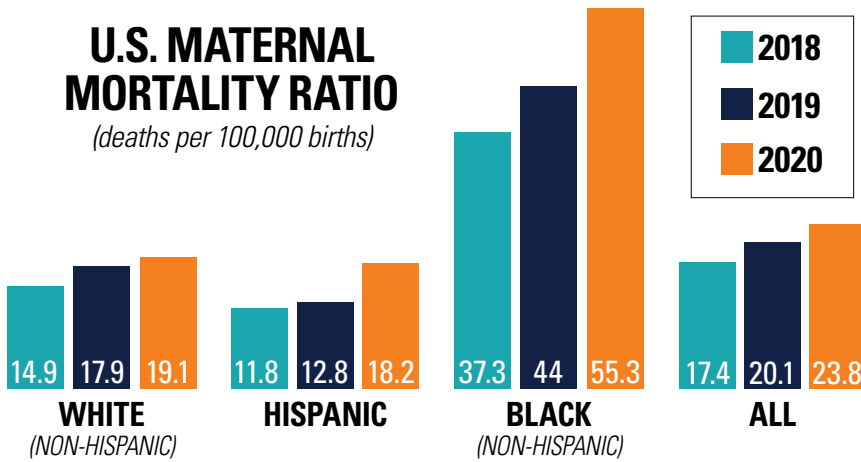
¹ Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee and Department of State Health Services Joint Biennial Report, 2022.

² Trost SL, et al. Pregnancy-Related Deaths: Data from Maternal Mortality Review Committees in 36 US States, 2017-2019. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2022.

³ 2022 Health of Women and Children Report. America's Health Rankings by United Health Foundation.

U.S. MATERNAL MORTALITY RATIO

(deaths per 100,000 births)



Source: CDC National Center for Health Statistics and NCHS Health E-Stats

SEVERE MATERNAL MORBIDITY RATES IN TEXAS

The percentage of deliveries associated with severe maternal morbidity (SMM)



Source: Texas Healthcare Learning Collaborative



The Texas Public Health Coalition is a coalition of health professional organizations and health-focused organizations dedicated to disease prevention and health promotion.

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MEMBERS

- Alzheimer's Association
- American Heart Association
- American Lung Association
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas
- Children's Hospital Association of Texas
- The Cooper Institute
- Harris County Public Health
- The Immunization Partnership
- It's Time Texas
- March of Dimes
- Methodist Healthcare Ministries
- National Service Office for Nurse-Family
- Partnership and Child First
- Texans Care for Children
- Texas Academy of Family Physicians
- Texas Academy of Physician Assistants
- Texas Association of City & County Health Officials
- Texas Association of Community Health Centers
- Texas Chapter of the American College of Physicians Services
- Texas Dental Association
- Texas eHealth Alliance
- Texas Health Institute
- Texas Hospital Association
- Texas Medical Association
- Texas Nurses Association
- Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.
- Texas Osteopathic Medical Association
- Texas Pediatric Society
- Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility
- Texas Renal Coalition
- Texas School Nurses Organization
- Texas Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine
- Texas State Alliance of YMCAs
- United Ways of Texas

RESOURCES

CANCER PREVENTION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS
MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

MICHAEL AND SUSAN DELL CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING
PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHY TEXAS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES
TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION