



# Surveillance and Prevention with Maternal Mortality Review Committees

Wednesday, June 29, 2022



Meet Our  
Speakers



***Julie Zaharatos, MPH***

*Partnerships & Resources  
Maternal Mortality Prevention Team  
Division of Reproductive Health,  
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention  
and Health Promotion, CDC*

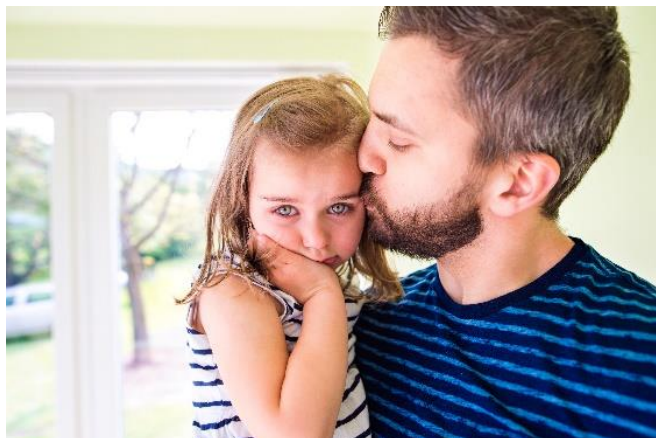
***Lisa Hollier, M.D., MPH***

Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Baylor College of Medicine



# *Surveillance and Prevention with Maternal Mortality Review Committees*

Julie Zaharatos, MPH, Maternal Mortality Prevention Team  
CDC Division of Reproductive Health



# The data we have

	National (CDC) – National Vital Statistics System (NVSS)	National (CDC) – Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System (PMSS)	State and Local Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs)
Data Source	Death records	Death records, and death records linked birth or fetal death records, additional information as available	Death records, and death records linked birth or fetal death records, medical records, social service records, autopsy, informant interviews, etc.
Time Frame	During pregnancy – 42 days	During pregnancy – 1 year	During pregnancy – 1 year
Source of Classification	ICD-10 codes	Medical epidemiologists	Multidisciplinary committees
Terms	Maternal death	Pregnancy associated, (Associated and) Pregnancy related, (Associated but) Not pregnancy related	Pregnancy associated, (Associated and) Pregnancy related, (Associated but) Not pregnancy related
Measure	Maternal Mortality Rate - # of Maternal Deaths per 100,000 live births	Pregnancy Related Mortality Ratio - # of Pregnancy Related Deaths per 100,000 live births	Pregnancy Related Mortality Ratio - # of Pregnancy Related Deaths per 100,000 live births
Purpose	Show national trends and provide a basis for international comparison	Analyze clinical factors associated with deaths, publish information that may lead to prevention strategies	Understand medical and non-medical contributors to deaths, inform prioritization of interventions that effectively reduce pregnancy-related deaths

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# 700

Each year in the U.S., about 700 women die as a result of pregnancy complications

# 2 – 3x

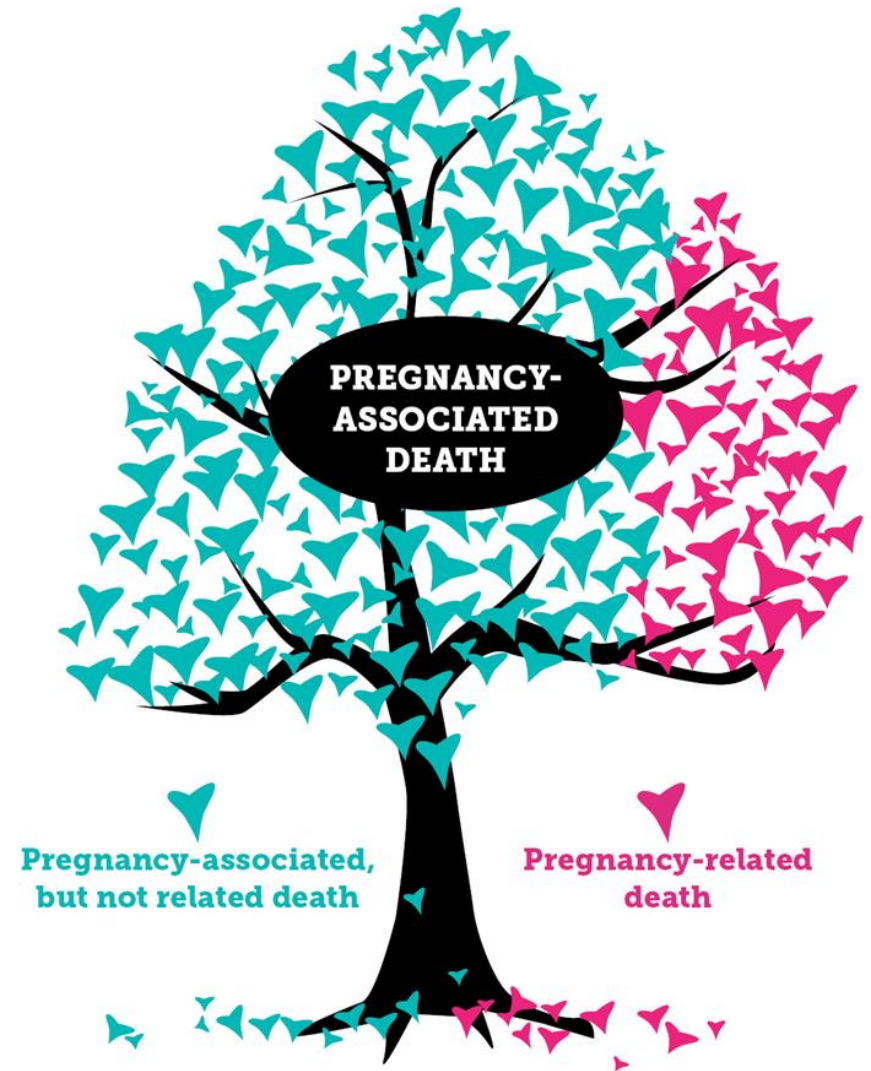
Black and AI/AN women are 2 – 3 times more likely to die of pregnancy-related causes than white women



**Pregnancy-associated death:** the death of a person while pregnant or within one year of pregnancy, regardless of cause (may be related or unrelated to pregnancy)

**Pregnancy-associated, but not related, death:** the death of a person while pregnant, or within one year of pregnancy, from a cause that is unrelated to pregnancy

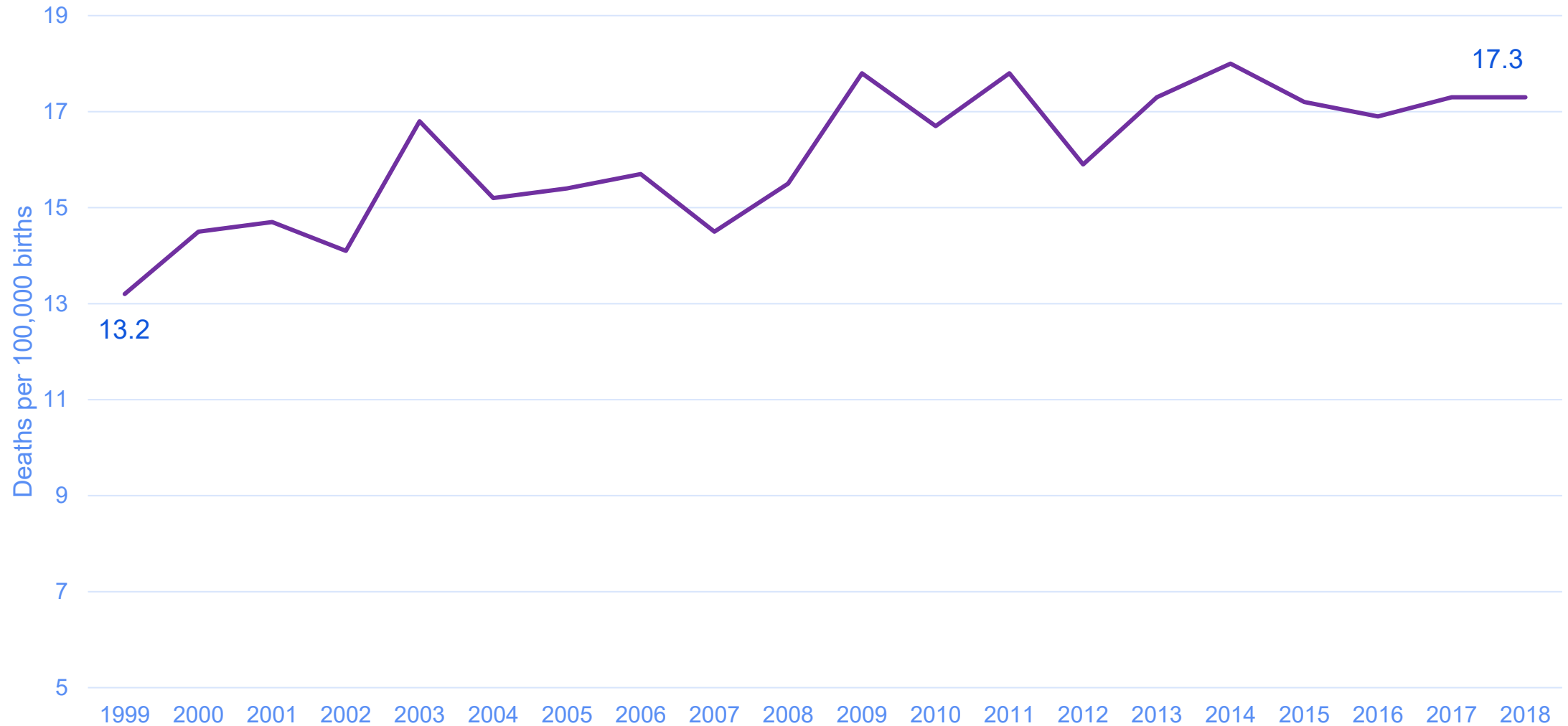
**Pregnancy-related death:** the death of a person while pregnant or within one year of pregnancy from a pregnancy complication, a chain of events initiated by pregnancy, or the aggravation of an unrelated condition by the physiologic effects of pregnancy



<https://reviewtoaction.org/content/mmria-committee-facilitation-guide>

Graphic sourced from: South Dakota Department of Health <https://doh.sd.gov/statistics/maternalmortality.aspx>

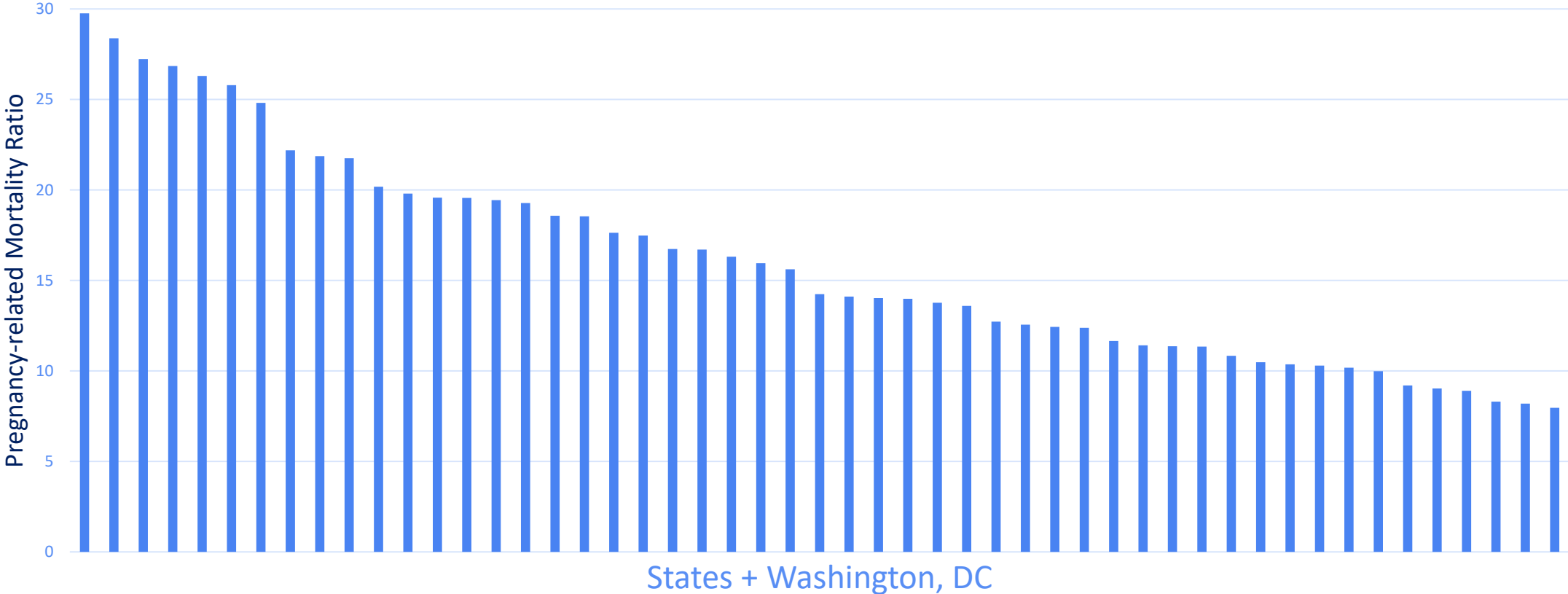
# Pregnancy-Related Mortality, PMSS, 1999-2018: Not Improving





# PMSS: State Variation

Pregnancy-related Mortality Ratio by State and Washington, DC, 2007-2016

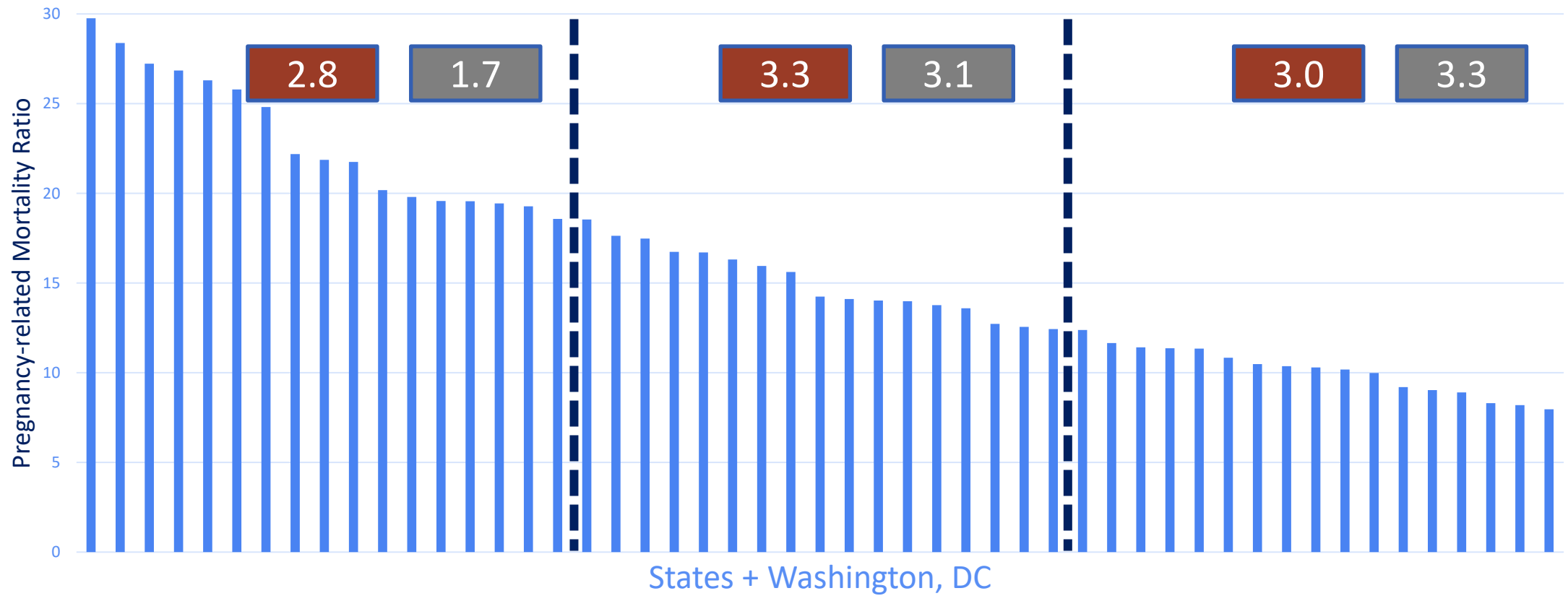


# PMSS: State Variation

Black PRMR ÷ White PRMR

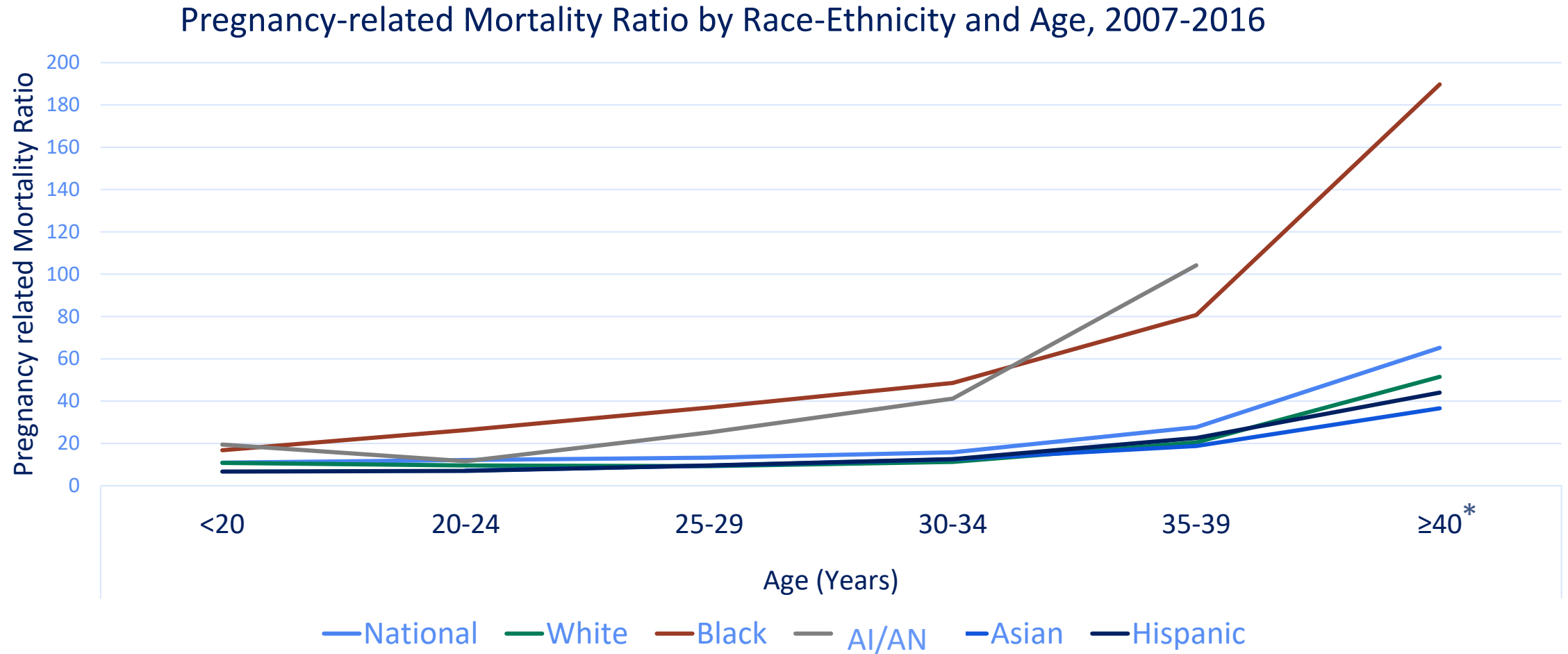
Native PRMR ÷ White PRMR

Pregnancy-related Mortality Ratio by State and Washington, DC, 2007-2016



Petersen EE, Davis NL, Goodman D, et al. Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Pregnancy-Related Deaths — United States, 2007–2016. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2019;68:762–765

# PMSS: by age grouping



# PMSS: by timing of death in relation to pregnancy



**31%**

During pregnancy



**36%**

During delivery and  
up to 1 week afterward



**33%**

1 week to  
1 year after

# Jurisdiction-level Maternal Mortality Review Committees provide local maternal mortality data



State and Local Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs)	
Data Source	Death certificates and death certificates linked to birth or fetal death certificates, medical records, social service records, autopsy, informant interviews, etc.
Time Frame	During pregnancy – 1 year
Source of Classification	Multidisciplinary committees
Terms	Pregnancy associated, (Associated and) Pregnancy related, (Associated but) Not pregnancy related
Measure	Pregnancy Related Mortality Ratio - # of Pregnancy Related Deaths per 100,000 live births
Purpose	Understand medical and non-medical contributors to deaths, inform prioritization of interventions to effectively reduce pregnancy-related deaths

# Maternal Mortality Review IS NOT

- A mechanism for assigning blame or responsibility for any death
- A research study
- Peer review
  - It does not disclose facility or providers involved
- An institutional review
- A substitute for existing mortality and morbidity inquiries

Berg, C., Danel, I., Atrash H., Zane, S. Bartlett, L. (Eds.). Strategies to reduce pregnancy-related deaths: From identification and review to action. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 2001

# Maternal Mortality Review IS

- Ongoing anonymous and confidential process of data collection, analysis, interpretation and action
- Systematic process guided by policies, statutes, rules, etc.
- Intended to move from data collection to prevention activities

# Maternal Mortality Review Committees\*

MMRCs gather data from multiple sources to determine

- pregnancy-relatedness,
- underlying cause,
- preventability,
- contributing factors and
- recommendations for action.

\*To connect with an MMRC near you visit

<https://www.reviewtoaction.org/tools/networking-map>





# Identifying pregnancy-associated deaths

Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs) rely on death certificates, birth certificates and fetal death certificates to identify pregnancy-associated deaths

U.S. STANDARD CERTIFICATE OF DEATH					
CAL FILE NO. 1026		STATE FILE NO. 461			
1. DECEDENT'S LEGAL NAME (Include AKA's if any) (First, Middle, Last)			2. SEX	3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	
4a. AGE-Last Birthday (Years)	4b. UNDER 1 YEAR Months Days	4c. UNDER 1 DAY Hours Minutes	5. DATE OF BIRTH (Mo/Day/Yr)	6. BIRTHPLACE (City and State or Foreign Country)	
7a. RESIDENCE-STATE		7b. COUNTY		7c. CITY OR TOWN	
7d. STREET AND NUMBER			7e. APT. NO.	7f. ZIP CODE	
7g. INSIDE CITY LIMITS? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		8. EVER IN US ARMED FORCES? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		9. MARITAL STATUS AT TIME OF DEATH <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married, but separated <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Never Married <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
10. SURVIVING SPOUSE'S NAME (If wife, give name prior to first marriage)			Andre Baptiste		
11. FATHER'S NAME (First, Middle, Last)			12. MOTHER'S NAME PRIOR TO FIRST MARRIAGE (First, Middle, Last)		
June Filias			Marie Filias		
13a. INFORMANT'S NAME		13b. RELATIONSHIP TO DECEDENT		13c. MAILING ADDRESS (Street and Number, City, State, Zip Code)	
June Filias		Sister		same as above	
14. PLACE OF DEATH (Check only one; see instructions)					
IF DEATH OCCURRED IN A HOSPITAL: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inpatient <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Room/Outpatient <input type="checkbox"/> Dead on Arrival			IF DEATH OCCURRED SOMEWHERE OTHER THAN A HOSPITAL: <input type="checkbox"/> Hospice facility <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing home/Long term care facility <input type="checkbox"/> Decedent's home <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):		
15. FACILITY NAME (If not institution, give street & number)			16. CITY OR TOWN, STATE, AND ZIP CODE		17. COUNTY OF DEATH
Regional Center Hospital			Atlanta, GA 30327		Fulton
18. METHOD OF DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Burial <input type="checkbox"/> Cremation <input type="checkbox"/> Donation <input type="checkbox"/> Entombment <input type="checkbox"/> Removal from State <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify):			19. PLACE OF DISPOSITION (Name of cemetery, crematory, other place)		
			Cemetery		
20. LOCATION-CITY, TOWN, AND STATE			21. NAME AND COMPLETE ADDRESS OF FUNERAL FACILITY		
			Brothers Funeral Home 1342 Worcester Dr. NE Atlanta, GA 33038		
22. SIGNATURE OF FUNERAL SERVICE LICENSEE OR OTHER AGENT			23. LICENSE NUMBER (Of Licensee)		
ITEMS 24-28 MUST BE COMPLETED BY PERSON WHO PRONOUNCES OR CERTIFIES DEATH			24. DATE PRONOUNCED DEAD (Mo/Day/Yr)		25. TIME PRONOUNCED DEAD
			4/26/09		0030
26. SIGNATURE OF PERSON PRONOUNCING DEATH (Only when applicable)			27. LICENSE NUMBER		28. DATE SIGNED (Mo/Day/Yr)
Jose Gomez			5568		4/26/09
29. ACTUAL OR PRESUMED DATE OF DEATH (Mo/Day/Yr) (Spell Month)		30. ACTUAL OR PRESUMED TIME OF DEATH		31. WAS MEDICAL EXAMINER OR CORONER CONTACTED? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
4/26/09		0030			
32. PART I. Enter the <u>chain of events</u> —disease, injuries, or complications—that directly caused the death. DO NOT enter terminal events such as cardiac arrest, respiratory arrest, or ventricular fibrillation without showing the etiology. DO NOT ABBREVIATE. Enter only one cause on a line. Add additional lines if necessary.					
IMMEDIATE CAUSE (Final disease or condition resulting in death) → a. <b>Cardiogenic Shock</b>					
Due to (or as a consequence of):					
Sequentially list conditions, if any, leading to the cause listed on line a. Enter the UNDERLYING CAUSE (disease or injury that initiated the events resulting in death) LAST					
b. <b>Peripartum Cardiomyopathy due to NSTEMI</b>					
Due to (or as a consequence of):					
c. _____					
Due to (or as a consequence of):					
d. _____					
Approximate Interval: Onset to death					

# Abstracting and reviewing pregnancy-associated deaths

- Significant medical and social history
- Prenatal care
- ED visits / hospitalizations
- Screening / treatment / referral
- Access to care (available/accessibile)



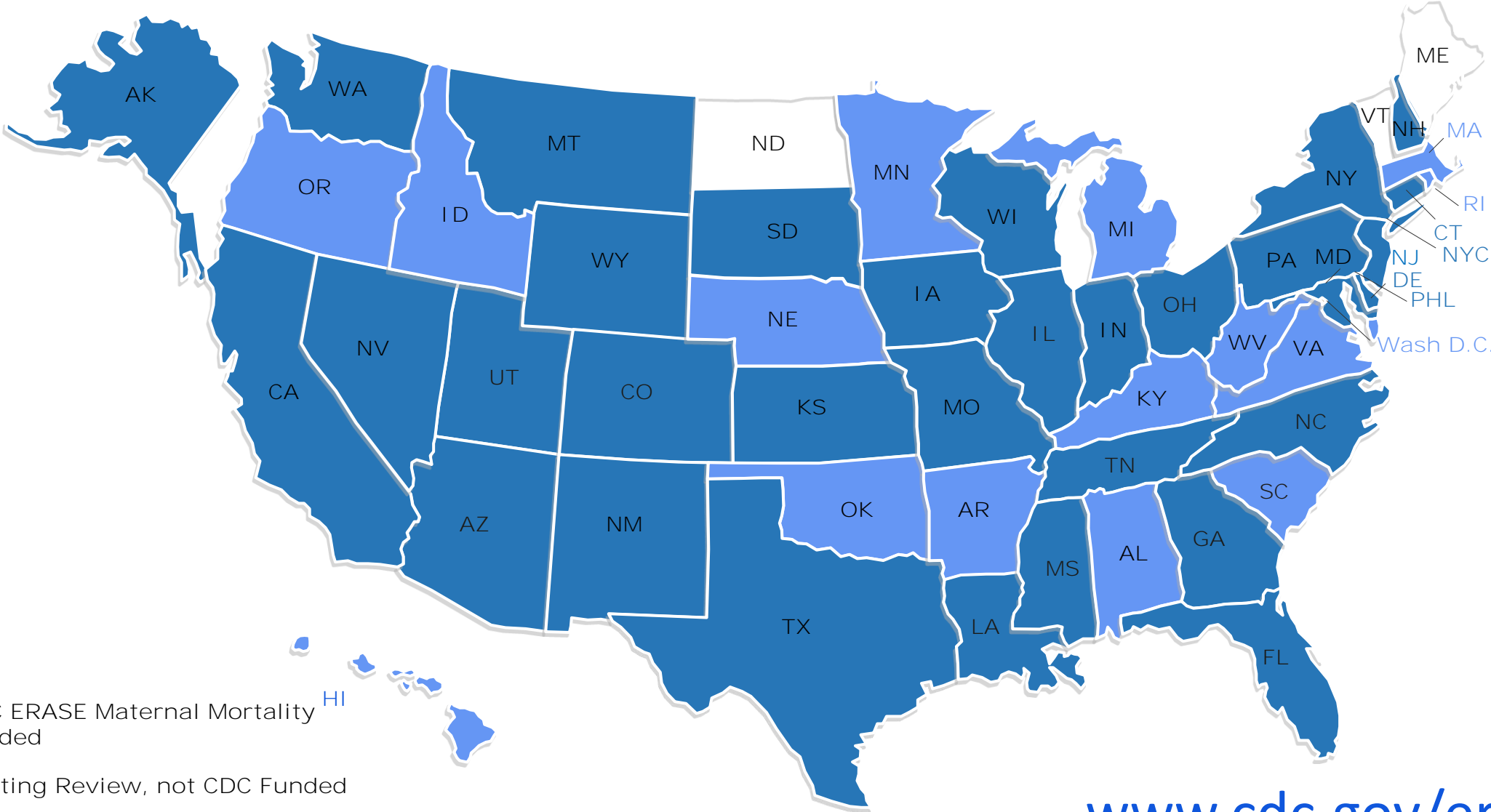



# MMRIA


MMRIA is a CDC data system that provides a common data language for MMRCs, facilitating their functions and promoting a national approach.

MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW  
INFORMATION APP

# Existing Maternal Mortality Review Committees (MMRCs)



 CDC ERASE Maternal Mortality Funded

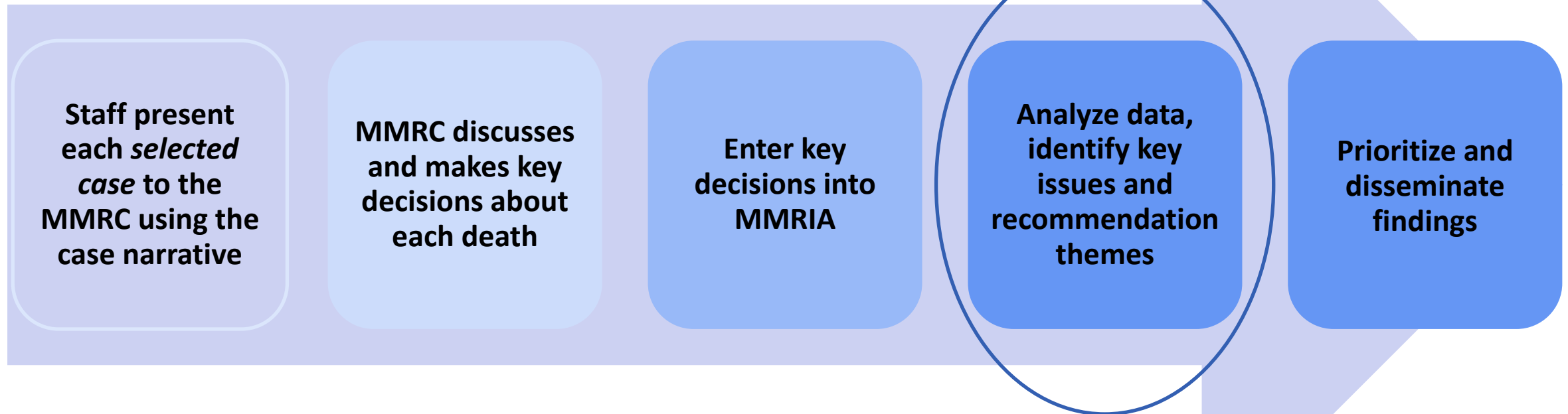
 Existing Review, not CDC Funded

# Review to Action



*Adapted from WA State DOH*

# Review to Action

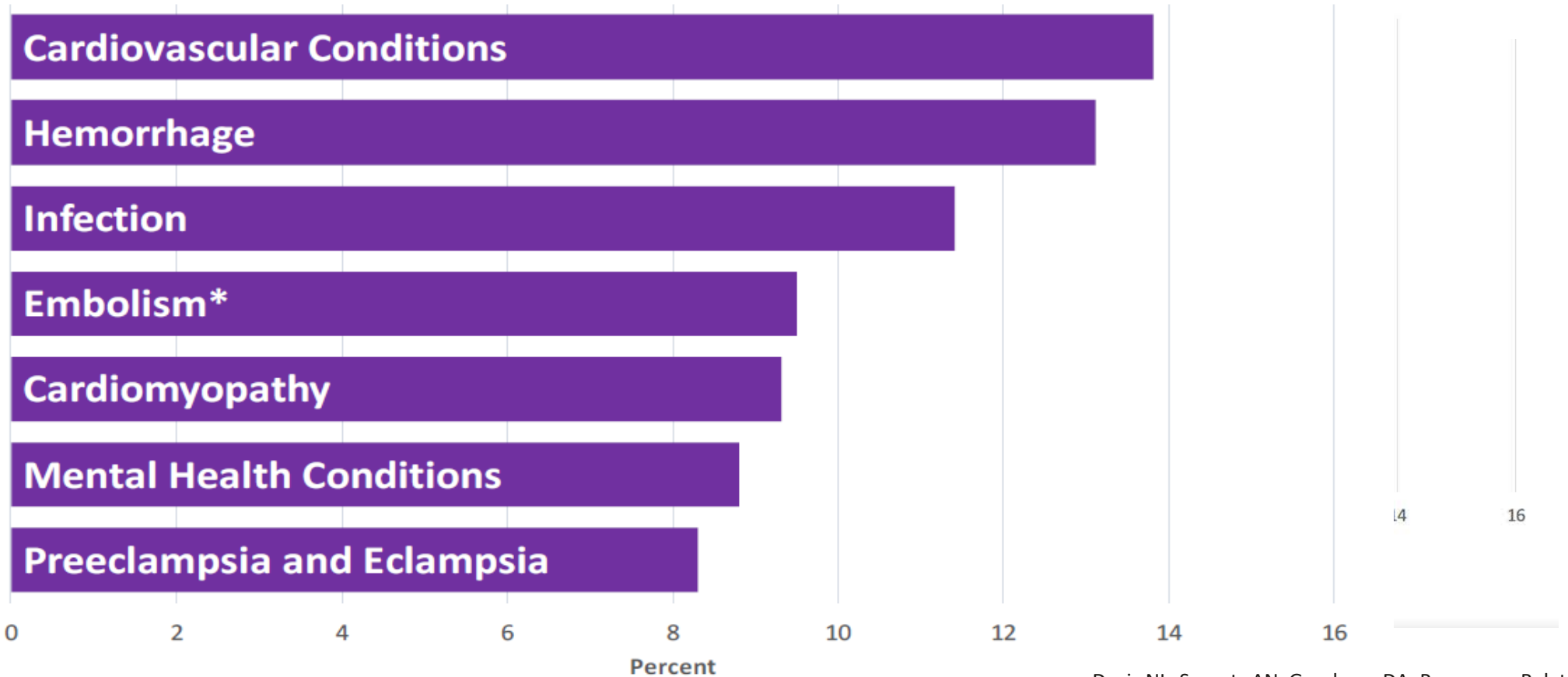


*Adapted from WA State DOH*

**What have we learned from MMRCs?**

A decorative horizontal bar at the bottom of the slide, composed of several colored rectangular segments: blue, purple, green, red, grey, and blue.

# Leading causes of pregnancy-related deaths



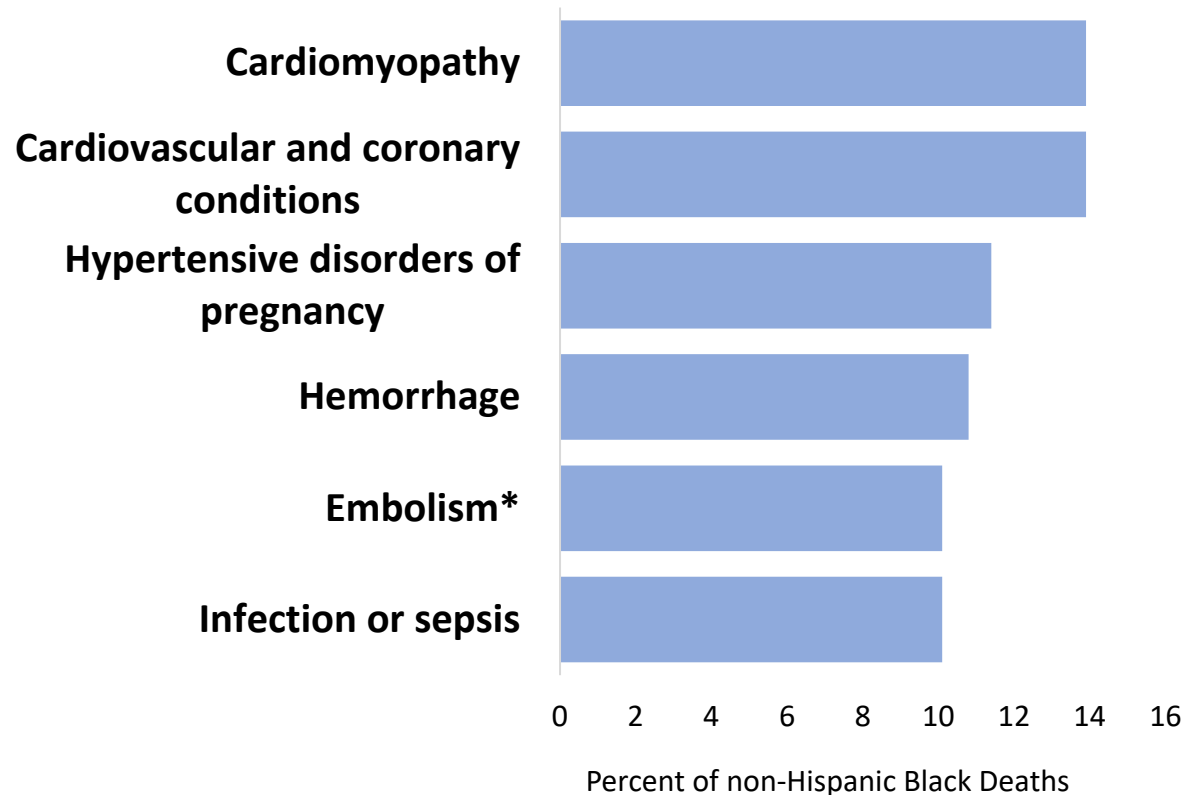
\*Embolism includes thrombotic pulmonary or other embolism (i.e., air, septic, or fat). It does not include amniotic fluid embolism.

Davis NL, Smoots AN, Goodman DA. Pregnancy-Related Deaths: Data from 14 U.S. Maternal Mortality Review Committees, 2008-2017. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2019

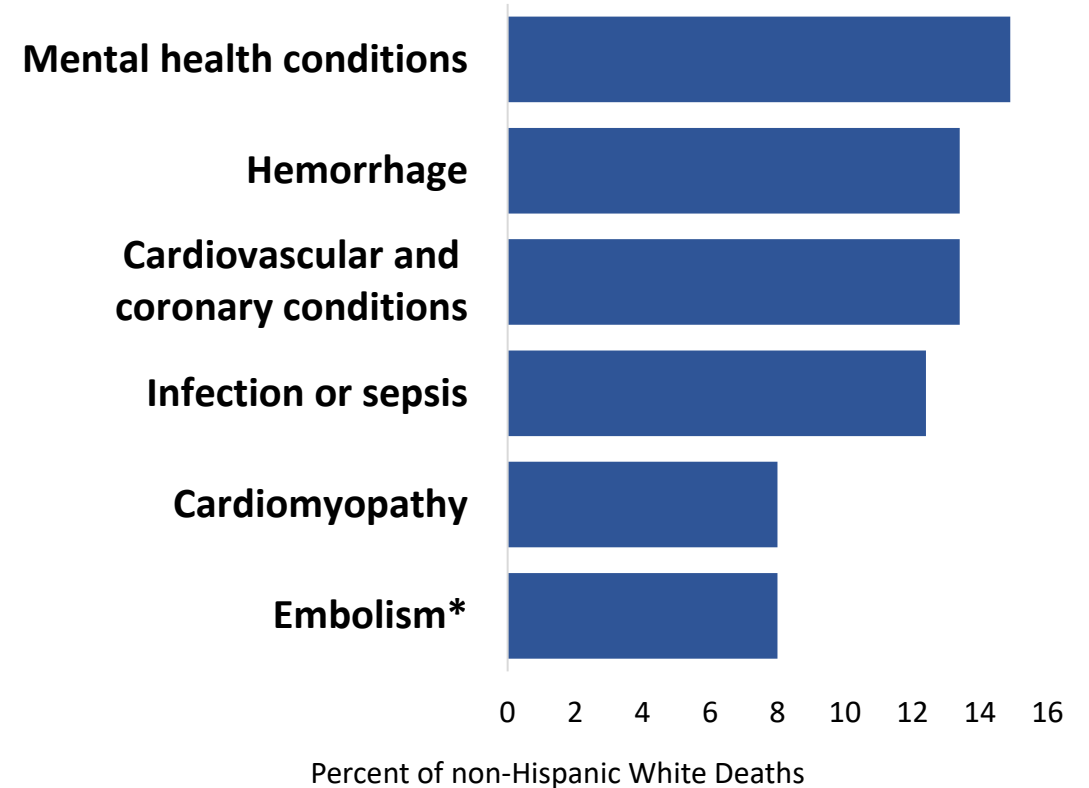


# Leading causes vary by race-ethnicity: 14 MMRCs

## Non-Hispanic Black



## Non-Hispanic White



Data Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/erase-mm/mmr-data-brief.html>

Notes: \* Embolism – thrombotic pulmonary and other embolisms

**Community and Facility**

<b>Contributing Factor</b>	<b>Recommendations to Address Contributing Factor</b>
Access to clinical care	Expand office hours; Increase number of providers who accept Medicaid; Increase availability of group prenatal care
Unstable housing	Prioritize pregnant women for temporary housing programs
Lack of/inadequate transportation options	Strengthen/build systems that link persons to affordable transportation; Provide vouchers for non-emergency transportation
Obesity and associated chronic condition complications	Improve access to healthy food options; Improve education and promotion of health eating habits and weight management strategies
Limited experience with OB emergencies	Implement OB emergency simulation training for Emergency Dept. staff; Ensure Emergency Dept staff ask about recent pregnancy history and consult with OB on call if pregnant within prior year
Lack of appropriate personnel or services	Increase access to telemedicine by facilities with no OB onsite; Ensure Medicaid managed care organizations' contracts include sufficient access to high risk care specialists
Lack of guiding protocols	Ensure sepsis, hemorrhage, and mass transfusion protocols are in place and monitor for staff use; Develop/implement relevant patient safety bundles; Implement systems that foster care coordination across providers; Increase use of patient navigators






**Patient and Provider**

<b>Contributing Factor</b>	<b>Recommendations to Address Contributing Factor</b>
Lack knowledge of warning signs or need to seek care	Improve counseling and increase use of patient education materials on warning signs and when to seek care, such as the <i>AWHONN Save Your Life</i> discharge instructions
Non-adherence to medical regimens or advice	Standardize patient education to ensure providers communicate consistent messages; Implement techniques that ensure patient understanding, such as patient “teaching back” to the provider; Make education materials available in clinic and online; Strengthen/expand access to patient navigators, case managers, and peer support; Ensure access/use of interpreter services when needed; Increase home health or social work follow-up services
Missed/delayed diagnosis	Repeat blood pressure measurement in a timely manner (and perhaps manually) when initial blood pressure result is unexpected; Offer/expand non-OB provider education on cardiac conditions in pregnant and postpartum women; Increase the thorough evaluation of patients with pain and shortness of breath
Inappropriate/delayed treatment	Establish policies and protocols that support only performing cesarean deliveries when medically indicated; Implement a maternal early warning system
Lack of continuity of care	Improve care transition protocols and communication between OB providers and primary care providers and specialty care providers

**System(s)**

<b>Contributing Factor</b>	<b>Recommendations to Address Contributing Factor</b>
Inadequate receipt of care	Develop/expand implementation of policies that ensure women deliver at/are transported to a hospital with a level of maternal care that matches her health risk; Enlist state perinatal quality collaboratives to identify quality improvement procedures and periodic drills/simulation training for birth facilities, including OB emergencies; Design/expand implementation of education initiatives
Case coordination/management	Extend/expand Medicaid eligibility for pregnant women to include 1 year of postpartum care; Create a quality improvement entity to manage outpatient care gaps and implement and monitor care coordination improvements; Develop/implement a postpartum care bundle that integrates services for high risk women; Develop and implement protocols and policies that improve hospital documentation of abnormal test results, follow-up care plans, and condition management plans; Develop a universal electronic health record system that allows sharing medical records within and between hospitals
Guiding policies, procedures, or standards not in place	Develop and implement protocols and policies that increase timely referrals and consultation; Increase (and monitor for) consistency of protocols and policies within healthcare systems

# Example of using qualitative analysis for a deeper understanding of MMRIA data on substance use

- MMRIA qualitative analysis showed fragmentation of screening for substance use disorder was commonly noted in case narratives and contributing factors.
- Individuals experienced:
  -  Housing instability including homelessness
  -  Violence\* sometimes across their lifespan
  -  Incarceration history
  -  Financial instability/unemployment
  -  Loss of child/children/pregnancy\*\*

Only 50% of pregnancy-associated drug overdose deaths had substance use documented in the prenatal records



\*Violence includes intimate partner violence, domestic violence, personal and familial violence including physical and sexual abuse, and childhood trauma.  
\*\*Loss of child/children/pregnancy: defined as the death or loss child including stillbirth and induced termination or spontaneous loss of pregnancy, removal of a child by Child Protective Services, or loss of child to custody issues.

# Identifying, Documenting, and Addressing Bias



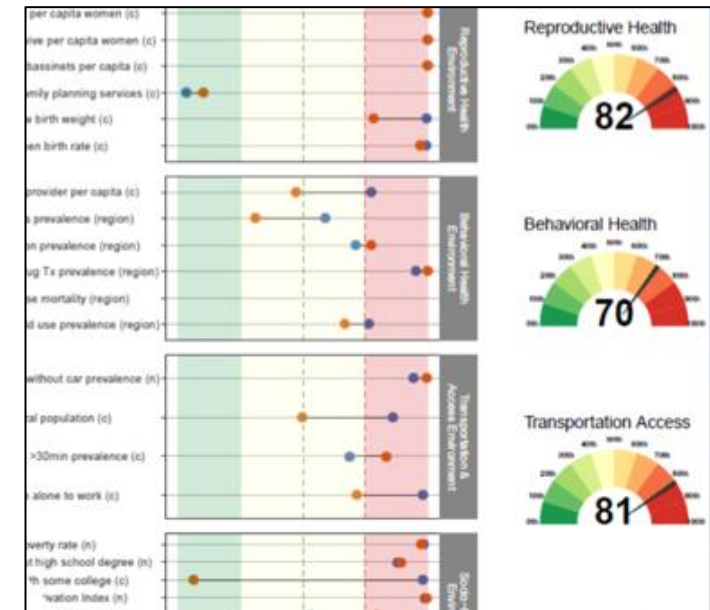
**Discrimination:** treating someone more or less favorably based on the group, class or category they belong to resulting from **biases, prejudices, and stereotyping**. It can manifest as differences in **care, clinical communication** and shared **decision-making**.

**Interpersonal Racism:** discriminatory interactions between individuals resulting in differential assumptions about the **abilities, motives, and intentions** of others and differential actions toward others based on their race. It can be **conscious** as well as **unconscious**, and it includes acts of **commission** and acts of **omission**. It manifests as lack of **respect, suspicion, devaluation, scapegoating, and dehumanization**.

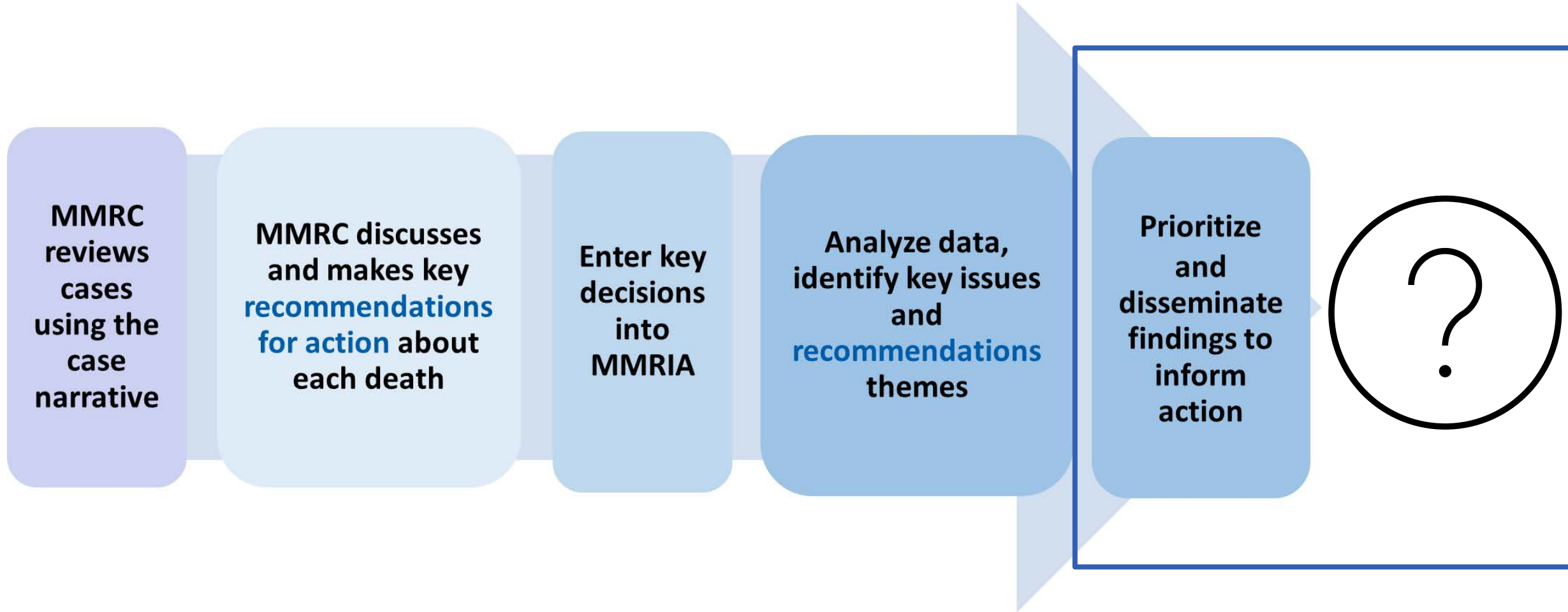
**Structural Racism:** the systems of power based on **historical injustices** and **contemporary social factors** that systematically **disadvantage people of color** and **advantage white people** through **inequities** in housing, education, employment, earnings, benefits, credit, media, health care, criminal justice, etc.

# Community Vital Signs dashboards for additional context

- Community Vital Signs dashboard data supports maternal mortality reviews by comparing community health indicators where the pregnant or postpartum person lived to those of all pregnant or postpartum persons in the same state or in the US.
- Community Vital Signs dashboards for MMRIA users expected by Fall 2022 through partnership with HHS Office of Minority Health and Emory University.

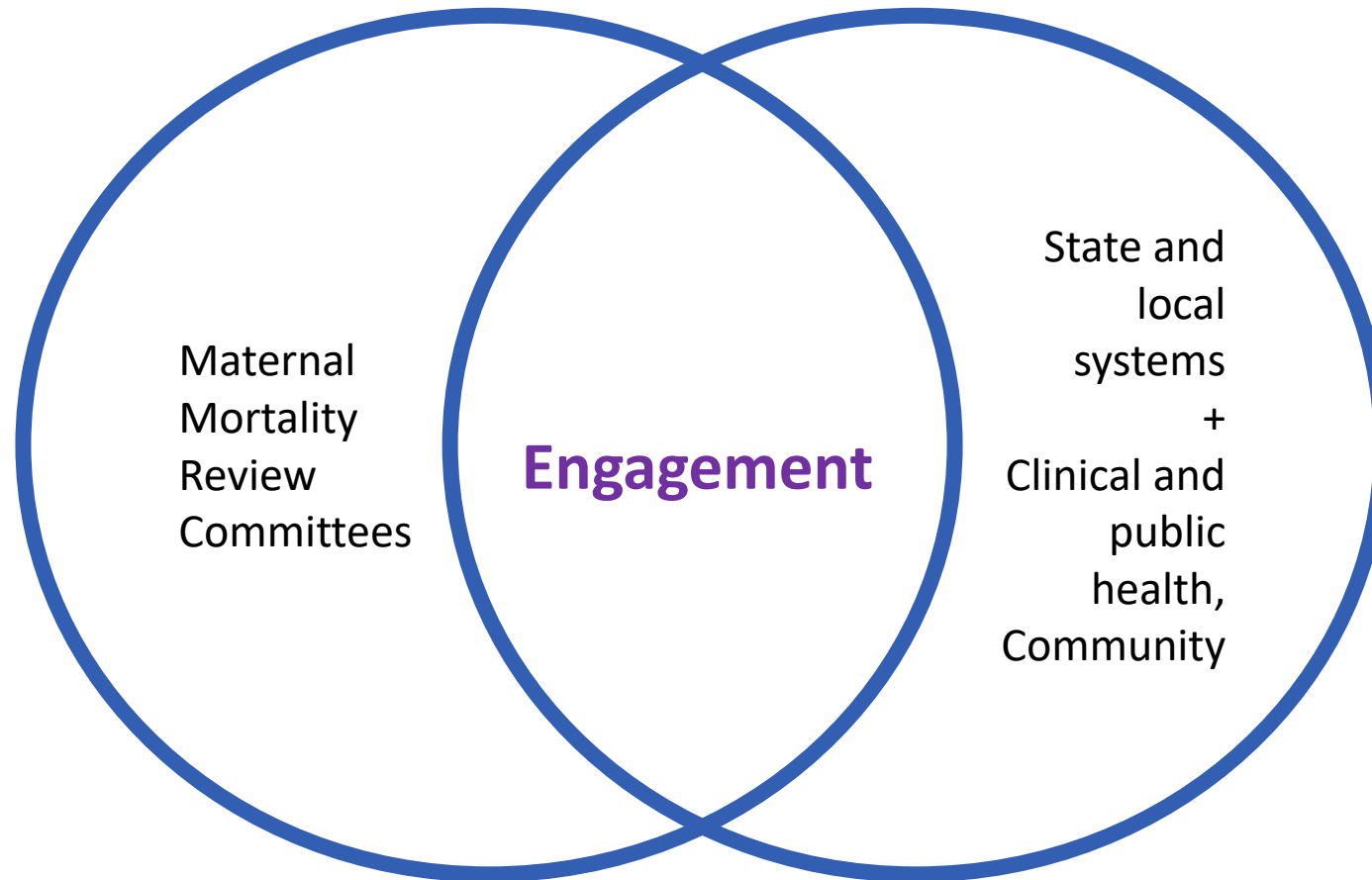


# Review to Action

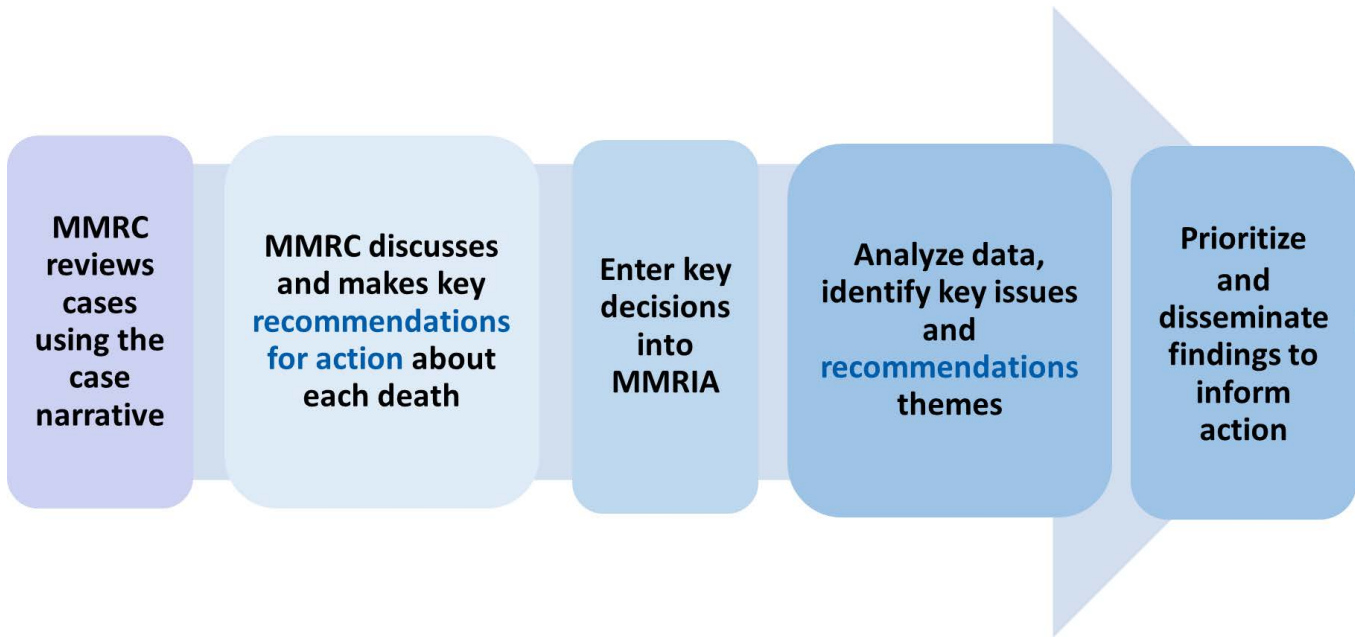




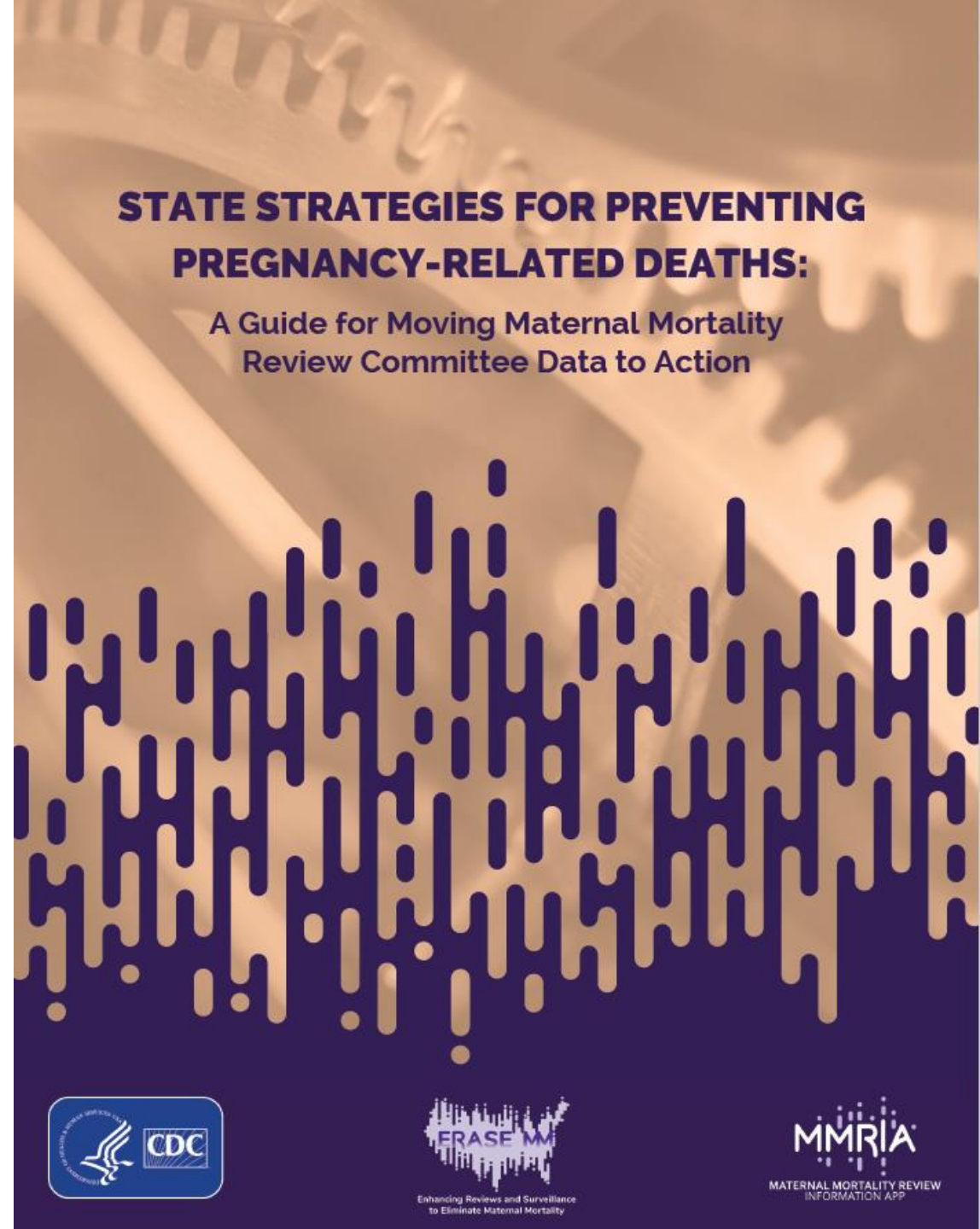
# Moving Data to Action to Prevent Maternal Mortality

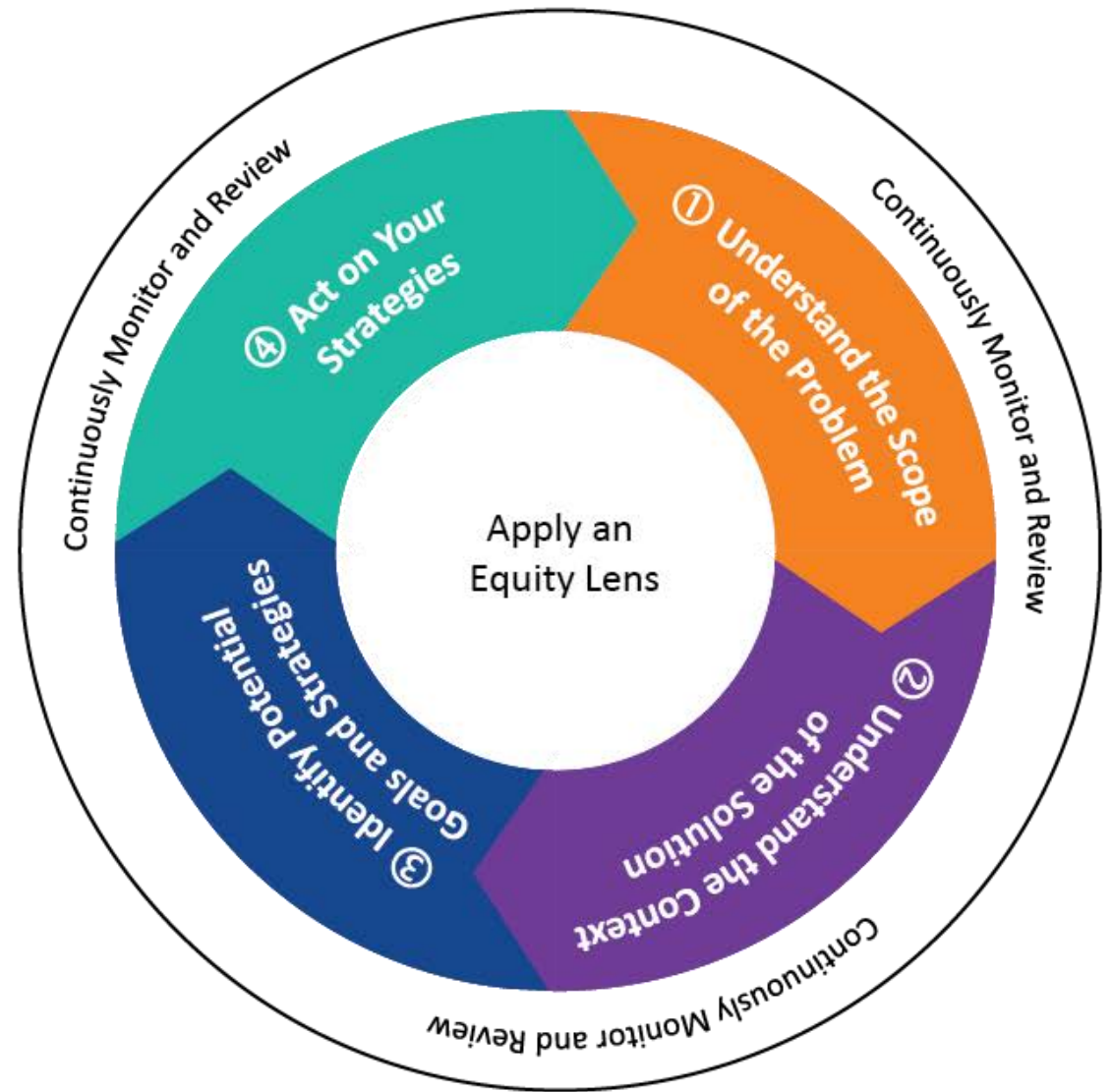
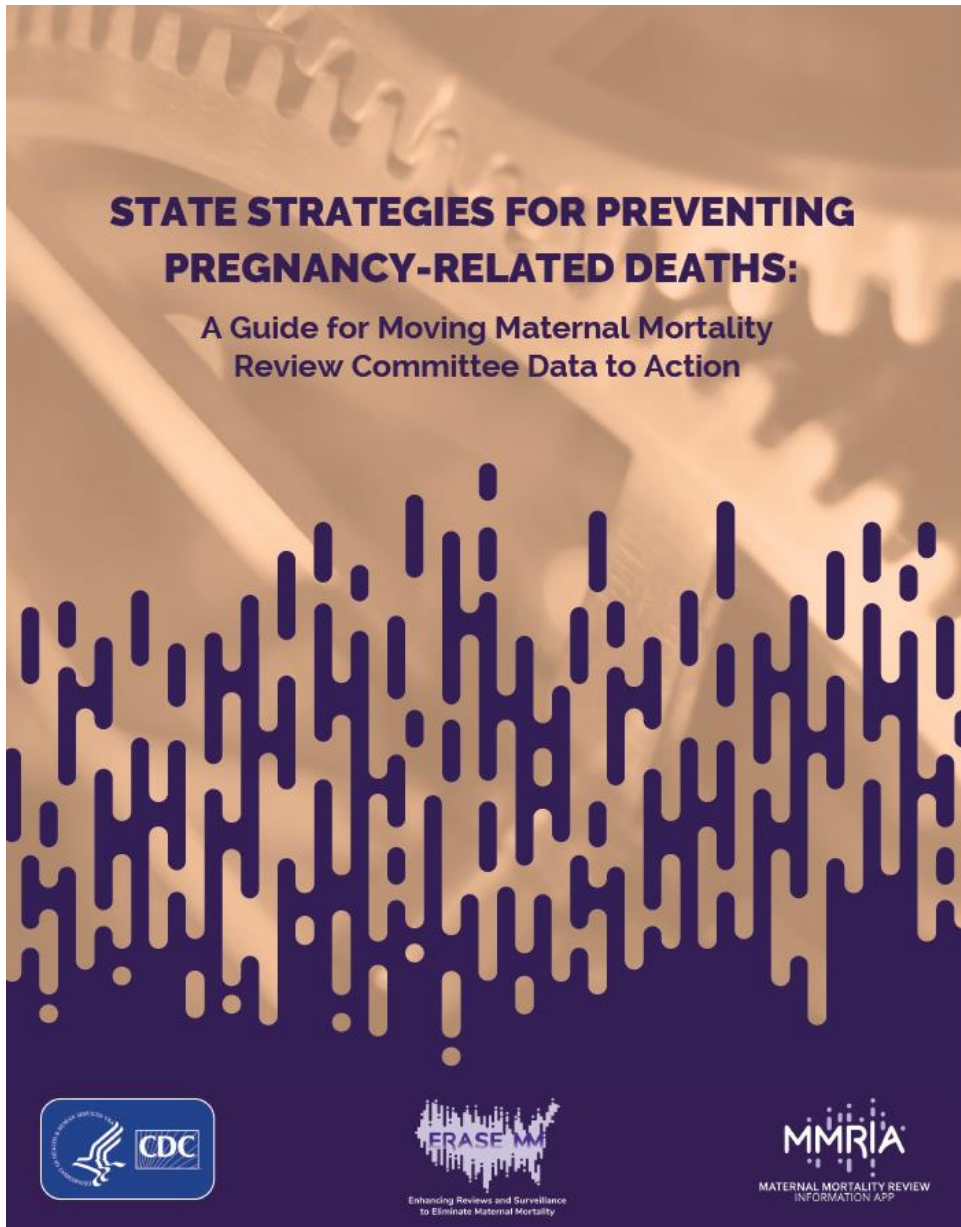


**In partnership** with clinical and public health and community leadership and organizations, the recommendations from MMRCs can inform strategies to prevent maternal mortality within a state and local context.



<https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/preventing-pregnancy-related-deaths/state-strategies.html>





# The 4 Iterative Steps.

## **Step 1.** Use Data to Understand the Scope of the Problem

- Identify and review complementary information, such as from PRAMS

## **Step 2.** Understand the Context of the Solution

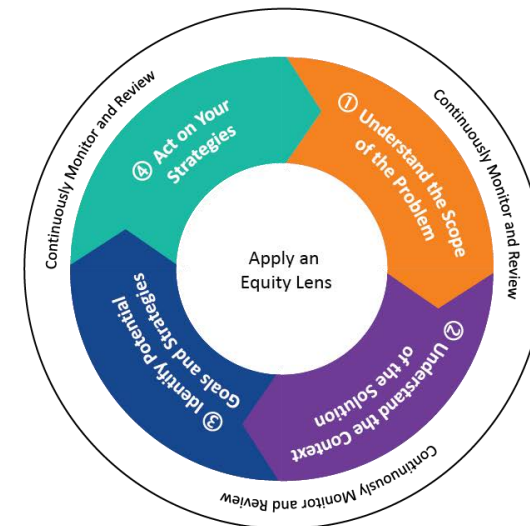
- Based on who, what, when of MMRC recommendations assess current activities, partnerships, and resources

## **Step 3.** Identify Potential Goals and Strategies

- Provides 5 example goals and strategies based on CDC experiences with MMRCs and MMRC data

## **Step 4.** Act on Your Strategies

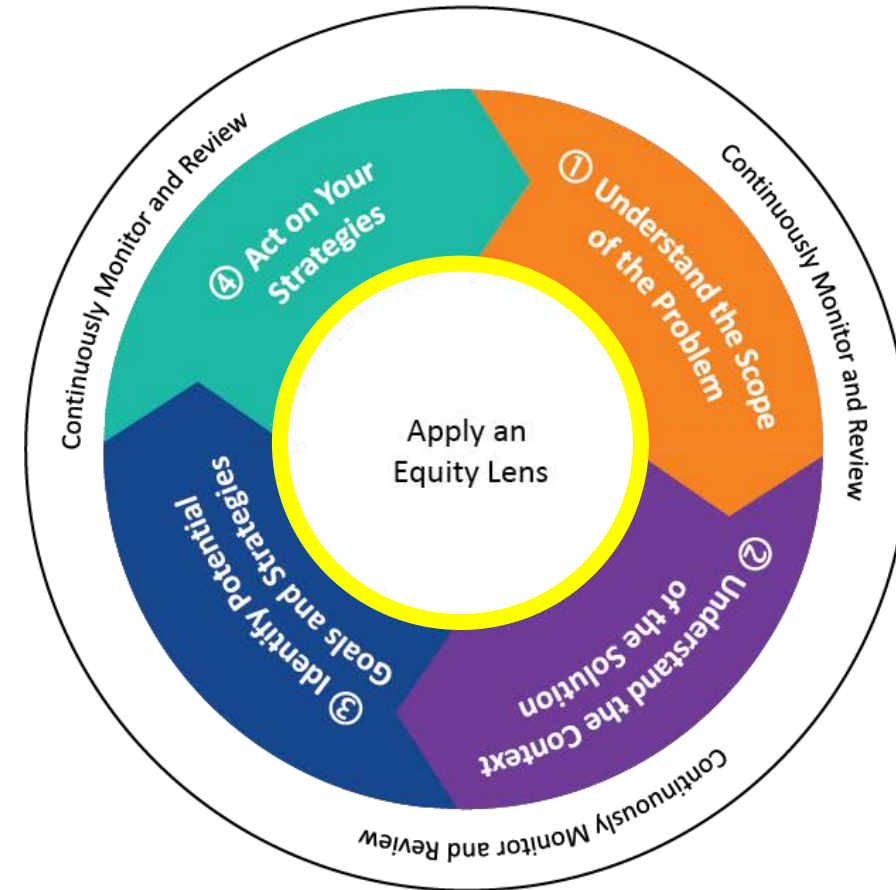
- Covers assessing strategies for fit, implementation planning, and evaluation



# All Steps— Apply an Equity Lens

Applying an equity lens means taking **deliberate** steps to

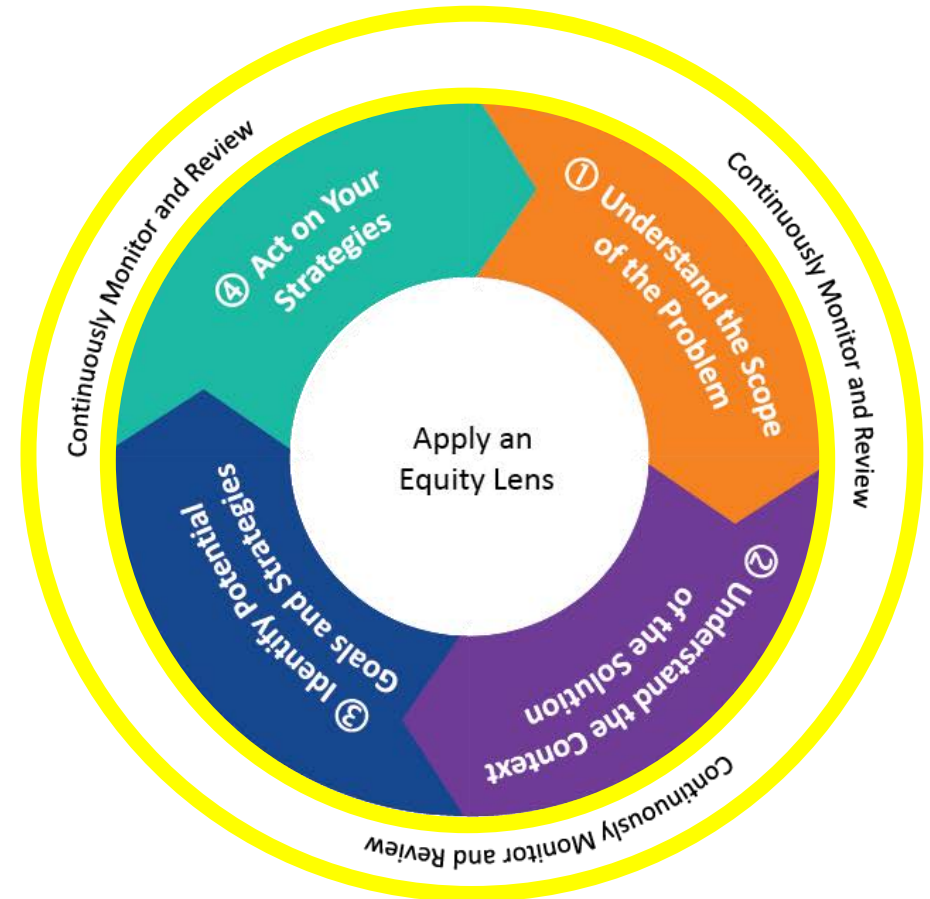
- Be sure every mother’s life is valued equally
  - Ensuring respectful care, client centered care, and a diverse workforce
- Understand the impacts of historical trauma and the role of inequitable institutional structures
  - Expanding insurance coverage, paid family leave policies, and earned income tax credits
- Consider patient and community perspectives
  - Engaging communities in prevention, and recognizing and building upon community assets



# All Steps— Continuously Monitor and Review

Throughout the process, it is important to **systematically** examine progress:

- Data from population-based data sources can be used for process and outcome evaluation
- Community and organizational factors and resources may be inputs for the implementation plans
- Assessing whether the strategies selected for action are having the intended effect (evaluation) contributes to the evidence-base
- Stratifying indicators for process evaluations by race/ethnicity can identify which factors need directed attention to close the disparity gaps



# Data informing action

Maternal health care standards, tools and resources

Prioritization of right place-right time interventions informed by MMRIA analyses

Understanding of leading causes of pregnancy-related deaths as determined by MMRCs

Community engagement

**Data to make a difference—MMRCs are a cornerstone of action, connecting data-informed strategies to improve outcomes and save the lives of moms**



**MMRIA**  
MATERNAL  
MORTALITY REVIEW  
INFORMATION APP

**REVIEW to ACTION**  
WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT  
MATERNAL MORTALITY



# Acknowledgements

Arizona

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Georgia

South Carolina

Hawaii

Tennessee

Illinois

Utah

Any published findings and conclusions are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the above Departments of Health or agencies responsible for maternal mortality review. This project was supported in part by an appointment to the Research Participation Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention administered by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education through an interagency agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

# Thank you!

For more information, visit [www.cdc.gov/erasemm](http://www.cdc.gov/erasemm) or contact: [erasemm@cdc.gov](mailto:erasemm@cdc.gov)



The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



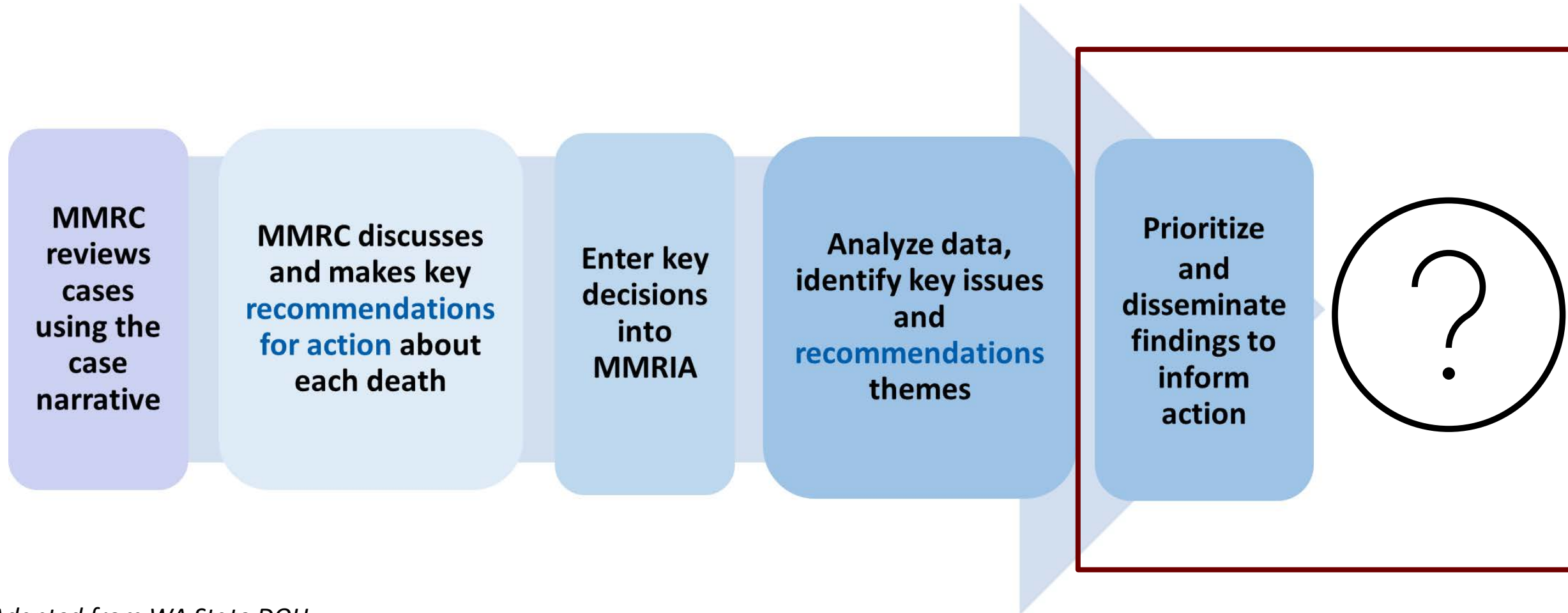
# Surveillance and Prevention with Maternal Mortality Review Committees

Lisa M. Hollier, MD, MPH, FACOG

Past Chair, Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee

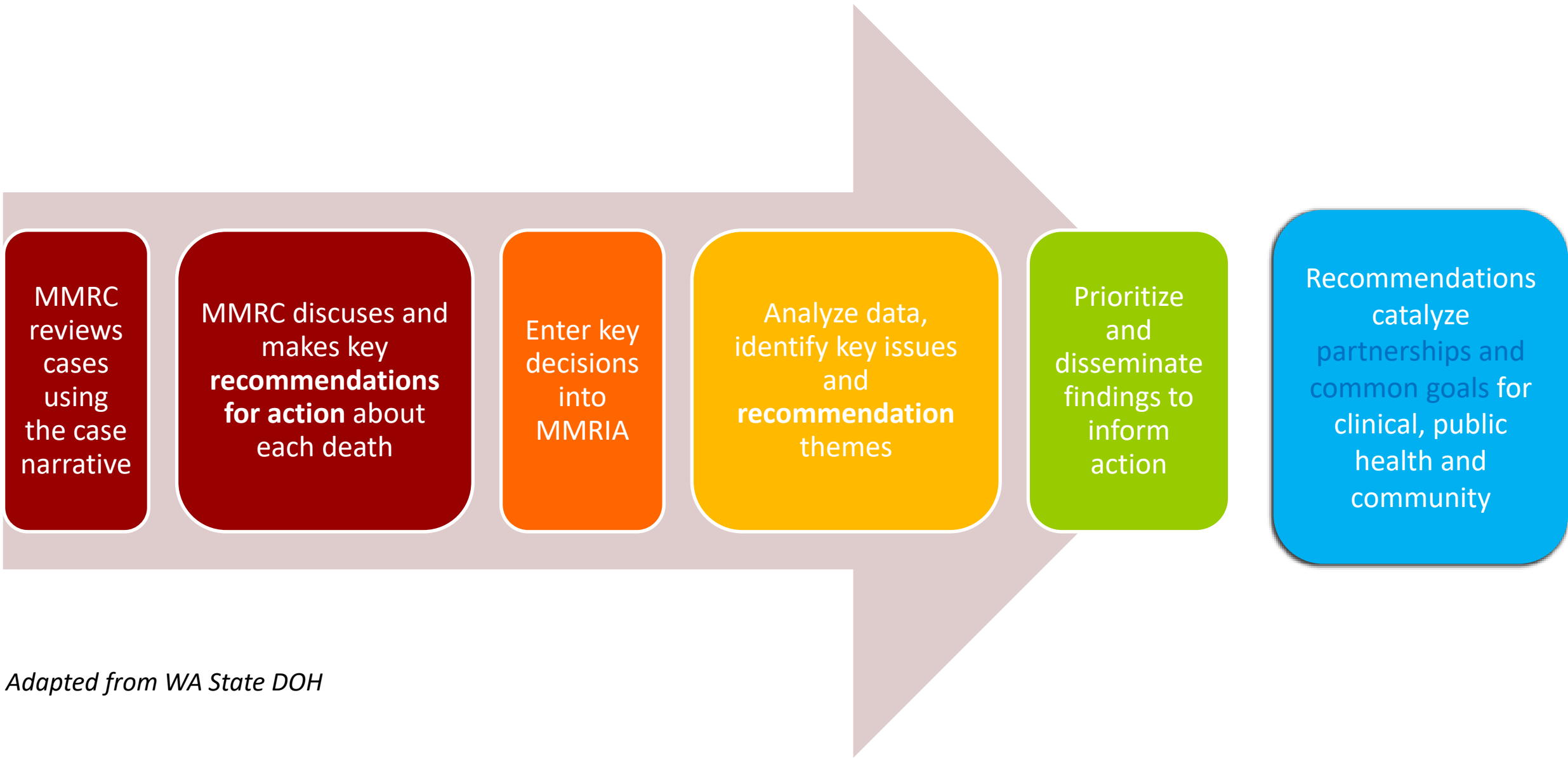


# Review to Action



*Adapted from WA State DOH*

# Review to Action



*Adapted from WA State DOH*

# The 4 Iterative Steps

**Step 1.** Use Data to Understand the Scope of the Problem

- Identify and review complementary information

**Step 2.** Understand the Context of the Solution

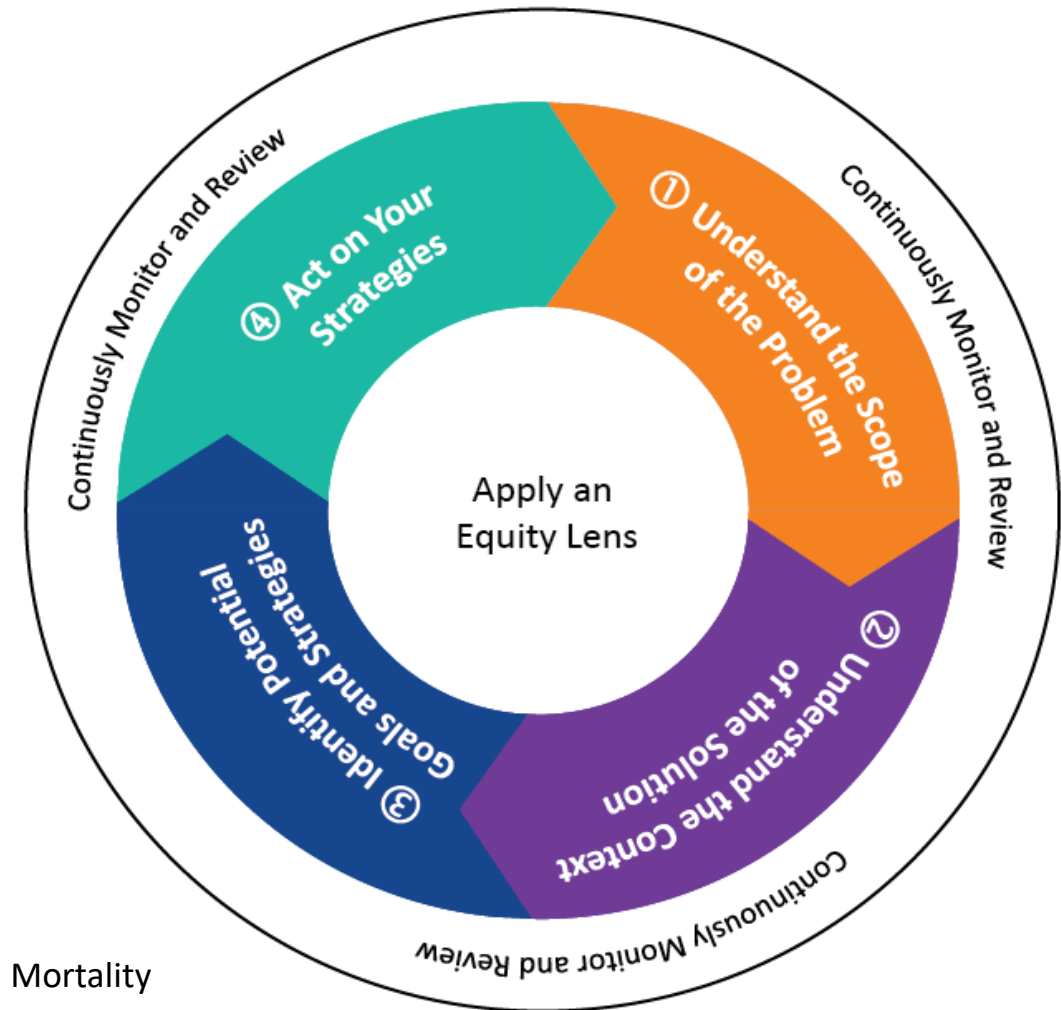
- Assess current activities, partnerships, and resources

**Step 3.** Identify Potential Goals and Strategies

- Look for common goals

**Step 4.** Act on Your Strategies

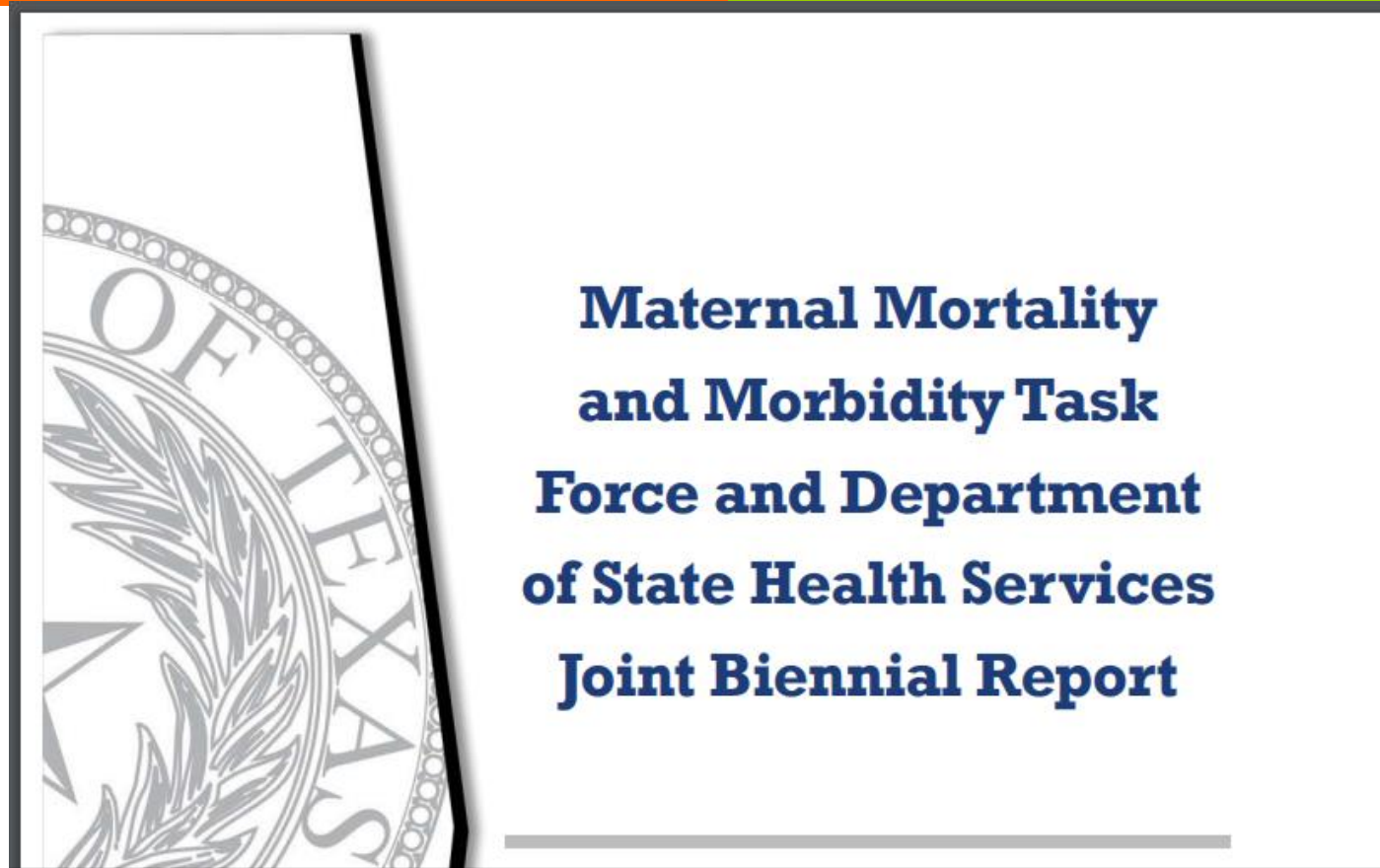
- Work together – whether it is legislatively or directly implementing initiatives



# Texas MMMRC History

- Established by legislation under the Texas Department of State Health Services as a “Task Force” in 2013 and updated to “Review Committee” in 2019
- Duties by Statute amended in 2017
  - Study and Review
    - Trends, rates, or disparities in pregnancy-related deaths
    - Health conditions and factors that disproportionately affect the most at risk populations
    - Best practices and programs operating in other states that have reduced rates of pregnancy-related deaths
  - Compare rates of pregnancy-related deaths based on SES of the mother
  - Determine the feasibility of the review committee reviewing cases of SMM
  - Consult with PAC when making recommendations to reduce MM and SMM

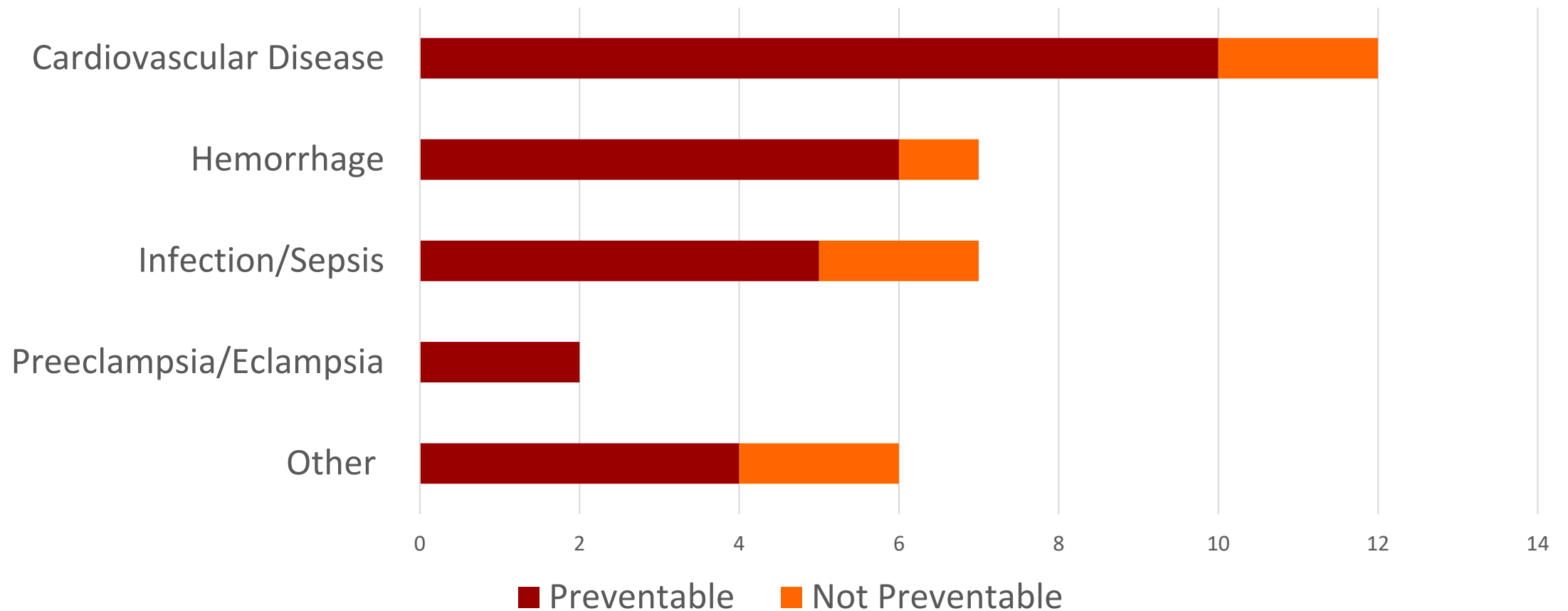
# MMMTF Biennial Report 2018



[HTTPS://WWW.DSHS.TEXAS.GOV/MCH/MATERNAL\\_MORTALITY\\_AND\\_MORBIDITY.SHTM](https://www.dshs.texas.gov/mch/maternal_mortality_and_morbidity.shtm)



# Pregnancy-Related Deaths, 2012



# Pregnancy-Associated Deaths, 2012-2015

Cause of Death	While Pregnant	0-7 Days Postpartum	8-42 Days Postpartum	43-365 Days Postpartum	Total
Drug Overdose	0	3	7	54	64
Cardiac Event	2	12	9	32	55
Homicide	2	1	5	34	42
Suicide	0	1	2	30	33
Infection/Sepsis	1	3	14	14	32
Cerebrovascular Event	0	8	9	10	27
Hemorrhage	3	12	2	3	20
Hypertension/Eclampsia	0	7	4	7	18
Pulmonary Embolism	2	3	4	4	13
Amniotic Fluid Embolism	1	9	0	0	10
Other	5	5	8	50	68
Total	16	64	64	215	382

# Role of Overdoses in Pregnancy-Associated Deaths, 2012-2015

- Drug overdose leading cause of maternal death, mostly occurring after 60 days postpartum
  - Combination of drugs involved in 66%
  - Opioids detected in 58%
  
- Demographic groups at higher risk:
  - White women
  - Ages 40+
  - Medicaid at delivery
  - Urban counties

# Contributing Factors

## Patient/Family Level

- Chronic Disease
- Delay

# Contributing Factor: Chronic Disease

- **Example Committee Description of Chronic Disease contribution to death**
  - *Complex medical issues during pregnancy with no single point of contact. Need for case management.*
- **Recommendation to address**
  - **Prioritize care coordination and management for pregnant and postpartum women, specifically expanding care management services for pregnant and postpartum women to provide education, service coordination, and advocacy for women's needs.**

# Chronic Disease AND Delay

## Care Coordination

- Texas Legislature appropriated funds for DSHS to develop and establish a high-risk maternal care coordination services pilot for women of childbearing age

## Patient/Family/Provider Education

- Funds appropriated for DSHS to develop public awareness campaigns



# Contributing Factors

## Provider Level

- Assessment
- Referral
- Clinical Skill
- Delay

## Facility Level

- Assessment
- Clinical Skill
- Continuity of Care

# Contributing Factors: Assessment & Delay

- **Example Committee Description of Assessment contribution to death**
  - *Patient had risk factors for hemorrhage but she was not identified as high risk, early warning signs of hemorrhage were missed and there was delay in appropriate treatment.*
- **Recommendations to address**
  - **Promote a culture of safety and high reliability through implementation of best practices in birthing facilities. Specifically, continue support and promotion of state maternal safety initiatives that foster a culture of safety and high reliability of care.**



# Rapid Assessment and Appropriate Treatment

## Texas Legislature

- Added “Maternal Health and Safety Initiative” into the Texas Health and Safety Code
- Added “Opioid Use Disorder Initiative” to Texas Health and Safety Code
- Subsequently appropriated funds for program staff and implementation of safety bundles

## Texas DSHS

- Created the TexasAIM program and >99% of Texas birthing hospitals voluntarily enrolled
- Included standardized MEWS processes (led by TCHMB) in hospitals that provide maternity services



# TexasAIM

## Obstetric Hemorrhage

- First bundle statewide implementation 2019

## Severe Hypertension

- Second bundle statewide implementation 2020

## Opioid Use Disorder

- Pilot project with 10 experienced facilities

- During COVID, the TexasAIM OB Learning Collaborative pivoted to providing support to hospitals who were treating COVID patients.

# Pregnancy-Associated Deaths with OUD

- AIM national released a new Substance Use Disorder Bundle to be relaunched in Texas fall of 2022
- Community organizations partnering with others in on-going work:
  - SBIRT Training for providers
  - Expanded access to MAT
  - Training on Trauma-Informed Care and strategies to reduce stigma/bias
  - Development of Plans of Safe Care
  - Care Coordination Program will include screening for SUD

# Contributing Factors

## Systems/Community Level

- Access
- Outreach

# Contributing Factor: Access

- **Example Committee Description of Access contribution to death**
  - *Patient had medical complications but was unable to access necessary care between pregnancies*
- **Recommendations to address**
  - Increase access to health services during the year after pregnancy and throughout the interconception period to improve the health of women, facilitate continuity of care, enable effective care transitions, and promote safe birth spacing. Specifically, the TF recommended extending access to healthcare coverage for 12 months following delivery.

# Access and Coverage

## Advocacy Efforts

- Medical organizations including Texas Medical Association (along with specialty organizations) worked together
- Hospitals and Hospital-systems
- Community-based organizations

## Texas Legislature

- Expanded the Healthy Texas Women program to include a “plus” version with additional services/supports in 2019
- Extended postpartum Medicaid coverage for an additional 4 months (total of 6 months of coverage) in 2021



Thank you for your time today

[lisahollier1@gmail.com](mailto:lisahollier1@gmail.com)





# Questions





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