

# 2024 ORH Hospital Quality Workshop

June 26-27, 2024  
St. Charles Medical Center | Bend, OR

## **Rural Maternal Health Update**

Kristen Dillon, MD, FAAFP, Chief Medical Officer, Federal Office of  
Rural Health Policy  
Health Resources and Services Administration



# Rural Maternal Health Update

## Oregon Critical Access Hospital Quality Conference

June 26, 2024

**Kristen Dillon, MD, FAAFP, Chief Medical Officer, Federal Office of Rural Health Policy  
Health Resources and Services Administration**

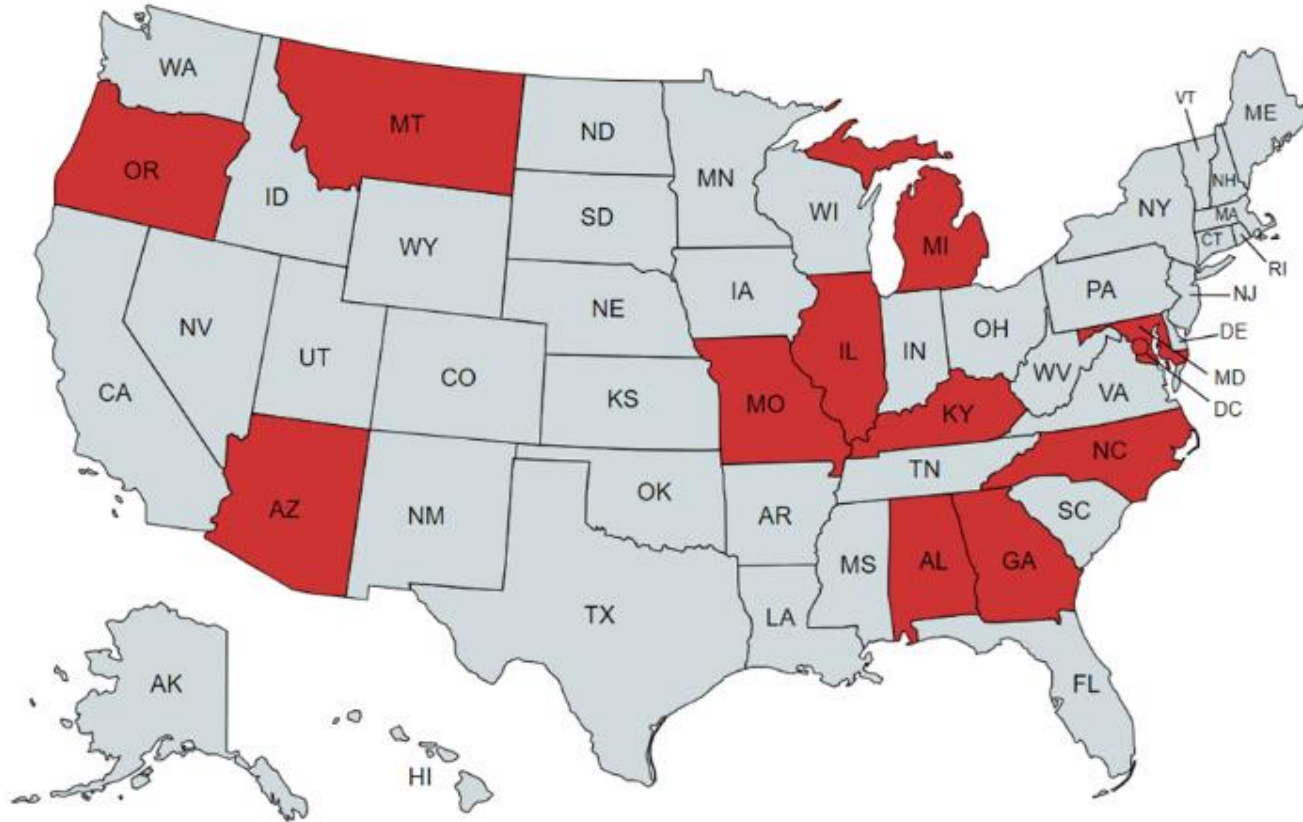
**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**



# HRSA Enhancing Maternal Health Initiative



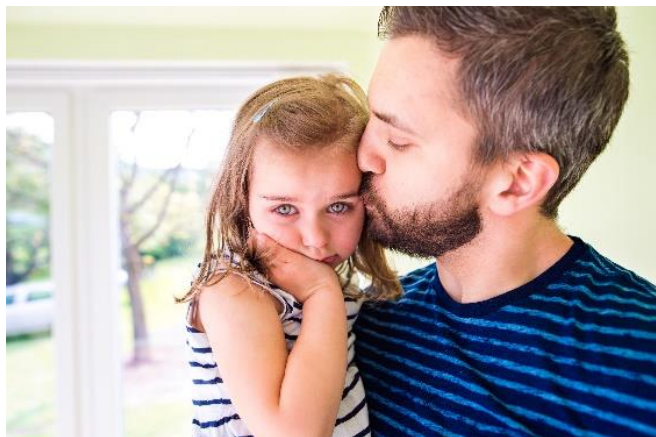
# HRSA Enhancing Maternal Health Initiative



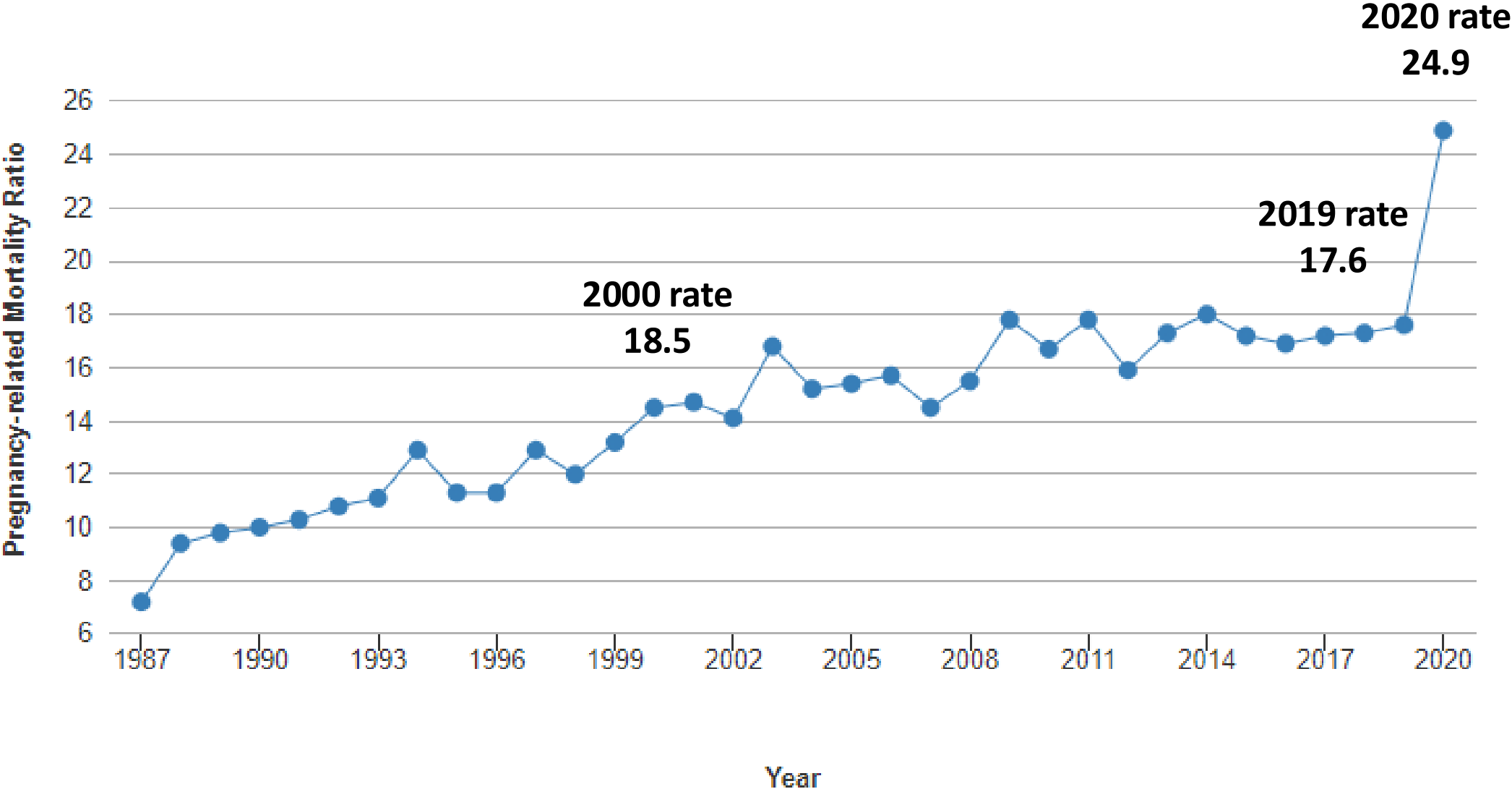
- ✓ Arizona
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- ✓ Maryland
- ✓ Michigan
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- ✓ North Carolina
- ✓ Oregon
- ✓ District of Columbia

# *Pregnancy-related Mortality in the United States*

Maternal Mortality Prevention Team  
CDC Division of Reproductive Health

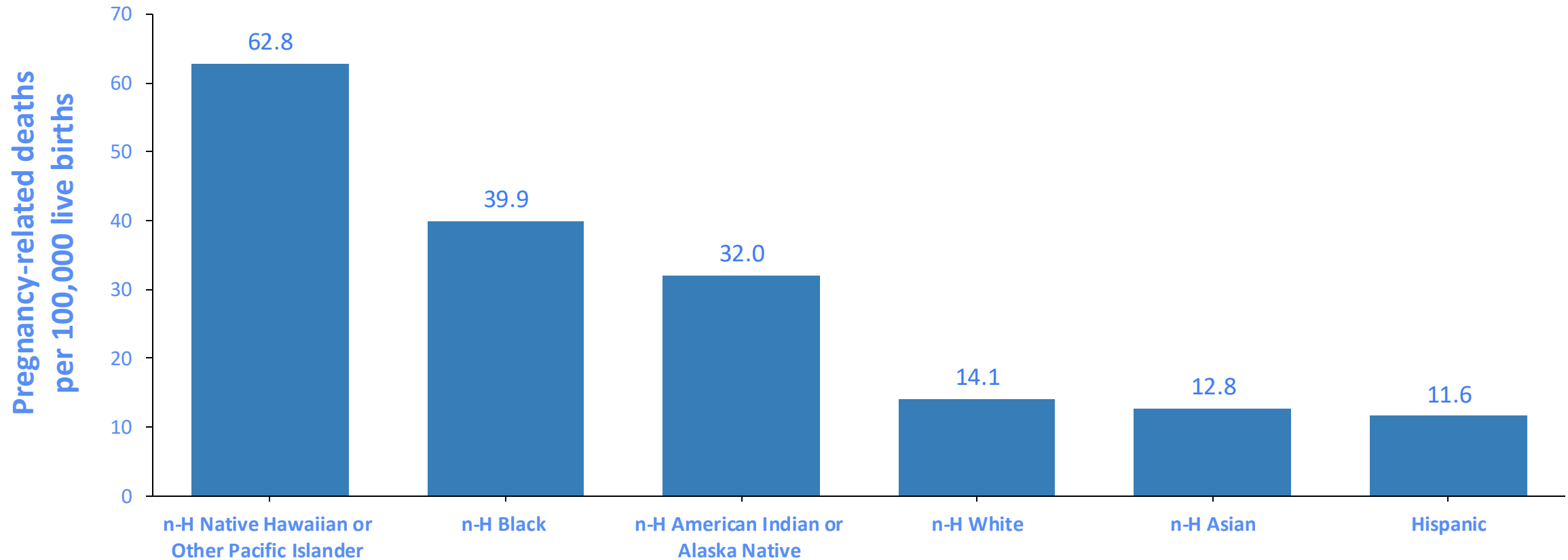


# Pregnancy-related Mortality Ratio by Year: 1987-2020, PMSS\*



\*CDC Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System. <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/pregnancy-mortality-surveillance-system.htm>

# Pregnancy-related Mortality Ratio by Race-ethnicity: 2017-2019, PMSS\*

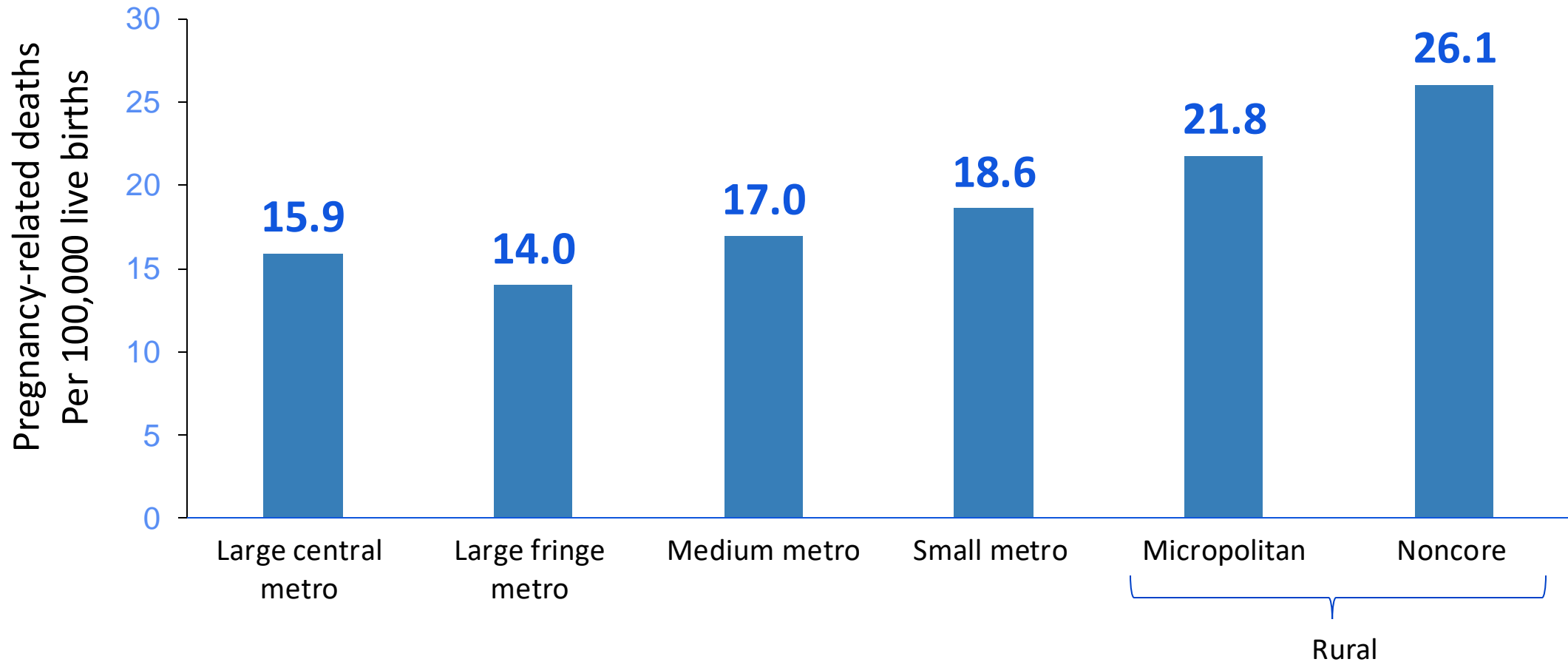


Multiracial PRMR for 2018-2019 = 7.1 pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births.

Race or ethnicity was missing for 1.4% of pregnancy-related deaths in 2017-2019; PRMRs for non-Hispanic Other Race were not calculated due to small numbers.

\*CDC Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System. <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/pregnancy-mortality-surveillance-system.htm>

# Pregnancy-related Mortality Ratio by Urban-Rural Classification: 2017-2019, PMSS\*

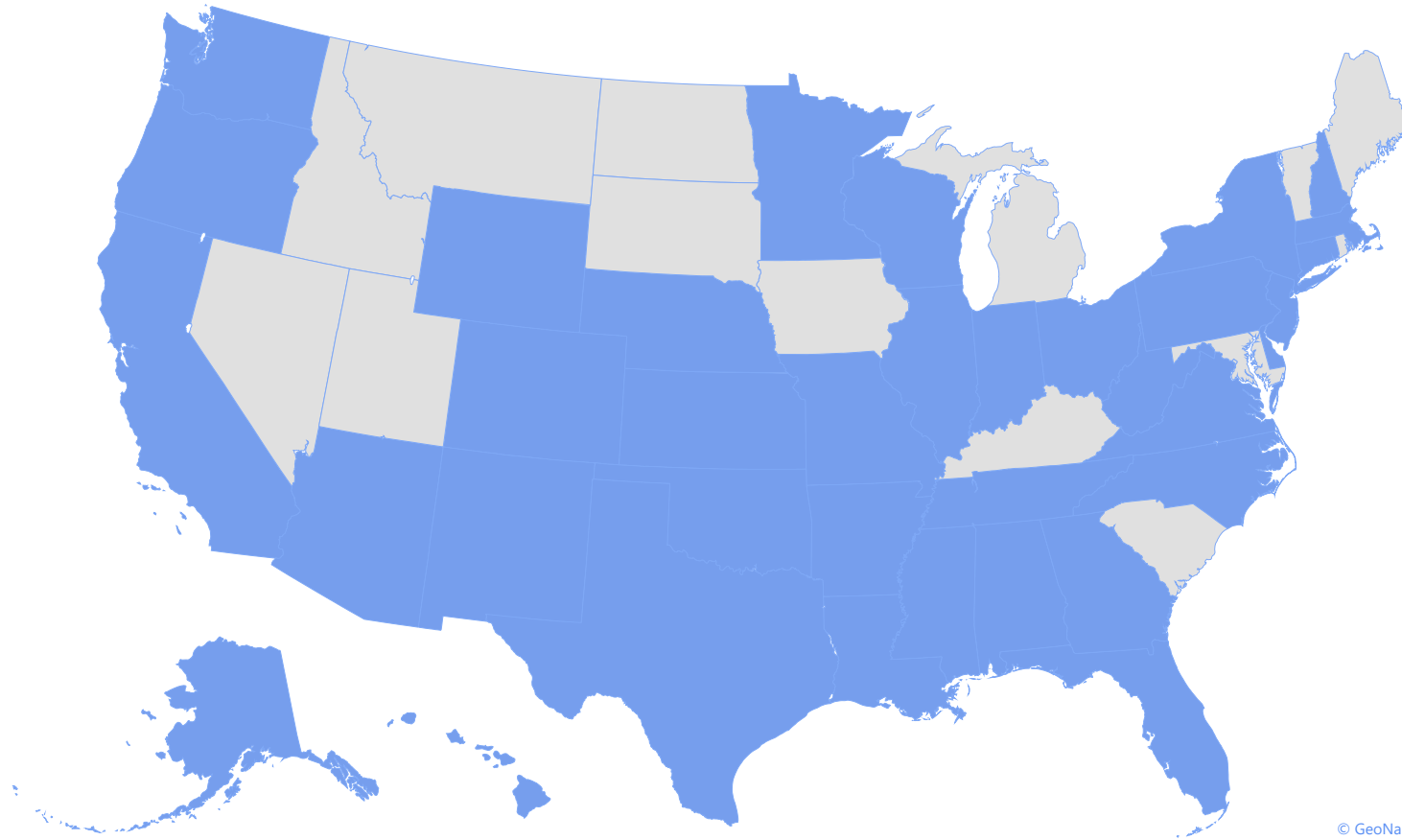


Urban-rural classification was missing or unknown for 2.4% of pregnancy-related deaths in 2017-2019.

\*CDC Pregnancy Mortality Surveillance System. <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/pregnancy-mortality-surveillance-system.htm>

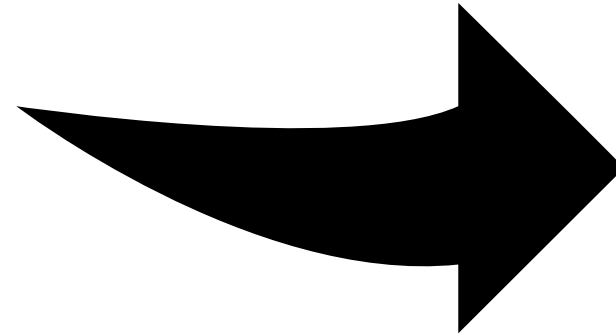
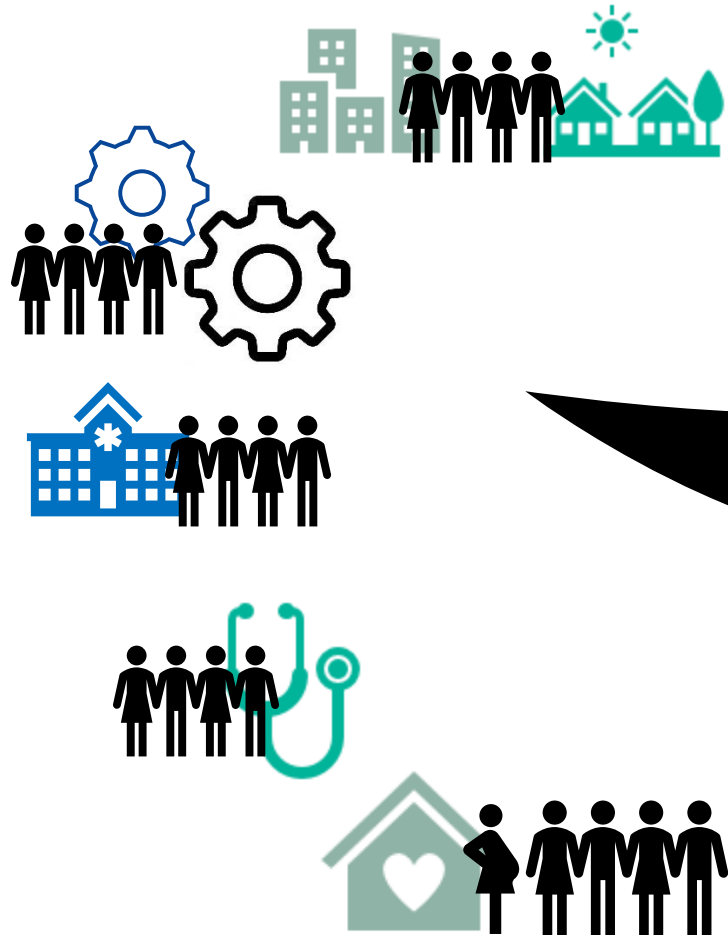


# MMRCs in 36 states contributed data on 1,018 pregnancy-related deaths among their residents



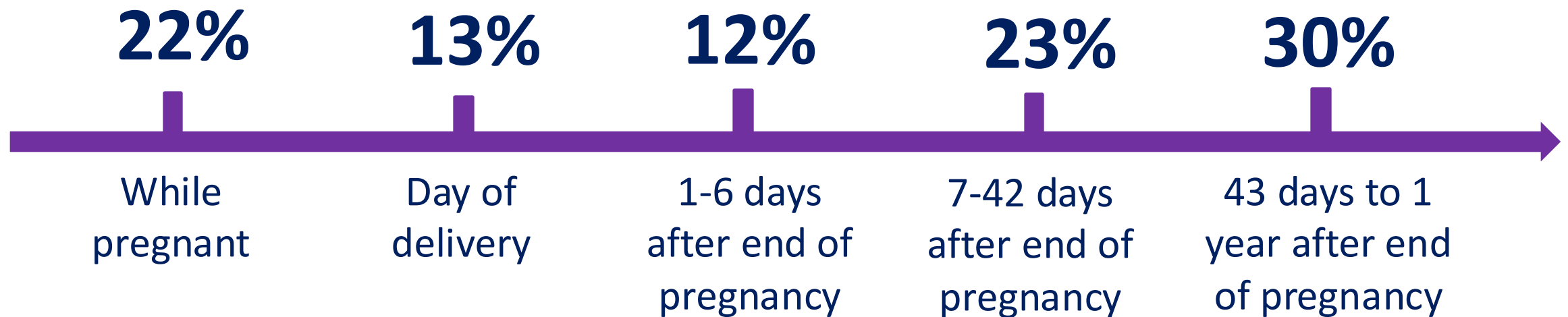
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# MMRCs Determined:



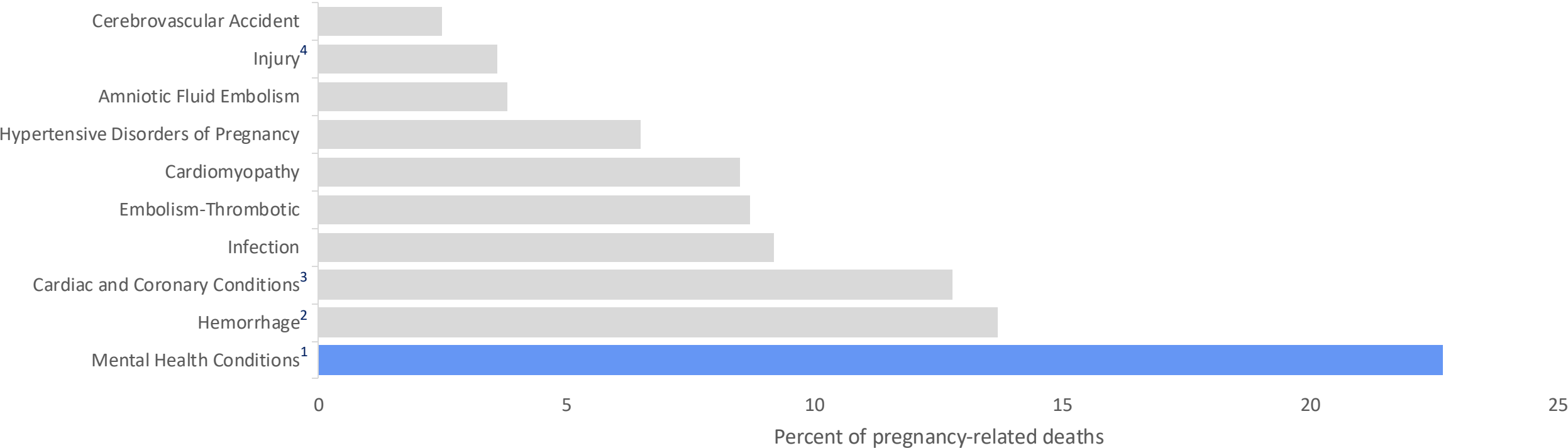
**84% of pregnancy-related deaths were determined to be preventable**

# Timing of Pregnancy-related Deaths



Timing was missing (n=2) or unknown (n=14) for 16 (1.6%) pregnancy-related deaths.

# Most Frequent Underlying Causes of Pregnancy-related Deaths\*



<sup>1</sup> Mental health conditions include deaths to suicide, unintentional or unknown intent overdose/poisoning related to substance use disorder, and other deaths determined by the MMRC to be related to a mental health condition, including substance use disorder

<sup>2</sup> Excludes aneurysms or cerebrovascular accident (CVA)

<sup>3</sup> Cardiac and coronary conditions include deaths to coronary artery disease, pulmonary hypertension, acquired and congenital valvular heart disease, vascular aneurysm, hypertensive cardiovascular disease, Marfan Syndrome, conduction defects, vascular malformations, and other cardiovascular disease; and excludes cardiomyopathy and hypertensive disorders of pregnancy.

<sup>4</sup> Injury includes intentional injury (homicide), unintentional injury, including overdose/poisoning deaths not related to substance use disorder, and injury of unknown intent or not otherwise specified.

\*Only 10 most frequent underlying causes of death are shown; underlying cause of death was missing (n=10) or unknown (n=21) for 31 (3.0%) pregnancy-related deaths

# Obstetric Volume and Severe Maternal Morbidity

JAMA Health Forum™

Original Investigation

Obstetric Volume and Severe Maternal Morbidity Among Low-Risk and Higher-Risk Patients Giving Birth at Rural and Urban US Hospitals

Katy Backes Kozhimannil, PhD, MPA; Stephanie A. Leonard, PhD, MS; Sara C. Handley, MD, MSCE; Molly Passarella, MS; Elliott K. Main, MD; Scott A. Lorch, MD, MSCE; Ciaran S. Phibbs, PhD

- **Objective: assess associations between obstetric volume and SMM**
- **Linked vital statistics and discharge data: CA, MI, PA, SC 2004-2020**
- **Exposure: rural and urban birth volumes**
- **Outcome: SMM without transfusion**



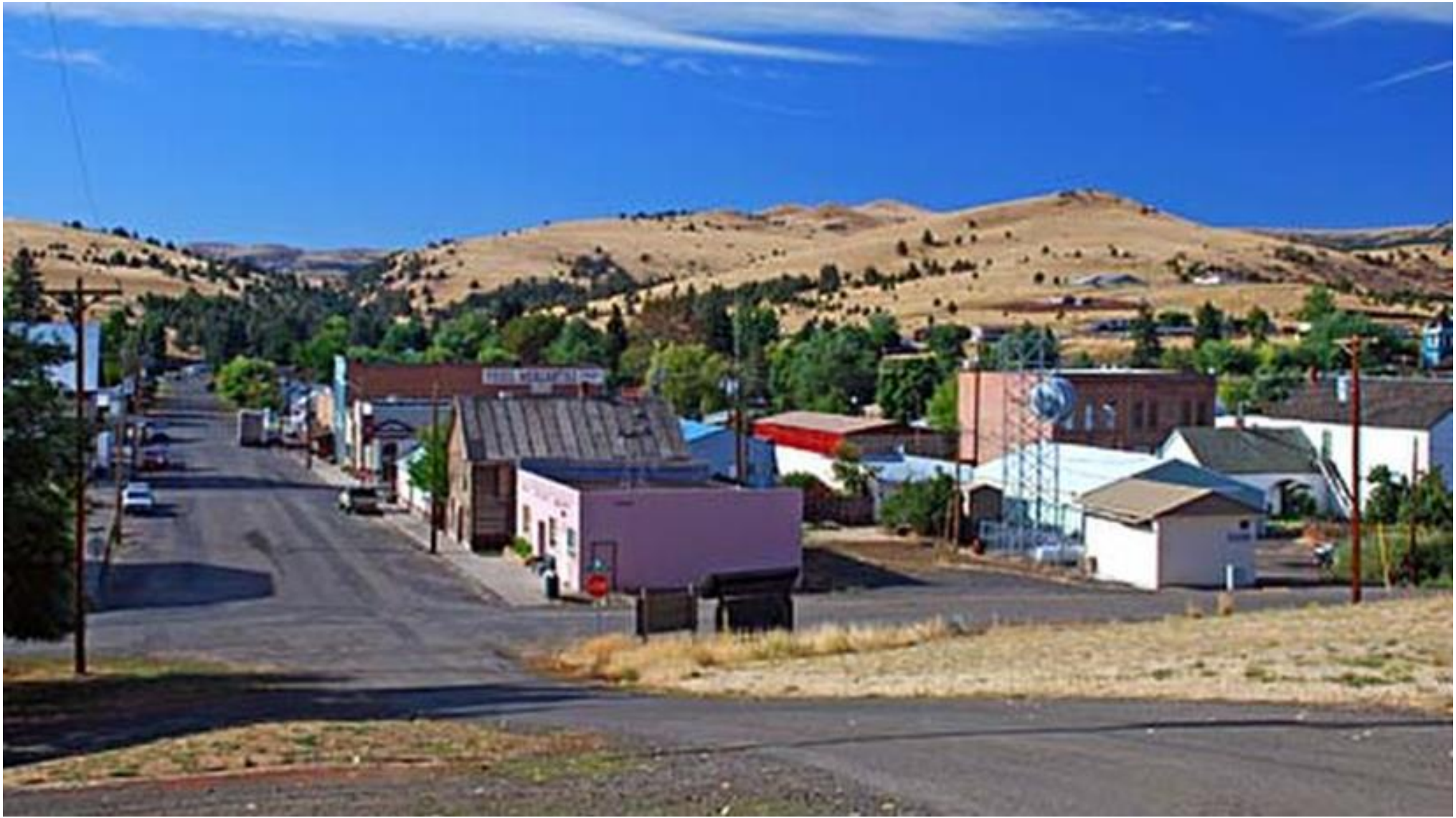
# Obstetric Volume and Severe Maternal Morbidity

**Table 4. Association Between Birth Volume Category and Severe Maternal Morbidity for Higher-risk and Low-risk Obstetric Patients at Hospitals in Rural Counties**

Annual birth volume	Risk ratio (95% CI)			
	Higher-risk patients		Low-risk patients	
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted
Low (10-110 births)	1.29 (0.87-1.90)	1.49 (1.01-2.20)	2.37 (1.31-4.30)	2.32 (1.32-4.07)
Medium (111-240 births)	1.09 (0.84-1.41)	1.30 (1.03-1.65)	1.60 (1.15-2.22)	1.66 (1.20-2.28)
Medium-high (241-460 births)	1.05 (0.85-1.29)	1.16 (0.95-1.43)	1.54 (1.13-2.10)	1.68 (1.29-2.18)
High (>460 births)	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]	1 [Reference]

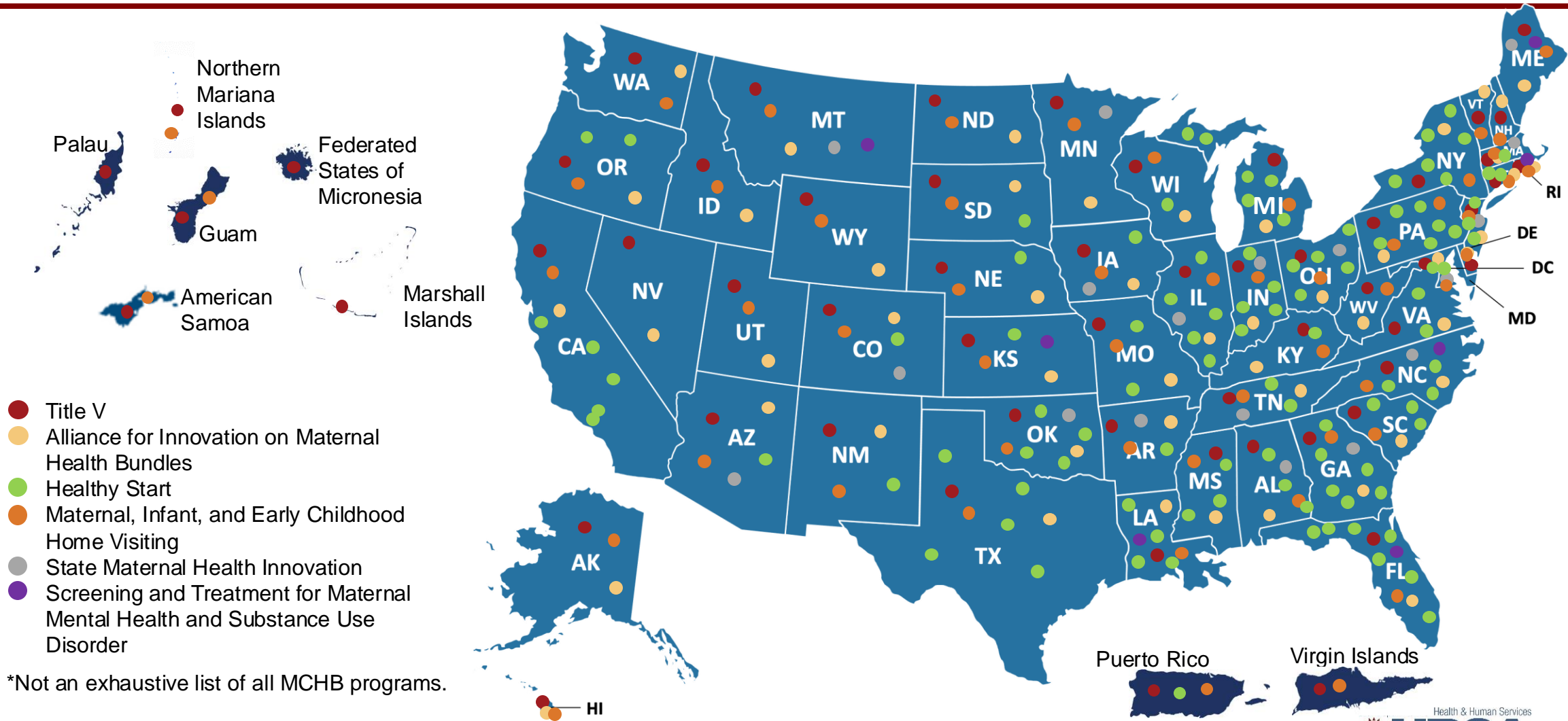
HEMORR







# HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau Programs

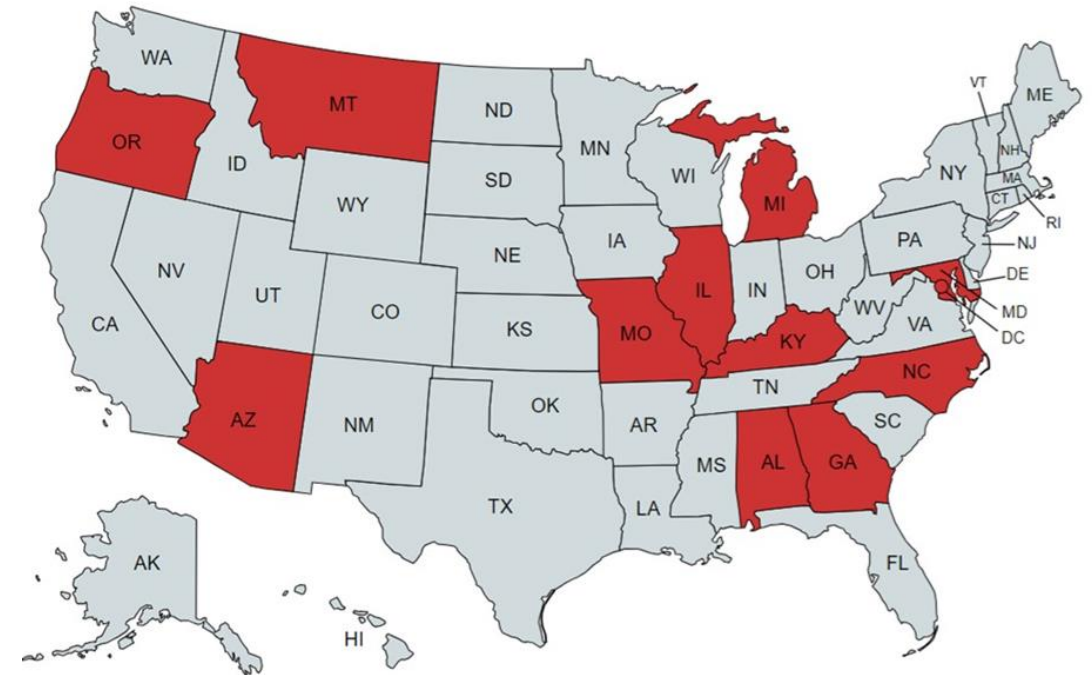


# Maternal Health Learning Series and HRSA Initiative

FORHP and the Rural Health Information Hub presented a five-part series on [Rural Maternal Health](#):

- Achieving the [CMS Birthing Friendly Designation](#)
- Working with [Perinatal Quality Collaboratives](#)
- Implementing [Patient Safety Bundles](#) to improve the process of care and health outcomes
- Readiness for [Hospitals without Birthing Units](#)
- [HRSA Rural Maternal Health Initiatives](#)

## HRSA Enhancing Rural Health Initiative



[hrsa.gov/about/news/press-releases/maternal-health-initiative](https://hrsa.gov/about/news/press-releases/maternal-health-initiative)



# Advancing Rural Community Health

In 2024, we plan or project making awards for the following programs:

- Rural Health Network Development Planning Program
  - Award Amount: \$100,000/year for 1 year
  - Anticipated Number of Awards: 30
  - **NOFO Available Fall 2024**
- Rural Northern Border Region Outreach Program
  - Award Amount: \$225,000/year for 3 years
  - Anticipated Number of Awards: 15
  - **NOFO Available Spring 2024**
- Rural Residency Planning and Development Grant
  - Award Amount: up to \$750,000 total over 3 years
  - **NOFO Available Fall 2024**



Subscribe to our weekly FORHP Announcements to get the most current information on grants and more!

[Click to Subscribe](#)



# Rural Health in General – Key Resources

**Post Jobs, Get Referrals, Hire & Inspire**

**People Who Can Help**

**Education**

[3rnet.org](http://3rnet.org)

**Rural Health Research Gateway**

[ruralhealthresearch.org](http://ruralhealthresearch.org)

The Rural Health Research Gateway is an online library of research and expertise. The website is free to use, searchable, and provides access to the work of the Rural Health Research Centers and Analysis Initiatives funded by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy.

The Rural Health Research Center program is the only federal program that is dedicated entirely to producing policy-relevant research on healthcare in rural areas. The centers study critical issues facing rural communities in a quest to secure adequate, affordable, high-quality health services for rural residents.

**This online resource of research connects you to:**

- Research and policy centers
- Products and journal publications
- Fact sheets
- Policy briefs
- Research projects
- Email alerts
- Experts
- Dissemination toolkit

**Connect with us**

- [info@ruralhealthresearch.org](mailto:info@ruralhealthresearch.org)
- [facebook.com/RHRGateway](https://www.facebook.com/RHRGateway)
- [twitter.com/rhrgateway](https://twitter.com/rhrgateway)

This project was supported by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy (FHRP), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

[ruralhealthresearch.org](http://ruralhealthresearch.org)

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Rural Health Information Hub

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**Your First Stop for Rural Health Information**

**Get Rural Updates & Alerts**

Sign-up to receive our **weekly newsletter**:

email

**Find Rural Data**

The **Rural Data Explorer** and **Chart Gallery** provide access to a wide range of data on rural health issues.

Learn how to locate and use data in the **Finding Statistics and Data Related to Rural Health** topic guide.

**The Rural Monitor**

**Strategic Collaboration: The Key to Moving Rural Healthcare Forward**

Strategic collaboration allows rural organizations to combine resources and expertise to improve care and patient outcomes. Southern Illinois Healthcare, the Iowa Primary Care Association, and Minnesota's Winona Community HUB share how strategic collaboration has helped them conduct community health needs assessments, provide technical assistance to community health centers, connect patients to food and housing, and much more.

**RHIhub Video**

**HealthTran: Provider Sustainability and Patient Empowerment**

In our latest Rural Programs Making a Difference video, learn how Community Asset Builder's HealthTran provider-funded volunteer driver program empowers mobility-challenged patients in almost 45 rural Missouri counties.

**Funding Opportunities**

**Am I Rural?**

HPSA UIC CBSA MUA RHC RUCA

News Headlines

[ruralhealthinfo.org](http://ruralhealthinfo.org)



# Rural Maternal Health Series – Key Resources

For hospitals without birth units:

- Review the [OB Emergency Readiness Resource Kit](#) (this is a project supported by HRSA and managed by ACOG)
- Join the Indian Health Service [Care and Access for Pregnant People ECHO Program](#) – Open to any clinician in the U.S.
- View the recording of the [OB Readiness in Facilities Without Birth Units](#) webinar
  - [PowerPoint Handout](#) available



# Rural Maternal Health Series – Key Resources

For hospitals with birth units:

- Learn about and report the data on the [Maternal Morbidity Structural](#) measure and become a [Birthing-Friendly Hospital](#)
- Connect with the PQC in your state: [National Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives](#)
- Explore the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health Safety Bundles - [SaferBirth.org](#)
- Support the maternal mortality review process: [ReviewtoAction.org](#)
- For more detail on these topics, the [Rural Maternal Health Series webinars](#) are archived for viewing.



# National Maternal Mental Health Hotline

- **1-833-TLC-MAMA (1-833-852-6262)**
- Free, confidential, 24/7 mental health support for moms and their families before, during, and after pregnancy. English- and Spanish-speaking counselors are available. Interpreter services support 60 other languages.



# Hotline Promotional Material



1-833-TLC-MAMA (1-833-852-6262)

Posters, wallet cards, magnets,  
and social media shareables



Scan to download or order free material







# Connect with HRSA

Learn more about our agency at [www.hrsa.gov](http://www.hrsa.gov)

Rural health questions? Email [FORHP@hrsa.gov](mailto:FORHP@hrsa.gov)

Sign up for the [HRSA eNews](#). 

Follow us:



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## Thank you!

Kristen Dillon, MD, FAAFP

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Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)