

# Maternal Mortality: Local and National Data

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1. Local Data: Pennsylvania & Philadelphia

2. National Data

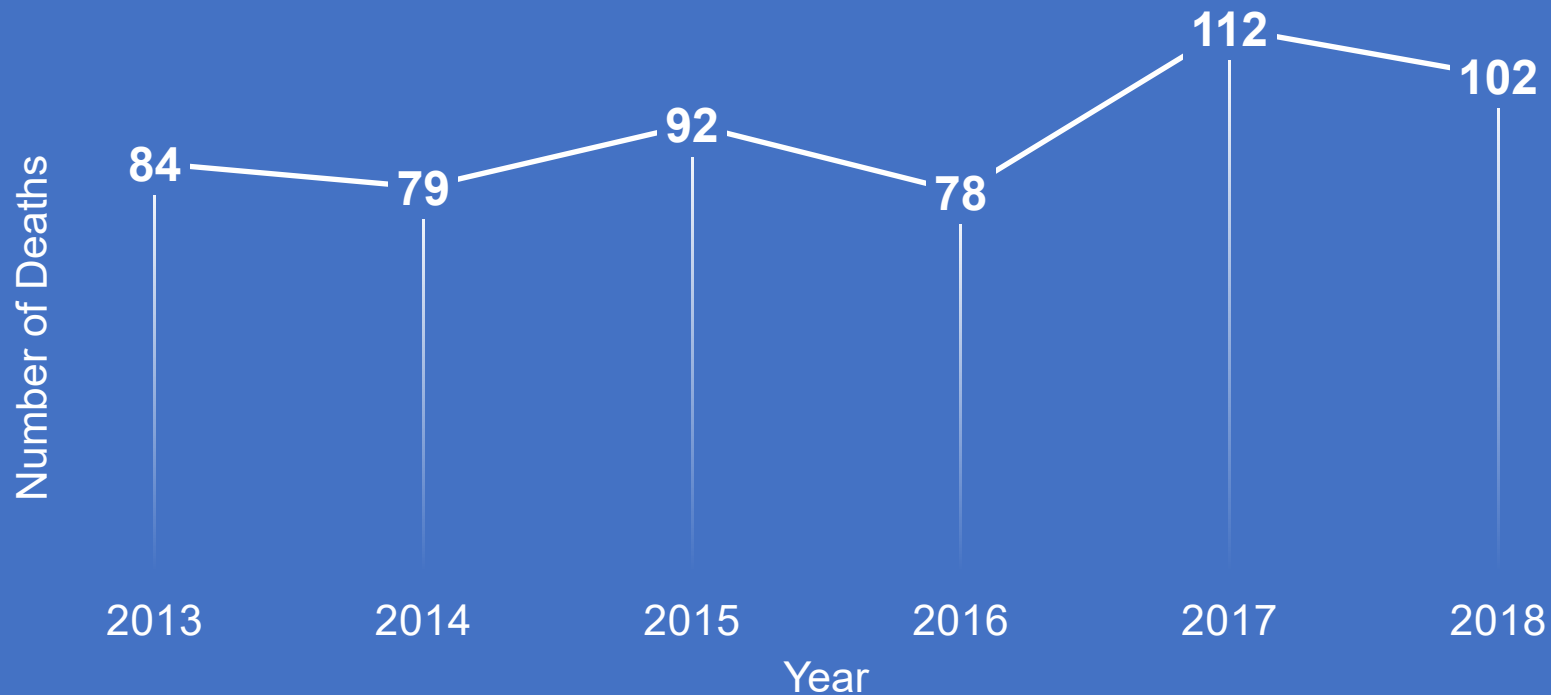
## 1. Pennsylvania – Pregnancy Assoc. Deaths

### **Pregnancy associated deaths:**

the death of a woman while pregnant or up to one year from the end of a pregnancy regardless of the outcome, duration or site of the pregnancy, including all accidental or incidental causes of maternal death.

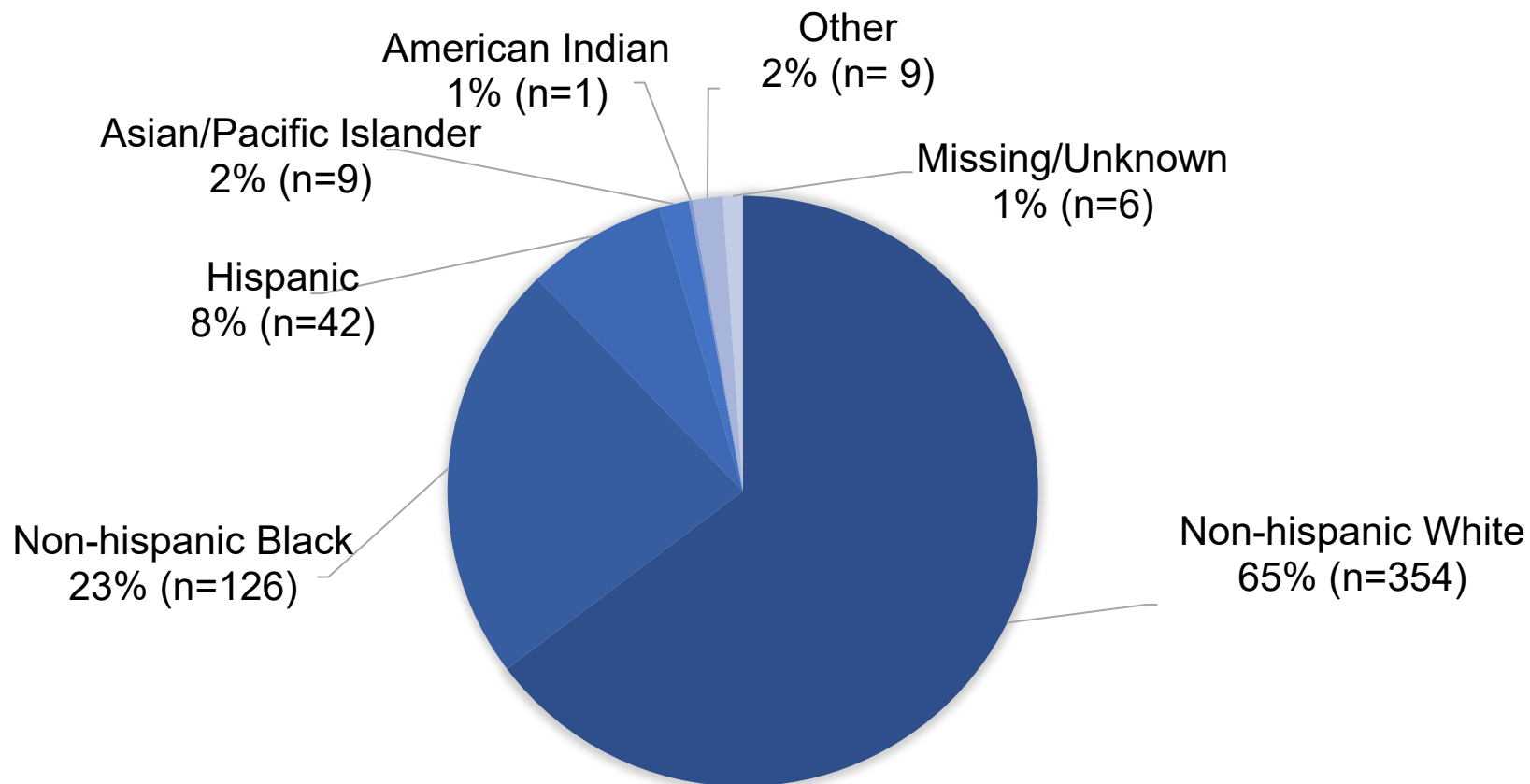
# 1. Pennsylvania – Pregnancy Assoc. Deaths

Trend in Pregnancy Associated Deaths in Pennsylvania, 2013 - 2018 (N=547)



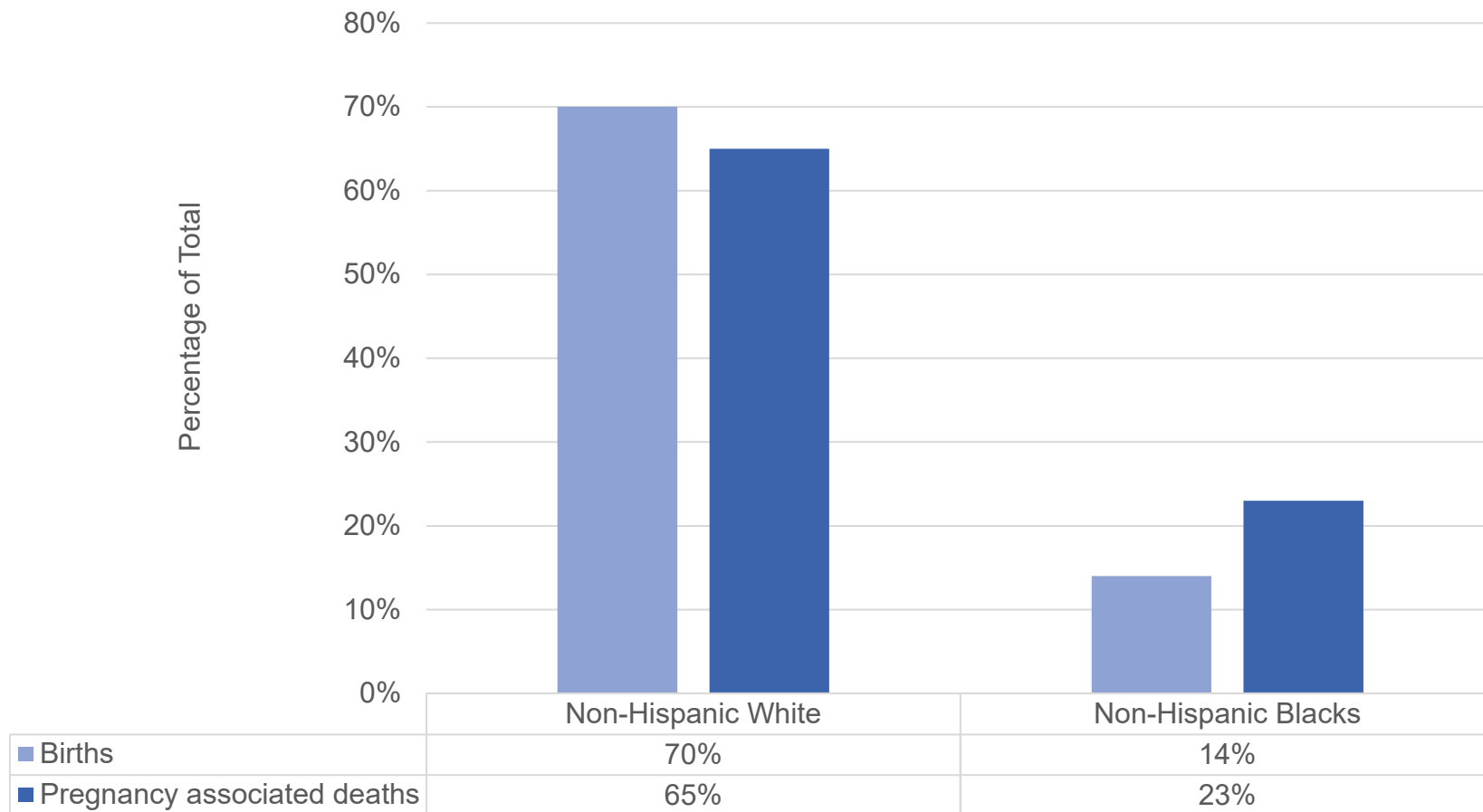
# 1. Pennsylvania – Pregnancy Assoc. Deaths

Distribution of Pregnancy Associated Deaths by **Race/Ethnicity** in Pennsylvania, 2013- 2018 (N=547)



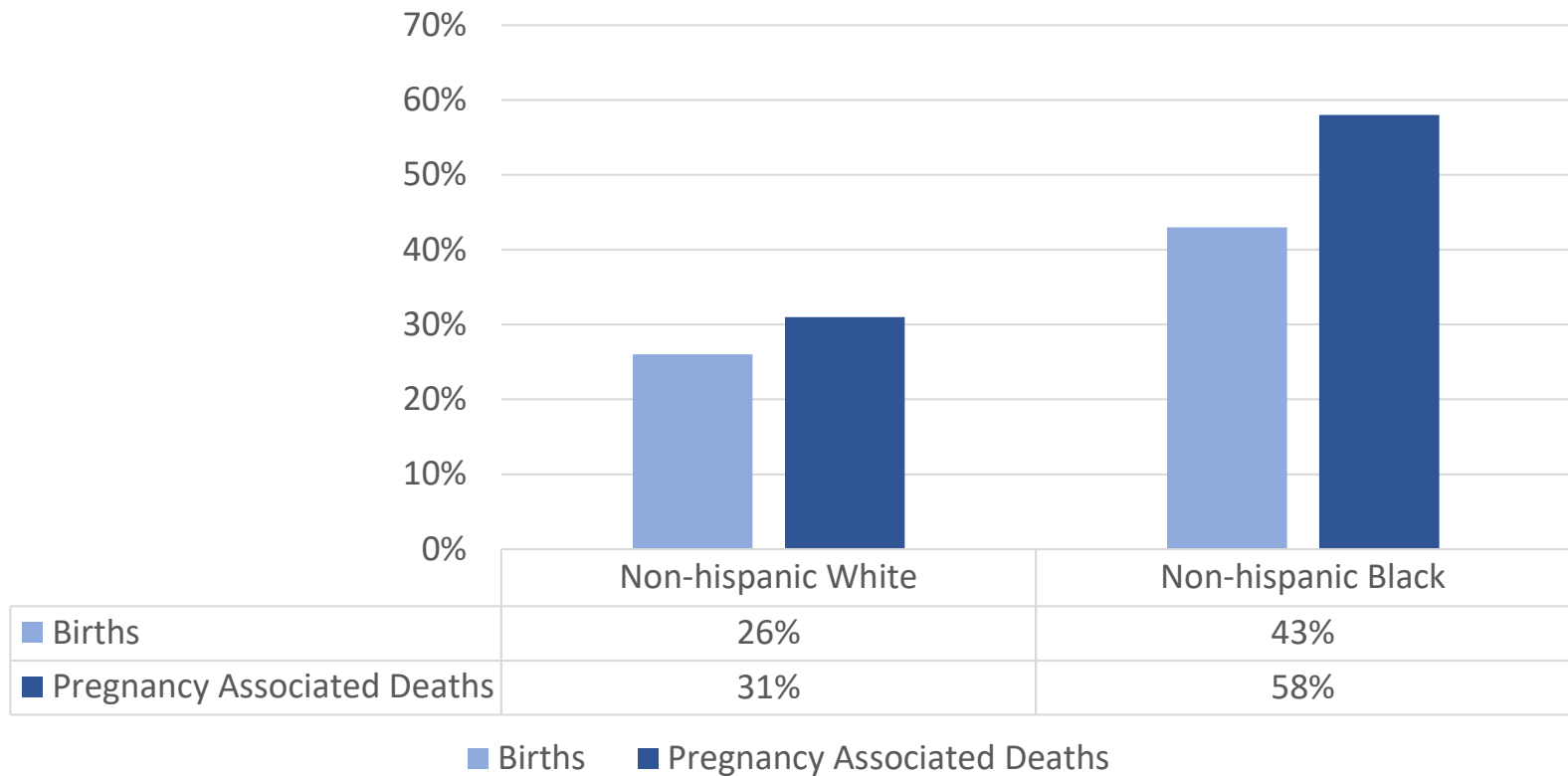
# 1. Pennsylvania – Pregnancy Assoc. Deaths

Distribution of Pregnancy Associated Deaths and Births among Non-Hispanic Whites and Non-Hispanic Blacks, **Pennsylvania**, 2013 - 2018



# 1. Philadelphia - Pregnancy Assoc. Deaths

Distribution of Pregnancy Associated Deaths and Births among Non-Hispanic Whites and Non-Hispanic Blacks, **Philadelphia**, 2013 - 2018



# Definitions

## **Pregnancy Associated Deaths:**

the death of a woman while pregnant or up to one year from the end of a pregnancy regardless of the outcome, duration or site of the pregnancy, including all accidental or incidental causes of maternal death

### **Pregnancy-Related Death**

The death of a woman during pregnancy or within one year of pregnancy due to a pregnancy complication, a chain of events initiated by pregnancy, or the aggravation of an unrelated condition by the physiologic effects of pregnancy

### **Pregnancy-Associated but NOT Related Death**

The death of a woman during pregnancy or within one year of pregnancy from a cause that is not related to pregnancy

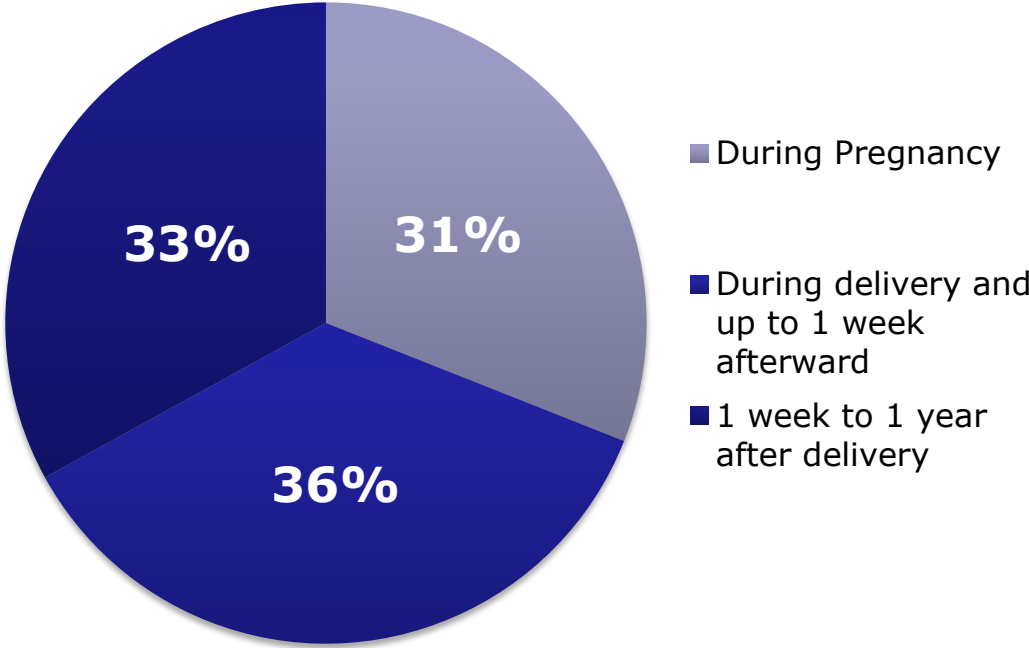
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# 3. National Data – Pregnancy Related Deaths

**700 birthing people** die from pregnancy-related complications each year in the United States.

**Timing of Pregnancy Related Deaths**



**3 in 5**  
pregnancy related  
deaths could be  
prevented.



Source: Pregnancy Related Deaths, CDC Vital Signs, May 7, 2019

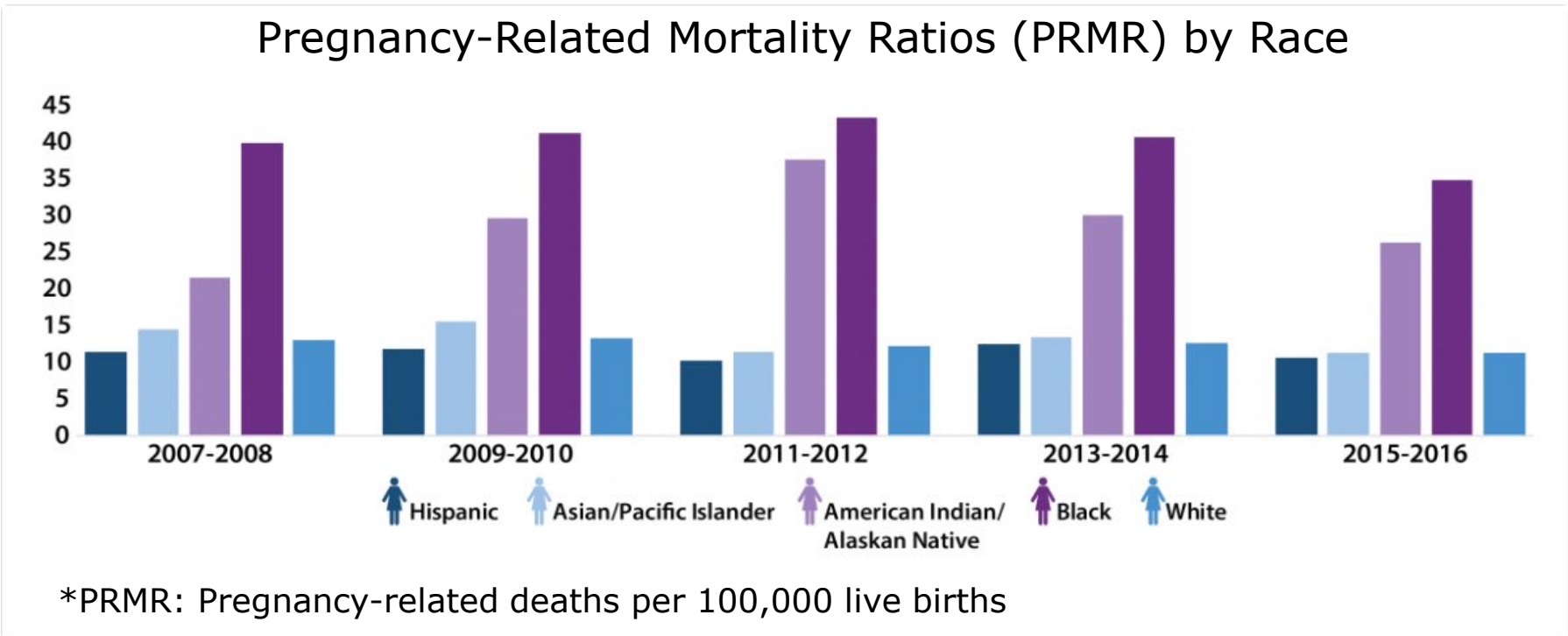
## 3. National Data – Pregnancy Related Deaths

### Leading Causes of Pregnancy Related Deaths by Time of Death

- **Overall:** Heart disease and stroke caused more than 1 in 3 deaths.
- **At Delivery:** Obstetric emergencies, like severe bleeding and amniotic fluid embolism (when amniotic fluid enters a mother's bloodstream) were most common.
- **Week after delivery:** severe bleeding, high blood pressure, and infection were most common.
- **1 week to 1 year after delivery:** Cardiomyopathy (weakened heart muscle) was the leading cause of deaths

# 3. National Data - Racial Disparities

Nationally, American Indian/Alaska Native and Black birthing people are **2 to 3 times** as likely to die from a pregnancy-related cause than white birthing people. These inequities persist over time.

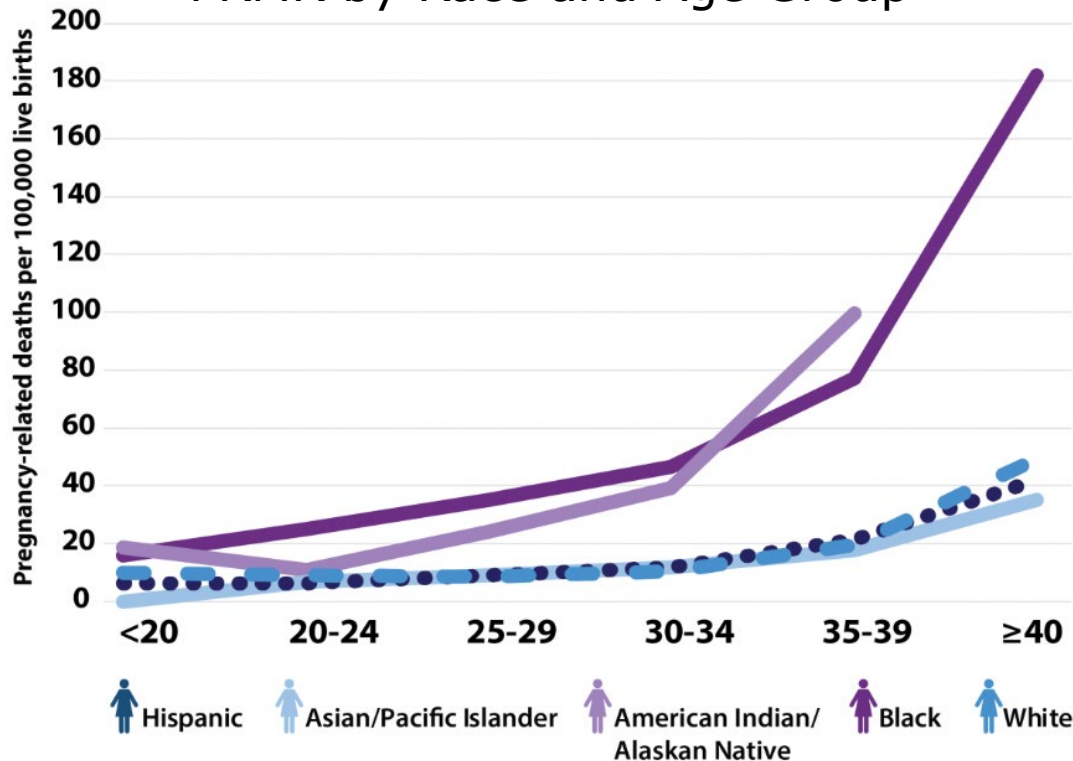


Source: Infographic: Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Pregnancy-Related Deaths — United States, 2007–2016, CDC, Division of Reproductive Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

# 3. National Data - Racial Disparities

## Inequities Increase with Age

PRMR by Race and Age Group



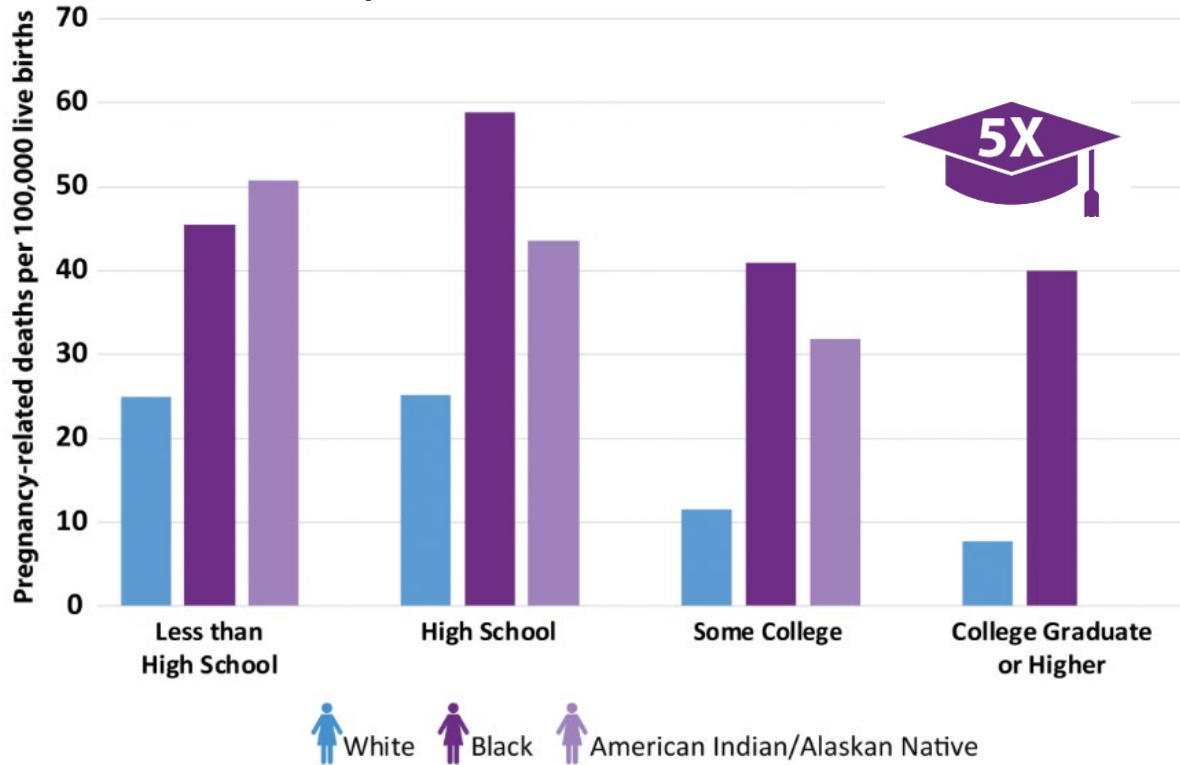
The disparity ratio between black birthing people and white birthing people by age range from 1.5 for <20 age group to **4.3 for 30-34 age group.**

\*PRMR: Pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births

# 3. National Data - Racial Disparities

## Inequities by Education Level

PRMR by Race and Education Level



The PRMR for **black birthing people with at least a college degree was 5 times higher** than white black birthing people with a similar education.

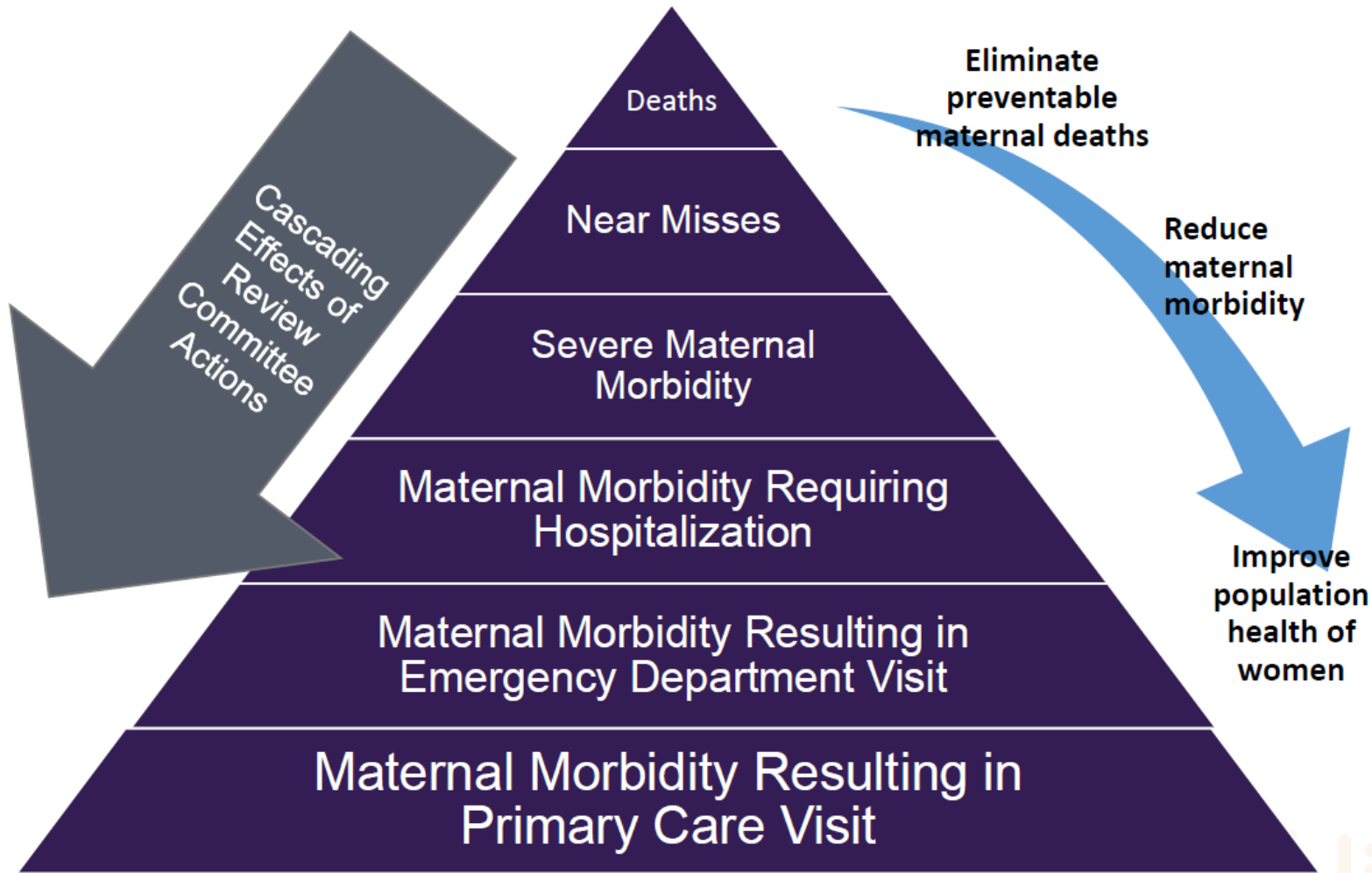
\*PRMR: Pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births

Source: Infographic: Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Pregnancy-Related Deaths — United States, 2007–2016, CDC, Division of Reproductive Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

The **mission** of the Pennsylvania Maternal Mortality Review Committee is to:

- Systematically review all maternal deaths;
- Identify root causes of these deaths; and
- Develop strategies to reduce preventable morbidity, mortality and racial disparities related to pregnancy in Pennsylvania.

# Cascading Effects of MMRC



# ▶ More info at Health.PA.gov

[Health](#) > [All Health Topics](#) > [Healthy Living](#) > Maternal Mortality

## Maternal Mortality

Maternal mortality is devastating for families and communities worldwide. In Pennsylvania specifically, a large disparity exists between white and African American women for maternal mortality. Unfortunately, mortality is just the tip of the iceberg: for every woman who dies, there are more women who just barely survive. Because of this, Governor Wolf has made maternal and child health a priority for the state of Pennsylvania.


### What is Maternal Mortality?

Maternal mortality is a death of a woman during pregnancy, or up to one year following the end of the pregnancy, regardless of the outcome of the pregnancy. Maternal mortality applies in cases of livebirth, stillbirth, abortion and miscarriage. When describing maternal mortality, deaths are divided into the following categories:


Pregnancy Associated Deaths: the death of a woman during pregnancy, or up to one year following the end of the pregnancy, regardless of the outcome of the pregnancy.

### Resources

[CDC Vital Signs Report on Maternal Mortality](#) 

[Maternal Mortality in Philadelphia 2010-2012](#) 

[Maternal Mortality Terminology](#) 

[PA Perinatal Quality Collaborative](#) 

[Review to Action](#) 



# THANK YOU

Thank you to our PA MMRC and  
Philadelphia MMRC Members