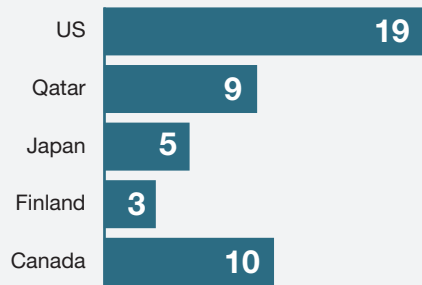
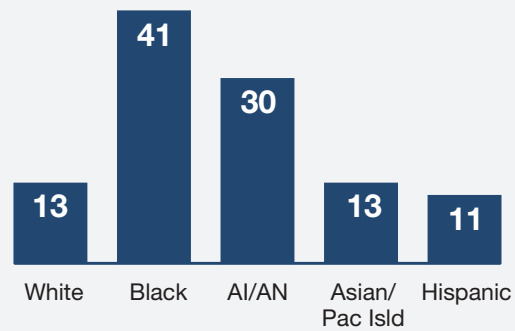


Accelerating Research to Prevent Maternal Morbidity & Mortality (MMM): At-A-Glance

The United States has the **highest maternal mortality ratio*** of developed countries.



Blacks & American Indians/ Alaska Natives are at highest risk for maternal mortality* in the United States.



*Deaths per 100,000 live births

National Institutes of Health (NIH) research has identified risk factors, explored disparities, & developed & tested treatments to improve maternal health & care, **but more action is needed to make pregnancy & childbirth safer in the United States.**

NIH 2020 MMM Research by the Numbers



Spending
\$224 Million



Funded Projects
551



Institutes & Centers Involved
21
(+ NIH Office of the Director)

NIH 2020 MMM Research Highlights

Pre-pregnancy & Pregnancy Loss

- NIH launches the Implementing a Maternal Health & Pregnancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone (IMPROVE) initiative to study all aspects of maternal health, including racial/ethnic disparities in MMM.
- Low-dose aspirin may improve pregnancy & live birth chances for some women, while cannabis & opioid use may reduce pregnancy chances.
- Pre-pregnancy cardiovascular health factors in first-time mothers may increase pregnancy complication risks.

Labor & Delivery

- Women in U.S. rural areas are more likely to need blood transfusions during labor & delivery.
- Single-dose azithromycin during labor may reduce risk of maternal infections & death in low- & middle-income countries.
- Using MRI & specialized software, researchers can track the electrical signals of contractions across the entire surface of the uterus during labor to detect possible problems.

Pregnancy

- Gestational Research Assessments for COVID-19 (GRAVID) study early findings: Severe COVID-19 disease increases complication risks.
- Maternal & Pediatric pRecision IN Therapeutics (MPRINT) Hub expands pharmacology studies in pregnant & lactating women.
- Risk of prenatal & postpartum death is significantly higher for women living in maternity care deserts (counties lacking obstetric care hospitals or midwives).

Postpartum

- First-ever drug treatment specifically approved for postpartum depression, which research shows may persist for up to 3 years after birth.
- Risk for postpartum stroke is highest in the first 10 days after giving birth.
- In first-time mothers, pregnancy complications double the risk for high blood pressure & other problems later in life.

In the U.S., **700** die and **50,000** are at risk for severe disease from problems in/after pregnancy.



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Turning Discovery Into Health