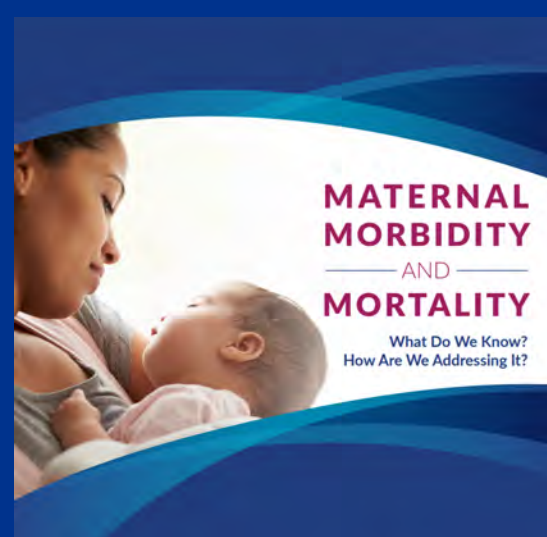


## NIH Maternal Morbidity and Mortality Research and Programs



# Maternal Health



**OFFICE OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S HEALTH**  
Advancing the Health of Women Through Science

## NIH's Robust Response

**IMPROVE** | NIH Maternal Mortality Task Force | ~\$7M

**IDeA** | Institutional Development Award States Program | ~\$5M

### ORWH Supplements

- Sex differences in sensory recovery after spinal injury
- Alcohol exposure during pregnancy
- Maternal and neonatal health and microbiome

**R01** | Address Racial Disparities in MMM

National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities

**U3** | FY2017-20 | 50 Awards

## Public Health Crisis

High rates of maternal morbidity and mortality (MMM) in the United States constitute a public health crisis, yet up to 60% of these deaths are preventable. MMM is affected by many factors, including prenatal and postpartum care, age of the mother, socioeconomic status, racial disparities, and mental health, among other things.



**"The most dangerous place in the developed world to deliver a baby."**

USA Today, 2018\*

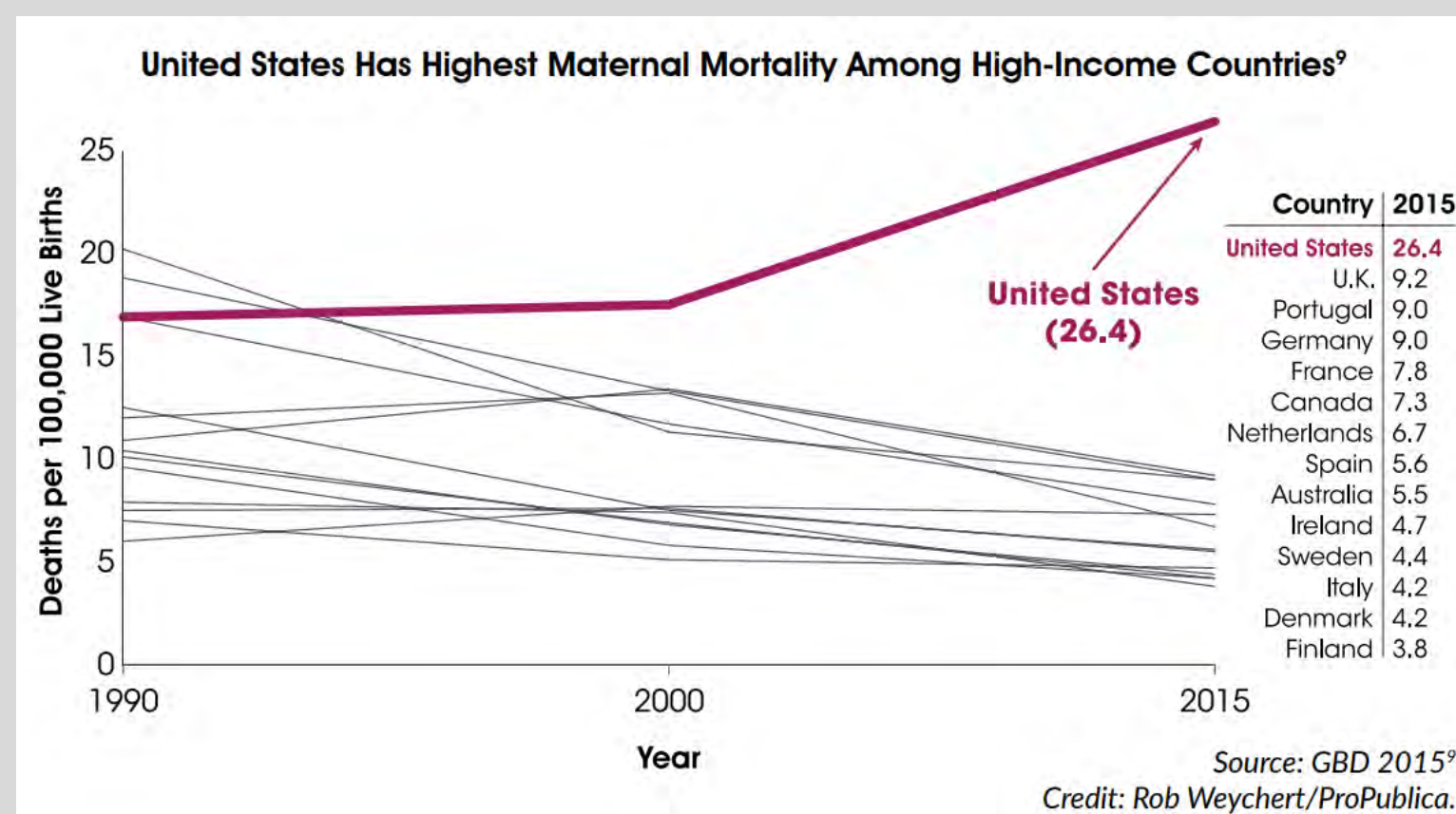
## Maternal Morbidity

Severe maternal morbidity (SMM) affects over 50,000 women annually in the U.S. Rates have nearly doubled during the past decade.

Compared with White women, incidence of SMM was 166% higher for Black women, 122% higher for Hispanic women, 117% higher for Asian and Pacific Islander women, and 148% higher for American Indian and Alaska Native women.



**For every pregnancy-related death, 70 women experience a "near miss."**



**Highest maternal mortality rate among high-income countries.**

## Maternal Mortality

Nearly 700 women die every year from pregnancy-related complications, for an overall maternal mortality (MM) rate of 17.4 deaths per 100,000 live births. MM rates were three times higher for Black women than White women and two times higher for American Indians and Alaska Natives than for White women.

## ORWH MMM Portal

[orwh.od.nih.gov/research/maternal-morbidity-and-mortality](http://orwh.od.nih.gov/research/maternal-morbidity-and-mortality)



**Special Issue on Maternal Morbidity and Mortality | December 2020**

\*[www.usnews.com/news/health-care-news/articles/2018-07-27/report-us-most-dangerous-place-to-give-birth-in-developed-world](http://www.usnews.com/news/health-care-news/articles/2018-07-27/report-us-most-dangerous-place-to-give-birth-in-developed-world)