

# Factors Contributing to Black Women Deaths

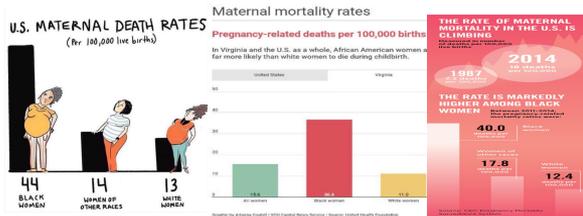
## Myasia Stephens and Ashanti Richardson | Youth Enrichment Services | Annual Research Symposium

### Introduction

According to various research, Black women are more likely to die during pregnancy than White women. Statistically, the risk of post pregnancy-related deaths for Black women is 3 to 4 times higher than that of white women, according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Higher pregnancy-related mortality occurs among Black women from conditions such as preeclampsia, eclampsia, placenta preula, and postpartum hommango. CDC scholars suggest that Black women, are three times more likely to die before, during or after having a baby, even though more than half of these deaths are preventable. For the past five decades, Black women have consistently experienced greater deaths from pregnancy complications than White women. With such advancements in medical technology, it is unclear why such statistics remain true. Given these uncertainties, it is important to further investigate the factors contributing to extreme fatalities among Black women.

### Purpose

Many African Americans are uneducated about the rate at which Black experience death during pregnancy. If Black women are to serve as the backbones and pillars of their communities, it is important to preserve them.



### Literature Review

Authors	Title	Main Findings	Project Connection
Myra J. Tucker	The Black-White Disparity in Pregnancy- related Mortality from five conditions	Higher pregnancy-related mortality among black women from preeclampsia, postpartum hemorrhage is largely attributed to higher case fatality rates.	This article supports the claim that Black women are at a higher risk of developing pregnancy complications.
David A. Grimes	The Morbidity and Mortality of Pregnancy Still Risky Business	Women of minority races have a much higher risks of death than white women.	This article explains how minority women are at a higher risk of death while giving birth by using comparable data.

### Maternal Mortality by State

Healthiest state	California: 4.5
Least-healthy state	Georgia: 46.2
U.S Value	20.7 (whole)

### Maternal Mortality Risks

<b>40 or Older Women</b>	Accounted for 31.9% of maternal deaths in 2013 to 2014
<b>Obese Women</b>	Obese women are more at risk for pregnancy complications
<b>Uninsured Women</b>	Uninsured women are 3 to 4 times more likely to die of pregnancy-related complications

### Methods

#### Literature Review

- 1) Search and review literature and articles from Google Scholar
- 2) Identify the research purpose
- 3) Make sense of literature; identify themes/ data

**Benefits:** Gain insight about important aspects.

**Challenges:** There is limited qualitative data available

### Conclusion

There are substantial and persistent disparities of maternal deaths by race and ethnicity. For African American women, the rate of maternal mortality has been three to four times that of white women for over a century. The United States has the highest rate of maternal mortality. This is an important topic to bring awareness to because it affecting African American women and their families, when they are not educated on this topic.