



MAKE IT SAFE TO BE A MOM IN TEXAS

Most maternal deaths are preventable.

Childbirth, one of life's greatest joys, can turn into tragedy when the infant's mother dies. Physicians, hospitals, nurses, and other health care team members are promoting improved safety in labor-and-delivery practices, but more can be done — lives can be saved through courageous action by the Texas Legislature.

50%

Approximate rate of **unintended pregnancies** in Texas

Health risks to mother and infant increase when women become pregnant within 18 months of a previous pregnancy.¹

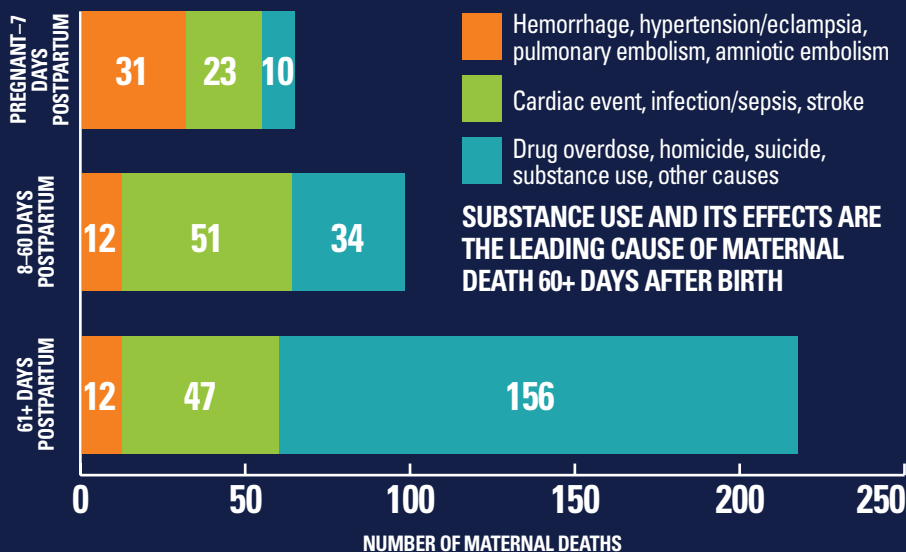
53%

of all births in Texas were paid by Medicaid in 2016.²

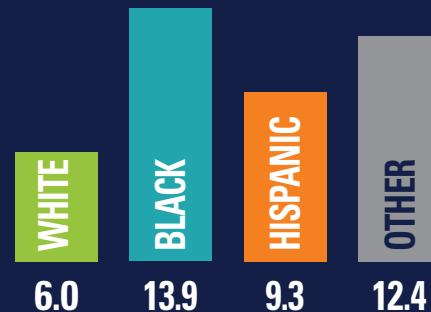
\$3.5 BILLION

cost to Texas Medicaid for pregnancy- and delivery-related services for mothers and infants in the first year of life.³

CAUSE AND TIMING OF MATERNAL DEATH IN TEXAS, 2012-15



PREGNANCY-RELATED MATERNAL DEATH RATE PER 100,000 LIVE BIRTHS IN TEXAS, 2012



80% OF MATERNAL DEATHS WERE PREVENTABLE

66% OF MOTHERS WHO DIED WERE ENROLLED IN MEDICAID

Source: 2012 Death Files, 2011-2012 Live Birth and Fetal Death Files. Center for Health Statistics, DSHS

THE TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH COALITION RECOMMENDS:

- Pursue a federal waiver to increase access to comprehensive services to women before, during, and after pregnancy**, including substance use treatment and behavioral health care. At a minimum, target women with high-risk pregnancies, substance use disorders (SUDs), and unplanned pregnancies.
- Reduce red tape and payment barriers preventing widespread adoption of long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs)**. Fund LARC availability immediately post-delivery to women enrolled in CHIP-Perinatal.
- Improve state surveillance, the vital statistics reporting system, and the quality of maternal death records.**
- Increase awareness of the importance of early and timely prenatal and maternal health care** and promote community-based efforts. Public health efforts must target at-risk populations.
- Increase funding for the current SUD programs run by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission** including the Substance Use Disorder Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women.



The Texas Public Health Coalition is a coalition of health professional organizations and health-focused organizations dedicated to disease prevention and health promotion.

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MEMBERS

Alzheimer's Association	Texas Association of Community Health Centers
American Cancer Society	Texas eHealth Alliance
Cancer Action Network	Texas Health Institute
American Heart Association	Texas Hospital Association
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas	Texas Medical Association
Children's Hospital Association of Texas	Texas Nurses Association
The Cooper Institute	Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.
Harris County Public Health	Texas Osteopathic Medical Association
The Immunization Partnership	Texas Pediatric Society
March of Dimes	Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility
Methodist Healthcare Ministries	Texas Public Health Association
Texas Academy of Family Physicians	Texas Renal Coalition
Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	Texas School Nurses Organization
Texas Academy of Physician Assistants	Texas State Alliance of YMCAs
Texas Association of City & County Health Officials	United Ways of Texas

RESOURCES

CANCER PREVENTION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS
MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

MICHAEL AND SUSAN DELL CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING
PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHY TEXAS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

REFERENCES

- 1 Hanley, Gillian E., Jennifer A. Hutcheon, Brooke A. Kinniburgh, and Lily Lee. "Interpregnancy Interval and Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes." *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. 129, no. 3 (2017): 408-15. Accessed July 2018. doi:10.1097/AOG.0000000000001891
- 2 Texas Medicaid and CHIP in Perspective, 12th Edition, February 2018. <https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip/about-medicaid-chip/texas-medicaid-chip-perspective>
- 3 Maternal Health and Safety Initiatives December 2018. www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/laws-regulations/reports-presentations/2018/sb-17-state-efforts-maternal-mortality-morbidity-dec-2018.pdf