

The State of Maternal Health in Mississippi 2024



Presented By:

Dr. Vernesia Wilson, Director
Maternal and Infant Health Bureau
Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH)
Updated 11/19/2024



MISSISSIPPI
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

A Thought

Women constitute half of the world's population, but birth **ALL** of the world's population.



Results: African American Women

Maternal Health Focus Groups, Mississippi

[in partnership with Teen Health Mississippi]

Equity-Focused Question: *Was there anything about your [birthing/delivery] experience as a woman of color that might have been different from others?*

Jane Doe #1: “Doctors tend to overlook a misdiagnosis in women of color. Doctors underestimate the level of pain. Become more sympathetic for women of color. We deserve the same level of care and support.”

Jane Doe #2: “Most white women easily get these [needed] services, unlike women of color.”

Jane Doe #3: “Some women of color are not enrolled in an insurance plan. So, some emergency procedures they can't afford become a problem...if they should be in situations that require those procedures.”

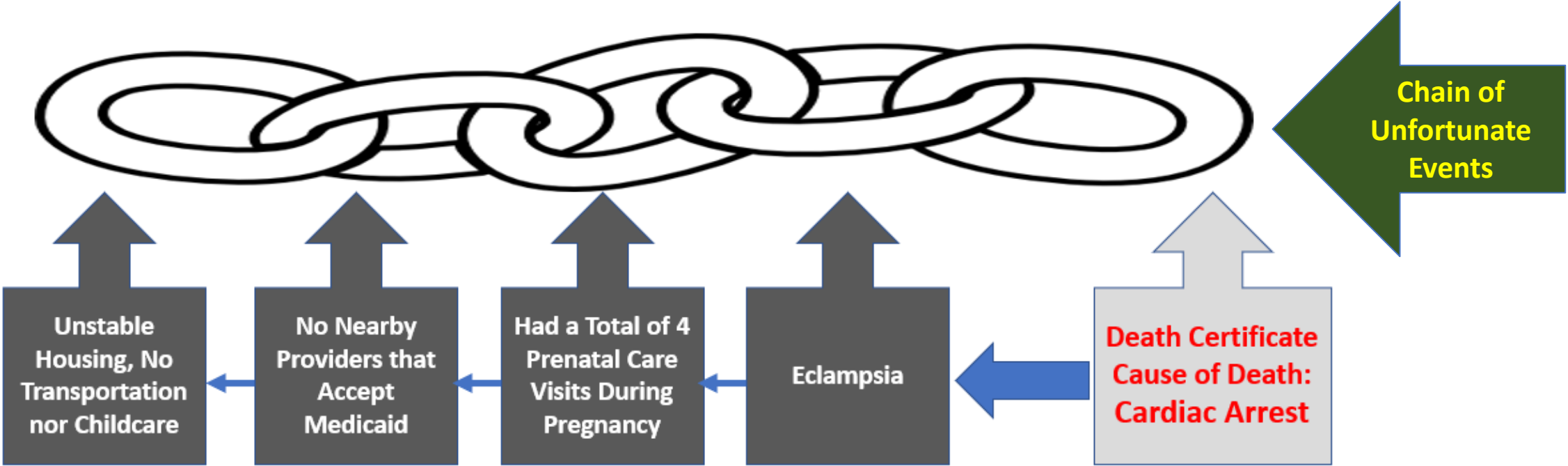
Jane Doe #4: “I think it's more of us being talked at, like instead of us having a mutual conversation and the doctor being concerned.”

Jane Doe #5: “I'm seeing that again when black women say that we are in pain, people think it's in our minds.”

Jane Doe #6: “I see there's still some sort of racial discrimination in our society. The white folks are more prioritized in maternal services, delivery, both pre and post pregnancy situations.”



Impact of Social Determinants of Health on Maternal Deaths (Possible Root Causes?)

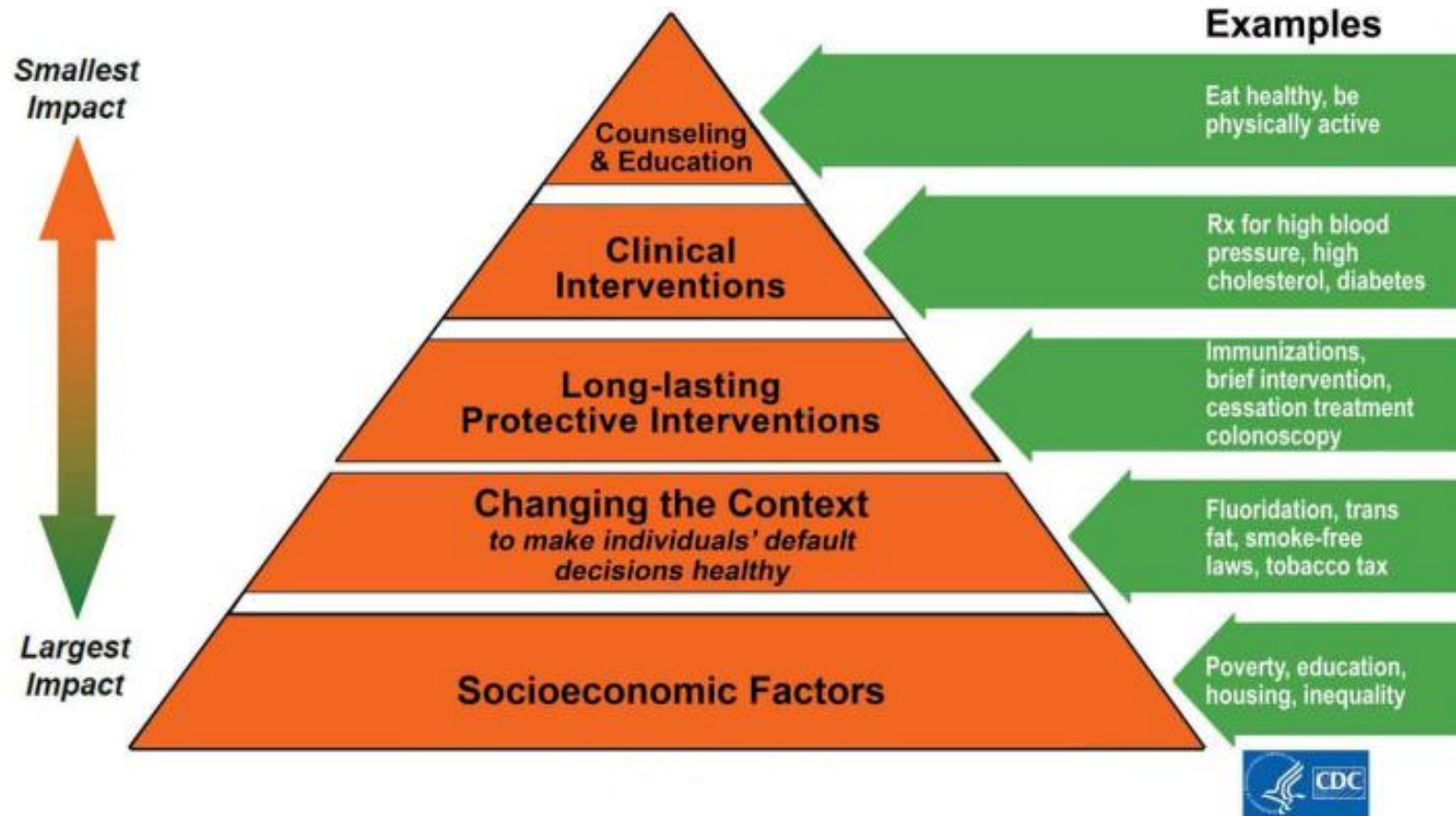


Patient is a pregnant 24-year-old African American female with two other children, ages 3 and 18 months. She had Medicaid and was in an on/off relationship with the father of all three children, who worked from 7 am – 7 pm Monday through Friday. All of her relatives lived out of the state.

What was the actual root cause of her death?



Health Impact Pyramid



Reference: Thomas R. Frieden. A Framework for Public Health Action: The Health Impact Pyramid. American Journal of Public Health: April 2010, Vol. 100, No. 4, pp. 590-595. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2009.185652

Call to Action: Addressing “Near Misses” *Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM)*



Severe Maternal Morbidity Defined

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC, 2024), severe maternal morbidity (SMM) includes unexpected outcomes of labor and delivery that can result in significant short-or-long term [or life-threatening] health consequences. SMM has been continuously increasing across the nation in recent years.

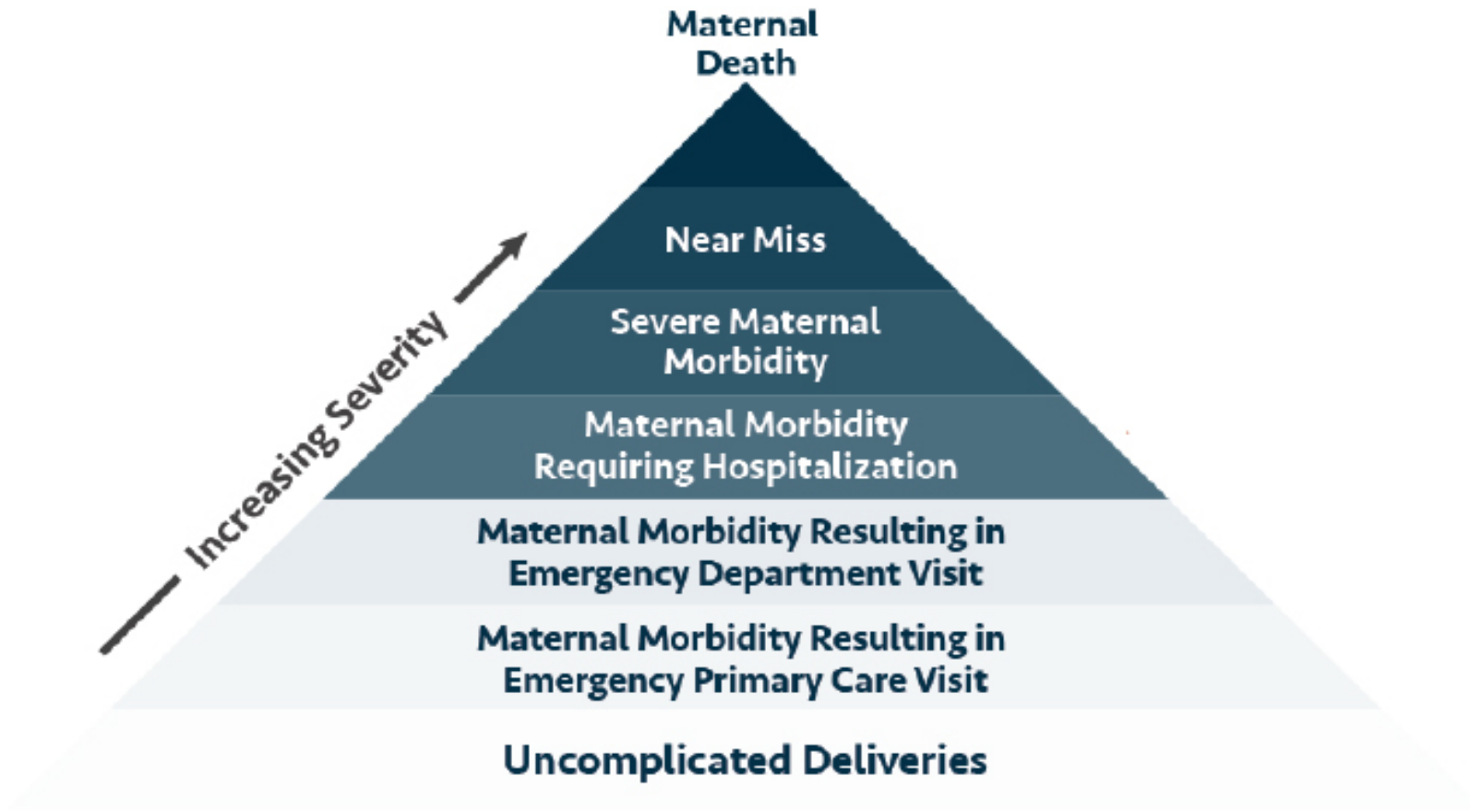
Note: There are now 21 indicators and corresponding ICD-10 codes that identify delivery hospitalizations with SMM instances/cases.

Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/maternal-infant-health/php/severe-maternal-morbidity/index.html>



MISSISSIPPI
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Continuum of Maternal Morbidity Showing Variation in Severity



Reference: <https://nurturenj.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/20210120-Nurture-NJ-Strategic-Plan.pdf>



MISSISSIPPI
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

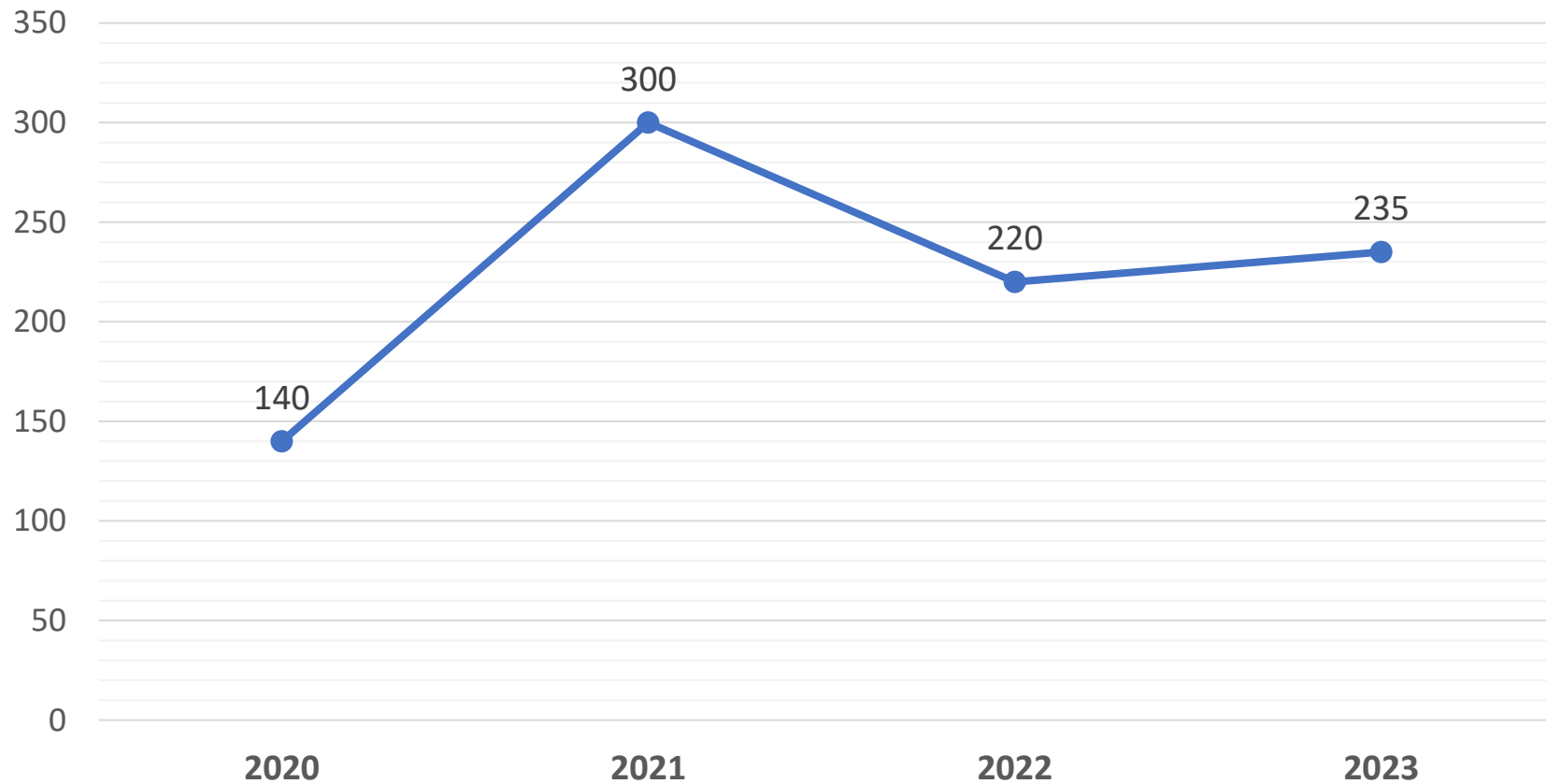
Identified SMMs (CDC, 2024)

- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Aneurysm
- Acute Renal Failure
- Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome
- Amniotic Fluid Embolism
- Cardiac Arrest/Ventricular Fibrillation
- Conversion of Cardiac Rhythm
- Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation
- Eclampsia
- Heart Failure/Arrest during Surgery or Procedure
- Puerperal Cerebrovascular Disorders
- Pulmonary Edema/Acute Heart Failure
- Severe Anesthesia Complications
- Sepsis
- Shock
- Sickle Cell Disease with Crisis
- Air and Thrombotic Embolism
- Hysterectomy
- Temporary Tracheostomy
- Ventilation

Note: Blood Transfusion is also an SMM but may be examined separately using specific Procedure Codes.

Mississippi SMM Data

Number of SMM Cases Among All Delivery Hospitalizations, Mississippi
2020-2023



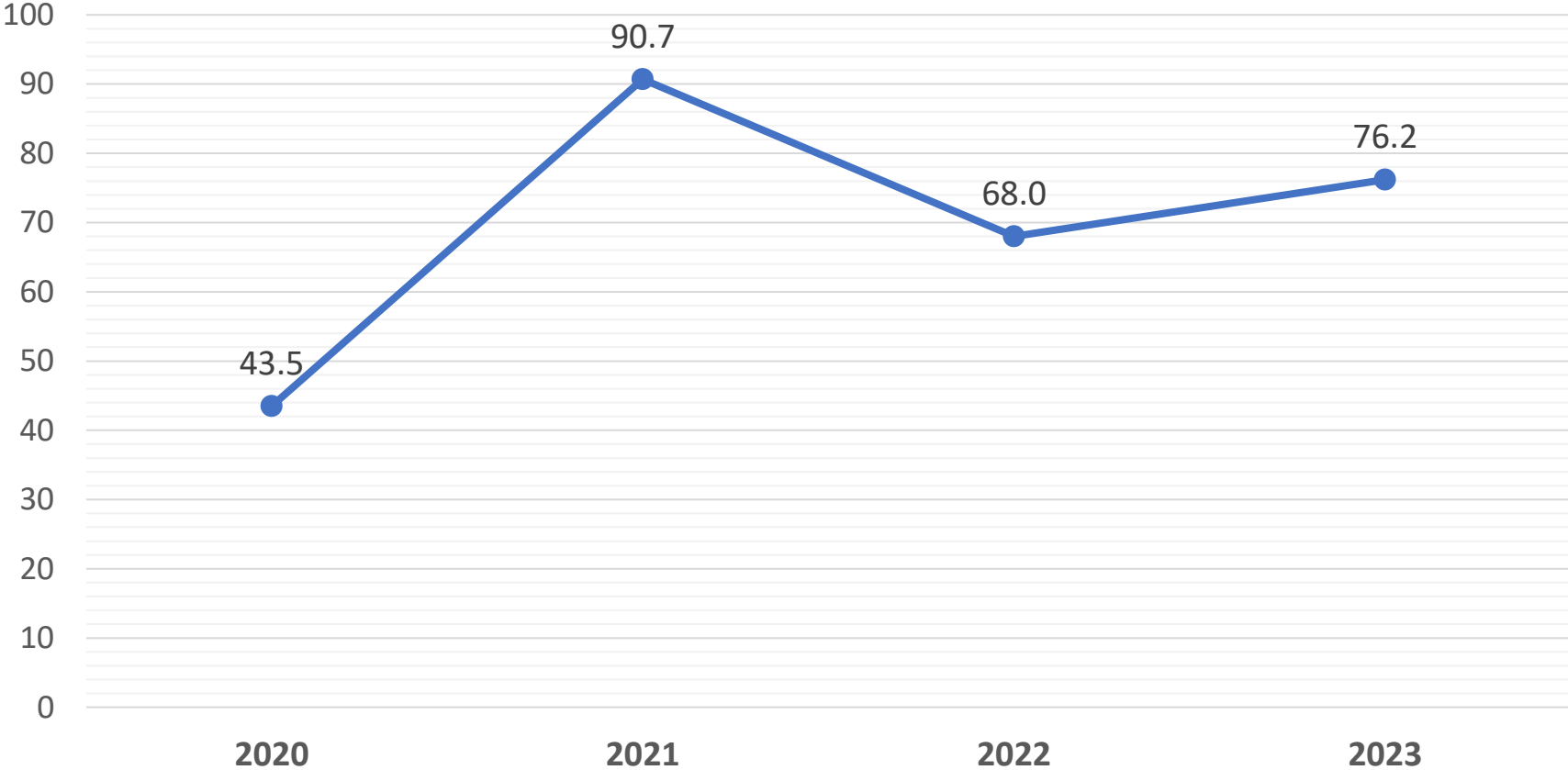
Note: Blood Transfusions (ICD 10-Codes) are Excluded
Data current as of 7/1/2024



Mississippi SMM Data

State Rate of SMM Cases Among All Delivery Hospitalizations,
Mississippi 2020-2023
(per 10,000 delivery hospitalizations)

Healthy
People 2030
Target is **64.4**
per 10,000

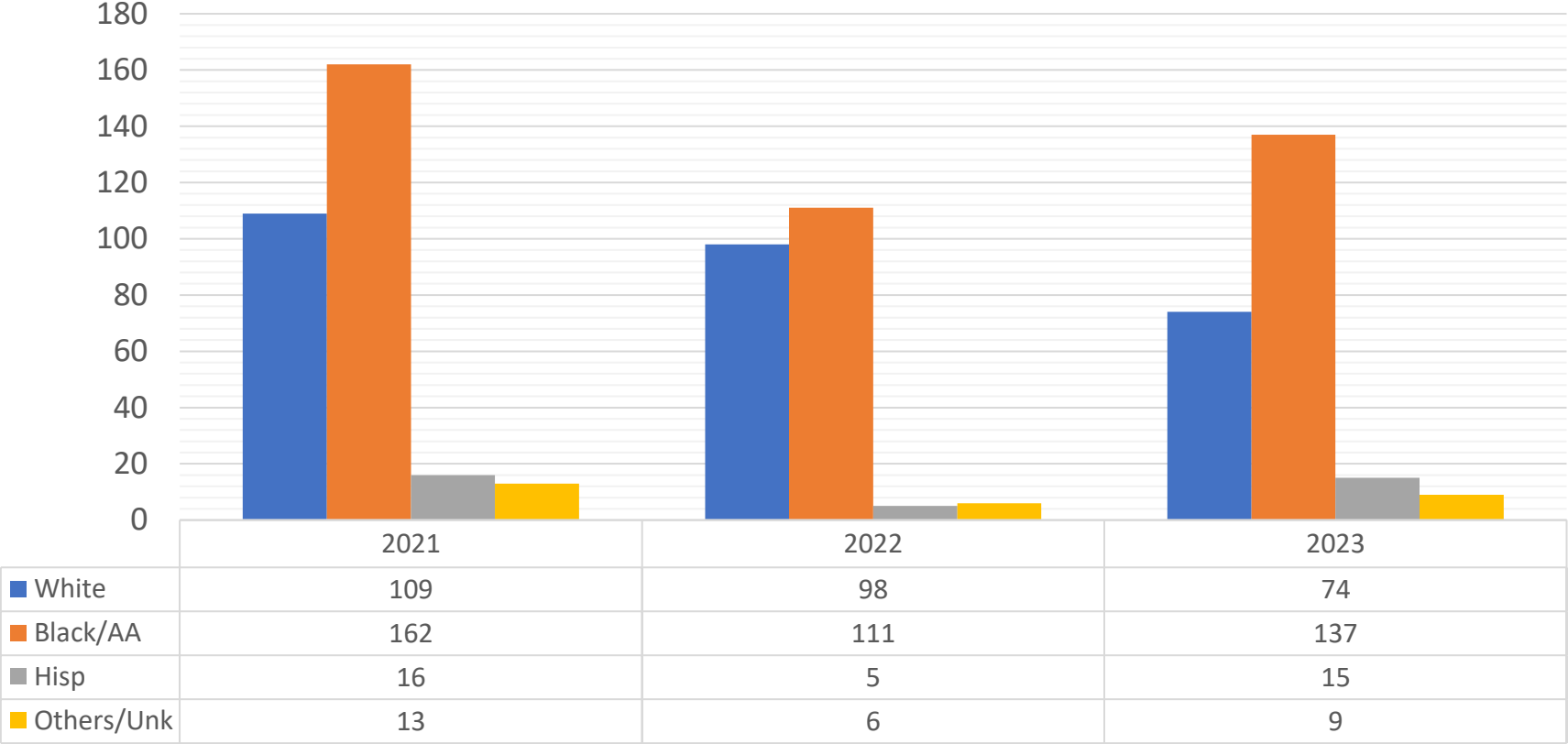


Note: Blood Transfusions (ICD 10-Codes) are Excluded
Data current as of 7/1/2024



Mississippi SMM Data

Number of SMM Cases Among All Delivery Hospitalizations By Race
Mississippi, 2021-2023



Note: Blood Transfusions (ICD 10-Codes) are Excluded
Data current as of 7/1/2024



A Thought

**80% of pregnancy-
related deaths in
Mississippi are
PREVENTABLE!!**



Note: Black women make up the majority (~77%) of pregnancy-related deaths in Mississippi!

...so, how do we prevent them?

...all of us can start here...

#1: Acknowledge that maternal and infant health are major concerns in Mississippi

#2: Ensure that physicians and other medical providers in Mississippi actually “Hear Her” when discussing pregnancy and postpartum care

#3: Be mindful of pregnant and post-partum women's level of “I am Okay-ness.”

#4: Know/Become aware of urgent maternal warning signs

#5: Offer common sense strategies to decrease intimate partner violence (IPV)

MORE DETAILS - SEE HANDOUTS



Questions/Discussions





MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Contact Information:
Vernesia Wilson, PhD, MPH
Maternal and Infant Health Bureau
Vernesia.Wilson@msdh.ms.gov
601-576-7429