



Spring 2023

GHS 207 Resistance & Rights: Global Women

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Crossroads of Maternal Health in Indiana

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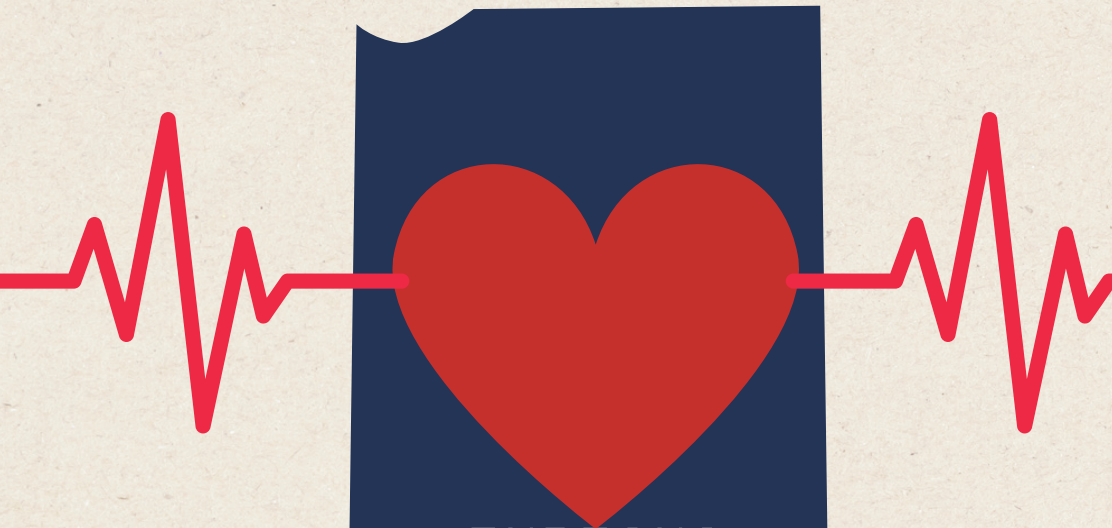
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Maternity Health Zine



INDIANA

Crossroads of Maternal Health

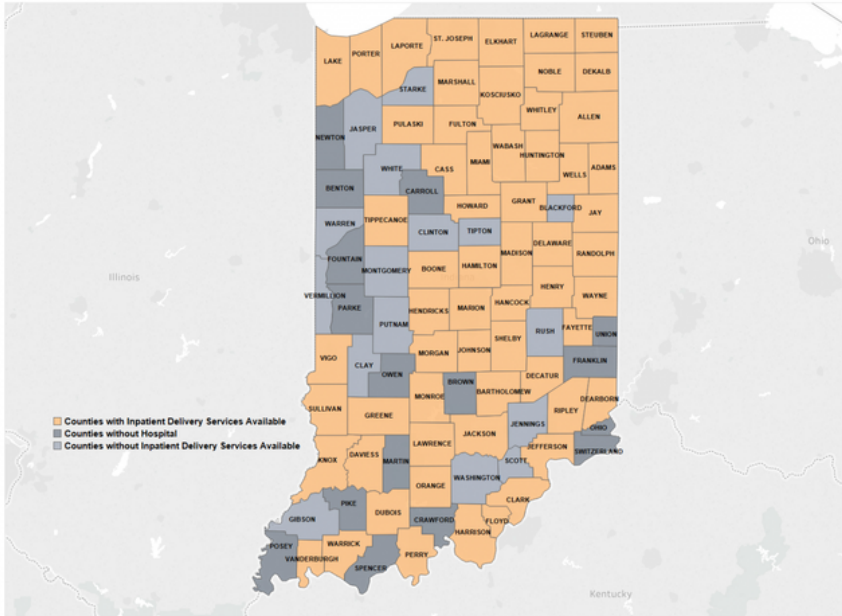


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Maternal Care Deserts in Indiana

Inpatient Hospital Obstetric Services by Indiana County



4

27% of Indiana Counties do not have maternal care services, which limits maternal care access for many women in Indiana, driving up maternal mortality rates (Sheridan, 2018).

"We have 33 counties that either have no hospital or the hospital has no OB services," Dr. Box

NO HOSPITALS & NO BIRTH CENTERS

are offered.



Main Causes Include:

- loss of services
- loss of providers
- lack of transportation
- lack of financials

This is very alarming. However, small steps can be taken to ensure no counties continue to be 'deserts'. Even one county making a change is able to impact so many lives. For example, "The report shows a 2 percent increase in U.S. counties that are maternity care deserts from 2018 to 2020. Compared to 2018, that's about 16,000 more women without maternity care. Across the country, seven million women – and half a million babies – live in areas with little to no access to maternity care services, (Benson, 2022).

Maternal Mortality Rate in Indiana

Out of 100,000 live births

41.4 for
white
women

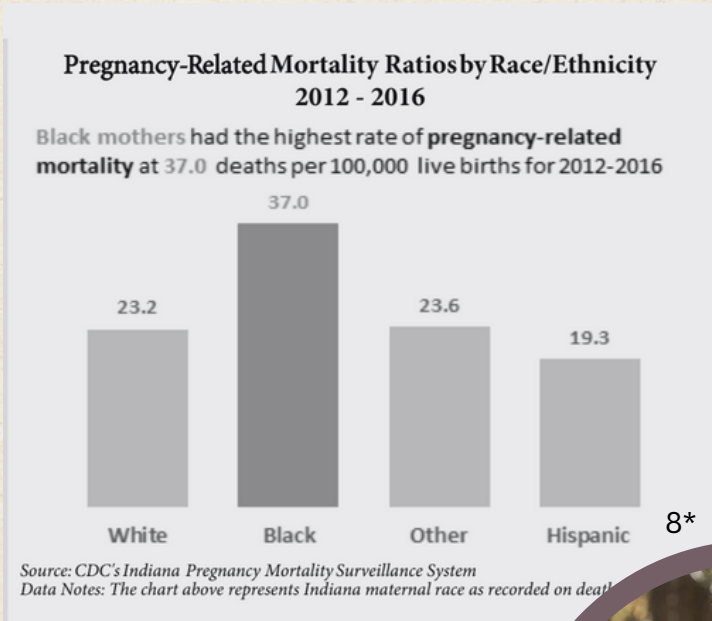
**53.4 for black
women**



“Indiana has the 7th highest maternal mortality rate in the nation with an alarming racial disparity between black and white mothers” (Chapman 2019).

the DANGER

Studies have shown that abortion bans increase maternal mortality rates, especially among African Americans.



The mortality rate jumped 9% worsening both the race gap in maternal mortality rates and maternal mortality rates themselves. Indiana's legislature did pass funding of 45 million for maternal care in the state.

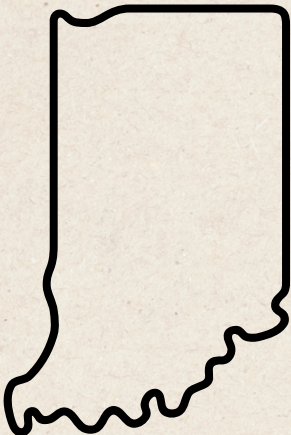


What is currently being done about Indiana's maternal mortality rate?

Unfortunately, Indiana passed legislation banning most abortions with only very narrow exceptions for rape, incest, and certain medical emergencies. This will definitely increase our already abysmal maternal mortality rate. In addition, the 45 million dedicated to maternal care is not enough.



Nevertheless, currently, Indiana has a Grassroots MCH (Maternal and Child Care Health) Initiative with the **IUPUI Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health**, in which women from marginalized communities are supported as leaders and placed “at tables” where their voices can inform system change efforts. This partnership addresses the need for more voice, transparency, and data, including qualitative data, to increase understanding of the challenges associated with maternal health.



Solutions!

1

Make healthcare affordable!

2

Implement implicit bias training!

3

Expand mental health and addiction services!

4

Increase access to doulas!

5

Increase grassroots-university partnerships!



Resources for Hoosiers!



1

My Healthy Baby

(local programs in every county)

2

Indiana Health Centers

(Mission: help underserved areas of IN)

3

Indiana Minority Health Coalition

(Quality healthcare services for minorities)

4

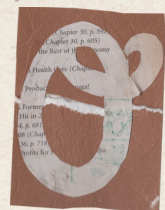
Women4Change

(Advocates Legally & Educates)

5

Indiana Rural Health Association

(Improve maternal health in rural IN)



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2. "Diverse Perspectives to Support a Human Rights Approach to Reduce Indiana's Maternal Mortality Rate", Amelia E Clark, Erin Macey, Ashley Irby, Cynthia Stone, Mary Pell Abernathy and Jack E Turman, February 2023. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/epub/10.1177/01605976221109785>
3. "Abortion bans to increase maternal mortality even more, study shows", Nicole Mueksch, 6/30/2022. <https://www.colorado.edu/today/2022/06/30/abortion-bans-increase-maternal-mortality-even-more-study-shows>
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5. "Indiana has one of the worst rates for childbirth-related deaths", 13 WTHR, Published June 20, 2019 <https://www.wthr.com/article/news/investigations/13-investigates/indiana-has-one-worst-rates-childbirth-related-death/531-c9366a08-be9a-41fe-b8ce-18f1d8e37492>

Pg. 5 Chart (8*) "Indiana Maternal Mortality Review Committee" Indiana State Department of Health: Fatality Review and Prevention Division, 2019 <https://www.in.gov/health/files/MMRC%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

Resources Credits

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2. 2019, <https://www.indianahealthonline.org/>
3. 2022, <https://www.imhc.org/>
4. 2023, <https://www.women4changeindiana.org/>
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