

New York State PREGNANCY-ASSOCIATED MORTALITY REVIEW, 2018-2021

New York State Department of Health: Maternal Mortality Review Initiative

Pregnancy-associated death:

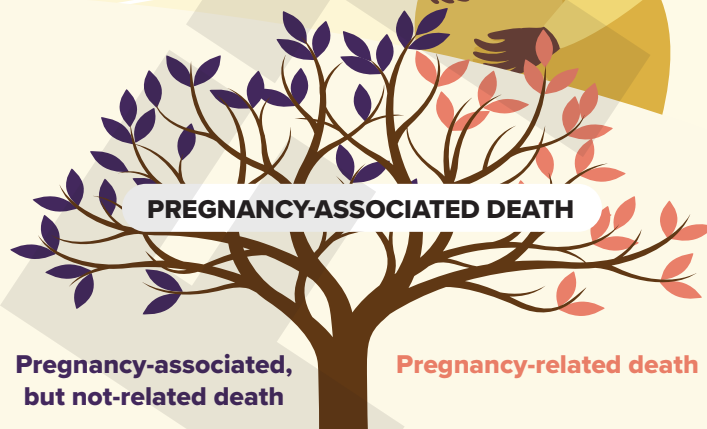
A death during or within one year of pregnancy irrespective of cause.

Pregnancy-related death:

A death while pregnant or within one year of the end of pregnancy from a pregnancy complication, a chain of events initiated by pregnancy, or the aggravation of an unrelated condition by the physiologic effects of pregnancy.

Pregnancy-associated, but not-related death:

A death during or within one year of the end of pregnancy from a cause that is not related to pregnancy.



To determine whether a pregnancy-associated death is related to pregnancy it can be helpful to ask the following question: *If she had not been pregnant, would she have died?*

There were **547 Pregnancy-Associated Deaths** in NYS between 2018-2021

170

Pregnancy-Related Deaths

3 out of 10

pregnancy-associated deaths in NYS between 2018-2021 were pregnancy-related.

Mortality Ratio: 19.7

deaths per 100,000 live births

291

Pregnancy-Associated But Not Related Deaths

5 out of 10

pregnancy-associated deaths in NYS between 2018-2021 were pregnancy-associated, but not related.

Mortality Ratio: 33.7

deaths per 100,000 live births

86

Pregnancy-Associated But Unable to Determine Relatedness Deaths

1.5 out of 10

pregnancy-associated deaths in NYS between 2018-2021 were pregnancy-associated, but relatedness was unable to be determined.

Mortality Ratio: 10.0

deaths per 100,000 live births

71% of Pregnancy-Related Deaths were Potentially Preventable

Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio by Race/Ethnicity

(2018-2021) per 100,000 live births

Black, Non-Hispanic: 54.6

White, Non-Hispanic: 11.1

All Races Statewide: 19.7

Black, non-Hispanic people were **4.9 times** more likely to die of a pregnancy-related cause than white, non-Hispanic people.

Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio by Insurance Type

(2018-2021) per 100,000 live births

Medicaid: 25.0

Private Insurance: 12.9

People with Medicaid were **1.9 times** more likely to die of a pregnancy-related cause, than people with private insurance.

Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio by Delivery Method

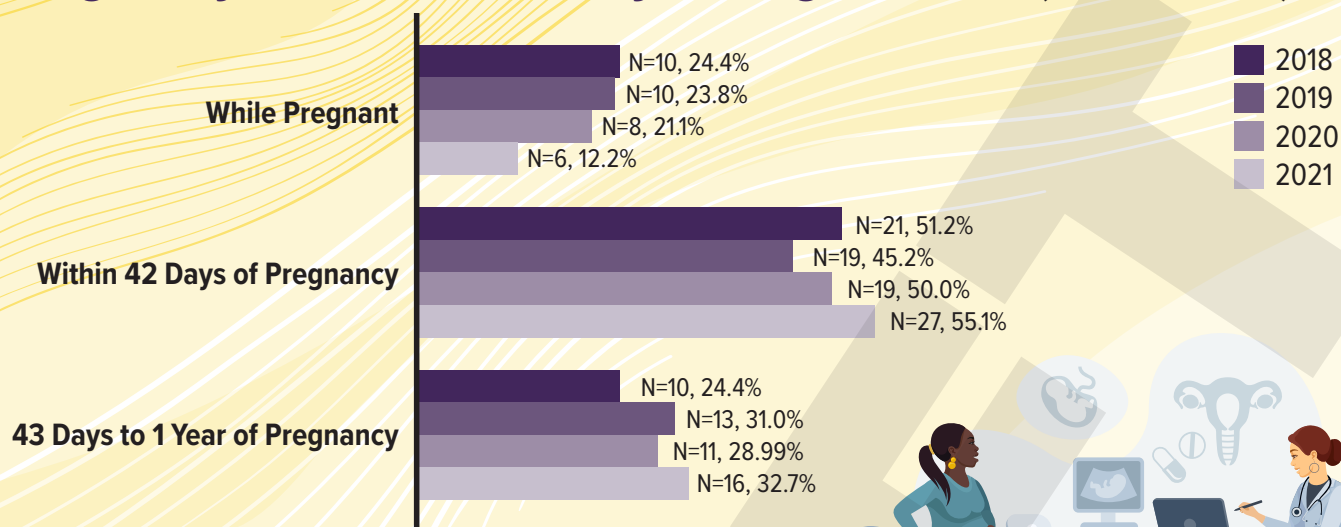
(2018-2021) per 100,000 live births

Cesarean Delivery: 25.8

Vaginal Delivery: 8.1

People who had a cesarean delivery were **3.2 times** more likely to die of a pregnancy-related cause than people who gave birth vaginally.

Pregnancy-Related Deaths by Timing of Death (2018–2021)



Most pregnancy-related deaths take place **during the early postpartum period** (within 42 days of the end of pregnancy).



Leading Causes of Pregnancy-Related Deaths (2018–2021)

2018 (41 Deaths)	2019 (42 Deaths)	2020 (38 Deaths)	2021 (49 Deaths)
Embolism-Thrombotic (Non-Cerebral) (N=8, 19.5%)	Hemorrhage (N=8, 19.0%)	Infection (N=8, 21.1%)	Mental Health Conditions (N=13, 26.5%)
Hemorrhage (N=8, 19.5%)	Embolism-Thrombotic (Non-Cerebral) (N=7, 16.7%)	Hemorrhage (N=7, 18.4%)	Hemorrhage (N=7, 14.3%)
Mental Health Conditions (N=6, 14.6%)	Mental Health Conditions (N=7, 16.7%)	Mental Health Conditions (N=5, 13.2%)	Infection (N=7, 14.3%)

During 2018 to 2021, **mental health conditions** and **hemorrhage** (bleeding) were leading causes of death each year. **Embolism** (a blockage in an artery) was a leading cause of death in 2018 and 2019. Infection was a leading cause of death in 2020 and 2021. In 2020, 75% (N=6) of infection deaths and, in 2021, 86% (N=6) of infection deaths were due to **COVID**.



Department
of Health