

Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review (PAMR) Report – Talking Points

Heart disease and mental health (including substance use disorder) are causing the highest number of deaths to pregnant women in Missouri.

- An average of 70 Missouri women died while pregnant or within one year of pregnancy each year over the 5-year period
- Nearly 8 in 10 pregnancy-related deaths were determined to be preventable
- **All** pregnancy-related deaths due to mental health conditions, including substance use disorder were determined to be preventable
- COVID was the cause of 2 in 3 pregnancy-related deaths in 2021 due to infection

All Missouri women deserve to experience a healthy pregnancy, but some women aren't doing as well as others.

- Black women who are pregnant are dying 2.5 times more often than white women.
- Women who live in urban areas of Missouri where the population is between 10,000 - 50,000 (micropolitan areas) have the highest rates of pregnancy-related deaths
 - Micropolitan areas include Branson, West Plains, Lebanon, Moberly, Warrensburg, Sedalia, Sikeston, Poplar Bluff, Kirksville
 - See map for full state view: https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/metro-micro/reference-maps/2020/state-maps/29_Missouri_2020.pdf

The report includes analysis of five years of data (2017-2021)

- Data analysis was conducted by a multi-disciplinary board of experts
- The PAMR board looked at the causes and contributing factors to deaths among pregnant women and strategies to prevent deaths in the future

NOTE:

This is an internal planning document and should not be shared publicly.

The PAMR report and DHSS press release are embargoed until Friday, August 30, 2024.