

**SOUTH CAROLINA MATERNAL HEALTH
INNOVATION COLLABORATIVE**

Maternal Health Task Force

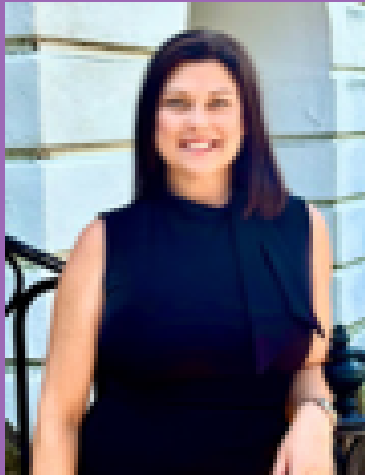
MEETING



*December 3, 2024
10 am to 12 pm
Microsoft Teams*




**Institute for Families
in Society**
at the
University of South Carolina



**Kristen
Shealy**

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Senior
Epidemiologist



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Defede**

Institute for Families in Society
University of South Carolina

Co-Principal
Investigator

MHIC Leadership Team

Agenda

DATA REVIEW

BREAK

WORKGROUPS

DEBRIEF

NEXT STEPS

ADJOURN





Reminders

■ MUTE

To minimize background noise, kindly mute your microphone when you are not speaking.

■ CHAT

Feel free to use the chat for any questions or comments, and we will do our best to address them during the meeting.

■ ENGAGE

Stay engaged and fully participate!

■ RESPOND

Complete the post-meeting survey to share your valuable feedback.

Introduce Yourself!

IN THE CHAT PLEASE SHARE...

- Name
- Organization/Community
- What's one thing that always makes you smile?



Maternal Health in SC

Sarah Gareau, DrPH, MEd, MCHES



**Institute for Families
in Society**
at the
University of South Carolina

Maternal Health Data Walk (CY 2023)

Presented by: Sarah Gareau, DrPH, MEd, MCHES
South Carolina Maternal Health Innovation Collaborative
(SCMHIC) Taskforce Meeting
December 3rd, 2024

We would like to thank the following team members at IFS for their contribution to this work:

- Ana López – De Fede, PhD; Distinguished Research Professor Emerita and Associate Director
- Chloe Rodriguez Ramos, MPH; Translation and Implementation Products Coordinator
- Linga Murthy Kotagiri, MD, MPH; Senior Maternal & Child Health Data Manager
- Chen Zimin, MBA, MSc; Population Health Analyst/Biostatistician
- Angela Kneece, BS; GIS Manager I
- Rajat Das Gupta, MBBS, MPH, PhD Candidate; Graduate Research Assistant
- Prince Addo, MPH, PhD Candidate; Graduate Research Assistant
- James Edwards; Research Associate
- Verna Brantley; Senior Research Associate/SAS Programmer
- Carol Reed, MPH; Senior Qualitative Research Associate
- Chanell Haley, PhD; Mixed Methods Health Scientist
- Nathaniel Bell, PhD; Associate Professor and Director of Research and Evaluation

Additional thanks to Chris Finney from the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office and Aunyika Moonan from the South Carolina Hospital Association for their data and hospital outreach support.

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Acknowledgments

Data Snapshots

- Perinatal Mental Health
- Co-occurring Conditions
- Newborn Outcomes
- High Maternal Vulnerability

Service Delivery

- Change in Women of Childbearing Age
- High MVI, Maternity Care Deserts, and OB Adequacy
- Hospital Perinatal Level
- ED Visits

Access to Care

- Drive Distance



Contents

Data Snapshots

“I was worried about miscarrying again. I was worried about what kind of mom I was going to be. I was worried about stuff going wrong and not getting the correct attention. That was the most emotional nine months ever.”

-Voices/Voces Birthing Person Participant

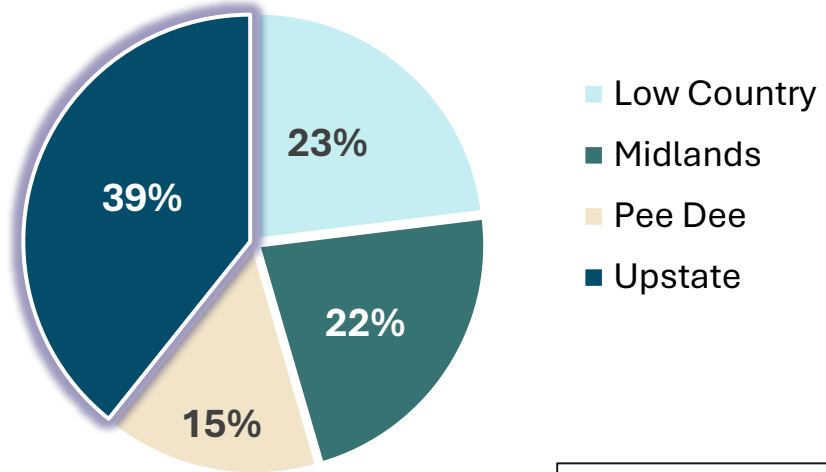


Perinatal Mental Health Conditions in SC



In CY2023, about **1 in 5** deliveries had a Perinatal Mental Health Condition (PMHC)
N = 9,493

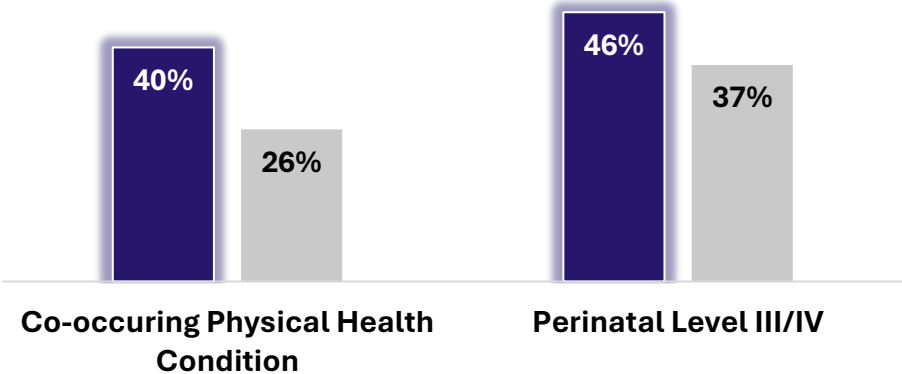
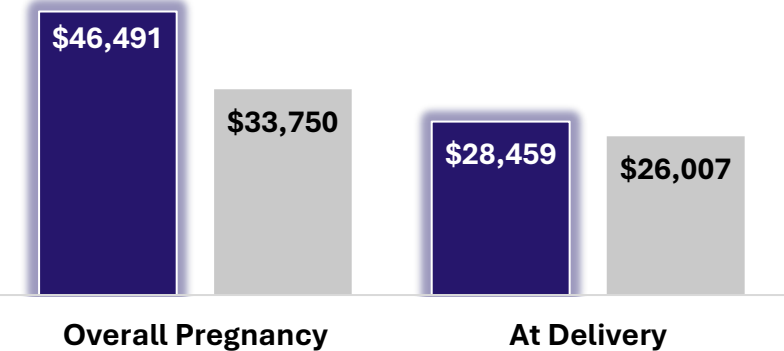
Proportion of Deliveries with PHMC



■ PMHC
■ No PMHC

Mean Charges

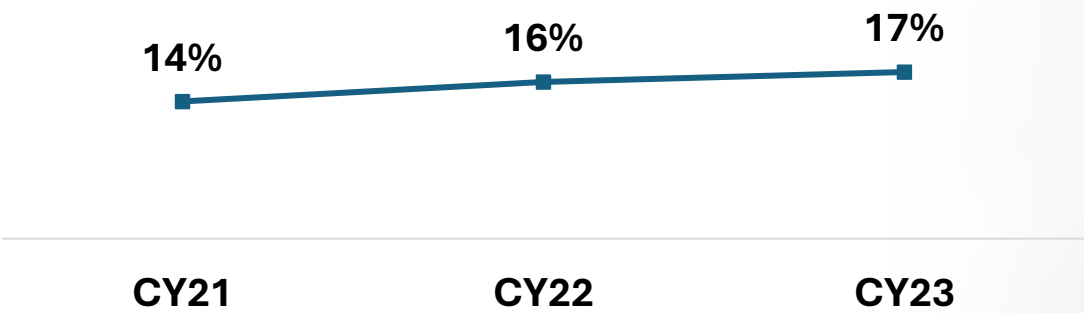
1.4X the costs



TAKEAWAY
Compared to non-PMHC deliveries, **those with PMHC had higher charges and greater rates** of co-occurring physical health (PH) conditions and of delivery in a perinatal level III/IV facility.

Trend and Outcomes among PMHC Deliveries

Statewide PMHC Trend

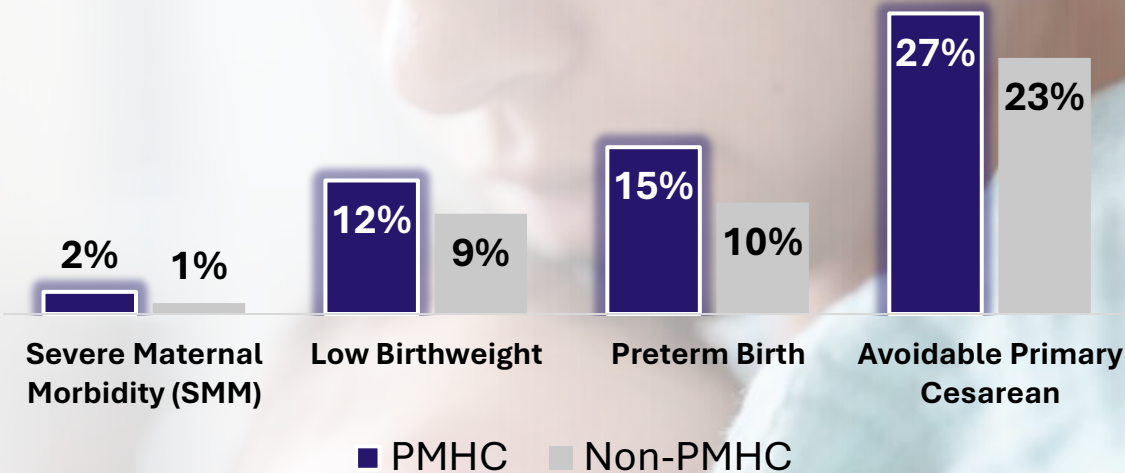


NOTE: PMHC is captured within 12-months prior to or at delivery and refers to mood, anxiety, and anxiety-related disorders. Cochran Armitage test was used to calculate trends.

TAKEAWAY

The statewide PMHC rate increased significantly over time (**22%, $p<.05$**). This relative increase was even higher among birthing persons in the Upstate (**29%**) and Pee Dee regions (**32%**). Increases were also seen across all race, payer, and residence groups with the largest relative increase among birthing persons identifying as **Hispanic (40%)** or who were **uninsured (86%)**. Indicating potential missed opportunities for timely screening and intervention, **1 in 5 birthing persons** who had a mental health diagnosis on an ED visit or inpatient stay in the year prior to their delivery also had one postpartum.

Outcomes (CY 2023)



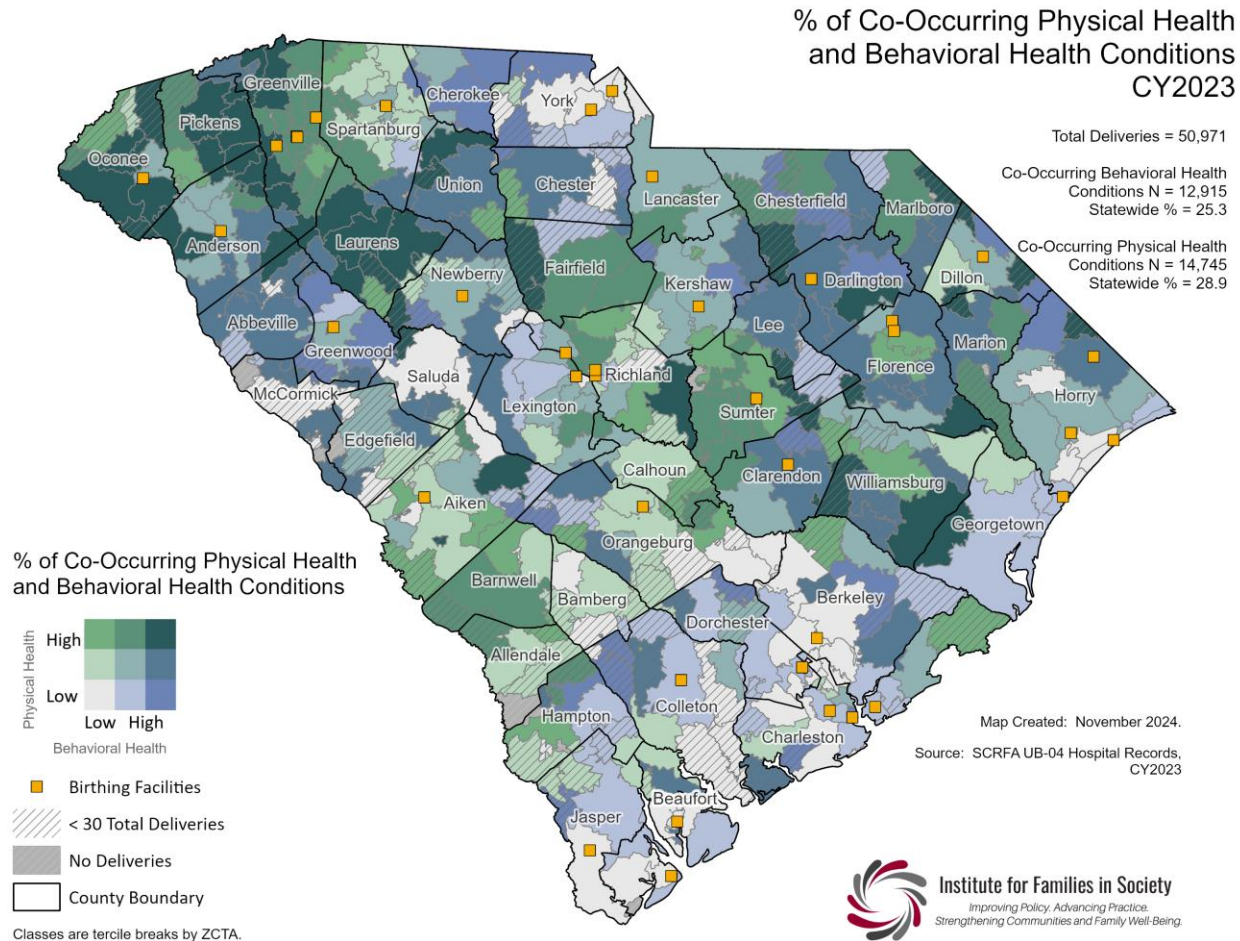
■ PMHC ■ Non-PMHC



To learn more about PMHC deliveries in SC, visit the [statewide and hospital SCBOI dashboards](#).

You can also access the AIM PMHC Learning Series Sessions [here](#).

Co-Occurring Conditions

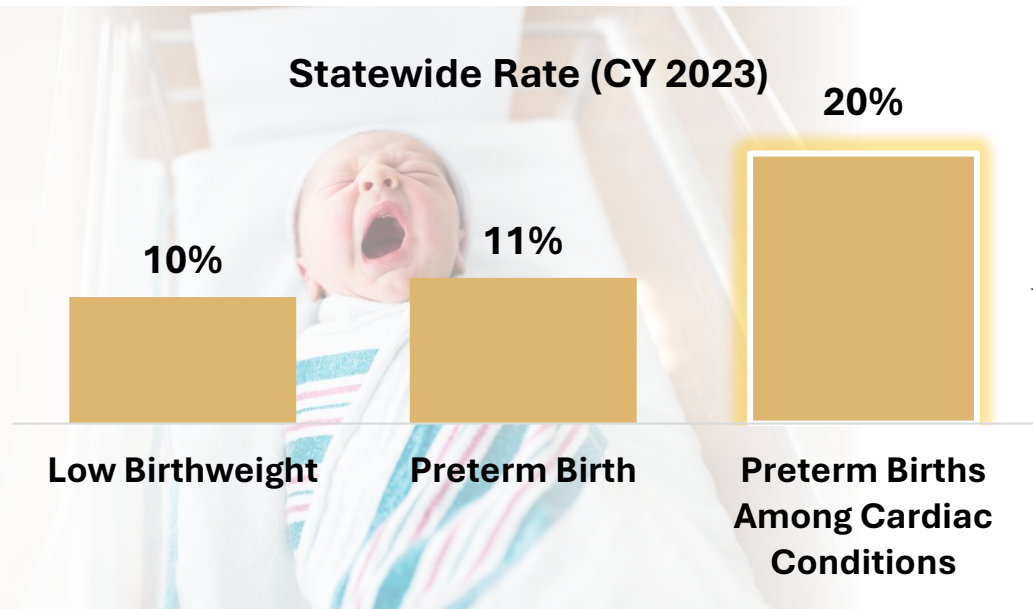


TAKEAWAY

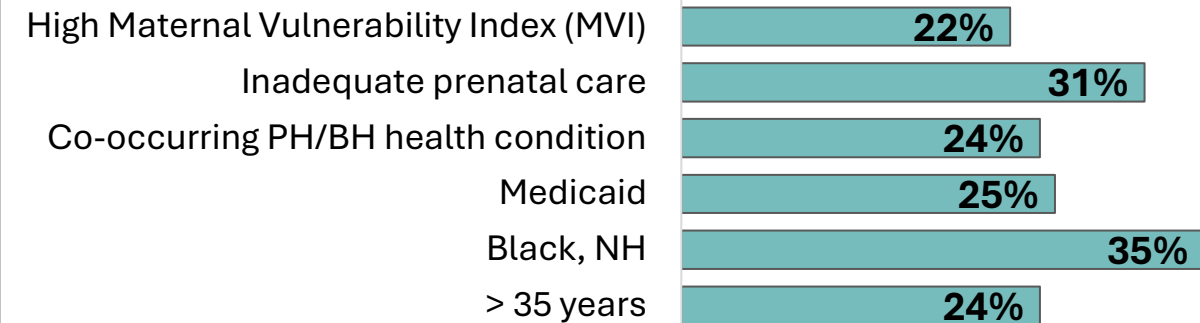
This map identifies within each county the areas with greatest need. **Overall, rates of co-occurring behavioral health (BH) and physical health (PH) conditions were highest in six SC counties;** four in the Upstate (Oconee, Pickens, Anderson, Laurens) and two in the Pee Dee (Chesterfield and Darlington). Of these, half (Pickens, Laurens, and Chesterfield) did not have a birthing facility within their county, indicating greater potential need for care coordination.

Interpreting the map: The **bright green** is high for physical health only, the **bright blue** is high for behavioral health only, and the **dark green-blue** counties are high for both.

Newborn Outcomes



Disparities were present for all newborn outcomes, with the highest rates seen for **preterm births among cardiac conditions**.



NEW!
PC-06
Unexpected
Newborn
Complications



1 in 7

SC newborns have unexpected complications (89.6% moderate, 1.5% severe, 8.8% both).

TOP 3 CONDITIONS		%
Moderate Respiratory Complications with Length of Stay (LOS)		45%
Moderate Respiratory Complications with LOS procedures		25%
Moderate Birth Trauma with LOS		22%

Compared to the CY 2023 statewide rate (14%), **disparities** were seen among those:

- >35 years of age (15%)
- who delivered via cesarean (18%)
- with perinatal obesity (16%)
- with co-occurring PH/BH health conditions (17%)

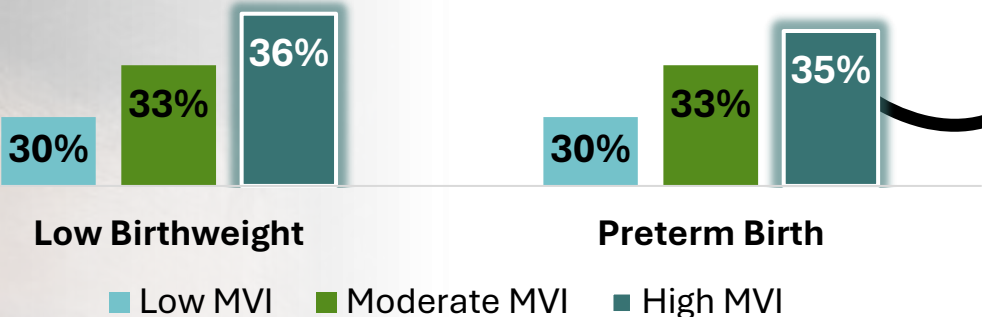
Maternal Vulnerability Index Snapshot

What is the Maternal Vulnerability Index?



The US Maternal Vulnerability Index (MVI) measures vulnerability for adverse maternal health outcomes across reproductive, physical, mental health/substance abuse, and general healthcare, socioeconomic determinants, and physical environment.

Low Birthweight and Preterm Birth by MVI (CY 2023)



High MVI had **23%** higher odds of **preterm birth** (aOR=1.23), and **31%** higher odds of **low birthweight** (aOR=1.31) compared to low MVI.

Top Three Factors with a High Distribution among the High MVI Group



Residing in a rural area (63%)



Having less than a high school education (42%)



Being younger <20 (46%)

SMM at Delivery or Postpartum by MVI (CY 2022)



When assessing maternal outcomes by vulnerability, **those with high MVI had higher rates of SMM** during delivery or postpartum. This trend was **also seen when observing rates of ICU** (N=109 for high MVI vs. N=64 for low MVI) **and postpartum inpatient stays** (5.1% for high MVI vs. 3.8% for low MVI).

NOTE: aOR= Adjusted Odds Ratio. Logistic regression models adjusted for: age, race, residence, payer, education, prenatal care, BMI, and chronicity profile. Chi square p- value of <.05 is defined as statistically significant. CY22 data was used for the MVI maternal outcome analysis as postpartum data for CY23 is not yet complete.



Service Delivery

“I think all of us as an agency or as agencies need to take a look at how we are providing our services and how people are able to access our services.”

- Voices/Voces MCH Leader Participant

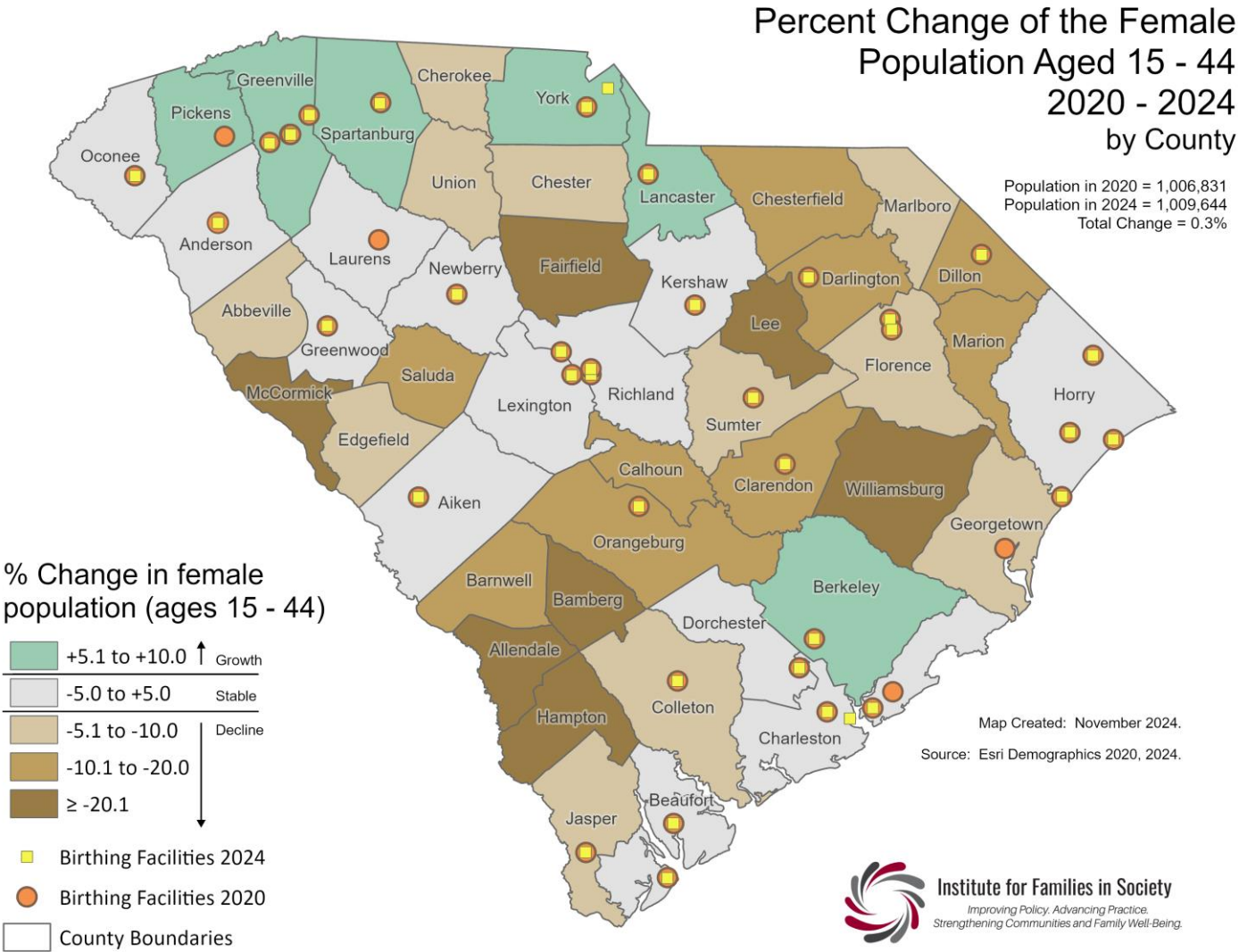
Change in Women of Childbearing Age



TAKEAWAY

From 2020 – 2024, six SC counties (**Pickens, Greenville, Spartanburg, York, Lancaster, and Berkeley**) saw **upwards of a 5.1% to 10% growth in the child-bearing age population**. This suggests additional providers and services may be needed in these areas as reflected by recent birthing facility openings in the Piedmont and Berkeley.

Seven others (**McCormick, Fairfield, Lee, Williamsburg, Bamberg, Allendale, and Hampton**) saw a **decrease of over 20% in the population**. **Of note:** None had a birthing facility indicating challenges of maintaining service delivery with fewer patients.



High MVI, Maternity Care Deserts, and OB Adequacy

Number of OB/GYN Practitioners per Deliveries with Safety Net OB/GYN Services, Maternity Care Deserts & Maternal Vulnerability

Ring Key:

- FQHC or RHC OB/GYN
- Maternity Care Desert
- Maternal Vulnerability Index (MVI)

Ring Classifications:

FQHC or RHC OB/GYN

- No OB/GYN present
- OB/GYN present

Maternity Care Desert

- Maternity Care Desert
- Low Access to Maternity Care
- Full Access to Maternity Care

Maternal Vulnerability Index (MVI)

- High Vulnerability
- Moderate Vulnerability
- Low Vulnerability

Basemap:

Number of OB/GYN providers per number of deliveries for CY2023

- Lowest tertile*
- Moderate tertile
- Highest tertile

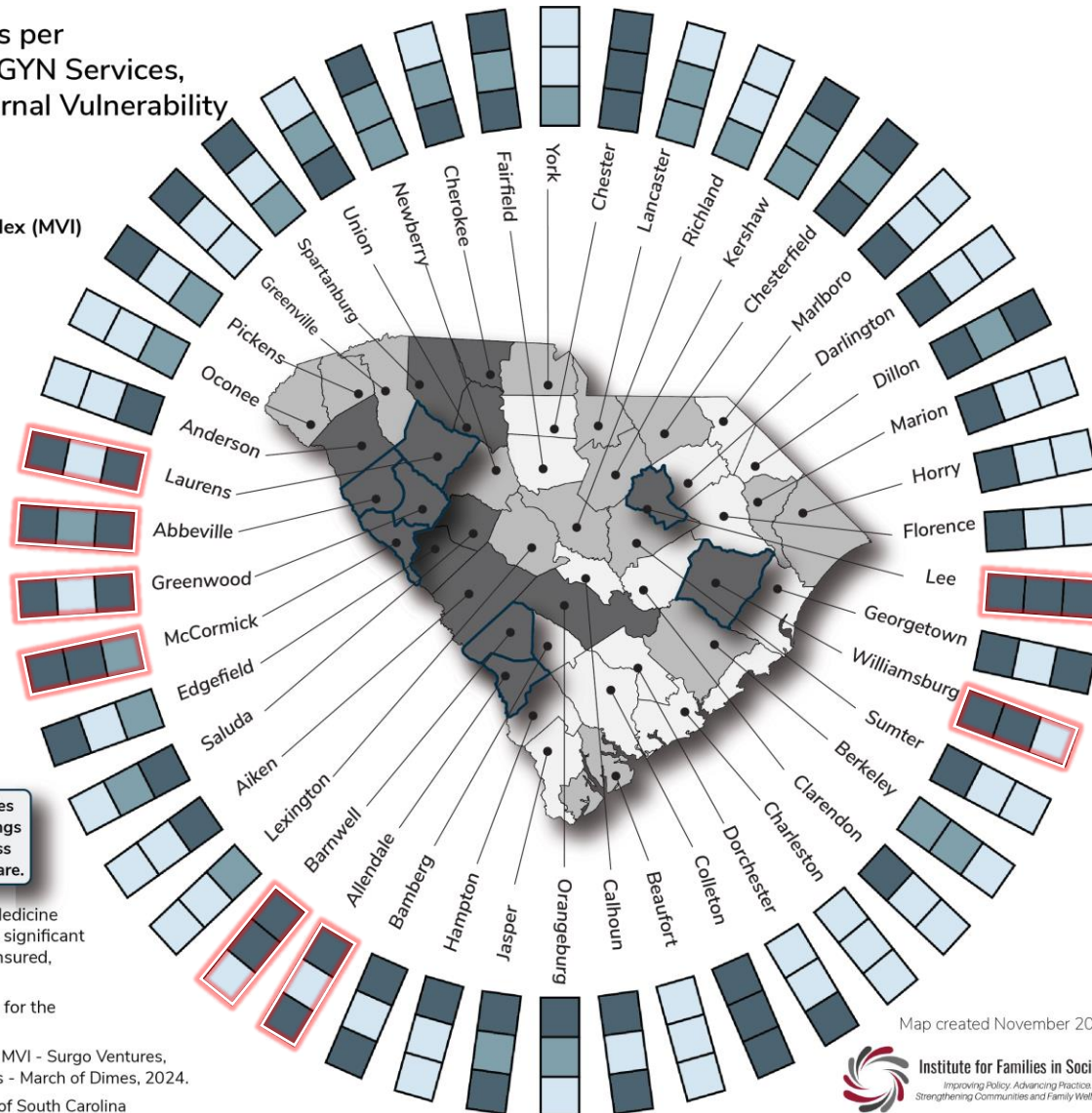
*Highlighted counties have at least two rings indicating less access to maternal healthcare.

Safety-Net practices are defined by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) as "those providers that organize and deliver a significant level of health care and other needed services to uninsured, Medicaid and other vulnerable patients."

Note: There are no "Moderate Access" class counties for the Maternity Care Desert in South Carolina.

Source: US Dept. of Health and Human Services, 2024. MVI - Surgo Ventures, data accessed September 2023. Maternity Care Deserts - March of Dimes, 2024.

USC Institute for Families in Society © 2024 University of South Carolina



Map created November 2024



Lowest Tertile (Highest Need) Counties

Abbeville

Allendale

Barnwell

Greenwood

Laurens

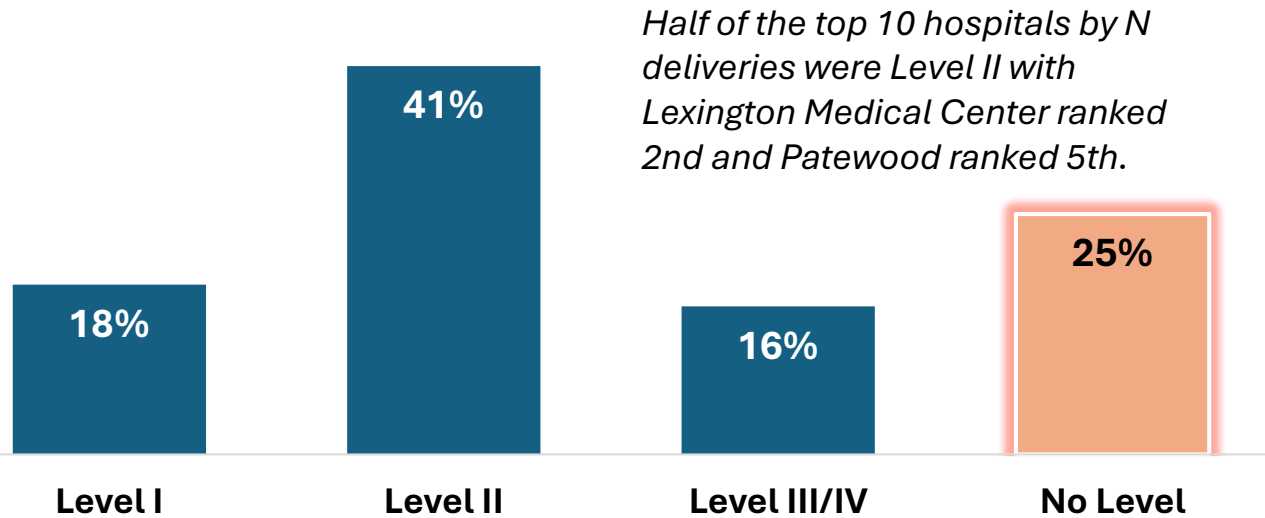
Lee

McCormick

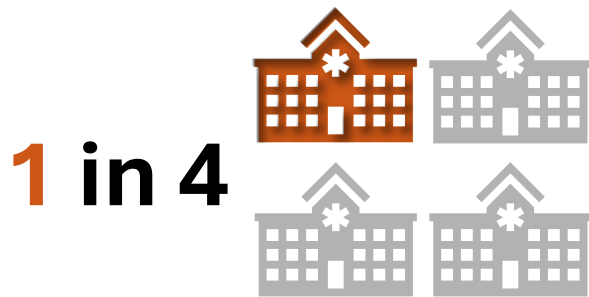
Williamsburg

SC Hospital Profile (CY 2023)

Hospital Perinatal Level (% of total hospitals)



Half of the top 10 hospitals by N deliveries were Level II with Lexington Medical Center ranked 2nd and Patewood ranked 5th.



SC hospitals do not have a labor and delivery unit and may have greater need for emergency department staff OB training.

Colleton, Kershaw, McLeod Health Dillon, Hilton Head, and Newberry County had fewer than 300 deliveries. Kershaw is currently closing with OB staff moving to MUSC NE Columbia. MUSC Orangeburg was the only Level II with fewer than 400 deliveries.

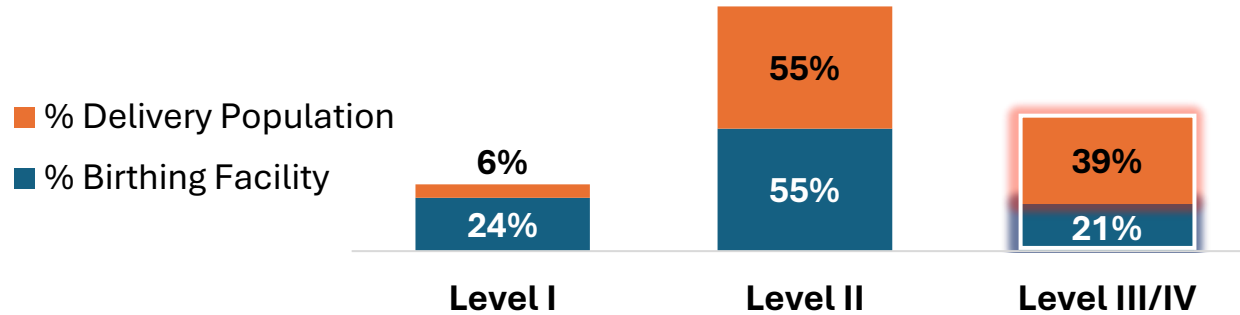


TAKEAWAY

- Since 2012, 13 labor & delivery units have closed.
- Of the 13 “No level” facilities, 6 (46%) were a “never birthing” facility and 7 (54%) had closed their OB services.

Perinatal Level Analysis of Birthing Facilities (CY 2023)

Perinatal Level of Birthing Facilities in Comparison to Delivery Population Served



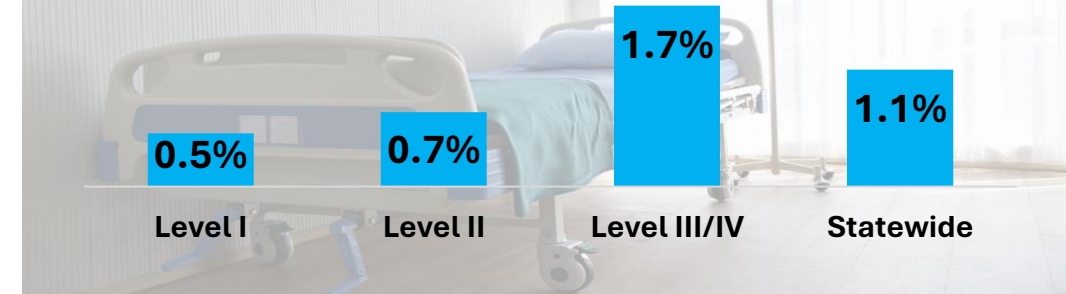
QUICK FACTS

 **43%** of perinatal level I delivery patients resided in rural areas, almost 2x the statewide rate.

 **72%** of perinatal level I deliveries were covered by Medicaid, compared to 60% of deliveries statewide.

 **1 in 3** perinatal level III/IV deliveries were to birthing persons with co-occurring physical health conditions. This is compared to 9% of perinatal level I and 26% of perinatal level II.

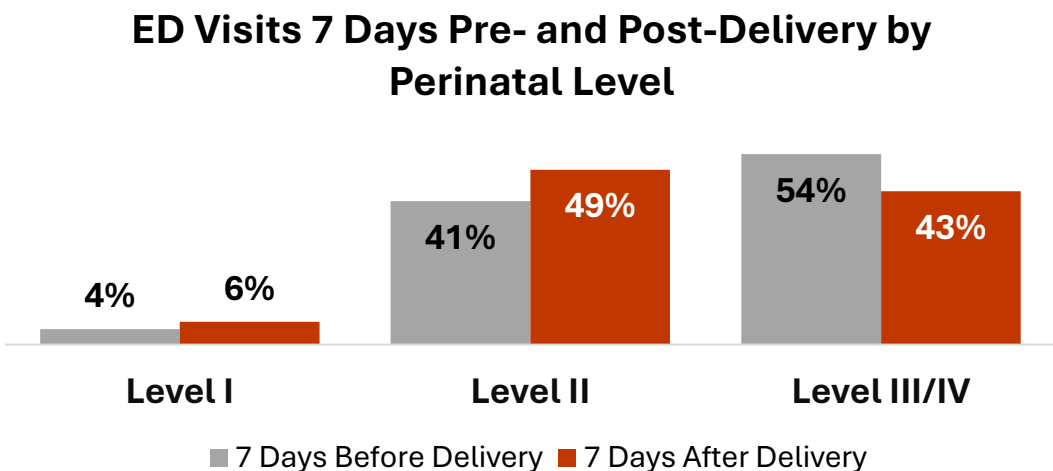
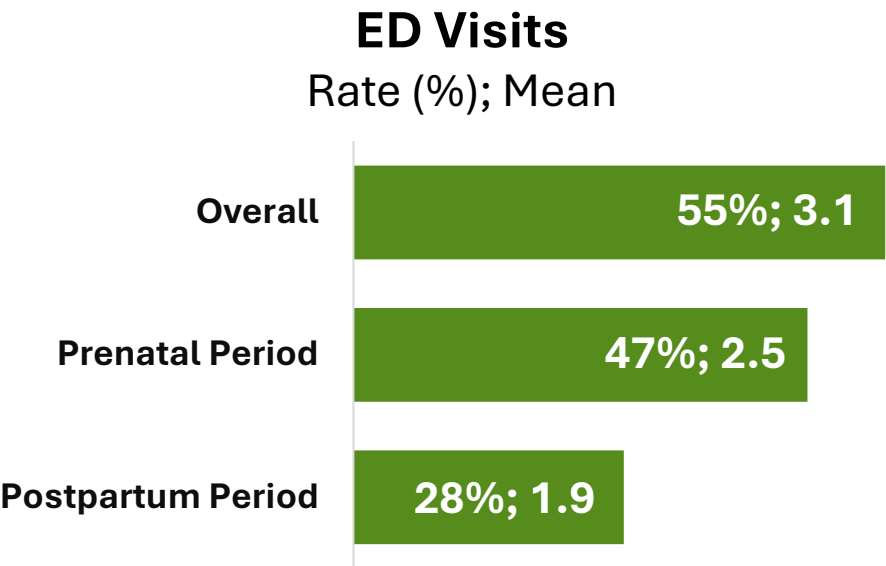
Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM) by Perinatal Level



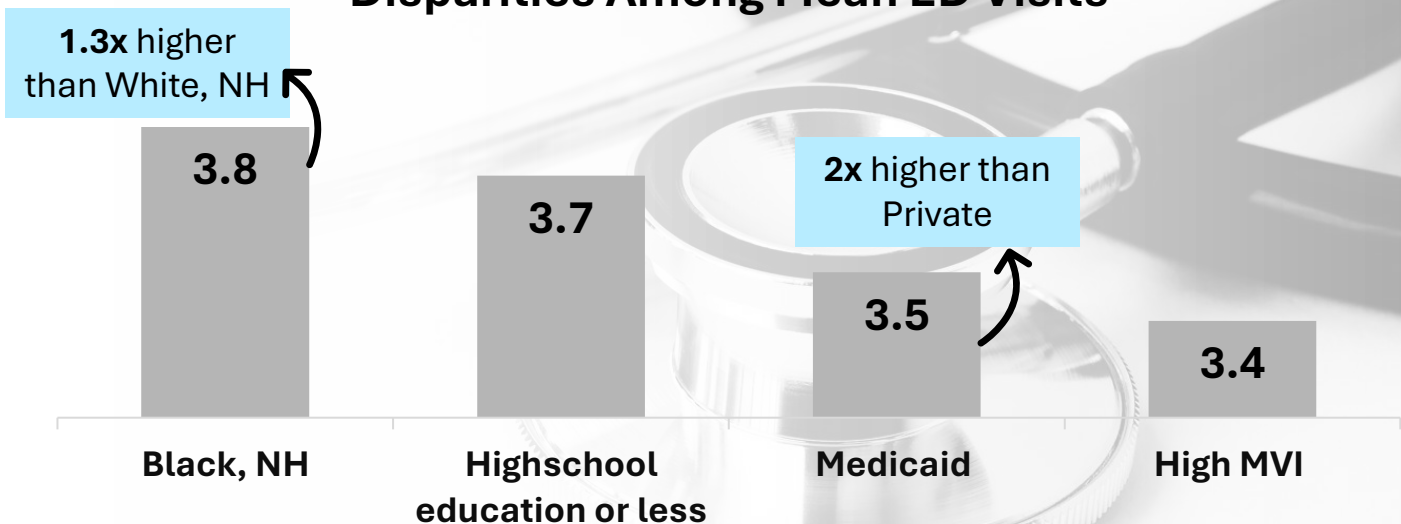
TAKEAWAY:

- Perinatal III/IV facilities see a disproportionate number of obstetric patients in comparison to the number of facilities.
- Perinatal level III/IV obstetric patients often exhibited co-occurring conditions and experienced SMM, preterm (55%), and low birthweight (58%). This suggests that complex deliveries are often transferred or admitted to these facilities ($p < .001$) indicating potential need to implement ACOG's maternal levels of care.
- Lower-level facilities require proper resources to provide adequate and equitable care/services to all birthing persons.

Characteristics of ED Visits (CY 2022)



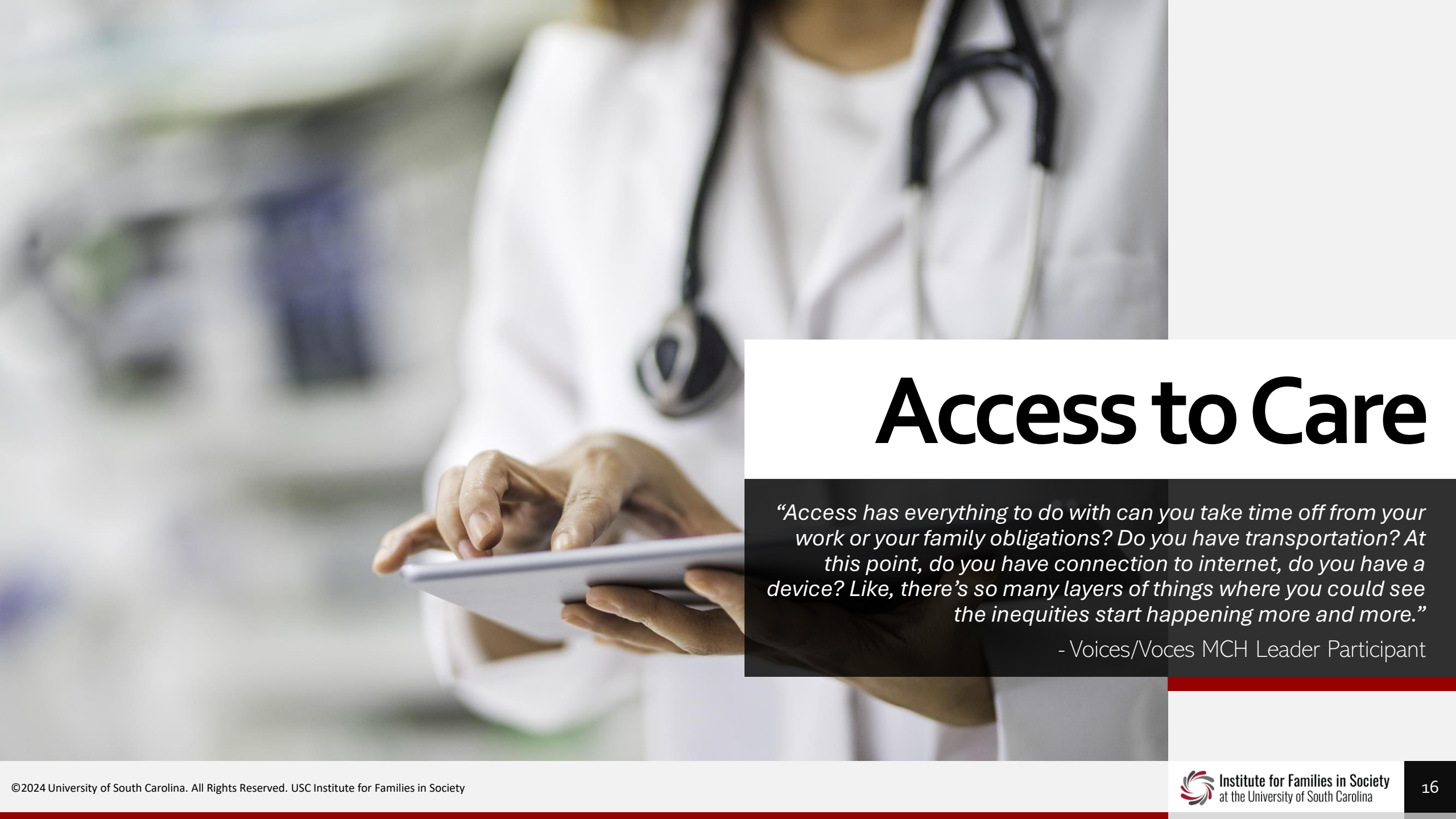
Disparities Among Mean ED Visits



TAKEAWAY:

Statewide, 3,558 delivery patients showed up in an ED in the week prior to delivery and another 2,021 in the week after. Most visits were in a birthing facility, indicating the need for these ED providers to also be trained to recognize maternal early warning signs.

Non-obstetric diagnoses on these visits: 1 in 3 hypertension; 1 in 10 mental health; 1 in 16 cardiac or circulatory system.



Access to Care

“Access has everything to do with can you take time off from your work or your family obligations? Do you have transportation? At this point, do you have connection to internet, do you have a device? Like, there’s so many layers of things where you could see the inequities start happening more and more.”

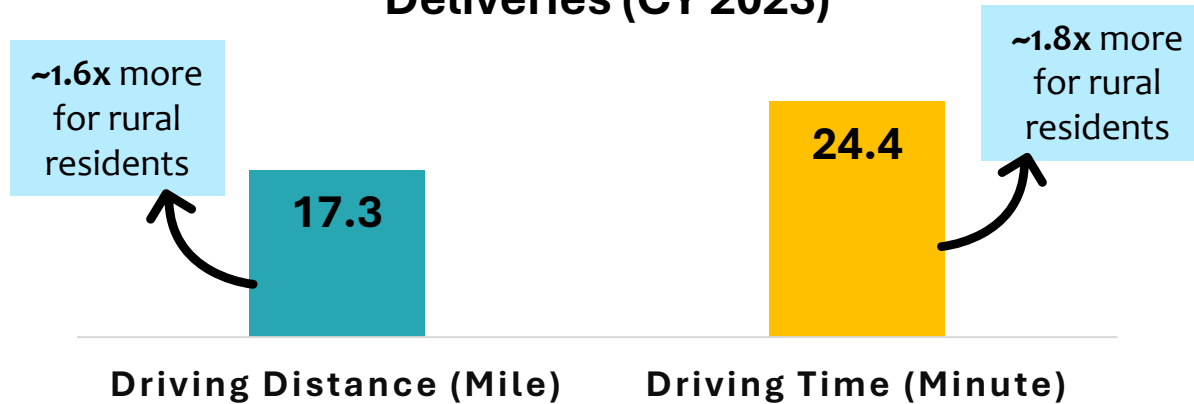
- Voices/Voces MCH Leader Participant

Drive Distance Analysis



Drive distance is defined as the distance from the center of the zip code tabulation area (ZCTA) where the birthing person resides to the birthing facility they attended.

Average Driving Distance and Time for Deliveries (CY 2023)



TAKEAWAY:

Both adjusting for co-occurring conditions and not, in CY 2023, drive time was associated with poor outcomes. **The farther a birthing person travels to their birthing hospital, the greater the risk of maternal morbidity outcomes**, including increasing rates of SMM, avoidable C-section, low birthweight and prematurity ($p < 0.5$).

Drive Distance Analysis (cont.)

Additional analysis shows that in CY 2023:



2 out of 5

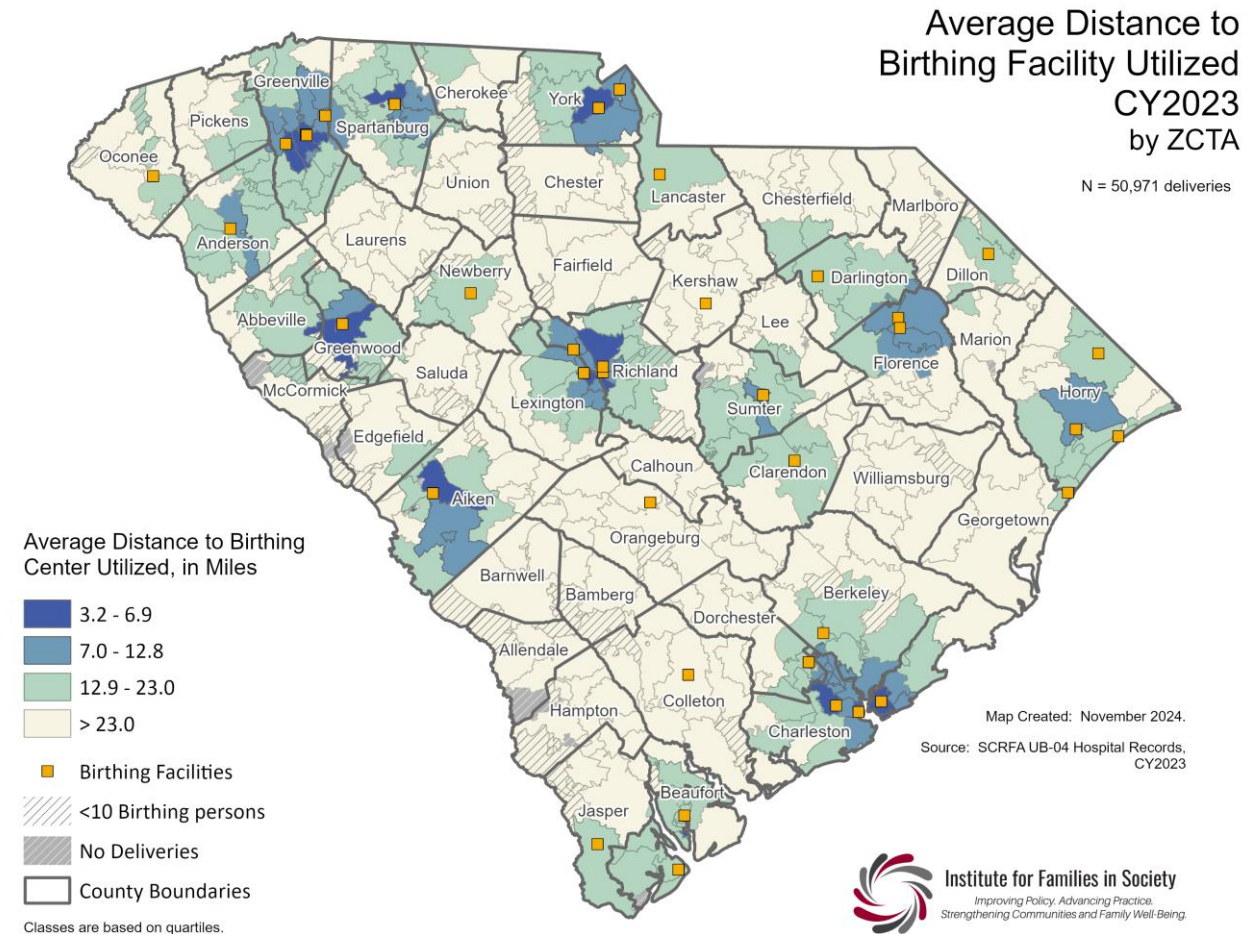
birthing persons traveled outside of their residential county for their delivery.



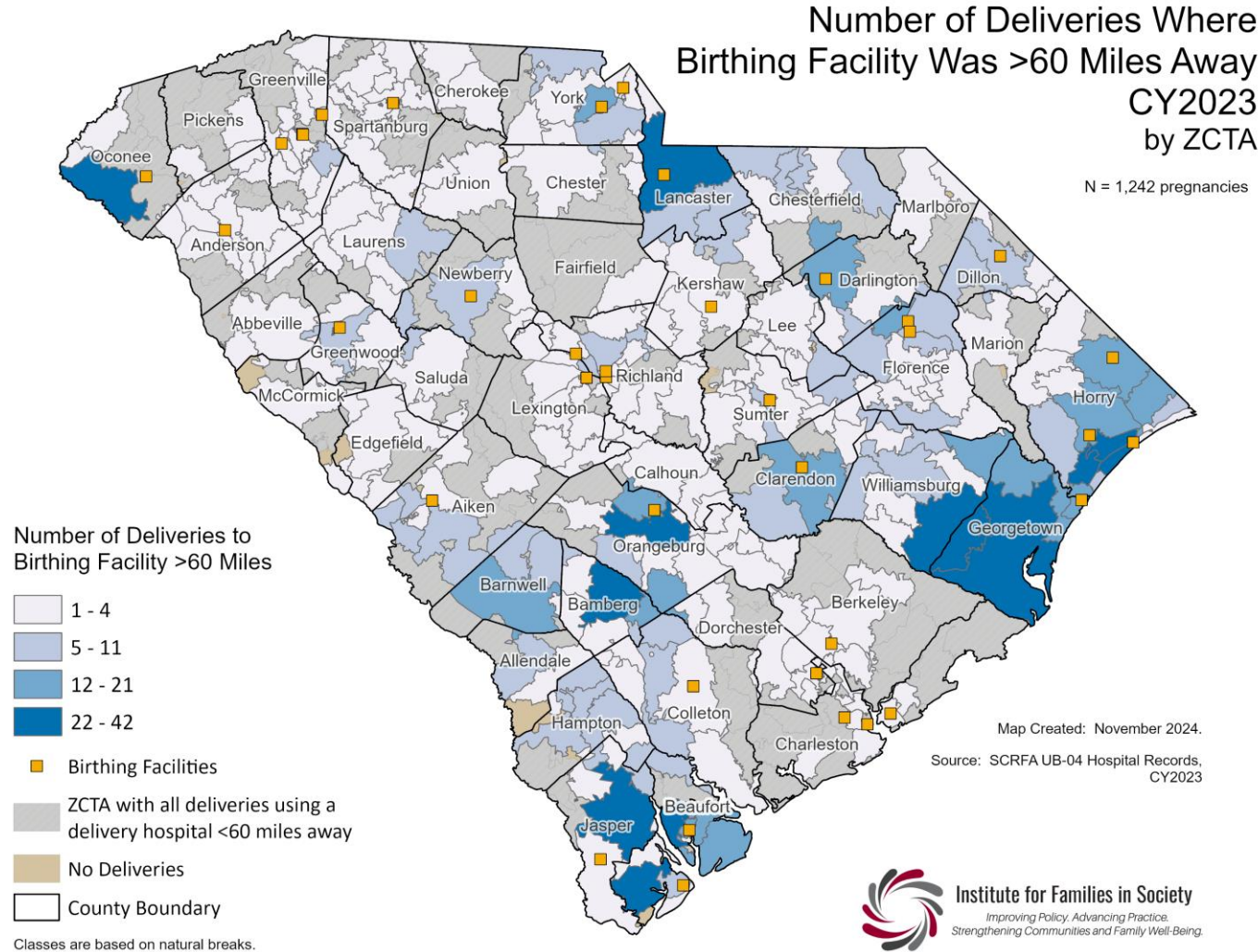
Of those who traveled 60 miles or more for care (1,242) over **80%** continued to seek care outside of their residential county, even though a birthing facility was available within their county. Further investigation of **commuting patterns and realized access** are needed.



Compared to those who traveled the shortest distance to their birthing facility, those who traveled the furthest were **more likely** to be Medicaid beneficiaries, have a co-occurring PH/BH health condition, reside in a rural area, and have high MVI.



Drive Distance Analysis (cont.)



TAKEAWAY

In this map, county areas in **dark blue** represent the greatest number of deliveries which traveled over 60 miles to their birthing facility. Those who traveled the furthest resided in Jasper/Beaufort, Georgetown/Horry, Orangeburg, Lancaster, Williamsburg, Bamberg, and Oconee.



Next Steps

“If you want to give really good care, you have to go deeper. You have to meet your patients where they are, and you have to let them teach you. They are the experts on their own bodies. We are the experts in medicine. And so, allowing it to be a mutual learning relationship is the key to giving the best care.”

- Voices/Voces MCH Leader Participant

***NEW!* SCMHIC WEBSITE**

schealthviz.sc.edu/scmhic



SCHealthViz 

schealthviz.sc.edu/county-profiles

Arriving 2025.

More data. More options.

- New CY23 ZCTA-Level Data
- Key Findings
- Contextual Information

SCHealthViz 





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Contact

A photograph of a pregnant woman sitting on a light-colored carpet. A young child is sitting in front of her, hugging her belly. The woman is wearing a white and grey striped tank top and grey leggings. The child is wearing a white shirt and dark leggings with small white polka dots. The background is blurred, showing a doorway and some furniture. The entire image has a purple tint. A horizontal white line runs across the middle of the image.

Break

MHI Grant Requirements

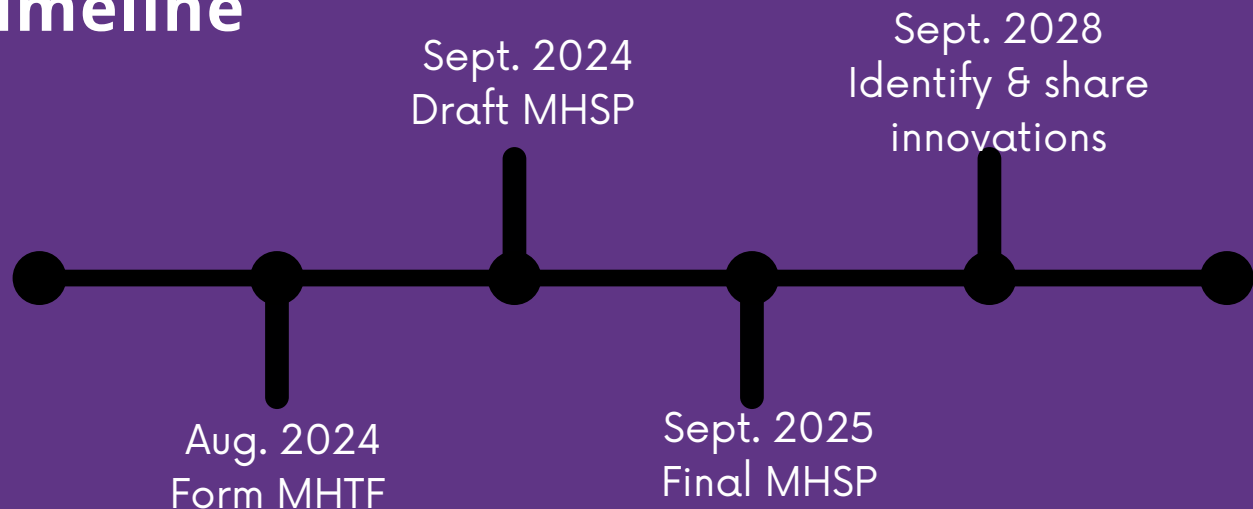
HRSA Funded

Certain required key actions, timelines, & focus areas

Key Actions

- Establish a state-focused MHTF
- Improve state-level maternal health data & surveillance
- Promote & execute innovation in maternal health service delivery
- Measure & track performance & conduct a program evaluation
- Foster collaborate learning with traditional & non-traditional partners

Timeline



MHTF Work Groups



Data Collection,
Analysis, & Distribution



Service Delivery



Workforce
Development



Empowerment &
Literacy

MHTF Work Groups

- Meet your workgroup members

Flexibility to change groups if needed

- Facilitators & notetakers will be present

- Be prepared to share!

Each workgroup will present their insights



Workgroups

If you do not automatically move to a breakout room, please wait in the main room.

Debrief

GROUP SHARING

Please share a brief overview of your workgroup's discussion.

- *under two minutes please*
 - *focus on key questions for strategic planning*
-

WORKGROUP MEETINGS

Scheduled based on discussions and results of a post meeting survey

Expect a calendar invite for sometime in February



MHTF MEETING

March 3, 2025

10 am to 3 pm

Location: TBD

Next Meetings



Next Meetings



December 2024	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025
MHTF <i>virtual</i>	X	Workgroup Meetings	MHTF <i>in-person</i>	X
May 2025	June 2025	July 2025	August 2025	Sept. 2025
Workgroup Meetings	MHTF <i>virtual</i>	X	Workgroup Meetings	MHTF <i>in-person</i>

Next Steps

Post-Meeting Survey

Share feedback & thoughts
Workgroup leadership & meeting schedules

MHSP Review Survey



<https://redcap.link/scmhic2>

Reflection Activity

"The one thing I will take with me from this meeting is..."