Health Disparities in Connecticut:
INFANT & MATERNAL HEALTH

INFANT MORTALITY
Black babies born to Black women in Connecticut are significantly more likely to die before their first birthday than babies born to white women.¹

![Bar chart showing infant mortality rates by race in Connecticut, 2017.](chart)

LOW BIRTHWEIGHT
Black babies are twice as likely as white babies to be born weighing less than 5½ pounds, which can put them at higher risk for serious health and developmental consequences.

![Bar chart showing percent of babies with low birthweight by race in Connecticut, 2018.](chart)

Learn more about health disparities at [www.cthealth.org](http://www.cthealth.org)
MATERNAL HEALTH

There are significant racial and ethnic health disparities in pregnancy-related deaths.

One recent national study found that Black women were more than three times as likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women.

![Pregnancy-related deaths per 100,000 live births, U.S., 2007-2016](image)

While socioeconomic differences often correspond to differences in health outcomes, they did not fully explain these differences. The study found that Black women with a college degree or higher were still 1.6 times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women without a high school diploma.

Among those with a college education or higher, Black women were 5.2 times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes than white women.

“Most pregnancy-related deaths can be prevented, and significant racial/ethnic disparities in pregnancy-related mortality need to be addressed,” the study authors wrote.

“...the lifelong effects of race, racism, social class, poverty, stress, environmental influences, health policy, and other social determinants of health are reflected in the elevated rates of adverse outcomes and persistent disparities."

- Connecticut Department of Public Health, Healthy People 2025

ENDNOTES

