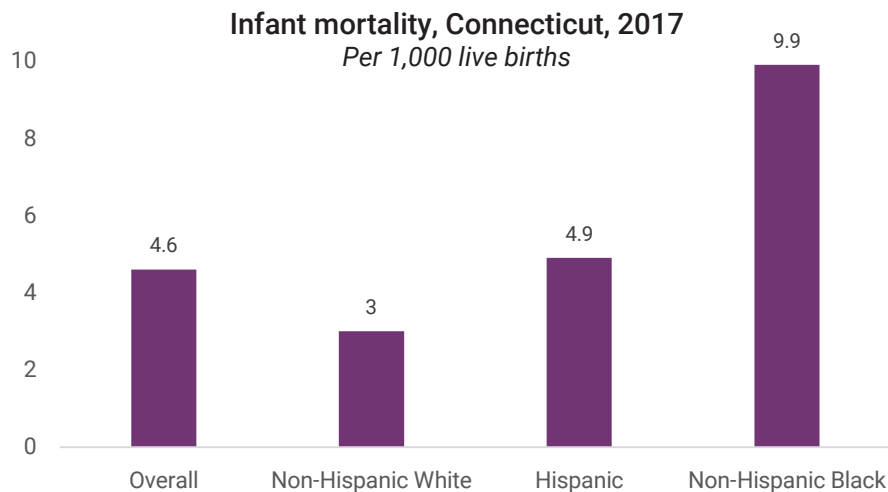


Health Disparities in Connecticut: **INFANT & MATERNAL HEALTH**

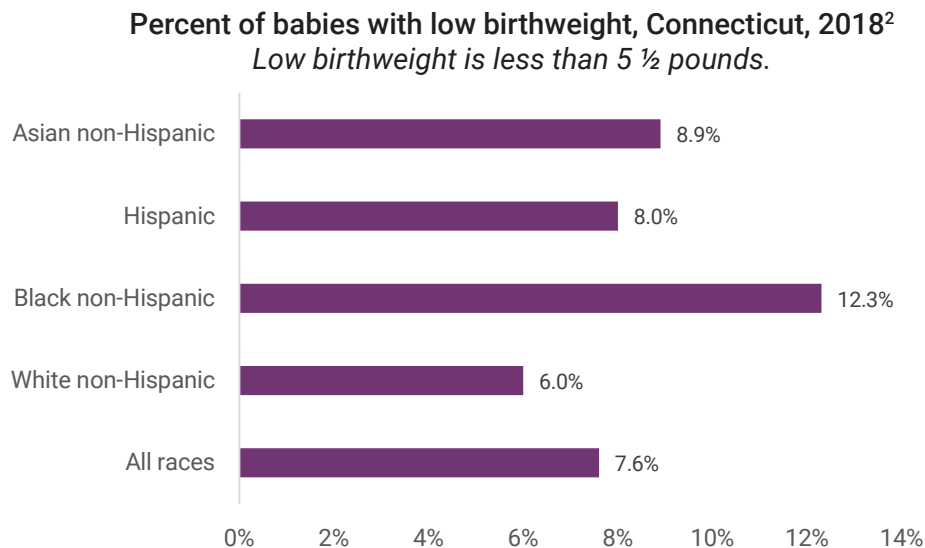
INFANT MORTALITY

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



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.

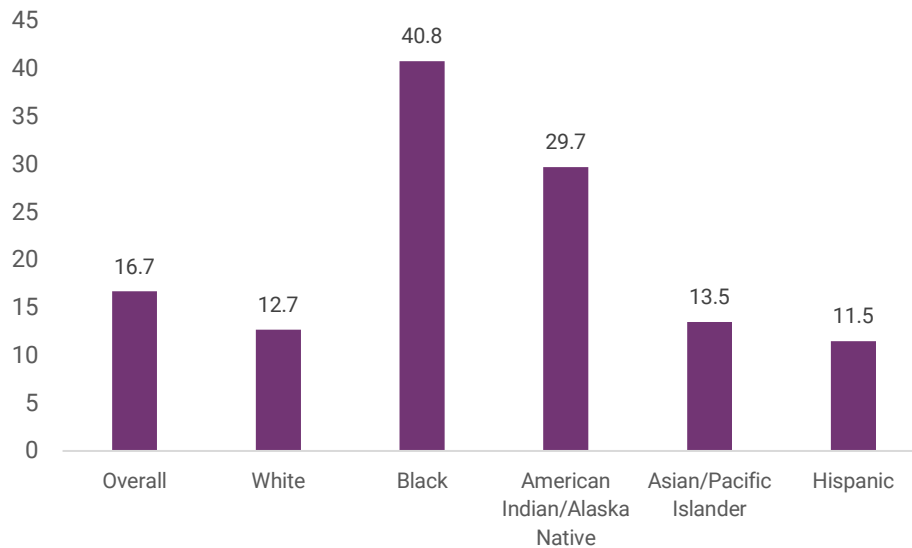


MATERNAL HEALTH

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., 2007-2016³



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

1 Connecticut Department of Public Health, “[Health Connecticut 2025: State Health Assessment](#),” 2019, page 92.

2 Connecticut Department of Public Health, “[Health Connecticut 2025: State Health Assessment](#),” 2019, page 89.

3 Petersen EE, Davis NL, Goodman D, et al. [Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Pregnancy-Related Deaths](#) – United States, 2007–2016. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2019;68:762–765.