

2023

MATERNAL DEATHS IN IDAHO

Summary of Findings by the Maternal Mortality Review Committee

Idaho Board of Medicine

In 2023, there were 11 Pregnancy-Associated Deaths* in Idaho

**death of a woman while pregnant OR within one year of pregnancy, regardless of cause*

Of these, 5 (45%) were classified as Pregnancy-Related Deaths*

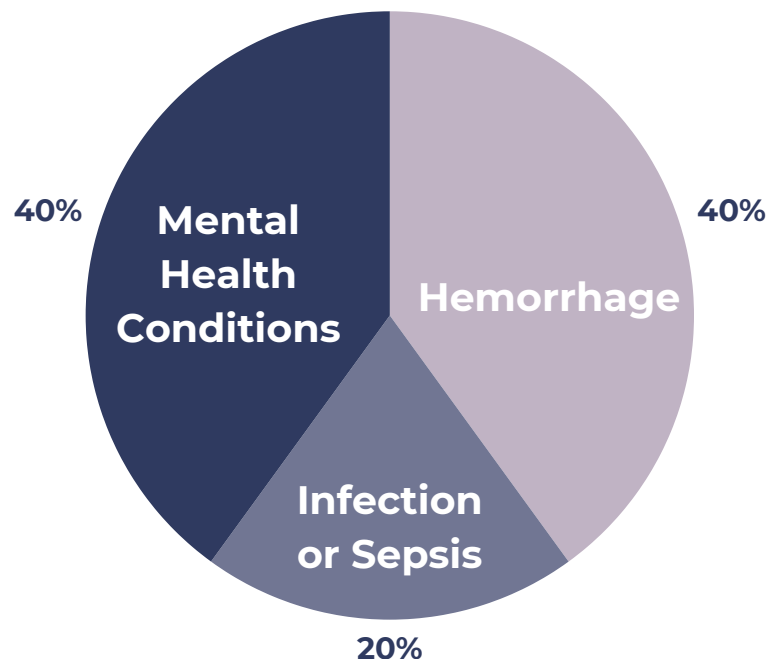
**death due to pregnancy complications, events initiated by pregnancy, or aggravation of an existing condition by pregnancy*

45.5% of maternal deaths occurred between **43 days and 1 year** postpartum

64% were among women residing in **urban** areas

36% were among women residing in **rural** areas

2023 Pregnancy-Related Causes of Death



Mental health conditions continue to be a leading cause of pregnancy-related death in Idaho since 2018

Idaho Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio

22.6*

MICH-04 Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio

13.6*

*per 100,000 live births

The Maternal Mortality Review Committee (MMRC) is a multidisciplinary group that comprehensively reviews deaths that occur during or within 1 year of the end of a pregnancy.

Its purpose is to identify and analyze maternal deaths to determine if pregnancy was a contributing factor to the mother's death. All cases presented to the MMRC are de-identified and are not used for disciplinary action by the Board of Medicine.

Key Recommendations

1. Ensure adequate patient education and awareness of signs and symptoms of post-partum complications such as sepsis, pre-eclampsia, and hemorrhage. Pregnant women should consult with a healthcare provider if they experience any new or unusual symptoms.
2. Educate all newly pregnant women about medication safety during pregnancy and breastfeeding and encourage continuation of their prescribed medication until they can have a discussion with their provider.
3. All pregnant women should wear a seatbelt when in a motor vehicle.

Resources

Idaho Crisis and Suicide Hotline: call or text 9-8-8 or visit the website at <https://idahocrisis.org/>.

Idaho Health and Welfare:

- Directory of agencies that provide services and financial aid for pregnancy and child health.
- List of resources for individuals struggling with substance use disorder, including pregnant and post-partum women.

