

## 2006 to 2015 saw increase in severe maternal morbidity

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(HealthDay)—From 2006 to 2015, the proportion of women

experiencing severe maternal morbidity increased 45 percent, according to a statistical brief published by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Kathryn R. Fingar, Ph.D., M.P.H., from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in Rockville, Md., and colleagues presented trends and disparities in delivery hospitalizations involving severe maternal morbidity from 2006 through the third quarter of 2015.

The researchers found that the rate of severe maternal morbidity at delivery increased from 101.3 to 146.6 per 10,000 [delivery](#) hospitalizations (45 percent) from 2006 through 2015. Blood transfusion, disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC), and hysterectomy were the most common indicators of severe maternal morbidity (121.1, 11, and 11 deliveries per 10,000, respectively) in 2015. Procedural intervention was often involved in some conditions; over half of deliveries with shock, amniotic fluid embolism, [sickle cell disease](#) with crisis, and DIC had a [blood transfusion](#) and one-third of deliveries with shock had a hysterectomy in 2015. Women aged 40+ years and those aged 20 to 29 years had the highest and lowest severe maternal morbidity (248 and 136 per 10,000 deliveries, respectively). The rate of severe maternal [morbidity](#) was higher for blacks than whites in 2006 (164 versus 76) and in 2015 (241 versus 114); no change was noted in the black-white disparity.

"Although deaths decreased for all races/ethnicities, in-hospital mortality was three times higher for blacks than for whites in 2015," the authors write.

**More information:** [Abstract/Full Text](#)

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