

NATIONAL BIRTH EQUITY COLLABORATIVE



Aligning Health & Human Services to Promote the Health and Wellbeing of Moms & Babies

National Governor's Association

September 3, 2019

Worldview

Human Rights

Article 25.

(1) Everyone has the right to a **standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family**, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services

(2) Motherhood and childhood are **entitled** to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same protection.

Reproductive Justice

The human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.

-Loretta Ross

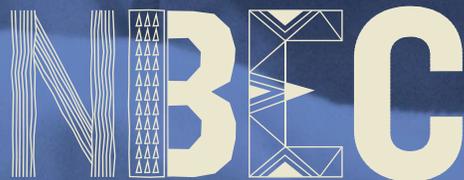
- Analyze power systems
- Address intersecting oppressions
- Center the most marginalized

Mission

NBEC creates solutions that optimize Black maternal and infant health through training, policy advocacy, research and community centered collaboration.

Vision

All Black mothers and babies thrive.



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Core Values

Leadership *Freedom* *Wellness*
Black Lives *Sisterhood*

birth equity (*noun*):

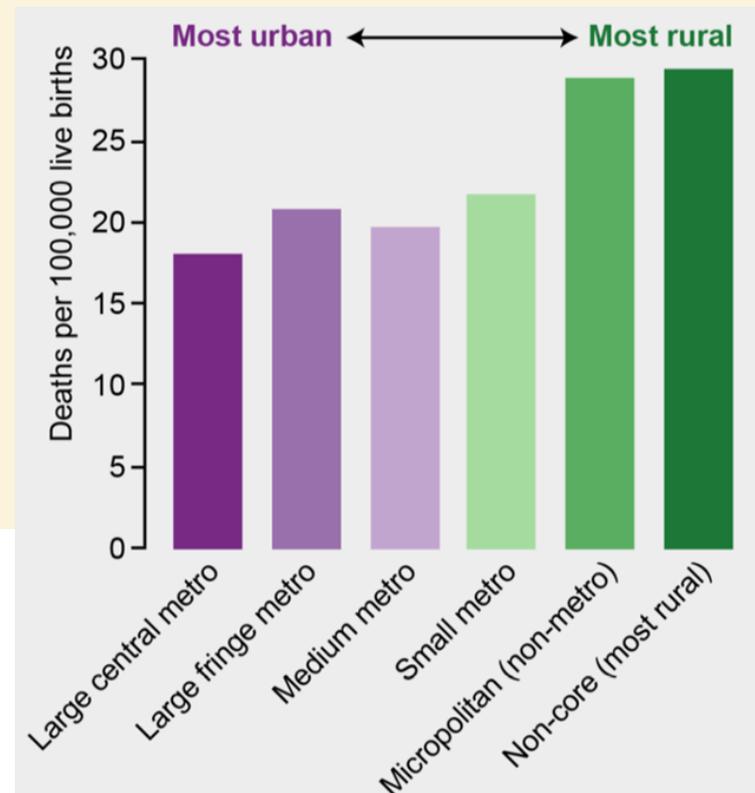
1. The assurance of the conditions of optimal births for all people with a willingness to address racial and social inequalities in a sustained effort.

Joia Crear-Perry, MD
National Birth Equity Collaborative

Disparities in Maternal Mortality

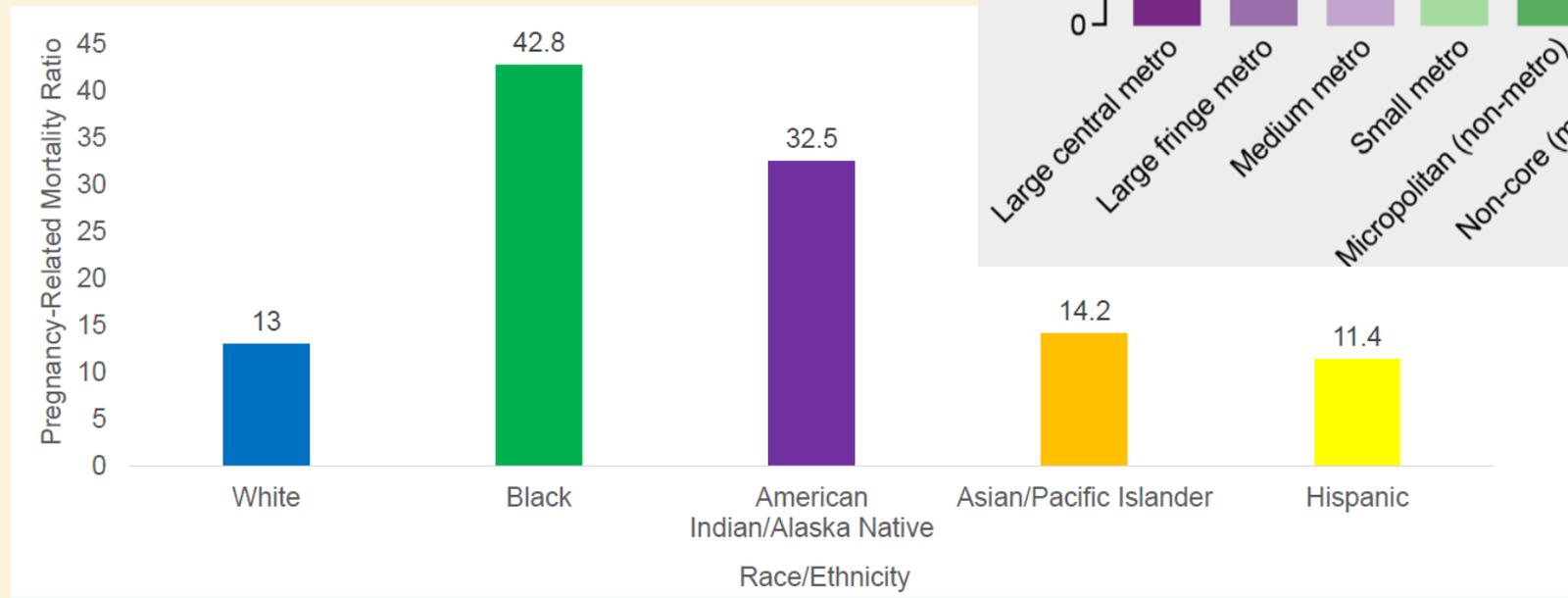
Geographic

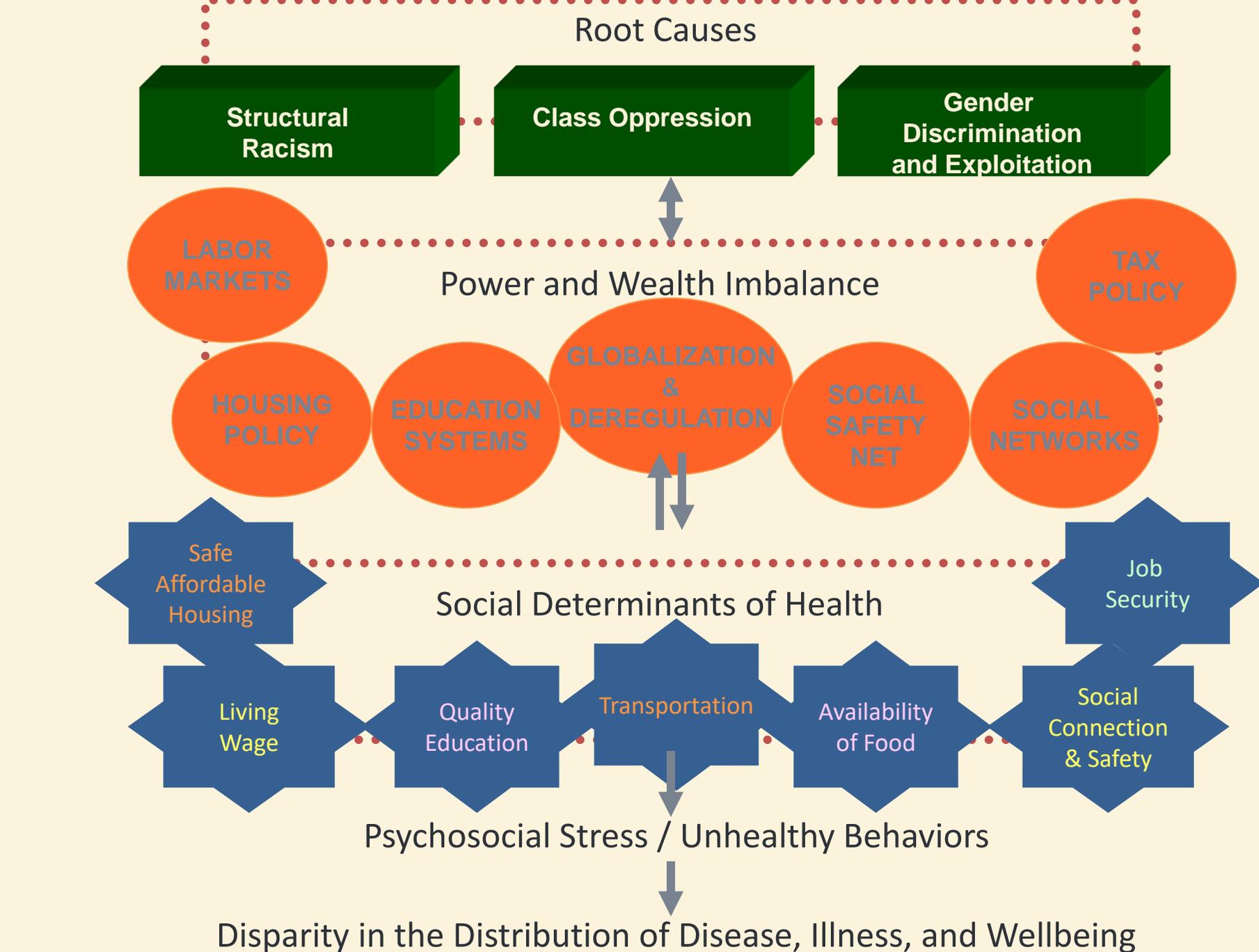
Maternal Mortality Rates, 2015



Racial

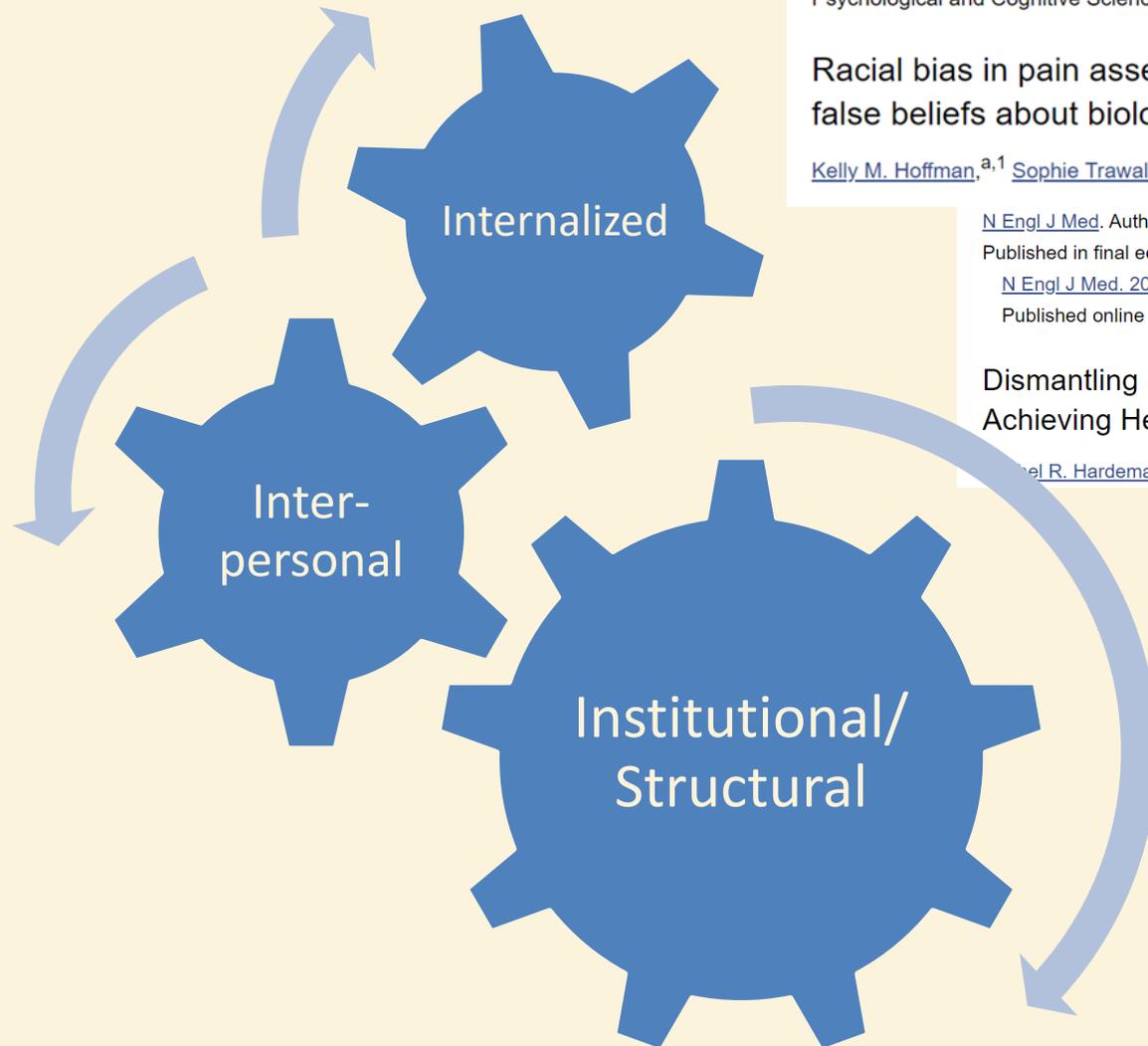
Pregnancy-related Mortality by Race/Ethnicity, PMSS, 2011-2015





Adapted by MPHI from R. Hofrichter, *Tackling Health Inequities Through Public Health Practice*.

Levels of Racism



[Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A](#). 2016 Apr 19; 113(16): 4296–4301.

Published online 2016 Apr 4. doi: [10.1073/pnas.1516047113](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1516047113)

Psychological and Cognitive Sciences

PMCID: PMC4843483

PMID: [27044069](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27044069/)

Racial bias in pain assessment and treatment recommendations, and false beliefs about biological differences between blacks and whites

[Kelly M. Hoffman](#),^{a,1} [Sophie Trawalter](#),^a [Jordan R. Axt](#),^a and [M. Norman Oliver](#)^{b,c}

[N Engl J Med](#). Author manuscript; available in PMC 2017 Sep 7.

Published in final edited form as:

[N Engl J Med](#). 2016 Dec 1; 375(22): 2113–2115.

Published online 2016 Oct 12. doi: [10.1056/NEJMp1609535](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMp1609535)

PMCID: PMC5588700

NIHMSID: NIHMS867337

PMID: [27732126](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/27732126/)

Dismantling Structural Racism, Supporting Black Lives and Achieving Health Equity: Our Role

[Shel R. Hardeman](#), PhD, MPH, [Eduardo M. Medina](#), MD, MPH,¹ and [Katy B. Kozhimannil](#), PhD, MPA

Concurrent Programs

Program	Description	Funded by
Maternal Mortality Review Committees*	a standard and comprehensive system primarily operating at the state level. MMRCs identify, review, and analyze maternal deaths; disseminate findings; and act on the results.	CDC/HRSA
Perinatal Quality Collaboratives	state or multi-state networks of teams working to improve the quality of care for mothers and babies.	CDC/HRSA
Alliance for Innovation in maternal health	a national data-driven maternal safety and quality improvement initiative based on proven implementation approaches to improving maternal safety and outcomes in the U.S.	HRSA
Title V	federal block grant program, a key source of support for promoting and improving the health and well-being of the nation's mothers, children, including children with special needs, and their families.	HHS
Title X	the only federal grant program dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services.	HHS
Community-based programs & Private health institutions		Philanthropy

Defining Community

Community

1: a unified body of individuals: such as

a: the people with common interests living in a particular area *broadly* : the area itself, the problems of a large *community*

b: a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society, a *community* of retired persons

c: a body of persons of common and especially professional interests scattered through a larger society, the *academic community*

d: a body of persons or nations having a common history or common social, economic, and political interests, the *international community*

e: a group linked by a common policy

Community Based Organization

A public or private nonprofit organization that is representative of a community or a significant segment of a community and works to meet needs and improve life for residents. They build grassroot power & equity across society through intersecting issues.

Identifying CBOs

- Created from need
- Start-up culture
- Irregularly funded or social entrepreneurship model
- Focus and programming meets immediate needs of community

Barriers to Engagement

Common Criticisms

- Data sharing
- Discomfort- language, environment, etc.
- Lack of training and leadership pipelines
- Compensation
- Interpersonal and structural racism

Learning from MMRCs

- ✓ Inclusive Committee recruitment process
- ✓ Equalizing overrepresentation of provider
- X Community votes undervalued
- X Recommendations lack perspective and impact

Must create equity to meaningfully engage community voice

Takeaways

Policy

- Ensure quality maternal mortality and morbidity data collection and appropriate resource allocation for prevention of maternal health harms
- Educate policymakers on racial equity
- Expand and ensure access to maternity care and preventive health services

Culture

- Advance health equity by addressing racism within and beyond the health care system
- Language shift to “structural determinants”
- Connect all policy initiatives to lived experience
- Meaningfully engage community in policy and practice changes

Thank you

Visit us at birthequity.org



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