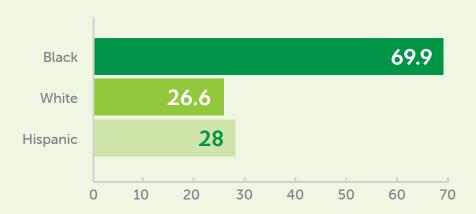
# Maternal Health and the Role of Nutrition

### THE U.S. MATERNAL HEALTH CRISIS

In 2021, the U.S. experienced the **highest rate of maternal mortality** in the country's history — more than ten times the estimated rates of other high-income countries.1

### WHICH AMERICAN WOMEN ARE DYING

U.S. deaths per 100,000 live births, 2018-2021<sup>2</sup>

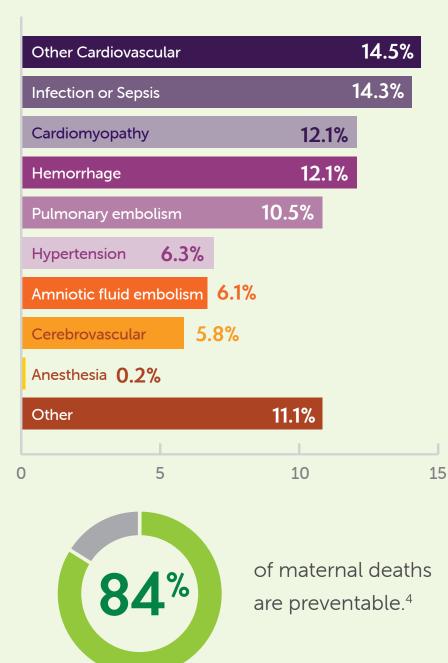




#### **HOW THEY'RE DYING**

Heart-related problems are a leading cause of maternal death; heart attack risk increases with obesity and age.

2017-2019<sup>3</sup>



## FACTORS IMPACTING MATERNAL HEALTH



## Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

SDOH are non-medical factors that contribute to health disparities and inequities and are known to influence maternal health outcomes. Factors include:

- Food insecurity
- Socioeconomic status
- Unemployment
- Transportation access
- Social isolation
- Unsafe neighborhoods







## QUALITY NUTRITION BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER PREGNANCY

## **OUTCOMES FOR PREGNANT WOMEN**

- Supports healthy fetal development
- Improves ability to carry to full term
- Reduces health risks and complications for mother and baby, even after delivery
- Facilitates adherence to dietary guidelines for conditions like diabetes
- Promotes A1c (blood sugar control) and blood pressure control
- Addresses SDOH

# **OUTCOMES FOR HEALTH PLANS**

- Supports a holistic approach to maternal and child health
- Lowers the cost of prenatal and postnatal care through minimizing high-cost utilization such as emergency transportation, emergency department visits, inpatient stays, observation and neonatal intensive care unit
- Impacts highest risk, hardest-toengage members
- Drives postnatal Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set measures

# HOME-DELIVERED, MEDICALLY TAILORED MEALS

Mom's Meals® aren't just for at-risk women, they're ideal for every pregnant woman and new mother who needs convenient access to delicious quality nutrition whether they're facing:



Food insecurity



Recovering from delivery

Managing a chronic condition

Adjusting to new motherhood

With Mom's Meals' expertise in medically tailored meals interventions, we can help health plans — commercial payers, Medicaid plans and selfinsured plans — build nutrition programs for all their pregnant members.

Sources:

- <sup>1</sup> https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2020/nov/maternal-mortality-maternity-care-us-compared-
- <sup>2</sup> https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-brief-report/2020/dec/maternal-mortality-united-states-primer
- <sup>3</sup> https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/maternal-mortality/pregnancy-mortality-surveillance-system.htm

