



Maternal Health

FIU | Steven J. Green
School of International
& Public Affairs

Jorge M. Pérez
Metropolitan Center

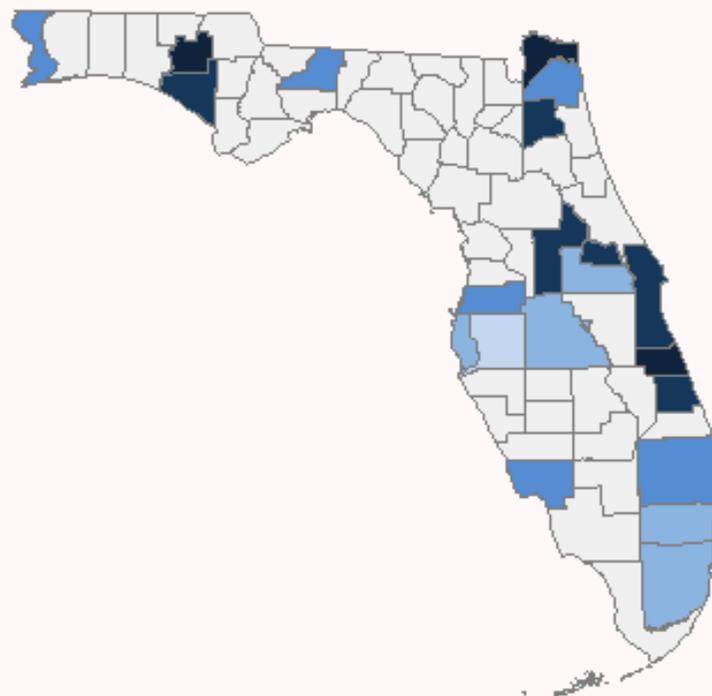
Maternal Deaths

According to the World Health Organization, a maternal death is the death of a woman while pregnant or within 42 days of a pregnancy's termination for any cause related to or aggravated by the pregnancy.

Worldwide, a maternal death took place almost every 2 minutes in 2023, with over 700 women dying each day from preventable pregnancy and childbirth-related causes.

Maternal Deaths in Florida, 2024

Deaths per 100,000 Live Births  0.0 442.5



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While most deaths are in Florida's most populous counties, the highest maternal mortality rates are in the rural counties. The Counties with the highest total number of deaths include: Miami-Dade (5), Duval (5), Broward (4), Palm Beach (3), and Brevard (3). Florida's maternal mortality count was 42 deaths for a rate of 18.7 per 100,000 live births. Miami-Dade County had a maternal mortality rate of 17.8.

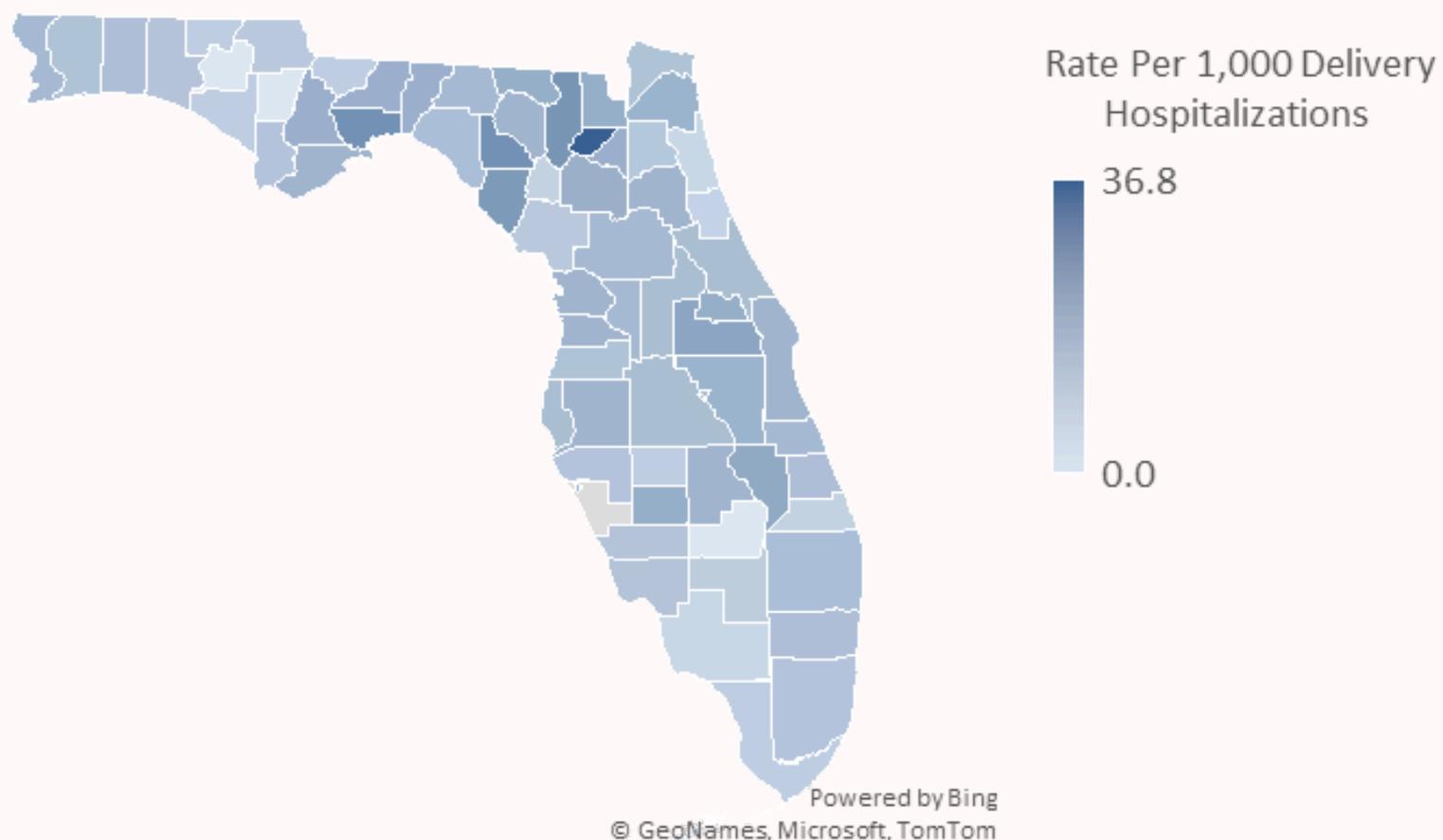
Severe Maternal Morbidity in Florida

Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM) refers to a complication that occurs during a delivery hospitalization. These can have negative consequences for women and their babies.



Factors associated with a high risk for maternal morbidity and mortality include: pre-pregnancy health issues like cardiovascular disease, obesity, and asthma; an older maternal age; smoking, pregnancy complications like preeclampsia or gestational diabetes, and racial disparities.

Severe Maternal Morbidity, 2024



8.5

Miami-Dade County's rate of severe maternal morbidity per 1,000 delivery hospitalizations. Florida's rate was higher at 11.3 per 1,000 delivery hospitalizations.

Miami-Dade had the second-highest count of severe maternal morbidity in Florida (227), following Orange County (234). Florida had 2,418 cases in 2024.

Source: Florida Health Charts, 2024; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, What factors increase the risk of maternal morbidity and mortality?

Maternity Care Deserts



Over 2 million

women of childbearing age in the United States live in maternity care deserts or regions without access to maternity care providers or birthing facilities.



19.4%

of counties in Florida are maternity care deserts compared to 32.6% of all U.S. counties. These are primarily located in the Florida Panhandle and the area surrounding Lake Okeechobee



10 miles and 16.5 minutes

The average travel to the nearest birthing hospital for the average woman in Florida. In rural counties, women must travel an average of 43.5 miles, compared to 10 miles in urban areas.



10.8%

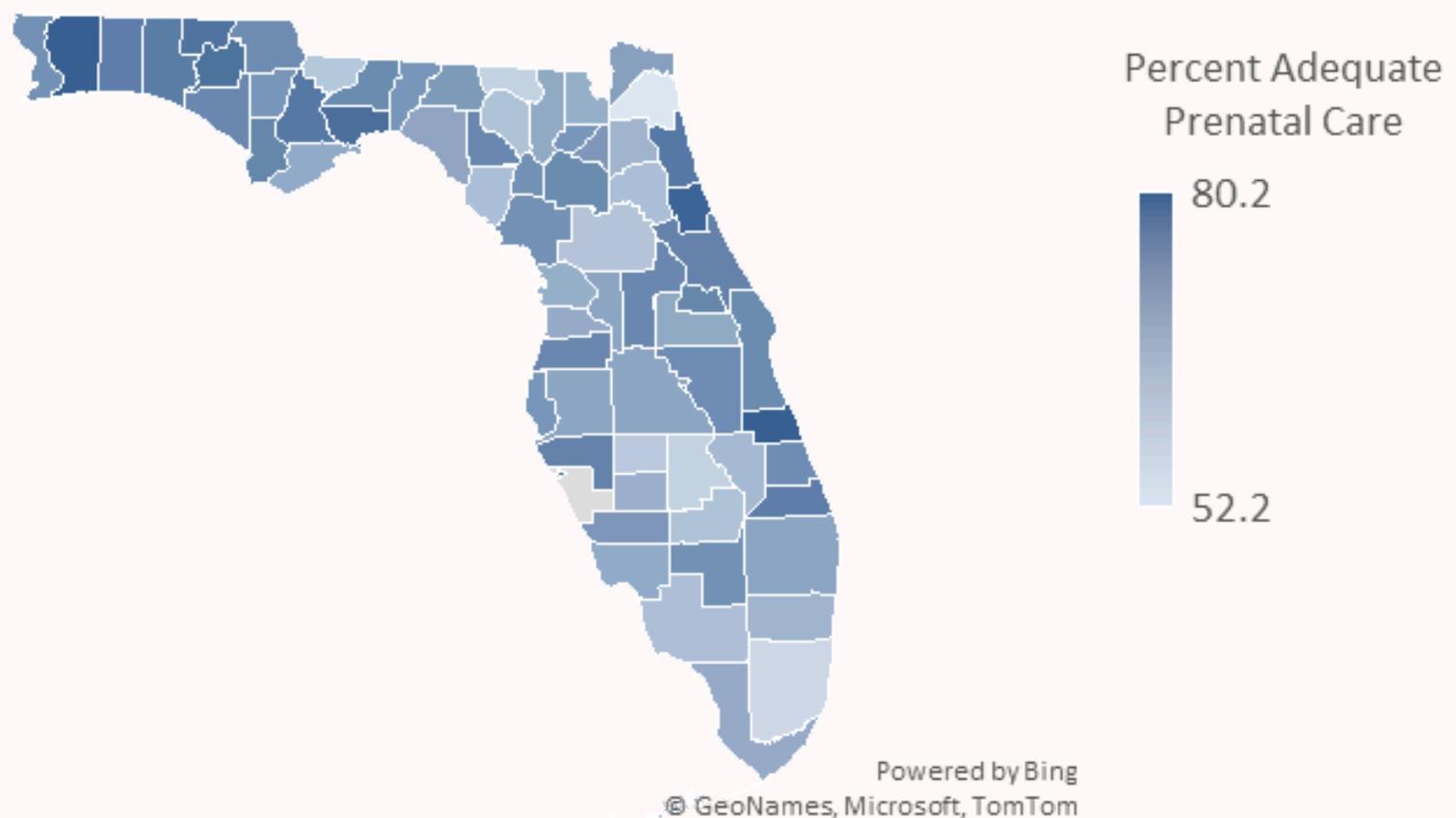
Of women in Florida had no birthing hospital within 30 minutes compared to 9.7% for the U.S. This is especially true in counties Southwest of Lake Okeechobee and in the Florida Panhandle.

Prenatal Care

Early and regular access to prenatal care reduces pregnancy risks and adverse birth outcomes. Adequate prenatal care is measured with the Kotelchuck Index, which classifies the adequacy of initiation as follows: pregnancy months 1 and 2, months 3 and 4, months 5 and 6, and months 7 to 9. A ratio of observed to expected visits is calculated and grouped into these categories:

- Inadequate (<50% of expected visits)
- Intermediate (50%-79% of expected visits)
- Adequate (80%-109% of expected visits), and
- Adequate Plus (110%+ of expected visits).

Percent of Births With Adequate Prenatal Care Based on Kotelchuck Index, 2024



The top counties by rate of adequate prenatal care are: Washigton, Wakulla, Flagler, Santa Rosa, and Indian River.