Kansas Maternal Mortality Review Committee

HOMICIDE

A pregnancy-associated death refers to the death of a woman while pregnant or anytime within one year of pregnancy regardless of cause.

From 2016 to 2022, the Kansas Maternal Mortality Review Committee (KMMRC) determined 153 pregnancy-associated deaths.

Most homicide deaths were not related to pregnancy

12 (80.0%) Were unrelated to pregnancy, and in 3 (20.0%), pregnancy-relatedness was undetermined.

Of the 153 pregnancy-associated deaths,

15 were homicides.

Firearms were used in almost all cases

14 (93.3%) Involved a firearm

1 (6.7%) Involved a sharp instrument



In 13 of these 15 cases, the relationship between the perpetrator and victim was known, with current or former intimate partners making up the majority of perpetrators at 7 deaths (53.8%).

Timing of Homicide Deaths



7 (**46.7%**)
During pregnancy



1 (**6.7%**)
1–6 days postpartum



2 (**13.3%**)
7–42 days postpartum

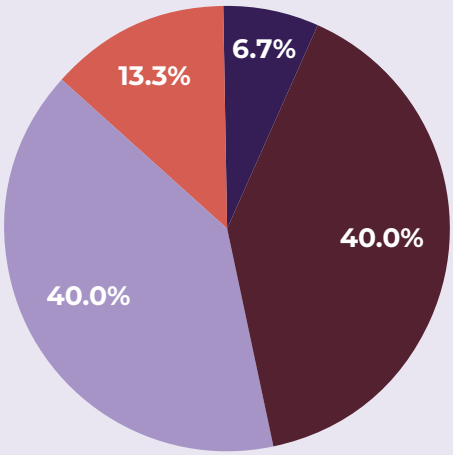


5 (**33.3%**)
43–365 days postpartum

Who is Most Impacted?

2 deaths were among Hispanic women

1 death was a non-Hispanic biracial woman (American Indian or Alaska Native and White)



6 deaths were among non-Hispanic Black women

6 deaths were among non-Hispanic White women

While we took steps to minimize risk of identifying women, families and communities may recognize a death in our data, and we hope that it is viewed as honoring their lives through the potential opportunities for preventing future deaths.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment

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