

# Black Maternal Health

## Perspectives Panel Discussion



4/12/2024  
Stockton University





# Event Agenda

4-4:30 PM	Registration
4:30-4:40 PM	Opening Remarks & Welcome: Melissa Patti, Stacey Zacharoff & Panelists Introduction
4:40 PM-5:10 PM	Panel Questions
5:10-5:22 PM	Questions & Answers
5:22-5:30 PM	Closing Remarks-Brittany Woods-Holmes
5:22-5:30 PM	Closing Activities



## Don't Forget!

- Remember to prioritize the patient's needs
- Use your critical thinking skills
- Consider the evidence of this health concern
- Think about solutions to this health concern



## To-Do's

- Think about how this topic applies to your chosen profession
- Take notes for any reflections you need to prepare for your instructors
- Ask Questions



# 01 Welcome, Introductions & Opening Remarks





Stacey Zacharoff

President

Theta Kappa Omega Chapter (Atlantic City) of  
[Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®](https://www.alpha-kappa-alpha.org/)



Dr. Trina L. Gipson-Jones

Assistant Professor

School of Health Sciences, Department of Health Science  
Stockton University



Melissa Patti

Director of Maternal & Infant Health

March of Dimes  
Philadelphia, Southern New Jersey & Delaware





**Dr. Nicole Siems**  
OB/GYN Specialist  
AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center



**Mrs. Louise Gorham-Neblett**  
Adjunct Professor Stockton University  
NAACP Stockton University Chapter-Advisor



**Shanita Alvarez-Crawley**  
Manager  
Safe Beginnings Program  
AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center



**Dr. Christina Jackson**  
Stockton University



**Toshira Maldonado**  
Executive Director  
Most Beautiful W.O.M.B., Inc.



**Melissa Patti**  
Director  
Maternal & Infant Health  
March of Dimes



**HEALTHY  
MOMS.  
STRONG  
BABIES.**



# Black Maternal health Perspectives: Panel Discussion

4/12/2024

Melissa Patti MSW LCSW  
Director of Maternal and Infant Health  
Greater Philadelphia and South Jersey March of Dimes



# 2023 MARCH OF DIMES REPORT CARD

The preterm birth rate in New Jersey was **9.3%** in 2022, higher than the rate in 2021

**PRETERM  
BIRTH  
GRADE**  
**U.S. RATE**

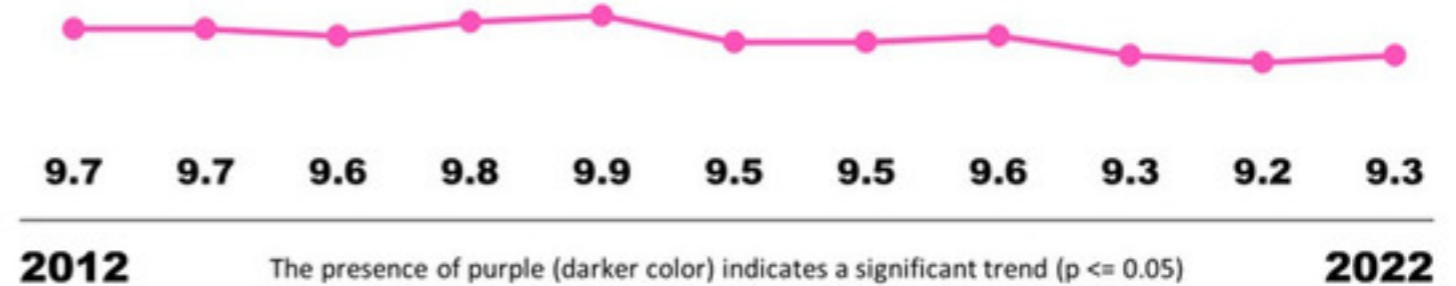


**C+**

**NJ RATE**



Percentage of live births born preterm

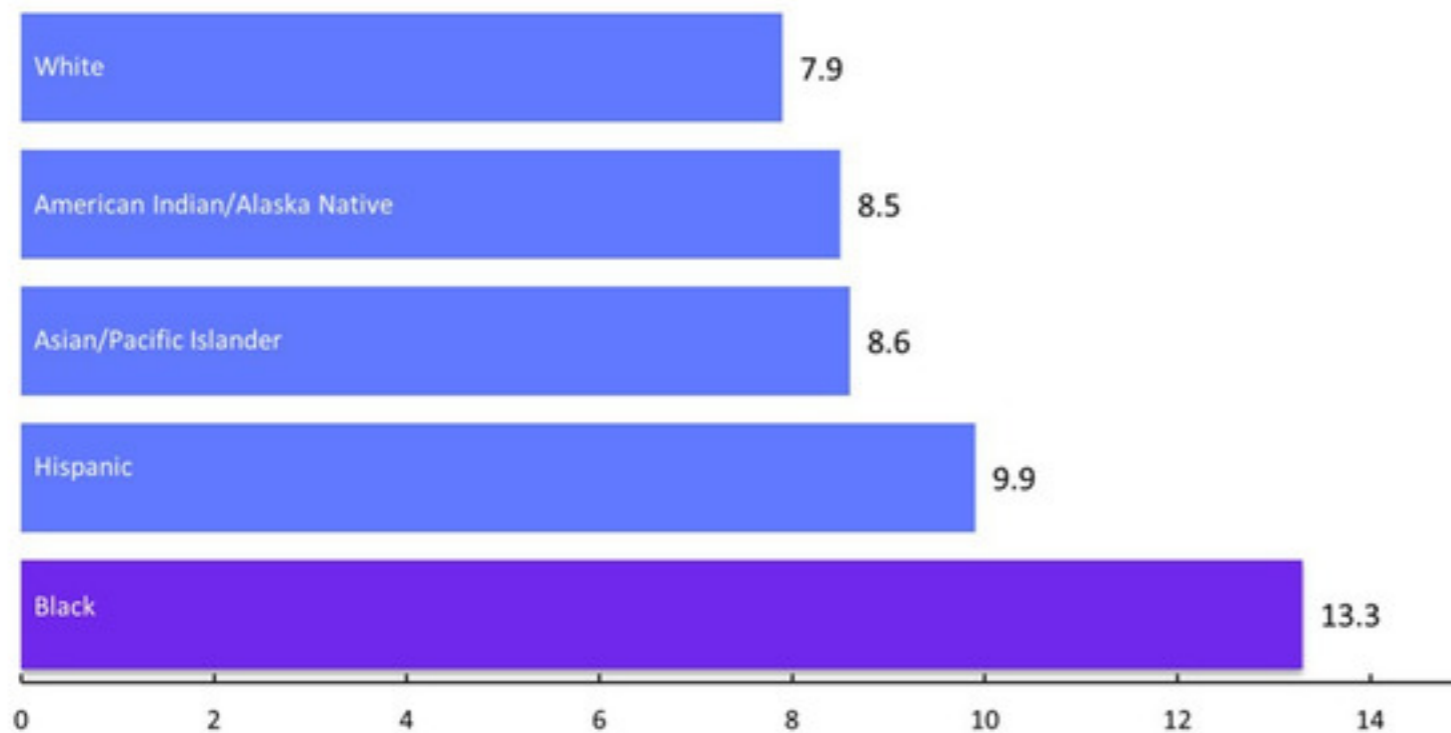


Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Natality data, 2012-2022.

# 2023 MARCH OF DIMES REPORT CARD

**The preterm birth rate among babies born to Black birthing people is 1.5x higher than the rate among all other babies**

Preterm birth rate by race/ethnicity, 2020-2022



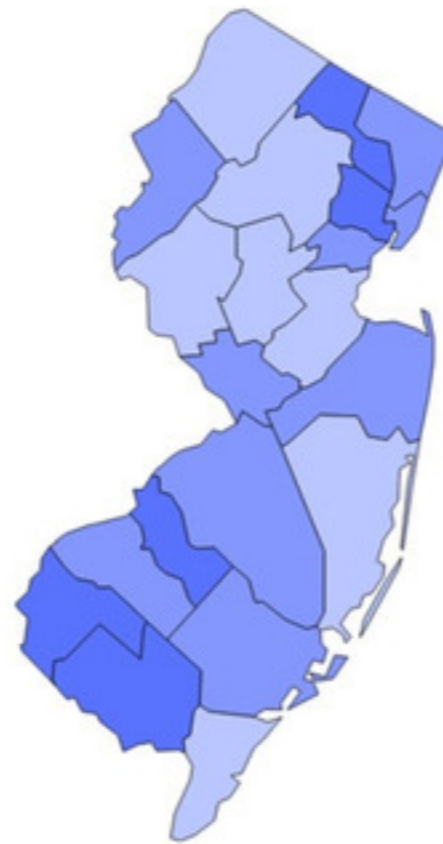
Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Natality data, 2020-2022.

[marchofdimes.org/reportcard](https://marchofdimes.org/reportcard)



# PRETERM BIRTH

## NEW JERSEY, 2018-2021 AVERAGE



Percent of live births

- **Over 9.8 (5)**
- **9.0-9.8 (9)**
- **Under 9.0 (7)**

**Source:** National Center for Health Statistics, Natality data, 2018-2021.

[marchofdimes.org/reportcard](https://marchofdimes.org/reportcard)

# 2023 MARCH OF DIMES REPORT CARD

## PRETERM BIRTH RATES BY COUNTIES AND CITY

COUNTY	GRADE	PRETERM BIRTH RATE	CHANGE IN RATE FROM LAST YEAR
Atlantic	C	9.7%	Improved
Bergen	C+	9.3%	Improved
Burlington	B	8.7%	Improved
Camden	D+	10.5%	Worsened
Essex	C-	10.2%	Improved
Gloucester	C	10.0%	Worsened
Hudson	C	9.8%	Worsened
Mercer	C+	9.5%	Worsened
Middlesex	B-	9.1%	Worsened
Monmouth	B	8.9%	Worsened
Morris	A	7.3%	Improved
Ocean	A	7.2%	No change
Passaic	F	11.7%	Worsened
Somerset	B+	8.3%	Worsened
Union	B	8.6%	Improved

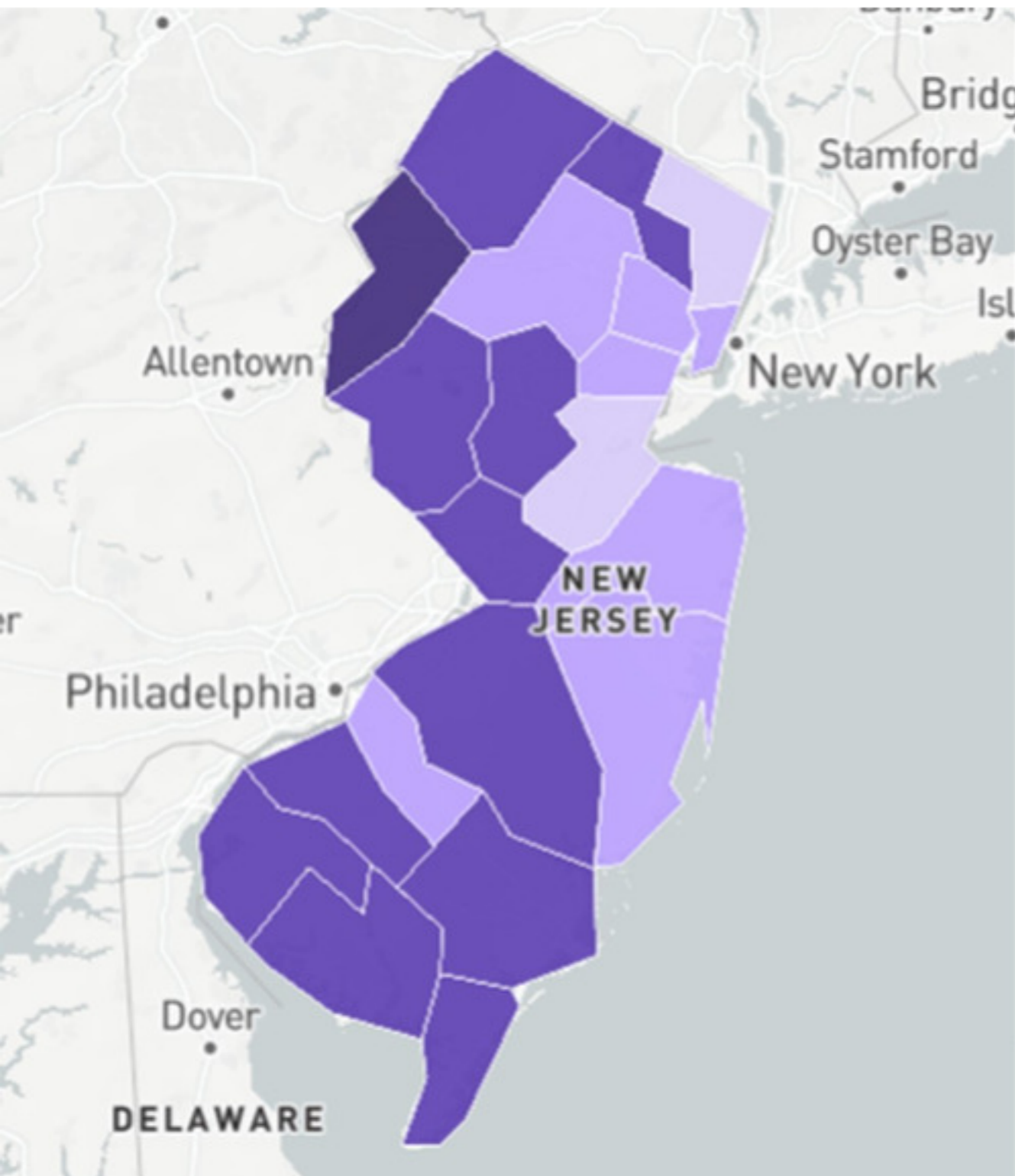
CITY	GRADE	PRETERM BIRTH RATE	CHANGE IN RATE FROM LAST YEAR
Newark, NJ	D-	11.2%	Better

GRADE AND PRETERM BIRTH RATE

<b>A</b> 7.7% or less	<b>A-</b> 7.8 to 8.1%	<b>B+</b> 8.2 to 8.5%	<b>B</b> 8.6 to 8.9%	<b>B-</b> 9.0 to 9.2%	<b>C+</b> 9.3 to 9.6%	<b>C</b> 9.7 to 10.0%	<b>C-</b> 10.1 to 10.3%	<b>D+</b> 10.4 to 10.7%	<b>D</b> 10.8 to 11.1%	<b>D-</b> 11.2 to 11.4%	<b>F</b> 11.5% or greater
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Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Natality data, 2022.

[marchofdimes.org/reportcard](http://marchofdimes.org/reportcard)



# HOSPITALS & BIRTH CENTERS

Hospitals and/or birth centers offering obstetric care by county

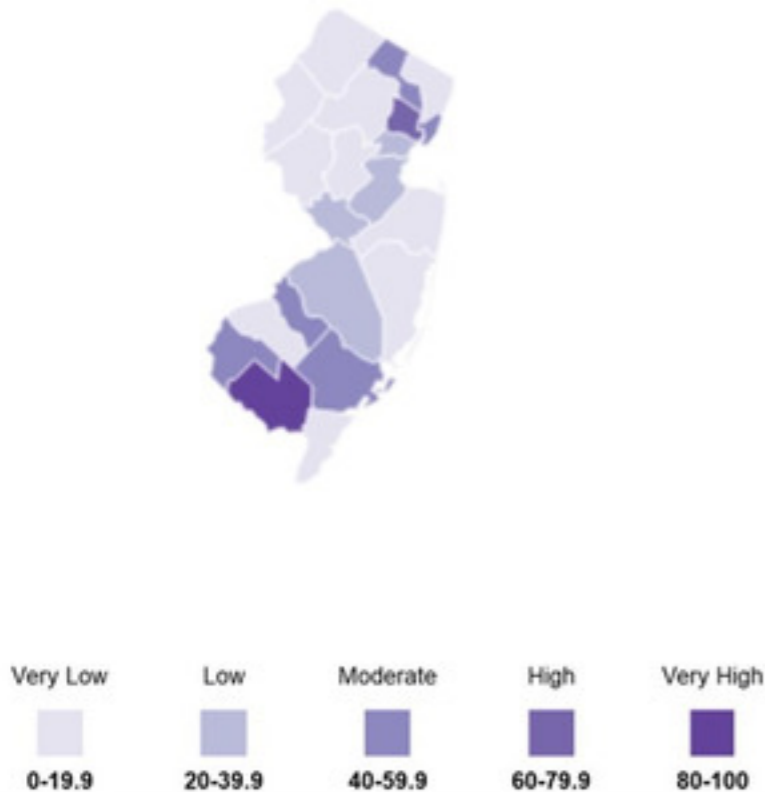
Source: Nowhere to go: Maternity Care Deserts across the U.S. March of Dimes, September 2022

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# 2023 MARCH OF DIMES REPORT CARD

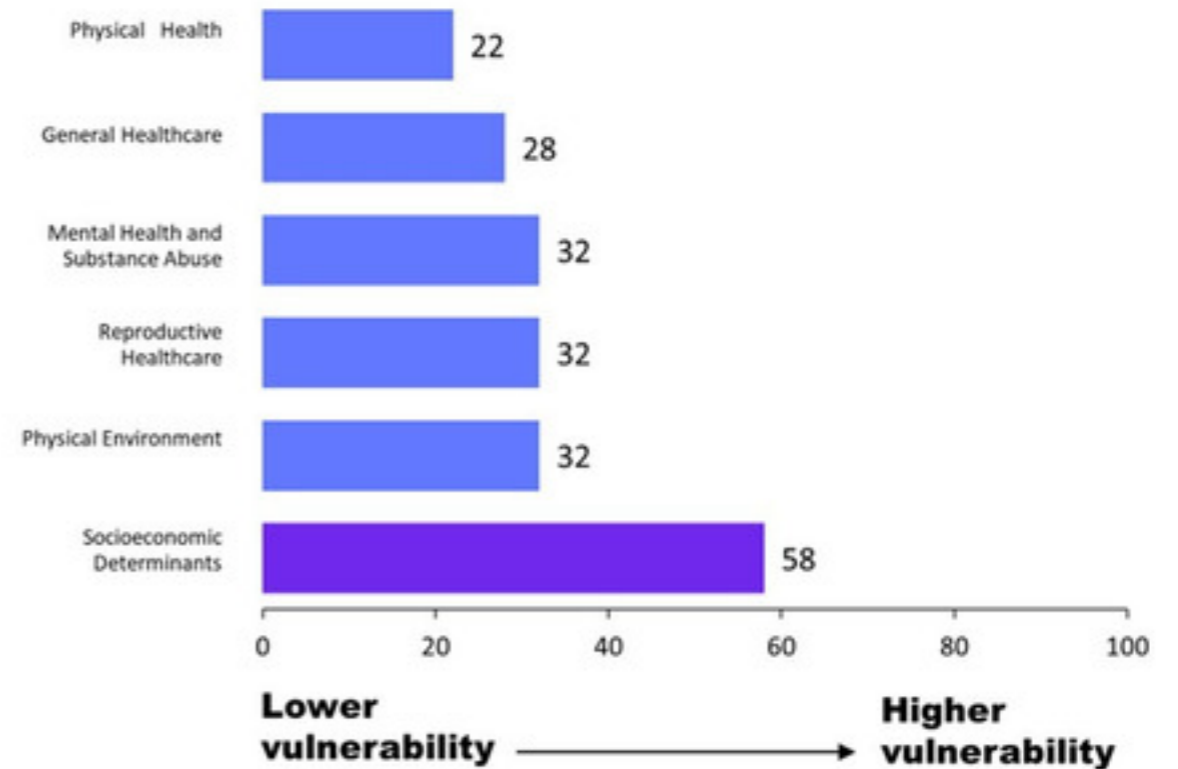
**Birthing people in New Jersey have a **low vulnerability to poor outcomes** and are most vulnerable due to **socioeconomic determinants of health****

**MVI by county in New Jersey**



**Factors related to maternal vulnerability**

Higher scores indicate higher vulnerability



**Notes:** The Maternity Vulnerability Index (MVI) is a tool used to understand where birthing people in each state may be more likely to have poor outcomes, including preterm birth and maternal death, due to clinical risk factors and other social, contextual, and environmental factors. Visit <https://mvi.surgoventures.org/>.

**Source:** Surgo Health, Maternal Vulnerability Index, 2023.

[marchofdimes.org/reportcard](https://marchofdimes.org/reportcard)

# ATLANTIC COUNTY

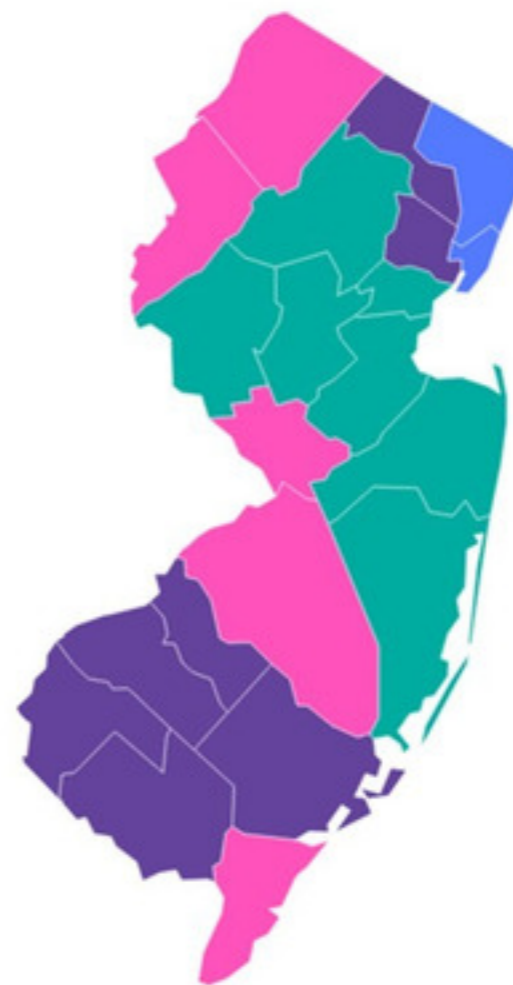
## ATLANTICARE AND RUTGERS 2022 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Atlantic County is ranked among the least healthy counties in New Jersey
- In terms of the number of primary care physicians, there is only 1 primary care physician for every 1,250 people in the county. In comparison, there is 1 primary care physician per 1,170 people statewide.
- Over the past decade, the mental health provider rate in Atlantic County has improved from 4,039:1 (ratio of population to mental health providers) in 2011 to 540:1 in 2022, indicating a significant increase in the number of mental health providers in the count
- 11 percent of the population in Atlantic County are uninsured, adding to barriers in accessing and receiving healthcare services.
- Atlantic County has higher rates of accidental poisoning and suicide when compared to the state average
- Based on collected data from New Jersey State Health Assessment Data, infant mortality is higher in Atlantic County than the state

# 2022 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AREAS OF FOCUS

## Six areas of health needs:

1. Connections to Health
2. Transportation
3. Mental/Behavioral Health
4. Substance Misuse
5. Access to Food
6. Housing



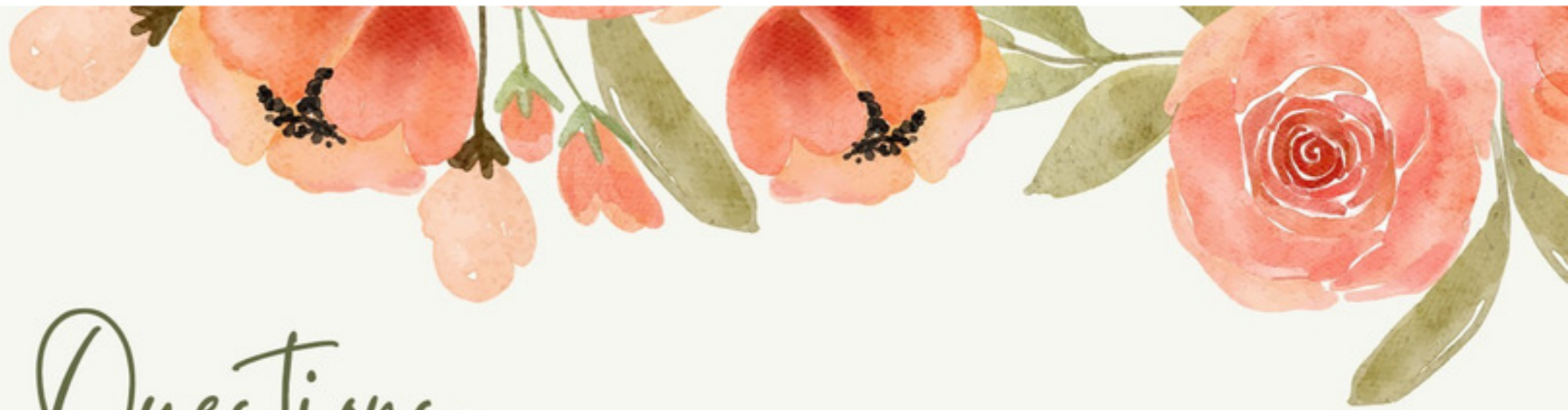
# Black Maternal Health

## Perspectives Panel Discussion



## 02 Panel Discussion Questions





# Panel Questions

1

What are some common maternal health complications you encounter in your practice, particularly in Black women, and what steps do you take to address them?

2

How do social determinants of health, such as socioeconomic status and access to healthcare (especially with many hospitals deciding to close their OB/GYN services) impact the maternal health outcomes of Black women in Atlantic City & county, what interventions have you found effective in addressing these disparities?

3

How can doulas best support Black women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, and what role do culturally competent care and advocacy

4

How does racial injustice and systemic racism contribute to disparities in Black maternal health, and what advocacy strategies do you employ to address these issues at the local & national levels?



# Final Question

Considering the ongoing disparities in Black maternal health outcomes, what collaborative approaches or holistic solutions do you believe are necessary to ensure equitable access to quality care & support for Black birthing people?



# Black Maternal Health

## Perspectives Panel Discussion



### 03 Audience Questions

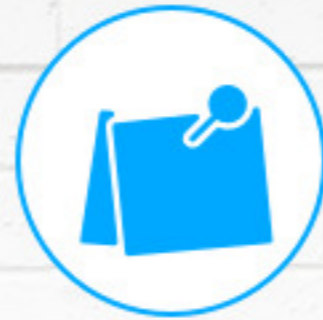




## Audience Questions

If you have a question for the panelists or one specific panelist, please write it here.

^ Instructions



# Collaborate Board

## Audience Questions

# 04 Closing Remarks



**MEMBER**  
*Spotlight*

Today, we shine the spotlight on one of our outstanding members, Brittany Woods-Holmes! Brittany's dedication to nursing excellence and her passion for community empowerment make her an invaluable asset to our Piedmont Black Nurses family.



**BRITTANY WOODS-HOLMES**



Piedmont Black Nurses  
Association

Piedmontbna.com

# Black Maternal Health

## Perspectives Panel Discussion



SCAN ME

### 05 Closing Activities



**Information covered was pertinent, timely, and helpful.**

- Strongly disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat agree
- Strongly agree



**I will use this information to share it with family, friends, or colleagues?**

[https://stockton.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3qMJAhoqBIUhuho](https://stockton.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3qMJAhoqBIUhuho)

- Maybe
- No