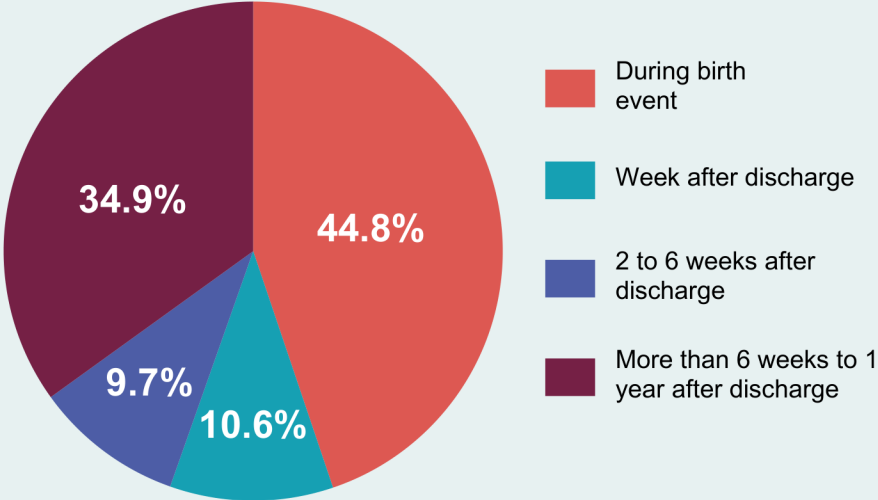


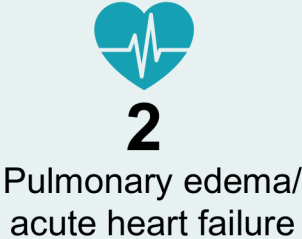
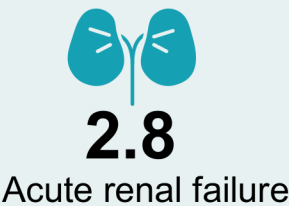
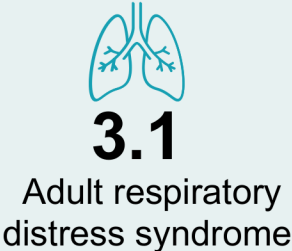
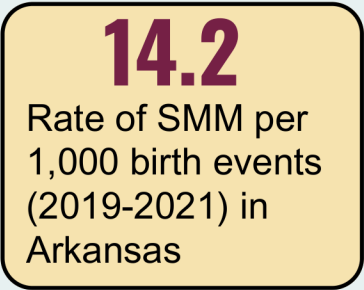
Maternal mortality has been described as the “tip of the iceberg” and severe maternal morbidity (SMM) as the base. SMM is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as “unexpected outcomes of labor and delivery that result in significant short- or long-term health consequences.” The CDC has established criteria to assess SMM during delivery hospitalizations based on certain diagnosis and procedure codes.<sup>1-2</sup> ACHI analyzed hospital discharge data that included birth events<sup>a</sup> occurring in 2019-2021 to determine the impact of SMM in Arkansas. Our analysis expands upon the CDC definition by analyzing SMM events that happened up to one year following a birth event (meaning SMM events could have occurred in 2019-2022 for births occurring in 2019-2021) but excludes blood transfusions and behavioral health events.



Timing of Severe Maternal Morbidity Events in Arkansas (Births Occurring in 2019-2021)

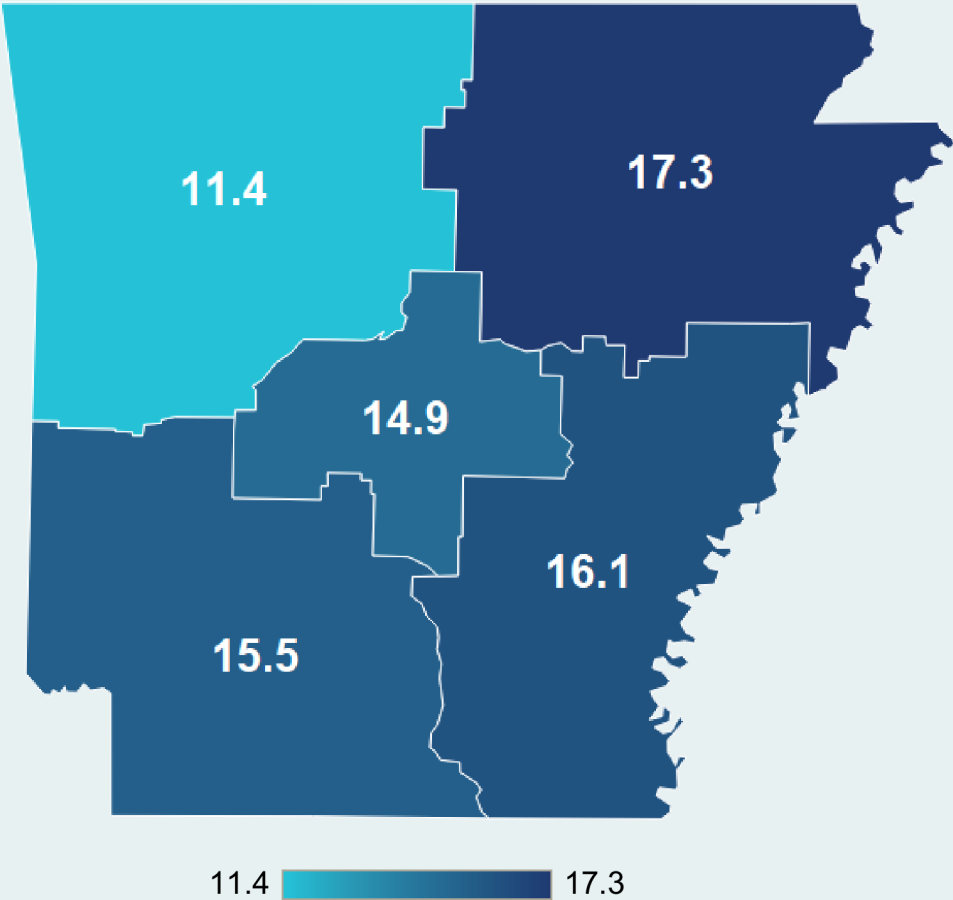


The 5 most common types of severe maternal morbidity per 1,000 birth events (2019-2021) in Arkansas:

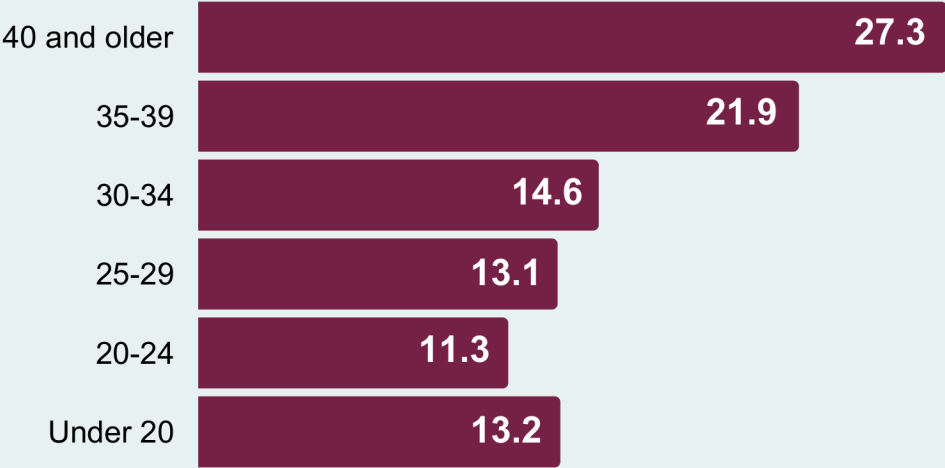


<sup>1-2</sup> For references: [achi.net/library/severe-maternal-morbidity](https://achi.net/library/severe-maternal-morbidity)  
<sup>a</sup> A “birth event” is a hospitalization during which at least one delivery occurred.  
<sup>b</sup> A “maternal death” is a pregnancy-associated death, which is defined by the Arkansas Maternal Mortality Review Committee as “the death of a woman during pregnancy or within one year of the end of pregnancy, regardless of the cause.” The date ranges for maternal deaths and SMM events do not align due to data limitations. When 2021 data for maternal deaths become available, this graphic will be updated.  
Data sources: Arkansas Department of Health hospital discharge data and the 2023 Arkansas Maternal Mortality Review Committee Legislative Report.

Severe Maternal Morbidity by Arkansas Public Health Region  
per 1,000 Birth Events,<sup>a</sup> 2019-2021



Severe Maternal Morbidity by Age per 1,000 Birth Events in  
Arkansas, 2019-2021



Severe Maternal Morbidity by Race per 1,000 Birth Events in  
Arkansas, 2019-2021

