THE STATE OF OUR UNION
BLACK WOMEN AND GIRLS IN DELAWARE
FAST FACTS

• Total Population of Delaware: 961,939 51.6% (woman) 22.6% (Black) 11.7% (Black woman)

• Black Women in Leadership
  Black women vote at comparatively high rates and had a higher voting rate than all other groups of men and women in the last two presidential elections yet remain underrepresented at every level of federal and state political office in the US.

• Employment and Earnings
  Black women are highly educated and highly represented in the labor force yet are more likely to live in poverty.

• Health and Well Being
  90% of Black women are insured but there is a disconnect being insured and access to quality healthcare. Black women have higher mortality rates in child birth, heart disease, and breast cancer.

• Education
  About 15% of the students enrolled in Delaware’s public schools are Black girls. Of the many roadblocks to success that Black girls face, the disparities in school discipline are striking.

• Violence & Crime and Criminal Justice
  Disaggregated data by gender are county are not available. Crime reports are never complete because not all crimes are reported and some crimes such as rape and assault are believed to be underreported.
NC100BW-DE PATH FORWARD

- Peruse the report
- Share the report with others
- Distribute the report statewide
- Invite NC100BW-DE in
- Share additional research ideas
- Donate to these efforts
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Maternal Mortality Crisis

- Black infants are 2 ½ times more likely than white infants to die in Delaware before their first birthday.
- While black women made up just one out of every four women giving birth between 2011 and 2018 in the state, they made up 50 percent of the mothers who died.
- Across the nation, black mothers are three to four times more likely than white mothers to die from pregnancy-related complications.
Infant Mortality

![Infant Mortality Rate Graph]

Source: Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health (2013-2017)

![Infant Mortality Rate by Race/Ethnicity Graph]

Source: Delaware Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Public Health (2013-2017)
Maternal Mortality

**US Maternal Death Rate**
Per 100,000 live births

Source: CDC
What Can We Do?

Advocates and policymakers at both the state and federal level are focusing on a few key policy solutions to help address the maternal health crisis:

- Creating State Maternal Mortality Review Boards
- Extending Medicaid coverage for pregnant women to a year following delivery
- Providing Medicaid coverage for doulas for low-income women.

Institutional Solutions

- Evaluate workforce diversity at all levels
- Require bias training among all members
- Intentional focus on ethnic and social diversity in residency recruitment
“We CAN’T watch Black Women die.”

- Marsha Jonea, Executive Director of The Afiya Center