



Severe Maternal Morbidity

“Maternal morbidity refers to health problems arising from or advanced by pregnancy. **‘Severe’ maternal morbidity** encompasses serious bleeding, eclampsia convulsions, heart attacks, emergency hysterectomies and other potentially fatal crises in women around the time of delivery. There are about 50,000 cases of SMM every year in the United States, and the incidence is rising. Increasing ages for new mothers, increasing rates of obesity and diabetes, and increasing rates of Caesarean deliveries are likely factors driving that trend.” – Source: [Penn Medicine: Broader Definition of "Severe Maternal Morbidity" Could Identify Women at Risk for Pregnancy Complications Earlier, Penn Study Finds](#)

Hillsborough County Data: Severe Maternal Morbidity (Rate Per 1,000 Delivery Hospitalizations)

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| Total: 24.9 | White: 20.9 | Black: 38.9 | Hispanic: 21.1 |
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“In **2020**, **Severe Maternal Morbidity** in Hillsborough County was **24.9** compared to Florida at **20.4**...Hillsborough County is in the **third** quartile for this measure. This means that relative to other counties in Florida, **Severe Maternal Morbidity** is less in about half of the counties, and more in about one quarter of the counties.” – Source: [FL Health CHARTS](#)

