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# Dr. John Choate Memorial Lecture

## Safe Motherhood Project Update-2004

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# Learning Objectives

- Comprehend the worldwide impact
- List the issues in New York State and NYC
- Understand the District II-SMI Project
- Discuss the medical and systems issues
- Appreciate the need for local “action”
- Recognize the opportunity for involvement

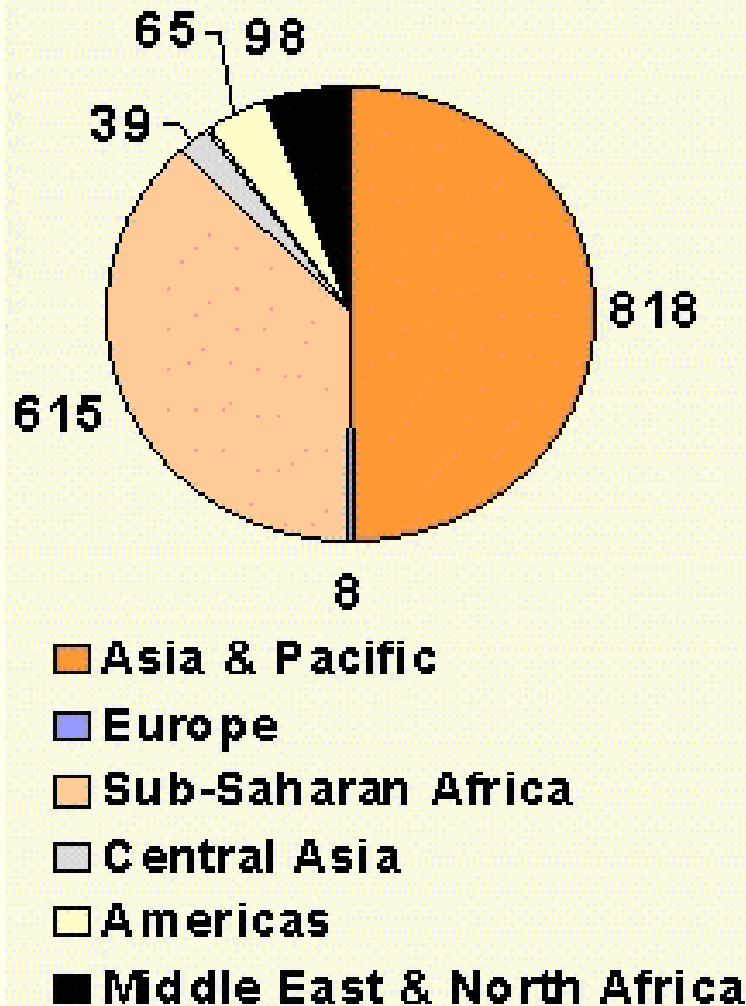
# Maternal Mortality:

## Why Must We Still Be Interested?

- Measure of the overall effectiveness of our obstetric and general health care system.
- Provides a sentinel indicator of problems or “gaps” in the health care system.

# WORLDWIDE

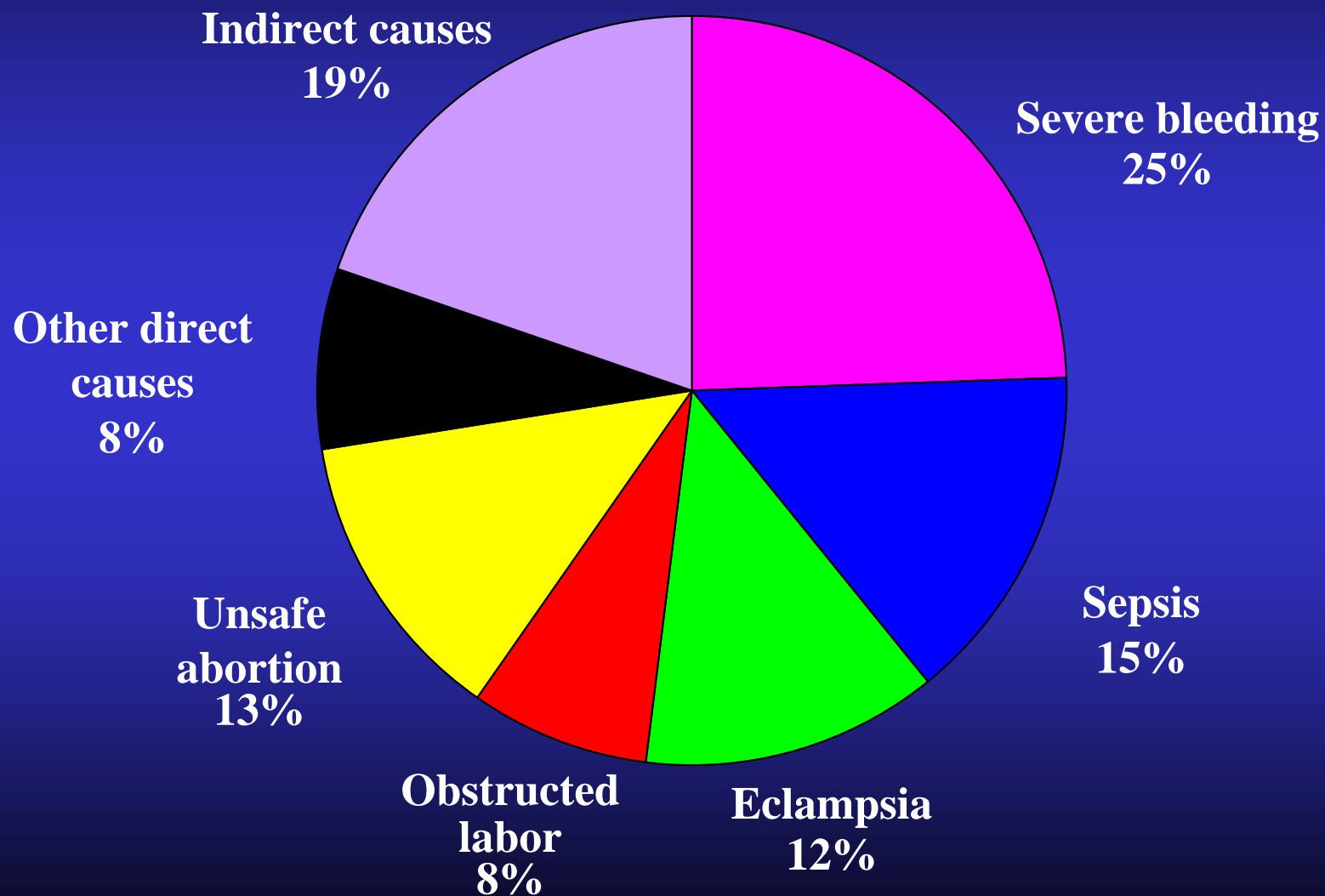
## Daily Death Toll: during pregnancy & in childbirth



- 1600 women die each day
- 1 woman dies each minute
- 55% of deaths occur in Asia
- 40% in Africa
- 1% in developed countries

[www.unicef.org/pon96/woestima.htm](http://www.unicef.org/pon96/woestima.htm)

# Worldwide Causes of Maternal Deaths



United Kingdom

Confidential Enquiries

## Why Mothers Die 1997-1999

Executive Summary and  
Key Recommendations

The  
Confidential Enquiries  
into Maternal Deaths  
in the United Kingdom



on behalf of:  
The National Institute  
for Clinical Excellence

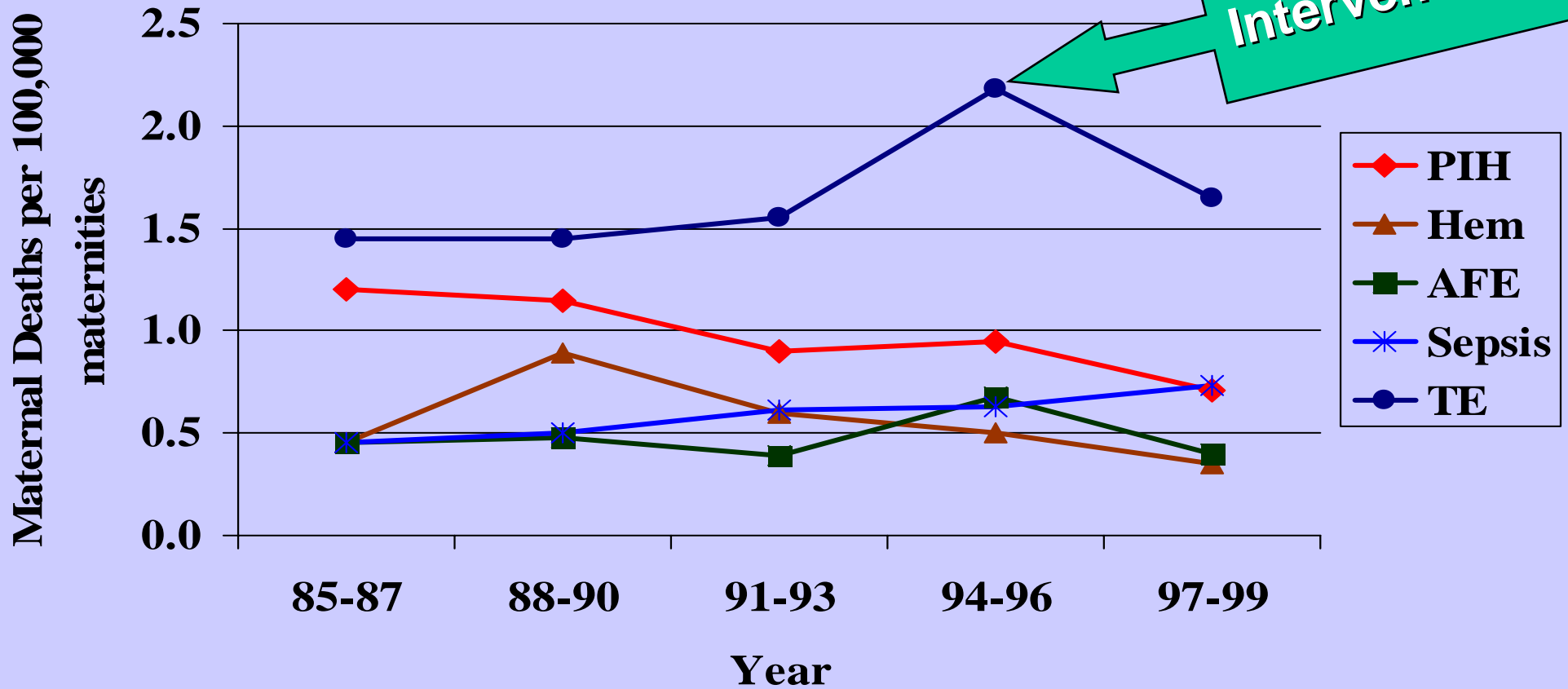
The Scottish Executive  
Health Department

The Department of Health,  
Social Services and Public Safety:  
Northern Ireland

# Confidential Enquiry

- Inception 1952 – a triennial report
- Government requires all maternal deaths be subject to CEMD
- All relevant hospital professionals & other health professionals must participate in the CEMD

# Direct Maternal Deaths



Why Mothers Die 1997 - 1999, CEMD



# Facts about TE

- 5 fold increased risk during pregnancy
- Absolute risk of VT is 0.5 - 3 per 1,000
- PE remains a leading cause of maternal death in United States
- 50% of women with a thrombotic event in pregnancy have an underlying congenital or acquired thrombophilia

# Frightening Fact

- In about 50% of patients with a hereditary thrombophilia, the initial thrombotic event occurs in the presence of an additional risk factor
  - pregnancy
  - BCP usage
  - orthopedic trauma or immobilization
  - surgery



**Our  
Patients !!**

# RCOG - Prophylaxis After C/Section

## Moderate Risk\*

- Age > 35 years
- Obesity > 80 kg
- Parity four or more
- Labor > 12 hours
- Gross varicose veins
- Emergency C/S
- Pre-op immobility (>4 days)
- Preeclampsia
- Current infection
- Other major illness

\* Heparin **OR** mechanical methods (stockings or SCD boots)

# RCOG - Prophylaxis After C/Section

## High Risk\*

- $\geq 3$  moderate risks
- Personal hx of DVT, PE, thrombophilia, or paralysis
- Extended C/S
- C/Hyst
- Patients with ACA
- Family history of DVT or PE

\* Heparin **AND** mechanical methods (stockings or SCD boots)

# RCOG - Air Travel Recommendations

Pregnant + up to 6 weeks PP	Short (< 4 hours)	Long (> 4 hours)
No additional risk factors	Calf exercises, mobility, hydration	Same plus below knee compression stockings
Weight > 100 kg BMI > 30 Twins or > Thrombophilia Prior DVT	Calf exercises, mobility, hydration, compression stockings	Same plus LMW heparin day of and day after flight

Low-dose aspirin is an acceptable alternative, 3 days before and day of



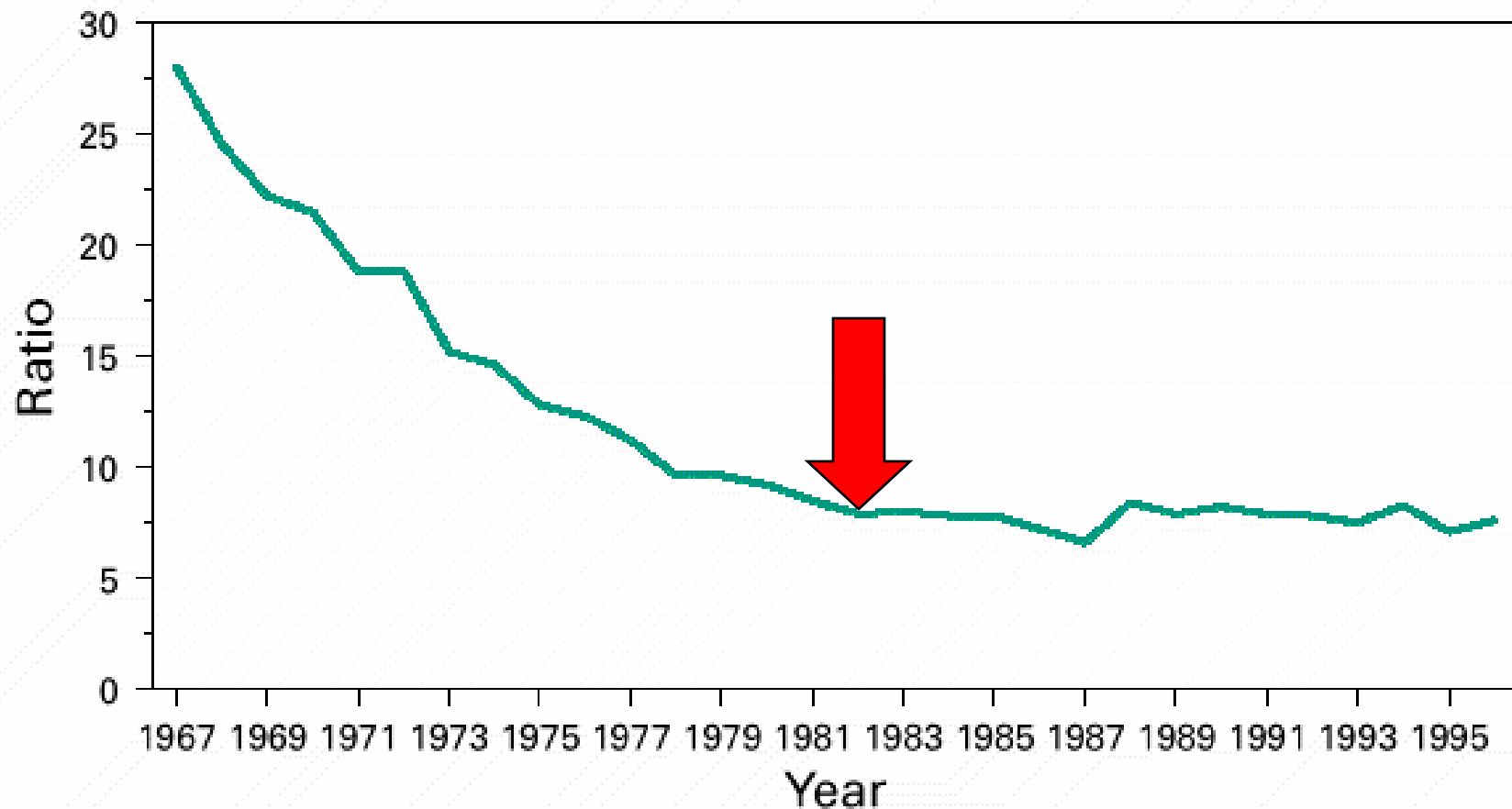
*Safe  
Motherhood*



# Maternal Mortality: Nationally and in New York State

**US Healthy People 2010 Goal:  
3.3 Per 100,000 livebirths**

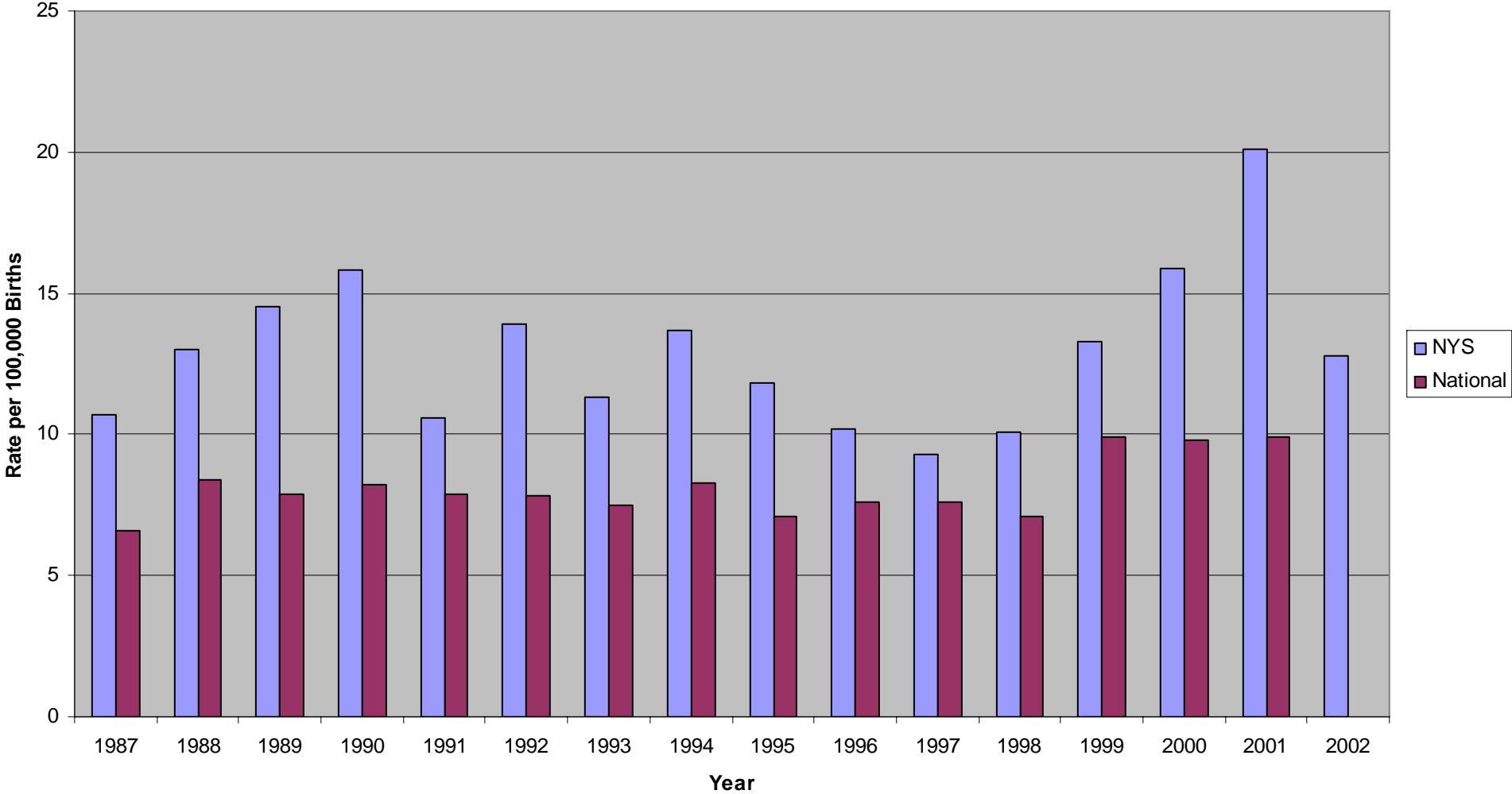
**FIGURE 1. Maternal mortality ratio\*, by year — United States, 1967–1996**



\*Number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births The term “ratio” is used instead of rate because the numerator includes some maternal deaths that were not related to live births and thus were not included in the denominator.

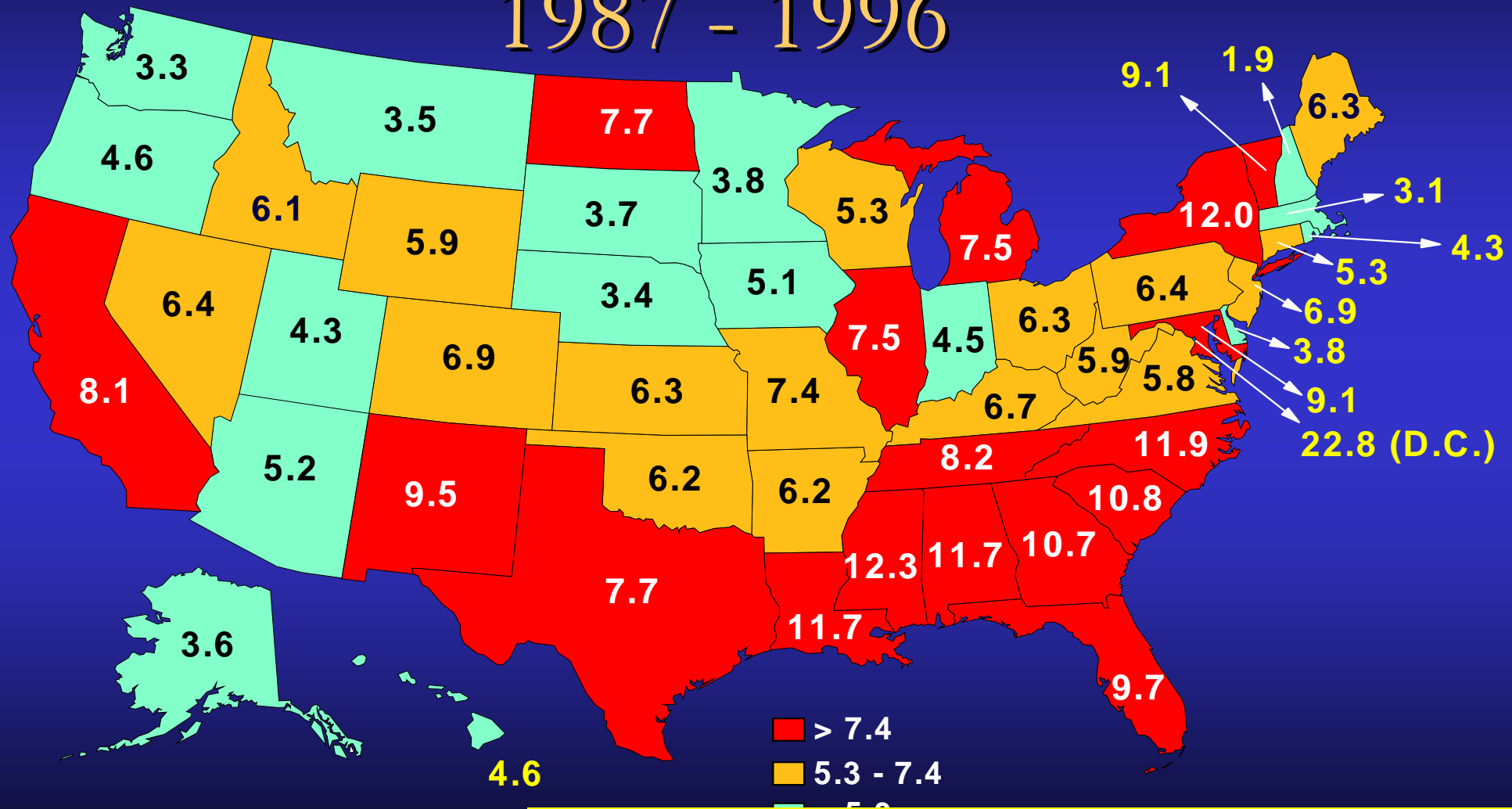
# Maternal Mortality: NYS vs. Nation

## 1987 - 2001





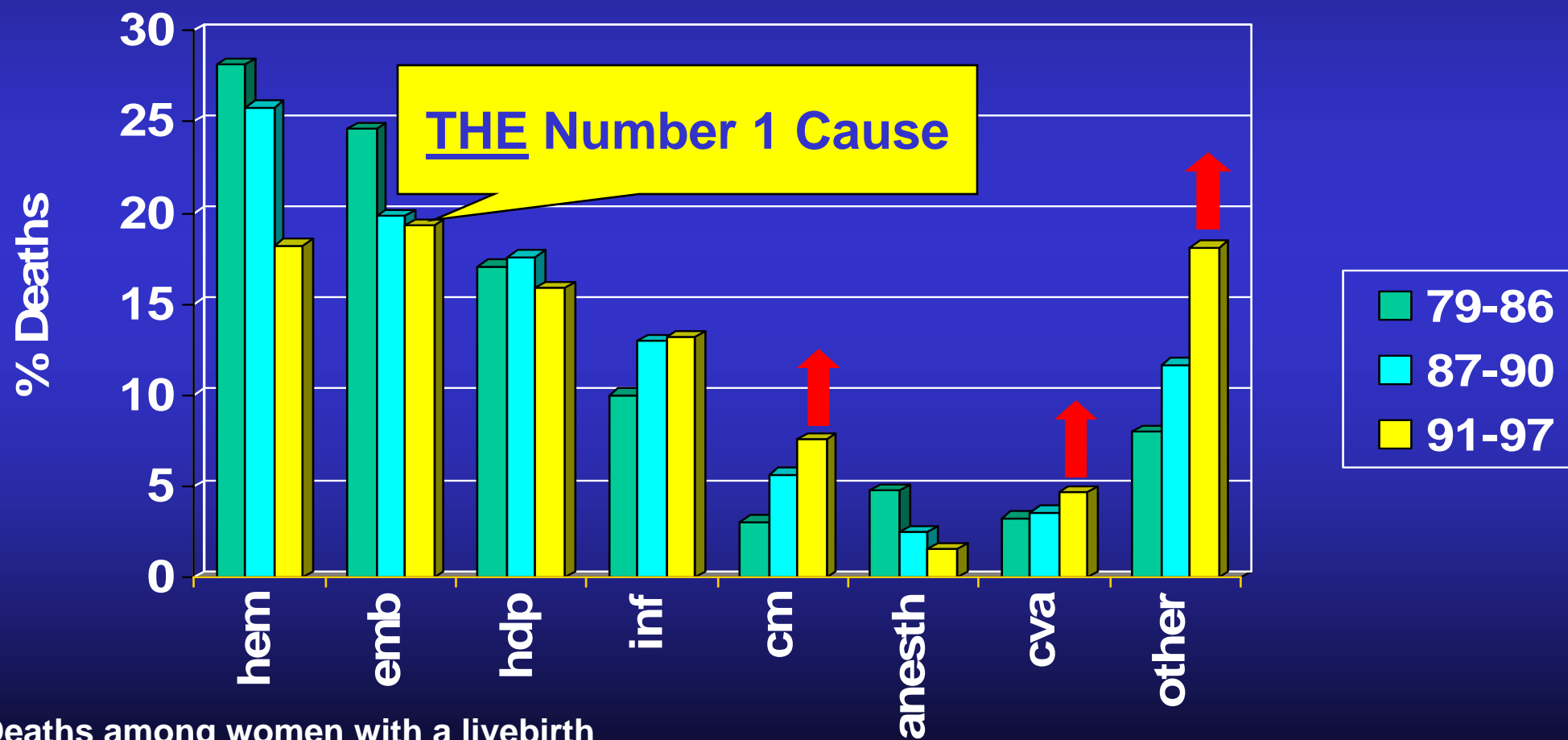
# Maternal Mortality Ratios 1987 - 1996



Source: NCHS, Vital statistics

**National: 7.7** / 100,000 (1987-1996)

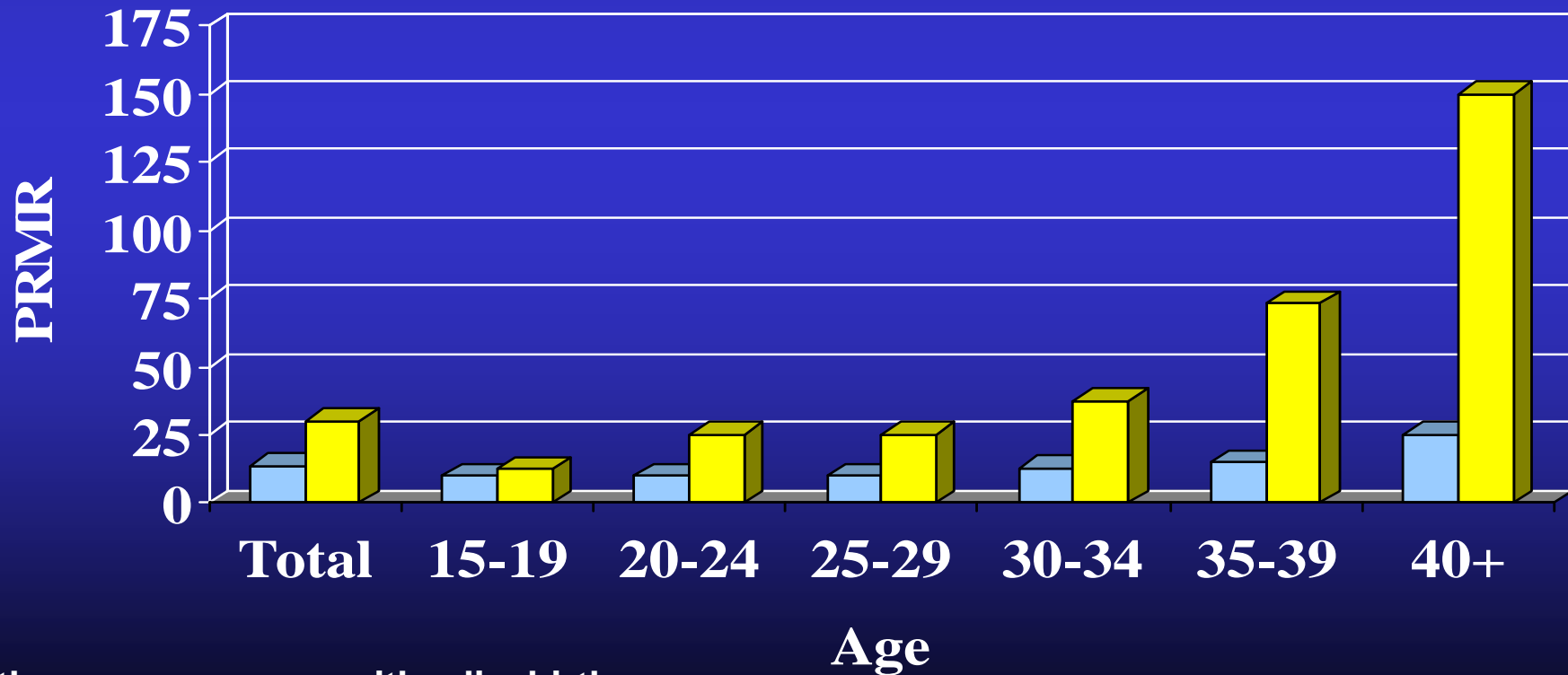
# US Trend in Cause of Pregnancy-Related Death\* by Year



\* Deaths among women with a livebirth

# Pregnancy-Related Mortality Ratio (PRMR)\* by Race & Age US, 1991 - 1997

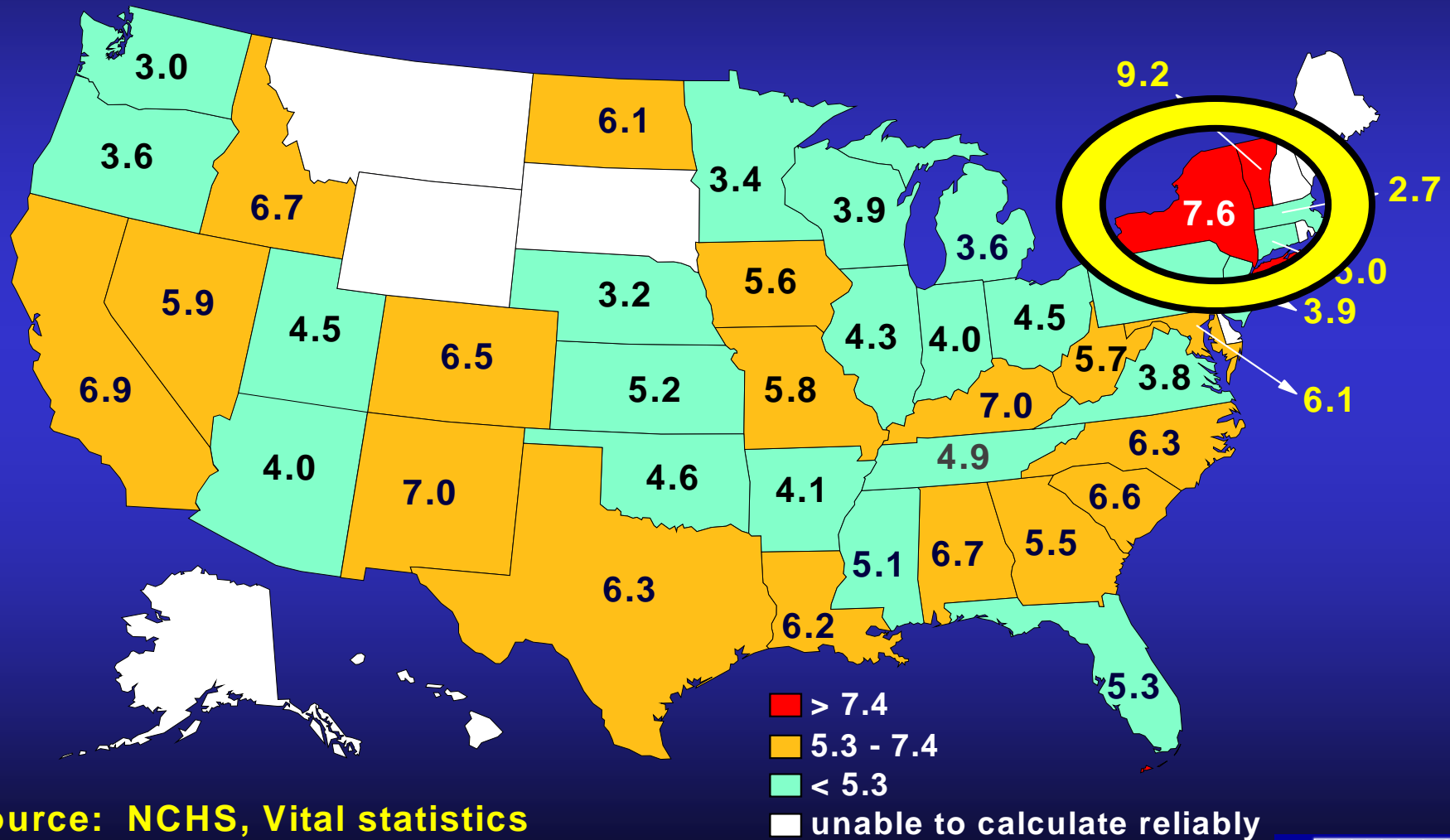
■ Caucasian ■ African-American



\* Deaths among women with a livebirth

Source: CDC, 2002.

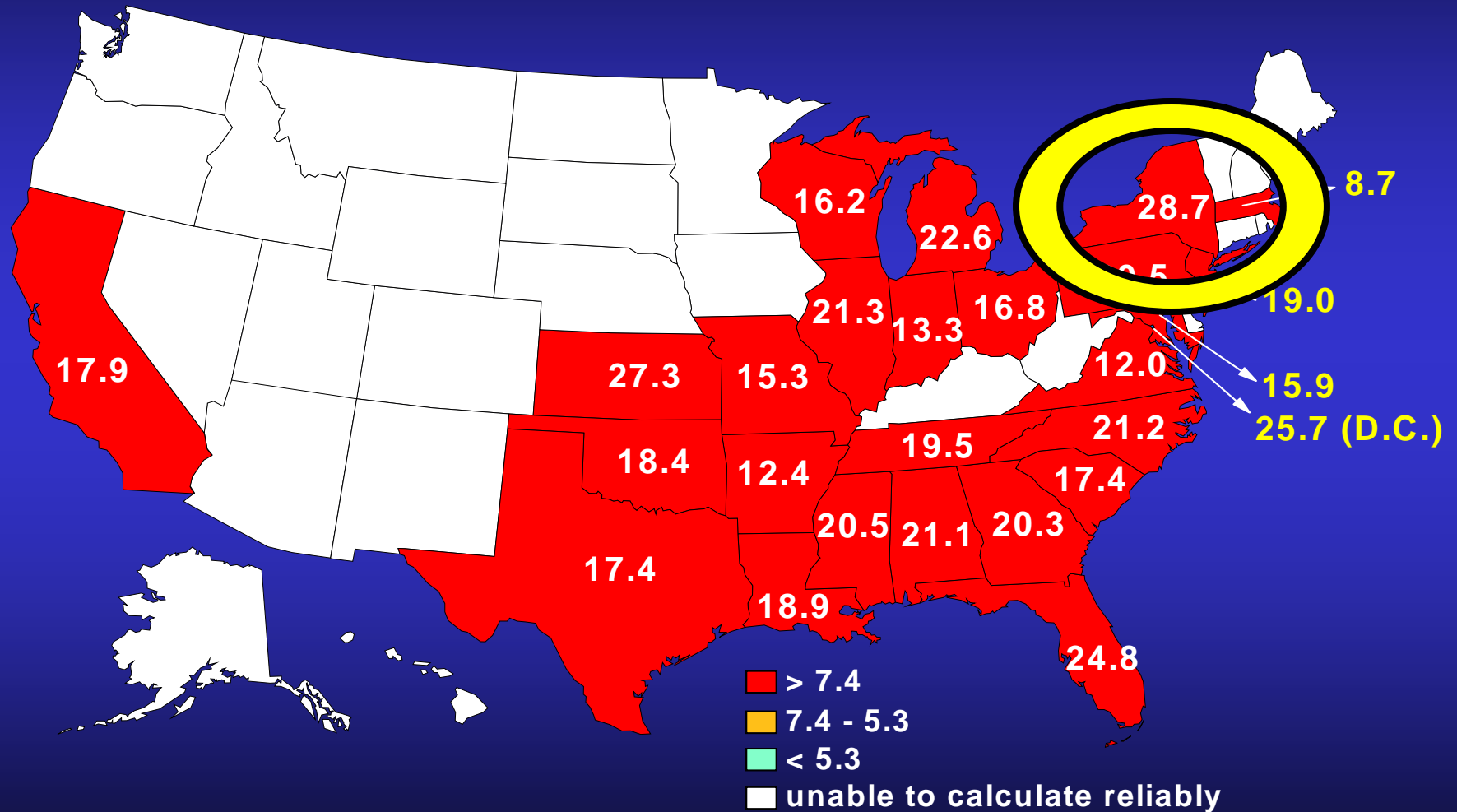
# Maternal Mortality Ratios for Caucasian Women: 1987-1996



Source: NCHS, Vital statistics

Note: The colors on these maps show the states divided into three terciles based on their MMR.

# Maternal Mortality Ratios for African-American Women 1987-1996

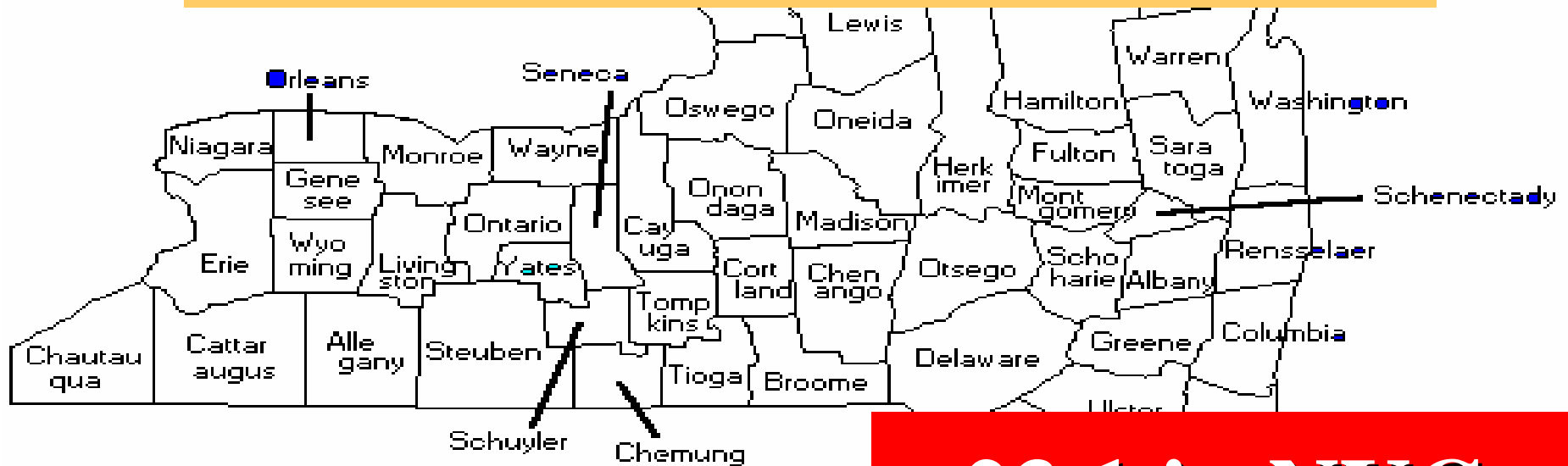


Source: NCHS, Vital statistics



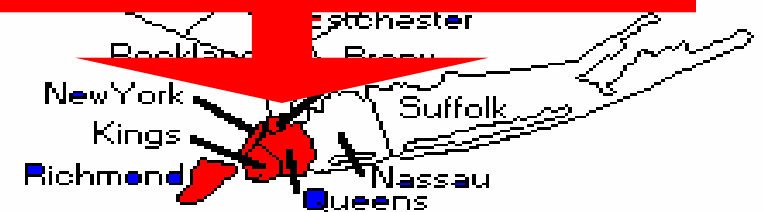
# 2000 NYS Maternal Mortality Ratios

**9.5 in Upstate New York**



**15.9 in NYS**

**23.1 in NYC**



\*Per 100,000 livebirths

# New York City Maternal Deaths

Direct & Indirect 1998 - 2000

119 cases out of 169 Total

1. <u>Hemorrhage</u>	<u>32%</u>
2. Hypertension	10%
3. Cardiomyopathy	8%
4. Embolism	7%
5. Infection/Sepsis	7%
6. Anesthesia	7%

Courtesy of Dr. Gina Brown, NYCDOH, BMIRH

# NYC Maternal Deaths

Borough of Residence	% of NYC Births	% of Maternal Deaths	MMR
Brooklyn	32	37	52.4
Bronx	17	19	51.2
Manhattan	16	16	46.1
Queens	23	14	28.2
Staten Island	5	1	
Other	8	?	37.2
Missing	0	?	n/a

Courtesy of Dr. Gina Brown, NYCDOH, BMIRH



# Location and Timing of Death

- 70 % Died in the hospital
- 45% Died within 24 hours of birth

Courtesy of Dr. Gina Brown, NYCDOH, BMIRH

# Hemorrhage Deaths

Related Causes N = 39

HELLP	5%	AFE	10%
Placenta Previa	5%	Abruptio	3%
Atony/PP Hem	15%	Ectopic	5%
A/Per/Increta	5%	Other placenta	3%
Coagulopathy	13%	Unspec/Unknown	36%

Courtesy of Dr. Gina Brown, NYCDOH, BMIRH

Approximately **one-half** of all  
maternal deaths are considered  
to be **preventable!!**

# NYS Safe Motherhood Project

- Proposal drafted by Dr. John Choate
- Patterned after the Confidential Enquiry
- Developed with NYS/District II
- Funded by Commissioner's Priority Pool
- Protected by PHL 206 (1)(j)
- ACOG Partners with RPCs – Quality expectation
- On-site death review teams

## Issues to Review:

# Quality and Content of Medical Care

- Preventive services - chronic illnesses
  - Community and patient education
- Nutrition, substance abuse, social services
  - Preconception counseling
    - Prenatal care access
- Labor and delivery care – Consulting Services
  - Postpartum care and follow-up

Source: CDC, 2002.

# Issues to Review: Systems and Social Causes of Death

- Intendedness of pregnancy
- Woman and her family's knowledge and decision making ability
- Timeliness of woman's actions to seek care
  - Accessibility and acceptability of care

Source: CDC, 2002.

# Methods to Identify Deaths

- **Death Certificates: Primary source**
- **Linkage to and Searches of other databases**
- **Reports from providers, hospitals, clinics, medical examiners, ED physicians, media**
- **Review of autopsy and medical records**
- **Computer linkage of vital records**

DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: (ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE) (A), (B), AND (C)

APPROXIMATE INTERVAL BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH

PART I. IMMEDIATE CAUSE:

(A)

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(B)

DUE TO OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

(C)

PART II OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO CAUSE GIVEN IN PART I (A):

CAUSE OF DEATH

31A. IF INJURY DATE:

MONTH DAY YEAR

Form with boxes for month, day, and year.

HOUR:

m

31B. LOCALITY: (City or town and county and state)

31C. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED

31D. PLACE OF INJURY

32. WAS DECEDENT HOSPITALIZED IN LAST TWO MONTHS?

Form with NO YES checkboxes and input boxes containing 0 and 1.

33A. IF FEMALE WAS DECEDENT PREGNANT IN LAST 6 MONTHS?

Form with NO YES checkboxes and input boxes containing 0 and 1.

33B. DATE OF DELIVERY:

Form with MONTH DAY YEAR labels and input boxes.





# Safe Motherhood Initiative

## *The American College of Ob-Gyn District II/ NY*

**Chair: Jeffrey C. King, MD, FACOG**

**Project Director: Cathy Chazen Stone, MS**

**Neisha M. Torres, RN, MS**

**Executive Director: Donna Montalto Williams, MPP**

*Contracted by the Women's Health Bureau, NYS Department of Health*

# The Safe Motherhood Initiative

uses...

- NYS Regional Perinatal Network expects the RPCs to conduct quality assurance and quality improvement activities with their affiliate hospitals.

... review of all maternal deaths is part of that role.



# Maternal Mortality Review Team



- Maternal-Fetal Medicine/RPC
- Labor & Delivery nurse/RPC  
or  
Nurse coordinator/RPC
- General Ob-Gyn/ACOG
- Project Director/ACOG
- Sub-specialist/RPC (as needed)





# Recommendations



<b><u>Question</u></b>	<b><u>Coding Instructions</u></b>
<p>90. Written recommendations for improvement of care in the areas reviewed.</p> <p><i>(e.g., system modifications, revision of protocol(s), staffing modifications, policy change(s) etc.</i></p>	None

# SMI – Project Summary

- Death notifications = 21, Review = 15, Pending = 2
- Cause of Death
  - Sepsis 4
  - Embolism 3
  - Hypertensive Disease 5
  - Hemorrhage 1
  - Congenital Cardiac Disease 1
  - Unknown 1

# SMI – Project Summary

## Ethnicity

– White	30%
– Asian	8%
– Haitian	8%
– Black	46%
– Hispanic	8%

## Age

– < 20	11%
– 20 – 30	39%
– 30 – 40	39%
– > 40	11%

# Issues Identified

- Medical Care – recognition and transfer
- Blood bank procedure
- EMS protocols & ED process
- Availability of Diagnostic studies
- Translation Services
- Grief Counseling for Family and Staff
- Consulting issues – willingness and adequacy

# What Can You Do?

- Review your institutional Policy and Procedures
- Encourage Emergency Drills
- Confront Cultural Competency
- Admit Your Limitations

**Remember:**

**It's The Patient That Really Matters!!!**





# For more information contact

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# Learning Objectives

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- List the issues in New York State and NYC
- Understand the District II-SMI Project
- Discuss the medical and systems issues
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My Thanks to All Who Have  
Supported and Contributed  
To the Success of This Project

A nighttime photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, viewed from across a body of water. Two prominent, vertical blue light beams rise from the water, illuminating the dark sky. The city buildings are lit up with various colors, and their lights reflect on the water's surface.

**Jeffrey C. King, MD, FACOG**

**Chair, Safe Motherhood Initiative**

**NYS/ACOG**

**Professor and Chair**

**New York Medical College**

**Thanks to All Supporting This Project !!**