



**THE U.S. IS THE MOST
DANGEROUS PLACE IN
THE DEVELOPED WORLD
TO DELIVER A BABY.**

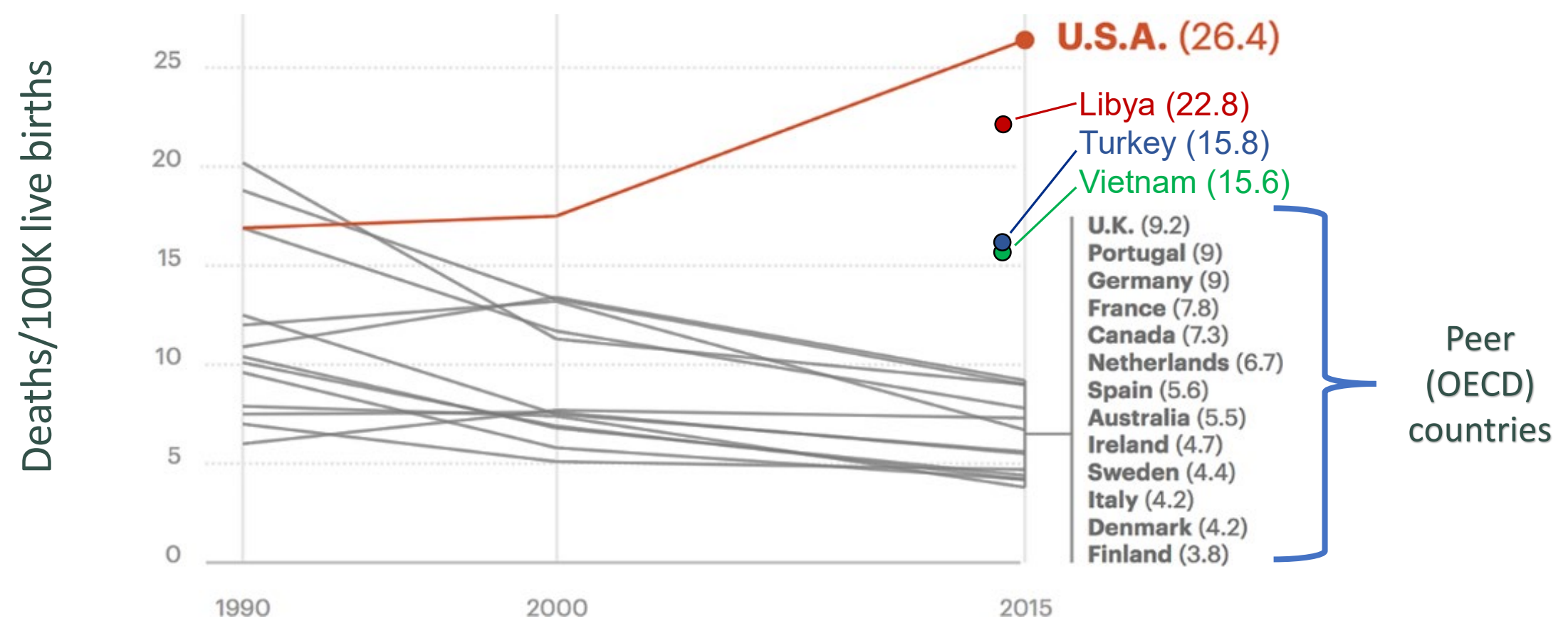
USA Today, 2018



National Institutes of Health
Office of Research on Women's Health



Maternal mortality rises in U.S. as it decreases globally



Priva A. 2015. GBD 2015 Maternal Mortality Collaborators. *Bulletin of the World Health Org.* 93: 135.



Approximately
700 women die
annually in the
U.S. from
pregnancy-
related
complications

About...

3 in 5 could be prevented

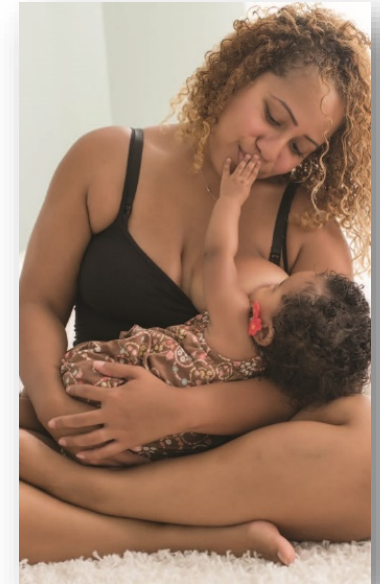
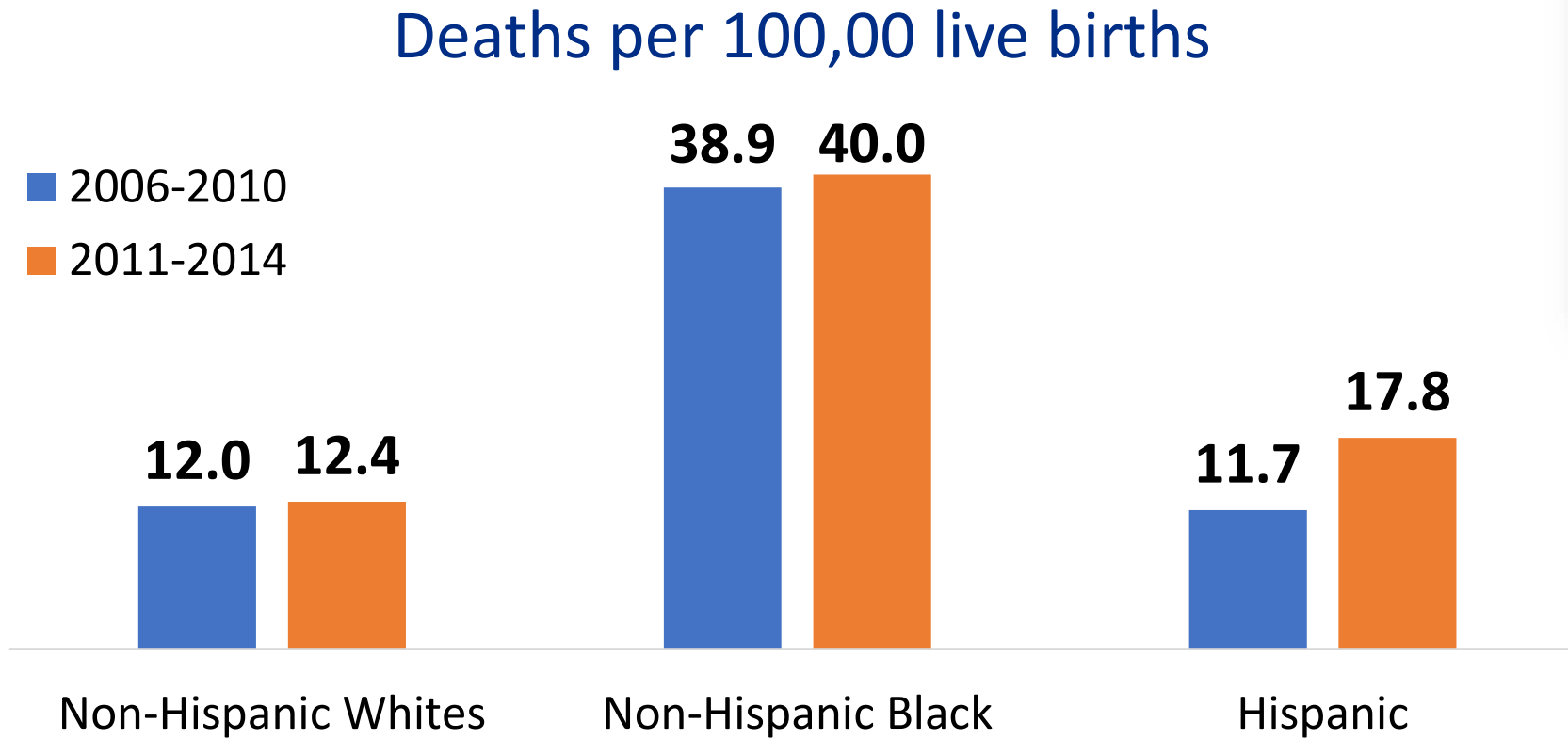
1 in 3 pregnancy-related deaths
happened during pregnancy

1 in 3 happened at delivery or in
the week after

1 in 3 happened 1 week to 1 year
postpartum



Black women are 3-4X more likely to die of pregnancy-related causes than White women



(Photo: ©Sweet Plum Photography; from CDC, 2016)



Putting U.S. SMM in perspective

- Each year **more than 50,000 women have severe pregnancy complications** (e.g., hemorrhage), also known as severe maternal morbidity (SMM).
- SMM has been steadily increasing in recent years and the rate **more than doubled** from 2000 to 2010.
- Chronic conditions, such as **high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity**, may put women at higher risk of pregnancy complications.

