

PingTRAKS

Black Maternal Health Keturah Warner Healthcare studies



PingTRAKS

PingTRAKS is a risk management tool that helps to identify counterfeit medical products to protect the medically vulnerable.

Their website allows you upload a picture of their clients' medical device to see if it is a bad medical product or not. Depending on the client's results, they can choose to proceed and find a better medical products that best fits them.

For the internship, I contributed to research on how counterfeit/bad medical products harm vulnerable populations with a focus on how they contribute to adverse health outcomes for pregnant Black women.

The hypothesis for this project is: Research shows that Black women are more likely to have complications when pregnant, how does challenges like not accessing quality medical technology impact their health outcomes?

Black Women and Maternal Health

Black women are three times more likely to die and or have complications during or after childbirth than white women (Hill et al., 2022)

Some of the leading causes of black maternal mortality is cardiac cardiomyopathy and related blood pressure disorders, collectively this makes up 39.2% of mortality which 63-68% are preventable (Bond et al., 2021).

Year	Maternal mortality rate
1980	19.4
1981	19.2
1982	19.1
1983	19.0
1984	18.9
1985	18.8
1986	18.7
1987	18.6
1988	18.5
1989	18.4
1990	18.3
1991	18.2
1992	18.1
1993	18.0
1994	17.9
1995	17.8
1996	17.7
1997	17.6
1998	17.5
1999	17.4
2000	17.3
2001	17.2
2002	17.1
2003	17.0
2004	16.9
2005	16.8
2006	16.7
2007	16.6
2008	16.5
2009	16.4
2010	16.3
2011	16.2
2012	16.1
2013	16.0
2014	15.9

This data chart shows data that in the past 14 years the Mortality rate for Black women (McDorman, 2016).

The health care system is rooted in racism which contributes to the mortality rates when it comes to Black women, or women of color (The Impact of Institutional Racism, 2023).

Black women and other women of color have lower rates for breastfeeding than white women. Forcing them to have to purchase formula rather than breastfeed their babies.; which is less nutritious for their babies (Santhanam, 2019).

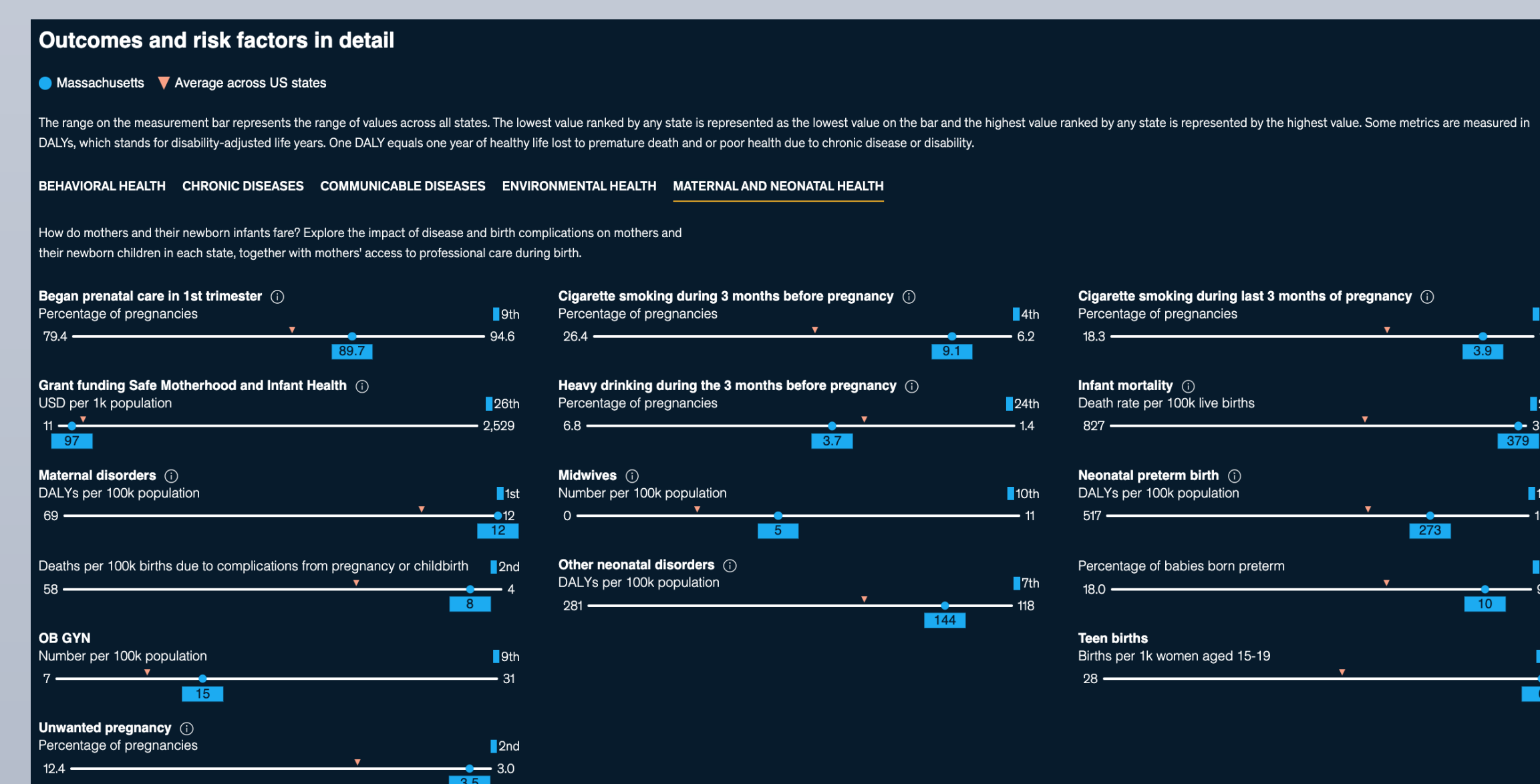
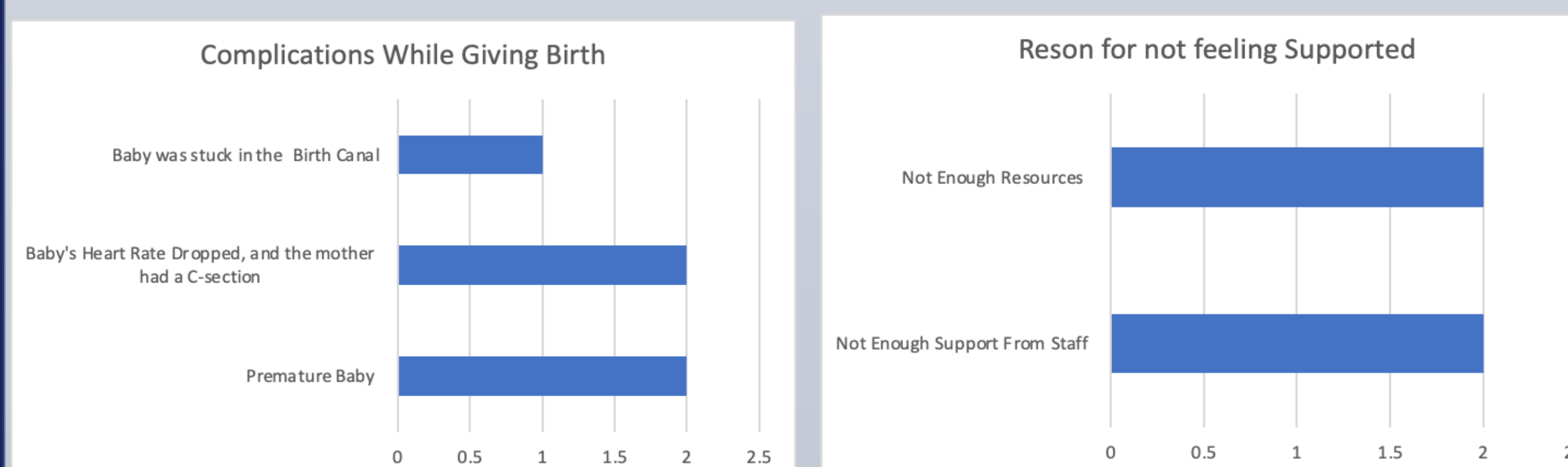
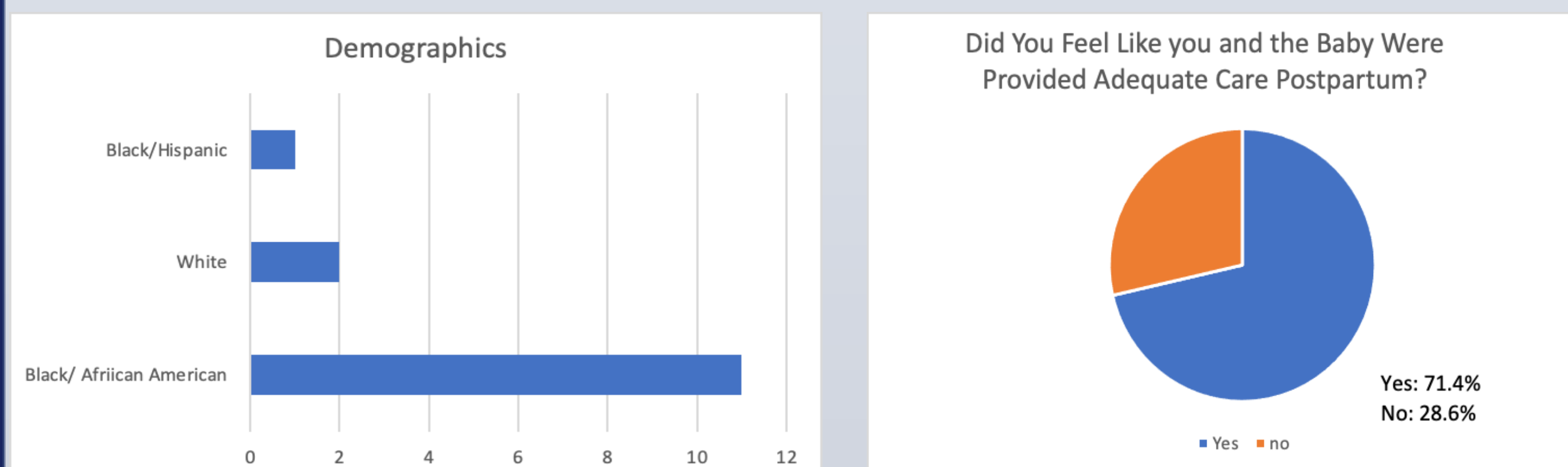
Material and Methods

To have a broader approach, I used a diversity of ways to gather information regarding Black Maternal Health

Listed below are the research methods used:

1. Analysis of academic research on overall maternal health, Black women and maternal outcomes, and challenges in maternal health globally.
2. Interviews were conducted with people who worked in a healthcare and maternal healthcare setting who worked with Black mothers.
3. A survey was created and distributed throughout the community concerning maternal health. This is incorporated in the below results.

Results



Conclusion/ Solutions

In conclusion, hospitals should have more conversations around the level of care we give women, especially Black maternal women as this can grow into a potential epidemic among Black mothers.

In addition to conducting my research I came across imperative bills for the state of Massachusetts aimed to help Black maternal mothers

- Bills were created to have doulas covered by health insurance.
- Better access to quality maternal healthcare

Overall, my internship experience was amazing I was able to improve my communication skills and had the opportunity to network with different people in the medical field. I also had the freedom to conduct my own research and work at my own pace.

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