



# Major Milestones

## Timeline

**2020–** Launched the Women's Health Needs Study (WHNS). It is the first U.S. multi-site study to document women's experience of [Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting](#) in the context of reproductive health.

**2020–** Led the analysis of the first [MMWR report](#) that identified pregnancy as a risk factor for severe COVID-19 illness.

**2020–** 10th Anniversary of the [U.S. Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use \(U.S. MEC\)](#) recommendations for the use of specific contraceptive methods by women and men who have certain characteristics or medical conditions.

**2020–** [Vital Signs MMWR](#) report on Opioid use during pregnancy using PRAMS data.

**2020–** All [Maternal Mortality Review Committees \(MMRCs\)](#) hosting Maternal Mortality Review Information Application (MMRIA, or "Maria") data at CDC for analytic use within their own jurisdiction and for aggregate national reporting by CDC.

**2021–** Released the 2nd edition of the [Data To Action](#) monograph available now in e-book and for download.

### 2010-2019

**2010–** [PRAMS](#) expands to now include 37 states, New York City, and South Dakota (Yankton Sioux Tribe).

**2010–** DRH, in collaboration with the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) and university partners, publishes a *special supplement on importance of Positive Youth Development (PYD)* for adolescent reproductive health outcomes.

**2010–** [A National Public Health Action Plan for the Detection, Prevention, and Management of Infertility](#) is released.

**2010–** First [United States Guidelines on Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use](#) are published.

**2010–** Global Health Initiative leads to expansion of global activities related to global maternal mortality reduction.

**2011**– DRH and USAID completed a 37-year agreement to provide technical and scientific assistance for [global reproductive health](#).

**2011**– [PRAMS](#) (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) expands to 41 sites representing 78% of all U.S. live births.

**2011**– CDC's *Vital Signs* released [first featured report on preventing teen pregnancy](#).

**2012**– DRH completed an 8-year project to improve maternal and infant health services and reduce maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity at Rabia Balkhi Women's Hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan.

**2012**– Seven states successfully conclude the [Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Case Registry](#) pilot program. The project will continue.

**2013**– Established the Field Services Branch; provided new home for [global work in reproductive health](#) and the [Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Program](#).

**2013**– Launched [PRAMS](#) Integrated Data System (PIDS), a centralized Web-based data collection system that provides for real-time data collection monitoring.

**2013**– Published the [United States Guidelines on Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use](#).

**2014**– CDC and the U.S. Office of Population Affairs jointly release [Providing Quality Family Planning Services \(QFP\)](#) recommendations.

**2015**– Completed a 5-year cooperative agreement, [Teenage Pregnancy Prevention: Integrating Services, Programs, and Strategies through Community-Wide Initiatives](#). Preliminary data from the community-wide initiatives suggest the importance of this approach for reducing teen births.

**2015**– The [Vital Signs report on teen pregnancy](#) examined trends in use of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) among females aged 15–19 years seeking contraceptive services. Source: MMWR April 10, 2015 / No. 13 [Vital Signs: Trends in Use of Long-Acting Reversible Contraception Among Teens Aged 15–19 Years Seeking Contraceptive Services — United States, 2005–2013](#)

**2015**– DRH published [the first national report of gestational weight gain surveillance](#) in pregnant women noting the percent meeting gestational weight gain recommendations.

**2016**– Published MMWR on [Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome in 28 States, 1999–2013](#).

**2016**– DRH develops and offers the Emergency Preparedness and Response: Online Training Course.

**2016**– DRH responds to [Zika](#).

**2016**– Published MMWR update on [United States Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 2016 \(US MEC\)](#).

**2016**– Published MMWR update on [United States Selected Practice Recommendations for Contraceptive Use, 2016 \(US SP\)](#).

**2016**– Published MMWR on Reduced Disparities in Birth Rates among Teens Aged 15–19 Years in the United States.

**2017**– DRH celebrates [50 years of improving the health of mothers and babies](#) in the U.S. and around the world.

**2017**– Grand Rounds on Maternal Mortality: [Meeting the Challenges of Measuring and Preventing Maternal Mortality in the United States](#).

**2017**– Published journal supplement on [Implementation of the Community-Wide Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiatives](#).

**2017**– Published MMWR article on [Measures Taken to Prevent Zika Virus Infection During Pregnancy – Puerto Rico, 2016](#).

**2017**– CDC expanded support for [perinatal quality collaboratives](#) from six to 13 states. CDC also awarded the National Institute for Children's Health Quality to serve as the coordinating center for the Network of Perinatal Quality Collaboratives.

**2018**– Published [AJPH series on Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System \(PRAMS\)](#), which celebrated its 30th year of tracking perinatal health in 2018.

**2018**– Promoted the importance of safe sleep through a [Vital Signs](#) and Grand Rounds on [Safe Sleep for Infants](#).

**2018**– Established [Emergency Preparedness and Response Team](#) to increase the capacity of the public health system and workforce to address the special needs of women of reproductive age (especially pregnant women, post-partum women) and infants in public health emergencies.

**2018**– Concluded the five-year [Saving Mothers, Giving Life Initiative](#), which documented a 44% reduction in maternal mortality in four Uganda districts where the program was implemented and 41% reduction in four Zambia districts.

**2019**– Concluded the evaluation of Bloomberg Philanthropy's Reducing Maternal Mortality in Tanzania Program in Kigoma, Tanzania documenting a 43% decline in maternal mortality and 45% decline in perinatal mortality between 2013–2018.

**2019**– Launch of [Enhancing Reviews and Surveillance to Eliminate Maternal Mortality \(ERASE MM\)](#) Program.

**2019**– Created [and launched the IVF Success Estimator](#)—a tool to estimate the chance of having a live birth using *in vitro* fertilization (IVF).

## 2000-2009

**2000**– Children’s Health Act of 2000, which established Safe Motherhood.

**2001**– First National Summit on Safe Motherhood is held.

**2002**– The Women’s CARE study concludes that oral contraceptive use is not associated with a significantly increased risk of breast cancer.

**2003**– Online Interactive Atlas of Reproductive Health is launched.

**2003**– DRH begins working in Afghanistan to reduce maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality.

**2003**– Initiated a national strategy to examine and prevent prematurity in the United States.

**2004**– Organization of the [Sudden Infant Death Scene Investigation](#) Initiative.

**2004**– American Indian and Alaska Native forum is convened to address maternal, infant, and child health research issues.

**2005**– Promoting Science-Based Approaches to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, HIV and STDs 5- year program initiative is launched.

**2005**– Partnership on the first international effort to eliminate obstetric fistula.

**2006**– [PRAMS](#) expands representing 75% of all U.S. births.

**2006**– Official release of the new [Sudden, Unexplained Infant Death Investigation \(SUIDI\) Reporting Form](#), and development of a [comprehensive training curriculum and materials](#) for use in infant death scene investigations.

**2007**– Expert panel consultation: Youth development as a strategy to promote adolescent reproductive health.

**2008**– A CDC-wide working group is convened to [examine the issue of infertility in the United States](#).[External](#)

**2008**– Special journal issue for [US-Mexico Border demonstration project](#) published.

**2009**– Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Maternal Health Team was formed.

**2009**– CDC, as an outreach partner, participates in development of content for [text4baby](#).

**2009**– 11 MCH epidemiologists and 10 MCH fellows sponsored by the [MCHEP](#) have been assigned to 19 public health agencies.

## 1990-1999

**1990**– Infant health initiative [preterm delivery](#) research program is established.

**1991**– Project CARES (Comprehensive AIDS and Reproductive Health Education Study) is implemented.

**1992**– [Fertility Clinic Success Rates and Certification Act of 1992](#)  passed.

**1992**– [SIDS](#) case control studies launched.

**1994**– Monograph—*From Data to Action: CDC's Public Health Surveillance for Women, Infants and Children* is published.

**1995**– [Teenage Pregnancy Prevention](#) initiative.

**1995**– First United States-based [reproductive health survey](#) of immigrant population is conducted.

**1996**– Surveillance of [teenage pregnancy](#) is initiated.

**1996**– Guidelines for Death Scene Investigation of Sudden, [Unexplained Infant Deaths \(SUID\)](#) is published.

**1997**– CDC releases the first annual report of [pregnancy success rates for fertility clinics](#) in the United States.

**1998**– Reproductive Health for Refugees initiative.

## 1980-1989

**1981**– Global survey of sterilization deaths.

**1981**– The Family Planning Evaluation Division was renamed the Division of Reproductive Health.

**1982**– DRH investigates the relationship between cancer and the use of oral contraceptives.

**1982**– World Health Organization (WHO) designates DRH as a Collaborating Center in Perinatal Mortality and in Family Planning.

**1983**– *Family Planning Methods and Practice: Africa* is published.

**1984**– Surveillance of infant mortality.

**1986**– The Cancer and Steroid Hormones Study concludes that the birth control pill does not cause cancer and actually decreases the risk for certain kinds of cancer.

**1986**– Surveillance of maternal mortality is initiated.

**1986**– Initiated a national strategy to examine and prevent prematurity in the United States.

**1986**– [Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology \(MCH EPI\)](#) is established.

**1987**– [Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System \(PRAMS\)](#) is developed.

**1988**– Initiated ongoing assistance to American Indians/Alaska Natives with first BRFSS/MCH surveys of American Indian populations.

## 1970-1979

**1974**– Intrauterine device morbidity and mortality study.

**1974**– First international forecasting and logistics assistance.

**1975**– First international contraceptive prevalence survey.

**1978**– The Collaborative Review of Sterilization (CREST) begins; the Division of Reproductive Health (DRH) investigates the safety and efficacy of sterilization procedures in the United States.

## 1960-1969

**1967**– First domestic household-based family planning survey of reproductive aged women (Atlanta, Georgia).

**1968**– Computerized patient records system for family planning evaluation is developed.

**1969**– First [abortion surveillance](#) report is published.

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