



Higher SARS-CoV-2 Infection Rate in Pregnant Patients

Erica M. LOKKEN, PhD, MS, G. Gray TAYLOR, BA, Emily M. HUEBNER, MS, Jeroen VANDERHOEVEN, MD, Sarah HENDRICKSON, MD, Brahm COLER, BA, Jessica S. SHENG, MD, Christie L. WALKER, MD, MPH, Stephen A. MCCARTNEY, MD, PhD, Nicole M. KRETZER, MD, PhD, Rebecca RESNICK, PhD, Alisa KACHIKIS, MD, MS, Nena BARNHART, MD, Vera SCHULTE, BA, Brittany BERGAM, BS, Kimberly K, MA, MD, Catherine ALBRIGHT, MD, MS, Valerie LARIOS, Lori KELLEY, MSN, RN, Victoria LARIOS, BSN, RN, Sharilyn EMHOFF, BSN, RN, Jasmine RAH, BA, Kristin RETZLAFF, RN, Chad THOMAS, MD, PhD, Bettina W. PAEK, MD, Rita J. HSU, MD, MS, Anne ERICKSON, MD, Andrew CHANG, BS, Timothy MITCHELL, MD, Joseph K. HWANG, MD, Rebecca GOURLEY, BA, Stephen ERICKSON, MD, Shani DELANEY, MD, Carolyn R. KLINE, MD, MPH, Karen ARCHABALD, MD, MS, Michela BLAIN, MD, Sylvia M. LACOURSE, MD, MPH, Kristina M. ADAMS WALDORF, MD

PII: S0002-9378(21)00098-3

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2021.02.011>

Reference: YMOB 13714

To appear in: *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Received Date: 3 January 2021

Revised Date: 8 February 2021

Accepted Date: 9 February 2021

Please cite this article as: LOKKEN EM, TAYLOR GG, HUEBNER EM, VANDERHOEVEN J, HENDRICKSON S, COLER B, SHENG JS, WALKER CL, MCCARTNEY SA, KRETZER NM, RESNICK R, KACHIKIS A, BARNHART N, SCHULTE V, BERGAM B, K K, ALBRIGHT C, LARIOS V, KELLEY L, LARIOS V, EMHOFF S, RAH J, RETZLAFF K, THOMAS C, PAEK BW, HSU RJ, ERICKSON A, CHANG A, MITCHELL T, HWANG JK, GOURLEY R, ERICKSON S, DELANEY S, KLINE CR, ARCHABALD K, BLAIN M, LACOURSE SM, ADAMS WALDORF KM, Higher SARS-CoV-2 Infection Rate in Pregnant Patients, *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* (2021), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajog.2021.02.011>.

This is a PDF file of an article that has undergone enhancements after acceptance, such as the addition of a cover page and metadata, and formatting for readability, but it is not yet the definitive version of record. This version will undergo additional copyediting, typesetting and review before it is published in its final form, but we are providing this version to give early visibility of the article. Please note that, during the production process, errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

© 2021 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Title: Higher SARS-CoV-2 Infection Rate in Pregnant Patients

Erica M. LOKKEN, PhD, MS, Departments of Global Health and Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

G. Gray TAYLOR*, BA, Department of Epidemiology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Emily M. HUEBNER*, MS, School of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Jeroen VANDERHOEVEN, MD, (1) Swedish Maternal Fetal Specialty Center, Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, Washington, United States of America, (2) Obstetrix Medical Group, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Sarah HENDRICKSON, MD, Yakima Valley Farm Worker's Clinic, Yakima, Washington, United States of America

Brahm COLER, BA, Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, Washington State University, Spokane, Washington, United States of America

Jessica S. SHENG, MD, MultiCare Maternal Fetal Medicine, Tacoma, Washington, United States of America

Christie L. WALKER, MD, MPH, MultiCare Health System, Tacoma, Washington, United States of America

Stephen A. MCCARTNEY, MD, PhD, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Nicole M. KRETZER, MD, PhD, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

- 24 Rebecca RESNICK, PhD, School of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle,
25 Washington, United States of America
- 26 Alisa KACHIKIS, MD, MS, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of
27 Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
- 28 Nena BARNHART, MD, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, PeaceHealth St.
29 Joseph's Medical Center, Bellingham, Washington, United States of America
- 30 Vera SCHULTE, BA, School of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle,
31 Washington, United States of America
- 32 Brittany BERGAM, BS, School of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle,
33 Washington, United States of America
- 34 Kimberly K. MA, MD, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of
35 Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
- 36 Catherine ALBRIGHT, MD, MS, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University
37 of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
- 38 Valerie LARIOS, Yakima Valley Farm Worker's Clinic, Yakima, Washington, United
39 States of America
- 40 Lori KELLEY, MSN, RN, Yakima Valley Farm Worker's Clinic, Yakima, Washington,
41 United States of America
- 42 Victoria LARIOS, BSN, RN, Yakima Valley Farm Worker's Clinic, Yakima, Washington,
43 United States of America
- 44 Sharilyn EMHOFF, BSN, RN, Virginia Mason Memorial, Yakima, Washington, United
45 States of America

46 Jasmine RAH, BA, School of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington,
47 United States of America

48 Kristin RETZLAFF, RN, Quality Department, EvergreenHealth Medical Center, Kirkland,
49 Washington, United States of America

50 Chad THOMAS, MD, PhD, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, PeaceHealth St.
51 Joseph's Medical Center, Bellingham, Washington, United States of America

52 Bettina W. PAEK, MD, (1) Eastside Maternal Fetal Medicine, EvergreenHealth Medical
53 Center, Kirkland, Washington, United States of America, (2) Obstetrix of Washington,
54 Bellevue, Washington, United States of America

55 Rita J. HSU, MD, MS, Women's and Children's Health, Confluence Health, Wenatchee,
56 Washington, United States of America; Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology,
57 University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

58 Anne ERICKSON, MD, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of
59 Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

60 Andrew CHANG, BS, Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic, Yakima, Washington, United
61 States of America

62 Timothy MITCHELL, MD, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, The Vancouver
63 Clinic, Vancouver, Washington, United States of America

64 Joseph K. HWANG, MD, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of
65 Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

66 Rebecca GOURLEY, BA, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States
67 of America

Stephen ERICKSON, MD, Jefferson Health Care, Port Townsend, Washington, United States of America; University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, Washington, United States of America; Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, Washington State University, Spokane, Washington, United States of America

Shani DELANEY, MD, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Carolyn R. KLINE, MD, MPH, (1) Eastside Maternal Fetal Medicine, EvergreenHealth Medical Center, Kirkland, Washington, United States of America, (2) Obstetrix of Washington, Bellevue, Washington, United States of America

Karen ARCHABALD, MD, MS, Legacy Health, Vancouver, Washington, United States of America

Michela BLAIN, MD, Department of Medicine, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Sylvia M. LACOURSE, MD, MPH, Departments of Medicine and Global Health, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Kristina M. ADAMS WALDORF, MD, Departments of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Global Health, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
For the Washington COVID-19 in Pregnancy Collaborative

*shared contribution

Disclosure statement: Dr. Alisa Kachikis is on a Pfizer and GlaxoSmithKline Advisory Board for Immunizations, which is unrelated to the content of this manuscript. The remaining authors report no conflict of interest.

Source of financial support: This work was supported primarily by funding from the University of Washington Population Health Initiative, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology and philanthropic gift funds. This work was also supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (grant numbers AI133976, AI145890, AI143265 and HD098713 to KAW, HD001264 to AK and AI120793 to SML). Study data were managed using a REDCap electronic data capture tool hosted by the Institute of Translational Health Sciences at the University of Washington, which was supported by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (UL1TR002319). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health or other funders.

Role of the funding source: The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Corresponding Author: Kristina Adams Waldorf, MD, University of Washington, Box 356460, Seattle, WA 98195-6460, USA; Telephone: 206-616-5258; Fax: 206-543-3915; Email: adamsk@uw.edu

Word Count: 3,254 words

Abstract Word Count: 482

CONDENSATION

The SARS-CoV-2 infection rate was significantly higher in pregnant people compared to a similarly-aged population and nearly all non-white racial/ethnic groups were disproportionately affected.

SHORT TITLE

SARS-CoV-2 Infection Rate in Pregnancy

AJOG AT A GLANCE

A. Why was the study conducted? To determine the SARS-CoV-2 infection rate in pregnant patients and assess racial/ethnic disparities in a multi-center, retrospective cohort study in Washington State.

B. What are the key findings? The SARS-CoV-2 infection rate was significantly higher in pregnant people (N=240; 13.9/1,000 deliveries) compared to 20-39 year olds (7.3/1,000; Rate Ratio (RR) 1.7, 95%CI 1.3-2.3) in Washington State. When compared to the distribution of women in Washington State who delivered live births in 2018, the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy among most racial and ethnic minority groups was 2-4 fold higher.

C. What does this study add to what is already known? The SARS-CoV-2 infection rate in pregnant patients was higher than non-pregnant adults in Washington State and nearly all non-white racial/ethnic groups were disproportionately affected.

Keywords: COVID-19, pregnancy, SARS-CoV-2, coronavirus, fetus, Hispanic, Black, Alaskan Native, American Indian, Pacific Islander, ethnic disparity, Washington State

ABSTRACT

Background: During the early months of the coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, risks to pregnant women of a severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection were uncertain. Pregnant patients can serve as a model for the success of the clinical and public health response during public health emergencies as they are typically in frequent contact with the medical system. Population-based estimates of SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnancy are unknown due to incomplete ascertainment of pregnancy status or inclusion of only single centers or hospitalized cases. Whether pregnant women were protected by the public health response or through their interactions with obstetrical providers in the early pandemic is poorly understood.

Objective(s): To estimate the SARS-CoV-2 infection rate in pregnancy and examine disparities by race/ethnicity and English-language proficiency in Washington State.

Study Design: Pregnant patients with a polymerase chain reaction (PCR)-confirmed severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection diagnosed between March 1-June 30, 2020 were identified within 35 hospitals/clinic systems capturing 61% of annual deliveries in Washington State. Infection rates in pregnancy were estimated overall and by Washington State Accountable Community of Health (ACH) region and cross-sectionally compared to SARS-CoV-2 infection rates in similarly aged adults in Washington State. Race/ethnicity and language used for medical care among the pregnant patients were compared to recent data from Washington State.

Results: A total of 240 pregnant patients with SARS-CoV-2 infections were identified during the study period with 70.7% from minority racial and ethnic groups. The principal

findings in our study are: 1) The SARS-CoV-2 infection rate in pregnancy was 13.9/1,000 deliveries (95% confidence interval [CI], 8.3-23.2) compared to 7.3/1,000 (95%CI 7.2-7.4) in 20-39 year old adults in Washington State (Rate Ratio [RR] 1.7, 95%CI 1.3-2.3), 2) the SARS-CoV-2 infection rate reduced to 11.3/1000 (95%CI 6.3-20.3) when excluding 45 cases of SARS-CoV-2 detected through asymptomatic screening (RR 1.3, 95%CI 0.96-1.9), 3) the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy among most non-white racial/ethnic groups was 2-4 fold higher than the race and ethnicity distribution of women in Washington State who delivered live births in 2018, and 5) the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 infected pregnant patients receiving medical care in a non-English language was higher than estimates of limited English proficiency in Washington State (30.4% versus 7.6%).

Conclusions: The SARS-CoV-2 infection rate in pregnant people was 70% higher than similarly aged adults in Washington State, which could not be completely explained by universal screening at delivery. Pregnant patients from nearly all racial/ethnic minority groups and patients receiving medical care in a non-English language were overrepresented. Pregnant women were not protected from COVID-19 in the early months of the pandemic with the greatest burden of infections occurring in nearly all racial/ethnic minority groups. This data coupled with a broader recognition that pregnancy is a risk factor for severe illness and maternal mortality strongly suggests that pregnant people should be broadly prioritized for COVID-19 vaccine allocation in the U.S. similar to some states.

Introduction

In the early coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, risks associated with a severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection in pregnancy were uncertain.¹ As pregnant patients are typically in frequent contact with the medical system, they can serve as a model for the success of the clinical and public health response during public health emergencies. Outside of U.S. urban centers with high infection rates, studies in the early pandemic reported low SARS-CoV-2 prevalence in pregnant patients undergoing universal screening at admission for delivery.²⁻⁴ Population-based estimates of SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnancy are lacking due to incomplete ascertainment of pregnancy status or inclusion of only single centers or hospitalized cases.⁵⁻¹¹ Further, a disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on racial/ethnic minorities, including among pregnant patients, has been reported.^{5, 11-15} However, CDC data is missing pregnancy status for 65% of their COVID-19 case report forms making it impossible to estimate infection rates in the U.S. pregnant population.¹⁶ Population-based studies of COVID-19 in pregnancy with comprehensive data regarding race, ethnicity, and language is essential to developing effective interventions for populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

Washington State provides a valuable case study for evaluating the impact of COVID-19 on pregnant individuals. Washington State was the first state to detect community transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and impose a shelter-in-place order.¹⁷ The objectives of this study were to estimate and compare infection rates in pregnant patients with

similarly-aged adults in Washington State, as well as examine disparities by race/ethnicity and language use.

Materials and Methods

Study Population

The Washington State COVID-19 in Pregnancy Collaborative (WA-CPC) identified pregnant women (≥ 18 years) with SARS-CoV-2 infections confirmed by a polymerase chain reaction test from 35 hospitals and clinic systems in Washington State between March 1, 2020-June 30, 2020 (Fig. 1; Table1). Each site identified patients with an infection during any trimester of pregnancy irrespective of pregnancy outcome, abstracted clinical and SARS-CoV-2 testing data from medical records and reported number of annual deliveries, actual number of deliveries during the study period, and SARS-CoV-2 testing strategies employed over time.¹⁸ Pregnant women were tested for several reasons during the study period including exposure to a known SARS-CoV-2 case, universal screening prior to procedures or delivery, symptoms, travel, and personal requests. Testing occurred in the general population for similar reasons, including universal testing prior to medical procedures, with increasing test availability over time. Race/ethnicity abstracted from medical charts was self-reported by patients at care entry.

This multi-site medical records review was approved by Institutional Review Boards (IRB) at the University of Washington (STUDY# 00009701, approved 03/06/2020) and Swedish Medical Center (STUDY #2020000172, approved 03/19/2020). All other sites

entered into reliance agreements with the University of Washington IRB. The IRB waived the need for informed consent. Data provided by each site were de-identified.

Statistical Analysis

To estimate statewide coverage of annual deliveries captured by WA-CPC sites and the SARS-CoV-2 infection rates in pregnancy, we assessed site-specific data (SARS-CoV-2 cases, number of deliveries) within Washington State Accountable Community of Health (ACH) regions.^{19, 20} Due to small case numbers in some of the nine ACH regions, we collapsed geographically close regions to yield six regions for analysis (Fig. 1A). To estimate the proportion of annual statewide deliveries captured by collaborating sites, the number of total site-reported annual deliveries was divided by the number of live births in 2018 in Washington State and by ACH region using Washington State Department of Health (WA-DOH) data.¹⁹

The ACH-specific and overall SARS-CoV-2 infection rates in pregnancy (per 1000) at WA-CPC sites were estimated using the site-specific infection rate (number of cases/number of deliveries during the study period) and Poisson regression (with 95%CI), with clustering by ACH region for the overall estimate. As a comparison group, the SARS-CoV-2 infection rates in all 20-39 year olds (females and males) in Washington State during the study period were calculated using publicly-available SARS-CoV-2 surveillance data for confirmed cases (numerator) and 2019 population estimates for 20-39 year olds (denominator); we were unable to exclude cases in men due to limitations of the publicly available surveillance data.^{21, 22} This group served as

the best available proxy estimate for the SARS-CoV-2 infection rate for reproductive-aged women. While women <20 and >39 years of age are fecund, Washington State SARS-CoV-2 surveillance data were only available in wide categories including 0-19 years, 20-39 years, 40-59 years and older categories; neither age groups 0-19 nor 40-59 were appropriate comparison groups for approximating infection rates in most reproductive-age women and therefore the 20-39 year old age group was selected for comparison. Rate ratios (RR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) were calculated comparing WA-CPC infection rates in pregnancy to overall SARS-CoV-2 infection rates among 20-39 years olds in Washington State within each ACH region; an ACH-weighted overall RR was also estimated. To assess how infection rates in pregnancy may have been affected by increased access to testing in the pregnant population, we conducted a sensitivity analysis excluding cases of SARS-CoV-2 in pregnancy detected through asymptomatic universal screening prior to procedures or delivery. We were unable to subtract cases in the general population comparison group similarly identified through pre-procedure universal testing. Lastly, WA-DOH provided SARS-CoV-2 case counts among pregnant females aged 18-50 between March 1-June 30, 2020 by ACH region for comparison²³; pregnancy status was ascertained through public health department investigation. As a sensitivity analysis, infection rates in pregnancy were calculated and the DOH-reported case counts and the statewide live births estimated for March-June 2020 using Washington State 2018 birth data.¹⁹

We compared the race/ethnicity distribution of the study population to that among women delivering live births in 2018 in Washington State.¹⁹ Race/ethnicity was

categorized as American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian Other Pacific Islander, Multi-Racial, and White; Hispanic was considered a mutually exclusive race/ethnicity group to align with WA-DOH categories.¹⁹ For each race/ethnicity category among pregnant patients in the study population, prevalence and exact 95%CI were estimated with clustering by ACH region. Then, we generated ACH-weighted prevalence ratios (PR) and 95%CI comparing race/ethnicity in the study population to the race/ethnicity distribution among women delivering in Washington State in 2018. In addition, we generated prevalence ratios for the King and Greater Columbia ACH regions, which had the highest number of SARS-CoV-2 cases through June 30, 2020.²¹ For ACH-specific analyses, race/ethnicity data were repressed when there were <10 cases in alignment with WA-DOH privacy guidelines. In addition, we compared the proportion of pregnant patients in our study receiving medical care in a non-English language to the proportion of individuals in Washington State in 2017 with limited English language proficiency (individuals >5 years old, who speak English “less than very well”) per 2014-2017 American Community Survey data reported by the WA-DOH.²⁰ Each publicly-available data source and how it contributed to these analyses is further described in Table 2.

Results

Capture of Pregnancies and SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Pregnant Patients at WA-CPC sites

The estimated proportion of annual deliveries in Washington State covered by the WA-CPC sites was 61.1%, ranging from 35.0-93.0% (Fig. 1A, Table 1). Of 35 WA-CPC

289 sites, 22 (62.9%) were hospitals and 13 were clinics providing prenatal care only.

290 Patients were universally screened for SARS-CoV-2 by nasopharyngeal swab prior to or
291 at the time of the delivery admission in 14%, 64% and 76% of hospitals by the end of
292 March, April and May, respectively. The five hospitals without universal testing at
293 delivery by the end of May had initiated universal testing for scheduled delivery
294 admissions only.

295
296 Two-hundred and forty cases of SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnancy were detected by
297 WA-CPC sites.²⁴ The majority of SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy were detected in the
298 King (39.2%, n=94) and Greater Columbia (36.7%, n=88) ACH regions (Fig. 1B, Table
299 1). Of the WA-CPC cases, 15.8% (n=38) were detected in the first trimester, 27.9%
300 (n=67) in second trimester, and 56.3% (n=135) in third trimester pregnancies, as
301 previously reported.²⁴ Of these cases, 18.8% (45/240) were diagnosed through
302 asymptomatic screening strategies (pre-procedure and universal screening prior to
303 delivery); this excludes patients who were asymptomatic but tested due to having a
304 known exposure to COVID-19.

305
306 During the study period, the WA-DOH identified 346 cases of SARS-CoV-2 in
307 pregnancy throughout Washington state, but pregnancy status was missing for 35% of
308 cases in females aged 18-50.²⁵ The WA-CPC captured an estimated 69.4% (240/346)
309 of the total number of SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnancy reported to the WA-DOH,
310 ranging from 26.7%-110.0% at the ACH region level (Table 1). However, direct linking

of WA-CPC and WA-DOH cases was not possible so the exact overlap of WA-CPC and WA-DOH identified cases is unknown.

SARS-CoV-2 Infection Rates

The overall infection rate in pregnancy at WA-CPC sites was 13.9/1000 deliveries (95%CI 8.3-23.2). At the ACH region level, infection rates in pregnancy at WA-CPC Sites ranged from 6.2/1000 (95%CI 3.2-11.2) to 33.2/1000 deliveries (95%CI 26.9-40.9) (Fig. 1B, Table 2). In the King ACH region, where capture of annual deliveries and of state reported SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy were >90%, the infection rate in pregnancy at WA-CPC sites was 12.9/1000 deliveries (95%CI 10.5-15.8). When compared to the SARS-CoV-2 infection rate among 20-39 year olds in Washington State of 7.3/1000 (95%CI 7.2-7.4), the overall infection rate in pregnancy at WA-CPC sites was a significant 1.7 times higher (ACH-weighted RR 1.7; 95%CI 1.3-2.3; Table 2). This equates to an absolute risk difference of 5.4/1000 (95%CI 0.8-10.0). There were significantly higher infection rates in pregnancy in some, but not all, ACH regions (Table 2). For example, in the King ACH region, there was a 2.2 times higher rate of SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnant women at WA-CPC sites compared to the 20-39 year old population (RR 2.2, 95%CI 1.8-2.8). In the sensitivity analysis estimating the infection rate in pregnancy using the WA-DOH reported SARS-CoV-2 in pregnancy case counts, the statewide infection rate in pregnancy was similar to that estimated using data from WA-CPC sites (WA DOH: 12.1/1000 deliveries, 95%CI 10.8-13.4) and was also a significant 1.7 times higher than that of 20-39 year olds in Washington State (95%CI 1.4-2.2; Table S3). Lastly, when excluding the 45 cases of SARS-CoV-2 in pregnancy

that were detected through asymptomatic screening strategies (pre-procedure and universal testing at delivery) at WA-CPC sites, the overall infection rate in pregnancy at WA-CPC sites was 11.3/1000 deliveries (95%CI 6.3-20.3), which was 30% higher than the infection rate among Washingtonians aged 20-39 years old (ACH-weighted RR 1.3, 95%CI 0.96-1.9; Table S4).

Racial/Ethnic Groups

Among the 240 SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy detected by WA-CPC, the majority were among racial and ethnic minority groups including 52.5% (n=126) among Hispanic women, 8.3% (n=20) among Black women, and 3.3% each for American Indian/Alaska Native (n=8), Asian (n=8), and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (n=8) women (Table 3). When compared to the distribution of women in Washington State who delivered live births in 2018, the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy among most racial and ethnic minority groups were 2.0-3.9 fold higher (Table 3). For example, the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy among Hispanic women was 2.1-times higher (ACH-weighted PR 2.1, 95%CI 1.4-3.1) than the proportion of Hispanic women delivering in 2018 in Washington State (52.5% versus 18.6%; Table 3). In contrast, the proportion of White and Asian pregnant women with SARS-CoV-2 infections was lower than expected based on 2018 birth data (White ACH-weighted PR 0.6, 95%CI 0.3-1.1; Asian ACH-weighted PR 0.4, 95%CI 0.1-1.5).

There were similar racial/ethnic disparities observed when focusing on King and Greater Columbia ACH regions, which experienced the worst SARS-CoV-2 outbreaks during the

study period and where the WA-CPC had highest coverage (Table 1, Table 5). In the King ACH, there was a 2.4-fold higher prevalence of Hispanic women (95%CI 1.6-3.4, 30.9% vs. 13.1%) and 2.1-fold higher prevalence of Black women (95%CI 1.2-3.3, 19.2% vs. 9.3%) with SARS-CoV-2 in pregnancy compared to the 2018 race/ethnicity distribution of women delivering in the region. In contrast, the proportion of pregnant patients with a SARS-CoV-2 infection who were White was 50% lower than expected in the King ACH region (PR 0.5, 95%CI 0.3-0.7; 22.3% vs. 47.1%). In the Greater Columbia ACH region, a disproportionate number of cases also occurred in Hispanic women compared to the distribution of race/ethnicity among women delivering in the region in 2018 (PR 1.9, 95%CI 1.5-2.4, 85.2% vs. 44.4%).

Language Used During Medical Encounters

Of the pregnant patients with a SARS-CoV-2 infection, 24.6% (n=59) received medical care in Spanish and 5.8% (n=14) in other languages. The proportion of pregnant patients using a non-English language in WA-CPC was higher than individuals with limited English proficiency statewide (WA-CPC crude estimate: 30.4% vs. WA State: 7.6%. This prevalence difference in use of a non-English language was also observed in the King and Greater Columbia ACH. In the King ACH, 26.6% (25/94) of pregnant patients with a SARS-CoV-2 infection were provided care in a non-English language compared to 10.6% (95%CI 10.4-10.8) of all individuals in the ACH with limited English proficiency.²⁰ In the Greater Columbia ACH, 34.1% (30/88) of pregnant women with COVID-19 were provided care in a non-English language versus 12.0% (95%CI 11.6-12.3) of individuals in the region with limited English proficiency.²⁰

Discussion

Principal Findings

In the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SARS-CoV-2 infection rate was 70% higher in pregnant patients than in similarly-aged adults in Washington State. This remained 30% higher after excluding pregnant patients whose SARS-CoV-2 infections were detected through asymptomatic screening strategies including pre-procedure and universal screening at delivery. We also detected significant disparities in the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 infections occurring among pregnant women from most racial/ethnic minority groups, particularly among Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native pregnant patients, as well as a disproportionate number of SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnant patients receiving medical care in a non-English language. The higher infection rates in pregnant patients coupled with an elevated risk for severe illness and maternal mortality^{16, 24, 25} due to COVID-19 suggests that pregnancy should be considered a high-risk health condition for COVID-19 vaccine allocation in Phase 1B across the United States (U.S.), similar to some U.S. states (i.e. Texas²⁶, New Hampshire²⁷, New Mexico²⁸, Alaska²⁹).

Results in the Context of What is Known

While not considered an immunosuppressed condition, pregnancy is associated with an increased risk of disease severity for some infections and potentially, acquisition risk.³⁰⁻
³⁶ However, population-based studies are lacking to compare infection rates in pregnant and non-pregnant patients and disentangling behavioral and biological determinants of

infection susceptibility is challenging. While the increased infection rate in pregnant patients may be largely driven by increased testing, it remained elevated compared to the general population in the sensitivity analysis excluding cases detected through universal testing pre-procedure and at delivery admission. Notably, our infection rate estimate excluding asymptomatic cases was conservative as we were not able to similarly exclude those in the general population whose infections were also detected through universal testing prior to medical procedures. Whether an increased infection rate in pregnancy has a biological basis or is due to other factors, such as increased testing, greater exposure by living in inter-generational households, working in higher-risk occupations (i.e. healthcare, teaching, service industries) or selection bias is unknown.

Our data also demonstrate a disproportionate burden of SARS-CoV-2 among non-white pregnant patients in our study population in Washington State. When compared to the distribution of women in Washington State who delivered live births in 2018, the proportion of SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy among most racial and ethnic minority groups was 2-4 fold higher, with the greatest disparity among Hispanic and American Indian/Alaska Native pregnant patients. Large disparities in rates of SARS-CoV-2 infections have been reported in the U.S. for individuals of Black, Hispanic, Native American and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander race or ethnicity.^{6, 12, 13, 15, 37} A fundamental cause of health disparities is the socioeconomic inequality that arises from structural racism and decades of limited access to quality healthcare, education, and housing.^{38, 39} Pregnant patients with SARS-CoV-2 infections were also more likely to

receive care in a non-English language compared to the statewide prevalence of limited English proficiency.

Clinical and Research Implications

This data provides the first evidence that pregnant individuals may have a higher SARS-CoV-2 infection rate than a similarly-aged population. Whether pregnant patients are truly at a higher risk is yet unknown and exploring mechanisms for a potentially elevated infection risk will be challenging with limited data currently available. However, this data should lead to a greater public health response to prevent infections in pregnant women and to focus efforts on individuals from minority racial/ethnic groups and with limited English proficiency. Culturally-appropriate public health messaging focused on preventing SARS-CoV-2 infections in pregnancy, including messages in multiple languages, and services targeting disproportionately affected communities is desperately needed.⁴⁰ This data should also inform research investigating risk factors faced by pregnant individuals for SARS-CoV-2 infection including household transmission, employment in high-risk occupations (e.g. healthcare) and potential biological determinants of infection susceptibility.

Strengths and Limitations

This study had several strengths. WA-CPC sites captured 61% of annual deliveries in Washington State, including the vast majority in ACH regions with highest SARS-CoV-2 cases reported to WA-DOH. We included all COVID-19 cases in pregnancy, including all trimesters, hospitalized and non-hospitalized cases, independent of pregnancy

outcome. Study limitations include selection bias due to incomplete ascertainment of all pregnancy cases in Washington State. Differences in socio-demographic characteristics of pregnant patients and SARS-CoV-2 testing strategies among participating versus non-participating facilities may have introduced bias in infection rate estimates and size of racial/ethnic disparities. Notably, although the WA-DOH captured statewide data, pregnancy status was missing in approximately 35% of case report forms for reproductive-aged females; we may have captured cases not reported to WA-DOH, but were unable to estimate degree of non-overlap. The ideal comparison group for the WA-CPC SARS-CoV-2 cases in pregnancy would have been non-pregnant reproductive aged females, but data on these women were not collected in our study. Therefore, the best available comparison group for comparing infection rates to reproductive aged females was publicly-available WA-DOH data; COVID-19 surveillance data were available by age (presented in 20 year categories) or gender, but not both, necessitating a comparison to females and males between 20-39 years.²¹ In addition, we did not have individual-case data for any publicly-available datasets so were unable to adjust for individual level characteristics. Moreover, pregnant adolescents (<18 years old) were excluded in our study, but included in overall delivery numbers; though, adolescents only account for <1% of births in Washington State minimizing concern for bias.¹⁹ Publicly-available WA-DOH data also served as imperfect proxies for the ideal denominators for analyses of racial/ethnic and language disparities. Nonetheless, this study provided statewide and regional assessments of infection rates in pregnancy, including cases from all pregnancy trimesters, and identified pervasive demographic disparities in pregnant individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infections.

472

473 *Conclusions*

474 During the early COVID-19 pandemic, pregnant patients in Washington State had a
475 70% higher SARS-CoV-2 infection rate than similarly-aged adults, which in part reflects
476 a population that was prioritized for testing. However, we can conclude that pregnant
477 patients were not protected in the early pandemic in Washington State by the public
478 health response or through frequent interactions with obstetrical care providers. Further,
479 the greatest burden of infections occurred within racial/ethnic minority groups and
480 patients preferring a non-English language. Understanding the geographical,
481 racial/ethnic and language distribution of SARS-CoV-2 infections among pregnant
482 patients would enable targeting the public health response to pregnant patients at
483 greatest risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection and associated adverse maternal-fetal
484 outcomes.^{11, 18, 24, 41-43} Broader recognition that pregnancy is a risk factor for severe
485 illness and maternal mortality^{16, 24, 25} coupled with a higher infection rate in pregnancy
486 strongly suggests that pregnant people should be broadly prioritized for COVID-19
487 vaccine allocation in the U.S. similar to some states.²⁶⁻²⁹

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the pregnant patients contributing data to this manuscript, as well as our partners across Washington State that enabled this investigation. We note that we have shown single names for groups, such as "Hispanic" or "American Indian/Alaska Native", which reflected an inclusive approach to naming, but does not capture the spectrum of diversity in ancestry and cultural, behavioral and linguistic differences. We also recognize the differences between sex and gender, noting that the term "women" is not inclusive for biologically born female individuals that identify as non-binary or transgender. Labels and words are imperfect and ethnic, cultural and gender groups are sometimes overlapping or mischaracterized by single words or names. We apologize if offense is taken regarding group names used in the manuscript. We thank Ms. Jane Edelson, who provided expert assistance with project management at the University of Washington and was compensated on an hourly rate through the Institute for Translational Health Sciences. Ms. Adrienne Meyer with the University of Washington Human Subjects Division provided critical assistance to obtain reliance agreements with community Institutional Review Boards. Barbara James, BSN, RNC graciously provided COVID-19 case counts for PeaceHealth Southwest. We thank Robert Weston, MD and Erin Andreas, RN for reporting COVID-19 cases at Mid-Valley Hospital. Peter Napolitano, MD provided assistance with patient identification at the University of Washington Yakima site. We also thank Hanna Oltean, MPH, at the Washington State Department of Health, Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology for providing the WA-DOH data regarding SARS-CoV-2 cases reported to the DOH by each ACH region. We are grateful to Nicole Wothe for administrative

511 assistance with this manuscript. Lastly, we thank Ronit Katz, DPhil at the University of
512 Washington for biostatistical consultations.

513

References

1. WIERSINGA WJ, RHODES A, CHENG AC, PEACOCK SJ, PRESCOTT HC. Pathophysiology, Transmission, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): A Review. *JAMA : the journal of the American Medical Association* 2020;324:782-93.
2. SUTTON D, FUCHS K, D'ALTON M, GOFFMAN D. Universal Screening for SARS-CoV-2 in Women Admitted for Delivery. *N Engl J Med* 2020;382:2163-64.
3. CAMPBELL KH, TORNATORE JM, LAWRENCE KE, et al. Prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 Among Patients Admitted for Childbirth in Southern Connecticut. *JAMA : the journal of the American Medical Association* 2020;323:2520-22.
4. LACOURSE SM, KACHIKIS A, BLAIN M, et al. Low prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 among pregnant and postpartum patients with universal screening in Seattle, Washington. *Clinical infectious diseases : an official publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America* 2020. DOI: 10.1093/cid/ciaa675.
5. DELAHOY MJ, WHITAKER M, O'HALLORAN A, et al. Characteristics and Maternal and Birth Outcomes of Hospitalized Pregnant Women with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 - COVID-NET, 13 States, March 1-August 22, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:1347-54.
6. ELLINGTON S, STRID P, TONG VT, et al. Characteristics of Women of Reproductive Age with Laboratory-Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection by Pregnancy Status - United States, January 22-June 7, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:769-75.
7. PANAGIOTAKOPOULOS L, MYERS TR, GEE J, et al. SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Hospitalized Pregnant Women: Reasons for Admission and Pregnancy Characteristics - Eight U.S. Health Care Centers, March 1-May 30, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:1355-59.
8. WOODWORTH KR, O'MALLEY OLSEN E, NEELAM V, et al. Birth and Infant Outcomes Following Laboratory-Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Pregnancy — SET-NET, 16 Jurisdictions, March 29–October 14, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69.
9. ADHIKARI EH, MORENO W, ZOFKIE AC, et al. Pregnancy Outcomes Among Women With and Without Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Infection. *JAMA Netw Open* 2020;3:e2029256.
10. PIERCE-WILLIAMS RAM, BURD J, FELDER L, et al. Clinical course of severe and critical COVID-19 in hospitalized pregnancies: a US cohort study. *Am J Obstet Gynecol MFM* 2020:100134.
11. KNIGHT M, BUNCH K, VOUSDEN N, et al. Characteristics and outcomes of pregnant women admitted to hospital with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection in UK: national population based cohort study. *BMJ* 2020;369:m2107.
12. MOORE JT, RICALDI JN, ROSE CE, et al. Disparities in Incidence of COVID-19 Among Underrepresented Racial/Ethnic Groups in Counties Identified as Hotspots During June 5-18, 2020 - 22 States, February-June 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:1122-26.
13. HATCHER SM, AGNEW-BRUNE C, ANDERSON M, et al. COVID-19 Among American Indian and Alaska Native Persons - 23 States, January 31-July 3, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:1166-69.
14. EMERUWA UN, SPIEGELMAN J, ONA S, et al. Influence of Race and Ethnicity on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Infection Rates and Clinical Outcomes in Pregnancy. *Obstet Gynecol* 2020;136:1040-43.
15. TAI DBG, SHAH A, DOUBENI CA, SIA IG, WIELAND ML. The Disproportionate Impact of COVID-19 on Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the United States. *Clinical infectious diseases : an official publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America* 2020.

16. ZAMBRANO LD, ELLINGTON S, STRID P, et al. Update: Characteristics of Symptomatic Women of Reproductive Age with Laboratory-Confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection by Pregnancy Status - United States, January 22-October 3, 2020. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:1641-47.
17. Proclamation by the Governor Amending Proclamation 20-05: 20-25 Stay Home – Stay Healthy: State of Washington, Office of the Governor, 2020.
18. LOKKEN EM, WALKER CL, DELANEY S, et al. Clinical characteristics of 46 pregnant women with a severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 infection in Washington State. *American journal of obstetrics and gynecology* 2020;223:911 e1-11 e14.
19. Birth Certificate Data, 2000-2018, Community Health Assessment Tool (CHAT): Washington State Department of Health, 2019. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthDataVisualization/BirthDashboards/AllBirthsACH>.
20. Accountable Communities of Health (ACH) Social Determinants of Health Dashboards: Washington State Department of Health, 2020. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthDataVisualization/SocialDeterminantsofHealthDashboards/ACHSocialDeterminantsofHealth>.
21. COVID-19 in Washington State: Confirmed Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths by Week of Illness Onset, County, and Age: Washington State Department of Health, 2020. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/DataDashboard>.
22. Estimates of April 1 population by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin: Washington State Office of Financial Management, 2020. <https://www.ofm.wa.gov/washington-data-research/population-demographics/population-estimates/estimates-april-1-population-age-sex-race-and-hispanic-origin>.
23. Personal communication. Hannah Oltean, MPH. Washington State Department of Health.
24. LOKKEN EM, HUEBNER EM, TAYLOR GG, et al. Disease Severity, Pregnancy Outcomes and Maternal Deaths among Pregnant Patients with SARS-CoV-2 Infection in Washington State. *American journal of obstetrics and gynecology* 2021. DOI: 10.1016/j.ajog.2020.12.1221.
25. JERING KS, CLAGGETT BL, CUNNINGHAM JW, et al. Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes of Hospitalized Women Giving Birth With and Without COVID-19. *JAMA Intern Med* 2021.
26. Texas Department of State Health Services: COVID-19 vaccine allocation phase 1B definition, 2021. <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/immunize/vaccine/EVAP-Phase1B.pdf>.
27. New Hampshire Bureau of Infectious Disease Control: NH COVID-19 Vaccination Allocation Guidelines for Phase 1b. 2021. <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/phase-1b-technical-assistance.pdf>.
28. New Mexico Department of Health: State of New Mexico COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation Plan Phases 1A, 1B, 1C and 2, 2021. <https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021.1.8-DOH-Phase-Guidance.pdf>.
29. Alaska Department of Health and Social Services. COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation: Phase 1b. 2020. http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/SiteAssets/Pages/HumanCoV/DHSS_VaccineAllocation_Phase1b.pdf.
30. KOURTIS AP, READ JS, JAMIESON DJ. Pregnancy and infection. *N Engl J Med* 2014;370:2211-8.

31. PIERCE M, KURINCZUK JJ, SPARK P, BROCKLEHURST P, KNIGHT M, UKOSS. Perinatal outcomes after maternal 2009/H1N1 infection: national cohort study. *BMJ* 2011;342:d3214.
32. SISTON AM, RASMUSSEN SA, HONEIN MA, et al. Pandemic 2009 influenza A(H1N1) virus illness among pregnant women in the United States. *JAMA : the journal of the American Medical Association* 2010;303:1517-25.
33. THOMSON KA, HUGHES J, BAETEN JM, et al. Increased Risk of HIV Acquisition Among Women Throughout Pregnancy and During the Postpartum Period: A Prospective Per-Coital-Act Analysis Among Women With HIV-Infected Partners. *The Journal of infectious diseases* 2018;218:16-25.
34. MOFENSON LM. Risk of HIV Acquisition During Pregnancy and Postpartum: A Call for Action. *The Journal of infectious diseases* 2018;218:1-4.
35. HENSLEY MK, BAUER ME, ADMON LK, PRESCOTT HC. Incidence of Maternal Sepsis and Sepsis-Related Maternal Deaths in the United States. *JAMA : the journal of the American Medical Association* 2019;322:890-92.
36. RASMUSSEN SA, JAMIESON DJ. What Obstetric Health Care Providers Need to Know About Measles and Pregnancy. *Obstet Gynecol* 2015;126:163-70.
37. COVID-19 Morbidity and Mortality by Race, Ethnicity and Language in Washington State: Washington Department of Health, 2020. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/1600/coronavirus/data-tables/COVID-19MorbidityMortalityRaceEthnicityLanguageWASate9-24-2020.pdf>.
38. CLEVELAND MANCHANDA E, COUILLARD C, SIVASHANKER K. Inequity in Crisis Standards of Care. *N Engl J Med* 2020;383:e16.
39. Addressing Health Equity During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Position Statement. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. 2020. <https://www.acog.org/clinical-information/policy-and-position-statements/position-statements/2020/addressing-health-equity-during-the-covid-19-pandemic>.
40. THAKUR N, LOVINSKY-DESIR S, BIME C, WISNIVESKY JP, CELEDON JC. The Structural and Social Determinants of the Racial/Ethnic Disparities in the U.S. COVID-19 Pandemic. What's Our Role? *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2020;202:943-49.
41. SAVASI VM, PARISI F, PATANE L, et al. Clinical Findings and Disease Severity in Hospitalized Pregnant Women With Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). *Obstet Gynecol* 2020;136:252-58.
42. HANTOUSHZADEH S, SHAMSHIRSAZ AA, ALEYASIN A, et al. Maternal death due to COVID-19. *American journal of obstetrics and gynecology* 2020;223:109 e1-09 e16.
43. HIRSHBERG A, KERN-GOLDBERGER AR, LEVINE LD, et al. Care of critically ill pregnant patients with coronavirus disease 2019: a case series. *American journal of obstetrics and gynecology* 2020;223:286-90.

Figure Legend

Figure 1. In panel A, the number of study sites (circles) and proportion of deliveries (color gradient) captured by the Washington State COVID-19 in Pregnancy Collaborative is depicted within each Washington State Department of Health Accountable Community of Health (ACH) region. In panel B, the number of COVID-19 cases in pregnant patients within each ACH is shown numerically and by circle size with infection depicted by the color gradient.

Table 1. WA-CPC Statewide Coverage of Pregnancies and Cases of SARS-CoV-2 Reported to WA-DOH

Accountable Community of Health	Washington State COVID-19 in Pregnancy Coverage						SARS-CoV-2 Cases in Pregnancy				
	Sites	Annual deliveries at sites ⁱ		Live Births in WA State in 2018 ⁱⁱ			Cases detected by WA-CPC		Cases reported to WA-DOH ⁱⁱⁱ		
	N	N	(%)	N	(%)	% captured by WA-CPC	N	(%)	N	(%)	% captured by WA-CPC ^{iv}
Better Heath Together/North Central	7	3832	(7.3)	10129	(11.8)	37.8%	14	(5.8)	23	(6.6)	60.9%
Greater Columbia	10	7720	(14.7)	9438	(11.0)	81.8%	88	(36.7)	135	(39.0)	65.2%
King	9	22623	(43.1)	24337	(28.3)	93.0%	94	(39.2)	98	(28.3)	95.9%
North Sound	3	7460	(14.2)	14265	(16.6)	52.3%	16	(6.7)	60	(17.3)	26.7%
Pierce	2	5148	(9.8)	11462	(3.3)	44.9%	17	(7.1)	20	(5.8)	85.0%
SW WA Regional Health/Olympic/Cascade Pacific Action Alliance	4	5725	(10.9)	16375	(19.0)	35.0%	11	(4.6)	10	(2.9)	110.0%
Washington State Total	35	52508	(100)	86006 ^v	(100)	61.1%	240		346		69.4%

Abbreviations: WA-CPC - Washington State COVID 19 in Pregnancy Collaborative; WA DOH – Washington State Department of Health

ⁱ Approximate annual deliveries were reported by each site.

ⁱⁱ 2018 data from the Washington Department of Health's Birth Data Dashboard tool (Birth Certificate Data, 2000-2018, Community Health Assessment Tool)¹⁹

ⁱⁱⁱ Case counts of confirmed SARS-CoV-2 cases among females aged 18-50 who were pregnant at the time of infection were provided by the Washington State Department of Health for March 1-June 30, 2020. Pregnancy status was ascertained through case interviews or by local health jurisdiction investigation. In 35% of SARS-CoV-2 case records among females aged 18-50, pregnancy status was unknown or missing.

^{iv} Direct linking of WA-CPC and WA-DOH cases was not possible so the exact overlap of WA-CPC and WA-DOH identified cases is unknown.

^v The total number of live births in WA State in 2018 was 84,046, but 40 were not attributed to an ACH.

Table 2. SARS-CoV-2 Infection Rates in Pregnancy in Washington State

Accountable Community of Health	Washington State COVID-19 in Pregnancy Collaborative						Washington State: 20-39 Year Olds					Rate Ratio	
	Cases in pregnancy		Deliveries during study period		SARS-CoV-2 Infection rate/ 1000 deliveries		Cases ⁱ		Population ⁱⁱ Infection rate/ 1000				
	N	(%)	N	(%)	Rate	(95%CI)	N	(%)	N	Rate	(95%CI)	RR	(95%CI)
Better Heath Together/North Central	14	(5.8)	1,318	(7.6)	10.6	(6.3, 17.9)	1,746	(11.5)	214,300	8.1	(7.8, 8.5)	1.3	(0.7, 2.2)
Greater Columbia	88	(36.7)	2,653	(15.4)	33.2	(26.9, 40.9)	5,459	(35.8)	193,851	28.2	(27.4, 28.9)	1.2	(0.9, 1.4)
King	94	(39.2)	7,283	(42.3)	12.9	(10.5, 15.8)	4,274	(28.0)	744,386	5.7	(5.6, 5.9)	2.2	(1.8, 2.8)
North Sound	16	(6.7)	2,506	(14.5)	6.4	(3.9, 10.4)	1,752	(11.5)	325,671	5.4	(5.1, 5.6)	1.2	(0.7, 1.9)
Pierce	17	(7.1)	1,696	(9.8)	10.0	(6.2, 16.1)	1,173	(7.7)	239,814	4.9	(4.6, 5.2)	2.0	(1.2, 3.3)
SW WA Regional Health/Olympic/ Cascade Pacific Action Alliance	11	(4.6)	1,777	(10.3)	6.2	(3.4, 11.2)	834	(5.5)	358,226	2.3	(2.2, 2.5)	2.7	(1.3, 4.8)
Washington State Total	240		17,233		13.9	(8.3, 23.2) ⁱⁱⁱ	15,238 ^{iv}		2,076,248	7.3	(7.2, 7.4)	1.7	(1.3, 2.3) ^v

ⁱ Case data were calculated for March 1-June 28, 2020 (closest available date to June 30, 2020) using the “COVID-19 in Washington State: Confirmed Cases, Hospitalizations and Deaths by Week of Illness Onset, County, and Age” dataset available

from the Washington State Department of Health at <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/COVID19/DataDashboard>. Counts include females and males.²¹

ⁱⁱ Population estimate calculated using the 2019 post-censal population estimates from the WA Office of Financial Management.²²

ⁱⁱⁱ Infection rates were calculated with Poisson regression with additional clustering by Accountable Community of Health (ACH) for the statewide estimate.

^{iv} The overall number of SARS-CoV-2 cases through June 28, 2020 was 15,238, but 20 cases were not assigned to an ACH.

^v The state-wide rate ratio is an ACH-weighted state estimate.

Table 3. Race/Ethnicity Among Pregnant Patients with SARS-CoV-2 Infections Compared to Washington State

	Washington State COVID-19 in Pregnancy Collaborative ^a (N=240)			Washington State 2018 Live Births ^b (N=86,046)		Prevalence Ratio ^c	
Race/Ethnicity	n	(%)	(95%CI)	n	(%)	PR	(95%CI)
Hispanic	126	(52.5)	(11.9, 90.7)	16,010	(18.6)	2.1	(1.4, 3.1)
American Indian/Alaska Native-NH	8	(3.3)	(0.1, 16.2)	1,206	(1.4)	3.8	(1.3, 9.7)
Asian-NH	8	(3.3)	(0.3, 12.6)	8,843	(10.3)	0.4	(0.1, 1.5)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander-NH	8	(3.3)	(0.4, 11.6)	1,195	(1.4)	3.9	(0.8, 13.0)
Black-NH	20	(8.3)	(0.3, 36.4)	4,151	(4.8)	2.0	(1.1, 3.7)
White-NH	51	(21.3)	(5.8, 46.9)	49,513	(57.6)	0.6	(0.3, 1.1)
Multiracial/Other ^d	5	(2.1)	(0.04, 11.8)	3,772	(4.4)	1.3	(0.4, 3.1)
Unknown	14	(5.8)	(1.1, 17.0)	1,356	(1.6)	5.9	(2.4, 13.3)

Abbreviations: NH - Non-Hispanic

^a Estimated with clustering by ACH region

^b 2018 data from the Washington Department of Health's Birth Data Dashboard tool (Birth Certificate Data, 2000-2018, Community Health Assessment Tool).¹⁹

^c Prevalence ratios and 95%CI were ACH-weighted.

^d For the Washington State COVID-19 in Pregnancy Collaborative, data were abstracted from the medical records. The “other” category reflects the patient’s self-reported designation of their race/ethnicity to the health care provider. The Washington State Department of Health data does not include an “other” category.

