



Report

Healthy Environment for a Healthy Start: Promoting environmental justice for equitable birth outcomes

Data and key research connecting inequitable maternal and infant health outcomes and environmental health threats such as air pollution, heat, disasters, cosmetic toxicants, and the fossil fuel lifecycle are presented.

We believe people should be able to get pregnant, have a healthy pregnancy and birth, breastfeed, and raise a family in a thriving community living in a dignified and healthy environment. — M-BAN Environmental Justice Work Group members

KEY FINDINGS

- ✓ A healthy environment is a key but undervalued component of reproductive health and rights for individuals, families, and communities.
- ✓ Pregnant people and their infants are particularly vulnerable to environmental threats.
- ✓ The US maternal health crisis is worsened by climate change and other environmental health harms.
- ✓ The current impacts of environmental health threats have been compounded by historical injustices and systemic racism.
- ✓ Inadequate climate action and poor government regulation of chemicals in our air, water, soil, food, and products we buy has widespread impact on public health

TAKE ACTION

- Advocate and support the Momnibus, including the Protecting Moms and Babies against Climate Change Bill.
- Ensure pregnant people and advocates are aware and have access to environmental health resources.
- Ensure families, pregnant people, and advocates know about and have access to resources to support them when it comes to environmental health exposures.

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