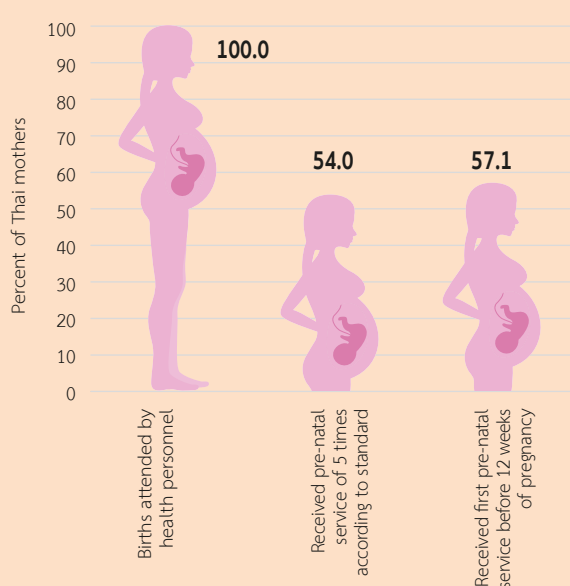


1 Maternal Health

The target for Thailand is to reduce the maternal mortality ratio from 24.6 down to 15 per 100,000 live births.

Though the maternal mortality ratio in Thailand is already below the international SDG target (70 per 100,000 live births), it is still considerably higher than the national target. There are also differences that reflect maternal health inequality across regions of the country.

Births attended by health personnel and receiving of pre-natal service by Thai mothers, 2015

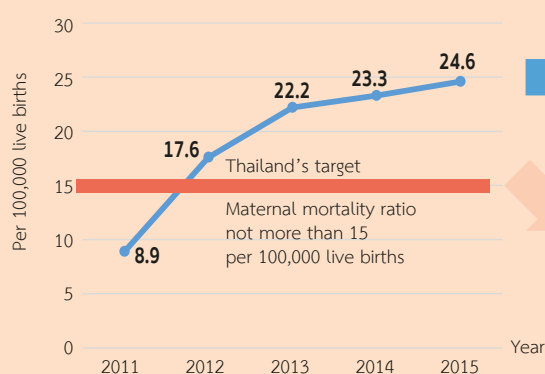


Source: Supervision Report Tor.Kor.2 Form, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Health, 2015.

Presently, almost all births in Thailand are undertaken by skilled health personnel which prevents complications that may occur during birth including post-natal services for both the mother and the child. The challenging task however is in the area of receiving pre-natal services. In the year 2015, there were mothers who received pre-natal service before 12 weeks of pregnancy with continuing service of 5 months, according to standards, of only 57.1 and 54.0 percent, respectively.

In the year 2016, under the Strategy of Health Development for Specific-Age Groups, the Ministry of Public Health set the goal for the maternal mortality ratio in the country at not more than 15 persons per 100,000 live births. While data from available sources and most research show a higher number. Statistics from the Bureau of Policy and Strategy of the Ministry of Public Health report Thai

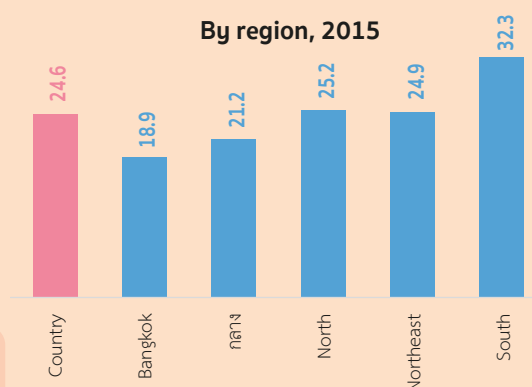
Maternal mortality ratio and trends, 2011-2015



Source: Public Health Statistics A.D. 2015

Note: Since the year 2006 onwards, data on maternal mortality ratio in Thailand by the Bureau of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Public Health was revised and re-calculated to be more precise by using the civil registration data together with analyzing data on cause of death in the death registration data. The revision and recalculation result in limitations in comparing of mortality ratios by year. This is one of the explaining reason for the increasing trends of maternal mortality ratio in 2011-2015.

By region, 2015

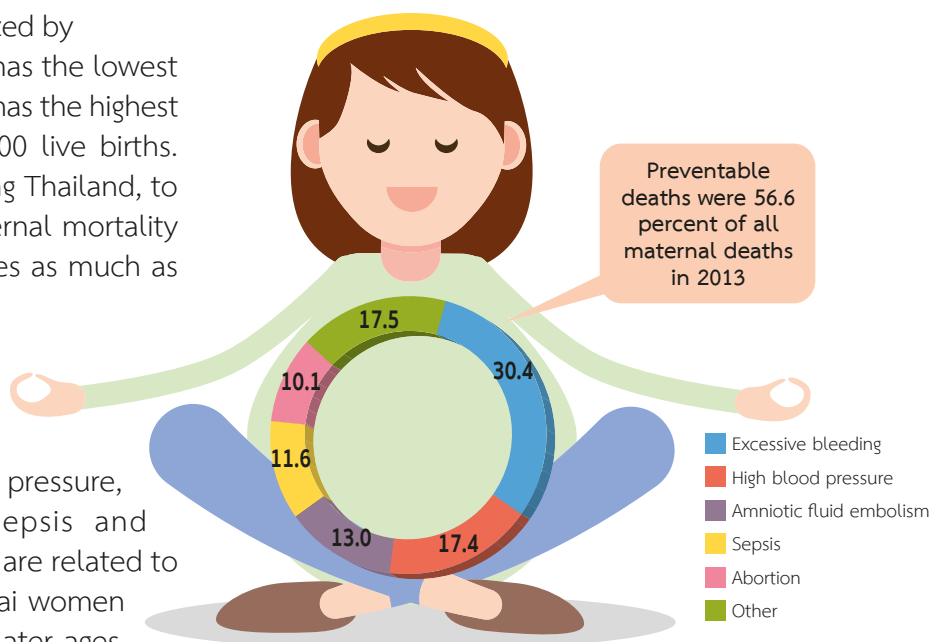


3 out of 5 died mothers aged 30 years and above (2015)

maternal mortality ratio at 24.6 persons in the year 2015. When categorized by region, it is found that Bangkok has the lowest at 18.9 persons while the South has the highest rate of 32.3 persons per 100,000 live births. This is the major challenge facing Thailand, to reduce the overall rate of maternal mortality as well as reduce the differences as much as possible.

Considering the causes of maternal deaths more than half are preventable, especially excessive bleeding, high blood pressure, amniotic fluid embolism, sepsis and abortion. These factors possibly are related to the increasing frequency for Thai women to marry and have children at later ages (more than 60 percent of maternal deaths in the year 2015 are among mothers aged 30 years and over), including late and discontinuing pre-natal services received that still remain high.

Preventable deaths of Thai mothers by causes, 2013



Source: Sarawud Boonsuk and Nongluck Roongsupsin, 2015



There is discrepancy in maternal mortality data - depending on source of data and method of calculation used - making comparisons and references limited.

Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births from various data sources and studies				
Year	Public Health Statistics	(1)	(2)	(3)
2006	11.7	44.1		24.0
2007	12.2		33.6	24.0
2008	11.3		42.5	24.0
2009	10.8		39.9	23.0
2010	10.2		39.1	23.0
2011	8.9		31.2	22.0
2012	17.6		30.7	22.0
2013	22.2	31.2	34.8	21.0
2014	23.3		31.8	21.0
2015	24.6	22.7		20.0

- (1) A survey conducted by the Bureau of Health Promotion, Department of Health. Data on deaths of women in reproductive ages from death certificates of the Ministry of Interior linked with data of the Bureau of Policy and Strategy, Office of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health and data from the National Health and Security Office.
- (2) Chandoevrit et al. 2016. Data from national civil registration, data as reported by the Ministry of Public Health and data from in-patients of the Civil Servant Medical Benefit Scheme and the Universal Health Coverage Scheme.
- (3) WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division. Estimation of maternal mortality ratio by statistical modeling.

Source: (1) Government Inspection Report Form at Provincial Level, Fiscal Year 2016
 (2) Chandoevrit et al. 2016. "Improving the measurement of maternal mortality in Thailand using multiple data sources". Population Health Metrics (2016) 14:16
 (3) Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2015; Estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division