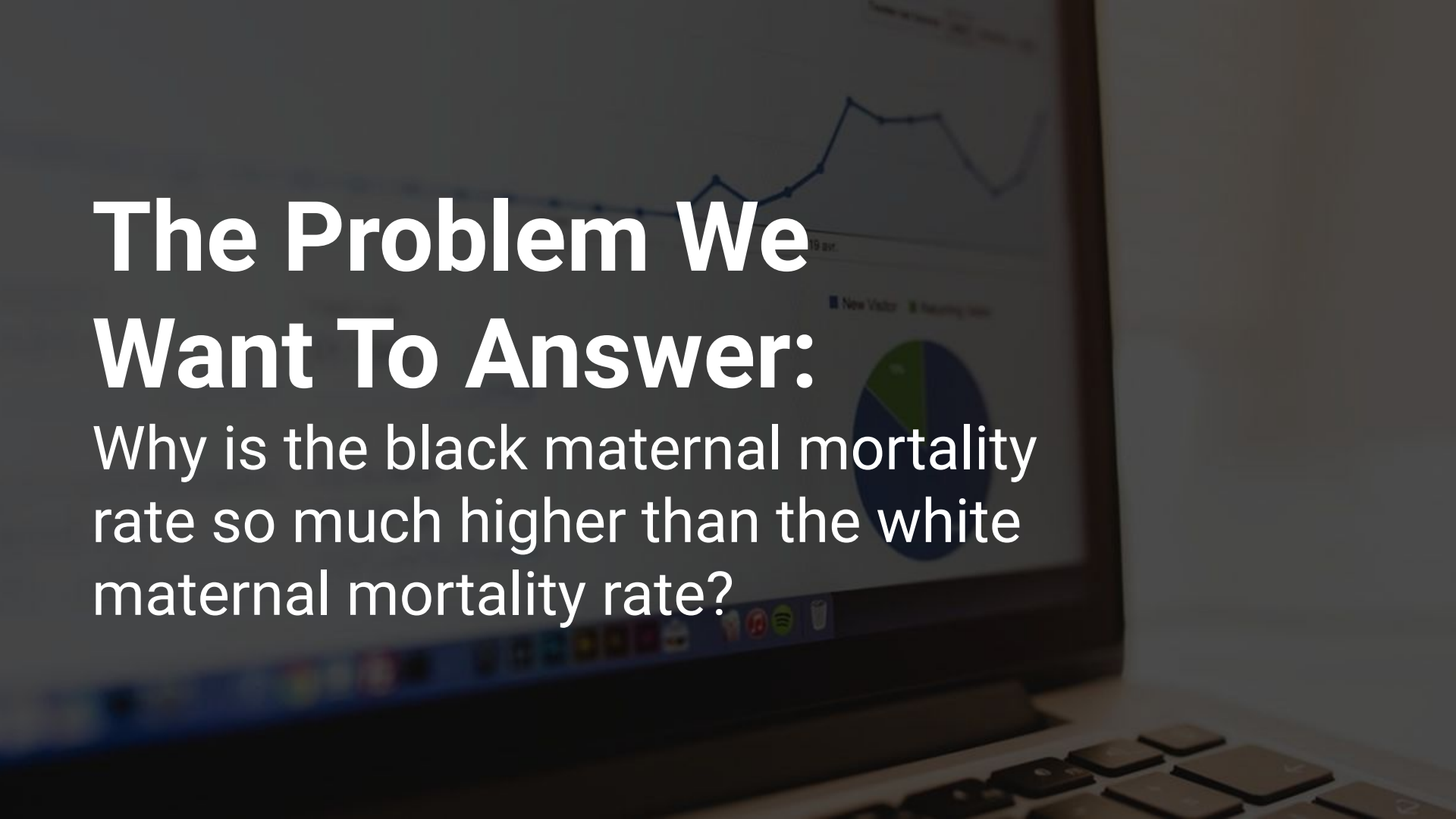# GA Capstone: Black Maternal Mortality in America

Jaylon Kiper
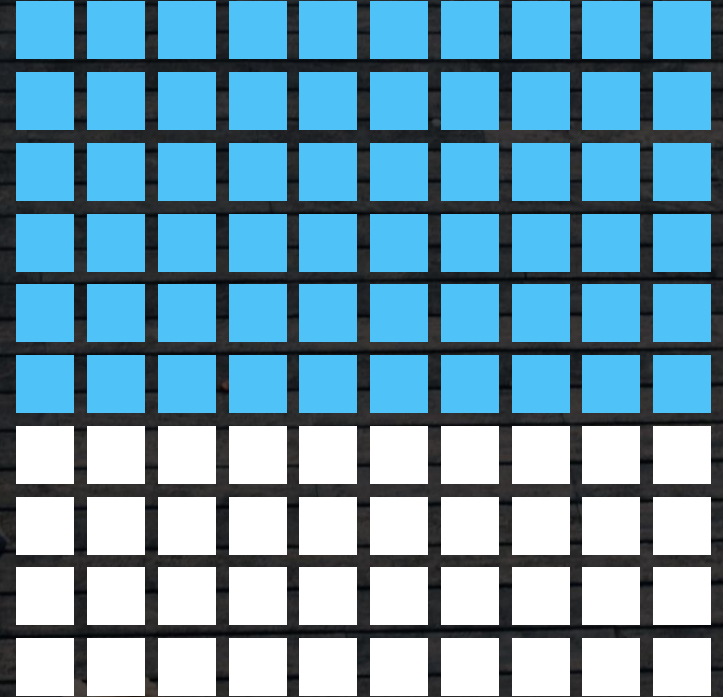
The Problem We Want To Answer:

Why is the black maternal mortality rate so much higher than the white maternal mortality rate?

Importance Behind The Data

Ultimately, it comes down to two factors.

1. African American mothers receive less financial health advantages compared to those who are white.

2. This type of data can't be manipulated easily by the public. It was very odd that this one topic of interest is non-accessible to everyone to work with.
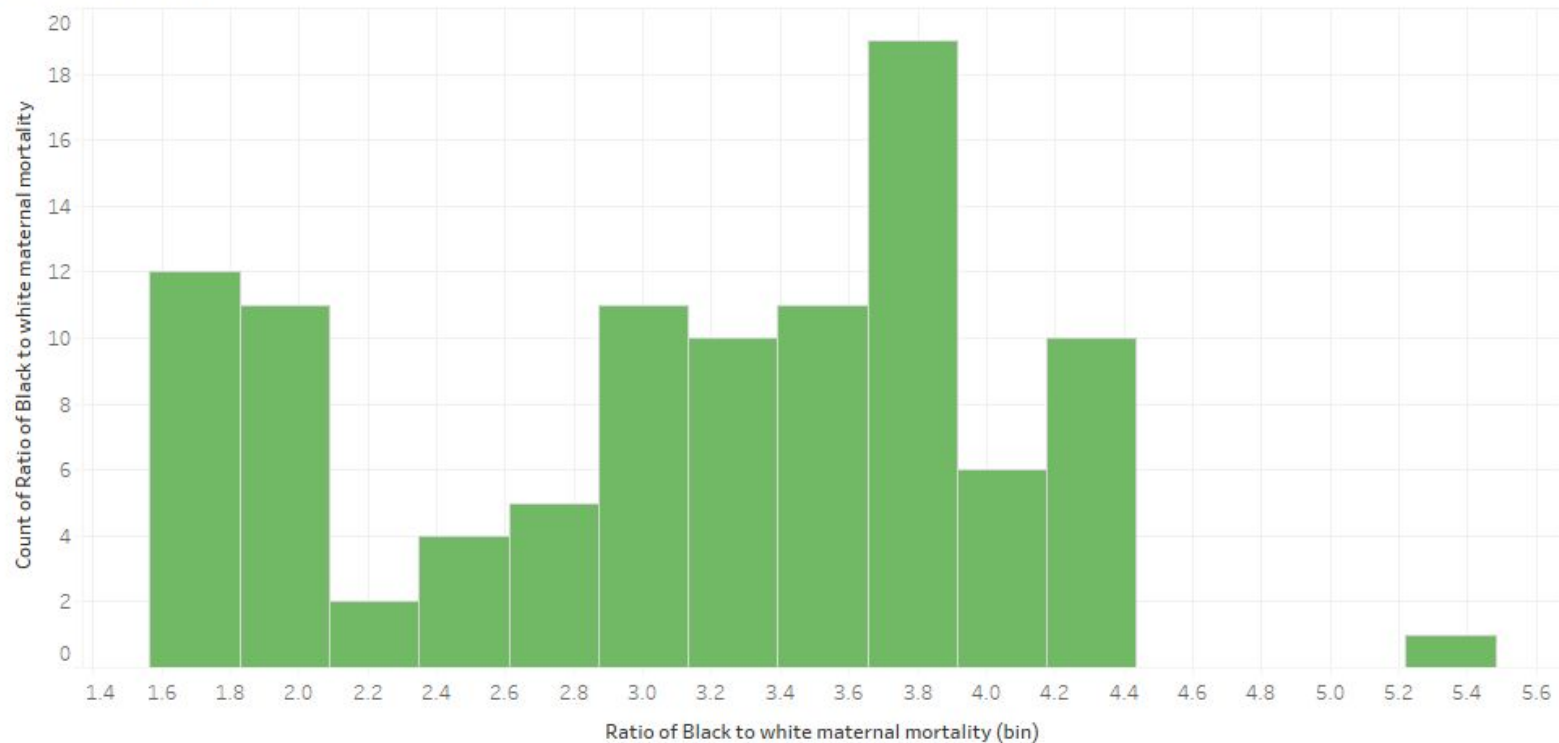
Ratio Spikes as the Years Go By

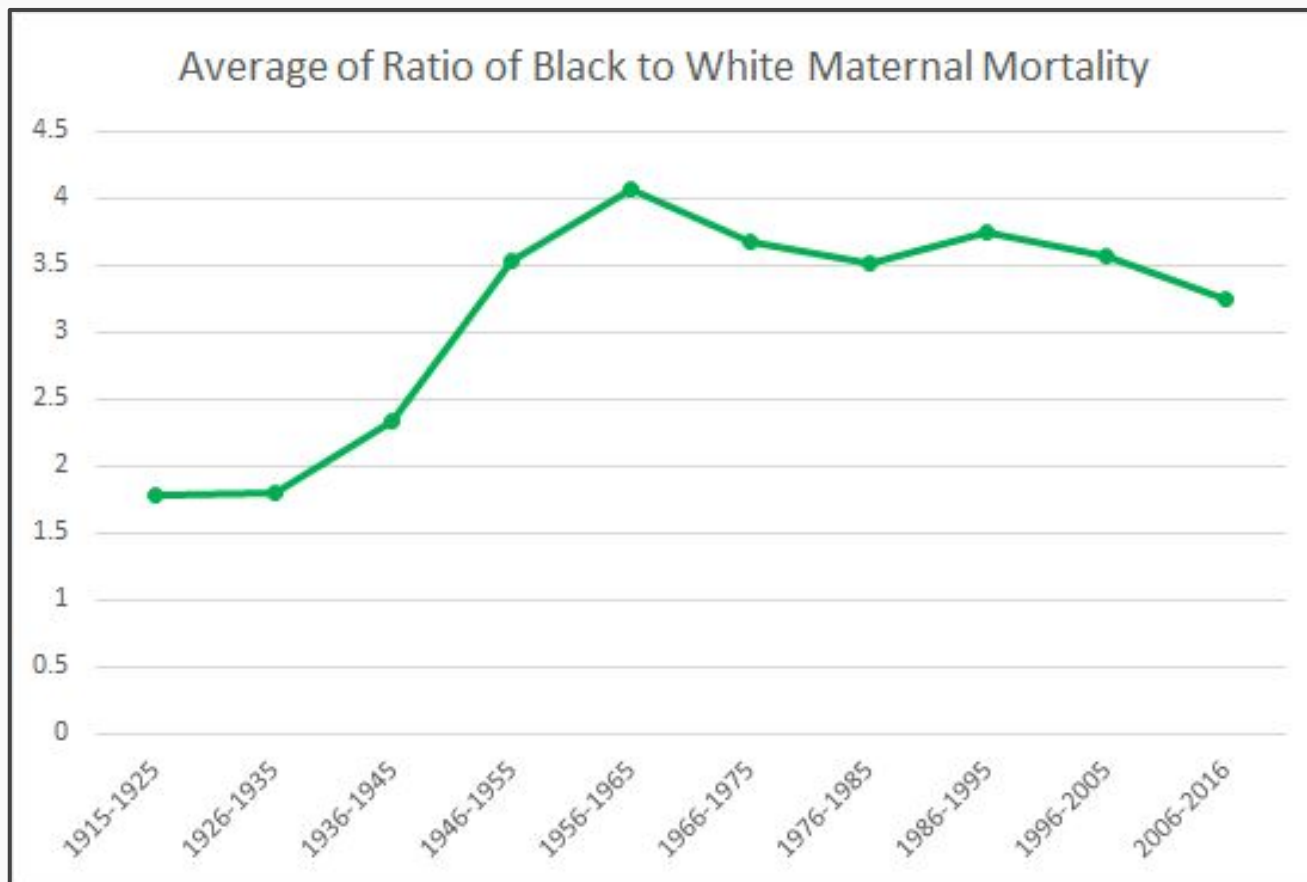## Ratio of Black to White Maternal Mortality

Distinct Ratios

Distinct Ratios

Rise in the Ratio for Every Five Year Period(1915-2016)

Average of Ratio of Black to White Maternal Mortality

What The Data Tells Us

- Maternal health for African American community has been an issue across the history of the United States.
    - African American Mothers are dying at three to four times the rate of non-Hispanic white mothers(Novoa and Taylor, 2018).
- Events in history like the Civil Rights movement and the crack epidemic were the peaks of certain five year periods, i.e. 1956-1965, 1986-1995.
- The highest ratio of 5.300 occurred in 1995 and has never reached above that point afterwards.

Lack Of Health Data

- One issue within finding raw datasets on maternal health is scarcity.
- Not a lot of data is accessible to the public eye, making all forms of manipulating and working in these datasets is nigh impossible.
- One reason could be the confidentiality. Having possible access to a patient's personal information can be dangerous for the health industry.

Common Factors in Maternal Health Data

Within my group in the Butterfly Project, I have noticed a commonality within all health data we have collected.

- All accessible data is recorded until the year 2016 for most of our datasets.
- The current form this data is represented is majorly accessible only in PDF format, not Excel/CSV format.

Thank you for time!

Data Source

https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-brief-report/2020/dec/maternal-mortality-united-states-primer