

June 8, 2021

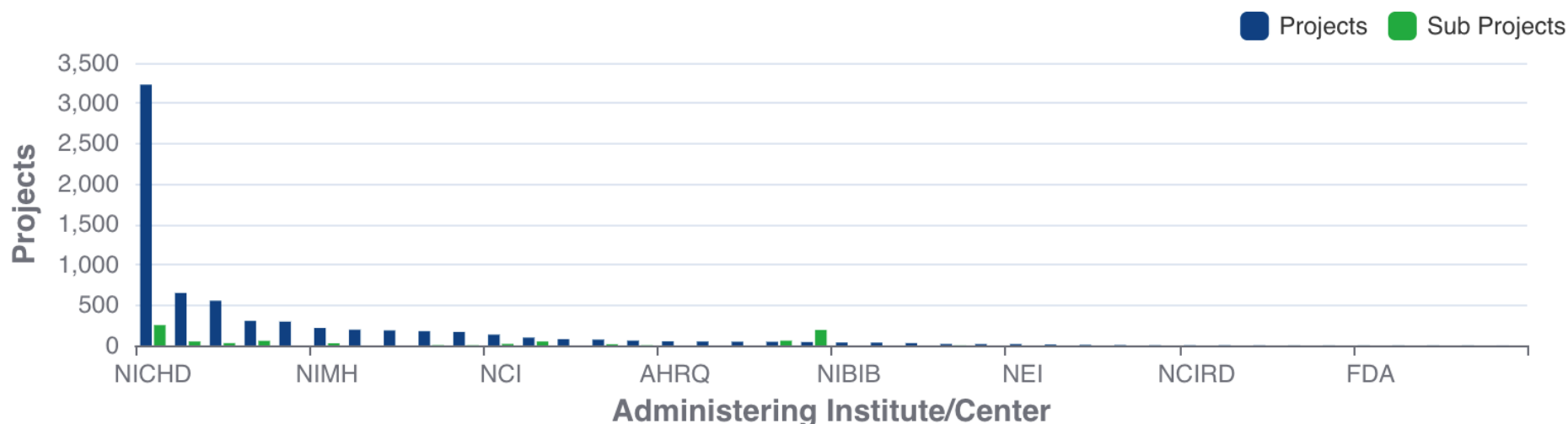
# Research and Funding Needs to Increase Knowledge Generation and Improve Maternal Health Outcomes



# Opportunities and Threats

- Majority of research funding in maternal health is at the federal government level
- There is little incentive for industry to do this work
- A combination of coverage, access, cultural and societal support alongside research can change the tide.

# “Maternal Mortality” FY21 funding

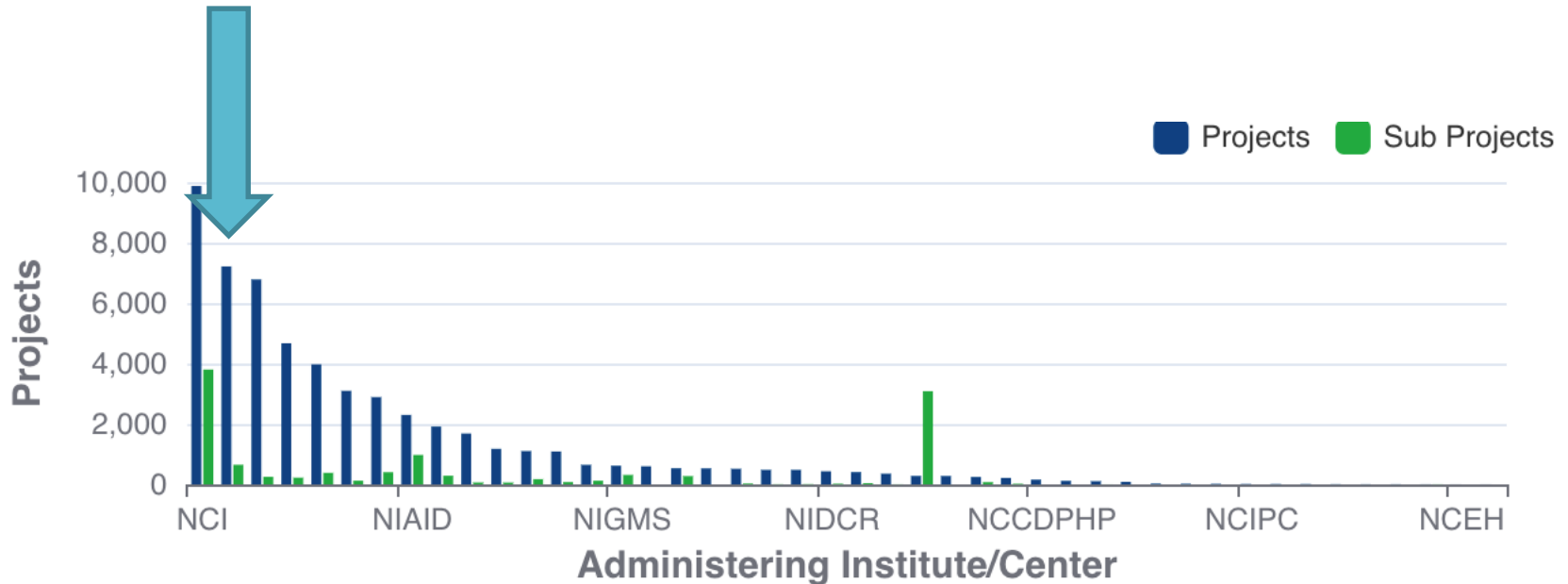


**Note:** Please note that if the hit list contains both a subproject and its parent grant, the subproject funding is already included in the parent project funding amount.

\* Funding data available only for NIH, CDC, FDA, AHRQ, and ACF.

Source: RePORTER

## “Women’s Health” FY21 funding



**Note:** Please note that if the hit list contains both a subproject and its parent grant, the subproject funding is already included in the parent project funding amount.

\* Funding data available only for NIH, CDC, FDA, AHRQ, and ACF.

Source: RePORTER



## ***Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)**

NICHD Mission and Vision: NICHD leads research and training to understand human development, improve reproductive health, enhance the lives of children and adolescents, and optimize abilities for all.

Health pregnancies. Healthy children. Healthy and optimal lives.

## **Office of Research in Women's Health (ORWH)**

ORWH Mission and Vision: ORWH is the first Public Health Service office dedicated specifically to promote women's health research within and beyond the NIH scientific community.

# Barriers to inclusion/areas of need

Women historically were excluded from clinical research even into the 1990s

Subpopulations of women – those historically excluded - are still not reflective of the overall population.

Inclusion of pregnant and lactating individuals are the third rail.

- PRGLAC Task Force
- Culture of inclusion rather than exclusion

# Advocacy Efforts

Preventing Maternal Deaths Act (2018): stand up maternal mortality review committees

Black Maternal Health Momnibus: social determinants of health, \$ to community based organizations; pregnant and postpartum veterans; grow and diversify the perinatal workforce; improve data collection processes and quality measures; maternal mental health; care and support for incarcerated moms; investment in digital tools, innovative payment models; COVID-19; climate change-related risks for moms and babies; maternal vaccinations

Continuous Medicaid coverage for a year postpartum

What about additional research \$\$\$\$?

# Conclusion

We need:

- **Increased and sustained investment in research to optimize health and outcomes**
- Not just for fetal outcomes, but for **maternal outcomes**
- **Basic, translational and clinical research, as well as public health services and policy research, and implementation science.**
- If we want to impact maternal mortality and address the health equity issues facing women in this country, we need to **invest in research in women's health throughout the lifespan**, through a **health equity lens**.
- Must be **multi-faceted** (look at conditions, diseases and life stages' impact on future or past health)
- Look at **life transitions, across health data systems and settings**
- **Patient-centered**
- Ensure the **inclusion of pregnant and lactating individuals** in trial design

Ultimately, ***trial populations should reflect treatment/study populations.***