

# Perinatal Opioid Use Disorder, Race, and Racism: A Scoping Review

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## OBJECTIVES

Racial/ethnic inequities are well documented in both maternal-infant health and substance use disorder treatment outcomes. Despite these recorded inequities and rising rates of perinatal opioid use disorder (OUD), a clear understanding of the inequities in health outcomes for dyads affected by OUD by race/ethnicity is lacking. The objective of this research was to systematically review research on maternal-infant dyads affected by opioid use disorder to:

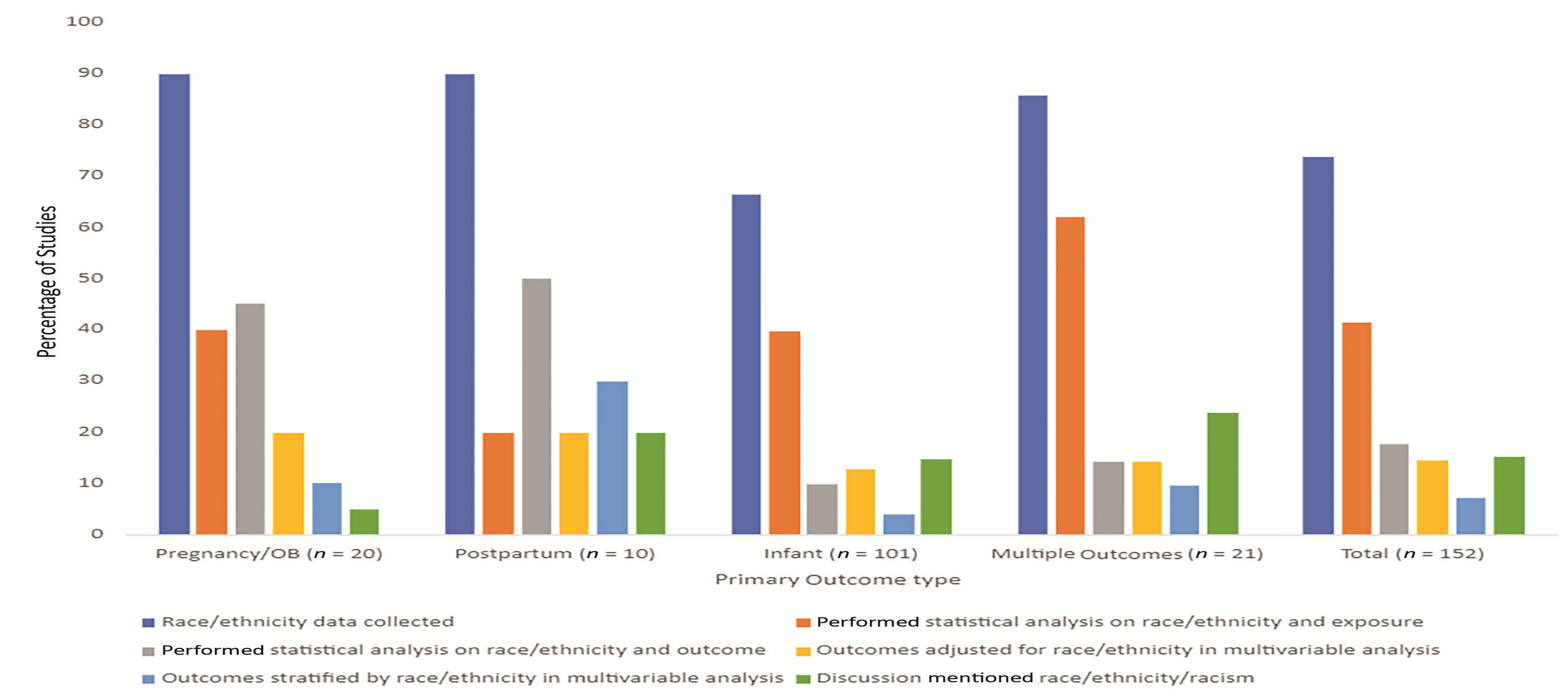
1. Evaluate for racial/ethnic disparities in health utilization or outcomes and
2. Critically assess the reporting and inclusion of race/ethnicity data.

## METHODS

**Data sources:** Peer-reviewed literature in MEDLINE, Embase, and Web of Science from 2000 to 2020.

**Study selection:** Research reporting health utilization and outcomes data on dyads affected by OUD during pregnancy through the infant's first birthday.

**Data extraction:** We extracted data on race/ethnicity, study exposures/outcomes, how race/ethnicity data were analyzed, how authors discussed findings associated with race/ethnicity, and whether racism was mentioned as an explanation for findings.



## RESULTS

- Of 2023 articles reviewed, 152 quantitative and 17 qualitative studies were included. Among quantitative studies, 66% examined infant outcomes (n = 101). Three articles explicitly focused on evaluating racial/ethnic differences among dyads.
- Of 152 quantitative studies, only three explicitly focused on evaluating racial/ethnic differences.
- None of the 17 qualitative studies explored the role of race, ethnicity, or racism in presented themes.

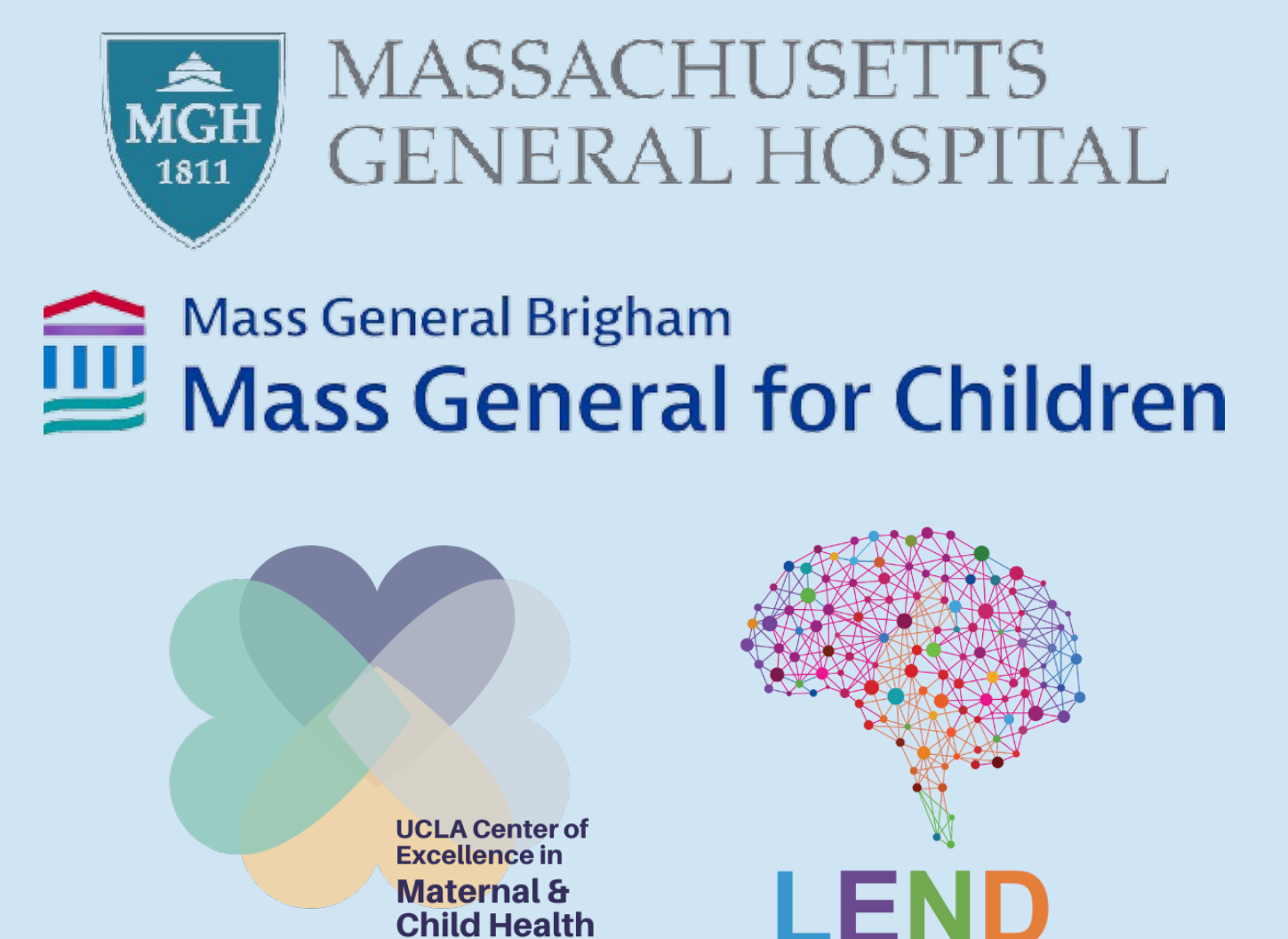
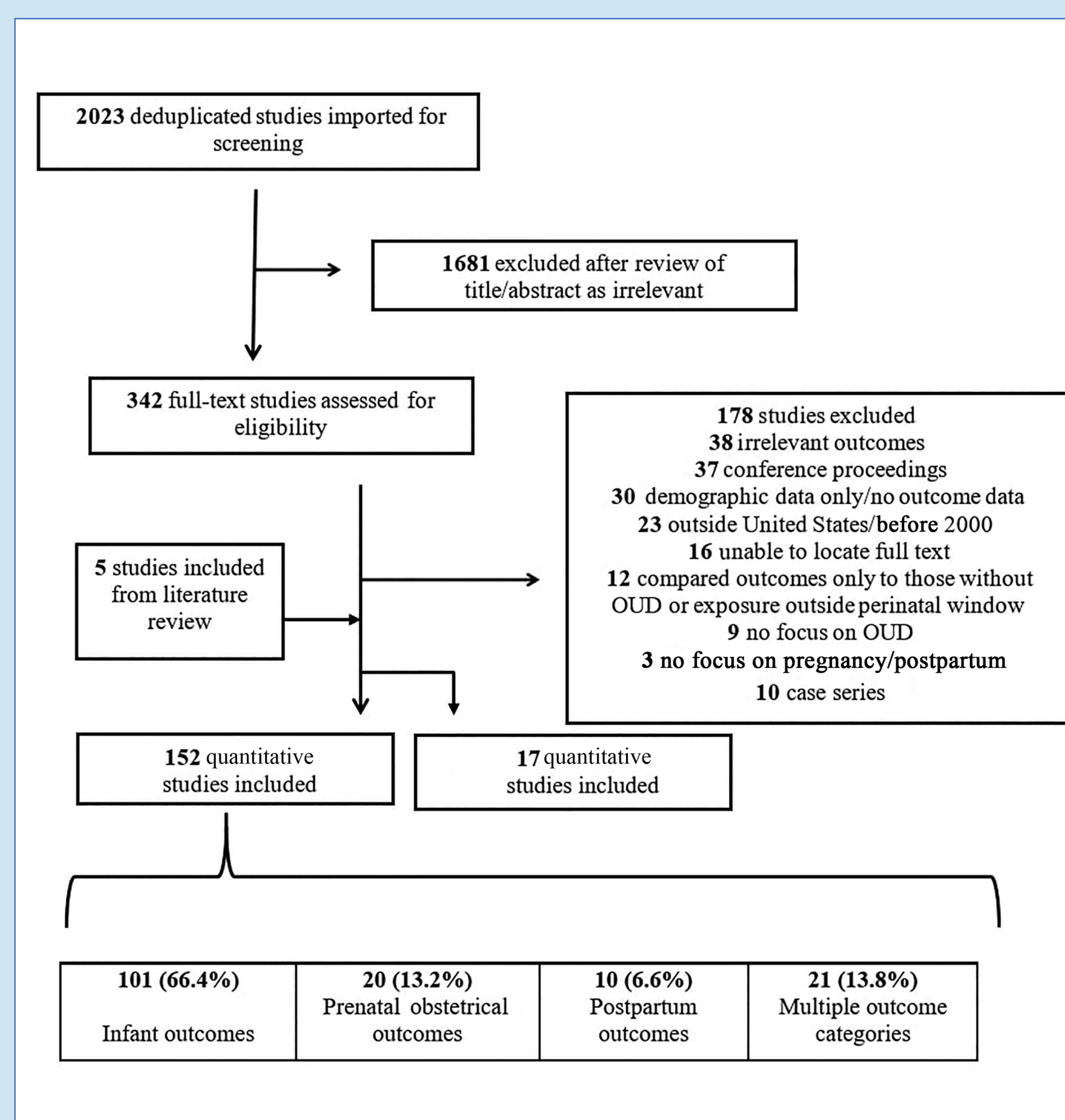
## CONCLUSIONS

Data on race/ethnicity have been poorly reported in this literature. To achieve health equity across perinatal OUD, researchers should prioritize the inclusion of marginalized groups to better address the role that structural racism plays.

## FULL MANUSCRIPT



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Presented at the UCLA First Annual Neal Halfon Public Health Trainee Symposium in association with the UCLA Maternal and Child Health Center of Excellence and UC-LEND Training Programs on June 7, 2024.