

# Maternal Mortality Falls by Over Half, Medvedev Says

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GORKI — Maternal mortality in Russia has fallen by 55 percent since 2005, Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said Monday.

"We recently obtained data on a decrease in maternal mortality," Medvedev said at a meeting of deputy prime ministers. "Since 2005, or in essence since the start of the national healthcare project, it dropped 2.2-fold."

In 23 Russian regions, the maternal mortality figures have fallen to the level of Western European countries, he added.

Medvedev linked the positive dynamics to a state program to build 23 perinatal centers and a program to improve the supply of equipment and medicine to maternity centers.

*(RIA Novosti)*

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