



KANSAS
MATERNAL &
CHILD HEALTH

Kansas Maternal and Child Health Council

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the Kansas Department of Health and Environment
with funding through the Health Resources and
Services Administration (HRSA) of the
US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
under grant number B04MC32543
and Title V Maternal and Child Health Services*

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Deborah Alliston

Sara Hortenstine

Kari Harris

Heather Braum

Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard

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WELCOME

University of
Kansas, School
of Medicine –
Wichita

Department of
Pediatrics



Kari Harris MD, FAAP

KMCHC Chair

Heather Braum

Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard

Heather Schrotberger

Member Updates

Executive
Director

Kansas
Head Start
Association



Deborah Alliston MD, MEd

Sara Hortenstine

Kari Harris

Heather Braum

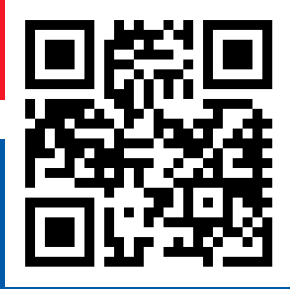
Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard



Head Start in Kansas

Heather Schrotberger
Executive Director
Kansas Head Start
Association



ABOUT KHSA

WWW.KSHEADSTART.ORG

Vision: Kansas Head Start programs are impactful leaders in early education.

Mission: The Kansas Head Start Association strengthens leadership, learning, partnership, and advocacy opportunities for Head Start families, staff, and programs.



KHSA SERVICES



CONVENING
Head Start
program leaders,
staff, and
families

SUPPORTING
Head Start
program leaders,
staff, and
families

ADVOCATING
for Head Start
program leaders,
staff, and
families

HEAD START IN KANSAS



HEAD START

Preschool for
children ages
3 to 5



EARLY HEAD START

Home visiting
and child care
for pregnant
women and
children ages
0 to 3



EHS-CCP

Child care for
in partnership
with
community
child care
providers



HEAD START

ELIGIBILITY

- Income
- Identified risk
- Public
assistance
- Homelessness
- Foster care



6,257 funded
slots



78 counties



\$90+ million



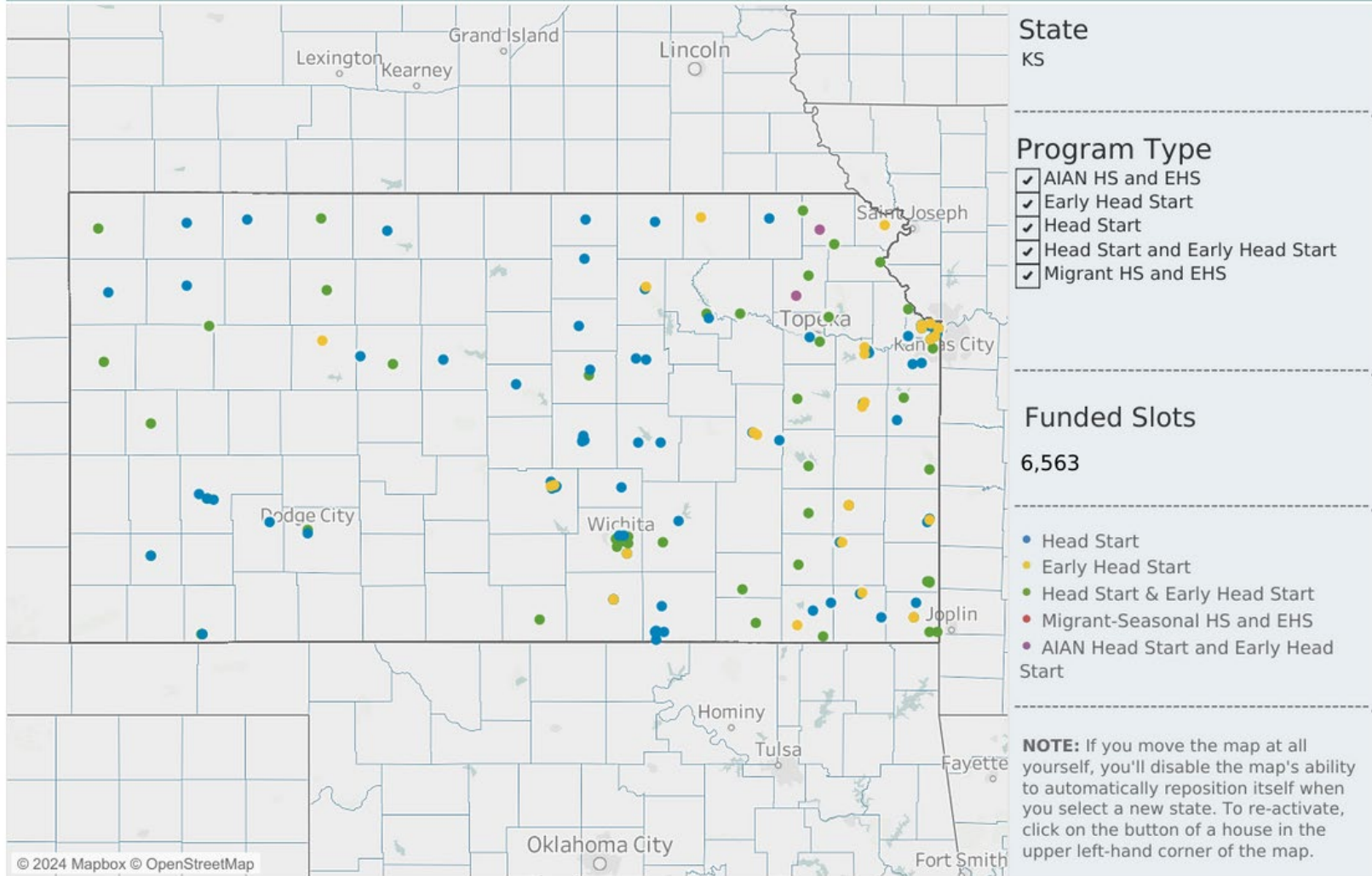
2,454
employees

HEAD START IN KANSAS

BY THE NUMBERS

Head Start Center Locations

State View



Source: Data retrieved from the Office of Head Start at <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/article/head-start-center-location-datasets>
Last updated Jan 9, 2024.



KANSAS
HEAD START
ASSOCIATION

E-MAIL:

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WEB:

www.ksheadstart.org

Heather Schrotberger

Member Updates



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- Pediatrics
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Sara Hortenstine

Kari Harris

Heather Braum

Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard



A HEALTHY KANSAS STARTS HERE



Deborah A Alliston, MD, MEd

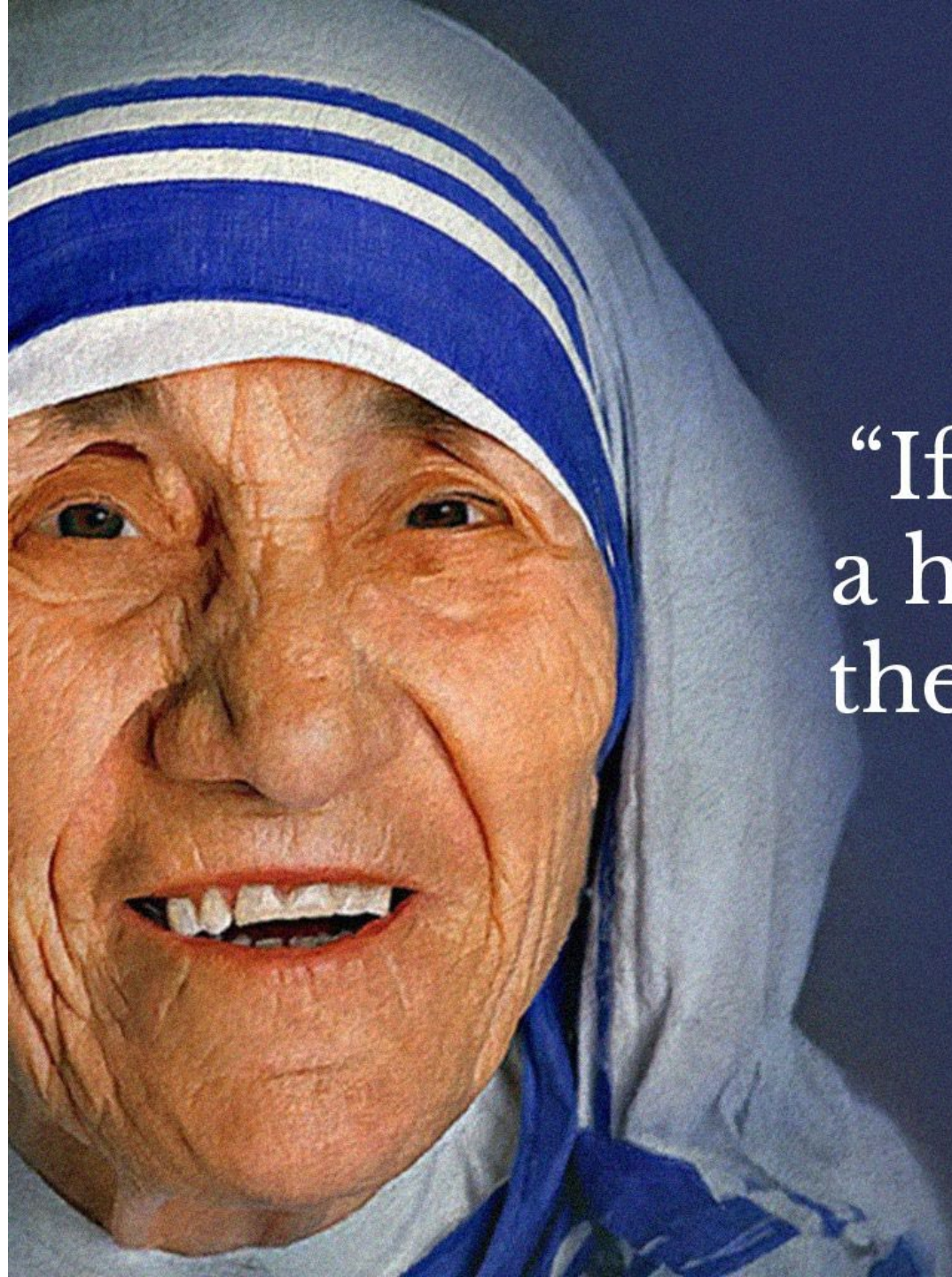
University of Kansas SOM-Wichita





KU Pediatric Clinic





“If you can't feed
a hundred people,
then feed *just one*.”

~Mother Teresa, 1910

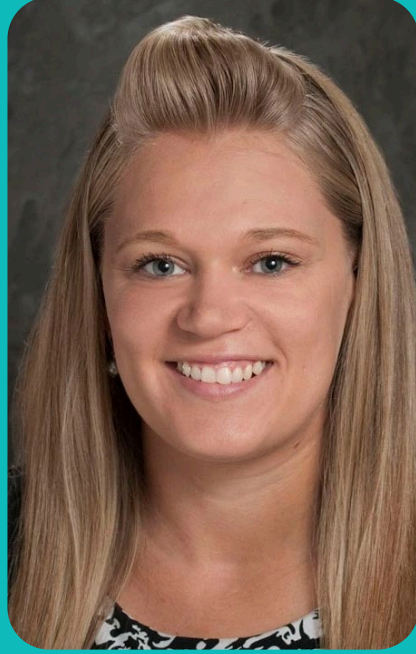
Heather Schrotberger

Kristi Weaver MD

Child Death Review Board

Executive
Director

Child
Death
Review
Board



Sara Hortenstine

Kari Harris

Heather Braum

Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard



KANSAS ATTORNEY GENERAL

KRIS W. KOBACH

Kansas- State Child Death Review Board

Presented to: KMCH Council 1/15/2025

**Sara Hortenstine- Division Chief, Youth Services &
Executive Director of the Kansas State Child Death Review Board**

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State Child Death Review Board- Kansas

Since 1994, the Board has reviewed >13,000 child deaths

- All causes/manners of death
- Birth to age 17
- Kansas Residents/Kansas Fatalities

Annual Report to Governor and Legislature

- Latest Report-Published each year on October 1st, 2022
- Data regarding 2022 calendar year



Purpose and Impact of the State Child Death Review Board

- Provide detailed information about the circumstances of a fatality, beyond the limited data available from death certificates and traditional vital statistics reports.
- Used to describe patterns in infant, and child deaths and reveal commonalities that lead to actionable recommendations to **prevent future deaths** and improve the health of the entire community.

PREVENTION



Investigating Child Deaths by a Records Review

Birth/Death Certificate

Autopsy Information

- Toxicology, photos, investigation reports, etc.

Medical information

- Birth Records, PCP information, death records, immunization records.

CPS

- DCF history regarding decedent, siblings, and caregivers

Law Enforcement

- Investigation reports, SUIDI, scene photos, 911 call, interviews, dash cam, etc.

Mental Health

School Records

- Grades, attendance, disciplinary actions, etc.

Child Care Licensing

Social Media, Obituary, Articles, etc.

Records are primarily related to the decedent



Process for Review- Kansas SCDRB



Tell the Story



Tell each story, identified, to understand the risk and protective factors



Collect Data



Multidisciplinary data on the context in which the child lived should be documented



Take Action



Fatality Review Teams should be a catalyst for prevention



2024 Kansas State Child Death Review Board Annual Report

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[QR Code- 2024 SCDRB Annual Report](#)



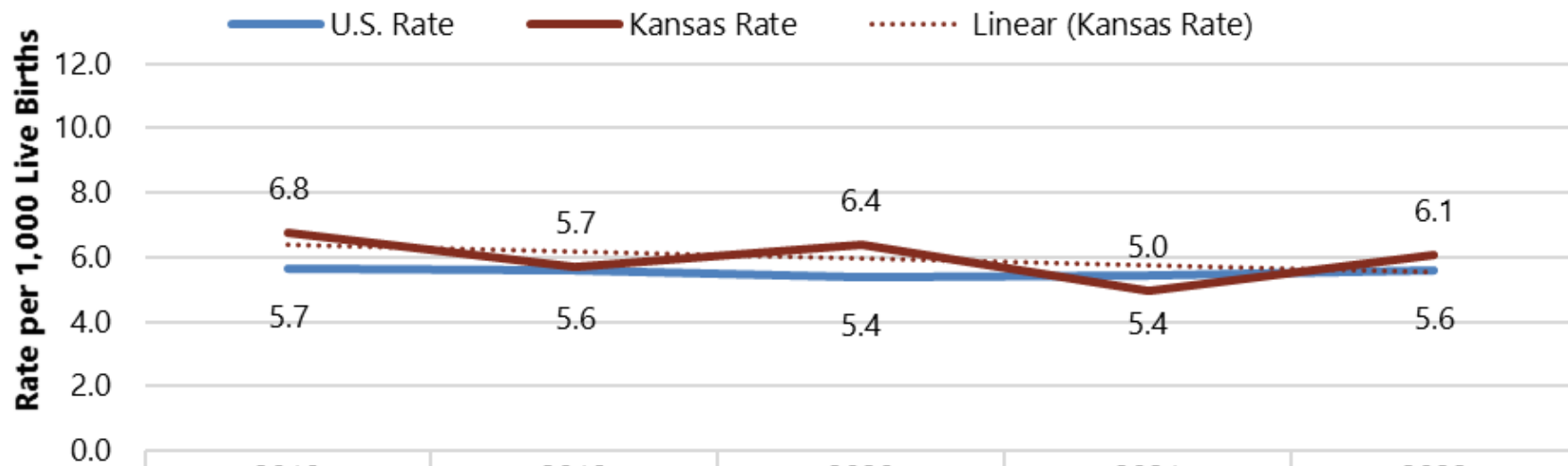
State Child Death Review Board Website
www.ag.ks.gov/SCDRB

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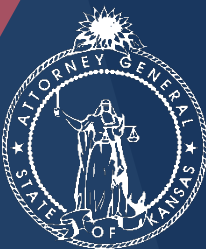
Infant Deaths, Kansas 2018-2022

Infant Death Rate*, Kansas, 2018 - 2022



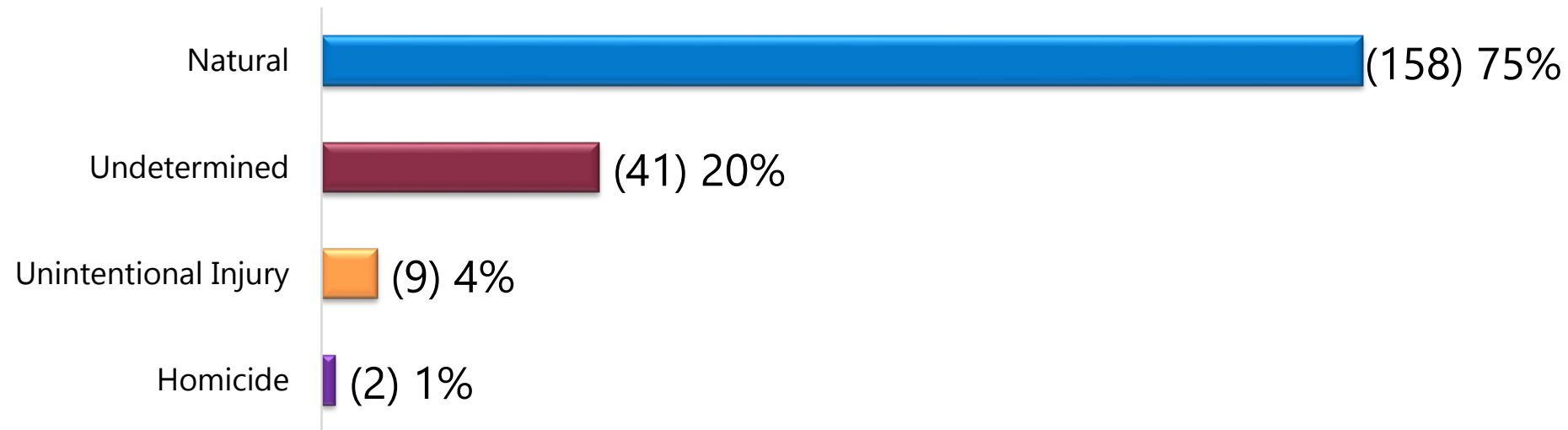
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
U.S. Rate	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.6
Kansas Rate	6.8	5.7	6.4	5.0	6.1
Number	246	203	219	173	210

*Resident and non-resident death rate



Mortality Affecting Infants

Percentage of Infant Deaths by Manner of Death, 2022, N=210



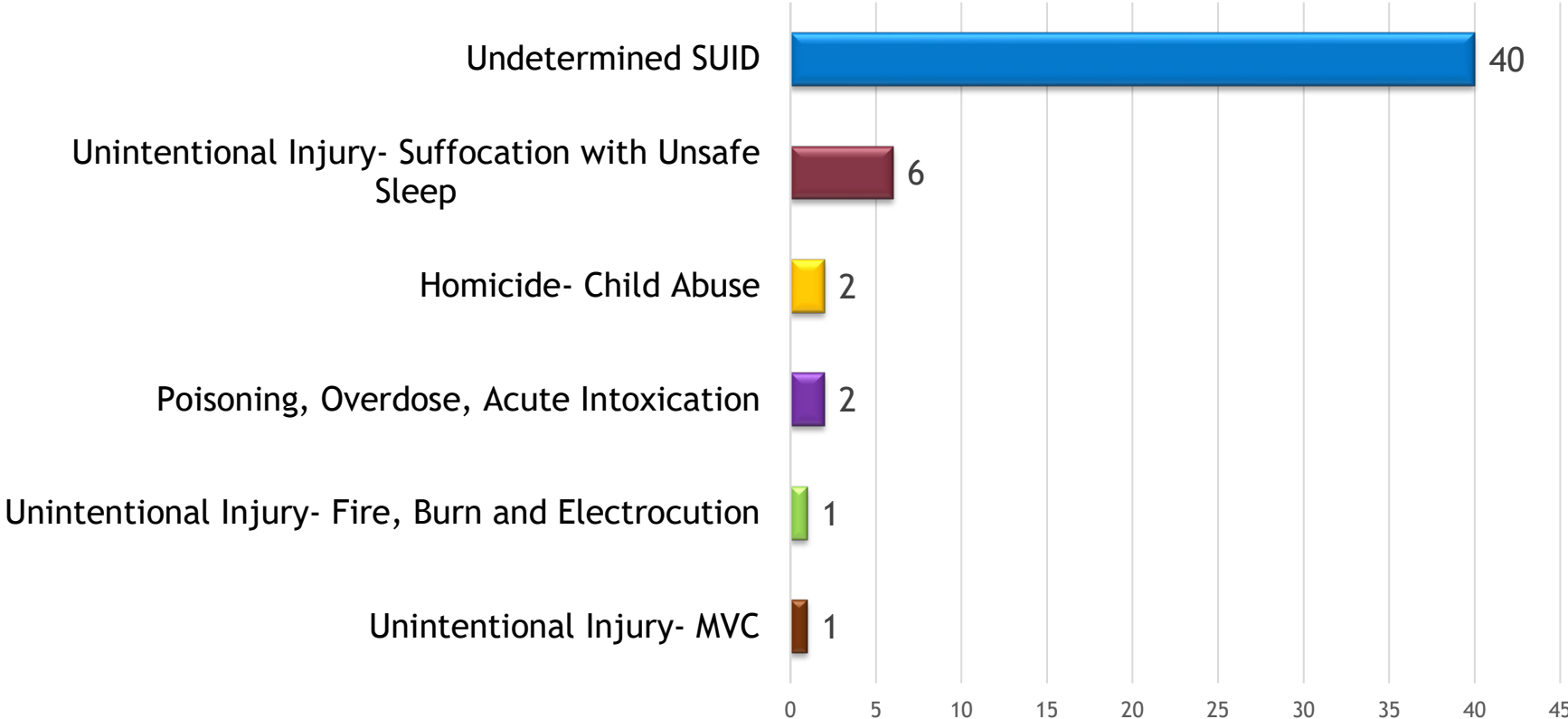
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Source- Kansas State Child Death Review Board 2024 Annual Report (2022 Data) www.ag.ks.gov/SCDRB



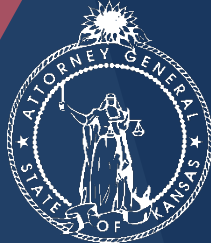
Mortality Affecting Infants, continued

Number of Infant Deaths by Non-Natural Causes, 2022, N=52



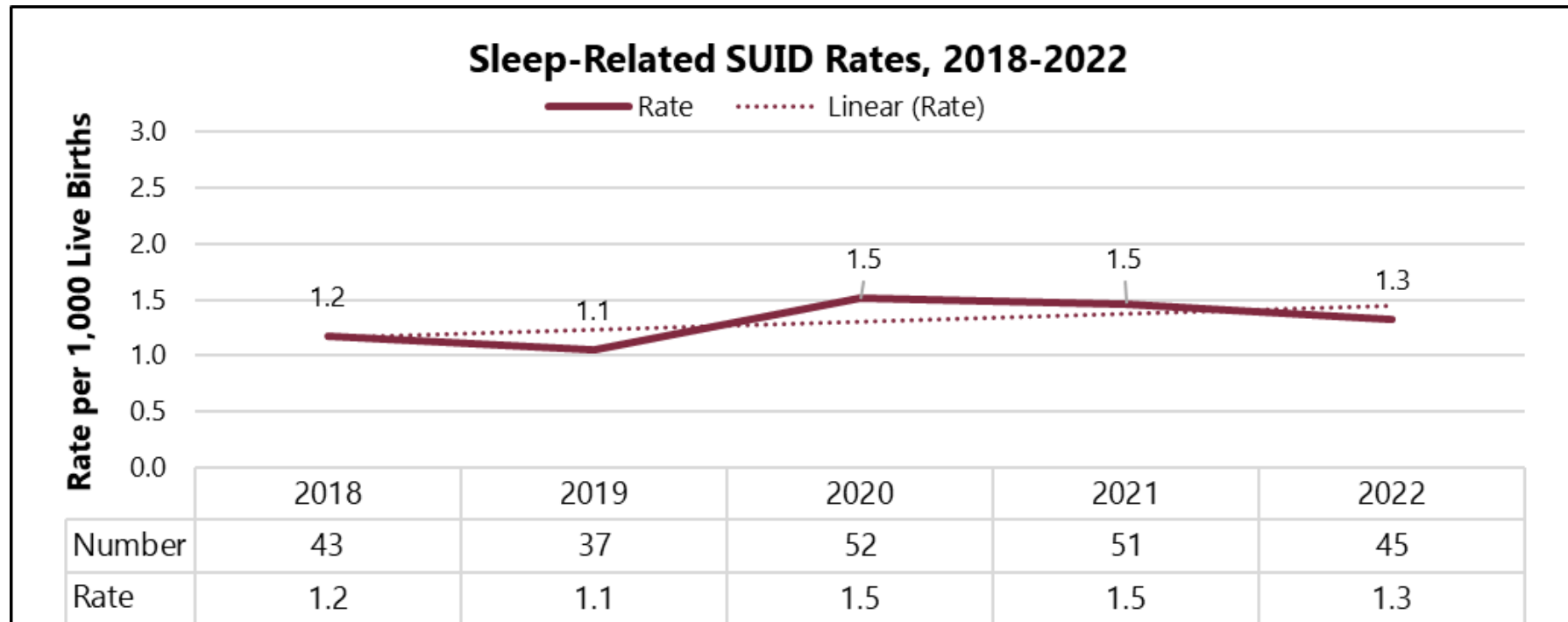
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Source- Kansas State Child Death Review Board 2024 Annual Report (2022 Data) www.ag.ks.gov/SCDRB



Sleep-Related SUID

Definition-Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) is a term used to describe the sudden and unexpected death of a child less than 1 year old in which the cause is not obvious before investigation. These deaths usually occur during sleep or in the child's sleep area.

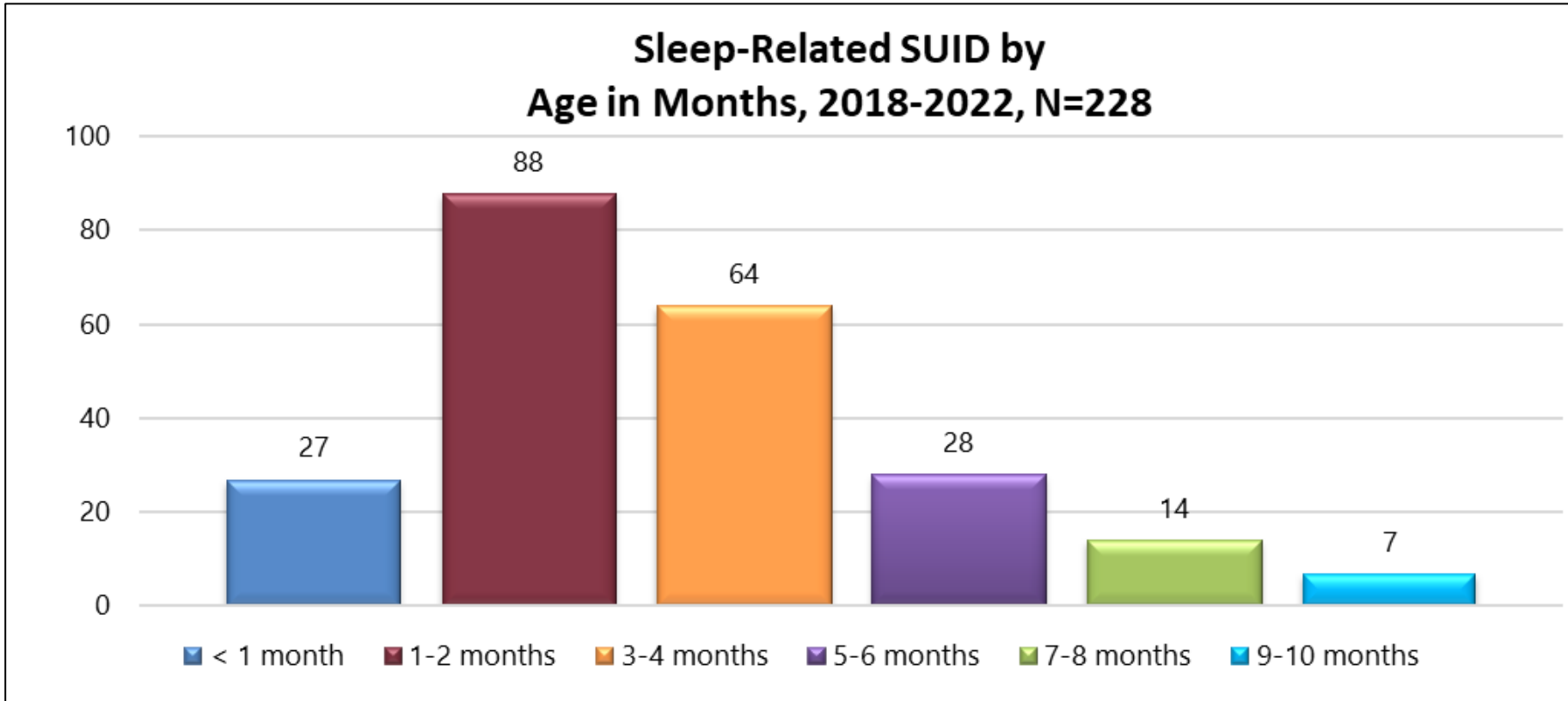


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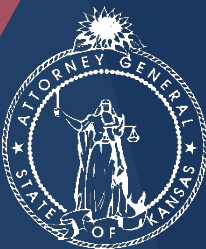


Sleep-Related SUID



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Sleep-Related SUID

Caregiver or Supervisor Fell Asleep While Feeding Infant, Sleep-Related SUID, 2018-2022, N=228

Caregiver or Supervisor Fell Asleep While Feeding Infant		Number
Yes		26
If Yes, Feeding Type	Breast	15
	Bottle	11
No		190
Unknown		12

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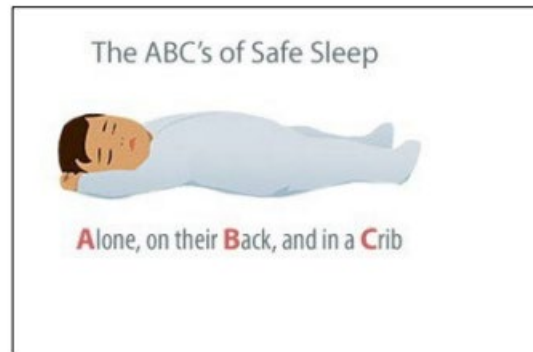


CASE VIGNETTE

Sleep-Related Infant Death

Safe Sleep Surfaces- An infant was placed in a safe-sleep location of a crib at bedtime. During the night, the infant woke for a feeding and the young mother brought the infant to the parents' adult bed to be breastfed. During the course of the feeding, the mother fell asleep and woke a few hours later to find the infant unresponsive. This death was classified as Sudden Unexpected Infant Death due to possible suffocation and an unsafe sleep environment.

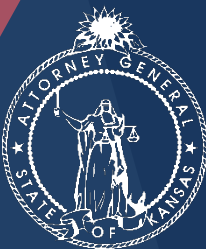
Board Reflection- Parents should be reminded that if infants are brought to an adult bed for a feeding (breast or bottle), the parent should consider some type of alert so the infant can be returned to a separate safe crib or bassinet when the parent is ready to return to sleep.



Photos Credit-KIDS Network <http://www.kidsks.org/>

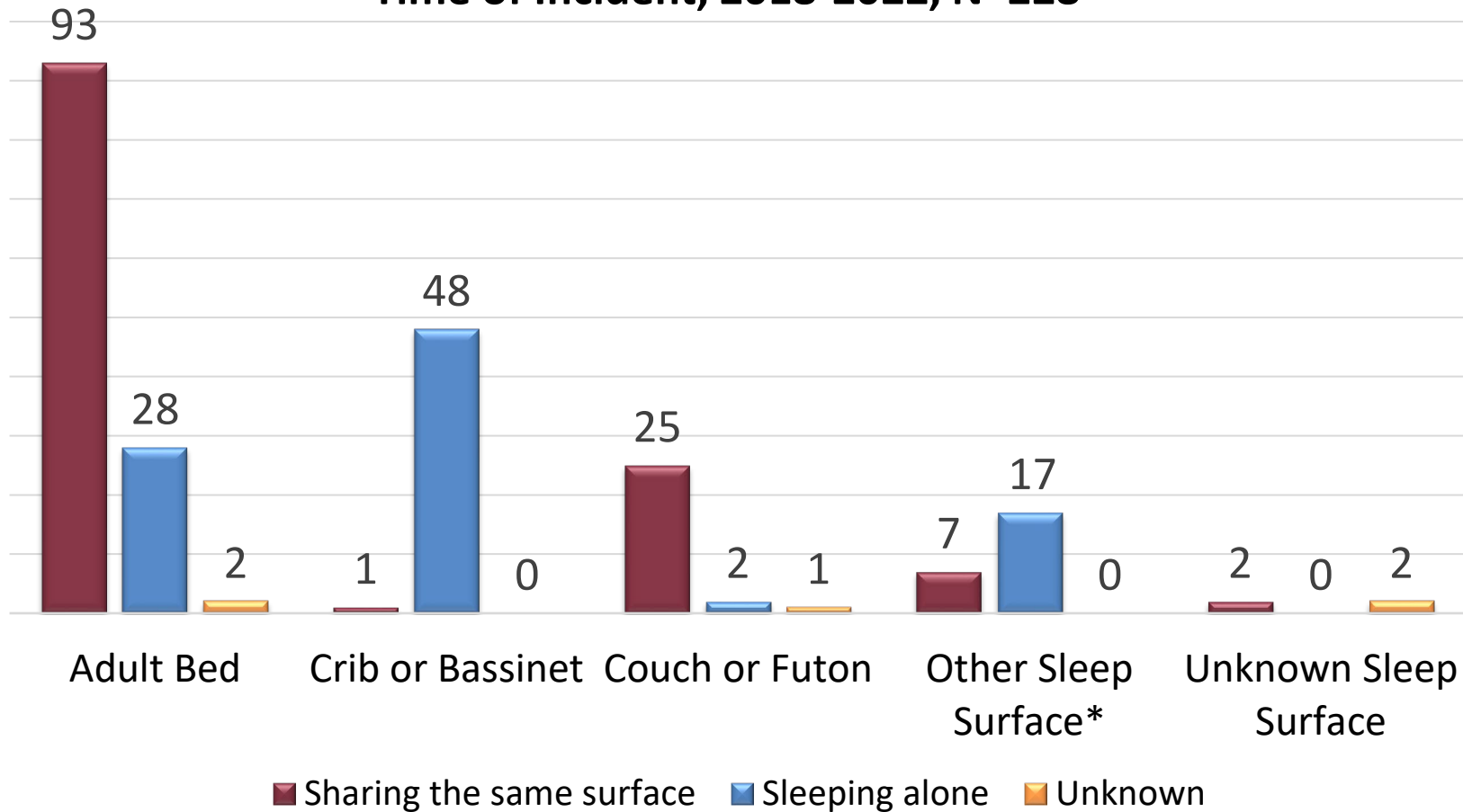
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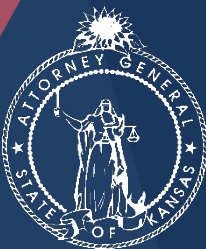
Sleep-Related SUID

Sleep-Related SUID by Type of Sleep Surface and Co-Sleeping at Time of Incident, 2018-2022, N=228

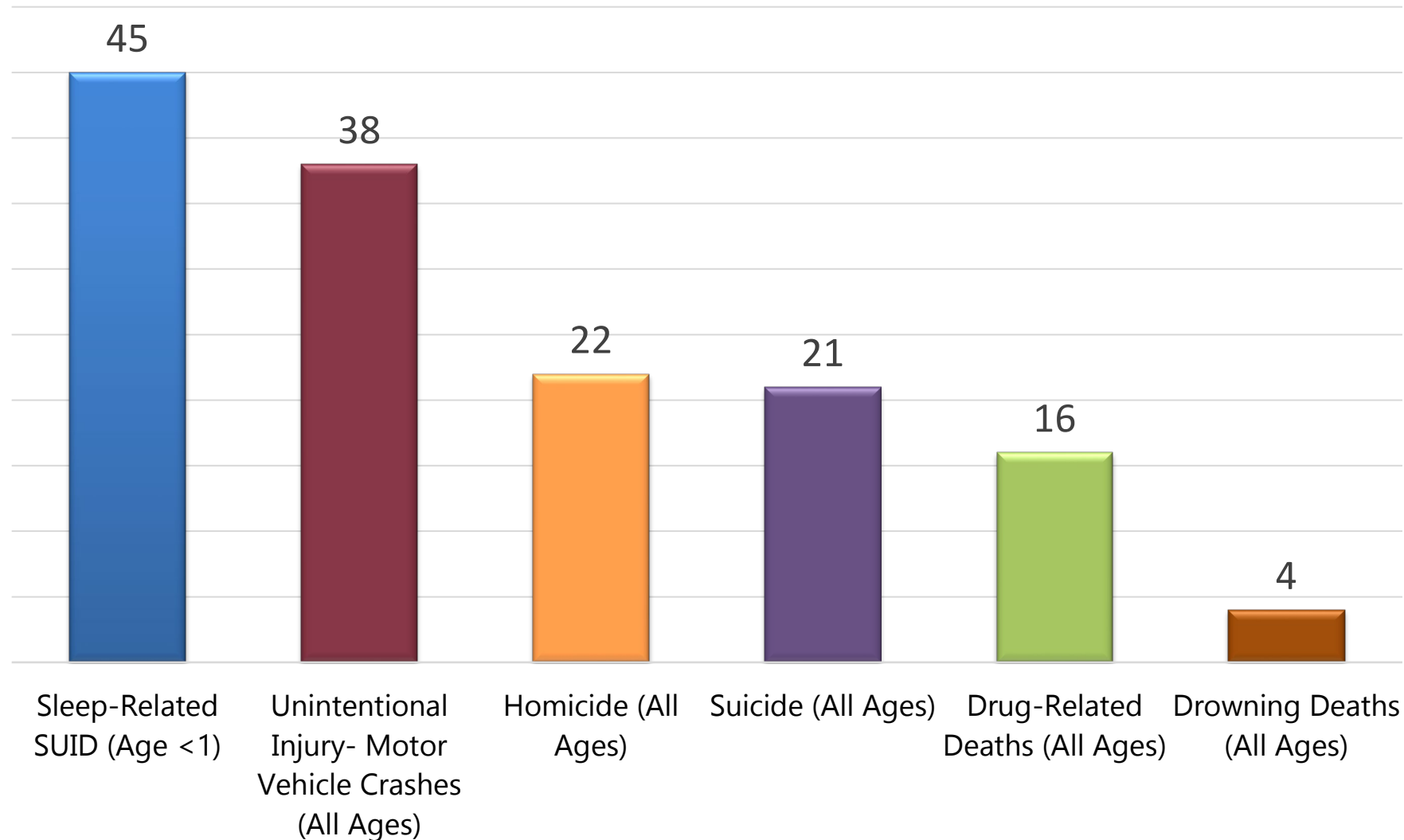


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Comparison of Numbers of Sleep-Related SUIDs with Other Categories of Death, 2022



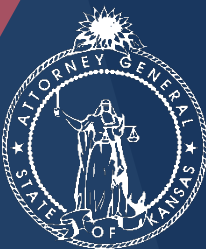
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CHARACTERISTICS OF SLEEP-RELATED SUIDS, 2018-2022, N=228

- ▶ 99% had evidence of one or more unsafe sleep practices
- ▶ 79% occurred when the infant was sleeping in a place other than a crib or bassinet
- ▶ 53% were put to sleep on an adult bed, and 12% were put to sleep on a couch or futon
- ▶ 54% were sharing a sleep-surface
- ▶ 52% were put to sleep on their stomach, side, or a position other than the recommended supine (on their back) placement
- ▶ 11% of parents or caregivers fell asleep while either breastfeeding or bottle feeding the infant



Infant Deaths- Disparities

Rate of Death per 1,000 live births by Race/Ethnicity, All Manners of Death, Age <1, 2018-2022

Kansas Rate All Races	White/ Non-Hispanic	Black/ Non-Hispanic	American Indian/ Non-Hispanic	Asian/ Non-Hispanic	Multiple Race/ Non-Hispanic	Hispanic-Any Race
6.0	4.6	11.3	*	4.1	16.3	8.1

*Death count of 9 or less, suppressed

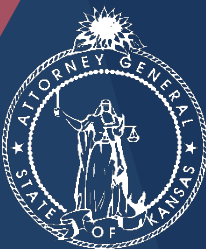
Sleep-Related SUID Rate of Death per 1,000 live births by Race/Ethnicity, Age <1, 2018-2022

Kansas Rate All Races	White/ Non-Hispanic	Black/Non-Hispanic	American Indian/Non-Hispanic	Asian/ Non-Hispanic	Multiple Race/ Non-Hispanic	Hispanic-Any Race
1.3	1.0	2.7	*	*	5.4	1.5

*Death count of 9 or less, suppressed

**See disclaimer

Source- Kansas State Child Death Review Board 2024 Annual Report (2022 Data) www.ag.ks.gov/SCDRB



Questions/Comments



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Contact Information

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Division Chief, Youth Services

Executive Director, SCDRB

Office of the Attorney General

- 120 SW 10th Ave. 2nd Floor, Topeka KS 66609
- Phone: (785) 296-7970
- Email: sara.Hortenstine@ag.ks.gov

For more information about the State Child Death Review Board, Please Visit:

www.ag.ks.gov/SCDRB



Heather Schrotberger

Kristi Weaver MD

Sara Hortenstine

Kari Harris

Legislative Updates

Heather Braum



Senior
Policy
Advisor

Kansas
Action for
Children

Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard

Heather Schrotberger

Deborah Alliston MD

Sara Hortenstine

Kari Harris

Heather Braum

Birth Defects Program

Drew Duncan



Birth Defects Program
Section Chief



Paige Leonard

Birth Defects Program
Coordinator



Kansas Birth Defects Program

Paige Leonard | January 15th, 2025

Overview

Vision: To improve the quality of life and health outcomes

Mission: Through a data driven approach and relationship building, Kansas screening and surveillance strives to improve equitable access to information, services, and support to newborns, mothers, and families.

Purpose:

- Identify risk factors
- Facilitate treatment, intervention, and prevention
- Inform and educate the public

Key Birth Defects Events in Kansas

1979

Began
collecting birth
defect
information

2004

Passage of Senate
Bill 418

2010

Regulations
were expanded

2018

KBDP
coordinator
position is
created

2024

Referrals to
Support
Programs

Recent Program Activities

2018

- CDC Zika grant
- [Integrated](#) with the Konza Information Network (KHIN) and the Office of Vital Statistics

2021

- Data was interrupted

2022

- Regulation update - [Kansas Birth Defects Surveillance Reporting Manual](#)
- Newborn Screening (NBS) website and newsletter

Recent Program Activities - Continued

2023

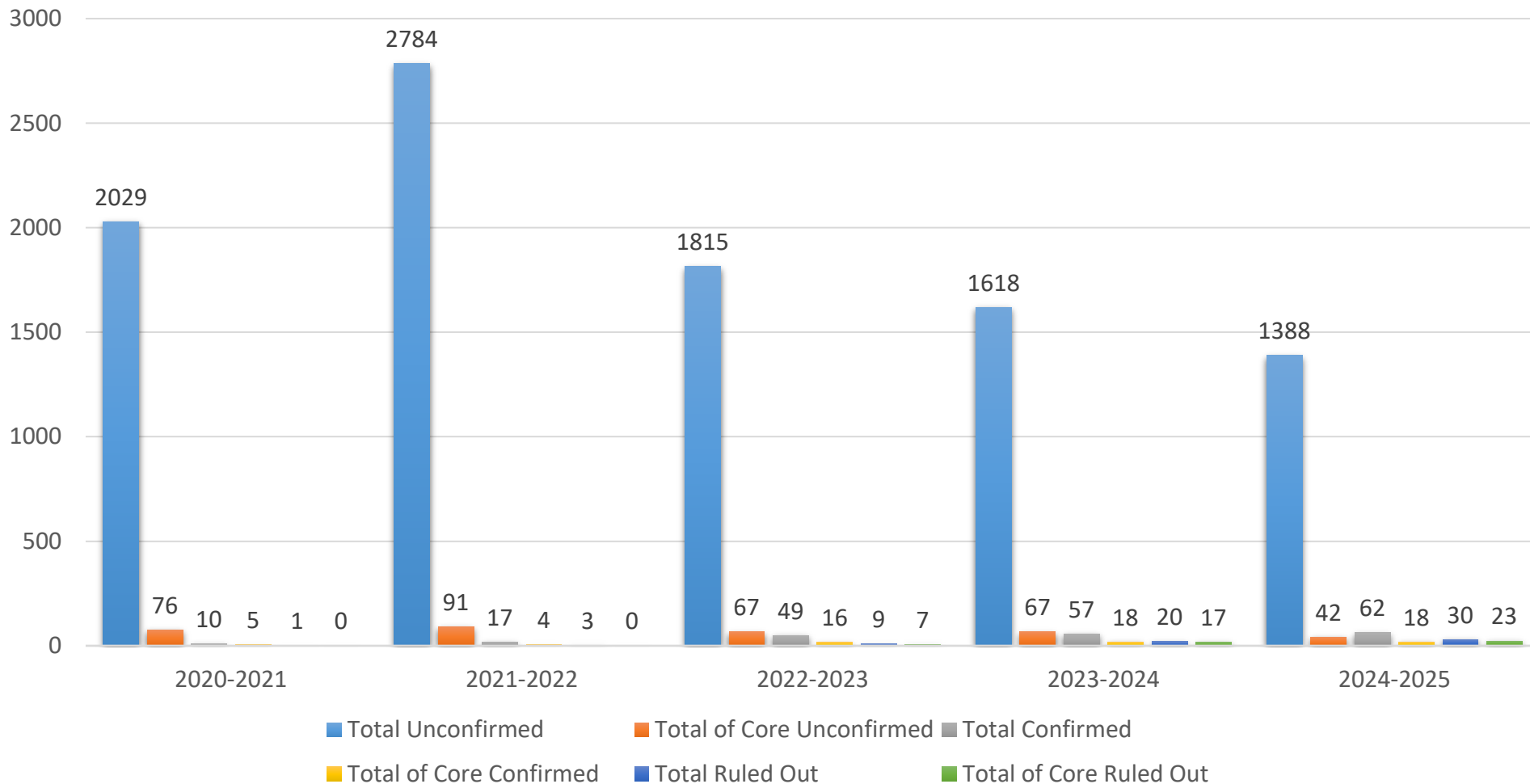
- Referrals
- Program materials

2024

- Referrals of [core defect](#)
- [Newborn Screening](#) and [KDHE](#) website update
- Program material
 - [KBDP brochure](#)
 - KBDP manual and SOPs
- Critical Congenital Heart Defect (CCHD) program collaboration

Kansas Birth Defects Program

Unconfirmed vs. Confirmed



Current and Future Activities

- Trends
- Konza Information Network
- Outreach and education
- Funding



Birth Defects Awareness Month (BDAM)

- Every Journey Matters
- CDC and MotherToBaby: FASD Podcast series
 - January 9 – Episode 1: FASD Discovery and Prevalence
 - January 16 – Episode 2: CDC’s Work Addressing Prenatal Alcohol and Other Substance Use and FASDs
 - January 23 – Episode 3: Living with FASDs
 - Podcast Website: [The MotherToBaby Podcast](#)
 - YouTube Channel: [MotherToBaby - YouTube](#)
 - CDC TRAIN: links TBD

Thank you/Questions



Expectations for Domain Work Groups

Stay present and participate actively.

Invite everyone into the conversation. Take turns talking.

ALL feedback is valid. There are no right or wrong answers.

Value and respect different perspectives (providers, families, agencies, etc.).

Be relevant. Stay on topic.

Allow facilitator to move through discussion questions.

Avoid repeating previous remarks.

Disagree with ideas, not people. Build on each other's ideas.

Capture "side" topics and concerns; set aside for discussion and resolution at a later time.

Reach closure and summarize conclusions or action steps for small group reports.

Work Group Questions

1. What were the most critical takeaways from today's presentations?
2. Summarize your workgroup's progress on your Special Project since the last meeting.

Work Group Projects

Women/Maternal: Develop a universal, consistent prenatal risk assessment form that includes clinical and social determinants of health data.

Perinatal/Infant: Welcome postcard for all Kansas babies.

Children: Help parents and caregivers access resources to address their child's behavioral health needs.

Adolescent: Improve civic engagement for adolescents.

YOUR FACILITATORS



WOMEN/MATERNAL

Jill Nelson | Perinatal
and Infant Health
Consultant
KDHE Bureau of
Family Health



PERINATAL & INFANT

Stephanie Wolf | Clinical
Perinatal/Infant Health
Consultant
Kansas Perinatal Community
Collaboratives Program
Coordinator

KDHE Bureau of Family
Health



CHILDREN

Maddie Wegner |
Child Health
Consultant

KDHE Bureau of
Family Health



ADOLESCENT

Jaquita Clark |
Child and Adolescent
Health Consultant

KDHE Bureau of
Family Health

WORK GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

Women/Maternal		Perinatal/Infant		Children		Adolescent	
Facilitators: Jill Nelson		Facilitators: Stephanie Wolf		Facilitators: Maddie Wegner		Facilitator: Jaquita Clark	
Recorder: Juliet Swedlund		Recorder: Kali Steelsmith		Recorder: Cora Ungerer		Recorder: Holly Frye	
Rebecca	Adamson	Carrie	Akin	Jennifer	Brunning	Linda	Buchheister
Anji	Antje	Deborah	Alliston	Cristi	Cain	Lisa	Chaney
Rebecca	Bell	Brenda	Bandy	Stephanie	Coleman	Jaquita	Clark
Deena	Carmona	Kourtney	Bettinger	Derik	Flerlage	Amy	Dean-Campmire
Mary	Delgado	Heather	Braum	Cory	Gibson	Geno	Fernandez
Lisa	Frey Blume	Mariah	Chrans	Dione	Guyton	Holly	Frye
Sapphire	Garcia	Stacy	Clarke	Kaitlin	Johnson	Kirstianna	Guerrero
Shalae	Harris	Drew	Duncan	Julie	Laverack	Kari	Harris
Stephanie	Jerguson	Stephen	Fawcett	Karen	Perez	Elaine	Johannes
Jamie	Kim	Sara	Hortenstine	Cherie	Sage	Shannon	Kennedy
Karly	Lauer	Brandi	Markert	Heather	Schrotberger	Steve	Lauer
Jeni	McDonald	Jill	Nelson	Peter	Stoepker	Sookyung	Shin
Patricia	McNamar	Susan	Pence	Cora	Ungerer	Melissa	Valenza
Oluwakemi	Onyenagubo	Cari	Schmidt	Maddie	Wegner	Donna	Yadrich
Amittia	Parker	Katie	Schoenhoff	Daina	Zolck		
Lisa	Shoop	Christy	Schunn				
Jill	Swedlund	Kali	Steelsmith				
Kristi	Weaver	Stephanie	Wolf				
Kendra	Wyatt						

Float: Kelsee Fout, Jennifer Miller, Angela Collier, Denise Cyzman

Time for a Break

SEE YOU BACK IN 15 MINUTES



KANSAS
MATERNAL &
CHILD HEALTH

15:00

mins: secs: type:

 Breaktime for PowerPoint by Flow Simulation Ltd.

Show Settings



Welcome Back

TIME FOR WORK GROUPS



DOMAIN WORKGROUP REPORT OUT

WOMEN/MATERNAL

Develop a Universal and Consistent Prenatal Risk Assessment Form that Includes Clinical and Social Determinants of Health Data



PERINATAL/INFANT

Welcome Postcard for all Kansas Babies



CHILDREN

Help Parents and Caregivers Access Resources to
Address their Child's Behavioral Health Needs.



ADOLESCENT

Improve Civic Engagement for Adolescents



Member Announcements

THE FLOOR IS YOURS!



Heather Schrotberger

Deborah Alliston

Sara Hortenstine

CLOSING

University of
Kansas, School
of Medicine –
Wichita

Department of
Pediatrics



KMCHC Chair

Kari Harris MD, FAAP

Heather Braum

Drew Duncan

Paige Leonard

We Want Your Feedback!



**Scan the QR
Code for
Evaluation**



KANSAS
MATERNAL &
CHILD HEALTH

Next Meeting Dates

May 7, 2025

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Kansas Health Institute

July 23, 2025

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Virtual

Contact information

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Department of Health
and Environment

kdhe.ks.gov