

# Safe Motherhood and Infant Health: Updates from CDC's Division of Reproductive Health



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Secretary's Advisory Committee on Infant Mortality

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# About Our Work...



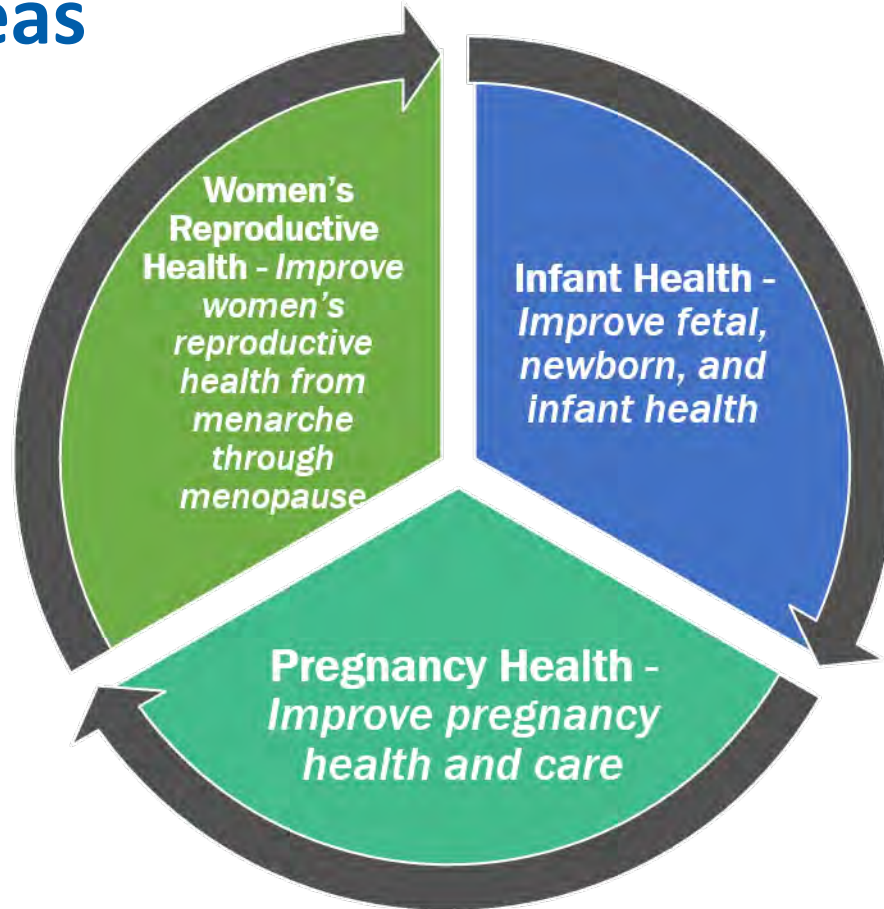
# Who We Are:

## CDC's Division of Reproductive Health

- Mission: To promote optimal and equitable health in women and infants through public health surveillance, research, leadership, and partnership to move science to practice
- Vision: Optimal reproductive health for a healthy future



# DRH Focus Areas



# What We Do:

## DRH Strategic Areas of Focus



Chronic Disease  
Prevention in  
Women of  
Reproductive Age



Infant Mortality  
and Morbidity



Maternal Mortality  
and Complications  
of Pregnancy



Reducing Teen  
and Unintended  
Pregnancy



Global  
Reproductive  
Health



Science to  
Practice

# DRH Priority: Understanding and Preventing Maternal Mortality

# 700

Each year in the U.S., about 700 women die as a result of pregnancy complications.

# 3 – 4x

Black women are 3 – 4 times more likely to die of pregnancy-related causes than white women.

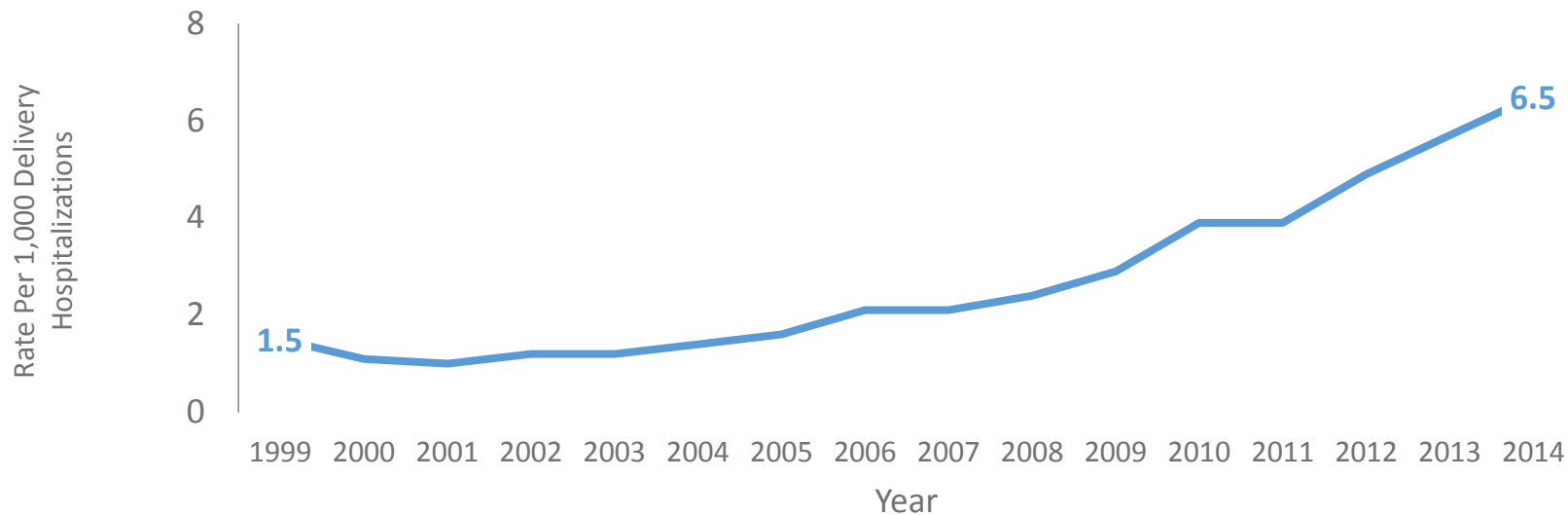




# DRH Priority: Documenting and Reducing the Impact of Maternal Opioid Use Disorder



# Opioid Use Disorder at Delivery Hospitalization



\* Prevalence rate numerator consisted of opioid type dependence and nondependent opioid abuse based on ICD-9 codes (304.00-304.03, 304.70-304.73, 305.50-305.53) and denominator consisted of state delivery hospitalization discharges.

+ Rates prior to the 2012 are weighted with trend weights and rates after 2012 are weighted using original NIS discharge weights to account for the change in NIS design in 2012.

**Source:** Haight et al, *MMWR*, 2018



# Rapid Assessment of Maternal Opioid Use and Overdose to Improve Outcomes and Save Lives

- Improving and standardizing data on pregnancy-associated overdose deaths through work with state Maternal Mortality Review Committees
- Supporting state teams to address opioid use among women in the preconception, pregnancy and postpartum periods through establishment of a Learning Community
- Collecting and disseminating state-based data on non-fatal opioid use during pregnancy through PRAMS





# Updates from Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)

# What is PRAMS?

- Established in 1987 as part of an Infant Health Initiative
- Ongoing, population-based surveillance system
- Self-reported maternal behaviors and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy
- State and near-national estimates



# Who Participates in the PRAMS Surveys?

Women who recently delivered a live infant

- Random sample from birth certificate records
- Sampled when infants are 2 - 6 months old
- State sample ~1500–3000 women per year
- Combined annual sample ~ 100,000 women per year
  - 47 states, NYC, DC, Puerto Rico and South Dakota Tribal project

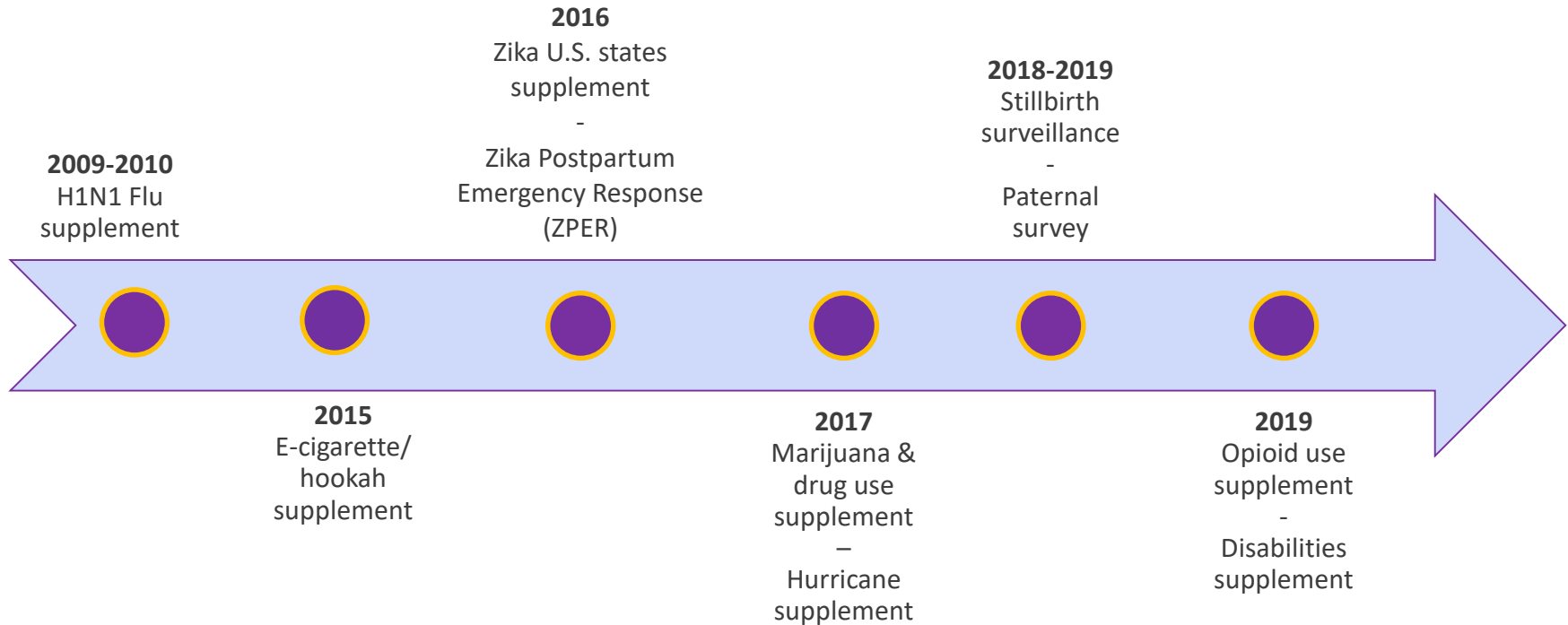




# Examples of PRAMS Indicators Affecting Infant Health

- Preconception health
- Maternal weight
- Maternal tobacco / alcohol use
- Receipt of prenatal care
- Health insurance status
- Postpartum contraception
- Breastfeeding
- Infant sleep practices

# Addressing Emerging Issues with PRAMS





# Leveraging PRAMS to Address Key MCH Issues

- Adapting PRAMS methodology to survey women experiencing stillbirth
- Exploring surveying of new fathers regarding behaviors surrounding pregnancy
- Utilizing PRAMS to evaluate the effect of Healthy Start program on key outcomes





## PRAMS Releases New Data

CDC is pleased to announce the release of 2016 data from the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS). Researchers can [request the most recent year of data](#), as well as prior years' data.

To determine the data availability by site and year from 1988–2016, please access the tables under [Years of Data Available](#).

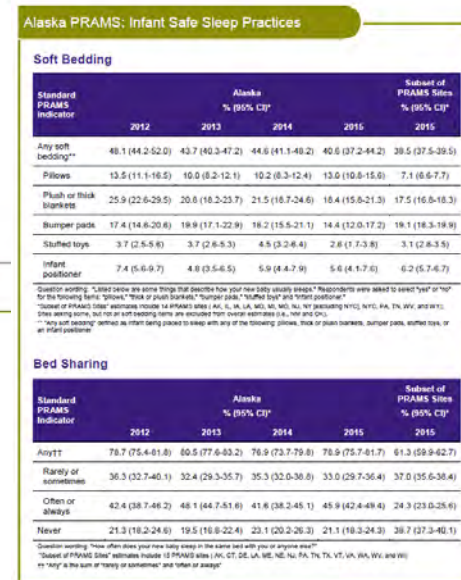
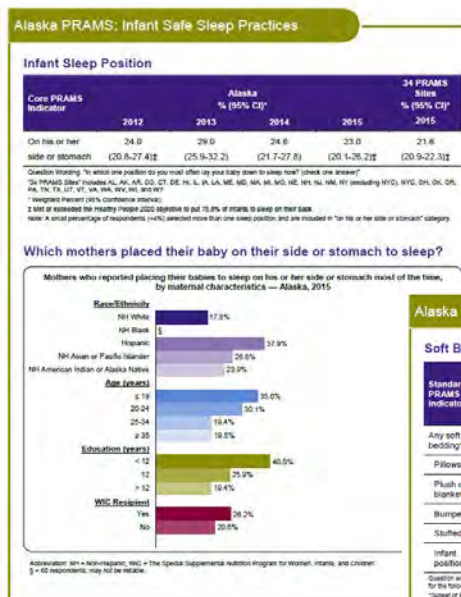


Request data at <https://www.cdc.gov/prams/researchers.htm>

# Promoting Use of PRAMS Data for Action

## State Topic Reports

- Available:
  - Breastfeeding
  - Infant Safe Sleep
  - Oral Health
  - Cigarette Smoking
  
- Pending:
  - Mental Health
  - Family Leave



## The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS): Overview of Design and Methodology

Tally B. Shalton, MA, Debra C. D'Aquila, MPH, Lela Hankins, MPH, Robin A. Scott, PhD, and Lee Hogue, PhD

**Data System.** The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is an ongoing population-based surveillance system of maternal behaviors, attitudes, and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy. PRAMS is conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Reproductive Health in collaboration with state health departments.

**Data Collection/Response.** Birth certificate records are used in each participating jurisdiction to select a sample representative of all women who delivered a live-born infant. PRAMS is a telephone mail and electronic survey. Annual state sample sizes range from approximately 1000 to 3000 women. States stratify the sample by characteristics of public health interest such as maternal age, race/ethnicity, geographic area of residence, and infant birth weight.

**Data Analysis/Distribution.** States receiving an individual response data file include included in multivariate analytic data sets available to researchers through a protocol submission process. In addition, estimates from selected indicators are available online.

**Public Health Applications.** PRAMS provides state-level data for key maternal and child health indicators that can be tracked over time. Indicators by maternal characteristics allow for examination of disparities over a wide range of health indicators. (*Am J Public Health*. Published online ahead of print August 23, 2016. doi:10.2195/AJPH.2016.30.4563)

The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) initiative to reduce infant mortality and low birth weight and promote safe motherhood. PRAMS was implemented in 1987 because infant mortality rates were no longer declining as rapidly as they had been in prior years.<sup>1</sup> Although the US infant mortality rate has dropped 15% over the past decade, the United States continues to have one of the highest infant mortality rates among developed countries, at 5.8 per 1000 live births in 2015.<sup>2</sup> Despite recent declines, premature birth rates remain high (9.9% in 2016),<sup>3</sup> an a sudden infant death syndrome is the leading cause of death among infants 1 to 12 months old (up from nearly 1000 deaths in 2015).<sup>4</sup>

Maternal mortality and morbidity rates have also been increasing. The number of reported pregnancy-related deaths in the United States rose from 7.2 per 100 000 live

births in 1987 to 17.3 per 100 000 live births in 2013.<sup>5,6</sup> Moreover, the number of women presenting at delivery with 1 or more chronic conditions rose from 66.9 per 1000 delivery hospitalizations in 2005–2006 to 91.8 per 1000 delivery hospitalizations in 2013–2014.<sup>7</sup>

### DATA PROGRAM

PRAMS is an ongoing state-level, population-based surveillance system of selected maternal behaviors and experiences that occur before, during, and shortly after pregnancy. It is conducted by participating

state, territorial, tribal, or local health departments in partnership with CDC's Division of Reproductive Health. CDC provides annual funding to participating sites through a cooperative agreement, with supplemental funding provided by recipients. Since the system's inception, the number of participating states and areas (including territories or states) has increased from 6 to 51, including 47 states, the District of Columbia, New York City, Puerto Rico, and the Gosa Plains Tribal Chairman's Health Board (Figure 1). PRAMS surveillance currently covers approximately 83% of all US births.

### Purpose

The main purposes of PRAMS are to promote the collection, analysis, and dissemination of population-based data of high scientific quality and to support these efforts to develop policies and programs that aim to decrease maternal and infant morbidity and mortality. PRAMS data are used by a diverse consortium, including health organizations, state health departments, and federal agencies to guide development of new programs and policies, evaluate existing programs and policies, develop educational materials for health care providers and the public, and contribute to general health knowledge.

### Public Health Significance

PRAMS provides state-specific data used to monitor health behaviors, assess to care, and dispense of services among recently pregnant women. For example, PRAMS data

### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

All authors are from the Division of Reproductive Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA.

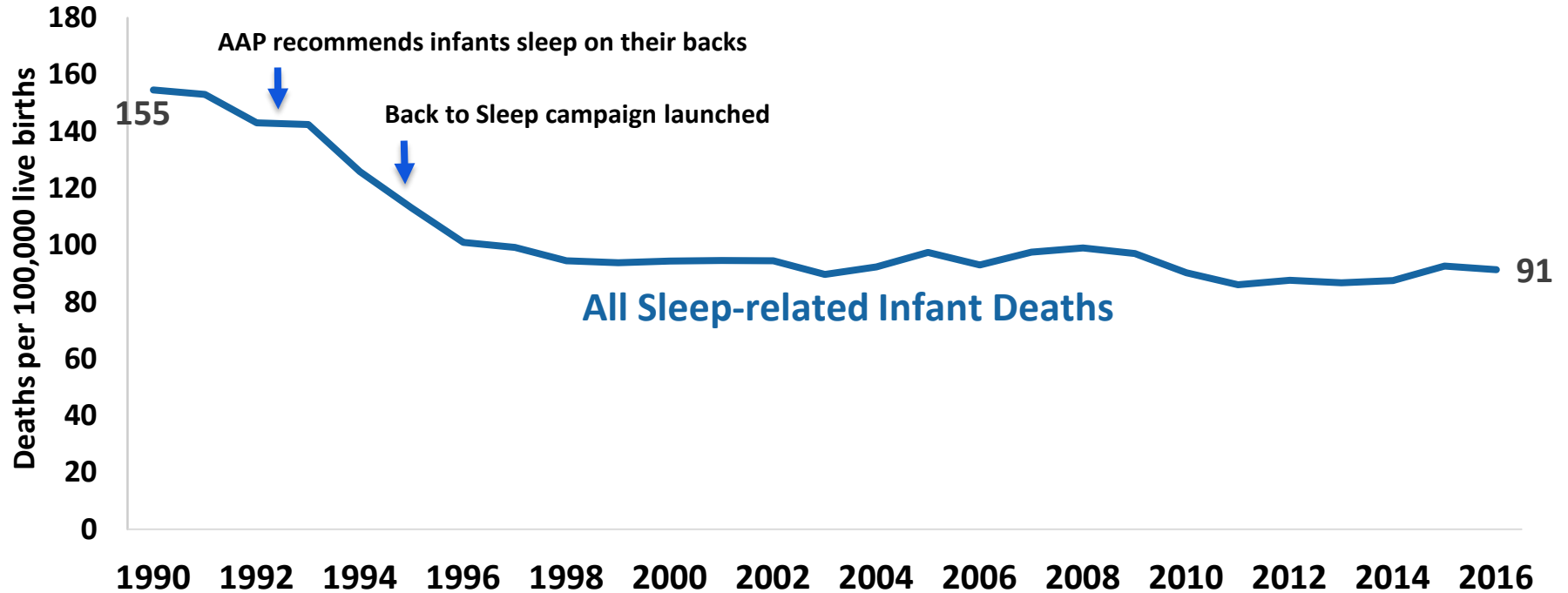
Correspondence should be addressed to Tally B. Shalton, MA, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 4770 Robert Wood Johnson Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30349. E-mail: tally.shalton@cdc.gov. (through http://dx.doi.org/10.2195/AJPH.2016.30.4563)

The article was accepted May 6, 2016.  
doi:10.2195/AJPH.2016.30.4563

# Sleep-related Infant Deaths

- 3,500 deaths each year in the U.S.
- Also known as Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID)
  - Deaths of infants less than 1 year old
  - Occur during sleep or in a sleep environment
- Includes:
  - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)
  - Accidental suffocation/strangulation in bed
  - Undetermined causes

# Rates of Sleep-related Infant Deaths Dropped in 1990s but Have not Declined Since 2000



# AAP Safe Infant Sleep Recommendations

- Back positioning for every sleep
- Use a firm sleep surface
  - Crib, bassinet, play yard
- No soft objects or loose bedding
- Room-sharing, but not bed-sharing
- Smoke-free sleep environment
- Avoid overheating
- Avoid alcohol and tobacco exposure (prenatal & environmental)





# Infant Safe Sleep on PRAMS

- Infant sleep position
  - all survey respondents since 1996
- Surface-sharing, Usual sleep location, Soft bedding use, Provider safe sleep advice
  - respondents in select states 1996-2015

# Safe Sleep for Babies *Vital Signs*

Vital Signs: Trends and Disparities in Infant Safe Sleep Practices – United States, 2009–2015

Weekly / January 12, 2018 / 67(1):39-46

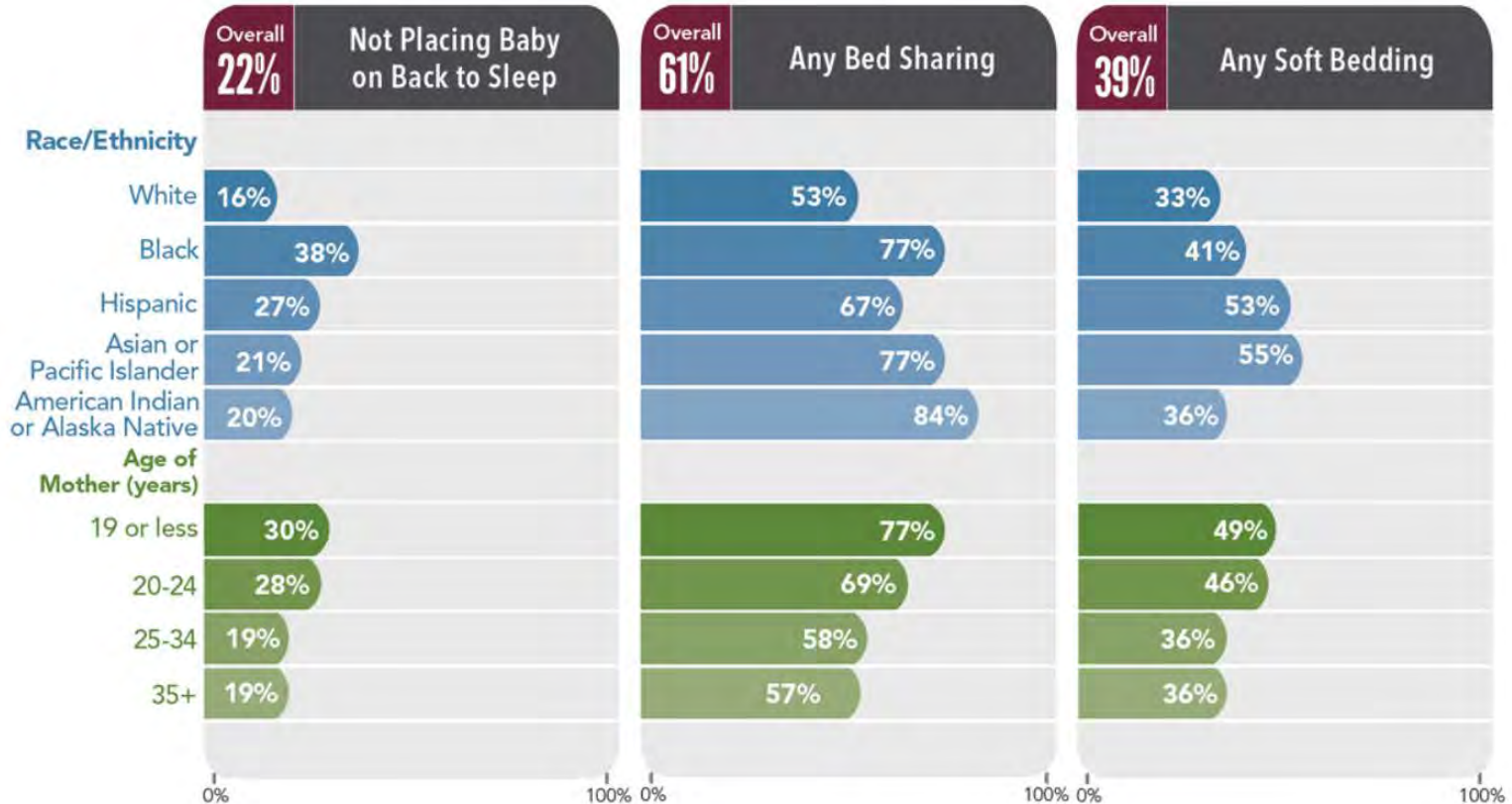


On January 9, 2018, this report was posted online as an MMWR Early Release.

The screenshot shows the CDC Vital Signs website interface. At the top, there is the CDC logo and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "Vital Signs" and the specific topic is "Safe Sleep for Babies". A video player is featured prominently, showing a baby sleeping in a crib with a text overlay that reads "3,500 sleep-related deaths among US babies occur each year." To the right of the video, there is a "DOWNLOAD FACTSHEET" button. The left sidebar contains a list of various health topics, with "Safe Sleep for Babies" highlighted.

[CDC.gov/vitalsigns /safesleep/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/safesleep/index.html)

# Key findings from PRAMS 2015



SOURCE: Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), 2015.

# Improvements to PRAMS Safe Sleep Questions

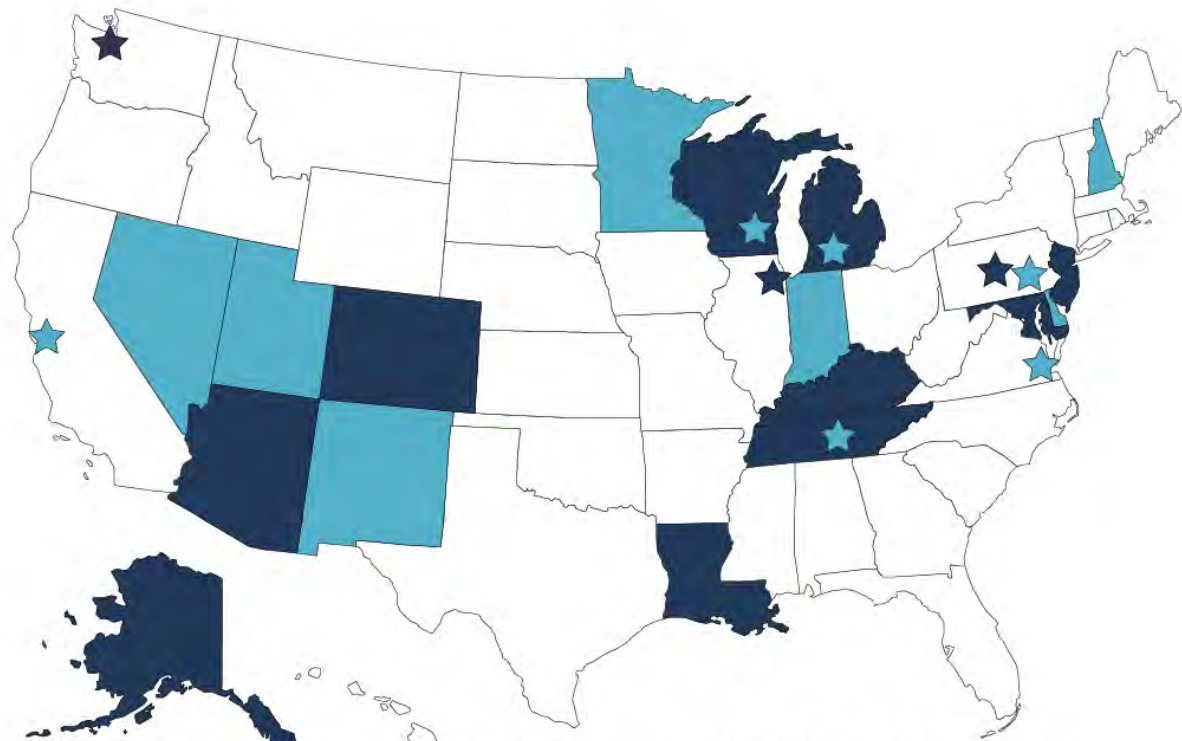
- 2016: HRSA funded addition of four questions to be asked of all respondents
- 5 questions now asked of all respondents
  - Sleep position
  - Surface-sharing
  - Room-sharing, but not bed-sharing
  - Surface type (crib, bassinet, adult bed, etc.), use of soft bedding
  - Health care provider advice

# Additional Infant Safe Sleep Activities at CDC



# SUID & SDY Case Registry

- Sudden Unexpected Infant Death and Sudden Death in the Young Case Registry
- SUID Registry began 2009
  - Surveillance of sudden unexpected infant (birth-364 days) deaths
- SDY added in 2014
  - Collaboration with additional funding provided by NHLBI and NINDS
  - Increased surveillance up to age 18
  - Includes an extensive postmortem clinical review
  - Genetic testing
- New 5-year award cycle launched FY 18-23



**SUID Only**  
■ Statewide  
★ Select Counties

**SUID with SDY Expanded Component**  
■ Statewide  
★ Select Counties



# What is the Registry?

- Built upon established National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention's child death review programs, identical:
  - Protocols
  - Multidisciplinary teams
  - Review of medicolegal records
  - Web-based reporting system
- Aim is to enhance states' capacity to:
  - Review and monitor all cases; population-based surveillance
  - Use data to improve case review processes, death investigations and develop prevention strategies

# Characteristics of deaths in the Registry

- Compared to their proportion of the overall population:
  - Whites, Asians, and Hispanics under-represented
  - Blacks, American Indian/Alaska Natives over-represented
- Median maternal age: 25 years
- Median age 3 months, almost 80% occur in infants  $\leq$  4 months
- Slight majority male (58%)
- Only 1% had no identifiable unsafe sleep factors

# How are the data being used?

- Changes to childcare licensing rules (CO)
- Development of child welfare system training (CO, MI)
- SUID notification letter sent to OBGYN, delivery hospital, pediatrician (LA)
- New birthing hospital safe sleep education legislation (MI)
- Dashboard to visualize SUID data.
  - Local CFR teams can use the dashboard to access local-level SUID data
- Safe Sleep Collaborative Improvement & Innovation Network (CoIIN) to Reduce Infant Mortality

# Public Health Grand Rounds: Safe Sleep for Infants

October 21, 2018



**CDR Sharyn Parks Brown,  
USPHS, PHD, MPH**



**Roger Mitchell,  
MD, FASCP**



**Eve Colson,  
MD, MHPE**



**Samuel Hanke,  
MD, MS**

- Beyond the Data interview: Dr. Mike Goodstein (AAP SIDS task force)
- 1000 webcast viewers: in 49 states & 7 foreign countries
- Total Facebook reach: 31k; video viewed 10k times
- Archived:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/grand-rounds/pp/2018/20181023-sudden-infant-death.html>
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdjiihES8FY>

# Thank you!

For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

