

# Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Case Registry

Naomi Taylor

Epidemiologist

Injury & Violence Prevention Unit

Minnesota Department of Health

[Naomi.Taylor@state.mn.us](mailto:Naomi.Taylor@state.mn.us)



# SUID Case Registry purpose

- ▶ Improve population-based SUID surveillance and categorize SUID cases using standard definitions
- ▶ Keep track of risk factors associated with these infant deaths, to create prevention strategies and improve systems

# The SUID case registry includes infant deaths that

- ▶ Occurred suddenly and unexpectedly
- ▶ Had no obvious manner and cause of death prior to investigation  
or
- ▶ Occurred in a sleep environment

# SUID Case Registry in Minnesota

- ▶ Minnesota has been collecting data on SUID cases since 2011
- ▶ Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and carried out by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Department of Human Services (DHS)
- ▶ MDH and DHS collect data from
  - ▶ Birth certificates
  - ▶ Death certificates
  - ▶ Autopsy reports
  - ▶ Law enforcement records
  - ▶ Medical records

# Infant Sleep Safety, American Academy of Pediatrics

- ▶ Always place your baby on his or her back for every sleep time
- ▶ Always use a firm sleep surface. Car seats and other sitting devices are not recommended for routine sleep
- ▶ The baby should sleep in the same room as the parents but not in the same bed
- ▶ Keep soft objects or loose bedding out of the crib
- ▶ Pregnant women should receive regular prenatal care
- ▶ Avoid alcohol and illicit drug use during pregnancy and after birth
- ▶ Breastfeeding is recommended
- ▶ Offer a pacifier at nap time and bedtime
- ▶ Don't smoke during pregnancy or after birth
- ▶ Avoid overheating



# Infant Sleep Safety, American Academy of Pediatrics, continued

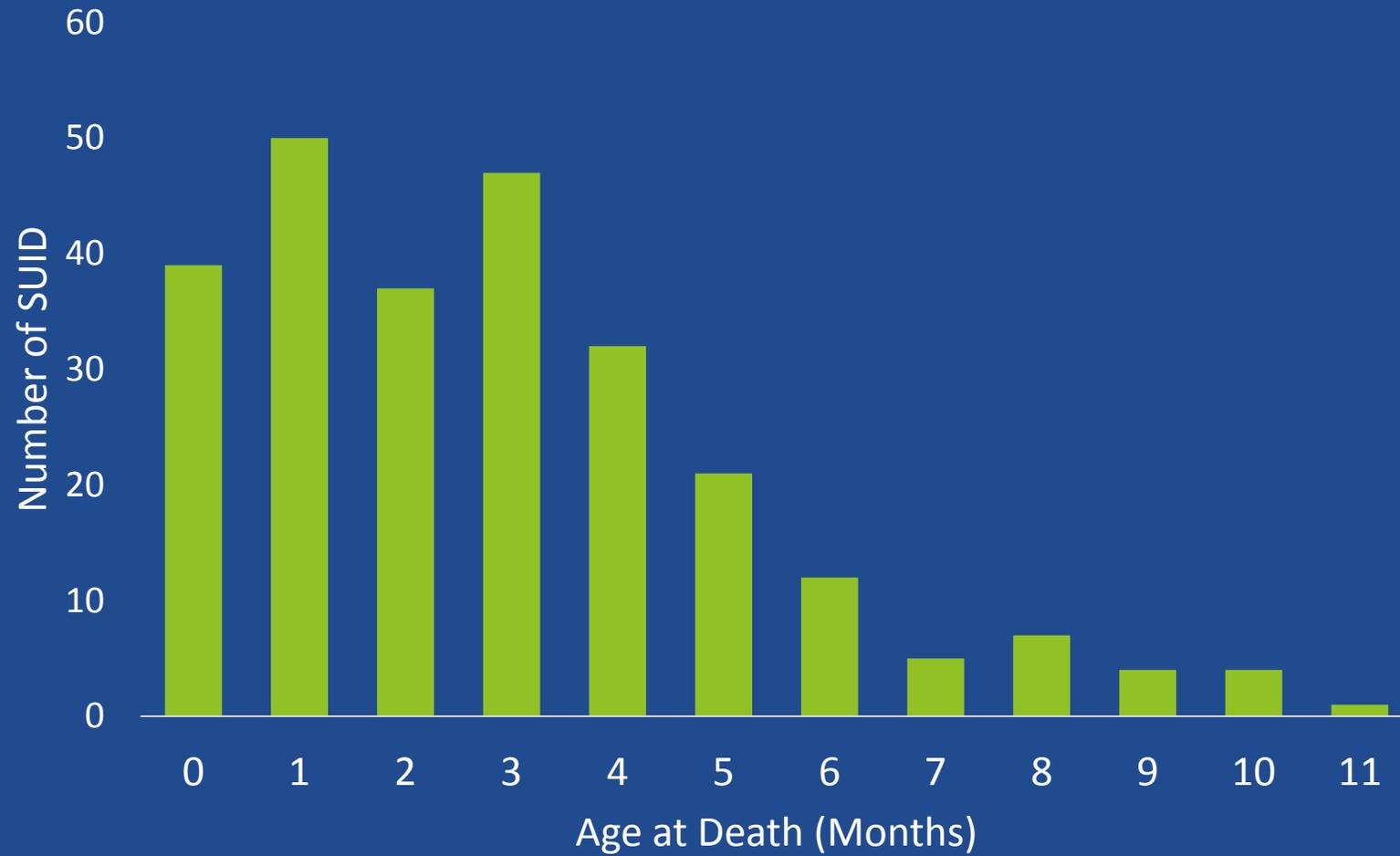
- ▶ Health care professionals, staff in newborn nurseries and neonatal intensive care nurseries, and child care providers should endorse the SIDS risk-reduction recommendations from birth
- ▶ Media and manufacturers should follow safe sleep guidelines in their messaging and advertising
- ▶ Expand the national campaign to reduce the risks of SUIDs to include a major focus on the safe sleep environment. Pediatricians, family physicians, and other primary care providers should actively participate in this campaign
- ▶ Continue research and surveillance on the risk factors, causes, and pathophysiological mechanisms of SIDS and other sleep-related infant deaths, with the ultimate goal of eliminating these deaths entirely

*Task Force on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. (2011). SIDS and Other Sleep-Related Infant Deaths: Expansion of Recommendations for a Safe Infant Sleeping Environment. Pediatrics, peds-2011.*

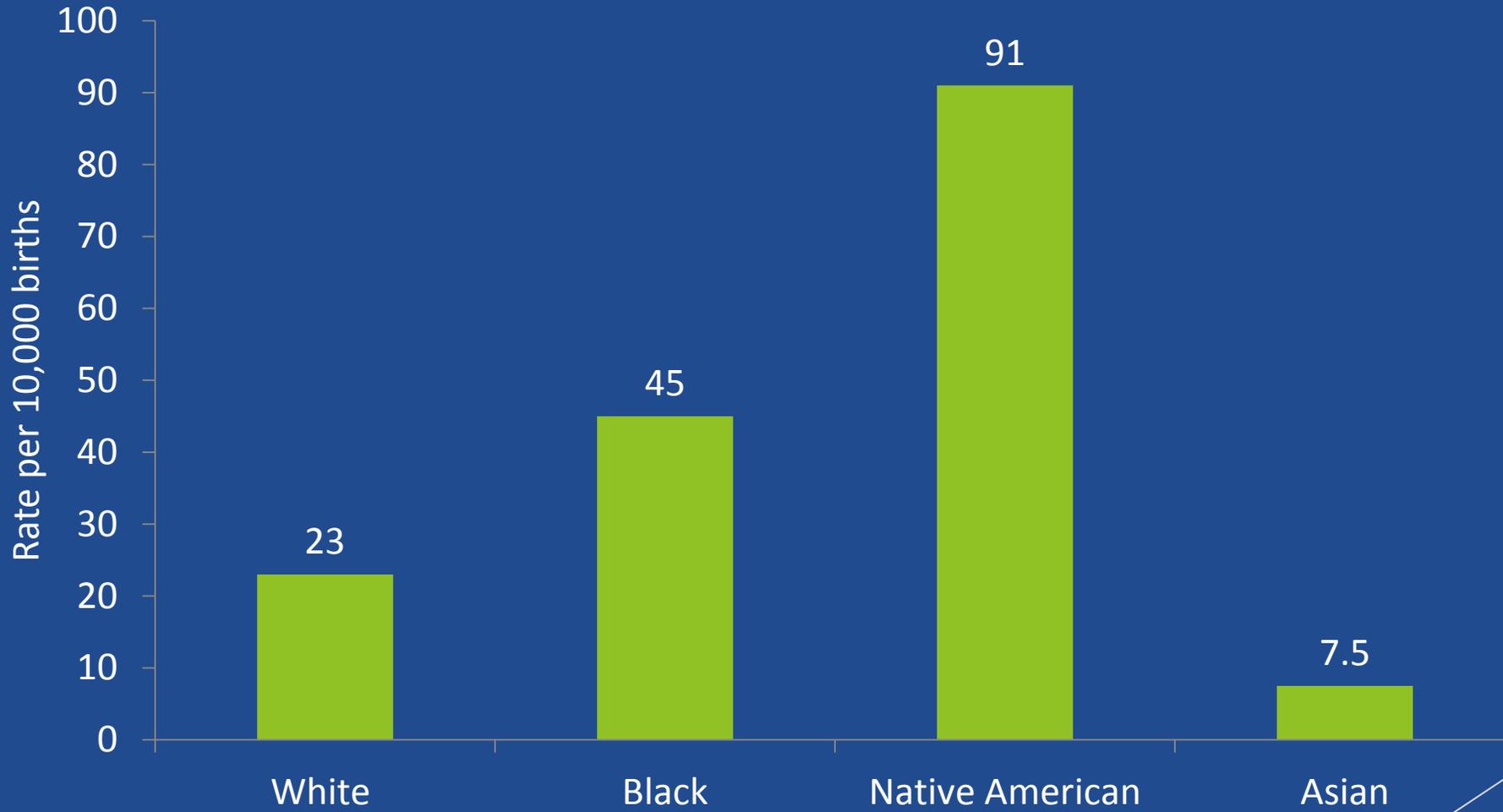
# Findings

The background features a solid blue field on the left, transitioning into a complex, layered composition of green and yellow-green geometric shapes on the right. A thin white line runs diagonally across the bottom right corner, intersecting the various green shapes.

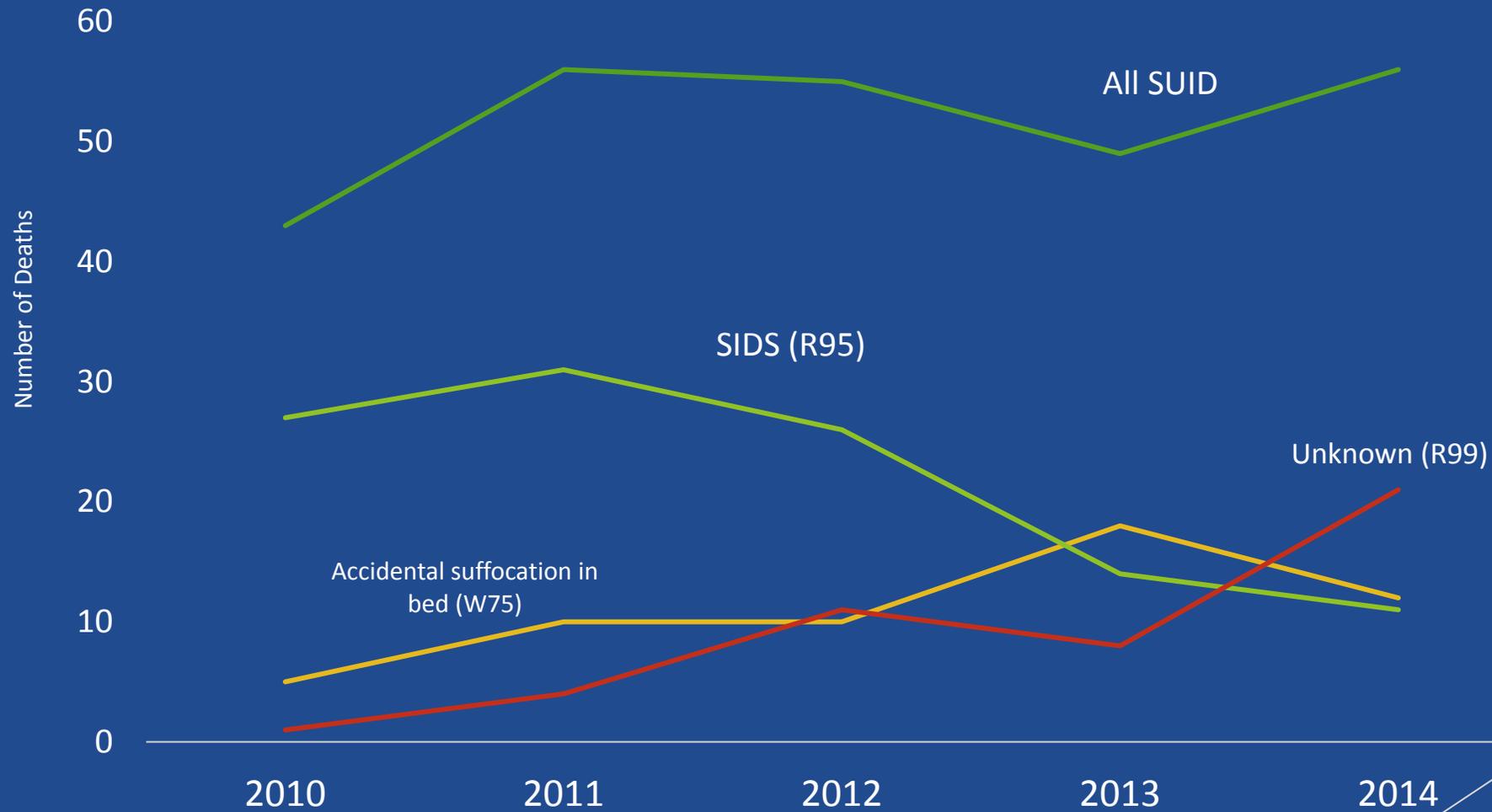
## SUID in Minnesota by Age, 2010-2014



## SUID Rates in Minnesota by Race, 2010-2013



## SUID in Minnesota by Cause of Death, 2010-2014



# Data to Action

- ▶ Improving death scene investigations for infant deaths
  - ▶ Investigators are now supposed to use a standard form to collect important information from the scene such as the position the baby was placed.
- ▶ Safe Sleep Work Group
  - ▶ In conjunction with Maternal and Child Health at MDH, this group brings together community partners to work on interventions to prevent SUIDs.
- ▶ Child Mortality Reviews
  - ▶ For each SUID in Minnesota, a panel of experts reviews the circumstances of death. This allows patterns to emerge that might go unnoticed with quantitative data collection.

# Safe Under Indigenous Design Project

- ▶ Sleep-related deaths are the leading cause of infant mortality among Native Americans in Minnesota
- ▶ Community trainings will transfer safe sleep and cultural knowledge through the creation of traditional cradleboards,
- ▶ Cradleboards were made by many indigenous tribes throughout North American and are a safe sleep method.
- ▶ Partners: American Indian Infant Mortality Prevention Community Action Team (AICAT), Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center (GLITEC), Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)

# Sudden Death in the Young (SDY) Case Registry

- ▶ An expansion of the SUID project that includes sudden deaths in children up to 19 years of age
- ▶ In addition to existing data from law enforcement, autopsies and birth certificates, the case registries will also do
  - ▶ DNA testing
  - ▶ family history
  - ▶ in-depth medical reviews

# Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID) Case Registry

Please contact [Naomi.Taylor@state.mn.us](mailto:Naomi.Taylor@state.mn.us) with comments and questions!

Naomi Taylor

Epidemiologist

Injury & Violence Prevention Unit

Minnesota Department of Health

[Naomi.Taylor@state.mn.us](mailto:Naomi.Taylor@state.mn.us)

