FROM 2016–2020

141 BABIES DIED IN SOUTH DAKOTA AFTER HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

AMONG THE 141 DEATHS AFTER HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

69% SLEEP RELATED DEATHS

95

43 NOT SLEEP RELATED DEATHS

3 UNKNOWN DEATHS**

OF THE 95 SLEEP RELATED DEATHS

58% BABIES IN ADULT BED

55

11 BABIES IN CRIB

10 BABIES ON COUCH

19 OTHER*

0 NOT REPORTED**

*OTHER: 4 car seat, 5 bassinet, 2 bouncy chair, 5 floor, 1 Rock ‘n Play, 1 changing mat wedge, 1 rocker chair. Data from: Infant Death Review, South Dakota 2016–2020.

** UNKNOWN DEATHS (whether sleep-related or not) and NOT REPORTED: Not included in the denominator for percentage calculations.
WHERE 95 SLEEP RELATED INFANT DEATHS OCCURRED AFTER HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

- **58%** 55 Babies in Adult Bed*
- **11%** 11 Babies in Cribs
- **11%** 10 Babies on Couch*
- **19%** 19 Other
- **0%** 0 Babies in Cribs reported

NEARLY 8 OUT OF 10 INFANT DEATHS OCCURRED IN AN UNSAFE SLEEP ENVIRONMENT.

**What can we do?**

1. American Academy of Pediatrics’ “Recommendations for a Safe Infant Sleeping Environment” should be distributed to healthcare workers who should discuss the recommendations with parents of newborns before discharge from the hospital. [ForBabySakeSD.com/training/healthcare-provider-training](http://ForBabySakeSD.com/training/healthcare-provider-training)

2. Every infant in South Dakota should have a safe place to sleep. If a family is unable to afford an approved crib, contact the South Dakota Department of Health at 1-800-305-3064.

3. Infants should be placed on a firm sleep surface (e.g., mattress in a safety-approved crib) covered by a fitted sheet with no other bedding, bumper pads, or soft objects to reduce the risk of suffocation and SIDS.

4. Infants should sleep in parents’ room, close to the parents’ bed, but on a separate surface designated for infants, ideally for the first year, but at least for the first six months of life.

5. Soft objects and loose bedding should be kept away from infant’s sleep area to reduce risk of SIDS, suffocation, entrapment and strangulation.

*Unsafe sleep environment Data from: Infant Death Review, South Dakota 2016-2020. 200 copies of this document were printed by the SD Department of Health at a cost of 27¢ each.