

# Sleep Related Infant Deaths

## 2016-2018, Alaska



46 infant deaths which occurred during 2016-2018 were classified as sleep related by the Maternal and Child Death Review (MCDR) Committee.

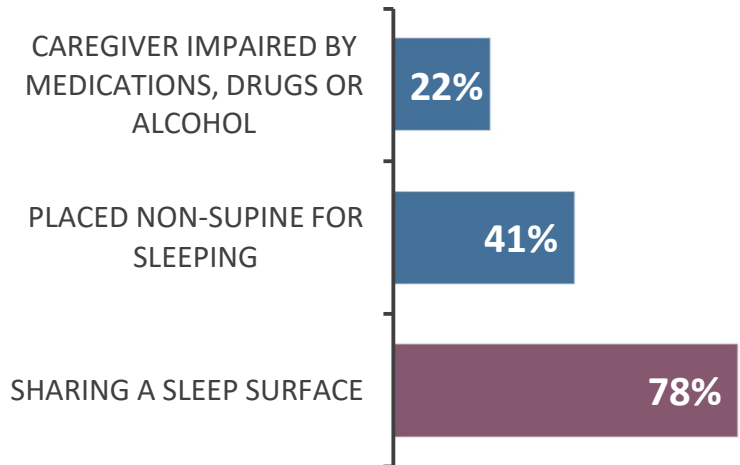
**11%** were born *premature*.

**15%** were *neonates* (less than 28 days old).

**39%** were exposed to *secondhand smoke*.

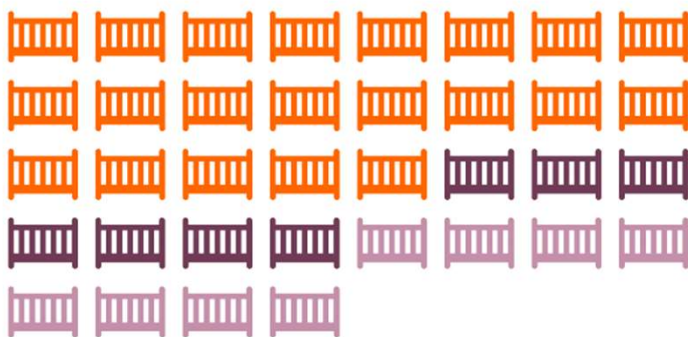
**43%** had *prenatal tobacco* exposure.

### Circumstances at Time of Death



**Sharing a sleep surface** is a common practice in Alaska; **60%** of Alaskan infants do not always sleep alone in their own crib or bed.\* Of the infants who were **surface sharing** at the time of their death **9 out of 10** also had at least one other of the above **risk factors**.

### Surface Sharing at Time of Death (n=36)



- Had an approved sleep surface in the home (58.33%)
- Did not have an approved sleep surface in the home (19.44%)
- Unknown if had an approved sleep surface in the home (22.22%)

The MCDR Committee recommends that providers use **culturally appropriate<sup>†</sup>** messaging and adaptations when teaching **AAP safe sleep recommendations<sup>‡</sup>**.

\* Data source: Alaska Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, 2016-2018

