

Presentation to the 2025 Senate Committee
on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Infant CIRT Trends: Substance Use and High Risk Sleep Environments

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May 1, 2025

What is a
CIRT?



A team assigned by the ODHS Director to review a critical incident

Who is on
the team?



By law: ODHS Director, CW Director, Communications Representative.



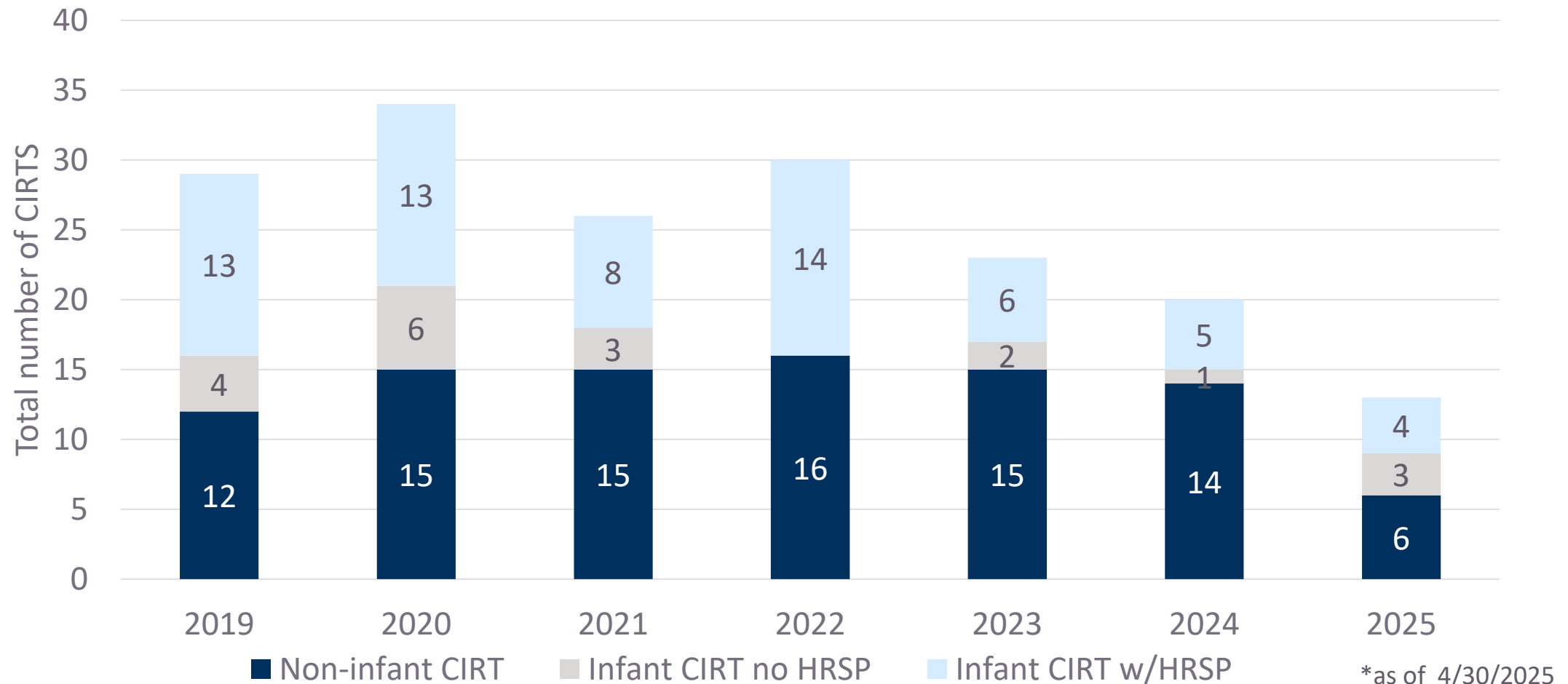
By invitation: Central office leadership, subject matter experts, Department of Justice (DOJ), district/local leaders, Community Partners, Office of Training, Investigations and Safety (OTIS)

What's the
purpose?

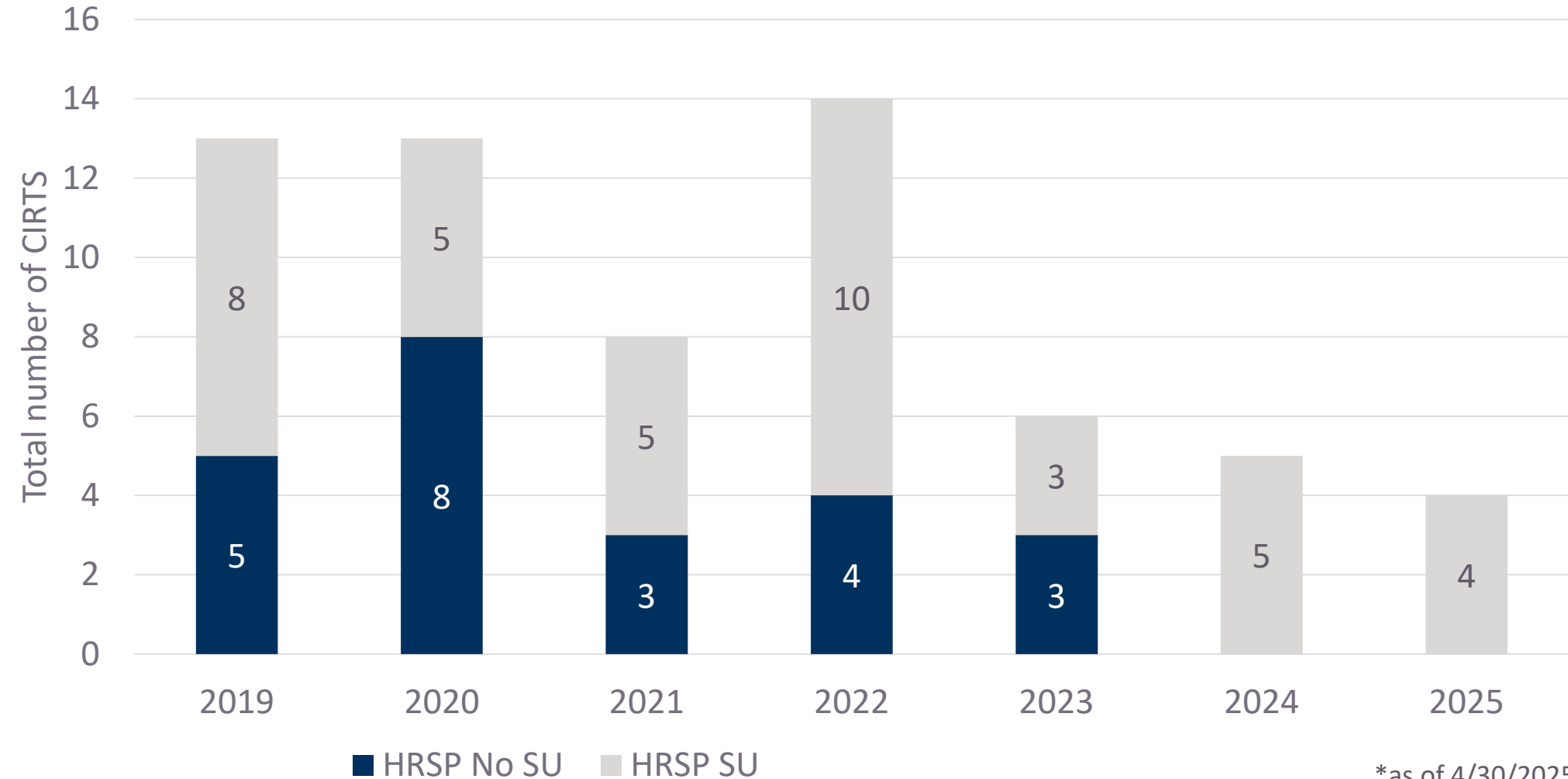


Learn from critical incidents, identify system improvements, make recommendations

High risk sleep practices (HRSP) in CIRTs



Substance use (SU) presence in HRSP CIRTs



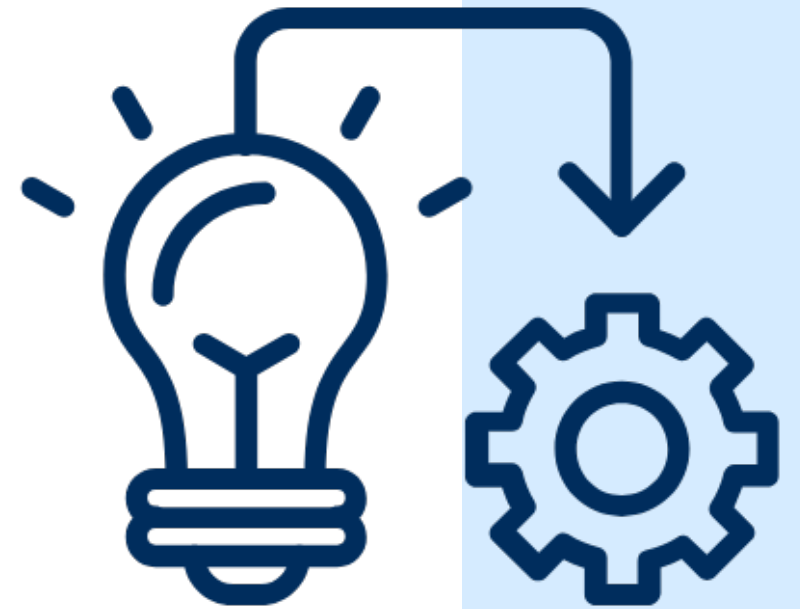
*as of 4/30/2025

ODHS Child Welfare's response

- Training
- Reinforced with policy and procedure
- Concrete supports
- Teaming approach
- Multidisciplinary and multistate partnerships
- Multi-system CIRT recommendations

Considerations based on learning

- Expand access to education beyond hospital setting and pediatricians office
 - Prenatal period
- Educate all caregivers
- Specialized education and planning for when substance use is known
 - Recognize bias related to type of substance, legality does not equate to safety



Resources

[Oregon Safe Sleep Training for Professionals](#)



[Safely to Their First Birthday Practice & Policy Brief](#)





Questions?

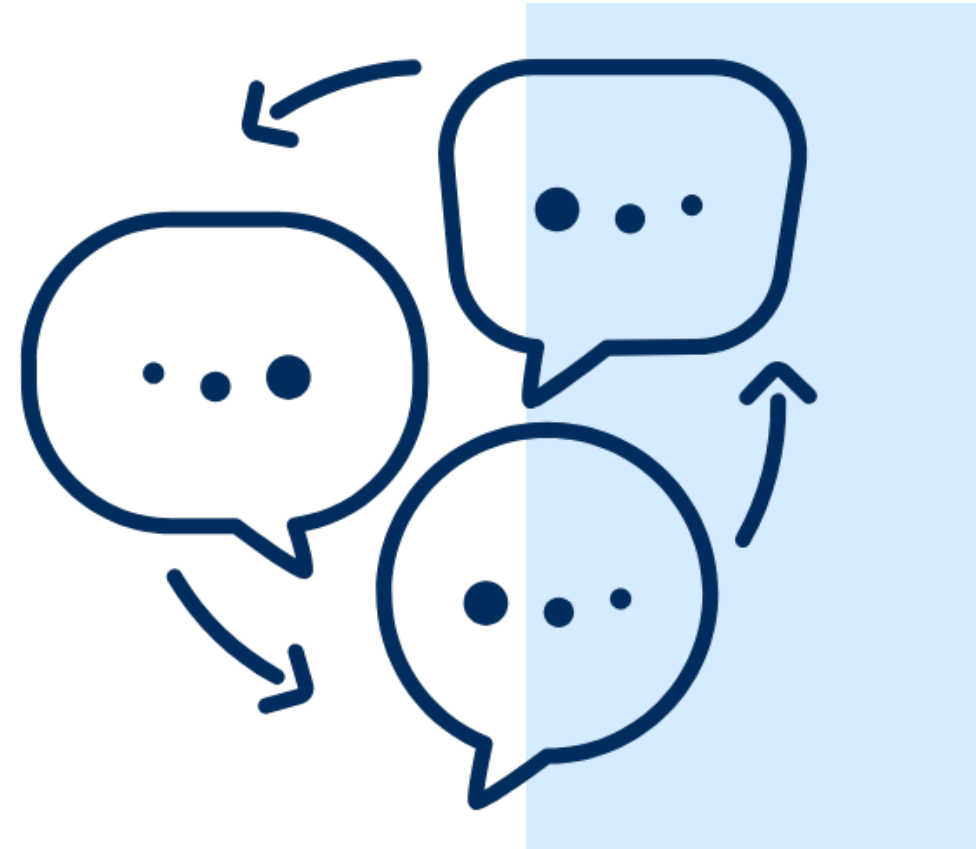
Thank you.



Related Recommendations

Recommendation #1 (from [OAO1AY61MV](#))

The CIRT recommends representatives from Communications, Oregon Health Authority, Government Relations and any other parties recommended by the Executive Leadership Team, explore strategies for **improving messaging to parents** of infants, including those who are prenatal, about safe sleep practices and available community supports. This exploration will be completed, and any strategies will be identified by end of May 2025.



Related Recommendations

Recommendation #2 (From [YR5GMBRXB](#))

The CIRT recommends a CFPRP prevention coordinator, in collaboration with community-based organizations, medical and state partners, and the Safe Sleep Coalition, conduct a **statewide scan to assess current efforts to educate parents on safe sleep practices**. This scan should help identify existing community-based education programs and gaps, with the goal of ensuring that accessible, consistent, and ongoing safe sleep education and training are available to parents across Oregon, particularly in communities with limited access to resources. This effort will be completed by May 1, 2026, with new opportunities and strategies implemented in communities as feasible throughout the process.

