



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
*of* HEALTH SERVICES

# Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System: Uses of Data to Inform Prevention

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*Midwest Injury Prevention Alliance Summit • Pewaukee, WI • December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016*

# Presentation Overview

- **Background and overview of the Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System (WVDRS)**
- **Past key products produced by or with WVDRS**
- **Data on youth suicide and self-inflicted injury in Wisconsin**
- **Translating data into action**
- **Going forward**

# **The Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System**

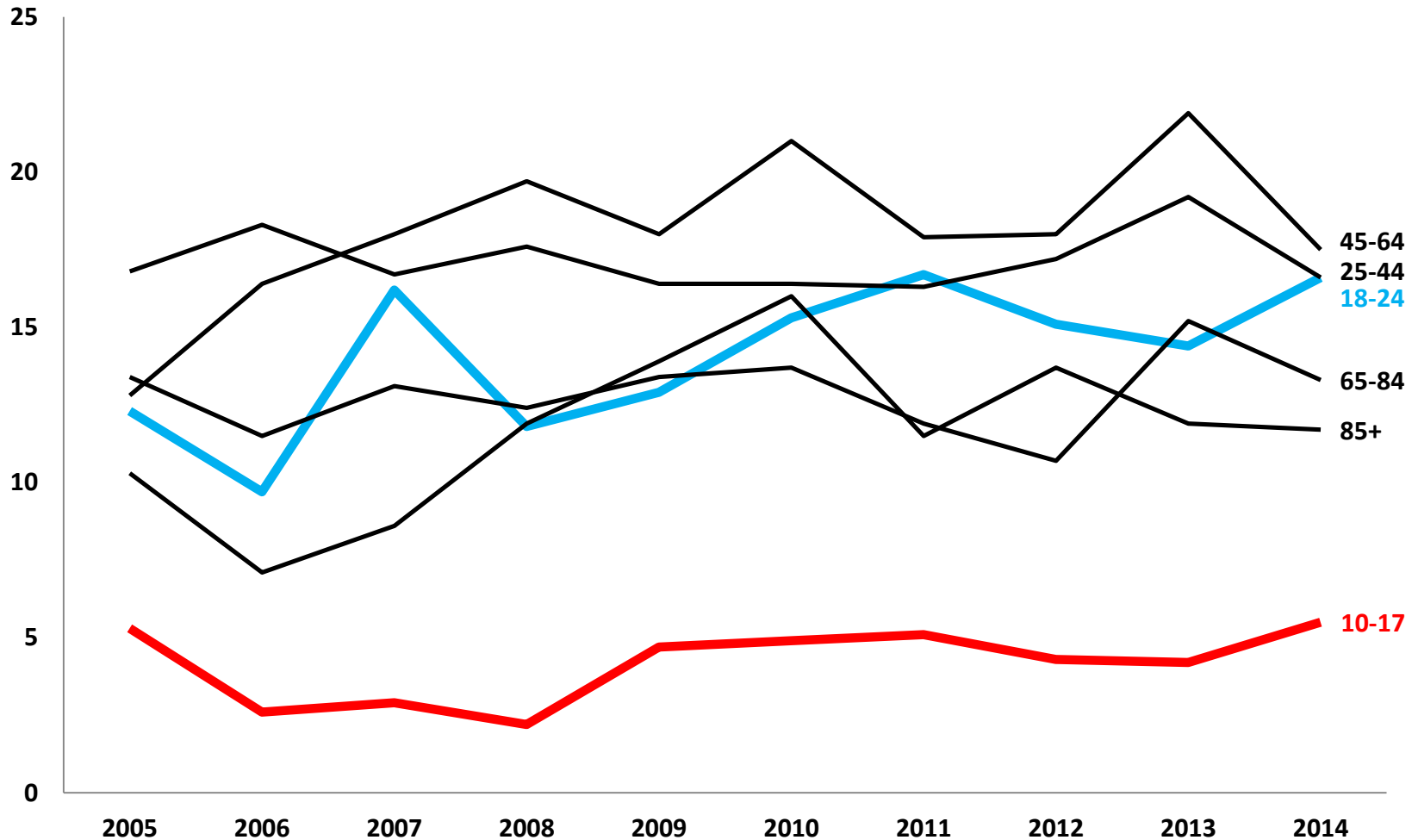
- **Began collecting data in 2004**
- **Located at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) in Madison, WI**
  - **Currently one PI, one program coordinator, two full-time abstractors, and one part-time abstractor**
- **Data sources**
  - **Death certificates**
  - **Coroner and medical examiner reports**
  - **Law enforcement reports**

# Key Products

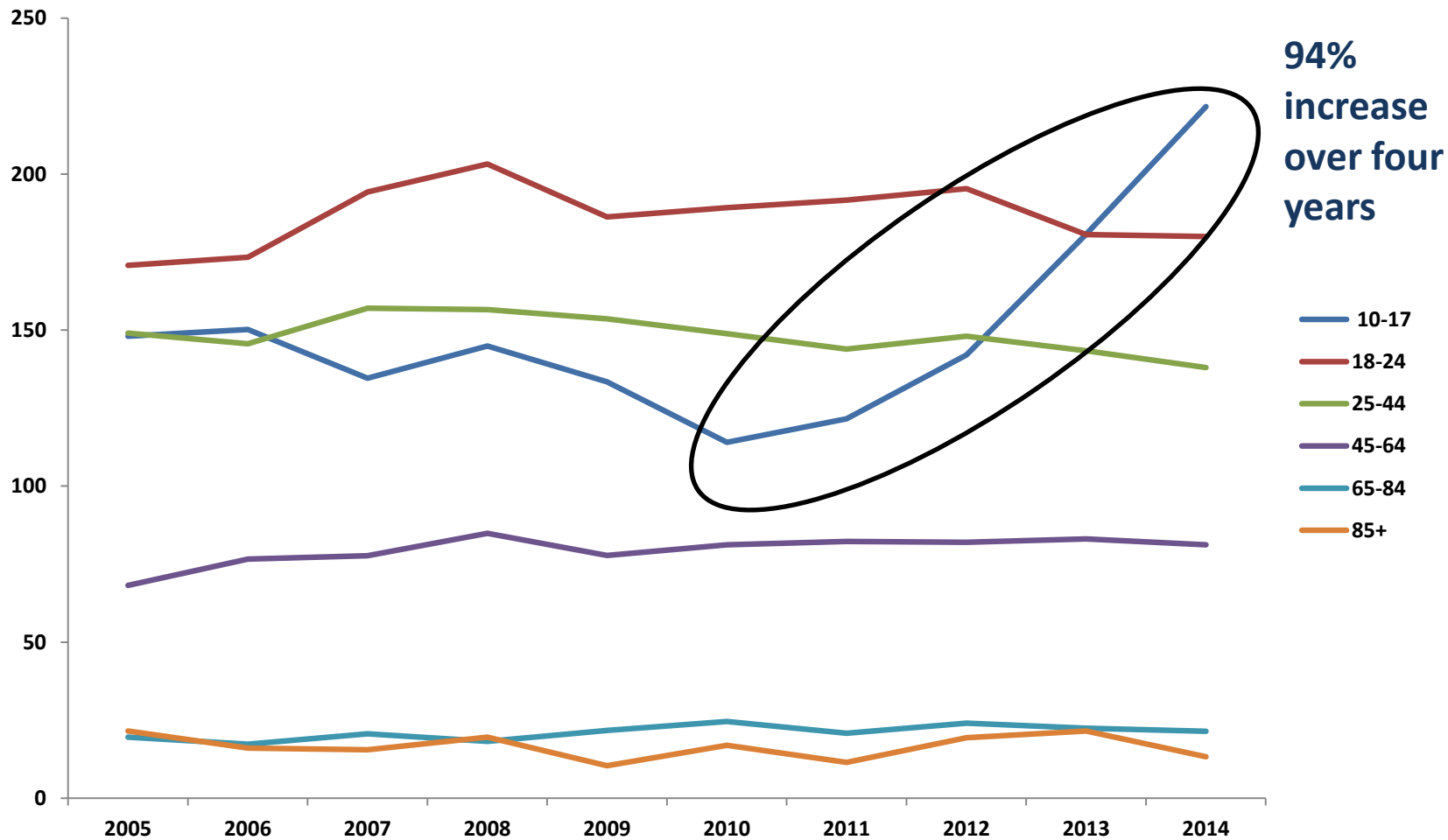
- **The Burden of Suicide in Wisconsin (2008 and 2014)**
- **Eight presentations over the past ~1.5 years (local, regional, statewide, national)**
- **Data requests**
- **NVDRS Overdose Module pilot and evaluation**
- **Adolescent Suicide**
  - **Safe States Alliance report: “NVDRS: Stories from the Frontline of Violent Death Surveillance”**
  - **Local health departments in Wisconsin working on adolescent suicide prevention**
- **Upcoming (December 2016?): Safe States Alliance report, “Suicide: A Look at 18 States. Data from the National Violent Death Reporting System, 2013-2014”**

***Why youth suicide?***  
**The data give us the big picture:**

# Wisconsin Resident Suicide Rates (per 100,000), 2005-2014

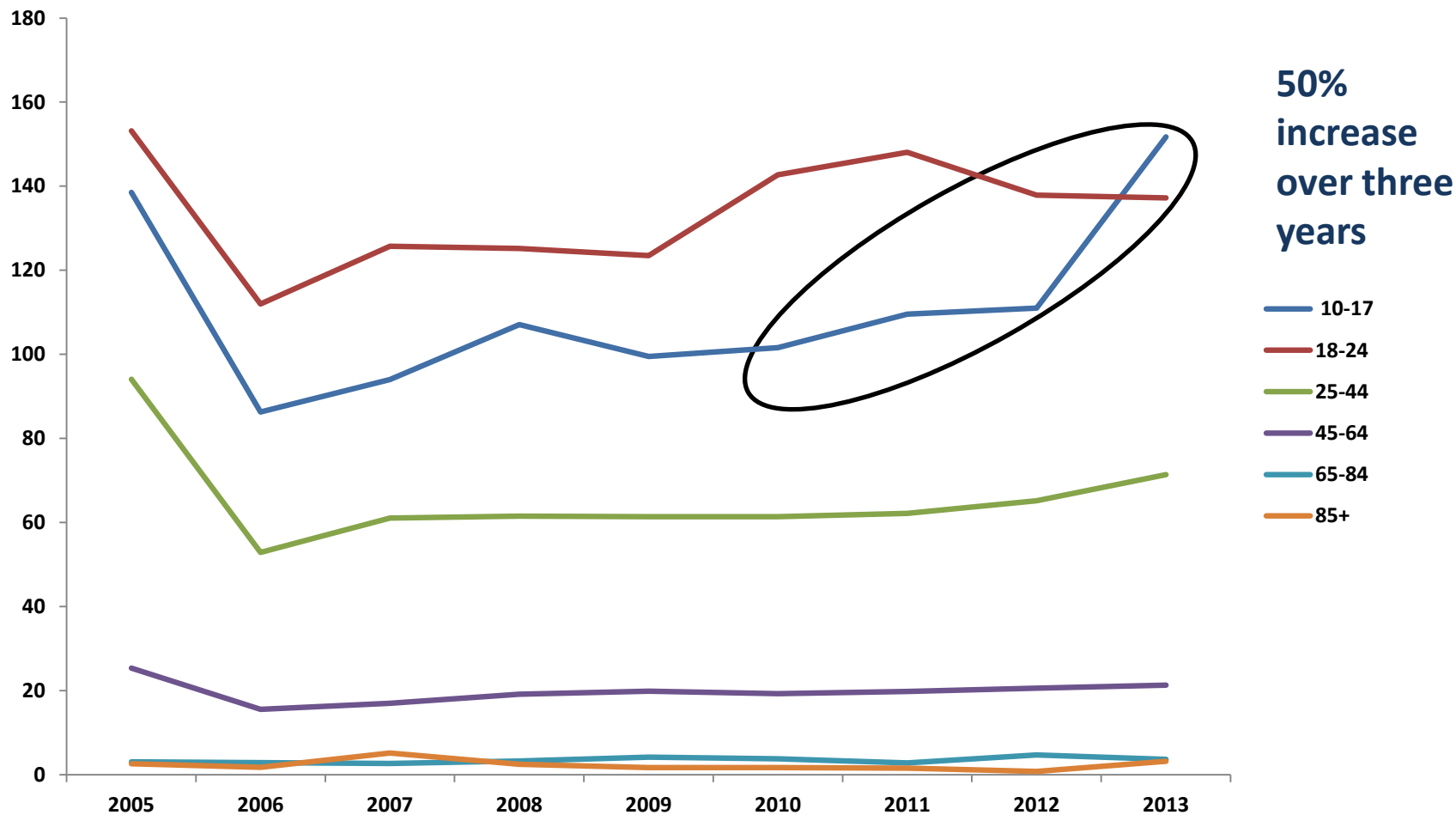


# Wisconsin Injury-Related Hospitalizations (Self-Inflicted)



**Hospitalization rates (per 100,000) among WI residents by age, 2005-2014**

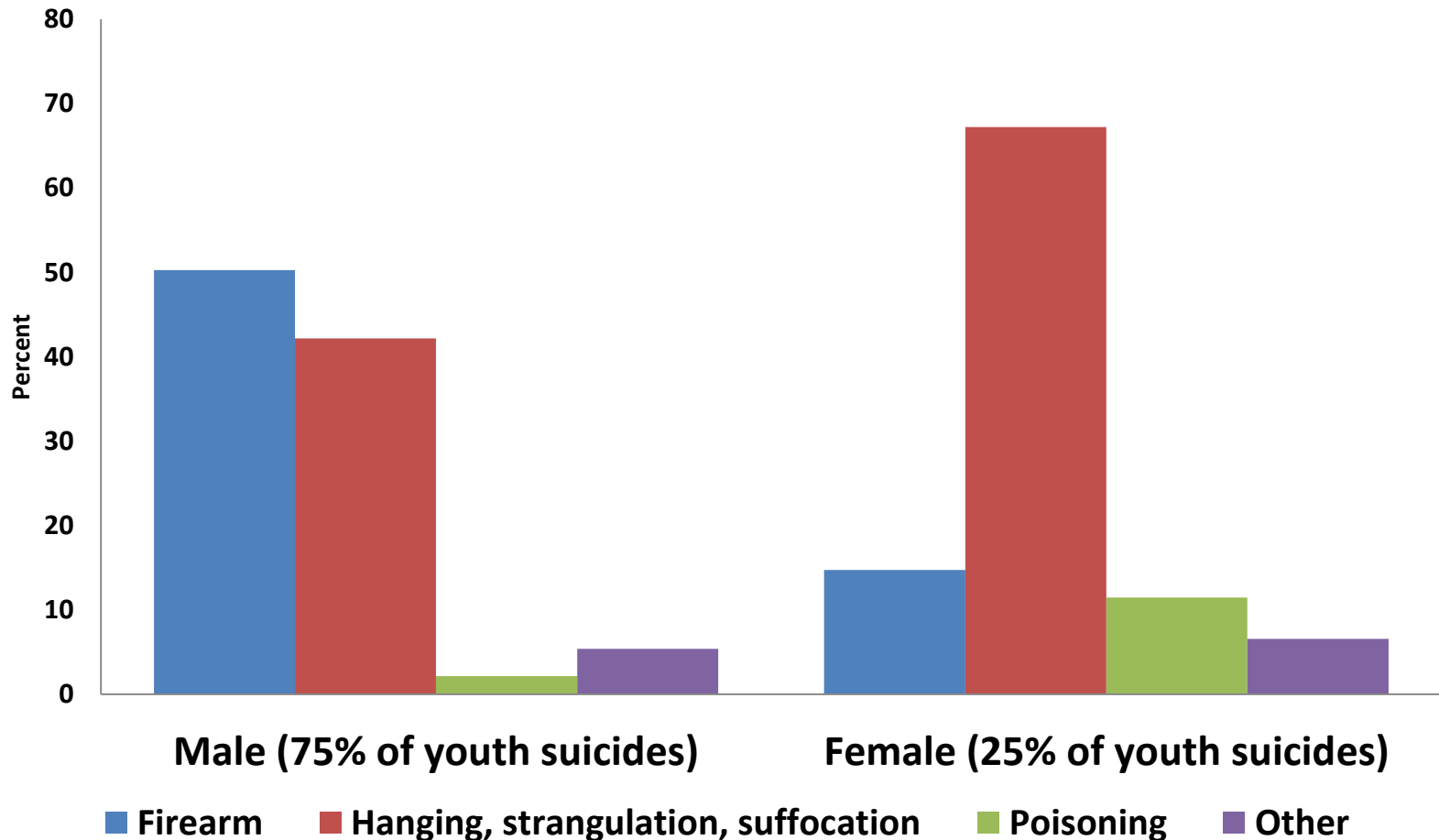
# Wisconsin Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits (Self-Inflicted)



**ED visit rates (per 100,000) among WI residents by age, 2005-2013**



# 246 youth ages 10-17 died by suicide in Wisconsin from 2004-2013.



**41.5% of youth suicides were carried out with a firearm.**

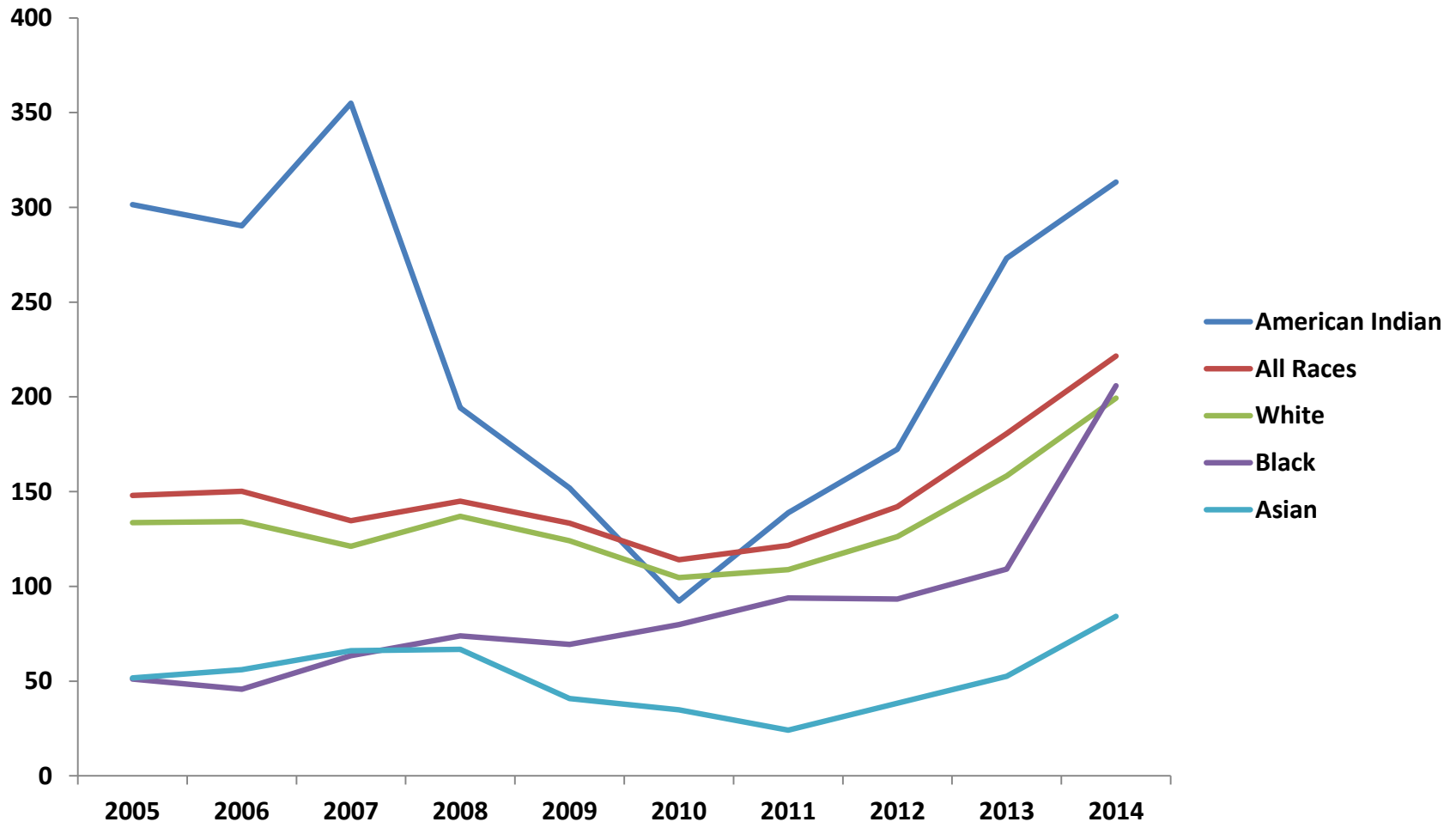
- The firearm owner was the child's parent in at least 39% of these cases, and the child was the owner in at least 14%.**
- The firearm was stored unlocked in at least 22% of these cases.**
- The firearm was stored loaded in at least 5% of these cases.**

## **Circumstances were known in 92% of cases:**

- 43% had a current mental health problem.**
- 46% currently or in the past had treatment for a mental health or substance abuse problem.**
- 52% experienced a crisis in the preceding two weeks (compared to 37% of adult suicides).**
- 31% were experiencing problems at or related to school.**

**White, non-Hispanic youth accounted for 81% of youth suicides (while making up 78% of the youth population in Wisconsin), but non-white students were more likely to report attempting, planning, or considering suicide in the past twelve months (YRBS).**

# Wisconsin Self-Inflicted Injury-Related Hospitalizations by Race, Ages 10-17



*Hospitalization rates (per 100,000) among WI residents, 2005-2014*

# Translating Data into Action

- **Informing Prevention**
  - **2015 Wisconsin Suicide Prevention Strategy**
  - **State Maternal and Child Health program partnership with Mental Health America of Wisconsin**
    - **Support and advise local health departments working on adolescent suicide and self-harm prevention with three different strategies:**
      1. **Coordinate and/or facilitate evidence-based suicide prevention practices with community groups (gate keeper trainings, means restriction)**
      2. **Promote Zero Suicide principles and practices with health care systems**
      3. **NEW for 2017: Work with local school districts to implement the 2017 YRBS and use existing YRBS data to inform implementation of an evidence-based suicide prevention program in the schools**

# Going Forward

- **Use WVDRS data to determine important points of intervention among suicidal youth.**
- **Continue to work with coroners, medical examiners, and police departments to improve data collection and communication.**
- **Identify more partners and stakeholders to enhance data dissemination, increase collaboration, and improve usefulness of data products.**
- **Implement the NVDRS Overdose Module in 2017 to collect all opioid-involved overdose deaths.**

# Thank you!

## Questions?

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