



South Dakota Department of Health

Performance Indicators

Presentation to the Government Operations and Audit Committee

Tuesday, July 21, 2026



What is Public Health?

Public health is the science of protecting and improving the health of families and communities through promotion of healthy lifestyles, research for disease and injury prevention, and detection and control of infectious diseases.



VISION
Every South Dakotan
Healthy and Strong

MISSION
Working together to
promote, protect, and
improve health

Performance Measures



- Fundamental measure of public health
- Contribute to overall life expectancy
- Direct impact by the Department of Health

Where We Are Today



- Snapshot of where we have been
- What's driving our performance measures
- Why and how measures have changed
- New visibility on areas of impact

10 Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, South Dakota, 2020-2024



Rank	Age Groups											Total
	<1	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90+	
	Yearly Average 79	Yearly Average 26	Yearly Average 61	Yearly Average 156	Yearly Average 268	Yearly Average 361	Yearly Average 677	Yearly Average 1,395	Yearly Average 1,983	Yearly Average 2,320	Yearly Average 1,718	Yearly Average 9,044
1	Congenital malformations 18	Motor vehicle accidents 4	Suicide 19	Suicide 41	Chronic liver disease 44	Chronic liver disease 56	Cancer 147	Cancer 403	Cancer 524	Heart disease 480	Heart disease 430	Heart disease 1,768
2	Short gestation and low birth weight 8	Accidental drowning 3	Motor vehicle accidents 15	Motor vehicle accidents 28	Suicide 37	Heart disease 47	Heart disease 120	Heart disease 282	Heart disease 382	Cancer 421	Alzheimer's disease 200	Cancer 1,730
3	SIDS 8	Cancer 2	Homicide 5	Accidental drug overdose 14	Accidental drug overdose 24	Cancer 43	Chronic liver disease 68	COVID-19 91	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 145	Alzheimer's disease 186	Cancer 164	COVID-19 595
4	Accidental suffocation & strangulation in bed 6	Congenital malformations 2	Cancer 2	Chronic liver disease 12	Motor vehicle accidents 24	Suicide 29	COVID-19 41	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 73	COVID-19 139	COVID-19 172	COVID-19 123	Alzheimer's disease 445
5	Undetermined cause 3	Homicide 2	Accidental drug overdose 2	Homicide 12	Heart disease 19	Motor vehicle accidents 21	Diabetes 33	Diabetes 58	Stroke 85	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 137	Stroke 113	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 436
6	Premature rupture of membranes 2	Undetermined cause 1	Accidental discharge of firearms 2	Heart disease 5	Cancer 18	Accidental drug overdose 18	Suicide 27	Chronic liver disease 52	Diabetes 83	Stroke 125	Dementia 103	Stroke 401
7	Homicide 1		Congenital malformations 1	Cancer 3	Homicide 12	Diabetes 16	Motor vehicle accidents 21	Stroke 50	Alzheimer's disease 48	Dementia 79	Accidental falls 71	Diabetes 303
8	Neonatal hemorrhage 1		Heart disease 1	COVID-19 3	COVID-19 10	COVID-19 15	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 20	Motor vehicle accidents 22	Accidental falls 37	Diabetes 68	Chronic lower respiratory diseases 57	Chronic liver disease 268
9	Lung collapse (full or partial) 1		Accidental drowning 1	Diabetes 3	Diabetes 8	Chronic alcohol abuse 12	Stroke 16	Suicide 21	Dementia 27	Accidental falls 66	Hypertension 43	Dementia 213
10	Bacterial sepsis 1		Epilepsy 1	Alcohol Poisoning/Exposure 2	Chronic alcohol abuse 6	Homicide 9	Chronic alcohol abuse 14	Accidental falls 19	Influenza & pneumonia 26	Parkinson's disease 52	Influenza & pneumonia 40	Accidental falls 212

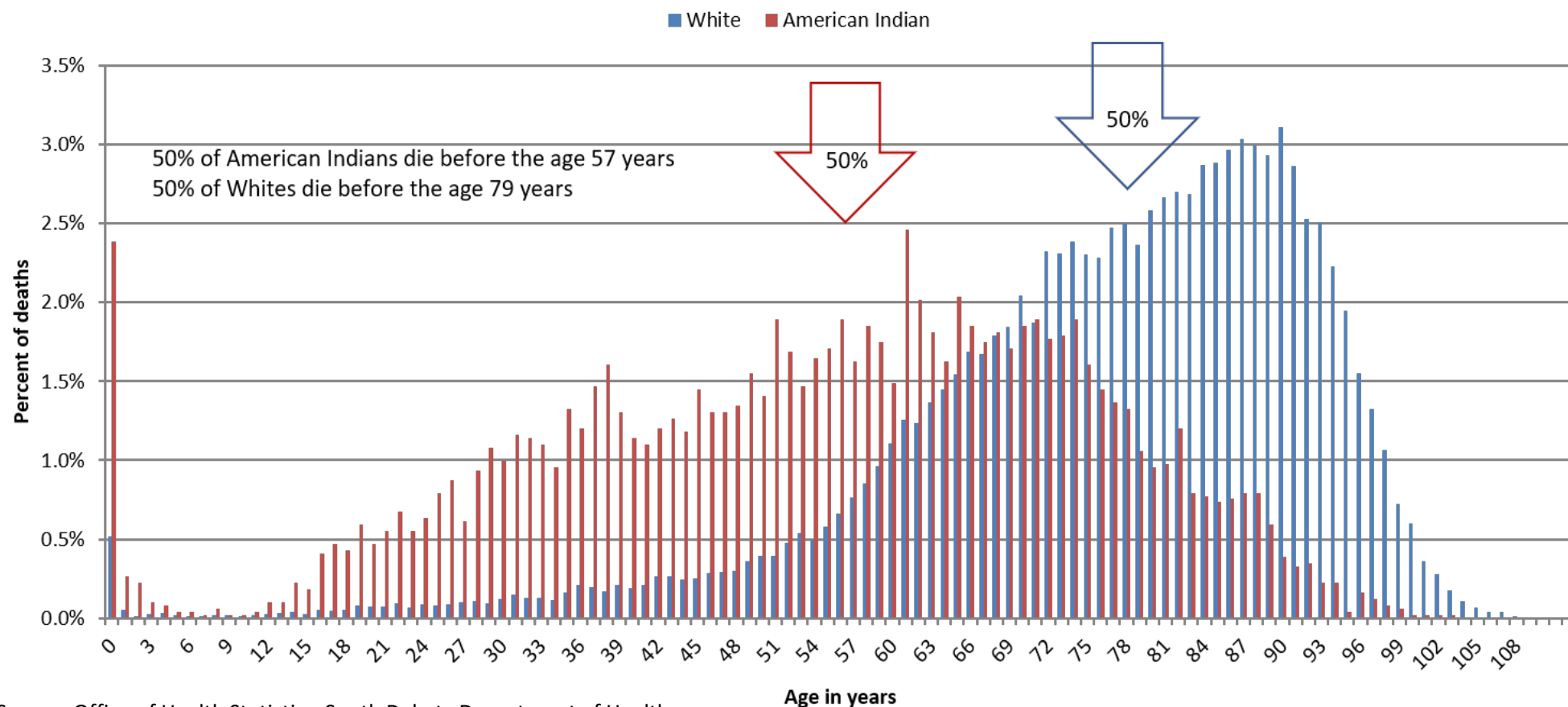
Top 5 overall causes of death are highlighted.

Source: Office of Health Statistics, SD Dept. of Health

South Dakota Mortality Distribution

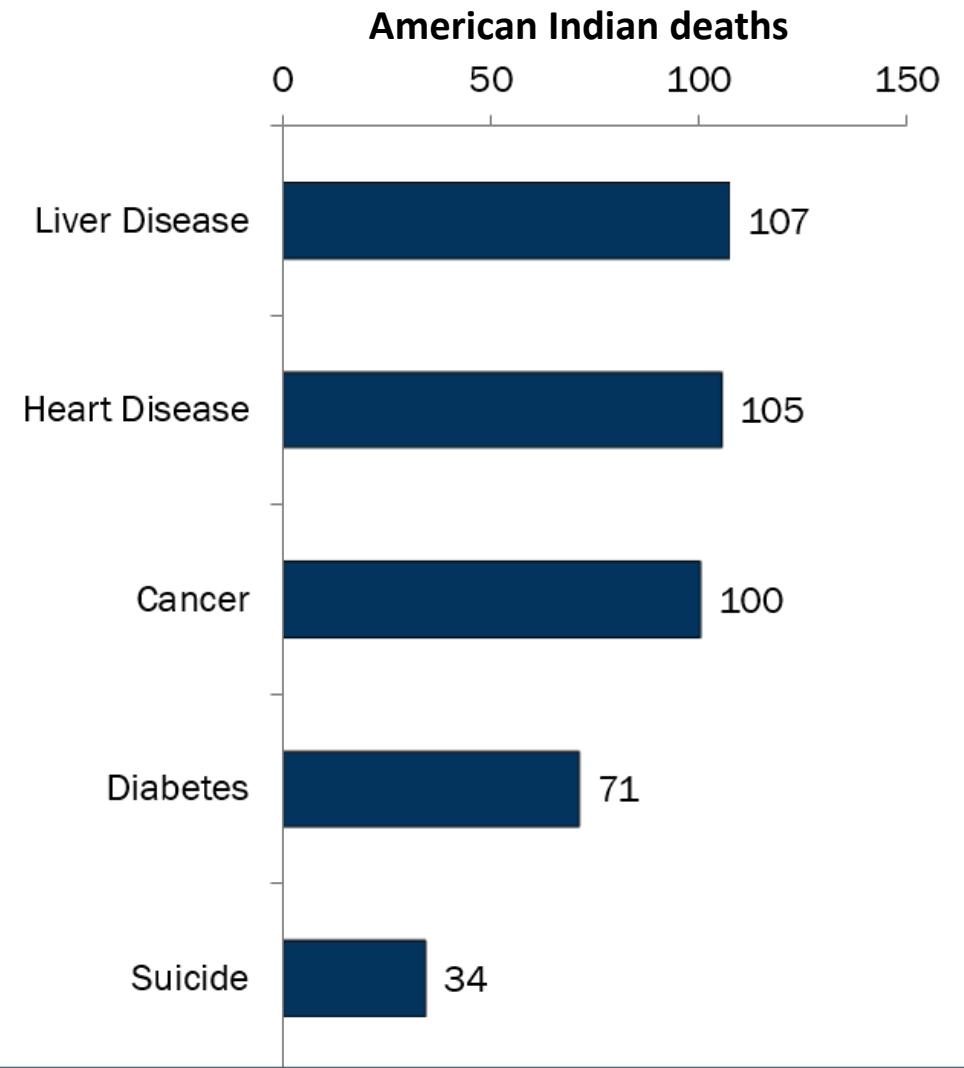
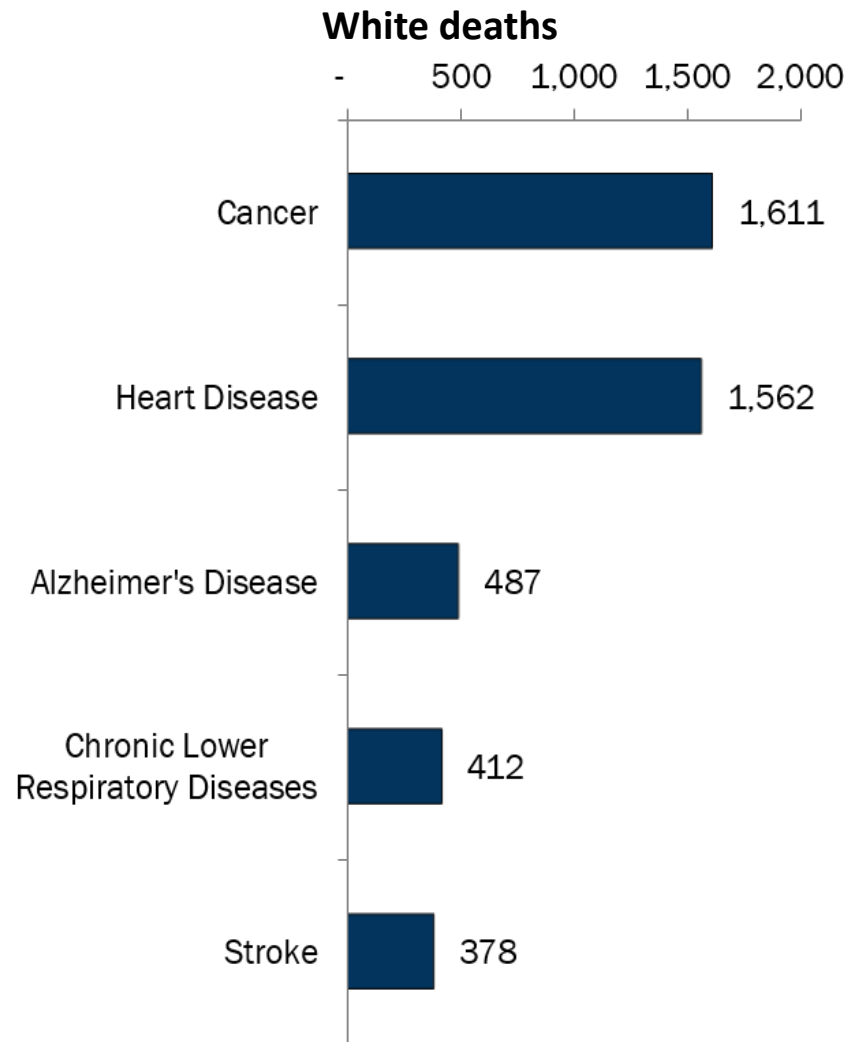


American Indian and White mortality distribution by age at death, South Dakota 2020-2024



Source: Office of Health Statistics, South Dakota Department of Health

Leading Causes of Death in South Dakota, 2024



Goal 1 | Healthy Beginnings



- Pediatric Obesity Rate
- Childhood Immunization Rates
- Safe Sleep (NEW)

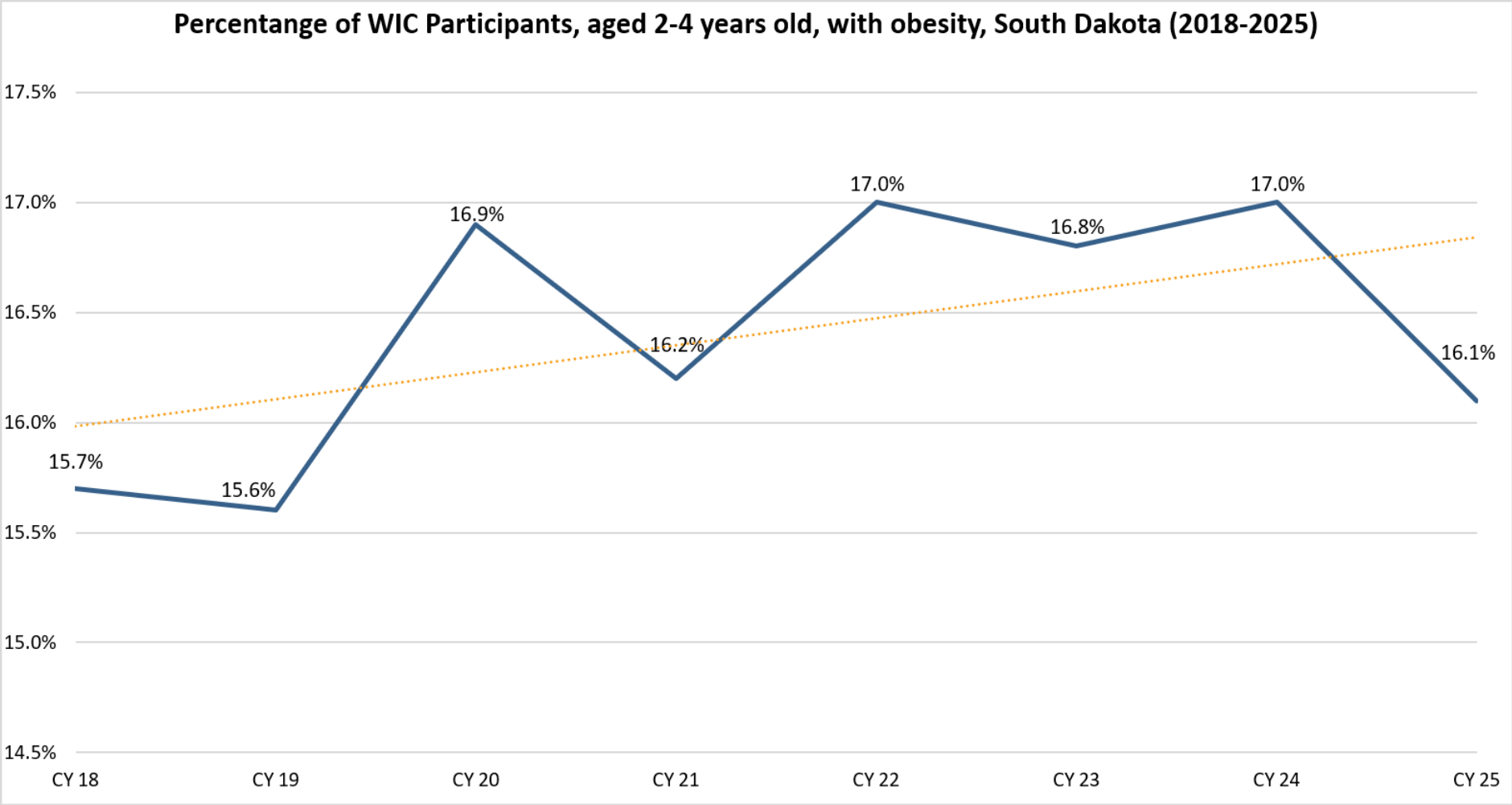
Pediatric Obesity Rate



Goal 1, Activity A | Pediatric Obesity Rate

- *Reduce the percentage of WIC participants, aged 2 through 4, with obesity from 17% in 2022 to 14% by 2028.*
- *Actual = 16.1%*
- *Target = 14.0%*

Pediatric Obesity Rate



Source: WIC Pediatric Nutrition Surveillance System - South Dakota 2025

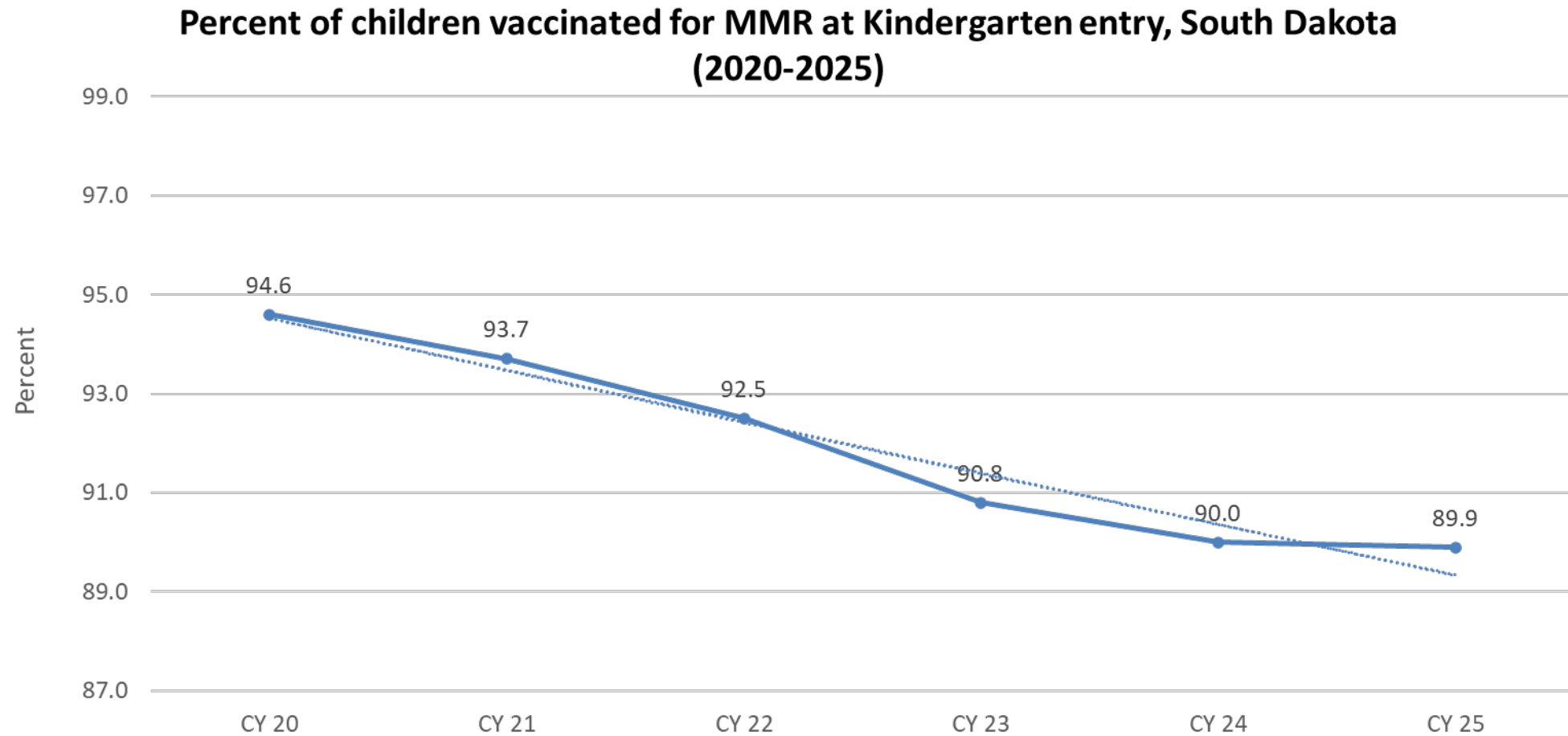
Childhood Immunization Rates



Goal 1, Activity B | Childhood Immunization Rates

- *Increase the percentage of children vaccinated for MMR at kindergarten entry from 89.9% in 2025 to 91.5% in 2028.*
- *Actual = 89.9%*
- *Target = 91.5%*

Childhood Immunization Rates



Source: CDC

Safe Sleep (New)



Goal 1, Activity C | Safe Sleep

- *Increase the percentage of South Dakota mothers who report placing their infant to sleep on an approved sleep surface every time from 31.4% in 2023 to 37.7% in 2028.*
- *Actual = 31.4%*
- *Target = 37.7%*

Goal 2 | Maternal and Child Health



- Infant Mortality
- Maternal Mortality
- Breastfeeding (RETIRE)

Infant Mortality



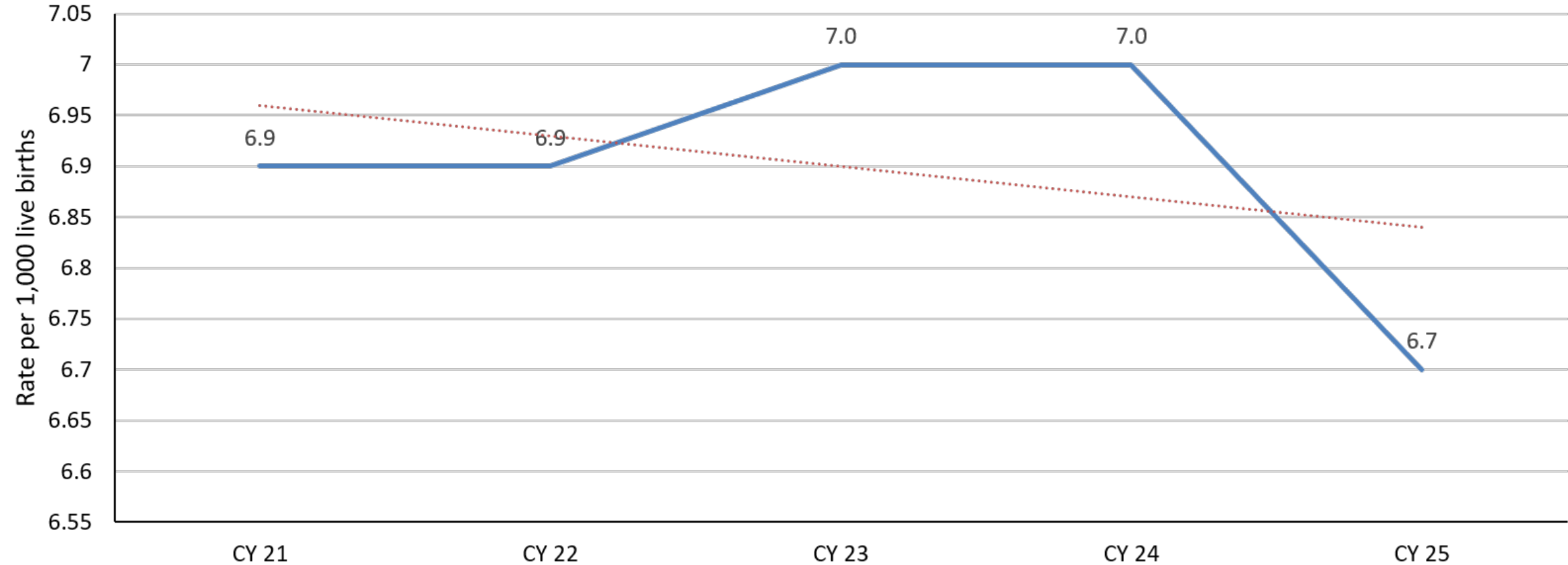
Goal 2, Activity A | Infant Mortality

- *Reduce 5-year infant mortality rate from 6.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live birth (2021-2025) to 6.0 per 1,000 live births (2024-2028).*
- *Actual = 6.7*
- *Target = 6.0*

Infant Mortality



5-year infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births, South Dakota (2017-2025)



Source: SD Vital Records
Data is 5-year rate (CY21 = 2017-2021; CY22 = 2018-2022; CY23 = 2019-2023; CY24 = 2020-2024; CY25 = 2021-2025). 2025 data is provisional.

Maternal Mortality



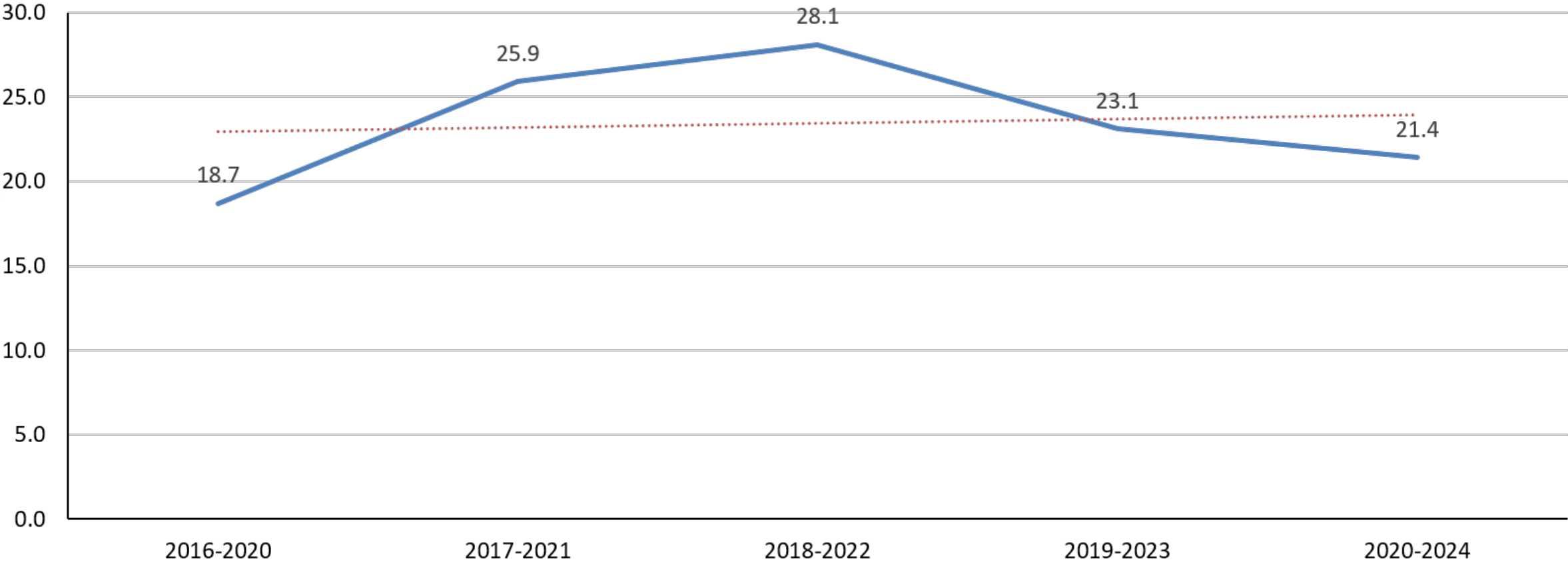
Goal 2, Activity B | Maternal Mortality

- *Reduce the 5-year maternal mortality rate from 21.4 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births (2020-2024) to 19.2 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births (2024-2028).*
- *Actual = 21.4*
- *Target = 19.2*

Maternal Mortality



5-year maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births, South Dakota (2020-2024)



Source: National Vital Statistics System. Data is a 5-year rate. 2025 data not yet available.

Breastfeeding (Retiring)



Goal 2, Activity C | Breastfeeding

- *Increase the percentage of infants still breastfeeding at 8 weeks from 75.7% from 2018 to 76.2% in 2025.*
- *Actual = 76.9%*
- *Target = 76.2%*

Goal 3 | Injury and Harm Prevention



- Suicide Deaths
- Unintentional Overdoses

Suicide Deaths



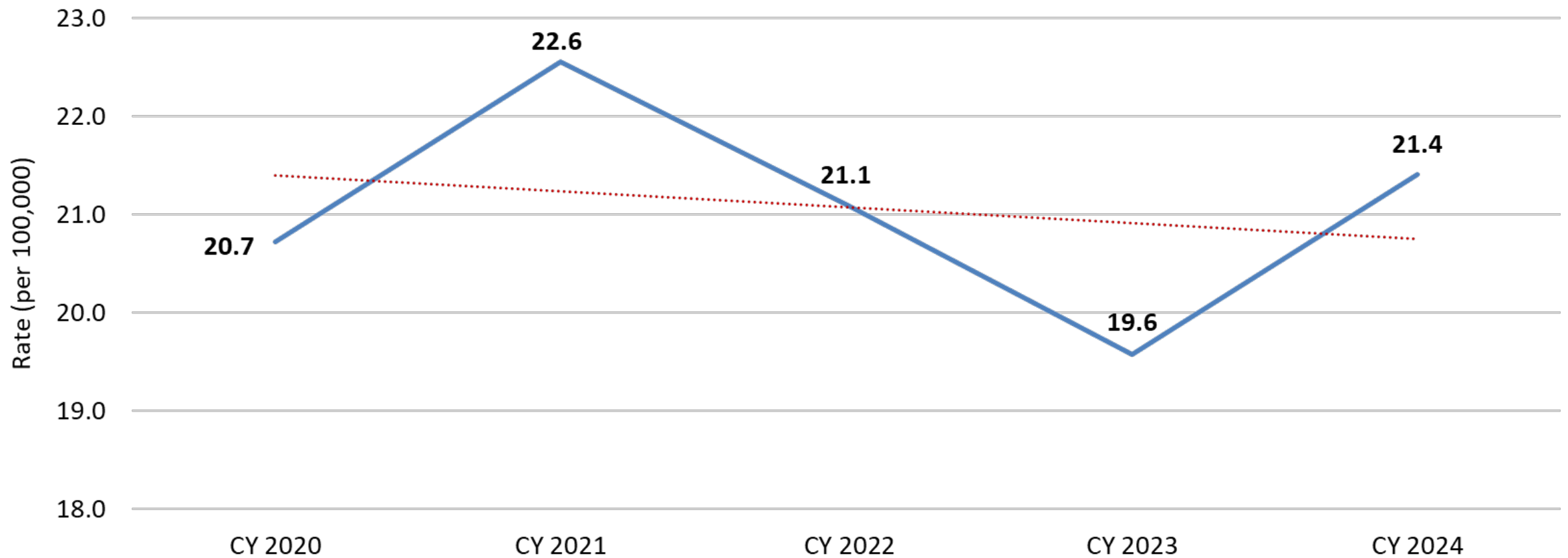
Goal 3, Activity A | Suicide Deaths

- *Decrease the crude suicide death rate in South Dakota from 22.2 per 100,000 in 2025 to 18.6 per 100,000 in 2028.*
- *Actual = 22.2*
- *Target = 18.6*

Suicide Deaths



Crude suicide death rate, South Dakota (2020-2024)



Source: SD DOH Office of Health Statistics

Unintentional Overdoses



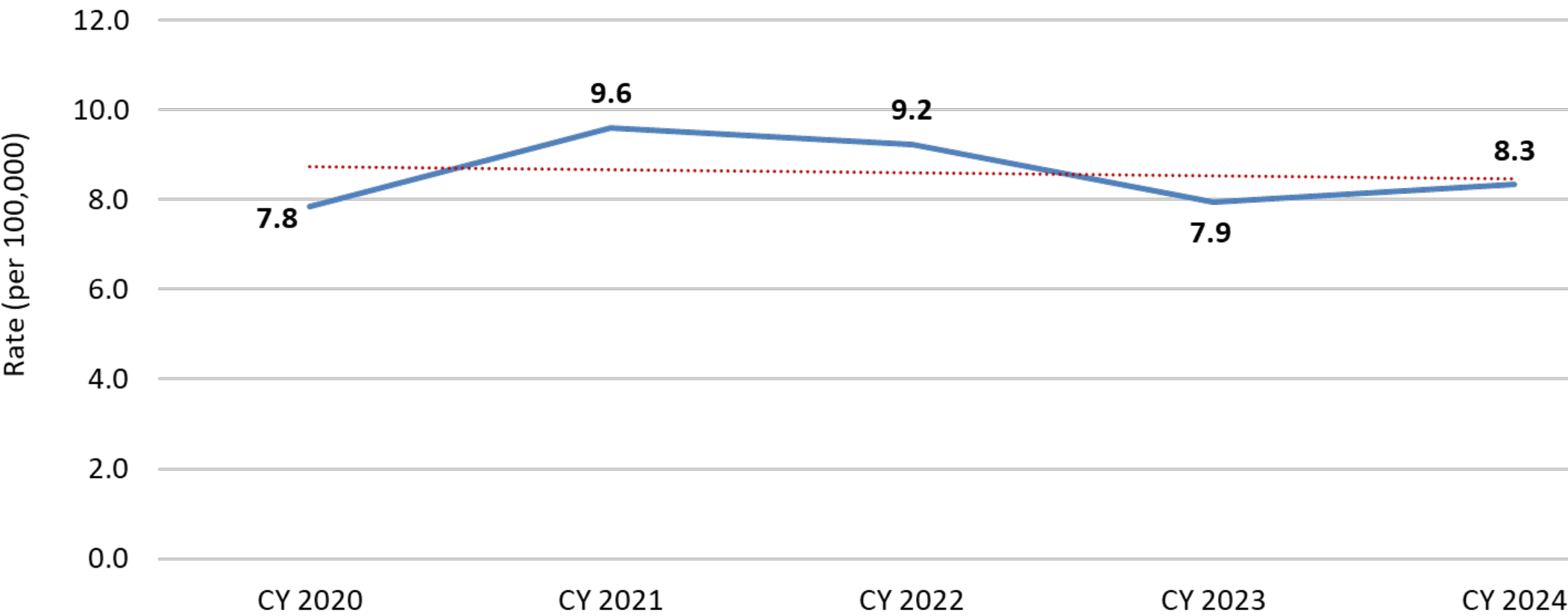
Goal 3, Activity B | Overdose Deaths

- *Decrease the crude unintentional overdose death rate in South Dakota from 7.2 per 100,000 in 2025 to 7.0 per 100,000 in 2028.*
- *Actual = 7.2*
- *Target = 7.0*

Unintentional Overdoses



Crude unintentional overdose death rate, South Dakota (2020-2024)



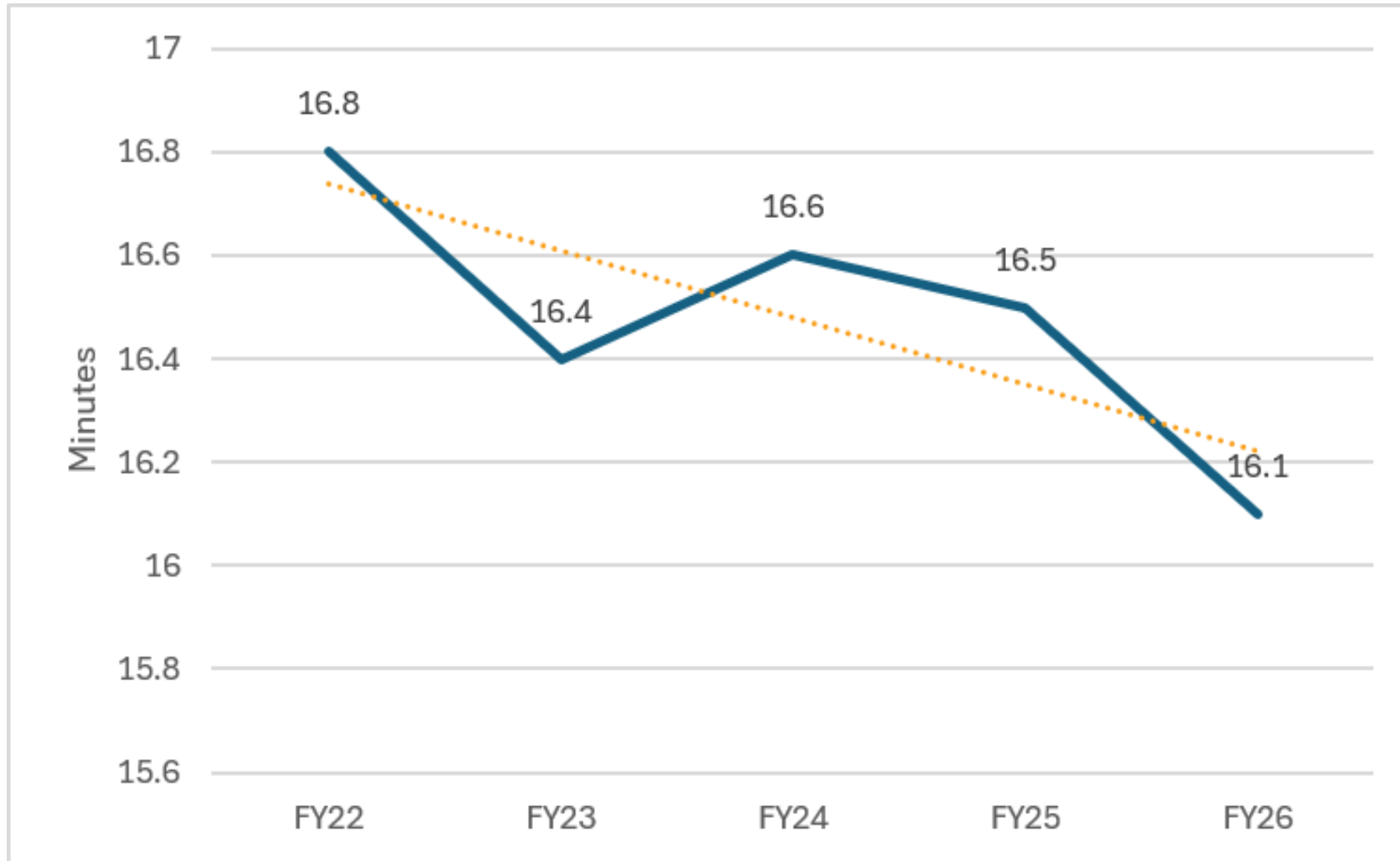
Source: SD DOH Office of Health Statistics

Goal 4 | Access to Care



- Average Scene Time for Ground EMS Agencies (RETIRE)
- Emergency Technician Pass Rate (NEW)
- Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening (NEW)
- Healthcare Professional Licensees (NEW)

Average Scene Time for Ground EMS Agencies (Retiring)



Source: SD EMS Office

Emergency Technician Pass Rate (New)



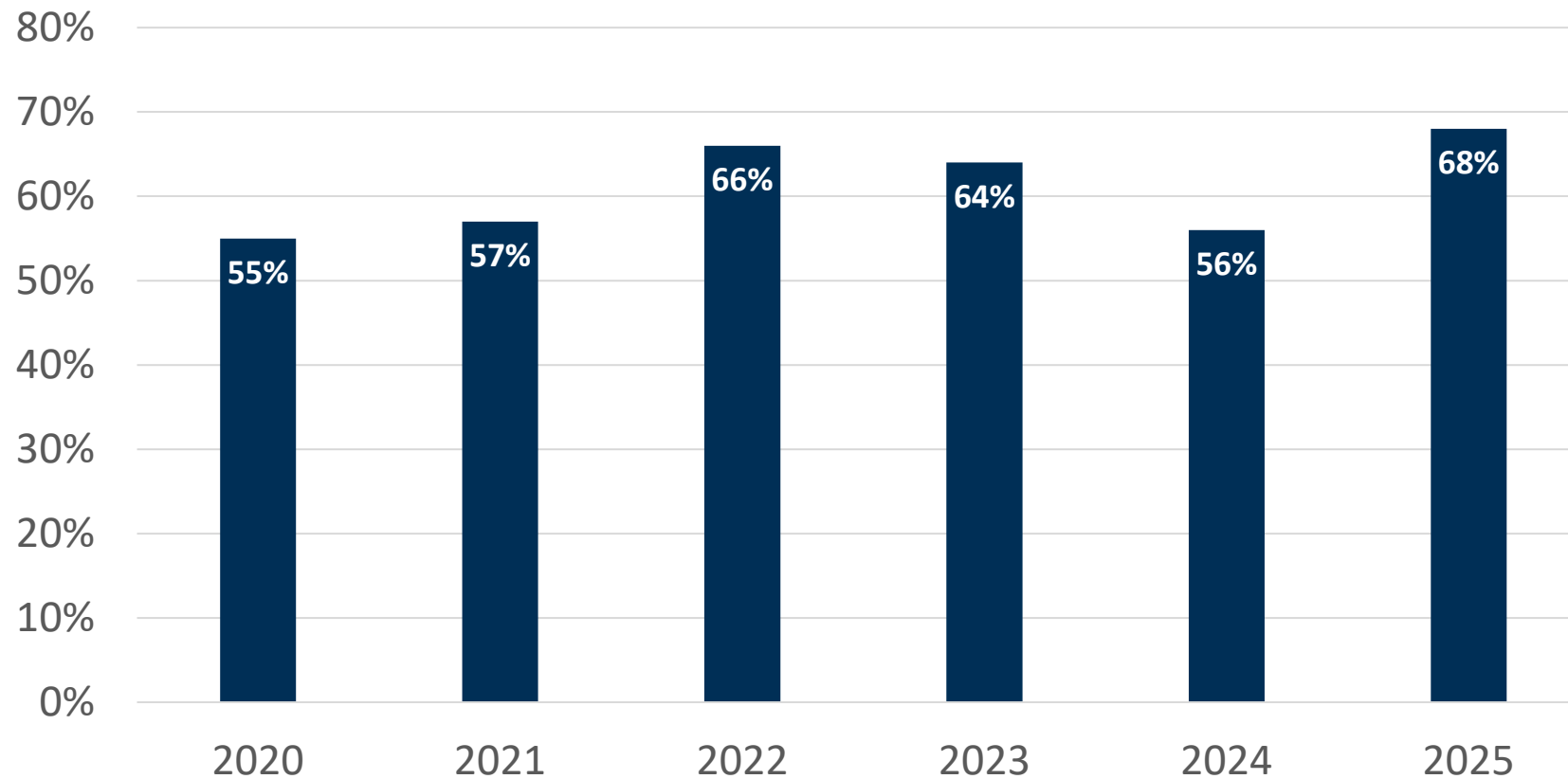
Activity A | Emergency Technician Pass Rate

- *Increase the National Registry of Emergency Technician first-time pass rate from 68% in 2025 to 75% by December 2028.*
- *Actual = 68%*
- *Target = 75%*

Emergency Technician Pass Rate



National Registry EMT Exam 1st Attempt Pass Rate Percentages



Series 1

Breast and Cervical Screening (New)



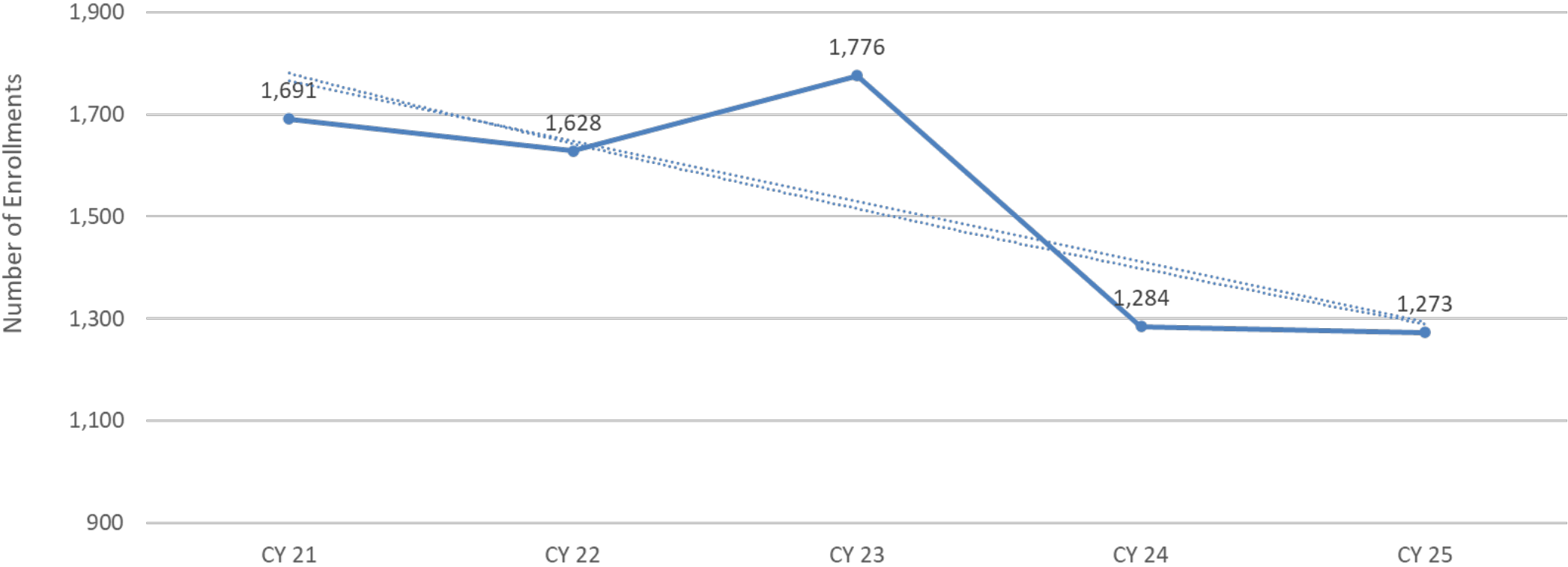
Goal 4, Activity B | Breast and Cervical Screening

- *Increase breast and cervical cancer screening and follow-up services within SD All Women Count! program from 1,273 in 2025 to 1,500 by 2028.*
- *Actual = 1,273*
- *Target = 1,500*

Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening

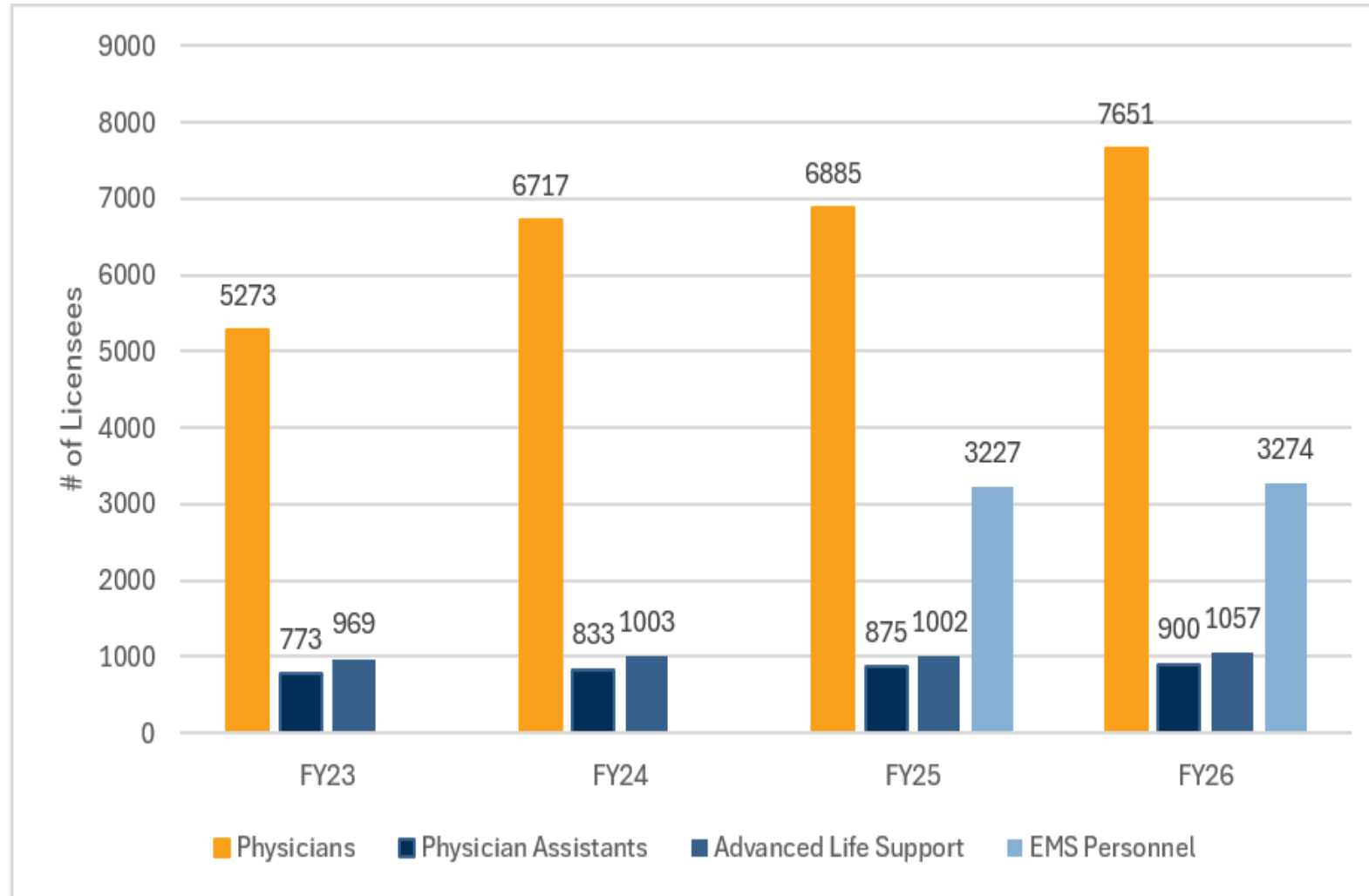


Breast and cervical cancer screening and follow-up services within SD All Women Count! program



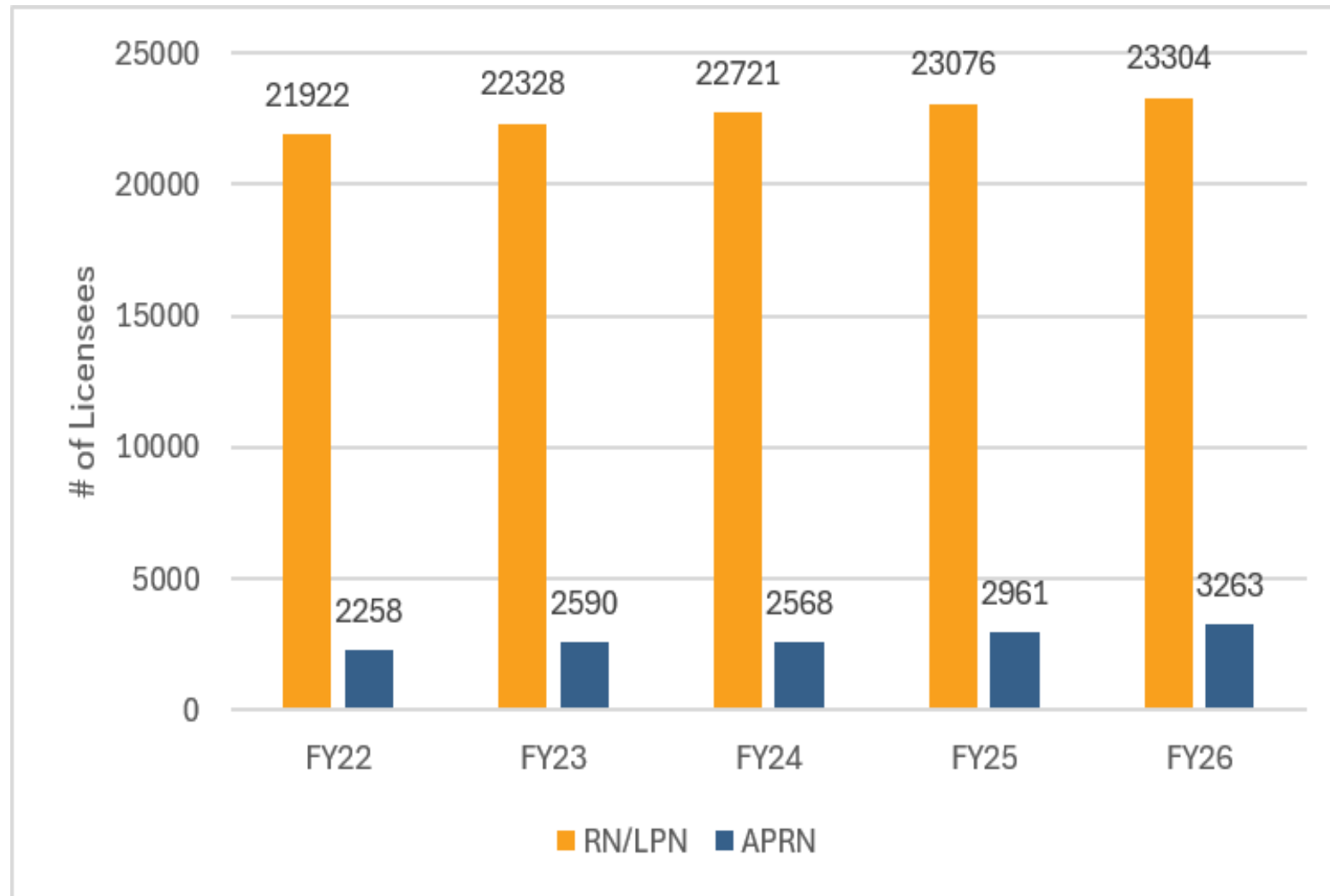
Source: All Women Count!

Physician, Physician Assistant, Advanced Life Support, & EMS Personnel Licensees (NEW), South Dakota, FY23-FY26



Source: SD Board of Medical & Osteopathic Examiners (MD/DO, PA, ALS) (Data not available for FY22)

Registered Nurse, Licensed Practical Nurse, & Advanced Practice RN South Dakota, FY22-FY26



Source: SD Board of Nursing (RN/LPN and APRN)



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