

Learning from the past to prevent avoidable loss in the future

Summary of the Child and Youth Mortality Review Committee's 11th data report, 2010-14



Child and Youth Mortality Review Committee

This is a summary of some of the key data featured in the Child and Youth Mortality Review Committee's (CYMRC's) 11th data report. Unless otherwise stated, the data below cover 2010-14, and are primarily from the Mortality Review Database. The full data report is available at www.hqsc.govt.nz.

The CYMRC reviews deaths of children and young people aged 28 days to 24 years. Our aim is to find ways to prevent such deaths in the future. We do this by reviewing information about child and youth deaths (through our local review groups) to identify:

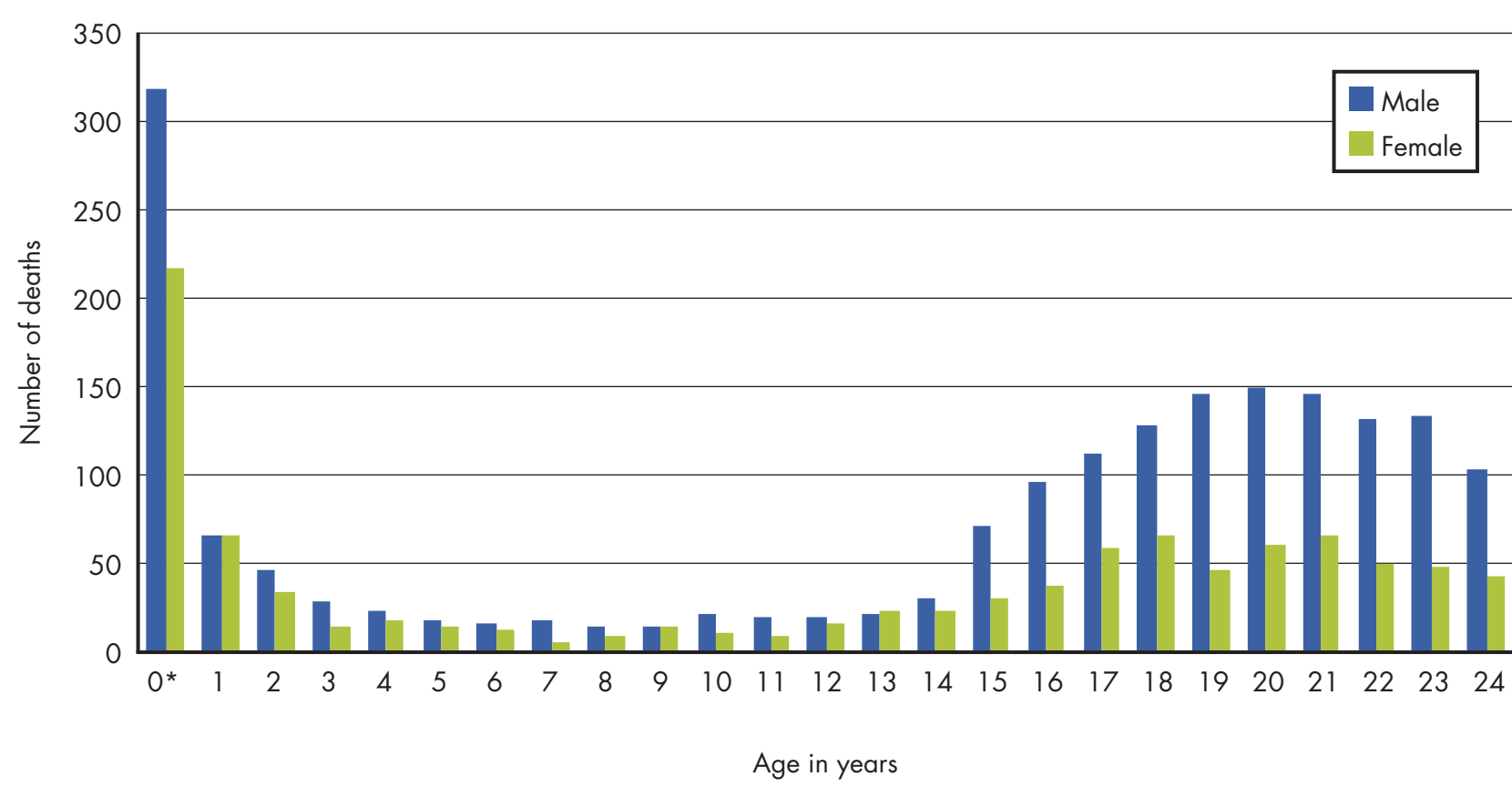
- national trends and patterns of illness, incidents and accidents leading to death which may indicate where health, education, social or environmental systems are not functioning to protect children and young people

- policies and initiatives agencies can develop to keep children and young people safe and healthy.

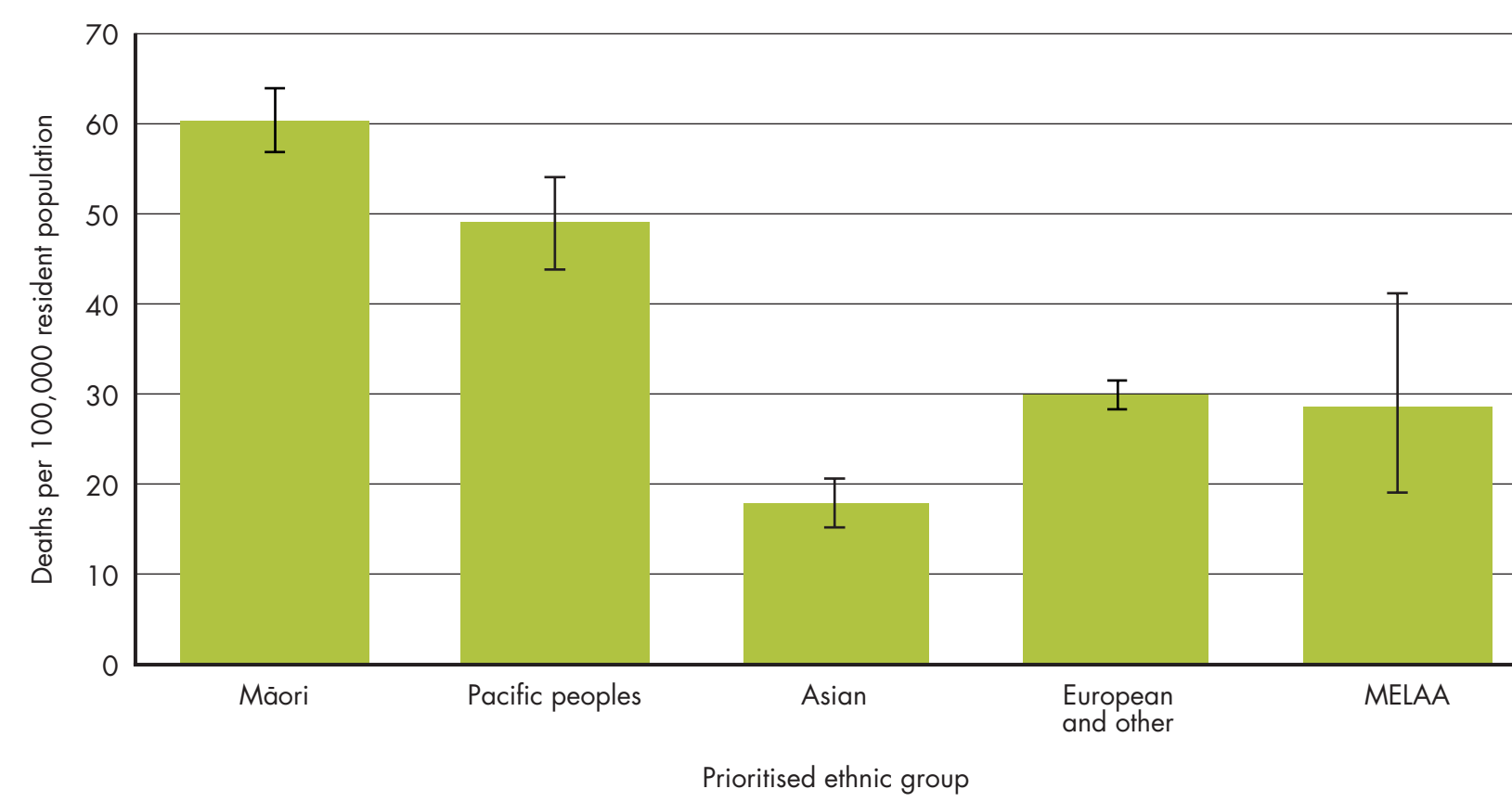
Overall, child and youth deaths are decreasing. In 2010, there were 620 deaths and in 2014 there were 488. This reduction has, in part, been driven by a reduction in the number of deaths due to motor vehicle crashes in young people aged between 15 and 24 years. However, there were fewer deaths from nearly all causes in 2014. This is good news, but there is still plenty of work to be done.

Mortality varies by age and ethnicity

Number of deaths in children and young people aged 28 days to 24 years by year of age and sex



Mortality rates and 95% confidence intervals in children and young people aged 28 days to 24 years by ethnic group

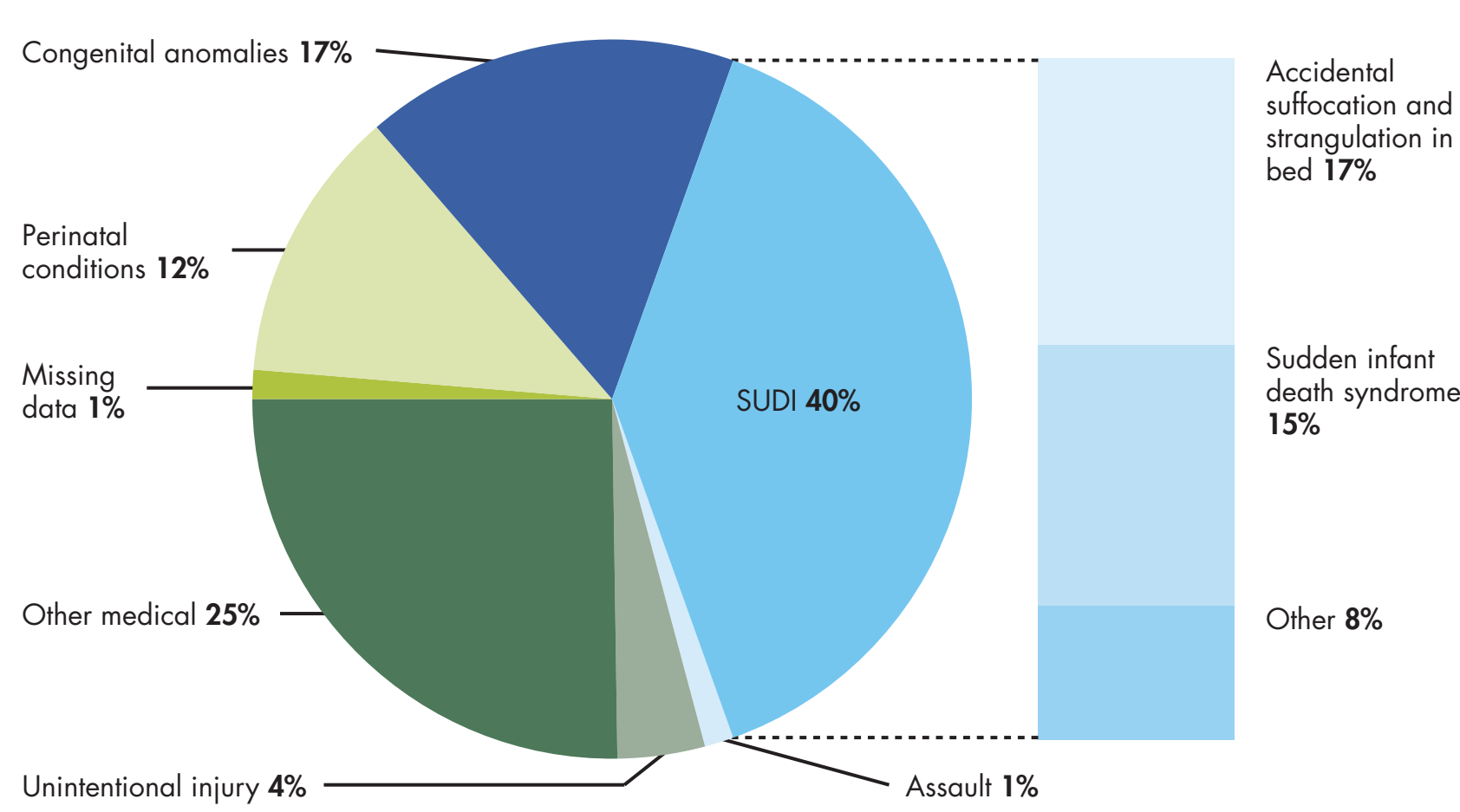


Poverty causes more than just hardship

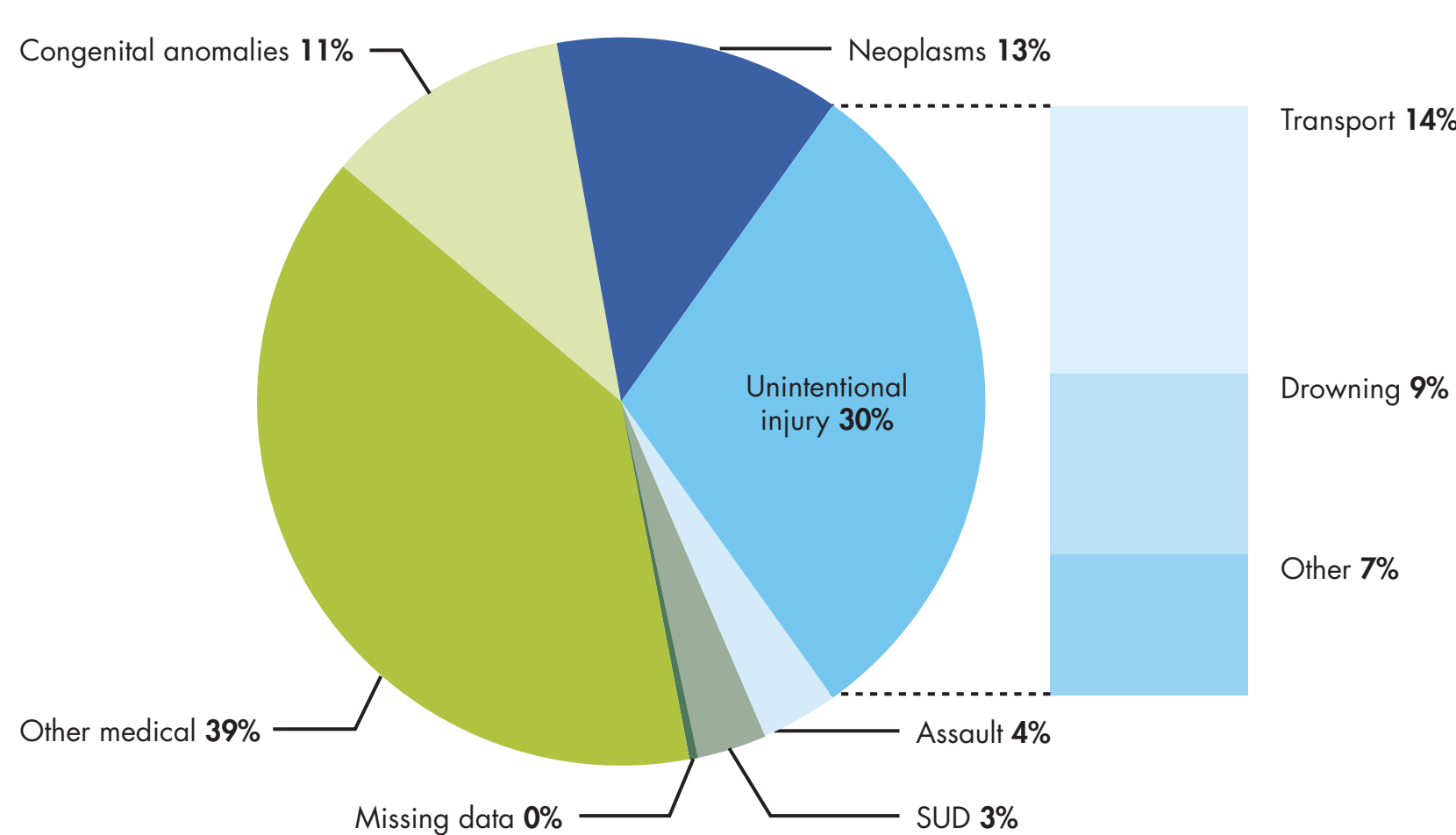
Mortality rates and 95% confidence intervals in children and young people aged 28 days to 24 years by NZ Deprivation Index decile



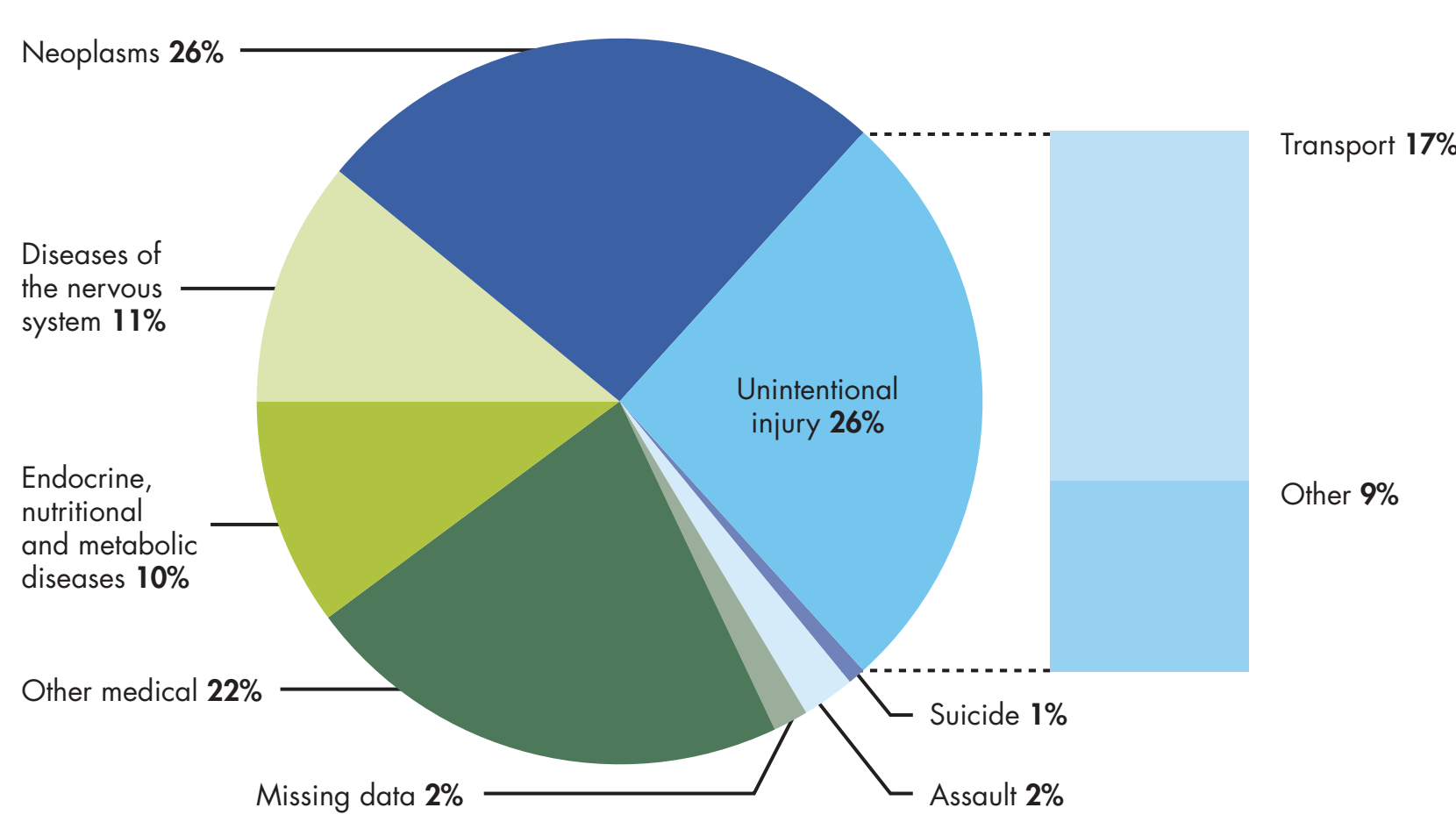
Mortality in infants aged 28 days to one year by cause of death



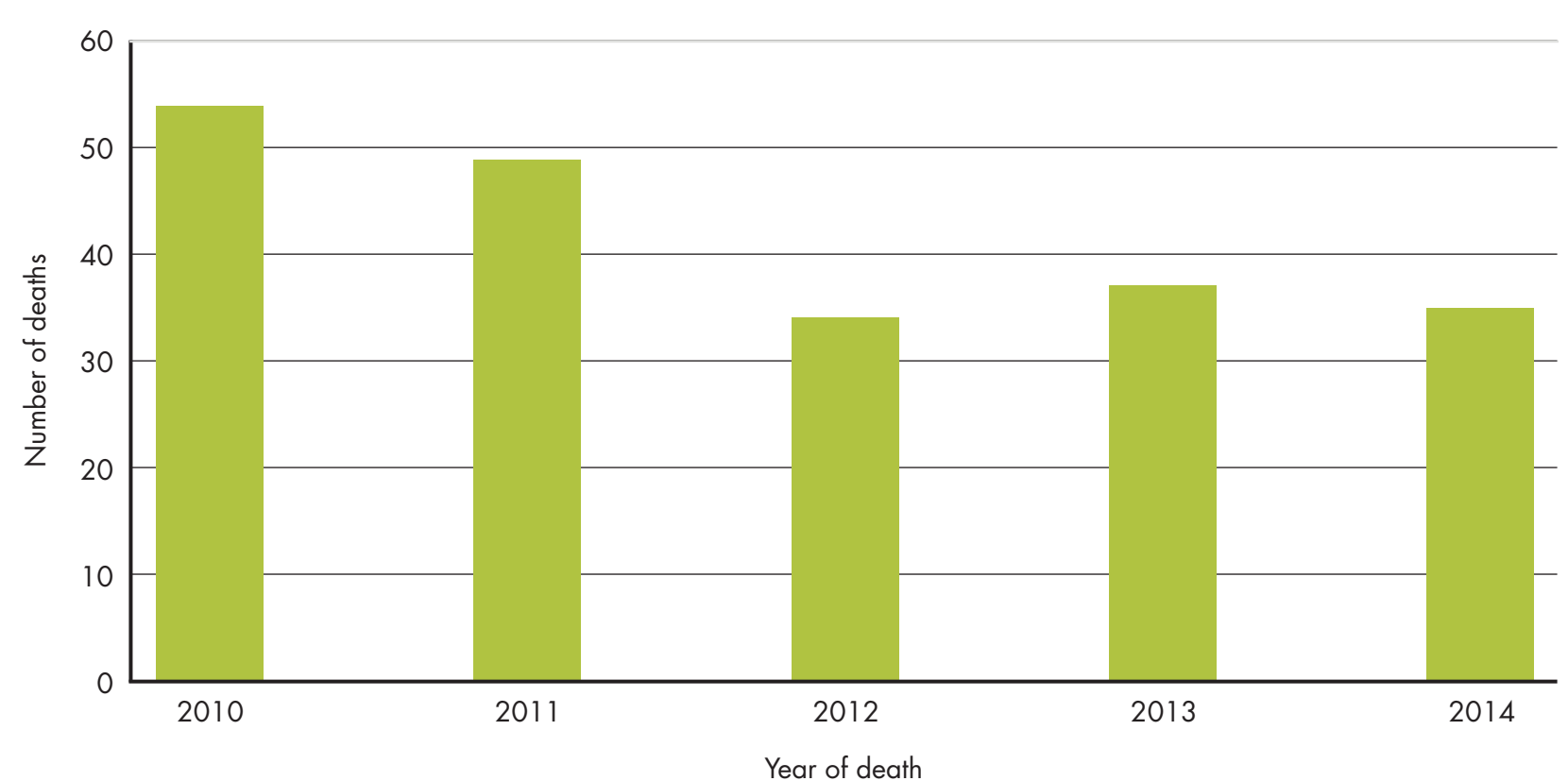
Mortality in children aged 1-4 years by cause of death



Mortality in children aged 5-9 years by cause of death



Number of post-neonatal SUDI deaths by year



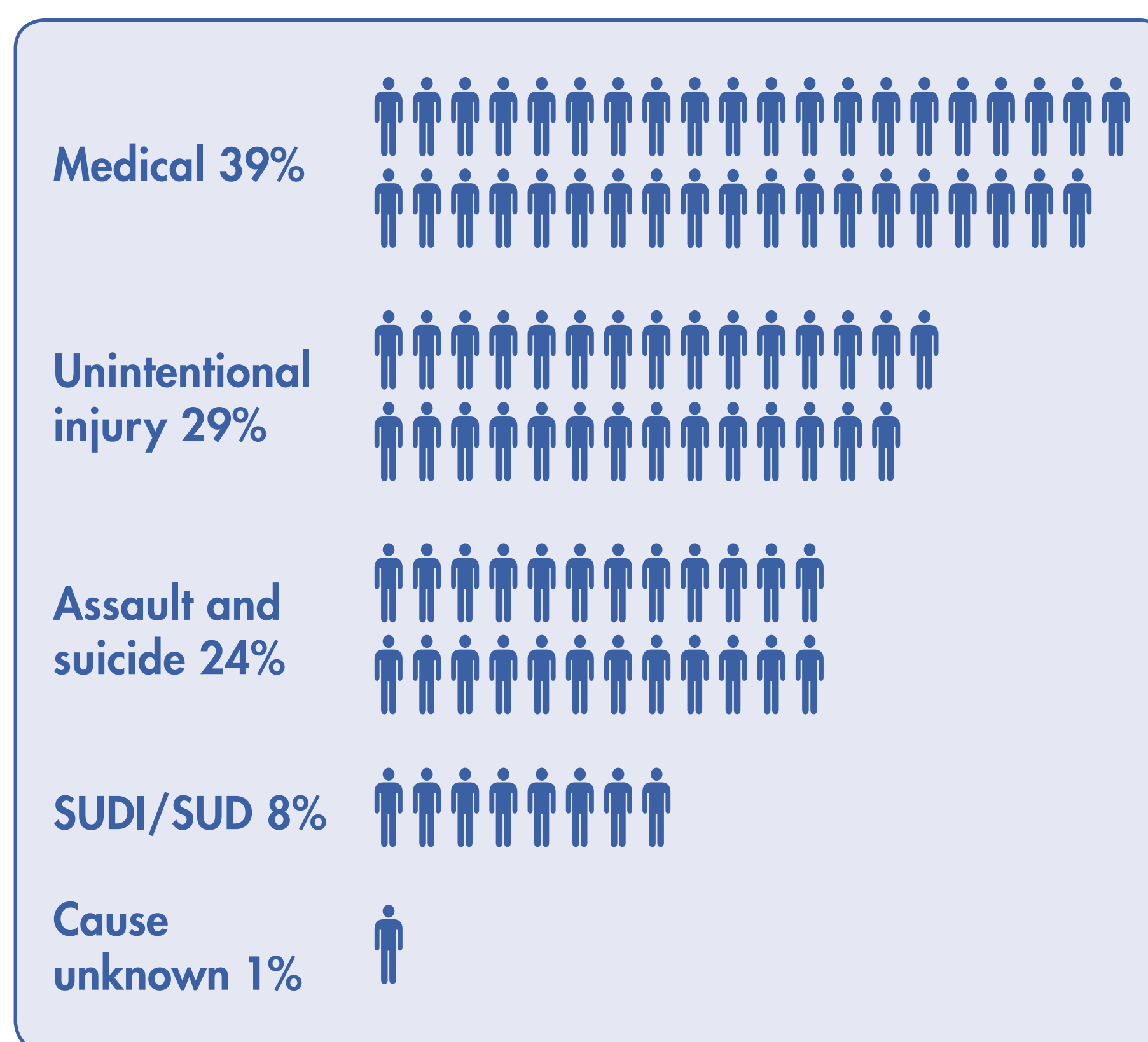
The main causes of death change with age

Mortality (number of deaths) in children and young people aged 28 days to 24 years by cause of death and age group

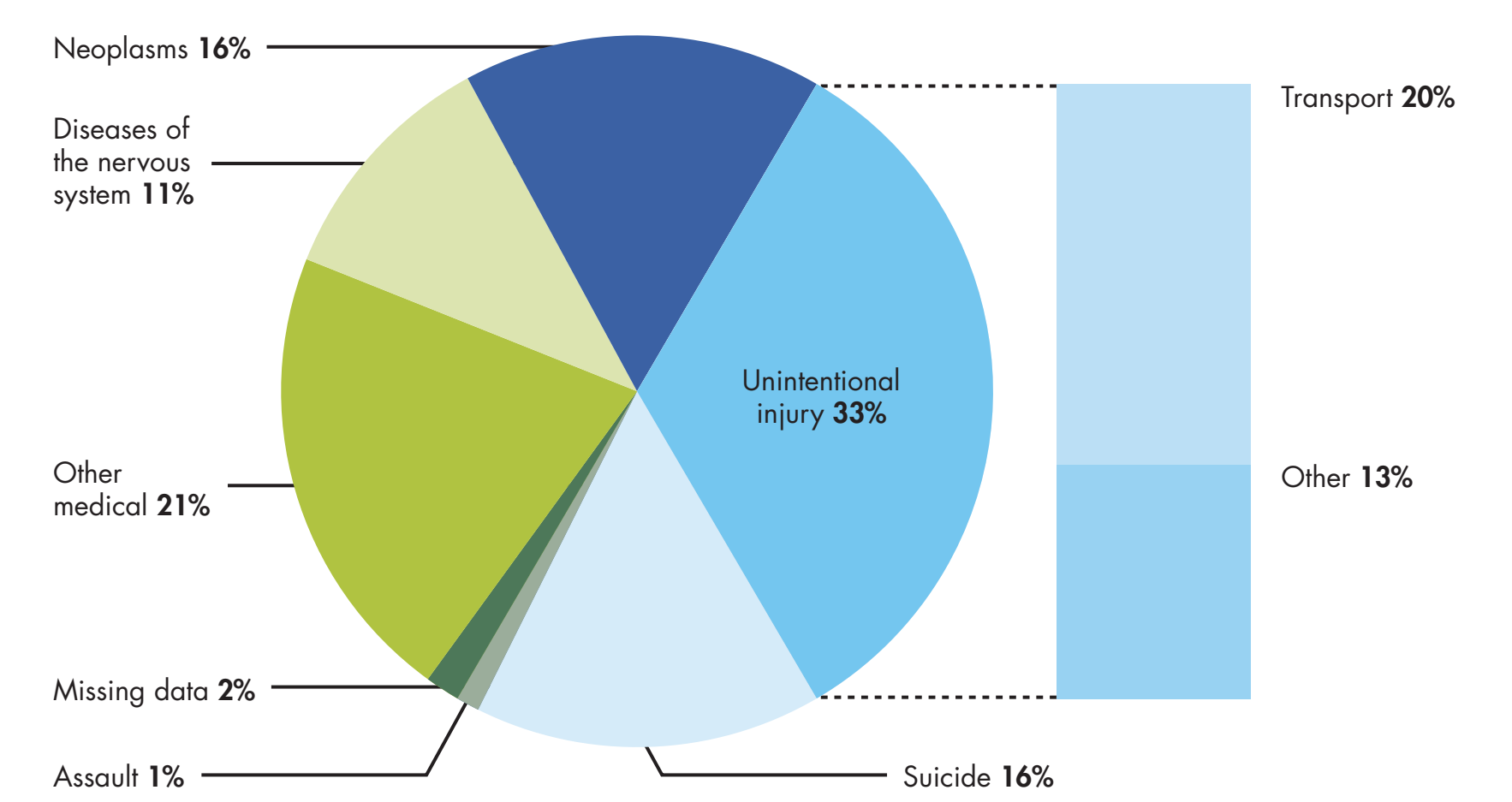
Category	<1 year*	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	Total
Medical	291	183	88	92	204	265	1123
Unintentional injury	21	88	34	63	288	319	813
Assault and suicide	7	10	4	32	292	338	683
SUDI/SUD	209	9	0	0	0	0	218
Missing data	7	1	2	3	3	4	20
Total	535	291	128	190	787	926	2857

* This category represents infants 28 days and older, and less than one calendar year in age

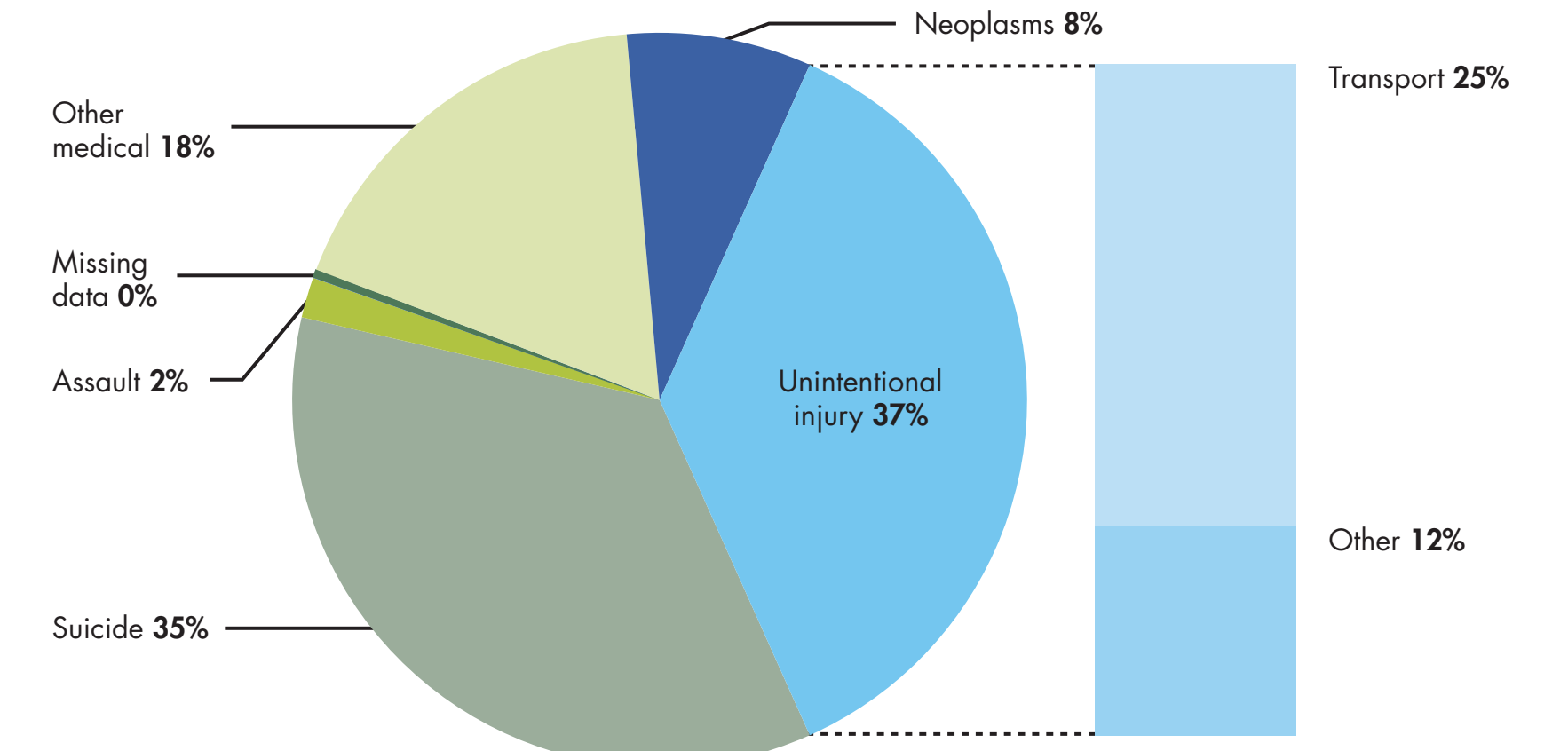
How are our kids dying?



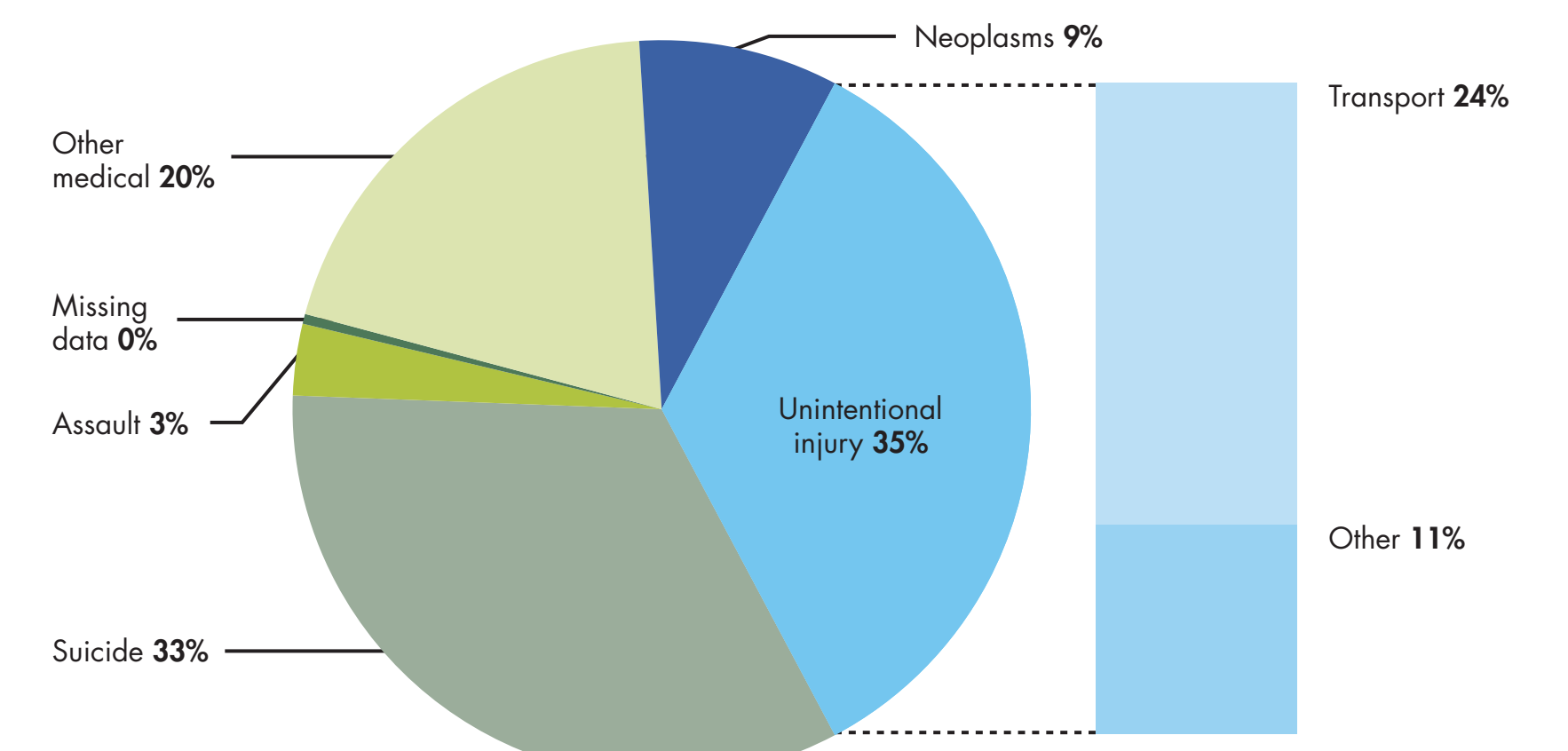
Mortality in children aged 10-14 years by cause of death



Mortality in young people aged 15-19 years by cause of death

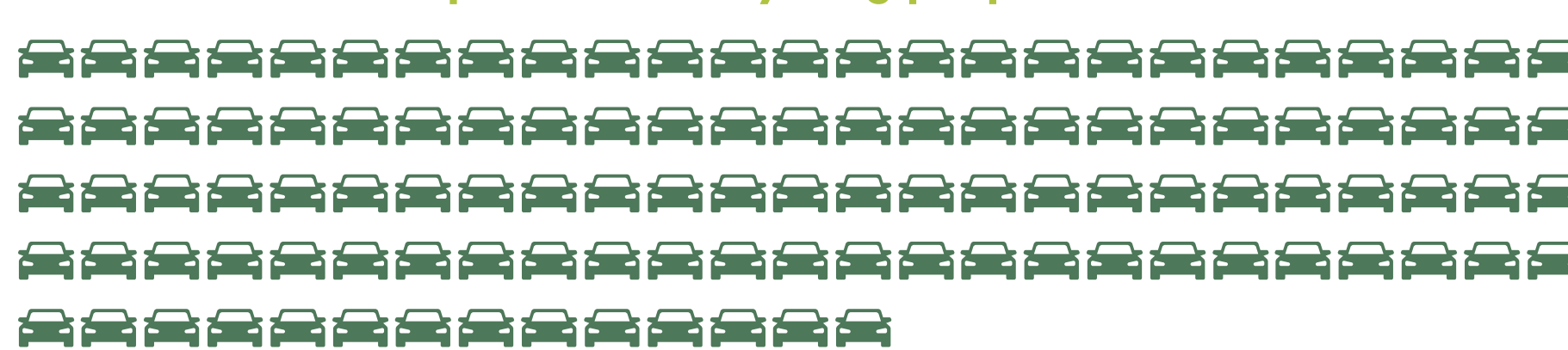


Mortality in young people aged 20-24 years by cause of death

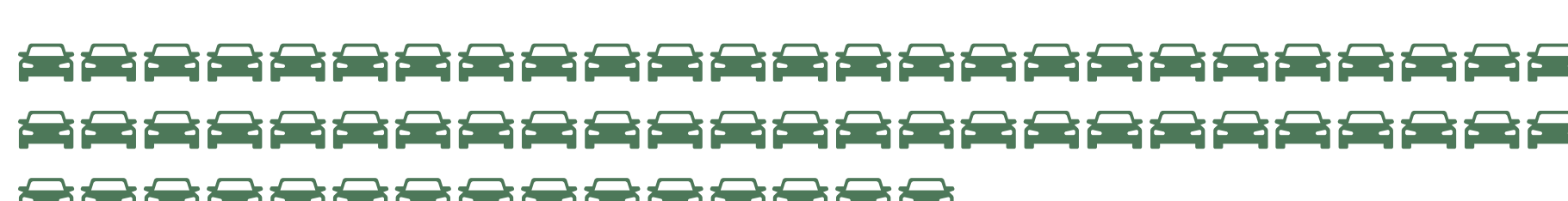


The good news: The number of deaths overall is reducing

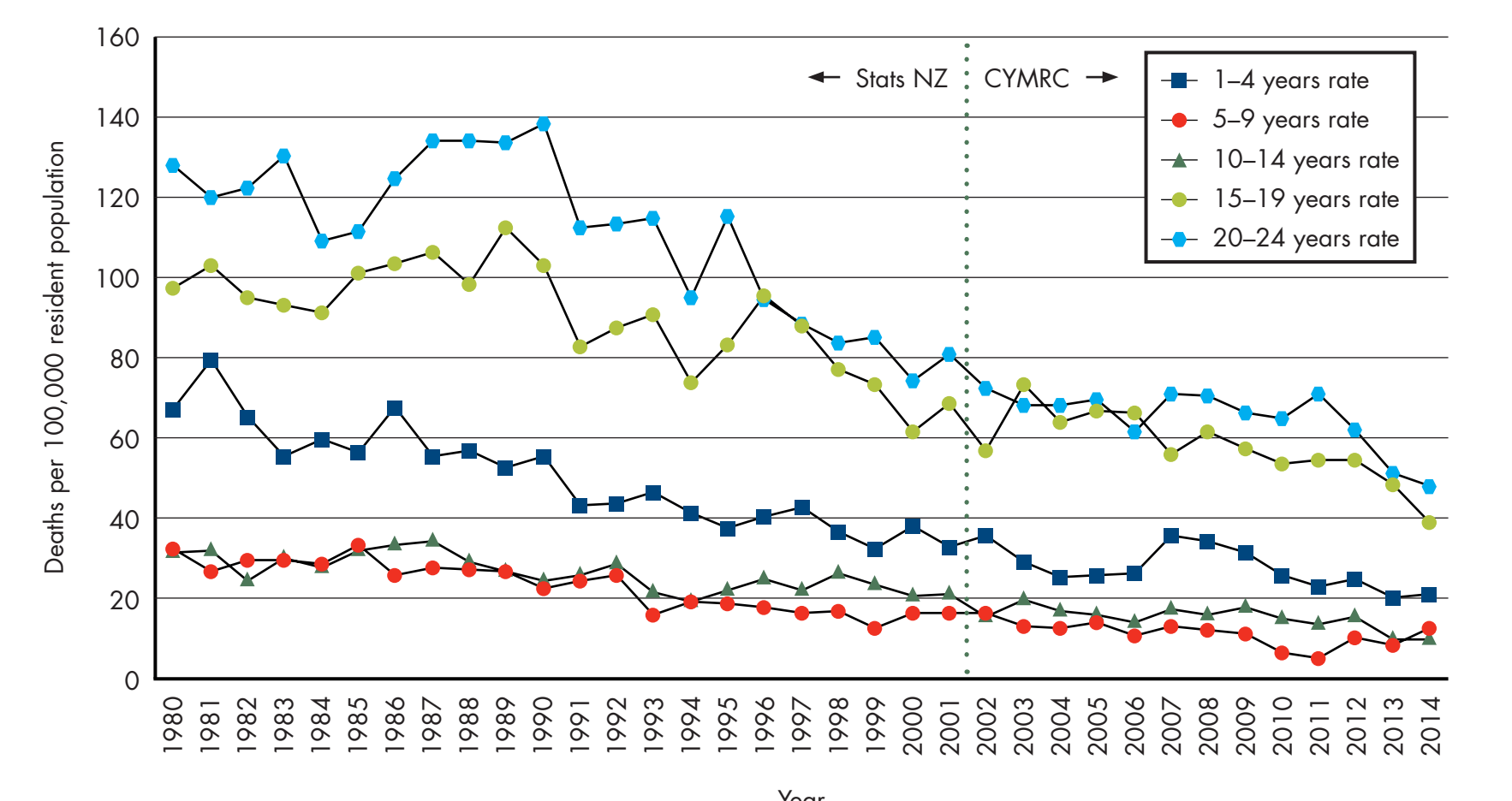
The number of transport deaths in young people went from 114 in 2010



To 65 in 2014



Mortality rates in children and young people aged 1-24 years by age group, 1980-2014



SUDI:

Many deaths are preventable by making sure the baby is in a safe sleep space, every sleep.



A safe sleep space should be:

- Free from other people who might lie over the baby
- Free from gaps that could trap or wedge the baby
- Firm
- Flat
- Free from objects that might cover the face or cause strangulation or the baby's head coming forward
- Free to breathe
- Free from tobacco smoke

Pertussis (whooping cough):

Very young babies are at the most risk of harm from pertussis.

800+ babies caught whooping cough in the 2010-2013 outbreak in NZ. Of these, 75% needed hospital treatment. Two babies and one 3-year-old died.

Most babies who die from pertussis become sick before they are old enough to have vaccinations.

Maternal immunisation in late pregnancy (the third trimester) protects unborn babies until they are old enough to have their own vaccinations.

Drive-way runners:

- Toddlers are small and hard to see when backing a car.
- Don't let children play on the driveway.
- Know where children are if backing out of a driveway.

