

Child Injuries and Deaths



UTAH DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH
Violence & Injury Prevention Program

Utah, 2014-2016



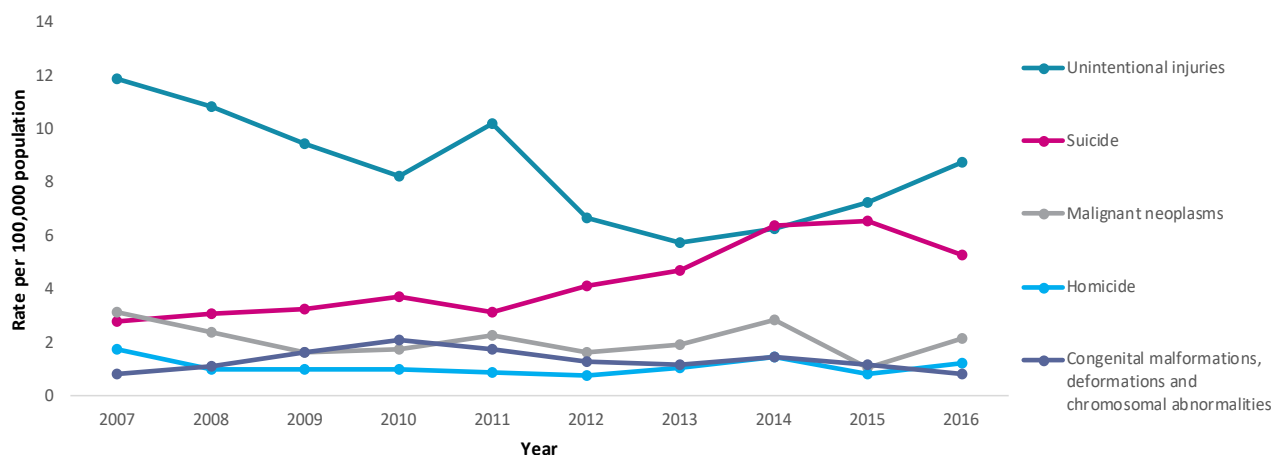
Injuries are the leading cause of death in children aged 1-19 years (Table 1).² Injuries can have a dramatic impact on a child's ability to lead an active, fulfilling life and most child injuries can be prevented. Every week in Utah, an average of three children die from violence and/or injury.¹

Table 1: Leading causes of death for children aged 1-19, Utah, 2014-2016

Rank	Cause of Death	Number	Crude Rate per 100,000 Population
1	Unintentional injuries	212	7.4
2	Intentional self-harm (suicide)	173	6.1
3	Malignant neoplasms	58	2.0
4	Assault (homicide)	34	1.2
5	Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities	33	1.2

For the past decade, unintentional injuries and suicides have been the leading causes of child injury deaths in Utah. The rate of unintentional injury deaths decreased 35.8 percent while the rate of suicide deaths increased 46.9 percent during this time period (Figure 1).¹

Figure 1: Rate of child deaths by leading causes of child deaths, ages 1-19, Utah, 2007-2016



"If a disease were killing our children at the rate unintentional injuries are, the public would be outraged and demand that this killer be stopped." - Former U.S. Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop

Table 2: Leading causes of unintentional injury deaths for children aged 1-19, Utah, 2014-2016

Rank	Cause of Death	Number
1	Motor vehicle crash	113
2	Drowning/submersion	24
3	Poisoning	21

Table 3: Leading methods of suicide deaths for child aged 1-19, Utah, 2014-2016

Rank	Method of Death	Number
1	Firearm	83
2	Suffocation	68
3	Poisoning	8

Motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of unintentional injury death for Utah children (**Table 2**). Firearms were the leading method of suicide death for Utah children (**Table 3**).

Table 4: Leading causes of hospitalizations for children aged 1-19, Utah, 2012-2014

Rank	Cause of Hospitalization	Number	Crude Rate per 10,000 Population	Total Charges	Average Charges
1	Pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium	7,165	25.6	\$70,274,900	\$9,808
2	Unintentional injuries	5,179	18.5	\$110,732,702	\$21,381
3	Influenza and pneumonia	2,959	10.6	\$36,275,782	\$12,259
4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	2,462	8.8	\$23,286,378	\$9,458
5	Diseases of appendix	2,397	8.6	\$37,098,134	\$15,477
9	Intentional self-harm (suicide)	1,458	5.2	\$19,366,297	\$13,283
18	Assault (homicide)	147	0.5	\$4,000,023	\$27,211

Table 5: Leading causes of emergency department visits for children aged 1-19, Utah, 2012-2014

Rank	Cause of Emergency Department Visits	Number	Crude Rate per 10,000 Population	Total Charges	Average Charges
1	Unintentional injuries	180,034	661	\$232,442,164	\$1,291
2	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	9,326	39.8	\$10,933,968	\$1,172
3	Pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium	7,513	30.5	\$15,580,011	\$2,074
4	Influenza and pneumonia	7,483	33.6	\$10,493,380	\$1,402
5	Acute bronchitis and bronchiolitis	5,726	24.7	\$6,484,861	\$1,133
6	Intentional Self-harm (suicide)	4,506	19.8	\$11,580,968	\$2,570
7	Assault (homicide)	2,849	10.6	\$5,365,862	\$1,883

Unintentional injuries were the 2nd leading cause of hospitalizations for Utah children aged 1 to 19 years. Unintentional injuries also had the highest total charges for hospitalizations and the highest average charges for hospitalizations. (**Table 4**).²

Unintentional injuries were by far the leading cause of emergency department visits for Utah children aged 1 to 19 years and the highest total charges for emergency department visits (**Table 5**).²

References

- 1 Utah Death Certificate Database, Office of Vital Records and Statistics, Utah Department of Health, 2007-2016 data queried via Utah's Indicator Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS-PH) [cited 2018 March].
- 2 Utah Inpatient Hospital Discharge Data, Office of Health Care Statistics; Utah Emergency Department Encounter Database, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, Utah Department of Health, 2012-2014 data queried via Utah's Indicator Based Information System for Public Health (IBIS-PH) [cited 2018 March].



Our Mission is to provide trusted and comprehensive data and technical assistance related to violence and injury. This information helps promote partnerships and programs to prevent injuries and improve public health.