



Trends in Unintentional Childhood Injury-Related Deaths

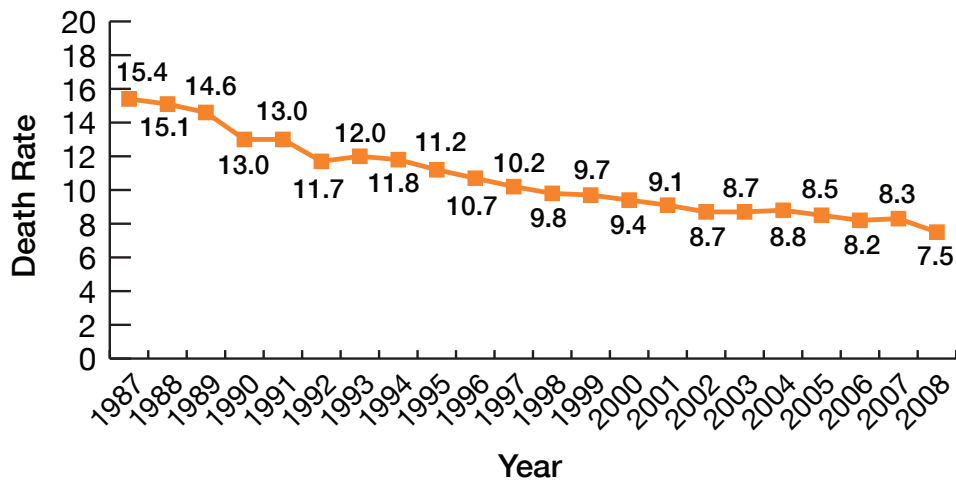


Safe Kids Worldwide is an international organization dedicated solely to the prevention of unintentional childhood injury, the leading killer of children between the ages of 1 and 14. The U.S. has witnessed an overall reduction in unintentional injury-related mortality in the past two decades. Safe Kids Worldwide has supported research, development and implementation of various preventative safety programs to meet these injury needs through a network of 378 coalitions and 21 Member Countries.

Unintentional Injury-Related Death Rates

- Unintentional injuries among children ages 14 and under have drastically decreased from 7,986 in 1987 to 4,643 in 2008

1987 – 2008 Unintentional Injury-Related Deaths Among Children
(United States, Ages 14 and Under, per 100,000 population)



*Since 1999, the coding of mortality data has changed and data prior to 1999 may not be exactly comparable to data from 1999 onwards.

- From 1987 to 2008 there has been over a 51 percent decrease in the unintentional injury death rate among children ages 14 years and under.

The number of unintentional injury-related deaths among children ages 14 and under has declined from 1987 to 2008:

- Overall motor vehicle fatalities declined from 3,261 deaths to 1,350 deaths.
- Pedestrian injury fatalities declined from 1,000 deaths to 269 deaths.
- Bicycle injury fatalities declined from 389 deaths to 84 deaths.
- Drowning fatalities declined from 1,363 deaths to 745 deaths.
- Fire and/or burn injury fatalities declined from 1,233 deaths to 366 deaths.
- Suffocation and choking fatalities have risen from 690 deaths to 1,294 deaths.
- Falls injury fatalities declined from 149 deaths to 91 deaths.
- Poisoning fatalities have declined slightly from 100 deaths to 94 deaths.

| Type of Incident | Number of Deaths in Year 1987 | Number of Deaths in Year 2008 | Percent Decrease/ Increase |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Motor vehicle crash | 3,261 | 1,350 | ↓59% |
| Pedestrian injury | 1,000 | 269 | ↓73% |
| Bicycle injury | 389 | 84 | ↓78% |
| Drowning | 1,363 | 745 | ↓45% |
| Fire/Burn injury | 1,233 | 366 | ↓70% |
| Suffocation | 690 | 1,294 | ↑88% |
| Falls | 149 | 91 | ↓39% |
| Poisoning | 100 | 94 | ↓6% |

Injury Prevention Efforts

Child Safety Seats

- All 50 states and the District of Columbia have child occupant protection laws, which vary widely in their age requirements, exemptions, enforcement procedures and penalties.
- A total of 47 states and the District of Columbia have enacted child booster seat laws, which require older child passengers to be properly secured in a child safety seat.

Bicycle Helmets

- Twenty-one states, the District of Columbia and more than 200 localities have enacted some form of mandatory child bicycle helmet legislation.
- Eight states and the District of Columbia now require children to wear a helmet while participating in other wheeled sports (e.g., scooters, inline skates, and skateboards) since the launch of Safe Kids Worldwide.

Fire and Burns

- All code-making bodies on the national and regional levels have established plumbing standards for newly constructed homes and residential units requiring anti-scald technology and a maximum water heater temperature of 120 degrees Fahrenheit.