Child Mortality

Key Findings:

- There were 340 deaths among children ages 1-19 in Washington State in 2011. Child death rates in Washington decreased significantly from 56.8 per 100,000 children in 1980 to 20.3 per 100,000 in 2011. This decrease mirrors the national trend.\(^1,2\)
- From 2008-2011, unintentional injuries accounted for 36 percent of deaths to Washington children ages 1-19, followed by suicide (13 percent), cancer (11 percent), homicides (9 percent), and birth defects (6 percent).\(^1\)
- Death rates and causes differ by the child’s age and sex. The highest death rates among Washington children are in children ages 1-4 and 15-19. Child death rates are higher for boys and for children who are non-Hispanic Black or American Indian/Alaska Native.\(^1\)
- The Maternal and Child Health Block Grant requires annual reporting of the suicide rate for 15-19 year olds (11.0 per 100,000 in 2011) and the overall mortality of children 1-14 (13.0 per 100,000 in 2011).
- The Healthy People 2020 target goals are to reduce deaths to 25.7 per 100,000 for ages 1-4, 12.3 per 100,000 for ages 5-9, 15.2 per 100,000 for ages 10-14, and 55.7 per 100,000 for ages 15-19. Washington state has met these goals.\(^3\)

**Definition:** Child mortality is defined as the death of a child ages 1 through 19.

**Time Trend**\(^1,2\)

![Time Trend Chart](chart)

**Age**\(^1\)

![Age Chart](chart)
Block Grant Outcome Measure: Child death rate per 100,000 children ages 1-14 years


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>1st Cause</th>
<th>2nd Cause</th>
<th>3rd Cause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ages 1-4</td>
<td>Unintentional Injury</td>
<td>Birth Defects</td>
<td>Cancer/Homicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 5-9</td>
<td>Unintentional Injury</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Homicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 10-14</td>
<td>Unintentional Injury</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Suicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 15-19</td>
<td>Unintentional Injury</td>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>Homicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 1-19</td>
<td>Unintentional Injury</td>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sex

Race/Ethnicity

Data Sources

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