

Child Deaths

Nevada

Between 2000 and 2002, the child death rate in Nevada was 21.0 per 100,000 children. During this period, 265 children between the ages of 1 and 14 died in Nevada. According to the *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2003*, the 2000 child death rate in the U.S. was 22 per 100,000 children.¹

Counties

Of the four counties for which reliable rates could be calculated, Washoe County had the highest child death rate, 21.8, followed by Clark County, 20.3. Statistically reliable rates could not be calculated for the remaining 13 counties due to small population numbers for the 1 to 14 age group. However, the rate of the combined 13 counties was 30.7.

Significant Factors

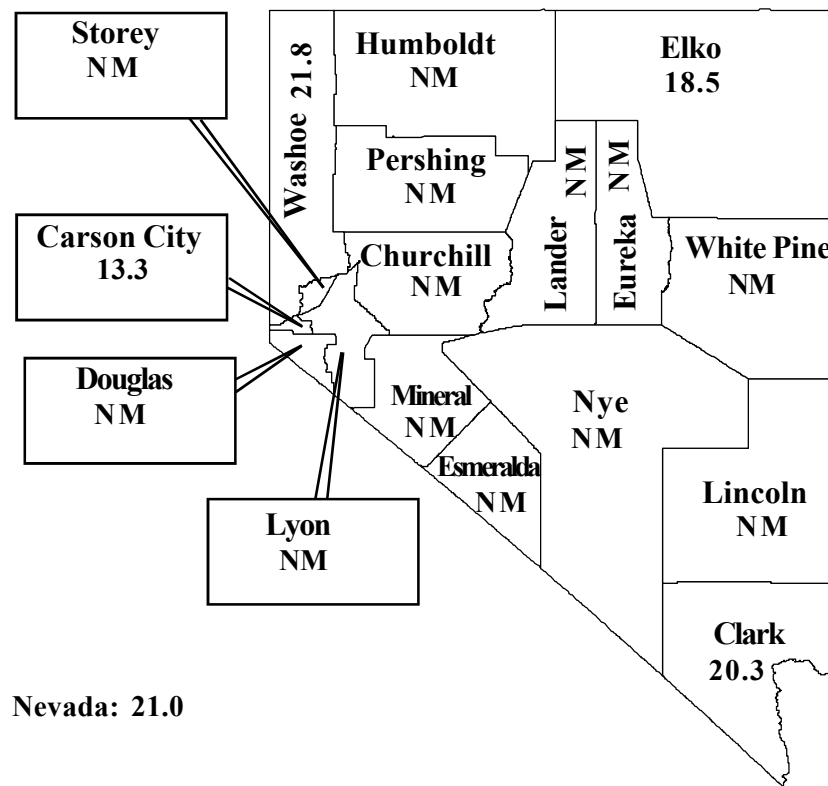
Based on preliminary data in 2001, the leading cause of death for U.S. children ages 1-4 and 5-14 was accidents (unintentional injury).² The leading cause of fatal unintentional injury to children 14 years and younger was motor-vehicle accidents.³ Boys are at a greater risk of unintentional death and injury than are girls. The unintentional injury death rate for boys is about 1.5 times higher than for girls.⁴

In 2003, 42 children died from hyperthermia in the U.S. after being left in hot cars, and two children have already died in 2004.⁵ A General Motors and National SAFE KIDS Campaign study revealed that at least 120 children died from heat injuries nationwide between 1996 and 2000, seven of the deaths were in Nevada.⁶

Definition

The *Child Death Rate* is the number of deaths (from all causes) of children between the ages of 1 and 14, per 100,000 children. The data are reported by the child's county of residence, rather than by place of death.

**Nevada Child Death Rate: 2000-2002
(Deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14)**



Nevada: 21.0

Note: NM = Not Meaningful. Calculated rates based on very small numbers are not statistically reliable. Only rates for counties with an age-specific population of 10,000 or more are shown. See County Data: 2002 for numbers.

Source: CBER calculations from Nevada Department of Human Resources data, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2000-2002.

Child Deaths Continued

The National SAFE KIDS Campaign reminds parents and caregivers to take the following safety precautions to avoid unintentional injuries:

“• Never leave children unattended in a motor vehicle - even for a few minutes. Children can suffer heat-related illness and death rapidly.

- Teach children not to play in or around cars.
- Keep the doors and trunk of your car locked when parked in the driveway or near home. Never leave rear seat folds open. This will prevent children from climbing into unlocked cars and finding their way into the trunk from the inside.
- Put car keys out of children’s reach and sight.
- Be wary of child-resistant locks. Teach children how to disable the driver’s door locks if they unintentionally become entrapped in a motor vehicle.”⁷

Causes of Child Death (Ages 1-14) in Nevada: 2002

Region	Accidents	Cancer	Homicide & Legal Intervention	Diseases of the Heart	Other	Total
Clark County	19	4	4	2	32	61
Washoe County	0	0	1	0	4	5
Rest of State	6	0	1	1	9	17
NEVADA	25	4	6	3	45	83

Source: Nevada Department of Human Resources, Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 2003.

Child/Youth Deaths (Ages 1-14) in the U.S. by the Leading Causes: 2001

Cause of Death	Number
All causes	12,249
Accidents (unintentional injuries)	4,503
Motor-vehicle accidents	2,240
All other accidents	2,264
Malignant neoplasms	1,415
Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities	918
Assault (homicide)	716
Diseases of heart	481
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	272
Influenza and pneumonia	207
In situ neoplasms, benign neoplasms, and neoplasms of uncertain or unknown behavior	164
Cerebrovascular disease	129
Septicemia	107
Chronic lower respiratory disease	97
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	71
All other causes (residual)	3,169

Note: “Figures are based on weighted data rounded to the nearest individual, so categories may not add to totals.”

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, March 14, 2003, “Deaths: Preliminary Data for 2001,” by Elizabeth Arias and Betty L. Smith, *National Vital Statistics Reports*, Vol. 51, No. 5, available online at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr52/nvsr52_13.pdf> as of 3/4/04.