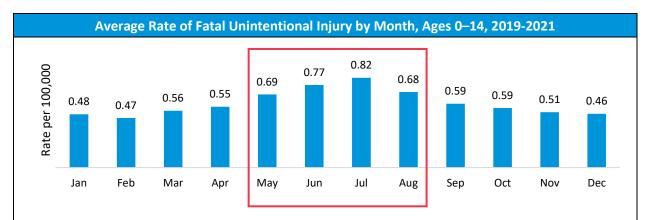
FAST FACTS

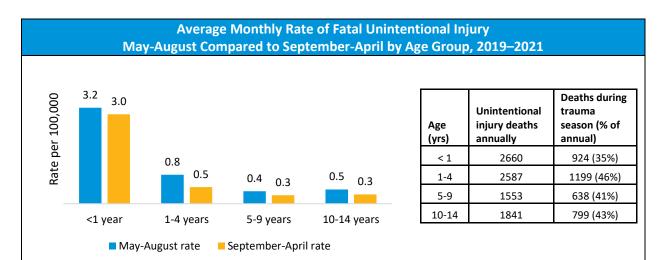


Trauma Season Injuries Among Children Ages 0-14

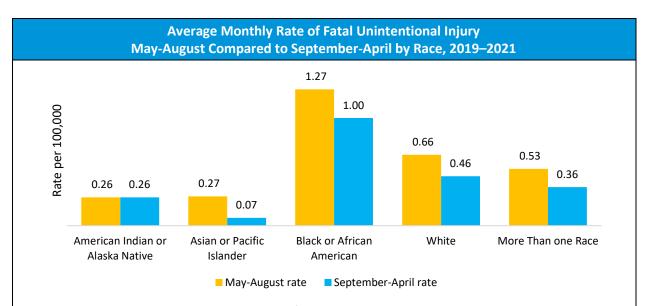
Trauma season, often referred to as the "100 deadliest days of summer," is the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day when the number of unintentional injuries among children tend to rise. This Fast Facts highlights trauma season by presenting data on unintentional injury deaths among children ages 0 to 14 occurring between 2021 - 2022.



On average between 2021 and 2022, there were 4,321 unintentional injury deaths among children ages 0 to 14 years in the U.S. Forty-one percent occurred in trauma season (May to August), even though those months account for only a third of the year. The average monthly unintentional injury death rate was highest in July at 0.82 deaths per 100,000 children.



Fatal unintentional injury rates were higher during the trauma season (May to August) across all age groups, with children ages 1-4 years experiencing the most significant increase. Infants under 1 year have a smaller seasonal difference, with only 35 percent of annual injury deaths occurring during trauma season. This suggests that while all age groups are more vulnerable during the trauma season, the risk for infants is more evenly distributed throughout the year.



Comparing trauma season to race, we look at fatal unintentional injuries by race and compare trauma season to the rest of the year, two patterns emerge. While rates are highest among Black/African American and White children, the rate difference between trauma season and the rest of the year is greatest for Asian/Pacific Islander children (nearly 4 times higher). Rates during trauma season are also higher for Black, White and multiracial children (ranging from about 1.3 to 1.5 times higher). American Indian/Alaska Native children are the only group without an increased risk during trauma season, suggesting that their risk of fatal injury remains consistent year-round. These patterns suggest that seasonal factors may significantly influence unintentional injury risks across racial groups.

Top 5 Causes of Unintentional Injury Death During May-August by Age Group, 2019-2021				
Avg. Number of Deaths During May-August				
and Percent of Annual Unintentional Injury Deaths for Each Cause*				
Cause	Age Group			
	<1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years
Other land transport**	-	-	-	22 (100%)
Drowning		592 (63%)	150 (91%)	57 (100%)
Poisoning	-	-	-	26 (54%)
Motor vehicle traffic	40 (48%)	239 (38%)	261 (37%)	382 (40%)
Suffocation	360 (16%)	67 (37%)		
Pedestrian***	40 (37%)	289 (37%)	314 (38%)	466 (41%)

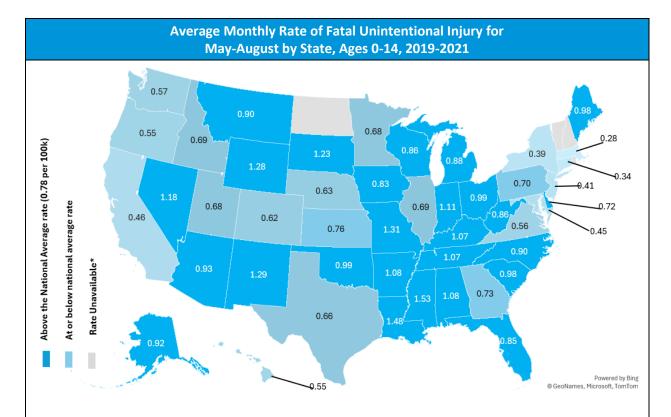
^{*}Yellow shading indicates causes of death where the annual proportion occurring between May and August exceeds 34 percent.

The leading causes of fatal unintentional injury during trauma season varied by age group for 2021-2022, providing potential topic areas for targeted prevention efforts:

- Infants < 1: Motor vehicle traffic-related injuries
- Children ages 1-4: Drowning
- Children ages 5-9 and 10-14: Drowning and other land transport

^{**}Other land transport includes incidents involving animals, ATVs, and unspecified vehicle types.

^{***} Pedestrian includes motor vehicle traffic-related and other.



Twenty-five states had an average rate of unintentional injury death for trauma season that was above the national average (0.78 per 100,000). Among those states, rates were highest for Mississippi (1.53 per 100,000), Louisiana (1.48 per 100,000), and Missouri (1.31 per 100,000).

*Rates unavailable for District of Columbia, Hawaii, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont due to small numbers.

Notes and References

Statistics in this Fast Facts were compiled using data from the CDC WONDER Underlying Cause of Death Database using single race estimates for years 2021-2022. Monthly death rates were calculated using the annual population as the denominator and the monthly death count as the numerator. To obtain monthly averages, the rates for each month across the years was averaged.

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