

2019-2021 Child Death Review (CDR): Child Mortality Summary Leading Causes of Death Children 1-14



#1 HOMICIDE



Homicides were predominantly due to firearms, blunt force trauma, abusive head trauma, asphyxia (suffocation), and poisoning.

PREVENTION:

Coroners and law enforcement can participate in CDR and the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) in Louisiana. There were 109 homicides between 2019-2021 but CDR teams could only fully review 41 of these cases. The more cases that are reviewed, the more accurate prevention recommendations will be.

Securely store all firearms in children's primary home and relatives' homes. Secure storage includes locking up firearms and storing ammunition separately. Storage resources can be found at [BeSMART for Kids](#).

#2 MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES



These are predominantly crashes involving motor vehicles, but include all transport-related deaths, such as incidents involving All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) and boats.

PREVENTION:

Pediatricians and other providers should discuss the correct type of car/booster seats parents should use, based on their child's age and [size requirements and national recommendations](#) changes as children grow.

#3 DROWNING



Lack of supervision, inability to swim, and no barriers to water were key risk factors in most drowning deaths of children.

PREVENTION:

Families need to know that active supervision of children in water involves a designated adult, no distractions, and children being within arm's reach.

The use of standard safety features around pools, such as barriers, gates, and covers should be required and enforced.

Share [drowning prevention health education resources](#) with caregivers and communities.

RACIAL DISPARITIES



Black children in Louisiana were more likely than white children to die from all three top causes of child mortality in Louisiana.

PREVENTION:

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends pediatric providers assess patients for stressors and social determinants of health often associated with racism (eg, neighborhood safety, poverty, housing inequity) and connect families to resources.

QUICK FACTS

206

yearly average of child deaths ages 1-14 between 2019-2021

67

fewer deaths per year from 2019-2021 if Louisiana had the same mortality rate as the rest of the U.S.

50%

of child deaths in Louisiana were from injury and most are considered preventable

Ages 1 through 4

the age group with the highest injury-related mortality rate among all children in Louisiana

109

infant and child deaths due to homicide between 2019-2021

99

infant and child deaths due to motor vehicle crashes between 2019-2021

64

infant and child deaths due to drowning between 2019-2021

Learn more in the [2019-2021 Child Death Review](#).