

CHILD INJURY AND MORTALITY

In 2010, the mortality rate among children aged 1–4 years was 26.5 per 100,000 children in that age group, and the rate among children aged 5–14 years was 12.9 per 100,000. Only the mortality rate for children aged 5–14 years declined significantly from 2009 levels, by 1 death per 100,000 or 7.2 percent.⁴⁵ However, both the 1–4 year and 5–14 year age groups experienced significant mortality declines from 2000, by 17.9 and 28.9 percent, respectively.^{45,46} These declines may be largely attributed to decreases in unintentional injury,⁴⁷ which remains the leading cause of child death, accounting for over 30 percent of all deaths in 2010. Congenital anomalies (or birth defects) were the second

most common cause of death for 1- to 4-year-olds (3.1 per 100,000) and the third leading cause for 5- to 14-year-olds (0.7 per 100,000). The rate of cancer death was similar for both age groups, about 2 deaths per 100,000, but constituted a greater proportion of deaths among children aged 5–14 years (second leading cause) compared to 1- to 4-year-olds (fourth leading cause) due to their lower overall mortality rate.

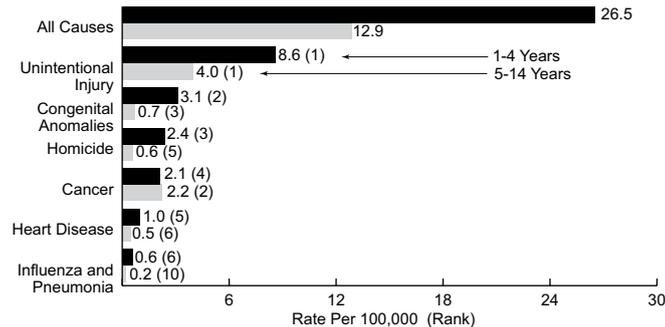
The leading causes of unintentional injury also vary by age. In 2009, drowning accounted for the largest number of unintentional injury deaths among children aged 1–4 years, while motor vehicle accidents was the leading cause among children aged 5–14 years (data not shown).⁴⁸

Child injury and mortality vary greatly by

race and ethnicity. In 2010, mortality rates among children aged 1–14 years were at least twice as high among non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native and non-Hispanic Black children as non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander children, who had the lowest rates. For example, there were 50.1 and 40.2 deaths per 100,000 non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native and non-Hispanic Black children aged 1–4 years, respectively, compared to 18.5 deaths per 100,000 non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander children of the same age. Unintentional injury death rates are also highest among non-Hispanic American Indian/Alaska Native and non-Hispanic Black children (data not shown).⁴⁸

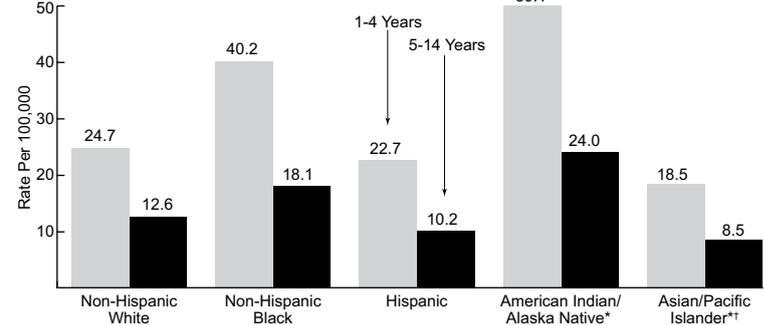
Mortality Rates Among Children Aged 1–14, by Selected Leading Cause and Age, 2010

Source (II.8): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System



Mortality Rates Among Children Aged 1–14, by Race/Ethnicity* and Age, 2010

Source (II.8): Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System



*May include Hispanics.

†Separate estimates for Asians and Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders were not available.