

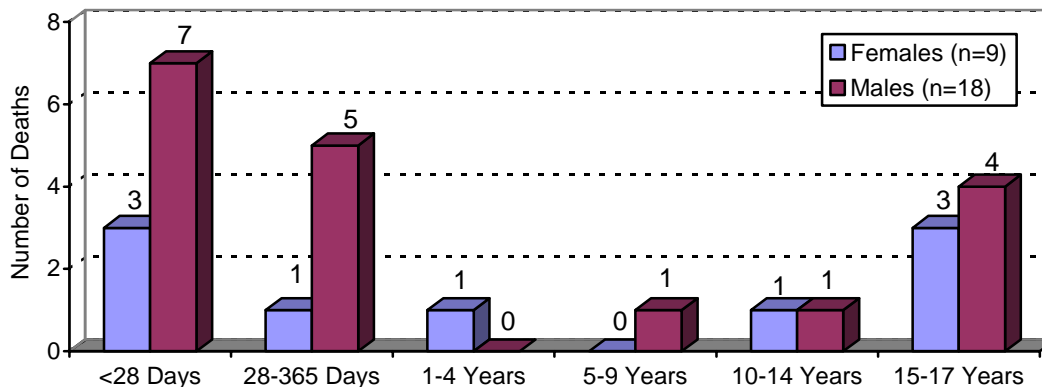


2007 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR COCHISE COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of Cochise County. During 2007, there were 27 deaths among children younger than 18 years of age in Cochise County. Males accounted for 67 percent of child deaths (n=18) and females accounted for 33 percent (n=9). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group, Cochise County, Arizona 2007 (n=27)



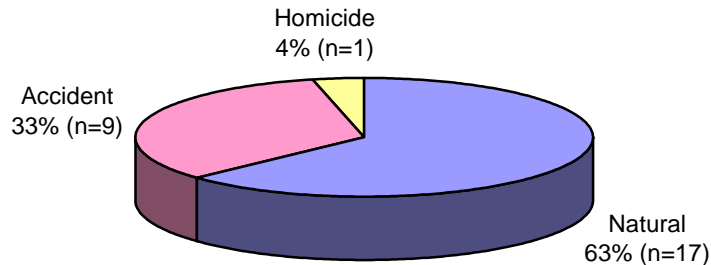
Deaths were over-represented among Non-Hispanic White children in this county. Non-Hispanic White children comprised 49 percent of the population but 56 percent of the fatalities (n=15). Hispanic children comprised 41 percent of the population and 41 percent of the fatalities (n=11). The remaining deaths were among other races/ethnicities (four percent, n=1).

CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Sixty-three percent of deaths in Cochise County were due to natural manners (n=17) and four percent were due to homicides (n=1). Thirty-three percent of deaths were due

to accidents (n=9). There were no suicides among Cochise County children in 2007. Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Cochise County, Arizona 2007 (n=27)



Three children died in motor vehicle crashes, and seven deaths were due to medical causes. Fifteen deaths determined to have been natural were the result of medical causes, including prematurity. Two deaths were due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Table 1. Deaths Among Children by Cause and Manner, Cochise County, Arizona 2007 (n=27)						
Cause	Accident	Homicide	Suicide	Natural	Undetermined	Total
Prematurity				8		8
Medical*				7		7
Fire/burn	3					3
Motor vehicle crash	3					3
Poisoning	3					3
SIDS				2		2
Firearm Injury		1				1
Total	9	1	0	17	0	27

*Excluding prematurity and SIDS

Among the three motor vehicle crash deaths, two children were driving and one child was a pedestrian.

PREVENTABILITY

Child Fatality Review Teams consider a child's death preventable if something could have been done (by an individual such as the caregiver or supervisor, or by the community as a whole) that could have prevented the death. Local Child Fatality Review Teams determined that 48 percent of the deaths among Cochise County children could have been prevented (n=13).

During the review of each child's death, teams identify factors believed to have contributed to the death. Although the presence of a contributing factor typically led to the determination that a death was preventable, this was not always the case. For example, the team might have concluded that an unsafe sleep environment (e.g. infant left sleeping on a couch) was a contributing factor in an unexpected infant death. However, the team may not have had sufficient information (e.g. autopsy report, adequate scene investigation) to determine if the death could have been prevented.

In Cochise County, lack of supervision was a contributing factor for two deaths (seven percent). Drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for five deaths (19 percent), and unsafe infant sleep environments contributed to two deaths (seven percent). More than one factor may have been identified for each death. Table 2 shows the most common factors contributing to the deaths of child residents of Cochise County.

Factor*	Number	Percent
Drugs/alcohol	5	19%
Supervision impaired by drugs/alcohol	4	15%
Unsafe infant sleep environment	2	7%
Lack of supervision	2	7%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN COCHISE COUNTY COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in Cochise County and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 14 Arizona counties. During 2007, 27 children who were residents of Cochise County died, and 1,063 children died who were residents of the other 14 counties. Cochise County had a crude rate of 78.3 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a higher rate than the remaining Arizona counties (64.2 deaths per 100,000 residents). Cochise County also had a larger percentage of preventable deaths than the remaining counties. Nearly half of the deaths among Cochise County children could have been prevented (48 percent, n=13), compared to one-third of child deaths in the remaining counties (33 percent, n=349).

Medical conditions were the second leading cause of child deaths in Cochise County (26 percent), and they were the leading cause of death for the remainder of Arizona (37 percent). Prematurity accounted for 30 percent of deaths in Cochise County but was the second leading cause of death for the rest of Arizona. Motor vehicle crashes accounted for 11 percent of deaths in Cochise County but ten percent in the remaining counties. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for Cochise County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, Cochise County, Arizona 2007			
Cochise County (n=27)		Arizona, Excluding Cochise County (n=1,063)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Prematurity	30%	Medical	37%
Medical	26%	Prematurity	29%
Motor vehicle crash	11%	Motor vehicle crash	10%

In Cochise County, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidents (33 percent), but in the remaining counties, accidents only accounted for 18 percent of child deaths. There was a smaller percentage of natural deaths in Cochise County (63 percent), compared to the rest of the state (69 percent). Homicides accounted for four percent of child deaths in Cochise County and six percent in the remaining counties. Suicides accounted for three percent of the child deaths in the remainder of Arizona, but there were no suicides among children in Cochise County during 2007. Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner in Cochise County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Cochise County, Arizona 2007			
Cochise County (n=27)		Arizona, excluding Cochise County (n=1,063)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	63%	Natural	69%
Accident	33%	Accident	18%
Homicide	4%	Homicide	6%
Suicide	0%	Undetermined	5%
Undetermined	0%	Suicide	3%