

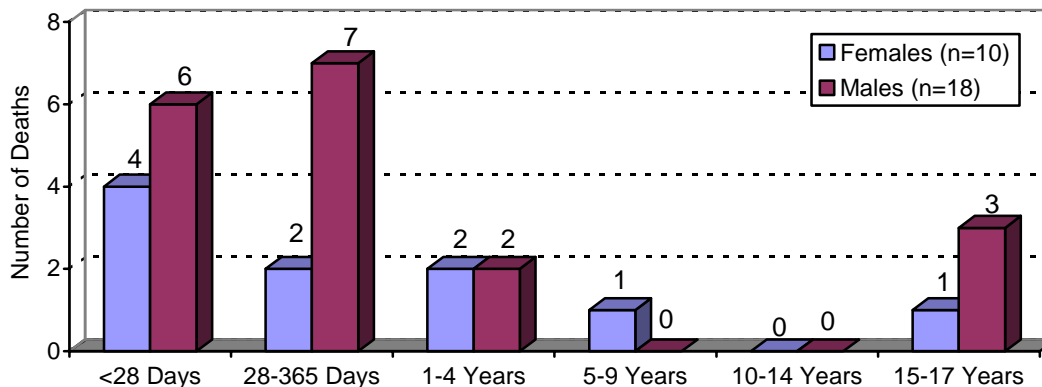


2007 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR YAVAPAI COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of Yavapai County. During 2007, there were 28 deaths among children younger than 18 years of age in Yavapai County. Males accounted for 64 percent of child deaths (n=18) and females accounted for 36 percent (n=10). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group, Yavapai County, Arizona 2007 (n=28)

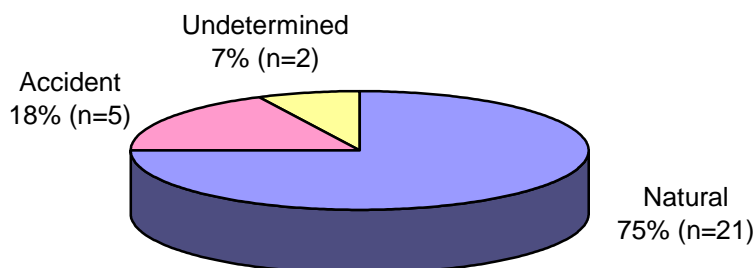


Deaths were under-represented among White, Non-Hispanic and Hispanic children in this county. White, Non-Hispanic children comprised 73 percent of the population in this county but 71 percent of the fatalities (n=20). Hispanic children comprised 21 percent of the population but only 14 percent of the fatalities (n=4). The remaining deaths were among other races/ethnicities (14 percent, n=4).

CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Seventy-five percent of deaths were due to natural manners (n=21). Eighteen percent of deaths were due to accidents (n=5). There were no deaths due to homicide or suicide among Yavapai County children in 2007. Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Yavapai County, Arizona 2007 (n=28)



Three children died in motor vehicle crashes, and 15 deaths were due to medical causes. Twenty-one of the deaths determined to have been natural were the result of medical causes, including prematurity. There were no deaths due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) in Yavapai County during 2007. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Table 1. Deaths Among Children by Cause and Manner, Yavapai County, Arizona 2007 (n=28)

Cause	Accident	Homicide	Suicide	Natural	Undetermined	Total
Medical*				15		15
Prematurity				6		6
Motor vehicle crash	3					3
Exposure	1					1
Poisoning	1					1
Undetermined					2	2
Total	5	0	0	21	2	28

*Excluding prematurity and SIDS

Among the three motor vehicle crash deaths, two children were passengers, 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 would have prevented the death. Local Child Fatality Review Teams determined that 25 percent of the deaths among Yavapai County children could have been prevented (n=7).

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 Yavapai County, lack of supervision was a contributing factor for four deaths (14 percent). Drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for six deaths (21 percent), and unsafe infant sleep environments contributed to three deaths (11 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 Yavapai County.

Factor*	Number	Percent
Drugs/alcohol	6	21%
Lack of supervision	4	14%
Unsafe infant sleep environment	3	11%
*More than one factor may have been identified for each death		

CHILD FATALITIES IN YAVAPAI COUNTY COMPARED TO OTHER ARIZONA COUNTIES

This section provides comparisons between the deaths of children who resided in Yavapai County and the deaths of children who resided in the remaining 14 Arizona counties. During 2007, 28 children who were residents of Yavapai County died, and 1,062 children died who were residents of the other 14 counties. Yavapai County had a crude rate of 63.7 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a slightly lower rate than the remaining Arizona counties (64.5 deaths per 100,000 residents). Yavapai County also had a smaller percentage of preventable deaths than the remaining counties. One quarter of the deaths among Yavapai County children could have been prevented (25 percent, n=7), compared to one-third of child deaths in the remaining counties (33 percent, n=355).

Medical conditions were the leading cause of child deaths in Yavapai County (54 percent), as well as the leading cause of death in the remainder of Arizona (37 percent).

Prematurity accounted for 21 percent of childhood deaths to Yavapai County residents and was also the second leading cause of death for the rest of Arizona. Motor vehicle crashes accounted for 11 percent of deaths in Yavapai County but ten percent in the remaining counties. Table 3 shows the leading causes of child deaths for Yavapai County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 3. Leading Causes of Child Deaths, Yavapai County, Arizona 2007			
Yavapai County (n=28)		Arizona, Excluding Yavapai County (n=1,062)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Medical	54%	Medical	37%
Prematurity	21%	Prematurity	29%
Motor vehicle crash	11%	Motor vehicle crash	10%

In Yavapai County, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidents (18 percent), the same as in the remaining counties, where accidents accounted for 18 percent of child deaths. There was a higher percentage of natural deaths in Yavapai County (75 percent), compared to the rest of the state (68 percent). Though homicides accounted for six percent and suicides accounted for three percent of the child deaths in the remainder of Arizona, there were no homicides or suicides among Yavapai County children. Table 4 shows deaths among children by manner for Yavapai County compared to the rest of Arizona.

Table 4. Deaths Among Children by Manner, Yavapai County, Arizona 2007			
Yavapai County (n=28)		Arizona, excluding Yavapai County (n=1,062)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	75%	Natural	68%
Accident	18%	Accident	18%
Undetermined	7%	Homicide	6%
Homicide	0%	Undetermined	5%
Suicide	0%	Suicide	3%