

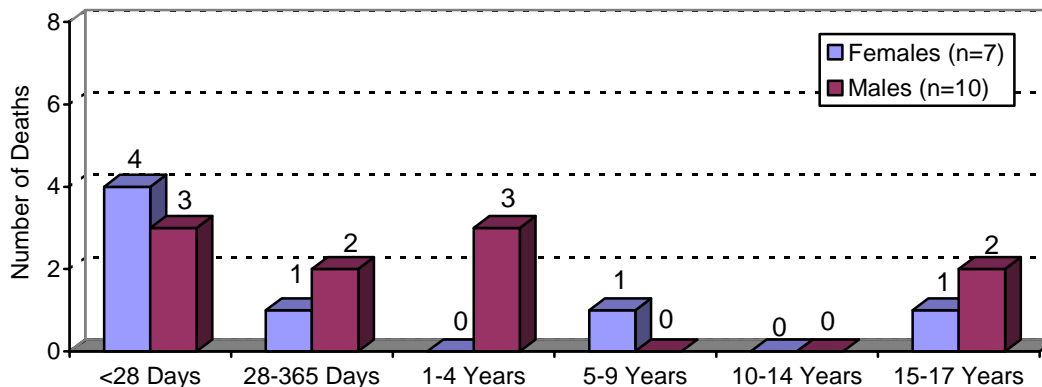


2008 CHILD FATALITY REVIEW FOR YAVAPAI COUNTY

DEMOGRAPHICS

This report provides information on the deaths of children who were residents of Yavapai County. During 2008, there were 17 deaths among children younger than 18 years of age in Yavapai County. Males accounted for 59 percent of child deaths (n=10) and females accounted for 41 percent (n=7). Figure 1 shows deaths among children by sex and age group.

Figure 1. Deaths Among Children by Sex and Age Group, Yavapai County, Arizona 2008 (n=17)

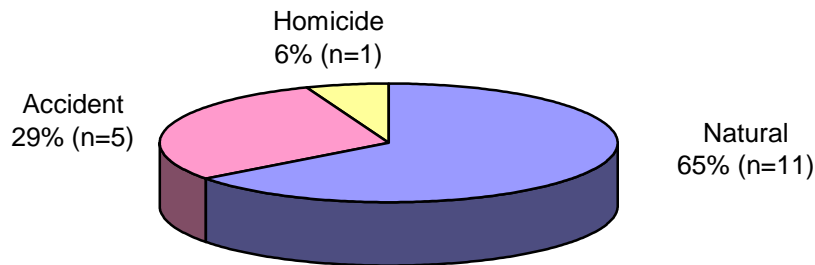


White, Non-Hispanic children comprised 73 percent of the population in this county and 94 percent of the fatalities (n=16). Hispanic children comprised 21 percent of the population and six percent of the fatalities (n=1).

CAUSE AND MANNER OF CHILD FATALITIES

Sixty-five percent of deaths were due to natural manners (n=11), and 29 percent of deaths were due to accidents (n=5). There was one homicide. There were no deaths due to suicide among Yavapai County children in 2008. Figure 2 shows deaths among children by manner.

**Figure 2. Deaths Among Children by Manner,
Yavapai County, Arizona 2008 (n=17)**



Two children died in motor vehicle crashes, and nine deaths were due to medical causes. Eleven of the deaths determined to have been natural were the result of medical causes, including two deaths due to prematurity. Table 1 shows deaths among children by cause and manner.

Cause	Accident	Homicide	Suicide	Natural	Undetermined	Total
Medical*				9		9
Prematurity				2		2
Motor vehicle crash	2					2
Suffocation	2					2
Blunt force trauma		1				1
Other injury	1					1
Total	5	1	0	11	0	17

*Excluding prematurity and SIDS

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 35 percent of the deaths among Yavapai County children could have been prevented (n=6).

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 (23 percent). Drugs and/or alcohol was a contributing factor for two deaths (12 percent), and unsafe infant sleep environments contributed to two deaths (12 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.

Table 2. Contributing Factors for Deaths Among Children, Yavapai County, Arizona 2008		
Factor*	Number	Percent
Lack of supervision	4	23%
Drugs/alcohol	2	12%
Unsafe infant sleep environment	2	12%
*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 2008, 17 children who were residents of Yavapai County died, and 977 children died who were residents of the other 14 counties. Yavapai County had a crude rate of 38.0 child deaths per 100,000 residents, a lower rate than the state as a whole (58.1 deaths per 100,000 residents). Yavapai County also had a similar percentage of preventable deaths to the remaining counties. Thirty-five of the deaths among Yavapai County children could have been prevented (n=6), compared to one-third of child deaths in the remaining counties (33 percent, n=319).

Medical conditions were the leading cause of child deaths in Yavapai County (53 percent), as well as the leading cause of death in the remainder of Arizona (41 percent). Prematurity accounted for 12 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 12 percent of deaths in Yavapai County but seven 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 2008			
Yavapai County (n=17)		Arizona, Excluding Yavapai County (n=977)	
Cause	Percent of Deaths	Cause	Percent of Deaths
Medical	53%	Medical	41%
Prematurity	12%	Prematurity	26%
Motor vehicle crash	12%	Motor vehicle crash	7%

In Yavapai County, the second largest percentage of deaths was due to accidents (29 percent), the same as in the remaining counties, where accidents accounted for 15 percent of child deaths. There was a similar percentage of natural deaths in Yavapai County (65 percent) compared to the rest of the state (68 percent). 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 2008			
Yavapai County (n=17)		Arizona, excluding Yavapai County (n=977)	
Manner	Percent of Deaths	Manner	Percent of Deaths
Natural	65%	Natural	68%
Accident	29%	Accident	15%
Homicide	6%	Undetermined	7%
Undetermined	0%	Homicide	6%
Suicide	0%	Suicide	4%