

Unintentional injuries and violence are the leading causes of death, hospitalization, and disability for children ages 1-18. This fact sheet provides a state snapshot of data on the injury-related Maternal and Child Health Block Grant National Performance Measures and Health Status Indicators, with a special focus on disparities based on race, gender, and rural/urban residence. The fact sheet is intended to be a helpful and easy-to-use tool for needs assessments, planning, program development, and presentations.

The Children's Safety Network (CSN) National Injury and Violence Prevention Resource Center, funded by the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Bureau, works with states to utilize a science-based, public health approach for injury and violence prevention (IVP). CSN is available to provide information and technical assistance on injury surveillance and data; needs assessments; best practices; and the design, implementation, and evaluation of programs to prevent child and adolescent injuries.

Major Causes of Injury Death

Table 1: Leading Causes and Total 5-Year Incidence of Deaths by Age Group, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

Age Groups							
Rank	<1	1 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14		15-19	20-24
1	Short Gestation 997	Unintentional Injury 223	Unintentional Injury 135	Unintentional Injury 163		Unintentional Injury 1,011	Unintentional Injury 1,964
2	Congenital Anomalies 913	Malignant Neoplasms 75	Malignant Neoplasms 79	Malignant Neoplasms 72		Homicide 429	Homicide 733
3	Maternal Pregnancy Comp. 472	Congenital Anomalies 68	Congenital Anomalies 23	Suicide 60		Suicide 321	Suicide 620
4	SIDS 361	Homicide 55	Heart Disease 16	Congenital Anomalies 26	Homicide 26	Malignant Neoplasms 130	Malignant Neoplasms 215
5	Placenta Cord Membranes 260	Heart Disease 21	Homicide 15	Heart Disease 25		Heart Disease 55	Heart Disease 121

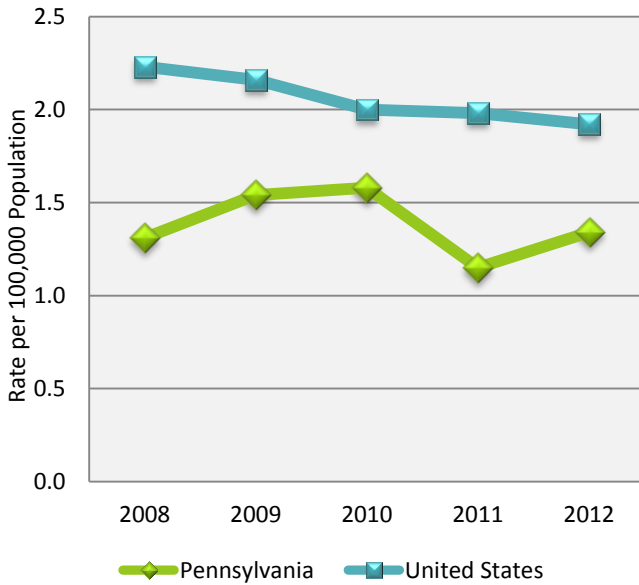
Table 2: Leading Causes and Total 5-Year Incidence of Injury Deaths by Age Group, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

Age Groups								
Rank	<1		1 - 4		5 - 9	10 - 14	15-19	20-24
1	Suffocation 135		Homicide 55	Drowning 55	MVT 44	Suicide 60	MVT 648	MVT 935
2	Homicide 53		MVT 50		Fire/Burn 35	MVT 55	Homicide 429	Poisoning 801
3	Other spec & classifiable ****		Fire/Burn 45		Drowning 18	Fire/Burn 28	Suicide 321	Homicide 733
4	Fire/Burn ****	MVT ****	Suffocation 13		Homicide 15	Homicide 26	Poisoning 190	Suicide 620
5	Undetermined Suffocation ****		Fall 10		Suffocation ****	Drowning 17	Drowning 53	Drowning 38

Note. All mechanisms of suicide and homicide were combined according to intent. Each listed mechanism is unintentional except those otherwise noted. **** = indicates that the cell values range from 1-9 and are suppressed for data confidentiality purposes.

Motor Vehicle-Related Deaths for Children 0-14 Years of Age

Figure 1: Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatality Rate among Children Aged 0 through 14, Pennsylvania and U.S., 2008-2012



Motor vehicle-related deaths remain a major cause of death for children 14 and under. Figure 1 shows the change in the rate of state motor vehicle-related deaths compared to the US rate from 2008-2012. Overall, the rate of death per 100,000 population declined steadily across the US during this period. Figure 2 provides a breakout of the fatalities by type distinguishing motor vehicle occupant deaths (of any vehicle type) from pedestrian and pedal cyclist fatalities. This information allows states to understand which types are responsible for most of the fatalities.

Figure 3 breaks out the fatalities by race and age group. There are considerable differences between races suggesting variations in social norms, safety practices, and the presence of risk factors, including child restraint system (CRS) or safety belt usage, alcohol involved crashes, and the use of helmets. Many factors may affect this variation. Figure 4 provides a breakdown of fatalities by gender and, although there is little variability between males and females for the 10-14 age group, there is an increasing difference in the 15-24 age group. Figure 4 suggests that the female rate decreased for 20-24 year olds compared with the 15-19 year olds while male fatalities increased for 20-24 year olds.

Figure 2: Percentage Distribution of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities by Type among Children Aged 0 through 14, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

35%

of children ages 0 through 14 involved in a motor vehicle fatality were pedestrians.

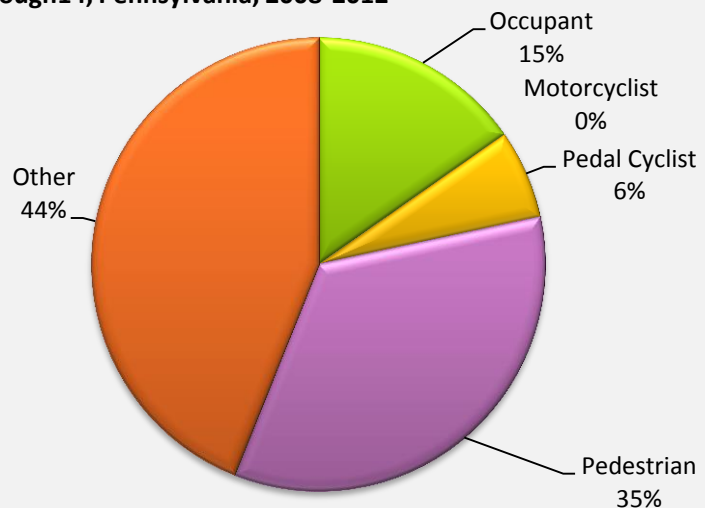


Figure 3: Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatality Rate by Race among Children and Youths Aged 0 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

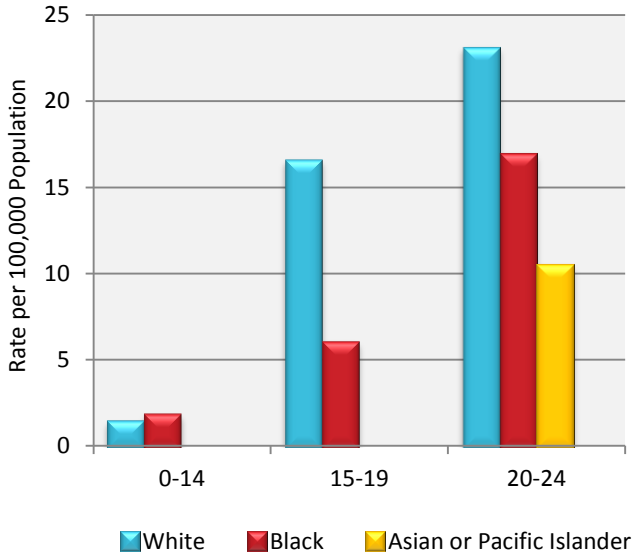


Figure 4: Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatality Rate by Gender among Children and Youths Aged 10 through 24 for Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

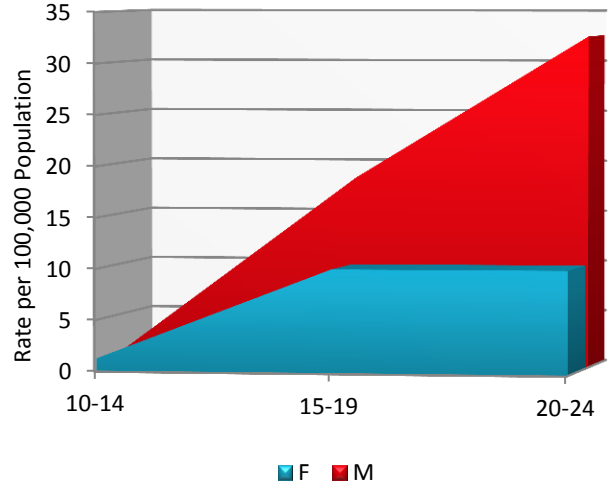
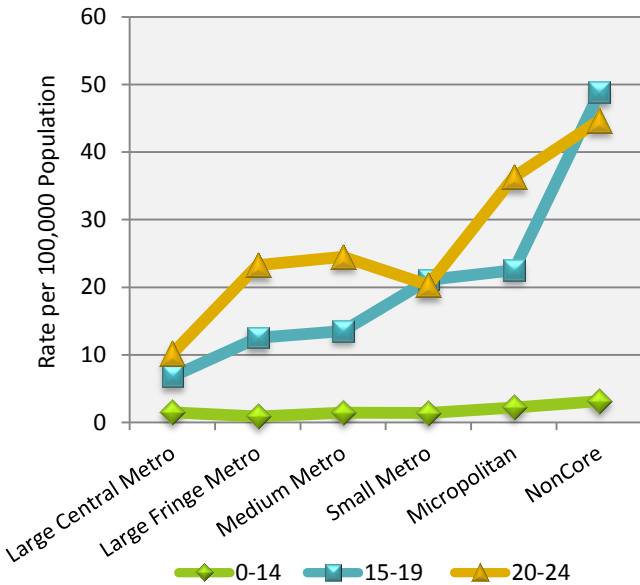


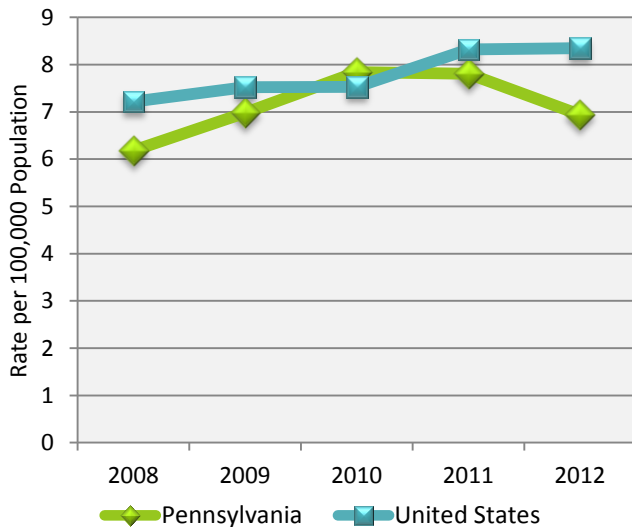
Figure 5: Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatality Rate by Urbanicity among Children and Youths Aged 0 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012



One way of understanding disparities is to look at the rate of injuries by place of occurrence. To show this, CSN has provided the rates for the 0– 14, 15-19 and 20-24 age groups using the urban-rural classification system developed by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). To show how injury rates vary by level of urbanization, a [table based on the classification system can be found here](#) and defines six levels of urbanization: large central metro, large fringe metro, medium metro, small metro, micropolitan, and noncore. Figure 5 shows how the rate varies by age group by place of occurrence/urban-rural setting. This information allows the state to better understand any disparity that may occur between the different settings. Data are provided only for those areas in which 20 or more deaths occurred. Many of these motor vehicle related deaths can be prevented through the implementation of a broad range of evidence-informed interventions and programs. These data are intended to provide a broad overview of the magnitude of the problem and to highlight possible disparities which may exist by race, gender, and urbanicity.

Suicide Deaths for Youths 15-19 Years of Age

Figure 6: Suicide Death Rate among Youths Aged 15 through 19, Pennsylvania and U.S., 2008-2012



Suicide is the 4th leading cause of death and the 3rd leading cause of injury-related death among US youth 10-24 years of age. According to the 2011 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey (YRBS), 15.8% of students seriously considered attempting suicide and 7.8% of students attempted suicide one or more times in the 12 months prior to the survey. Although progress has been made over the past decade in reducing the rate of completed suicides nationally, this reduction has leveled off in the last few years.

The following figures provide state-specific data related to suicide. Figure 6 shows the state rate from 2008-2012 for 15-19 year olds in comparison to the US rate for the same age group and time period. Figure 7 provides information on the means used by the 15-19 year olds for completed suicides. It is important to note that the actual number of suicides is often quite small thus resulting in considerable variation when looking at year to year rates.

Figure 7: Percentage Distribution of Completed Suicides by Means among Youths Aged 15 through 19, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

45%

of youth aged 15 through 19 completed suicide by suffocation.

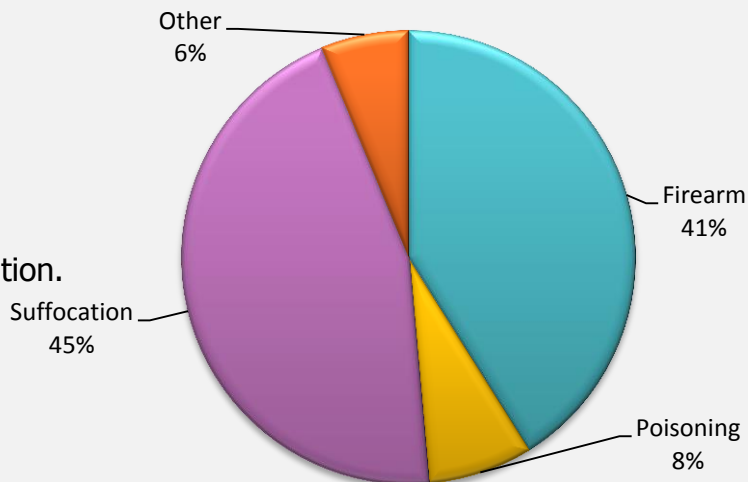


Figure 8: Percentage of High School-Aged Children with Suicide Ideation, Pennsylvania and US, 2005-2013

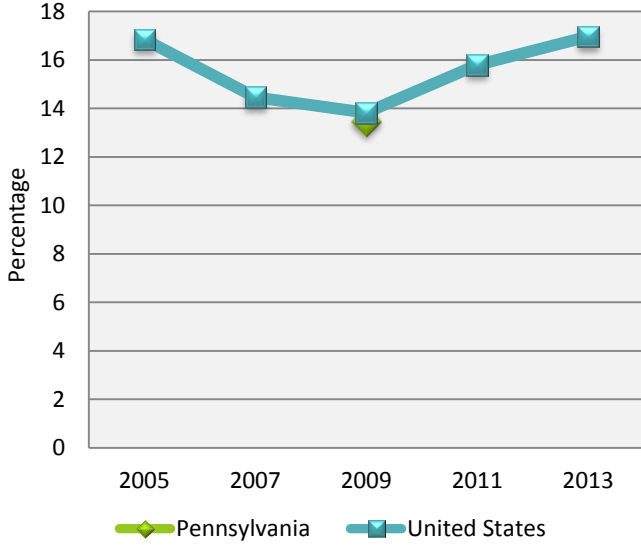


Figure 9: Percentage of High School-Aged Children Treated for Suicide Attempt, Pennsylvania and US, 2005-2013

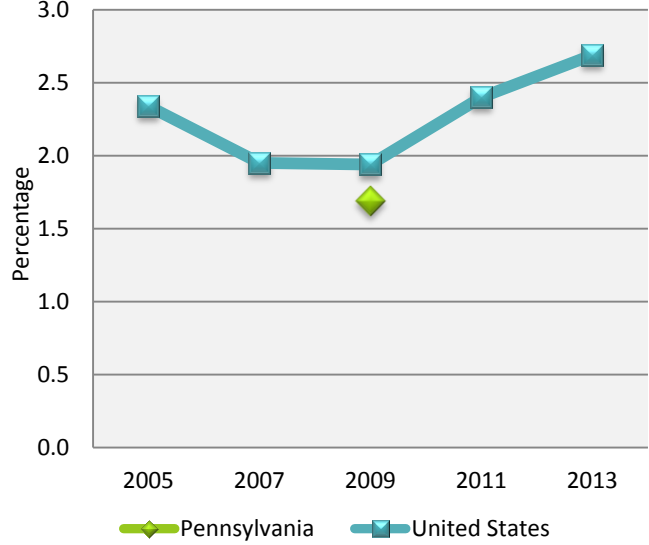


Figure 10: Completed Suicide Rate by Race among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

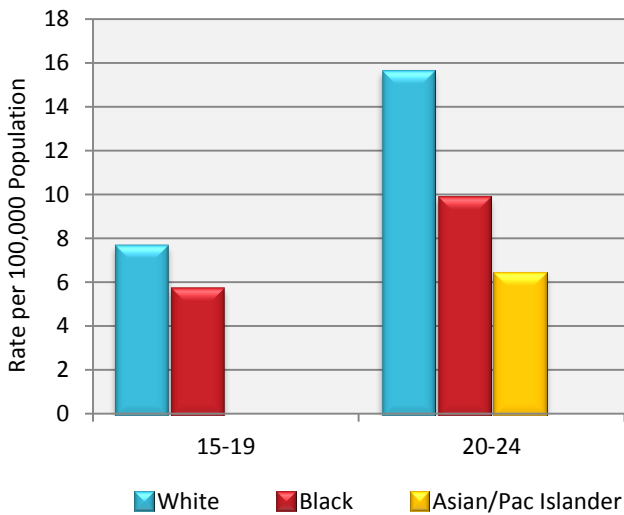


Figure 11: Completed Suicide Rate by Gender among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

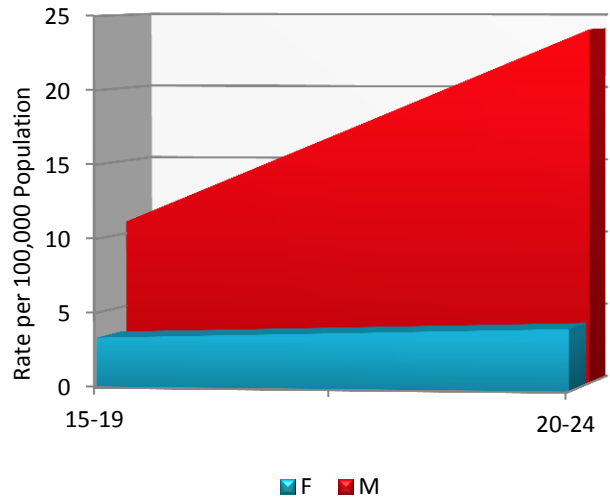
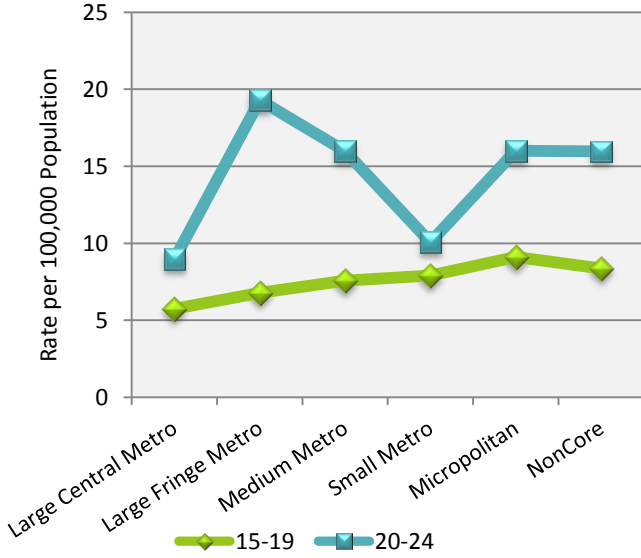


Figure 12: Completed Suicide Rate by Urbanicity among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

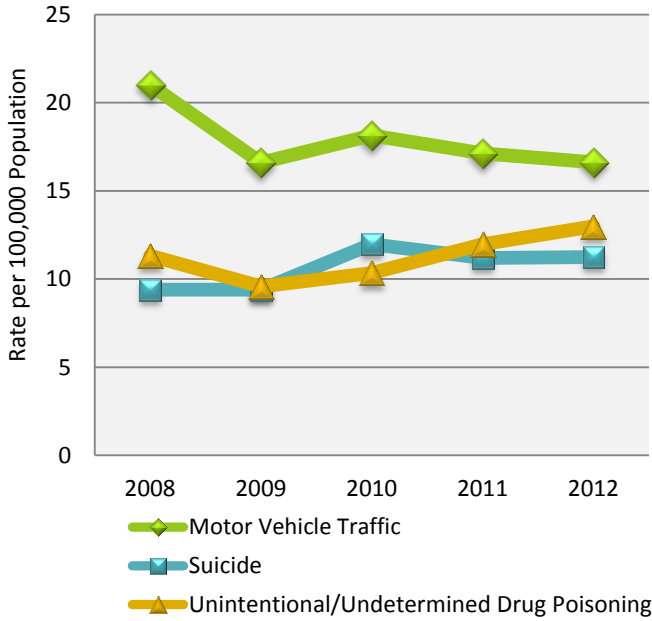


The YRBS provides information about behaviors that contribute to unintentional and intentional violence among youth. Figures 8 and 9 provide information on the percentage of high school students with suicide ideation and the percentage who reported being medically treated for a suicide attempt from 2005-2013, respectively. This information and other information available in the YRBS can help states understand how behaviors are changing within this age group.

Figure 10 shows how the rate differs by race for 15-19 and 20-24 year olds from 2008-2012. Figure 11 shows the difference by gender for the same age group and time period with the male rate for both age groups exceeding the female rate. Figure 12 looks at the variation in rate by urbanicity for 15-24 year olds with the rate increasing as rurality increases (see definition of urbanicity in Motor Vehicle section). This information provides a better understanding of the magnitude of the problem in different parts of the state, helping the state to identify environmental risk factors and facilitate decision making on where to target its suicide prevention efforts.

Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Poisoning Deaths for Youths 15 -24 Years of Age

Figure 13: MVT, Suicide and Drug Poisoning Fatality Rates among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012



Poisoning is the 3rd leading cause of injury-related death among US youth ages 20-24 and the 5th leading cause of injury-related death among US youth ages 15-19. Drug overdose death rates among all ages in the US have more than tripled since 1990 and have never been higher. (1) Poisoning can be intentional or unintentional; poisoning cases reported here include prescription medications, illicit drugs and other, unspecified drugs. According to the national survey *Monitoring the Future*, in 2013 15 percent of high school seniors used a prescription drug non-medically in the past year. (2) Every day in the U.S., an average of 2,000 teenagers use prescription drugs for the first time without a doctor’s guidance. Youth who abuse prescription medications are also more likely to report use of other drugs. (3) Many teens falsely believe that because prescription medicines are prescribed by a physician, are inexpensive, and are widely available that they are safer than illicit drugs.

Figure 13 provides state-specific fatality rates for motor vehicle traffic, suicide, and drug poisoning for youth aged 15 through 24 for the period 2008-2012. Figure 14 provides data on the rate of unintentional and undetermined drug overdoses in the state

compared to the national rate. Figure 15 shows the percentage distribution of fatal unintentional and undetermined drug poisoning by drug type for the period 2008-2012.

Figure 14: Fatal Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Poisoning Rate among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania and U.S., 2008-2012

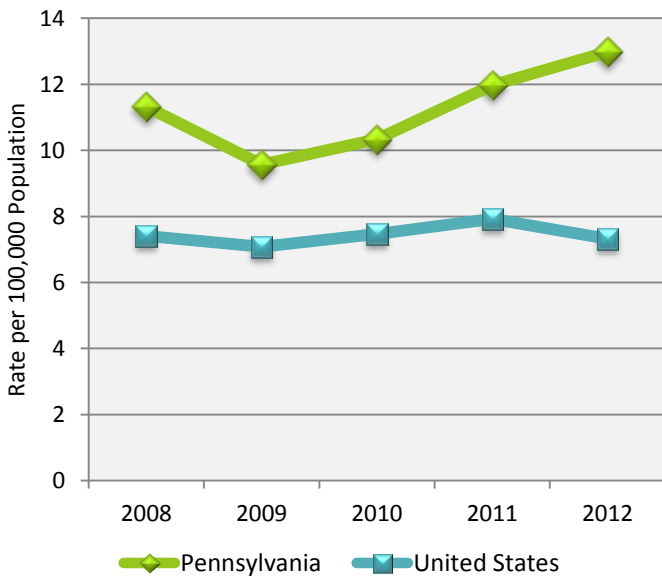


Figure 15: Percentage Distribution of Fatal Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Poisoning by Drug Type among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

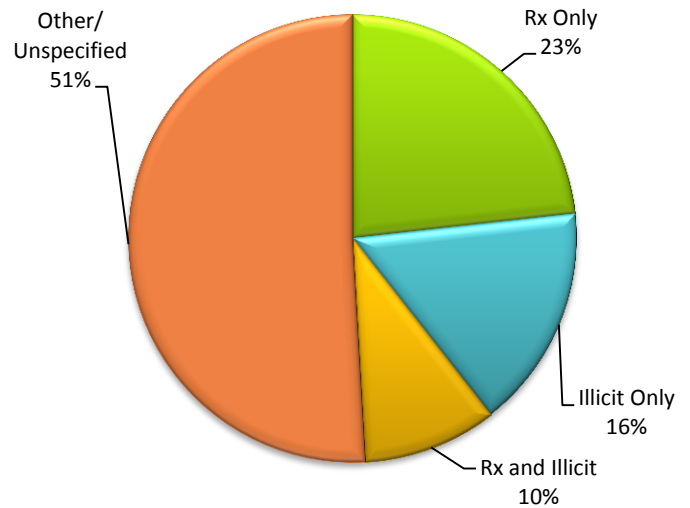


Figure 16: Fatal Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Poisoning Rate by Race among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

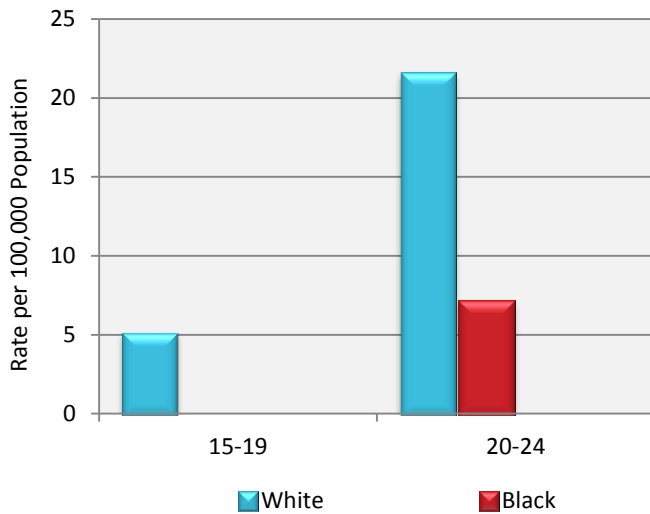


Figure 17: Fatal Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Poisonings Rate by Gender among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

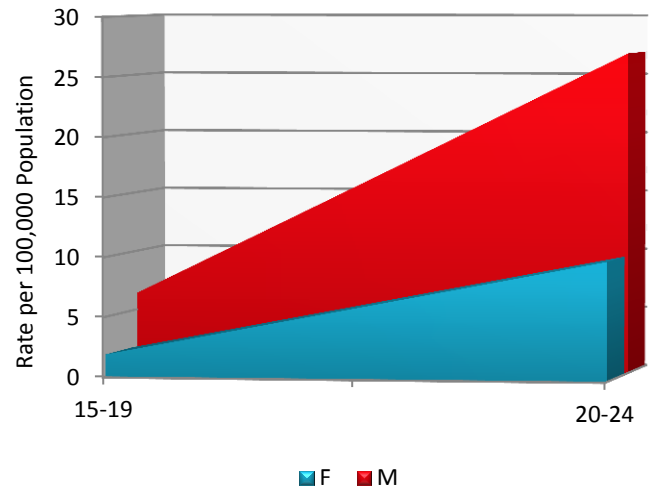


Figure 18: Fatal Unintentional and Undetermined Drug Poisonings Rate by Urbanicity among Youths Aged 15 through 24, Pennsylvania, 2008-2012

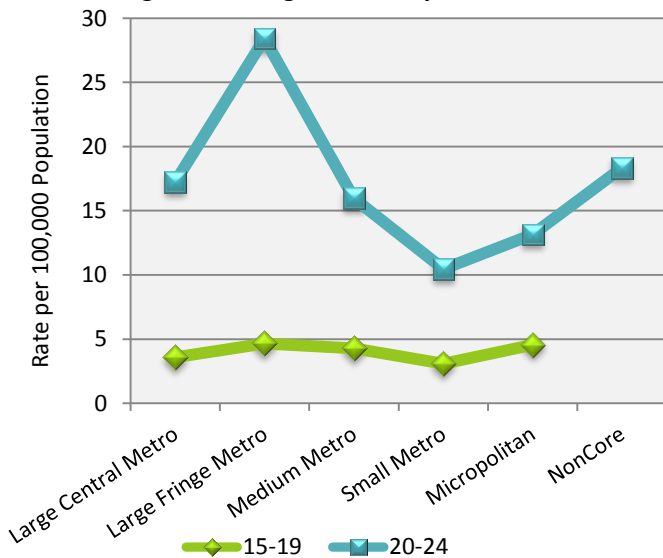


Figure 16 describes the rates of unintentional and undetermined drug poisoning by race for 15-19 and 20-24 year olds from 2008-2012. Although patterns among ages 15-19 and 20-24 vary nationally and among the states, the highest rates of these drug poisoning fatalities most often occur among Whites and Native American. Figure 17 shows the difference by gender for the same age groups and time period and here the male rate for both age groups is usually higher; for ages 20-24 the male rate is generally more than twice the female rate. Figure 18 presents variation in rate of unintentional and undetermined drug poisoning by urbanicity for 15-24 year olds. Unlike suicide and motor vehicle crashes fatality rates, urbanicity alone does not present a consistent pattern in the rate of fatal unintentional and undetermined drug poisonings. Risks associated with gender and race appear to be the target for prevention efforts related to unintentional and undetermined drug poisoning among youths age 15-25 years.

IVP Health Status Indicators

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau requires every state to report on 12 Health Status Indicators. Six of the indicators are related to IVP. The two figures below reflect the data reported for the IVP Health Status Indicators by the state on TVIS for the current application year.

Figure 19: Nonfatal Injury Health Status Indicators, Pennsylvania, 2009-2012

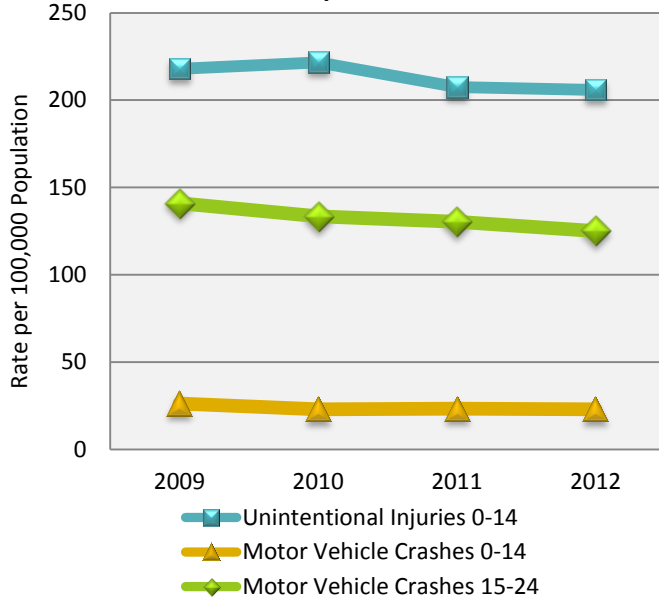
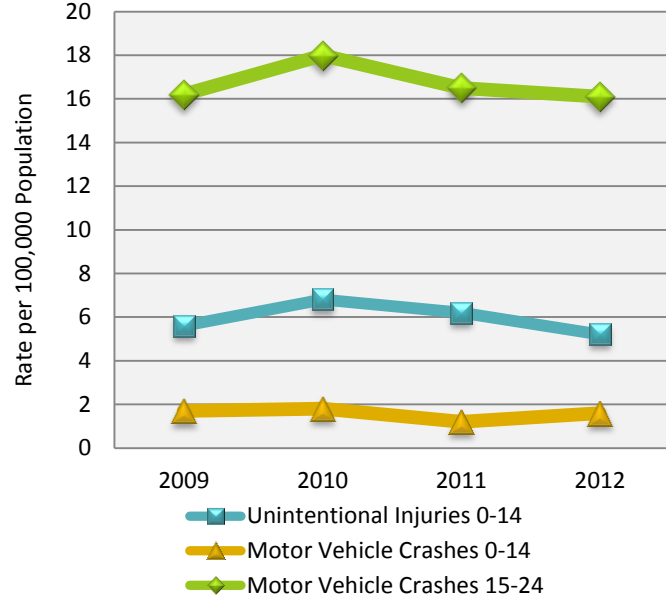


Figure 20: Fatal Injury Health Status Indicators, Pennsylvania, 2009-2012



State Specific Performance Measures and Priority Needs

Each state develops up to 10 State Performance Measures and Priority Needs. The following provides information about the states' selected 2015 injury-related Performance Measures and Priority Needs.

Pennsylvania has the following injury-related State Performance Measure:

- Reduce the death rate per 100,000 due to unintentional injuries among children aged 19 years and younger.

Pennsylvania has the following injury-related Priority Needs:

- Increase behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse) screening, diagnosis, and treatment for pregnant women and mothers (this includes postpartum depression).
- Increase screening for mental health issues among infants, children, and adolescents.
- Expand injury prevention activities (including suicide prevention) for infants, children, and adolescents.

Citations and Sources

Drug Poisoning Section, 1: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Vital Signs: Overdoses of Prescription Opioid Pain Relievers-United States, 199-2008. MMWR 2011; 60: 1-6.

Drug Poisoning Section, 2: Monitoring the Future (sponsored by National Institute on Drug Abuse at The National Institutes of Health) www.monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/monographs/mtf-overview2013.pdf

Drug Poisoning Section, 3: NIDA Drug Facts. www.Teens.drugabuse.gov/drug-facts/prescription-drugs

Table 1 Source: [WISOARS Leading Causes of Death Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Table 2 Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Multiple Cause of Death Data, 2008-2012

Figure 1 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 2 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 3 Source: [WISOARS Injury Mortality Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 4 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 5 Source: [CDC WONDER Multiple Cause of Death data, 2008-2012 and Urban-Rural Definition Classification System](#)

The classification scheme can be found at: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/help/CMF/Urbanization-Methodology.html>. 2006 NCHS Urban-Rural Classification Scheme for Counties, by Deborah D. Ingram and Sheila Franco.

Figure 6 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 7 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figures 8 & 9 Source: [Youth Online: High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey \(YRBS\), 2005-2013](#)

Figure 10 Source: [WISOARS Injury Mortality Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 11 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 12 Source: [CDC WONDER Multiple Cause of Death data, 2008-2012 and Urban-Rural Definition Classification System](#)

Figures 13 & 14 Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Multiple Cause-of-Death Data, 2008-2012. U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division (2012). Intercensal Estimates of the Resident Population by Single Year of Age and Sex for States and the United States (ST-EST00INT-AGESEX): April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2010.

Figure 15 Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Multiple Cause-of-Death Data, 2008-2012.

Figure 16 Source: [WISOARS Injury Mortality Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 17 Source: [WISOARS Fatal Injury Reports, 2008-2012](#)

Figure 18 Source: [CDC WONDER Multiple Cause of Death data, 2008-2012 Urban-Rural Definition Classification System](#)

Figures 19 & 20 Source: HRSA, Title V Information System Multi-Year Report. Some states may have changed their method of calculation.

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the Child and Adolescent Injury and Violence Prevention Resource Centers Cooperative Agreement (grant number U49MC07499) for \$850,000. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.