

Injuries and Violence in the US:

Preventing human and economic costs to society

WHAT WE KNOW

The total lifetime medical and work loss costs of injuries and violence in the United States was **\$671 billion** in 2013. The costs of associated with fatal injuries was \$214 billion while nonfatal injuries accounted for over \$457 billion.

Injuries, including all causes of unintentional and violence-related injuries combined, account for 59% of all deaths among people ages 1-44 years of age in the U.S.—that is more deaths than non-communicable diseases and infectious diseases combined. Injuries killed more than 192,000 in 2013—one person every three minutes.

Each year, millions of people are injured and survive. In fact, more than 3 million people are hospitalized, 27 million people are treated in emergency departments and released each year. These people are often faced with life-long mental, physical, and financial problems.



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www.cdc.gov/injury

Injuries and violence are a substantial, preventable economic burden



Nearly \$130 billion of the fatal injury costs were attributable to unintentional injuries, followed by suicide (\$50.8 billion) and homicide (\$26.4 billion).



Drug poisonings, including prescription drug overdoses, accounted for 27% of fatal injury costs.



Falls (37%) and transportation-related injuries (21%) accounted for the majority of costs treated in emergency departments.



Males account for the majority (78%) of fatal injury costs (\$166.7 billion) and nonfatal injury costs (63%; \$287.5 billion).

What Can Be Done?

For more than 20 years, CDC's Injury Center has helped protect Americans from violence and injury threats. We can work together to protect people from violence and injury by:

Identifying and Monitoring the Problem

- Using cutting-edge data systems to track injuries and deaths to better understand the nature and scope of the problem and ensure that prevention initiatives are guided by the best available data.

Conducting Research to Understand What Works

- Conducting research to understand risk and protective factors and find what works to prevent injuries and violence, informing decision making about programs and policies to reduce violence and injuries.

Supporting National and State Programs

- Supporting national and state injury programs to collect and use data, plan injury prevention and control efforts, and carry out and evaluate potentially life-saving interventions.

Raising Awareness and Educating

- Raising awareness and educating health care providers, policy makers, public health practitioners, and the public so we can advance prevention initiatives and promote policies that save lives.

WE KNOW WHAT WORKS TO PREVENT INJURY AND VIOLENCE

At CDC's Injury Center we have sharpened our focus on key injury and violence issues where we believe we can quickly have an impact in protecting Americans. Some examples of what can be done in these key areas include:

Motor Vehicle Injury: Improving proper restraint use, including seat belts, child safety seats, and booster seats.

Prescription Drug Overdose: Supplying healthcare providers and states with data, tools, and guidance for evidence-based decision making.

Youth Sports Concussion: Creating a culture of safety for youth sports; encouraging young athletes to report symptoms and providing concussion resources to coaches and parents.

Child Abuse and Neglect: Ensuring children have safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments.

Older Adult Falls: Making fall prevention a routine part of clinical care with tools for screening, assessing, treating, and following-up with patients.

Sexual Violence: Using a comprehensive approach to promote respectful relationships, mobilize bystanders, empower women and girls, and create social and physical environments that are safe for all.

Join us in preventing injury and violence.
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