

Injury Deaths to MA Residents¹

2016

Injuries are the leading cause of death for people ages 1 through 44. In 2016, there were **4,744** injury deaths among Massachusetts residents, a rate of **69.5** injuries for every 100,000 residents. The leading causes of injury deaths were poisoning/overdose, fall, and suffocation.

Key Indicators	INJURY INTENT					Totals
	Unintentional	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Legal Intervention/Other ²	
Total Counts by Injury Intent	3,887	636	140	69	12	4,744
Percent by Intent	82%	13.4%	3.0%	1.5%	0.3%	100.0%
Rate per 100,000 population ³	57.0	9.3	2.1	1.0	0.2	69.5

Injury Cause	Unintentional	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Legal Intervention/Other ²	Total Number	Percent of Total ⁴	Crude Rate per 100,000 ³
Cut/pierce	1	27	24	0	0	52	1.1%	0.8
Drowning/submersion	63	12	1	9		85	1.8%	1.2
Fall	716	19	0	0		735	15.5%	10.8
Fire/burn	41	3	0	1		45	0.9%	0.7
Firearm	1	141	88	1	11	242	5.1%	3.5
Machinery	3					3	--	--
Natural/environmental	14					14	0.3%	0.2
Poisoning/overdose	2,231	132	1	32	0	2,396	50.5%	35.1
Struck by, against	7		0		0	7	0.1%	0.1
Suffocation/hanging	156	281	4	0		441	9.3%	6.5
Transport Injuries ⁵	481	3	0	0	0	484	10.2%	7.1
<i>Motor vehicle traffic-related</i>	446					446	9.4%	6.5
<i>Occupant⁶</i>	297					297	6.3%	4.4
<i>Motorcyclist</i>	41					41	0.9%	0.6
<i>Pedal cyclist</i>	12					12	0.3%	0.2
<i>Pedestrian</i>	96					96	2.0%	1.4
<i>Pedal cyclist, other</i>	8					8	0.2%	0.1
<i>Pedestrian, other</i>	12					12	0.3%	0.2
<i>Other land transport</i>	11					11	0.2%	0.2
<i>Other transport</i>	4					4	--	--
Other specified & classifiable	16	13	0	0	0	29	0.6%	0.4
Other specified, not classifiable	54	5	5	4	1	69	1.5%	1.0
Unspecified	103	0	17	22	0	142	3.0%	2.1

Source: Registry of Vital Records and Statistics, Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

1) Includes Massachusetts residents who died in or out-of-state. Non-Ma residents are excluded. An injury-related fatality is defined as any death with an ICD-10 code of U01-U03 or V01-Y89 in the underlying cause field. Adverse surgical and medical complication deaths are not included (N=49).

Additional data for injury deaths are included in the 2016 Death Report: <https://www.mass.gov/lists/death-data>

However, counts may differ from those presented here, due to slight definitional differences.

2) Legal Intervention includes fatalities resulting from police actions and operations of war.

3) Rates provided are crude rather than age-adjusted and may differ slightly from other department publications. Rates are not calculated on counts of less than five, and rates based on counts less than twenty may be unstable. Data used to calculate rates are based on Census Estimates for 2016 MA population 6,823,721.

4) Totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

5) Transport includes several subcategories (shown in italics).

6) Includes motor vehicle drivers, passengers and unspecified persons.

- Injury categories are based on the CDC's "Recommended framework of E-code groupings for presenting injury mortality and morbidity data." This framework does not provide for intentionality for certain cause categories as indicated by gray shading.

- Data were extracted and compiled by the Injury Surveillance Program, MDPH. Release Date: October 2020

