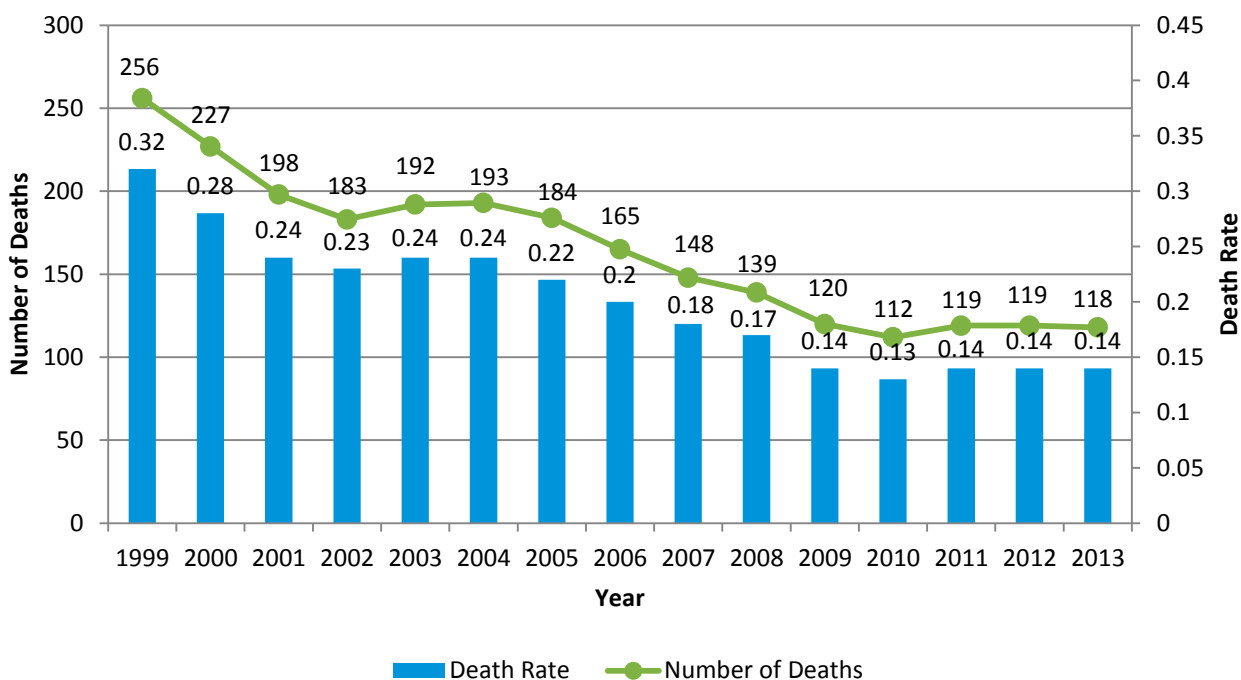


Bicycle, Skate and Skateboard Safety Fact Sheet (2015)

Fatalities

- 118 children ages 19 and under died from biking-related injuries in 2013.¹
 - 52% of children (61) who died from bike-related injuries in 2013 were 15-19 years old.¹
 - 89% of children (105) who died from bike-related injuries were boys.¹
- There has been a 54% reduction in the number of bike-related deaths since 1999.¹

1999-2013 Bike Fatalities and Death Rate Among Children Ages 19 and Under



Death Rate per 100,000 Children

Injuries

- 238,337 children ages 19 and under were seen in emergency rooms for injuries from riding bikes in 2013.¹
- 84,911 children ages 19 and under had skateboard-related injuries, and 5,517 had skating-related injuries, in 2013.²
- More children ages 5 to 14 are seen in emergency departments for injuries related to biking than any other sport.^{3,4,5}



Additional Statistics

- Each month, three out of four children in the U.S. ride a bicycle.⁶
- Approximately 55 percent of children don't always wear a helmet while bicycling.⁶
- Apart from the automobile, bicycles are tied to more childhood injuries than any other consumer product.^{7,8}
- A child who rides with companions wearing helmets or adults in general is more likely to wear a helmet himself.⁹
- Compared to older children, younger children are more likely to wear helmets.¹⁰
- Helmet use is the single most effective way to reduce bicycle-related fatalities.¹¹
- A helmet on the head of a younger bicyclist saves society \$580.¹²
- Helmets reduce the risk of head injury by at least 45 percent, brain injury by 33 percent, facial injury by 27 percent and fatal injury by 29 percent.⁶ One study suggests that helmet use can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent and severe brain injury by 88 percent.¹³
- There are more injuries associated with nonmotorized scooters among children younger than 15 years old than any other toy.¹⁴

References

- ¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). National Center for Injury Prevention and Control Website. Unintentional pedal cyclist fatal and nonfatal injuries (includes MV traffic and other), children ages 19 and under. Available from: <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/>. Accessed February 23, 2015.
- ² U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) injury data. NEISS estimates Query Builder Available from: <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Research--Statistics/NEISS-Injury-Data/>. Accessed November 2014.
- ³ Consumer Product Safety Commission, McDonalds. National survey on bike helmet usage: helmet use on the rise, but half of all riders still not wearing helmets. Washington, DC: Consumer Product Safety Commission; 1994.
- ⁴ Brain Injury Association of America. Bicycle Safety. [Fact Sheet]. McLean, VA: Brain Injury Association of America; 2001.
- ⁵ Brain Injury Association of America. Brain injury prevention. Brain Injury Association of America Website. Available from: <http://www.biausa.org/SC/prevention.htm>. Accessed November 4, 2014.
- ⁶ Dellinger AM, Kresnow M. Bicycle helmet use among children in the United States: the effects of legislation, personal and household factors. *J Safe Res.* 2010; 41: 375-380.
- ⁷ Wilson MH, et al. Saving children: a guide to injury prevention. New York: Oxford University Press; 1991.
- ⁸ Mehan TJ, et al. Bicycle-related injuries among children and adolescents in the United States. *Clin Pediatr.* 2009; 48(2): 166-173
- ⁹ Khambalia A, MacArthur C, Parkin PC. Peer and adult companion helmet use is associated with bicycle helmet use by children. *Pediatrics.* 2005; 116: 939-942.
- ¹⁰ Dellinger AM, Kresnow M. Bicycle helmet use among children in the United States: the effects of legislation, personal and household factors. *J Safe Res.* 2010; 41: 375-380.
- ¹¹ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic safety facts, laws: bicycle helmet use laws. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; January 2008.
- ¹² Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, Injury Prevention: What Works? A Summary of Cost-Outcome Analysis for Injury Prevention Programs (2012 Update). Available at <http://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/sites/childrensafetynetwork.org/files/InjuryPreventionWhatWorks2012.pdf>. Accessed November 4, 2014.
- ¹³ Thompson RS, Rivara FP, Thompson DC. A case-control study of the effectiveness of bicycle safety helmets. *N Engl J Med.* 1989; 320(21): 1361-7.
- ¹⁴ Tu Y. Toy-related deaths and injuries calendar year 2013. Bethesda, MD: Consumer Product Safety Commission, Division of Hazard Analysis; November 2014.

Last updated February 2015. If you have a question about this factsheet, please call 202-662-0600.

