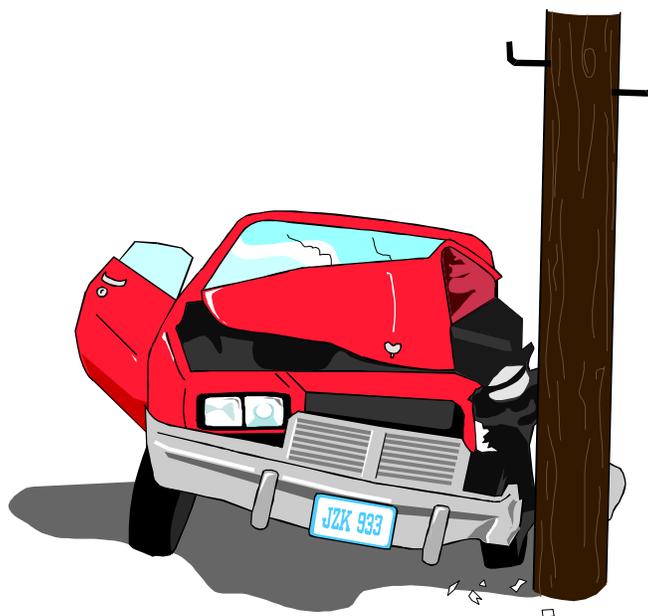


CHILDHOOD DEATHS



This chapter provides information on deaths to children from 1 year through 17 years. Deaths for children have been separated into three age groups: 1-4 years, 5-9 years, and 10-17 years. For infant deaths (under 1 year) see the section on Infant Deaths in the Fetal and Infant Deaths chapter. Tables 3.1A and 3.1B show deaths by residence (census area or Native regional corporation) and by age group.

TABLE 3.1A CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1997

CENSUS AREA OF RESIDENCE	AGE			TOTAL
	1-4	5-9	10-17	
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	8	5	13	26
BETHEL	4	1	3	8
DENALI BOROUGH	1			1
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	3	1	5	9
JUNEAU BOROUGH	1		1	2
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH	3	5	3	11
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH	1		2	3
LAKE AND PENINSULA	1			1
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH			5	5
NOME	1	1	1	3
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH	1	2	3	6
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH	1	1	1	3
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS			2	2
VALDEZ-CORDOVA			1	1
WADE HAMPTON			2	2
YUKON-KOYUKUK			1	1
TOTAL	25	16	43	84

TABLE 3.1B CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE, ALASKA, 1997

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF RESIDENCE	AGE			TOTAL
	1-4	5-9	10-17	
ARCTIC SLOPE	1	2	3	6
BERING STRAITS	1	1	1	3
CALISTA	4	1	5	10
CHUGACH	1		1	2
COOK INLET	11	10	21	42
DOYON	4	1	8	13
NANA	1	1	1	3
SEALASKA	2		3	5
TOTAL	25	16	43	84

Tables 3.2A, 3.2B, and 3.2C show deaths by census area or Native regional corporation where the injury or death occurred. If the death certificate shows a place of injury, then that is used. If the death certificate does not show a place of injury, the location of death is used. For accidents, suicides or homicides, it is more relevant to know the location of the injury rather than where the decedent died if he or she was transferred to a hospital in another area. Table 3.2C shows the manner of death (natural causes, accidents, suicides, homicides, or unknown).

TABLE 3.2A CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE INJURY OR DEATH OCCURRED, ALASKA, 1997

CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE	AGE			TOTAL
	1-4	5-9	10-17	
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	8	5	15	28
BETHEL	2	1	3	6
DENALI BOROUGH	2			2
DILLINGHAM	1			1
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	3	1	5	9
JUNEAU BOROUGH			1	1
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH	1	4	2	7
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH	1		1	2
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH			2	2
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH			4	4
NOME	1	1	1	3
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH	1	2	3	6
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH	1	1	1	3
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN			1	1
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS			1	1
WADE HAMPTON			2	2
YUKON-KOYUKUK			1	1
OUT OF STATE	4	1		5
TOTAL	25	16	43	84

TABLE 3.2B CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION WHERE INJURY OR DEATH OCCURRED, ALASKA, 1997

NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION OF OCCURRENCE	AGE			TOTAL
	1-4	5-9	10-17	
ARCTIC SLOPE	1	2	3	6
BERING STRAITS	1	1	1	3
BRISTOL BAY	1			1
CALISTA	2	1	5	8
COOK INLET	9	9	21	39
DOYON	5	1	7	13
KONIAG			2	2
NANA	1	1	1	3
SEALASKA	1		3	4
OUTSIDE ALASKA	4	1		5
TOTAL	25	16	43	84

Table 3.2C shows manner of death by census area. Accidents, suicides, homicides and "other" are external causes (sometimes called "violent deaths"). The "other" category includes violent deaths for which the manner is unknown; they could be homicides, suicides, or accidents. Natural causes are internal causes (from within the body), such as cancer, heart disease, etc.

TABLE 3.2C CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY CENSUS AREA WHERE INJURY OR DEATH OCCURRED AND MANNER OF DEATH, ALASKA, 1997

CENSUS AREA OF OCCURRENCE	NATURAL CAUSE	ACCIDENT	SUICIDE	HOMICIDE	OTHER/ UNKNOWN	TOTAL
ANCHORAGE BOROUGH	12	9	3	4		28
BETHEL	2	3		1		6
DENALI BOROUGH		2				2
DILLINGHAM	1					1
FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH	1	4		3	1	9
JUNEAU BOROUGH		1				1
KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH		6			1	7
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH	1	1				2
KODIAK ISLAND BOROUGH		1	1			2
MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH	3	1				4
NOME		3				3
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH		6				6
NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH		2	1			3
PRINCE OF WALES-OUTER KETCHIKAN		1				1
SOUTHEAST FAIRBANKS			1			1
WADE HAMPTON			1	1		2
YUKON-KOYUKUK			1			1
OUTSIDE ALASKA	5					5
TOTAL	25	40	8	9	2	84

Table 3.3 shows age of death, and the race and sex of decedent. In every age group, deaths to boys outnumbered deaths to girls; however, the difference is most glaring in the 10-17 age group where deaths to boys outnumbered

deaths to girls by more than 3:1. In the 1-4 and 5-9 age groups, deaths to Natives outnumbered deaths to whites, even though whites outnumbered Natives in those population groups by almost 3:1.

TABLE 3.3 CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY AGE, RACE, AND SEX, ALASKA, 1997

AGE	WHITE			NATIVE			OTHER		TOTAL		
	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	BOYS	TOTAL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
1-4	7	5	12	7	6	13			14	11	25
5-9	3	2	5	6	4	10	1	1	10	6	16
10-17	21	6	27	10	4	14	2	2	33	10	43
TOTAL	31	13	44	23	14	37	3	3	57	27	84

Tables 3.4A shows manner of death by age. For groupings of ICD-9 codes used in Tables 3.4A and 3.4B, please see Table C.2 in Appendix C.

In children from 1-17, accidents account for the largest number of deaths. In fact, in the 5-9 age group more than half of all deaths were due to accidents. In the 10-17 age group, suicides and homicides combined account for almost as many deaths as accidents.

TABLE 3.4A CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY MANNER OF DEATH AND AGE, ALASKA, 1997

MANNER OF DEATH	AGE			TOTAL
	1-4	5-9	10-17	
NATURAL CAUSE	11	4	10	25
ACCIDENT	13	11	16	40
SUICIDE		1	7	8
HOMICIDE	1		8	9
OTHER			2	2
TOTAL	25	16	43	84

Table 3.4B shows cause of death by age group. In this table causes of death combine different manners of death and are grouped by external factors such as drowning, firearms, motor vehicles, etc. Motor vehicles accounted for the largest number of deaths in the 1-4 age group (5 deaths); motor vehicle, air transport and poisoning account for the largest number of deaths in the 5-9 age group (3 each); and firearms accounted for the largest number of deaths in the 10-17 age group (14 or 1/3 of all deaths in that age group). There were 9 deaths in this age group attributable to motor vehicles.

TABLE 3.4B CHILDHOOD DEATHS BY SELECTED CAUSE AND AGE, ALASKA, 1997

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE			TOTAL
	1-4	5-9	10-17	
CANCER	1	1	4	6
BENIGN NEOPLASMS	1	1		2
NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS	3		1	4
HEART DISEASE			2	2
CONGENITAL ANOMALIES	4			4
OTHER NATURAL CAUSES	2	2	3	7
MOTOR VEHICLE	5	3	9	17
DROWNING	2	2	1	5
AIR TRANSPORT	2	3	2	7
FIRE/BURNS	2		1	3
EXPOSURE	1			1
POISONING		3	3	6
STRANGULATION		1	2	3
FIREARMS			14	14
OTHER ACCIDENTS	1			1
OTHER HOMICIDES	1		1	2
TOTAL	25	16	43	84