

LOUISIANA FATAL INJURIES

Injuries are the leading cause of death for Louisiana residents ages 1-44.

Top 3 causes of injury that led to death for Louisiana residents in 2019¹

Every year, over 4,000 people in Louisiana die due to injury.

1. Poisoning-related (1,288 deaths)

Higher than national rate (includes drug-related overdoses with legal and illegal drugs)¹

Top cause for females



2. Firearm-related (977 deaths)

Top cause for males



3. Motor Vehicle Crash-related (749 deaths)



\$6,039,218,000

Total combined medical and work loss costs due to all fatal injury in Louisiana in 2017²

FATAL INJURY FEMALES VS MALES



The fatal injury rate for men in Louisiana is **over 2.5 times** the fatal injury rate for women.¹

Louisiana's homicide rate is **3rd** in the nation.³



SUICIDES VS HOMICIDES



Louisiana's suicide rate is **similar to** its homicide rate. In other states, suicides double or triple the rate of homicides.³

Top causes vary by age group (2019)¹



SUFFOCATION
66 deaths*



CRASH-RELATED
24 deaths



FIREARM-RELATED
435 deaths



POISONING-RELATED
659 deaths



FALL-RELATED
282 deaths

*60 of 66 suffocation deaths were categorized as Accidental Suffocation and Strangulation in Bed

INJURIES CAN BE PREVENTED!

Find talking points and strategies to create a safer Louisiana on reverse side.

LOUISIANA FATAL INJURIES



Key points and prevention strategies

Preventable injuries cost Louisiana MORE MONEY than other states.

- Fatal injuries are a significant economic burden in Louisiana. In 2014, Louisiana ranked **4th in the nation for the highest lifetime fatal injury costs** (\$1,041 per capita).¹
- Fatal injuries cost Louisiana **over \$6 billion in medical and work loss expenses in 2017**.⁴ Medical and work loss doesn't include legal (law enforcement) or emotional/pain suffering damage

Average Lifetime Costs for each:

Homicide	Suicide	Unintentional Injury
\$1.8M	\$1.3M	\$1.2M

*M denotes Millions

Preventable injuries cost Louisiana MORE LIVES than other states.

- Louisiana has the **3rd highest** statewide homicide rate in the U.S, (14.0 per 100,000). Orleans Parish has the **5th highest** homicide rate (29.0 per 100,000) compared to homicide rates in all other counties in the U.S.²
- Louisiana's rate of fatal motor vehicle crashes is **higher than the national rate** (15.7 vs 11.5 per 100,000).²
- Louisiana's suicide rate in 2019 was 15.1 per 100,000.²

FATAL INJURY & FIREARMS

- Louisiana has the **6th highest** rate of firearm-related fatalities in the United States (21.8 per 100,000). It is **almost double the national rate** (12.1 per 100,000).²
- In Louisiana, **firearms are used in 83.4% of homicides and 63.4% of suicides**.²

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES (TBI)

- Suicide attempts, motor vehicle crashes, and falls can result in TBI, which may ultimately lead to death. In 2019, **23% of all fatal injuries in Louisiana involved traumatic brain injuries**.³
- Specifically, about half of suicides (55%), firearm-related fatalities (54%), and unintentional fall fatalities (53%) involved TBIs, almost one-third of homicides (30%) and about one-fifth of motor vehicle related fatalities (19%) involved TBIs.

What does successful injury prevention look like?

- More than **4,000 deaths would be prevented** in Louisiana alone.
- Firearm safety training and promotion, policy and systems-level changes, and evidence-based interventions that build resilience and positive coping skills would lead to **fewer violent deaths**.
- Evidence-based interventions for preventing substance abuse and misuse at state and community levels would lead to **healthier families and communities**.
- Evidence-based educational and promotional activities focused on motor vehicle safety, policy changes, environmental modifications and increased policy enforcement would lead to **safer streets, highways and sidewalks**.



Sources 1. Luo F, Florence C. State-Level Lifetime Medical and Work-Loss Costs of Fatal Injuries — United States, 2014. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2017;66:1–11. 2. CDC WONDER, 2019 3. Louisiana 2019 Vital Records 4. WISQARS Fatal Injury Report

