

## Unintentional Injury Deaths for ages 14-19

### Introduction

*This issue of Facts on KIDS in South Dakota focuses on the leading cause of death for teens: unintentional injury. It looks at data for the United States, South Dakota, and bordering states.*

### Unintentional Injury Deaths

Unintentional injuries are those that are predictable and preventable if proper safety measures are in place. They include drownings, poisonings, burns, traffic crashes, falls. From 1999 to 2010, unintentional injuries were the nation's leading cause of death in the age groups 1 to 44. During that same period, unintentional injury deaths were the leading cause of death for the same age groups in South Dakota.

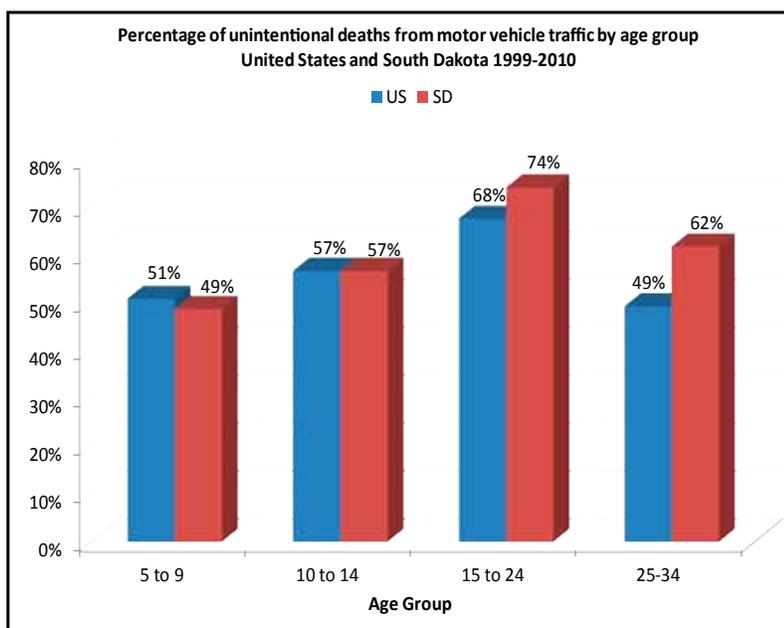
What was the leading cause of injury deaths in the United States and South Dakota for 1999-2010? For the age groups 1 to 34 and ages 5 to 64 it was motor vehicle traffic. (See chart.)

10 Leading Causes of Unintentional Injury Deaths, United States 1999 - 2010, All Races, Both Sexes <a href="#">(Click on any Age Group for Percentages.)</a>											
		Age Groups									
Rank	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	All Ages
1	Unintentional Suffocation 9,012	Unintentional MV Traffic 5,679	Unintentional MV Traffic 6,592	Unintentional MV Traffic 9,048	Unintentional MV Traffic 118,246	Unintentional MV Traffic 79,137	Unintentional Poisoning 77,184	Unintentional Poisoning 78,657	Unintentional MV Traffic 46,293	Unintentional Fall 186,029	Unintentional MV Traffic 491,758

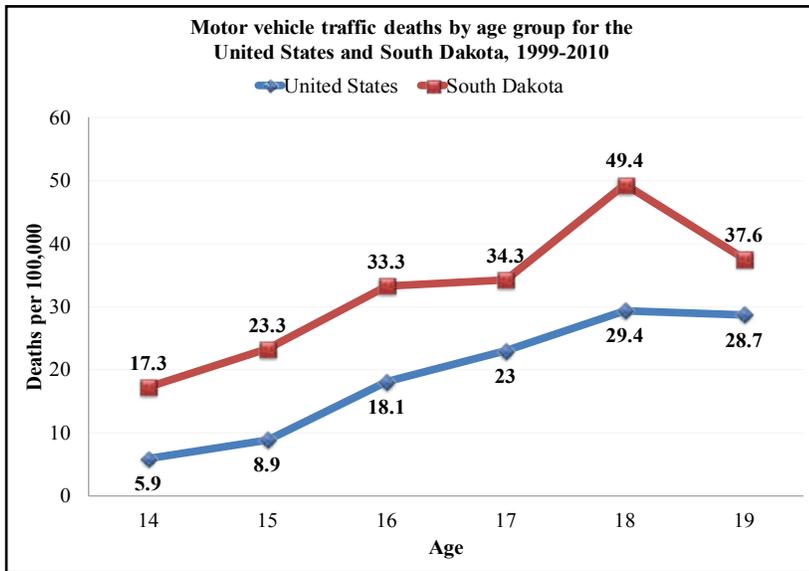
10 Leading Causes of Unintentional Injury Deaths, South Dakota 1999 - 2010, All Races, Both Sexes <a href="#">(Click on any Age Group for Percentages.)</a>											
		Age Groups									
Rank	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	All Ages
1	Unintentional Suffocation 33	Unintentional Fire/burn 24	Unintentional MV Traffic 37	Unintentional MV Traffic 56	Unintentional MV Traffic 489	Unintentional MV Traffic 290	Unintentional MV Traffic 269	Unintentional MV Traffic 256	Unintentional MV Traffic 183	Unintentional Fall 1,040	Unintentional MV Traffic ---

Data Source: National Vital Statistics System, National Center for Health Statistics, CDC.  
Produced by: Office of Statistics and Programming, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC using WISQARS<sup>SM</sup>



The chart at left shows the age groups for which motor vehicle traffic is the No. 1 cause of death for both the nation and South Dakota. The older age groups, 15 to 24 and 25 to 34 show a greater percentage of deaths for South Dakota than the nation.

Given the data about unintentional deaths from motor vehicle traffic, what about the 14 to 19 age group? Are there differences by single age years, by gender or race? How does South Dakota compare to bordering states? A look at the data follows.



### South Dakota compared to the U. S. by age<sup>1</sup>

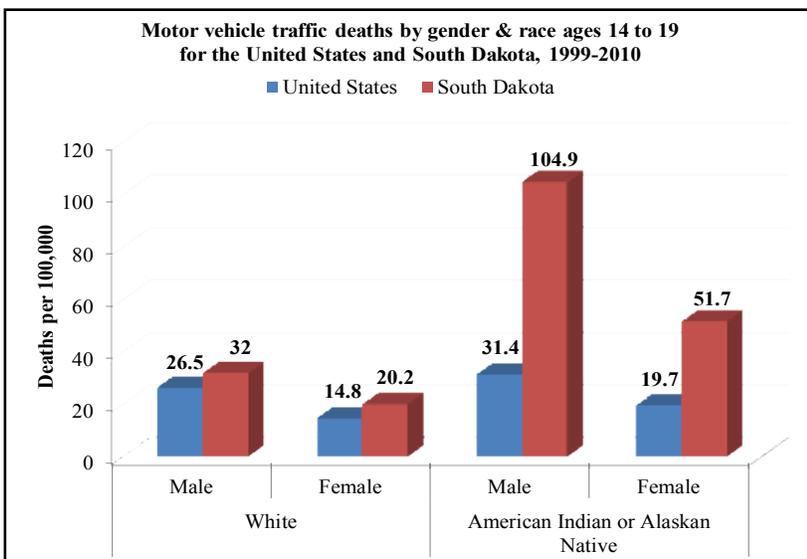
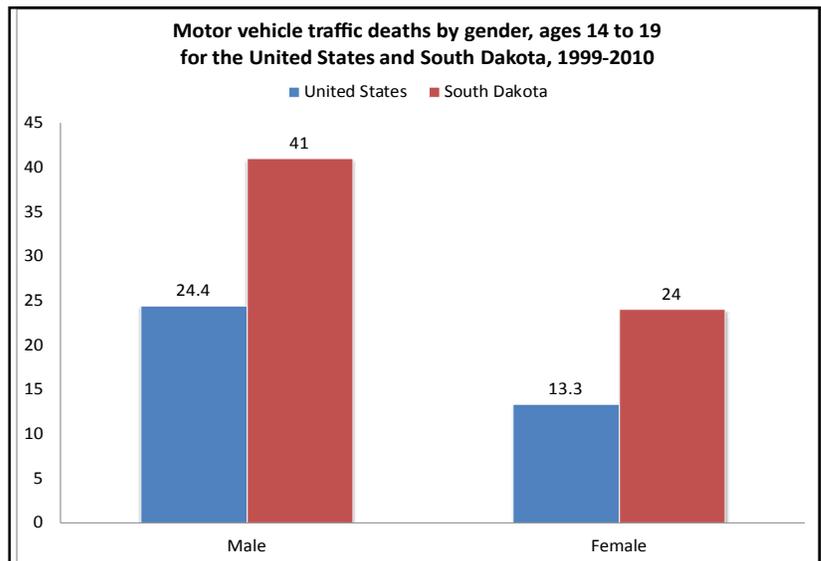
From 1999-2010 the death rate from motor vehicle traffic for the 14 to 19 age cohort in the United States was 19 per 100,000. In South Dakota it was 33 per 100,000. The chart at left shows the rate per 100,000 by single age year.

South Dakota exceeds the nation for all age groups and is almost three times higher for 14- and 15-year-olds.

### South Dakota compared to the U. S. by gender<sup>1</sup>

The chart at right shows the rate per 100,000 by gender for the United States and South Dakota 1999-2010.

Males in South Dakota exceed the national rate by 1.5 times. The rate is almost two times higher for females.



### South Dakota compared to the U. S. by gender and race<sup>1</sup>

The chart at left shows 1999-2010 rate per 100,000 by gender and race for the United States and South Dakota.

South Dakota's rates for White males and females are higher than the nation.

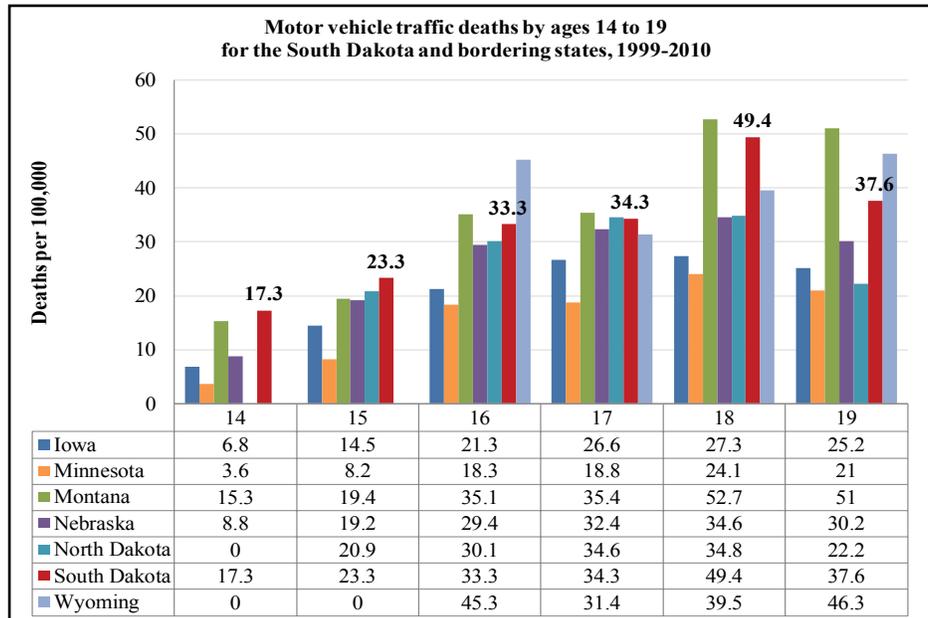
Rates for American Indian or Alaskan Natives males living in South Dakota are more than three times greater than the nation. For South Dakota female American Indian or Alaskan native the rates are more than 1.5 times greater than the nation as a whole.

### South Dakota compared to bordering states by age<sup>1</sup>

The chart below shows the 1999-2010 rate per 100,000 by gender and race for South Dakota and bordering states. Data show South Dakota has the highest motor vehicle traffic death rate for 14-year-olds (17.3 per 100,000) and for 15-year-olds (23.3 per 100,000).

South Dakota ranks second when compared to bordering states in motor vehicle traffic death rates for 18- and 19- year-olds with 49.4 per 100,000 and 37.6 per 100,000 deaths respectively.

South Dakota ranks third compared to bordering states in motor vehicle traffic death rates for 16- and 17- year-olds with 33.3 per 100,000 and 34.3 per 100,000 deaths respectively.



Note: 0 = Unreliable (Death rates based on counts of less than twenty (death count < 20) are flagged as “Unreliable”. A death rate based on fewer than 20 deaths has a relative standard error (RSE(R)) of 23 percent or more. A RES(R) of 23 percent is considered statistically unreliable; or no data were available

### Conclusion

This *Facts on KIDS* describes trends in child and youth unintentional deaths by age for the nation and South Dakota. Data were further broken out by gender and race. Data by age for South Dakota and bordering states was also reviewed.

The 2013 SD Legislature passed SB 106, (prohibit certain minors from using wireless communication devices while operating motor vehicles upon the public highways).

That is one factor that contributes to teen crashes. The others are<sup>2</sup>:

- Driver inexperience: Crash rates are highest during the first year a teen has a license.
- Driving with teen passengers: Crash risk increases when teens drive with other teens. The risk increases with each additional passenger.
- Night driving: For all ages, fatal crashes are more likely to occur at night, but the risk is highest for teens.
- Not wearing seat belts: Compared with other age groups, teens have the lowest rate of seat belt use.

### References

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention , National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2010 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 2012. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 1999-2010, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd-icd10.html> on Sep 19, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention. Accessed at <http://www.cdc.gov/Motorvehiclesafety/teenbrief/index.html> on September 19, 2013.



SD KIDS COUNT Project  
Beacom School of Business  
The University of South Dakota  
414 East Clark Street  
Vermillion, SD 57069

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