



Jan 2008

Deaths & Hospitalizations Due to Motor Vehicle Crashes Children Aged 0-17 Years, Miami-Dade County, 2000-2006

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INJURY FACTS



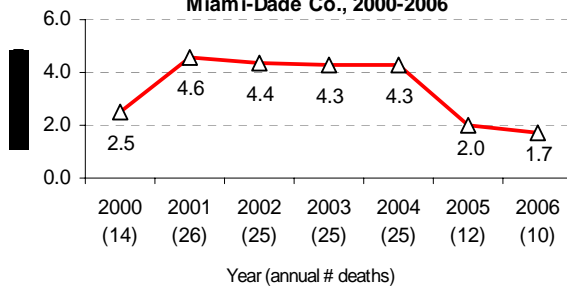
Being the occupant of a motor vehicle involved in a crash is the leading cause of death and 3rd leading cause of hospitalized injury among children aged 0-17 years in Miami-Dade County. More than half of these deaths and serious injuries could be prevented by placing children in age- and size-appropriate restraint systems. This fact sheet reviews the trend in motor vehicle crash (MVC) deaths and hospitalizations in Miami-Dade County over the seven-year period 2000-2006.

Trend for MVC Deaths and Hospitalizations

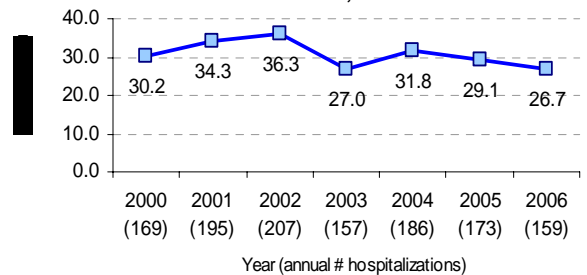
Between 2000-2006, 137 Miami-Dade County children aged 0-17 years died as occupants in MVC's. After four years of unchanged incidence between 2001-2004, the mortality rate declined 60% between 2004-2006 to its lowest observed rate in 2006.

Nonfatal injuries from MVC's that required hospitalization also declined since 2004, although not as sharply as observed for deaths. Between the highest nonfatal rate observed in 2002 to 2006, the hospitalized injury rate has declined 26%.

Mortality Rate for Injuries to Motor Vehicle Crash Occupants, Children Aged 0-17 Yrs. Miami-Dade Co., 2000-2006



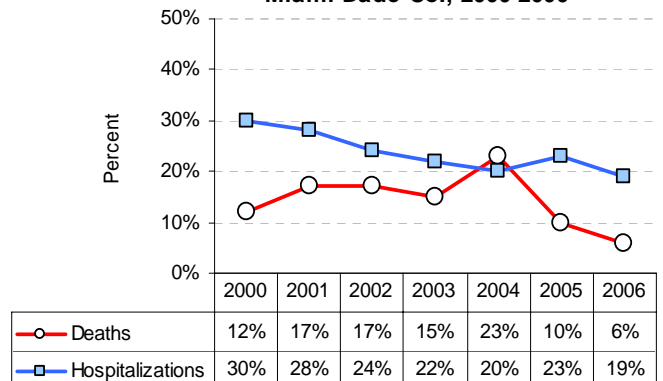
Hospitalization Rate for Injuries to Motor Vehicle Crash Occupants, Children Aged 0-17 Yrs. Miami-Dade Co., 2000-2006



Trend in Traumatic Brain Injury Incidence for MVC Victims

- Motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of fatal traumatic brain injury (TBI) and 3rd leading cause of hospitalized TBI in this age group.
- After reaching a peak in 2004, when 23% of fatal MVC victims sustained a TBI, the incidence declined to 6% in 2006, the lowest rate seen this decade.
- The percentage of children hospitalized with a diagnosis of TBI has also declined consistently over this 7-year period, from a high of 30% in 2000 to 19% in 2006.

Percent of Hospitalizations & Deaths with a Diagnosis of TBI Children Aged 0-17 Yrs., Miami-Dade Co., 2000-2006



Trend in Fatal and Hospitalized MVC Incidence by Age Group

- Infants <1 year old had no MVC deaths and 1 hospitalization during 2006, their lowest incidence this decade.
- Children aged 1-4 also experienced no MVC deaths in 2006 and children aged 5-9 have had no MVC deaths for two consecutive years.
- Adolescents aged 15-17 years old experienced 7 deaths in 2005 and 8 in 2006 after more than 11 deaths in each of the previous 4 years.

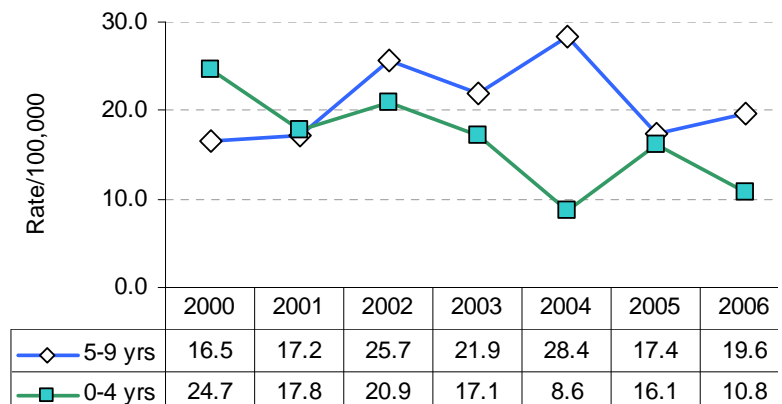
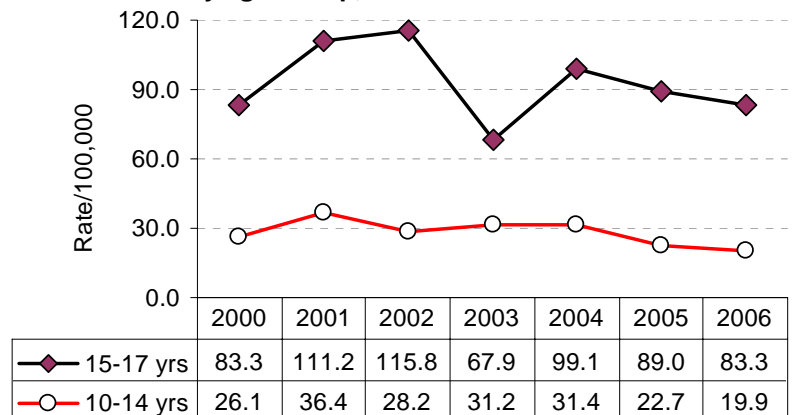
Age Group	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Age < 1 Yr. Deaths Hosps.	1 8	1 4	2 9	2 5	2 3	1 4	0 1
Age 1-4 Yrs. Deaths Hosps.	4 23	1 21	1 20	3 17	1 8	2 20	0 17
Age 5-9 Yrs. Deaths Hosps.	2 24	3 24	3 37	3 31	5 39	0 27	0 31
Age 10-14 Yrs. Deaths Hosps.	2 40	9 50	1 45	2 50	6 46	2 36	2 31
Age 15-17 Yrs. Deaths Hosps.	5 74	12 96	18 96	15 54	11 90	7 86	8 79

Trend in MVC Injury Incidence Rates by Age Group

The 7-year trend for MVC injury rates were compared for 4 different age groups. The injury rates presented combine injury for both deaths and hospitalizations.

- The MVC injury rate for adolescents aged 15-17 years fluctuated greatly over this 7-year period. However, since its peak in 2002 (115.8/100,000) and 2006 (83.3/100,000), the rate has declined 28%.
- The MVC injury rate for children aged 10-14 years declined 45% between 2001-2006, with most of this decline occurring after 2004.
- Age 5-9 corresponds to the age when children should be using booster seats or car seats with harnesses and higher weight limits. This age group has demonstrated the worst trend of any age group, increasing 72% between 2000-2004. Since 2004, the rate declined sharply in 2005 then increased slightly in 2006.
- Age 0-4 corresponds to the age when children must be properly restrained in car seats with harnesses. Since 2000, the injury rate for this age group has declined 35%.
- Much of the decline in MVC injury rates this decade have occurred between 2004-2006, with 3 of 4 age groups (excluding age 0-4) showing declines between 16-37%.

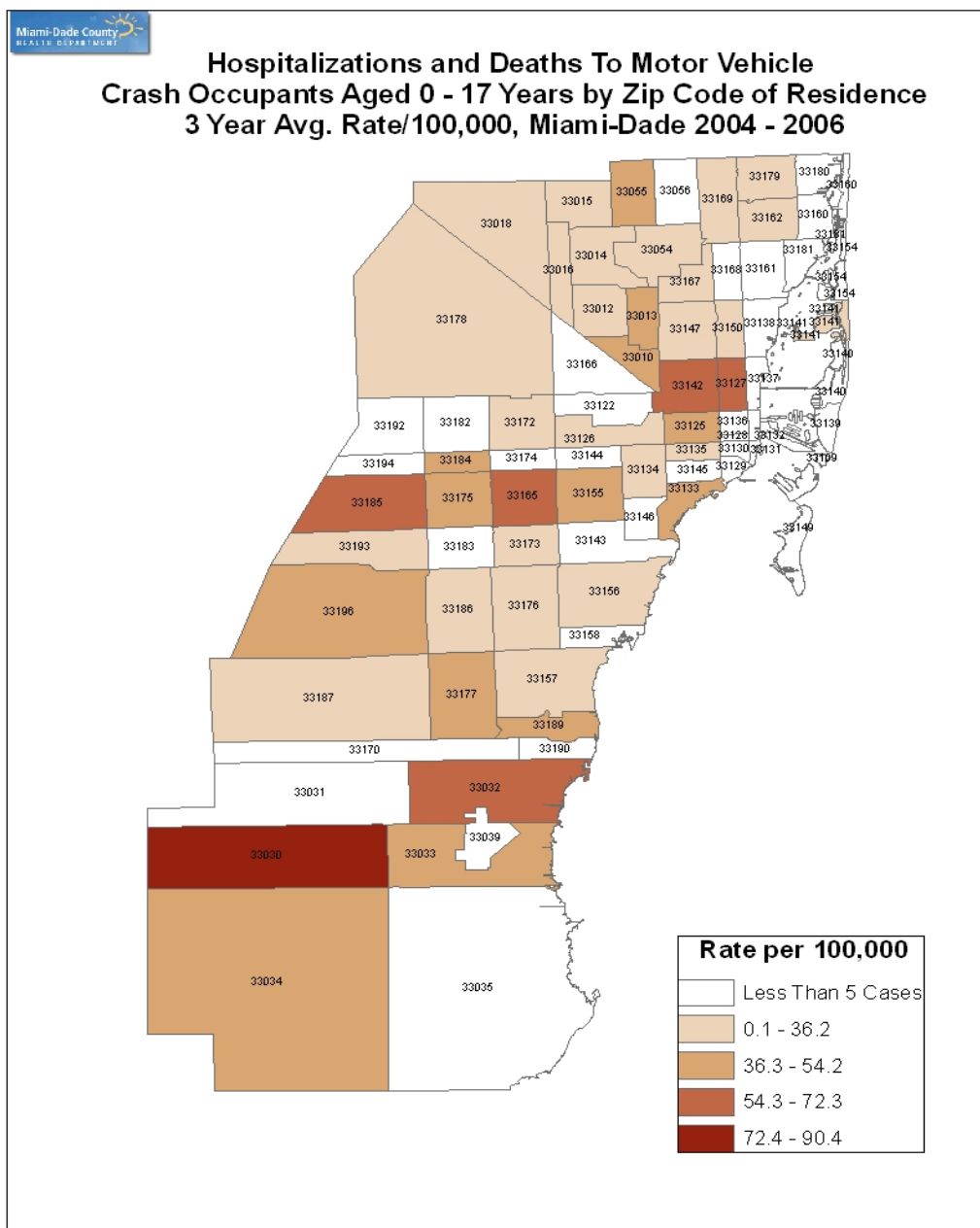
Injury Rate/100,000 Children Aged 0-17 Yrs MVC-Occupant Deaths and Hospitalizations by Age Group, Miami-Dade Co. 2000-2006



Zip Code of Residence for Victims of MVC Injury

Three areas of the county demonstrated higher rates for child motor vehicle crash injuries during the 3-year period 2004-2006:

- Two zip codes in south Miami-Dade had the two highest MVC injury rates in the county, 33030 in Homestead (4 deaths, 23 hospitalizations) and 33032 in the Princeton, S. Allapattah areas (1 death, 16 hospitalizations).
- The zip codes 33165 in the Westchester, Olympia Hts. areas (3 deaths, 17 hospitalizations) and 33185 in unincorporated Miami-Dade west of Tamiami (1 death, 7 hospitalizations) had the 4th and 5th highest MVC injury rates among county zip codes.
- The zip codes 33127 in the Little Haiti, Model City areas (0 deaths, 16 hospitalizations) and 33142 in the Brownsville, Allapattah, Model City areas (4 deaths, 20 hospitalizations) had the 3rd and 6th highest MVC injury rates.



Prevention Points

- Everybody needs a child safety seat, booster seat, or safety belt — every ride.
- Not properly restraining your child is against the law and punishable by a fine.
- Each child must be in a car seat sized according to the child's age, height and weight.
- Never hold a child on your lap in a car! You could crush him/her in a crash, or the child may be torn from your arms. You are not as strong as the force of the vehicle and its speed.
- All children under 13 years old should ride properly restrained in the back seat
 - ✓ Children 0-18 months should be in rear facing car seats.
 - ✓ Children older than 18 months until they reach 40 pounds should travel in a forward facing car seat with a harness.
 - ✓ Children more than 40 pounds should use a booster seat with the car's lap and shoulder belt or a car seat with a five point harness that accommodates children over 40 pounds.
 - ✓ Children between 8-11 years old or at least 4'9" tall are ready to use the adult lap and shoulder belt if:
 - The shoulder belt lies across the middle shoulder and chest (not against the neck)
 - The lap belt lies low across the upper thighs (not across the stomach)
 - The child is tall enough to sit against the vehicle seat back with knees bent naturally over the edge of the seat without slouching and stay in that position throughout the trip.
- Check with a Certified Passenger Safety Technician to help you choose the correct car seat and make sure you are using it properly
- Child Passenger Safety Programs in Miami—Dade County:
 - ✓ Injury Free Coalition for Kids of Miami 305-243-3928
 - ✓ City of Miami Beach Fire Rescue Child Passenger Safety Program 305-673-4935
 - ✓ Florida Highway Patrol Child Car Seat Program 305-470-2260
 - ✓ Miami Dade Fire Rescue Child Car Seat Program 786-331-4927
 - ✓ Miami Dade Police Department Child Car Seat Program 305-471-3055
 - ✓ To locate a child safety seat inspection station outside the Miami area call 866-SEAT-CHECK

Produced by the Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance System

Data Sources: Death Certificates & Hospital Discharge Data

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<http://dadehealth.org/injury/INJURYintro.asp>

