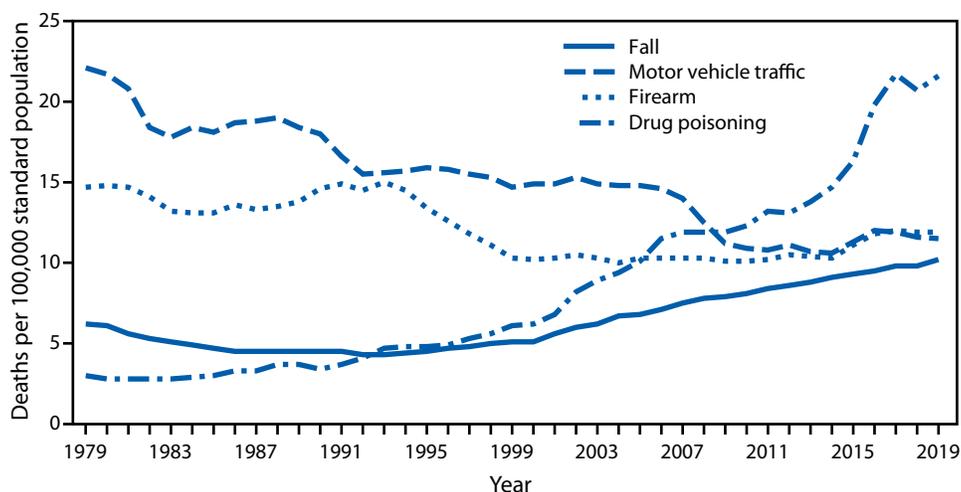


QuickStats

FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS

Age-Adjusted Death Rates* for Four Selected Mechanisms of Injury[†] — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 1979–2019[§]

* Per 100,000, age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population.

[†] Four of the most frequently occurring mechanisms of injury that caused deaths over the study period. Injuries are from all manners, including unintentional, suicide, homicide, undetermined intent, and legal intervention.

[§] Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases* (ICD). In 1999, the *ICD Tenth Revision* replaced the *ICD Ninth Revision*, which had been used from 1979 through 1998. Coding updates in the later revision resulted in approximately 5% fewer deaths being classified as motor vehicle traffic deaths, 2% more deaths being classified as drug poisoning deaths, and minimal change in the classification of fall- and firearm-related deaths.

In 1979, of the four mechanisms of injury, age-adjusted mortality rates were highest for motor vehicle traffic deaths and lowest for drug poisoning deaths. From 1979 to 2019, the age-adjusted rate of motor vehicle traffic deaths decreased from 22.1 per 100,000 to 11.1, and the rate of firearm-related deaths decreased from 14.7 to 11.9. During the same period, the rate of drug poisoning (overdose) deaths increased from 3.0 to 21.6, and the rate of fall-related deaths increased from 6.2 to 10.1. In 2019, the rates were highest for drug poisoning deaths and lowest for fall-related deaths.

Source: National Vital Statistics System compressed mortality file, underlying cause of death. <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mortsq.html>

Reported by: Matthew Garnett, MPH, Mgarnett@cdc.gov, 301-458-4383; Holly Hedegaard, MD; Merianne R. Spencer, MPH.

For more information on these topics, CDC recommends the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/injury>