



**CFRT-CFPS  
Presentation:**

**Child Welfare Interim  
Study Committee**

**July 18, 2023**



**COLORADO**  
Department of Human Services

Reviews deaths with the goal of improving systems such as the child welfare system



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public Health & Environment

Reviews deaths to understand the circumstance contributing to deaths and make improvement to prevent future deaths, regardless of whether a child and their family were involved with any systems

## **THE CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION SYSTEM (PUBLIC HEALTH PROCESS)**

- Housed at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
- Reviews every child death in the state, regardless of cause
- Notified of deaths through the vital records office
- Reviews take place after all other investigations are complete (about one-year lag time)
- 43 multidisciplinary county or regional teams review cases and develop and implement strategies to prevent future deaths
- 46-member State Review Team describes trends and patterns and recommends strategies to prevent future deaths

## **CHILD FATALITY REVIEW TEAM (HUMAN SERVICES PROCESS)**

- Housed at the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS)
- Focuses specifically on deaths resulting from child maltreatment when there is previous involvement with the child welfare system
- Notified of deaths directly by county departments of human services within 24 hours
- Reviews take place within 45 business days of receiving all documentation
- 20-member multidisciplinary team conducts case reviews, identifies strengths and weaknesses regarding the delivery of services, and develops recommendations



# Colorado Child Fatality Prevention System

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**Childhood Adversity Prevention Manager**  
**CDPHE**

# Child Fatality Prevention System

## Types of child deaths reviewed:

- Motor vehicle/other transport
- Sudden unexpected infant deaths
- Child maltreatment
- Suicide
- Homicide
- Overdose and poisoning deaths
- Unintentional injury (fires, drowning, falls)
- Undetermined causes



# CHILD FATALITY PREVENTION SYSTEM: 2023 ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Child Fatality Prevention Act; §§ 25-20.5-401 – 25-20.5-409 C.R.S.

July 1, 2023



# 2023 Annual Legislative Report

You can access this report, the CFPS Data Dashboard, and past legislative reports on the CFPS Collaboration Website:

[www.cochildfatalityprevention.com](http://www.cochildfatalityprevention.com)



“ Statistics are human  
beings with  
the tears wiped away. ”

— Paul Brodeur



# The impact of policies and systems on child deaths.

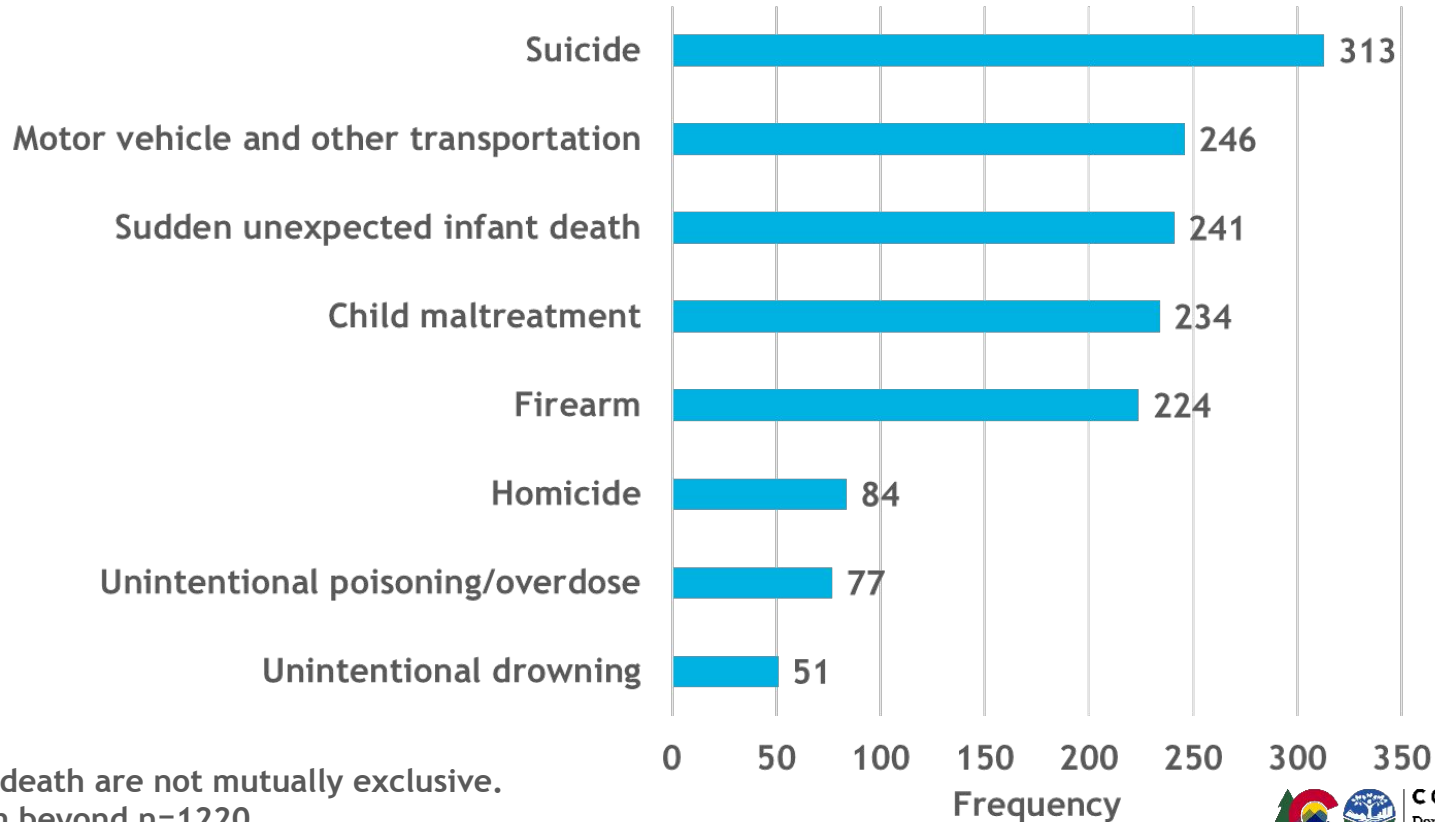
Generations of social, economic, and environmental inequities contribute to families losing infants, children, and youth.

These factors perpetuate disparities in child deaths by geography, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

CFPS strives to provide additional context and research about how inequities impact child deaths. **By changing policies and systems that create and perpetuate inequities, CFPS can reduce the number of child deaths that occur in Colorado.**



## Leading causes of death for deaths occurring among those under age 18 in Colorado and reviewed by CFPS, 2017-2021 (n=1220)



Causes of death are not mutually exclusive.  
Totals sum beyond n=1220.