

Injuries Deaths in Dallas County 1997-2013

Overview

Burden of Injury

According to the Texas Department of Health, Vital Statistics

Injury is....the leading cause of death for Dallas County residents ages 1 to 54.

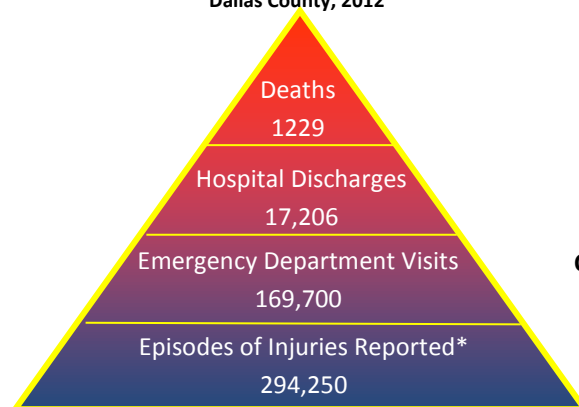
the third leading cause of death for Dallas County residents of all ages

the biggest killer of children who live in Dallas County

In 2012, injuries cost the citizens of Dallas County an estimated \$3.16 billion dollars, including health care cost and lost productivity.

Burden of Injury

Dallas County, 2012

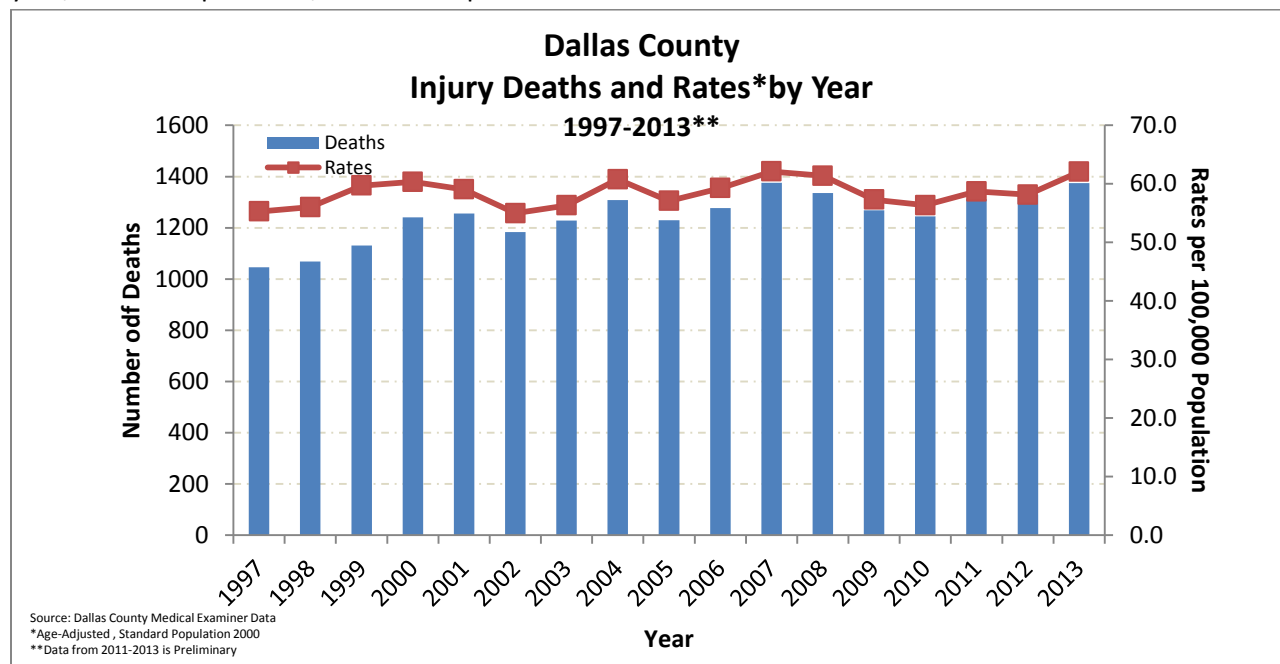


Cost: \$3.1 billion*

Source: IPC Greater Dallas
*Estimates based on national rates

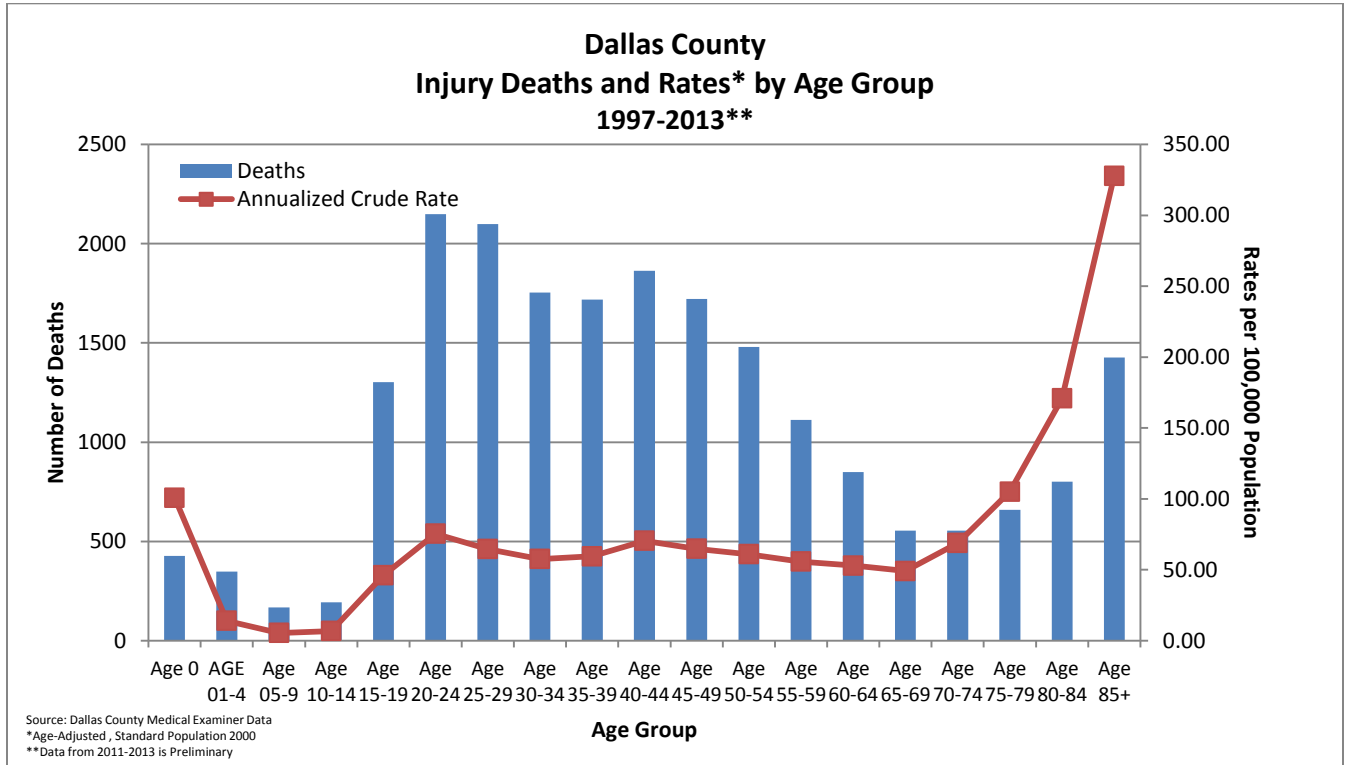
Injury Deaths in Dallas County

From 1997 to 2013, 21,234 people died in Dallas County due to injuries, an average of 1249 deaths per year, 24 deaths per week, or 3 deaths per week.



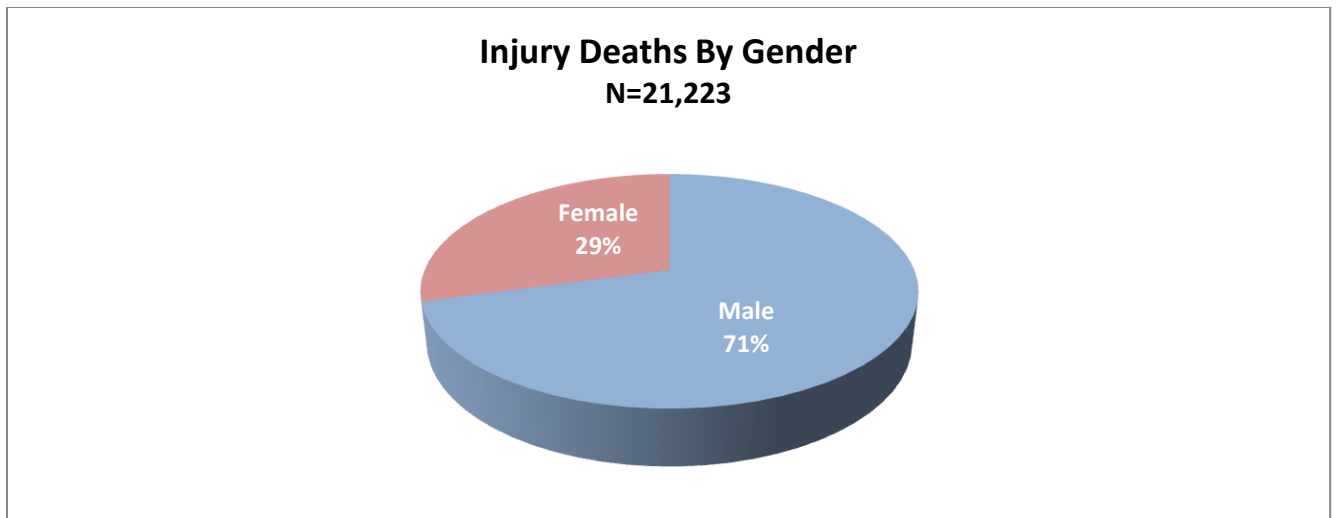
From 1997 to 2013, trauma-related deaths in Dallas County increased by 31% and the age-adjusted rate increased by 12%. These numbers include deaths from all manners (Unintentional, Homicide, Suicide and Undetermined).

Deaths by Age Group



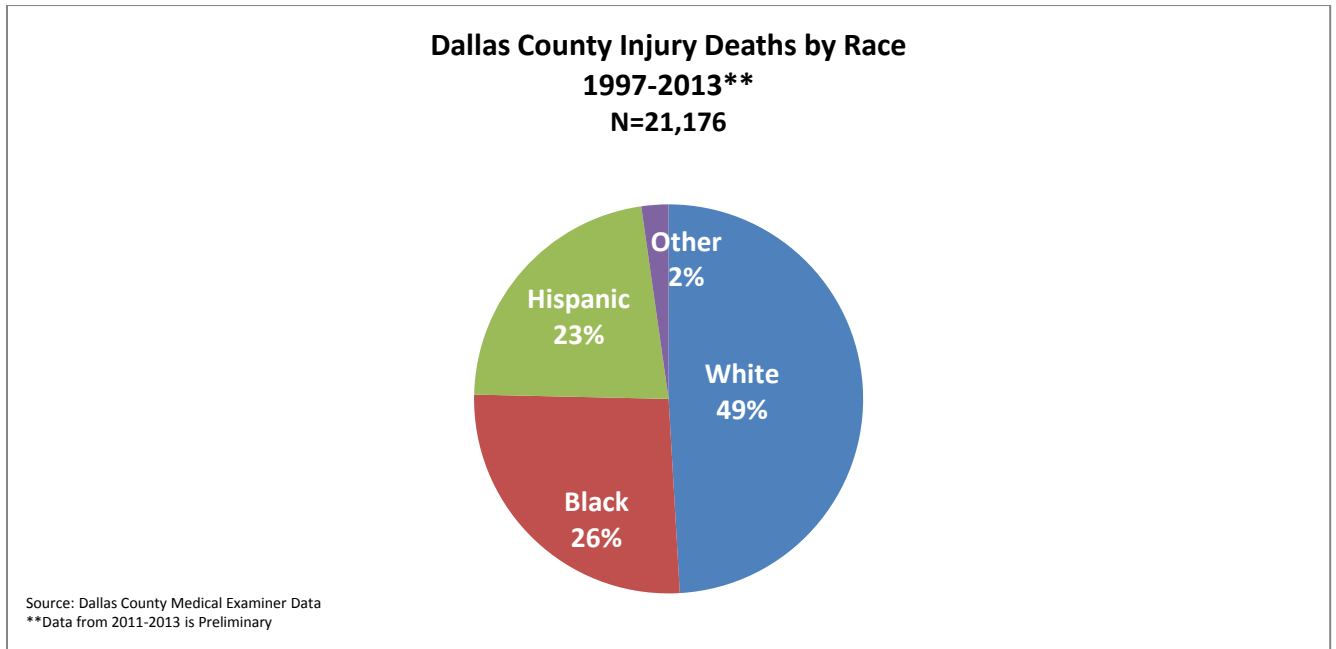
Fifty-three percent of the injury deaths occurred between ages 20-49. The average age of fatal injury victim in Dallas County was 43 years. The age ranged from less than one year to 108 years. The highest death rates were among the very young and the elderly.

Deaths by Gender

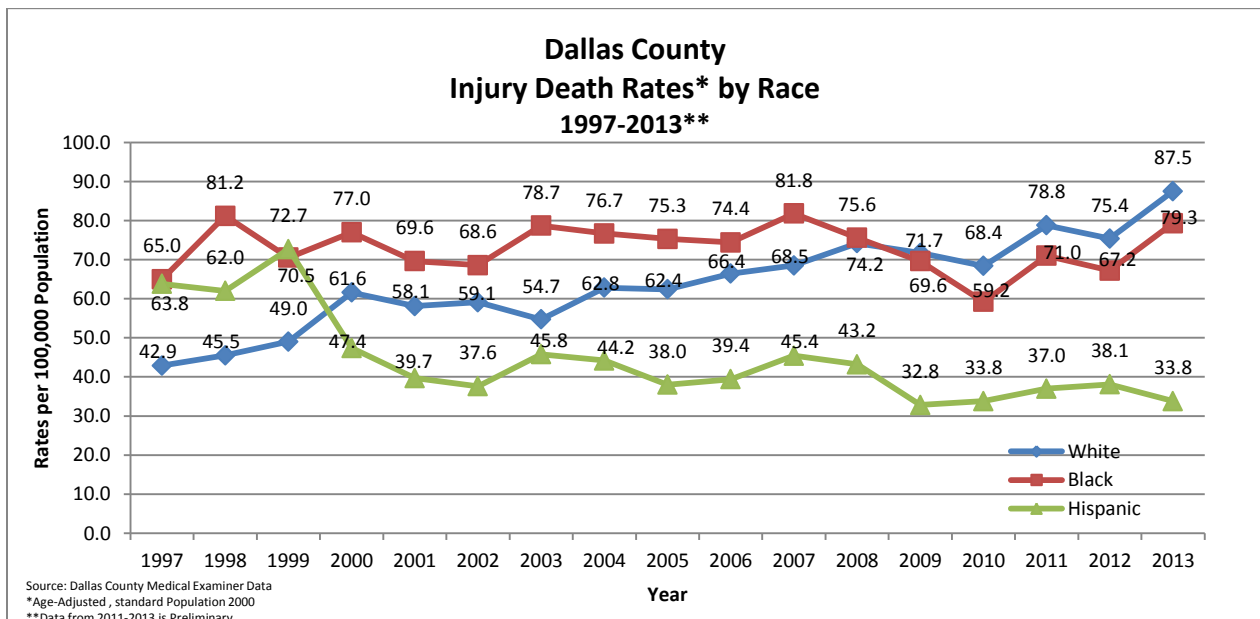


The majority of injury death victims were male.

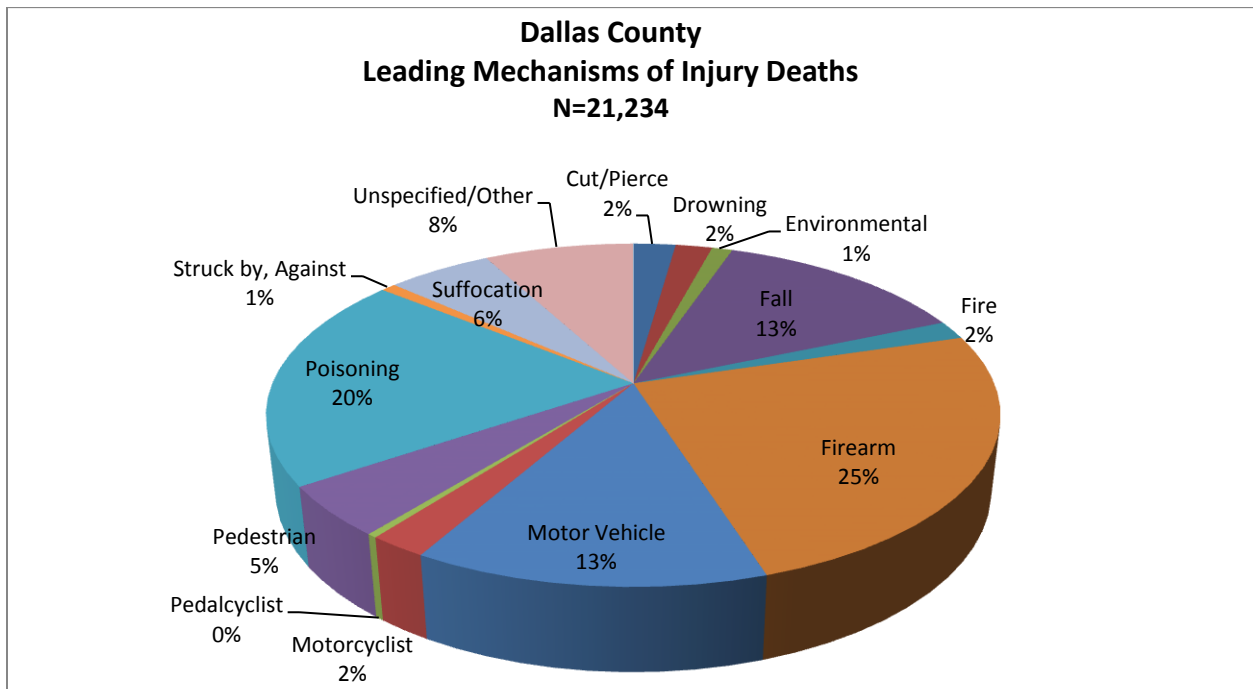
Deaths by Race



Trends in injury death rates by race from 1997 to 2013 are shown in the next figure. The White population had the lowest injury rate in 1997, but that population had the highest death rate in 2013. The Black population previously had the highest injury death rate, but is now below that of Whites. The Hispanic injury death rate has fallen dramatically over time. Note that in 1997 – 1999, the higher rates in the Hispanics may have been due to inaccurate denominator data, but is probably more accurate since 2000.

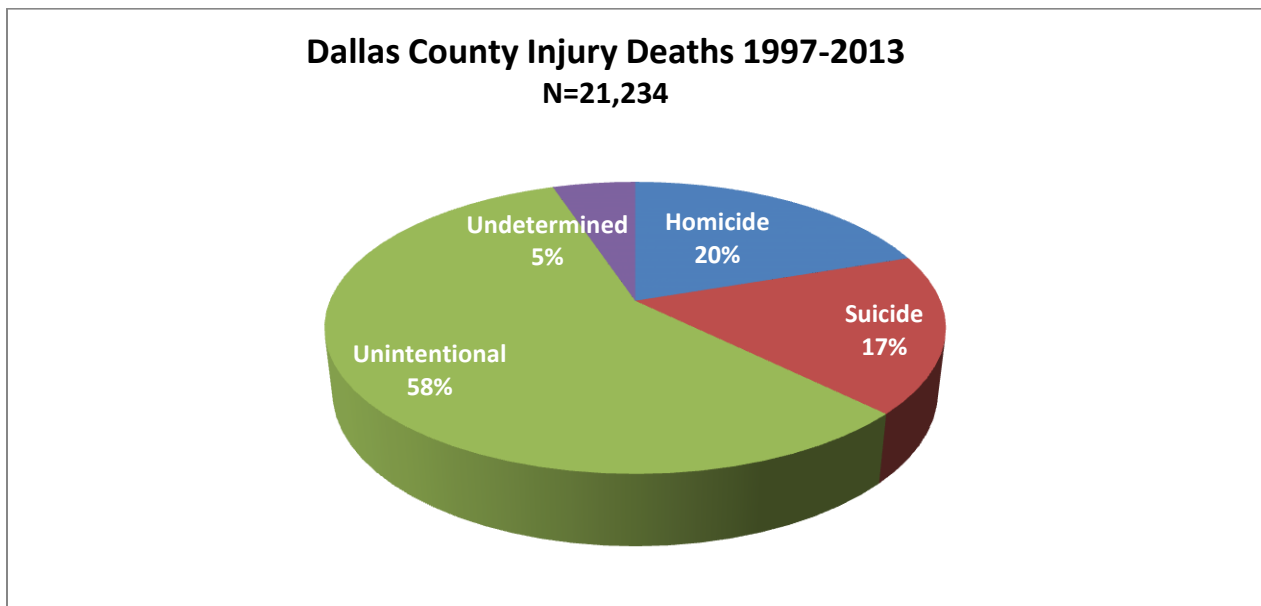


Leading Mechanisms of Death



The Mechanisms of death refers to the external cause of the death. Firearms, poisoning, motor vehicle occupants and falls were the leading causes of injury death in Dallas County.

Manner of Death



The manner of death explains how the death occurred. For an injury death there are 4 classifications of manners: Unintentional, Homicide, Suicide and Undetermined. Suicides and Homicides are intentional injuries that are deliberate acts. Unintentional injuries are not deliberate. Deaths are classified as Undetermined if there is no compelling information pointing to one specific manner.

In Dallas County, 58% of the deaths were classified as Unintentional, 20% as Homicide, 17% as Suicide and 5% were Undetermined.