

A Guide to Understanding the Child Dynamic Analysis and Statistics Hub (Child DASH)



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What is Child DASH?

The Child Dynamic Analysis and Statistics Hub (Child DASH) is a data visualization website which summarizes information from child death reviews (CDR) that are entered into the Pediatric National Fatality Review-Case Reporting System (Pediatric NFR-CRS) from participating states. The Pediatric NFR-CRS is managed by the National Center for Fatality Review and Prevention (National Center) and collects standardized data focused on cause-specific deaths and individual and environmental risk and protective factors. Learn more about CDR and the Pediatric NFR-CRS at <https://ncfrp.org>.

Child DASH is fully interactive, allowing viewers to run a variety of data visualizations including an overview dashboard and specific dashboards on the following:

- Drowning
- Fire, Burn, or Electrocution
- Motor Vehicle
- Poisoning
- Suicide
- Infants: All Causes of Death
- Infants: Sleep-Related Deaths

Data Included in Child DASH

States and jurisdictions select deaths for review and entry into the Pediatric NFR-CRS in different ways. States and jurisdictions that utilize the Pediatric NFR-CRS have been doing so at different times since its creation in 2005, and some CDR teams don't use the Pediatric NFR-CRS at all. **As such, data from the Pediatric NFR-CRS are not population-based. Pediatric NFR-CRS data cannot be used to calculate rates or trends over time.** Rather, data represent detailed descriptive information from deaths selected for review. Data are only represented as proportions to protect confidentiality.

Section and question numbers referenced throughout this guide are from Pediatric NFR-CRS Version 6.2. [View the CDR report form here.](#)

Data come directly from the Pediatric NFR-CRS and are not cleaned by the National Center. States or local jurisdictions may clean the data and set different parameters for inclusion or exclusion during their own analysis. Therefore, data shown in Child DASH may differ from similar statistics calculated at state and local levels.

Deaths are included in Child DASH if:

1. The child is aged 0-17 years (question A4),
2. The date of death is not missing (question A3),
3. The cause of death (question G6) is not missing, and
4. The state where the death was reviewed has a Data Use Agreement with the National Center that allows for their data to be included in Child DASH.

Additional inclusion criteria by topic-specific dashboard can be found starting on page 7 of this guide.

Intended Uses of Child DASH

Data in Child DASH are not intended for official reports and should not be cited. Instead, Child DASH is intended to be used to inform prevention policy, programs, and research directions. In addition, data in Child DASH are not population-based. These data cannot be used to calculate rates or trends over time.

Data Updates

Data in Child DASH are updated annually. There is a 24-month lag from the end of the calendar year of death to when the data become available in Child DASH. For example, deaths that occurred in 2024 will be made available in Child DASH in early 2027. The “Last Data Update” snapshot on the bottom right-hand of each dashboard reflects the most recent date on which a death record that is represented in the dashboard was created in the Pediatric NFR-CRS.

In the future, additional topic-specific dashboards may be added and refinements to existing dashboards may be made. This guidance will be regularly updated to reflect changes.

Accessing Child DASH

1. Visit <https://fatalityreviewdata.org/>.
2. Once there, select the “Child DASH” button.

The screenshot shows the NCFRP website's 'Fatality Review Data' page. The header includes the NCFRP logo and the text 'Center for Fatality Review & Prevention' and 'Fatality Review Data'. The main content is organized into three columns. The left column is for 'Fetal and Infant Mortality Review', featuring a photo of a young child and buttons for 'FIMR Profile Data' and 'Fetal and Infant DASH (Coming Soon)'. The middle column contains introductory text about the center and navigation instructions, followed by bullet points describing 'Profile Data' and 'DASH'. The right column is for 'Child Death Review', featuring a photo of a young child and buttons for 'CDR Profile Data' and 'Child DASH'. An orange arrow points to the 'Child DASH' button.

3. Selecting “Child DASH” will bring you to the **Index** page, shown below.

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The Child Dynamic Analysis and Statistics Hub (Child DASH) summarizes information from child death reviews entered in the Pediatric National Fatality Review-Case Reporting System (Pediatric NFR-CRS) from 40 states and includes over 175,000 deaths. The Pediatric NFR-CRS collects standardized data focused on cause-specific fatalities and individual and environmental risk and protective factors. States and jurisdictions select deaths for review in different ways. **The data in the Pediatric NFR-CRS are not population-level statistics.** Rather, they represent detailed information from deaths selected for review.

Learn more about child death review and the Pediatric NFR-CRS at <https://ncfro.org/>.

View a short video on using Child DASH: <https://vimeo.com/1134691036>

View the Child DASH User Guide to learn about deaths included in these dashboards and how the data should be interpreted: <https://ncfro.org/wp-content/uploads/Public-Child-DASH-User-Guide.pdf>

This dashboard was made possible in part by Cooperative Agreement Number UG7MC28482 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) as part of an award totaling \$5,149,996 annually with 0 percent financed with non-governmental sources. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

Using Child DASH

Several simple tips will help orient you to Child DASH and assist you in finding answers to your questions. When you first navigate to Child DASH, you will see the index page. This page provides a comprehensive overview of the tool, valuable resources, and a detailed topic menu.

Navigate Child DASH using:

1. The grey topic menu at the top of the screen,
2. The black topic buttons on the index page, and/or
3. The navy-blue home icon on topic-specific dashboards to return to the index page.



After you select a topic from the menu (e.g., overview, suicide), the new dashboard will contain topic-specific data, as well as an option to return to the main menu.

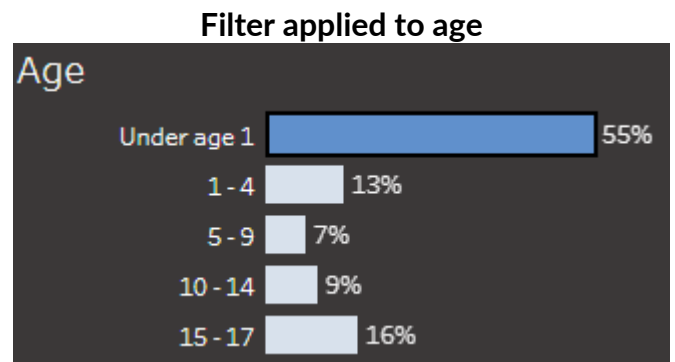
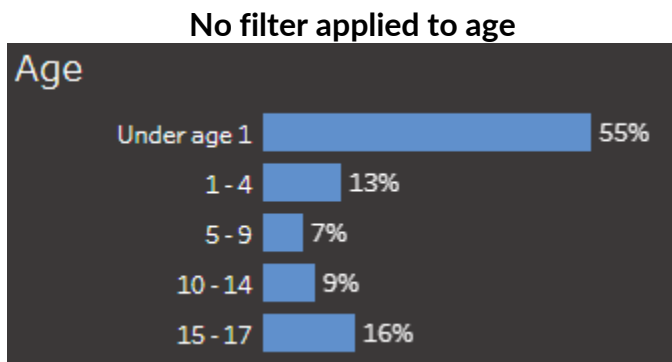
Interactivity Tips

1. Select the years of interest by moving the date slider at the top right corner of the page. You may also type the year you wish to view into the boxes at each end of the date slider.
2. Information on each dashboard is interactive, meaning almost everything is clickable as a filter for all data on the page.



Applying Filters

To filter the data to show all information for one subset (e.g., only infants, only male decedents, only those with autopsy performed), simply click on the label or bar for that measure. That measure will then be outlined in black and the data on the dashboard will refresh to only reflect the selected subset. For example, the images below show what happens when we click on “Under age 1” in demographics to view only infant data.



To select a range of data within a chart, click and drag to select the range of interest. For example, you are interested in viewing data on all infants and children under age 10. By clicking on “Under age 1,” holding your mouse down, and dragging through “5-9,” you will select all three age groups of interest.

You can also filter by multiple data points on the same chart or across multiple charts in the same dashboard by holding down CTRL (CMD on Mac) while clicking additional options.

Clearing Filters

- To clear **ONE** selection, click on the item again to deselect it.
- To clear **ALL** selections, click the “reset view” arrow on the bottom left of the screen.



Topic-Specific Dashboards: Data Notes and Definitions

- Section and question numbers referenced throughout this guide are from Pediatric NFR-CRS Version 6.2. [View the CDR report form here](#). For full definitions of each item, refer to the current [data dictionary](#).
- New questions have been introduced in the Pediatric NFR-CRS over time. Refer to “Year Added” provided below for specific elements. Sometimes, existing data from retired questions are mapped into new questions, also known as cross walking. Plus, some teams may update historical records when new questions are added. If you have questions about when items or response options were added to the Pediatric NFR-CRS, please contact the National Center at info@ncfrp.org.
- Apart from the manner of death chart, data labeled as “missing” includes both missing and unknown responses from the Pediatric NFR-CRS.

Most dashboards include the following core charts:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Manner of death	G5	2005	
Age	A4	2005	
Sex	A7	2005	
Race	A5	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Categories prioritize American Indian (AI) or Alaska Native (AN) identity. Regardless of additional race selections, if AI or AN is selected in the Pediatric NFR-CRS, they are included in the “AI/AN” category. This is due to an overrepresentation of AI/AN children in the multiracial category. Non-AI/AN children with a single race selected in the Pediatric NFR-CRS are categorized by that race (e.g., Asian, Black, White). Non-AI/AN children with more than one race selected in the Pediatric NFR-CRS are categorized as “multiracial.”
Ethnicity	A6	2005	
Death investigation conducted	F1	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Investigation conducted at scene” (added in 2005) with “Yes” responses were cross walked into “Yes” for “Death investigation conducted.”
Autopsy performed	F5	2005	
Toxicology performed	F8	2005	

Each dashboard includes topic-specific factors, detailed below. Dashboards are numbered in order of appearance in the grey topic menu positioned at the top of Child DASH.

1. Overview

All deaths included in Child DASH are included in this dashboard. Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Cause of death	G6	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Unknown” includes selections of unknown injury cause, unknown medical cause, and unknown cause. Some response options added over time (e.g., diabetes added in 2015, COVID-19 added in 2020).

2. Drowning

Deaths are included in this dashboard if “drowning” is selected as the primary cause of death (G6). Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Did child have supervision at time of incident?	D1	2005	
Drowning location	H3b	2005	
Open water location	H3c	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator is open water incidents only (H3b=“Open water/pond”). “Other” includes ocean, quarry or gravel pit, canal/drainage ditch.
Pool type	H3f	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator is pool incidents only (H3b=“Pool, hot tub, spa”). “Other” includes wading pool, hot tub/spa.
Child able to swim?	H3m	2005	
Did barriers/layers of protection exist to prevent access to water?	H3j	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The denominator used to calculate percentages in this chart is drowning deaths where barrier status was known (Yes/No). An example interpretation would be: “Among drowning deaths where barrier status was known, X% had no known barrier.” Not all response options are displayed on the dashboard. May total beyond 100%. More than one barrier could have been selected.

3. Fire, Burn, or Electrocution

Deaths are included in this dashboard if “fire, burn, or electrocution” is selected as the primary cause of death (G6). Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Ignition, heat, or electrocution source	H2a	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Other” includes power line, lightning, hot bath water.
Type of incident	H2b	2005	
Type of building on fire	H2c	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator is fire incidents only (H2b=“Fire”). “Other” includes row home/townhouse.
Fire started by a person?	H2d	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator is fire incidents only (H2b=“Fire”).
Were barriers preventing safe exit?	H2f	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator is fire incidents only (H2b=“Fire”).
Were smoke alarms present?	H2m	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Denominator is fire incidents only (H2b=“Fire”).

4. Motor Vehicle

Deaths are included in this dashboard if “motor vehicle and other transport” is selected as the primary cause of death (G6). Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Child’s vehicle type	H1a	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all response options are displayed on the dashboard. “Other” includes semi/tractor trailer, RV/bus/school bus, tractor/farm vehicle, snowmobile, and train/subway/trolley.
Position of child	H1b	2005	
Factors contributing to the incident	H1c	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all response options are displayed on the dashboard. Some response options added over time (e.g., flipover added in 2008). May total beyond 100%. More than one cause could have been selected.
Location of incident	H1d	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all response options are displayed on the dashboard. May total beyond 100%. More than one location could have been selected.

5. Poisoning

Deaths are included in this dashboard if “poisoning, overdose, or acute intoxication” is selected as the primary cause of death (G6). Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Child had history of substance use or abuse?	A37	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting in 2018, this question is only asked of children over age 1 year. “Not Applicable” responses are included in the “No” category.
Did child have supervision at time of incident?	D1	2005	
Type of substance(s) involved	H7a	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some response options added over time (e.g., anticonvulsant and antipsychotic added in 2022). New and revised substance categories had data cross walked into them where possible. May total beyond 100%. More than one substance could have been selected.
Was the incident the result of?	H7b	2005	
Was Poison Control contacted?	H7e	2005	

6. Suicide

Deaths are included in this dashboard if “suicide” is the official manner of death (G5). Deaths where the manner of death is indicated as suicide and the child’s age is indicated as under 5 years old are excluded from Child DASH. Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Child had received prior mental health services?	A31	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Not Applicable” responses are included in the “No” category.
Child was receiving mental health services?	A32	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Not Applicable” responses are included in the “No” category.
Child on medications for mental health illness?	A33	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Not Applicable” responses are included in the “No” category.
Child had history of substance use or abuse?	A37	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Not Applicable” responses are included in the “No” category.

Child ever communicate any suicidal thoughts, actions, or intent?	I6e	2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some variables added in 2005 and retired in 2020 were cross walked into I6e (i.e., suicide note left, child talked about suicide, prior suicide threats were made).
Selected relationship life stressors	I7c	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all response options are displayed on the dashboard. All response options shown were added in 2005 for suicide deaths only. May total beyond 100%. More than one stressor could have been selected.
Means of suicide	G6, H5b	2005	

7. Infant-All Causes

Deaths are included in this dashboard if the decedent is under age 1 year (A4). Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Gestational age	A44	2005	
Multiple gestation pregnancy?	A46	2005	
Prenatal care provided during pregnancy?	A50	2005	
Did the mother smoke at any time during pregnancy?	A62	2010	
Cause of death	G6	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Unknown” includes selections of unknown injury cause, unknown medical cause, and unknown cause. Some response options added over time (e.g., diabetes added in 2015, COVID-19 added in 2020).

8. Infant- Sleep-Related

Deaths are included in this dashboard if the decedent is under age 1 year (A4) and the death is indicated to be related to sleeping or the sleep environment (I2). Topic-specific data featured on this dashboard includes:

Chart	Pediatric NFR-CRS Question	Year Added	Additional Notes
Up to date with immunizations	A16	2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Not Applicable” responses are included in the “No” category.
Prenatal care provided during pregnancy	A50	2005	
Mother used alcohol, THC, opioids, or illicit drugs during pregnancy	A54	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New and revised substance categories had data cross walked into them where possible.
	A55	2005	
Smoke exposure during pregnancy and after birth	A62	2010	
	I2k	2005	
Infant ever breastfed?	A66	2010	
Was incident place a crib or bassinet?	I2a	2005	
Infant last placed on their back to sleep?	I2b	2005	
Infant last placed to sleep with a pacifier?	I2h	2010	
Infant overheated?	I2j	2005	
Objects in sleep environment	I2o	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not all response options are displayed on the dashboard. (e.g., adult, child, animal). Some response options added over time (e.g., bottle and wearable monitor added in 2022). May total beyond 100%. More than one object could have been selected.
Infant sleeping in the same room as caregiver/supervisor at time of death?	I2r	2010	
Infant sleeping on same surface with person(s) or animal(s)?	I2s	2005	

Additional Resources

- View a short video on using Child DASH at <https://vimeo.com/1134691036>. Find the most current Pediatric National Fatality Review-Case Reporting System Forms and Data Dictionary at <https://ncfrp.org>.

For more information, to ask questions, or to request assistance with Child DASH, contact the National Center at:

info@ncfrp.org
(800) 656-2434

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