

Preventing Traumatic Brain Injury

CDC Uses Data and Research to Save Lives

A traumatic brain injury (TBI) affects how the brain works. TBI is a major cause of death and disability in the United States.

More than **69,000** TBI-related deaths per year—or 190 deaths each day.

More than **214,000** TBI-related hospitalizations annually.


Each year, children sustain more than:


15,000 TBI-related hospitalizations.

And more than:

2,900 children die from TBIs.

Common causes of TBI-related deaths and hospitalizations include **falls, firearm-related injuries, motor vehicle crashes, and assaults.**

The full public health burden of TBI is unknown. 

Current data systems don't include people who seek care for TBIs outside of emergency departments or people who don't seek any medical care at all. 

Our Mission

Reduce the burden of TBI through prevention and improve health outcomes for TBI survivors by bridging the strengths and capacities of the public health and healthcare delivery systems.

CDC Supports Communities By:



Tracking TBI trends and conducting research aimed at preventing TBI.



Educating healthcare providers, coaches, parents, and athletes through CDC's HEADS UP campaign about preventing, recognizing, and responding to TBIs.



Piloting a National Concussion Surveillance System to provide the first comprehensive estimates of TBI in the United States.



Developing resources for healthcare providers to improve TBI care, including the first evidence-based **clinical guideline** on pediatric mild TBI.

Groups at greater risk of dying or experiencing long-term health problems from a TBI include:

- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Service members and Veterans
- People living in rural areas
- Survivors of intimate partner violence
- People who experience homelessness
- People in correctional and detention facilities



CDC Advances Health Equity By:



Creating training opportunities for staff at intimate partner violence shelters to improve TBI awareness and care for survivors.



Promoting CDC's Roadway to Safer Tribal Communities Toolkit to help prevent motor vehicle crashes, which account for the highest number of TBI-related deaths among American Indian and Alaska Native people.



Developing concussion educational materials for Black and Hispanic parents and youth who are at increased risk for TBI.