

# Mississippi Child Firearm-related Deaths, 2013-2022

MSDH Office of Vital Records and Public Health Statistics, January 2024

In 2022, a total of 60 firearm-related deaths occurred among children less than 18 years of age (8.2 deaths per 100,000) (Table 1). Between 2019 and 2022, the total number of child firearm-related deaths increased by 71.4%, and since 2013, the total number of firearm-related deaths increased 150%. Assault accounted for 68.3% of firearm-related deaths (41 deaths), while intentional self-harm and unintentional firearm deaths accounted for 16.7% and 5.0% of all firearm deaths (10 and 3 deaths), respectively.

**Table 1:** Mississippi Child firearm-related deaths by cause group, 2013-2022 occurrence deaths

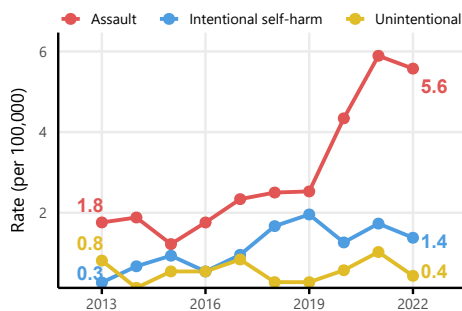
Year	All firearm		Assault			Intentional self-harm			Unintentional		
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	% of all	Count	Rate	% of all	Count	Rate	% of all
2013	24	3.3	13	1.8	54.2	2	0.3	8.3	6	0.8	25.0
2014	20	2.7	14	1.9	70.0	5	0.7	25.0	1	0.1	5.0
2015	20	2.7	9	1.2	45.0	7	0.9	35.0	4	0.5	20.0
2016	23	3.1	13	1.8	56.5	4	0.5	17.4	4	0.5	17.4
2017	33	4.5	17	2.3	51.5	7	1.0	21.2	6	0.8	18.2
2018	34	4.7	18	2.5	52.9	12	1.7	35.3	2	0.3	5.9
2019	35	4.9	18	2.5	51.4	14	2.0	40.0	2	0.3	5.7
2020	44	6.2	31	4.3	70.5	9	1.3	20.5	4	0.6	9.1
2021	66	9.1	43	5.9	65.2	13	1.7	19.7	7	1.0	10.6
2022	60	8.2	41	5.6	68.3	10	1.4	16.7	3	0.4	5.0

Note:

Age-adjusted rates calculated as per 100,000 population ages 0-17; undetermined firearm deaths not shown due to small numbers

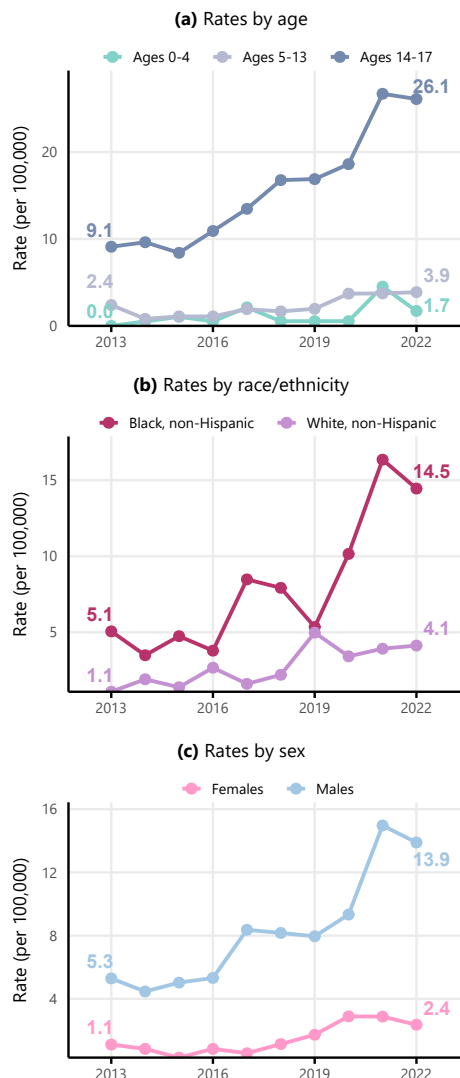
The rate of assault firearm deaths among children increased by 211% between 2013 and 2022 (1.8 to 5.6 per 100,000 population, age-adjusted) (Figure 1). The rate of intentional self-harm increased by 367% within the same time period (0.3 to 1.4 per 100,000).

**Figure 1:** Child firearm-related deaths by type, 2013-2022



In 2022, 44 firearm-related deaths occurred among children ages 14-17 with a rate 26.1 deaths per 100,000, increasing by 186.8% since 2013 (Figure 2). A total of 43 firearm-related deaths occurred among Black, non-Hispanic children in 2022 with a rate increase of 187.1% between 2013 and 2022. A total of 15 firearm-related deaths occurred among White, non-Hispanic children in 2022 with a rate increase of 282.4% since 2013. Fifty-two child firearm-related deaths occurred among males in 2022 with a rate of 14.0 compared to 2.4 among females (8 deaths). For males, the rate increased by 164.2% between 2013 and 2022.

**Figure 2:** Child firearm-related deaths by age, race/ethnicity, and sex, 2013-2022



In 2022, the highest rate of child firearm-related deaths occurred in Public Health District 3 with 20.7 deaths per 100,000 children (10 deaths) (Figure 3). The highest number of child firearm-related deaths occurred in Public Health District 5 (18 deaths) with a rate of 11.6 after adjusting for population.

**Figure 3:** Child firearm-related deaths by Public Health District, 2022

