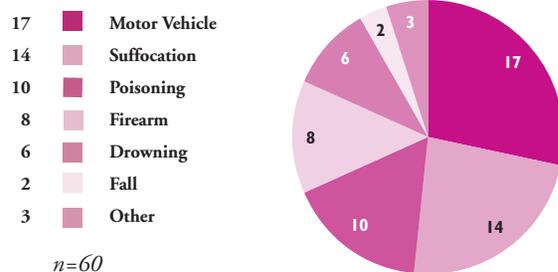




## Teen Deaths Due to Injury, by Cause, Rhode Island, 2014-2018



Source: Rhode Island Department of Health, Center for Health Data and Analysis, 2014-2018. This chart and the first bullet below report deaths of teens residing in Rhode Island. Data reported in the second, third, and fourth bullets below reflect teen motor vehicle deaths that occurred in Rhode Island, regardless of residence. Effective October 1, 2015, the International Classification of Disease (ICD) codes changed from the 9th classification to the 10th classification, which may impact comparability across the years.

- ◆ Between 2014 and 2018 in Rhode Island, 58% of the 60 teen deaths caused by injury were unintentional. Twenty-eight percent of all teen injury deaths involved motor vehicles.<sup>15</sup>
- ◆ Among the 23 teens ages 15 to 19 killed in Rhode Island motor vehicle crashes between 2014 and 2018, 11 were driving, seven were passengers in vehicles driven by others, four were pedestrians, and one was a bicyclist.<sup>16</sup>
- ◆ Two (18%) of the teen drivers who died in motor vehicle crashes in Rhode Island between 2014 and 2018 had been drinking, and three teen fatalities occurred with adult drivers who had been drinking.<sup>17</sup>
- ◆ Seven (54%) of teen drivers and passengers killed in automobile accidents in Rhode Island between 2014 and 2018 were not wearing a seatbelt.<sup>18</sup>
- ◆ In 2019, 32% of Rhode Island high school students reported texting or e-mailing while driving on at least one day in the month prior to taking the *Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey*. Fourteen percent reported riding in a vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol in the prior month, and 6% reported that they never or rarely wore a seatbelt while riding in a car driven by someone else.<sup>19</sup>

## Teen Suicide

- ◆ According to the *2019 Rhode Island Youth Risk Behavior Survey*, 15% of Rhode Island high school students reported attempting suicide one or more times in the 12 months before the survey was administered.<sup>20</sup>
- ◆ Of the 19 youth ages 15 to 19 who died from suicide between 2014 and 2018, 17 were male and two were female.<sup>21</sup>
- ◆ In 2018, 306 teens ages 13 to 19 were admitted to the emergency department after a suicide attempt, more than double the number in 2014 (138). Seventy-seven percent of teens admitted were girls, and 23% were boys.<sup>22</sup>
- ◆ In 2018, 250 teens ages 13 to 19 were hospitalized after a suicide attempt, more than double the number in 2014 (103). Seventy-five percent of teens hospitalized were girls, and 25% were boys.<sup>23</sup>
- ◆ Nationally, depression and suicide among adolescents have increased in recent years, with more females reporting symptoms of depression and committing suicide nationally than males.<sup>24</sup> Mental health problems, depression, attempting suicide, alcohol use, experiencing partner violence, and having a family member or friend attempt suicide are associated with an increased risk of suicide or attempted suicide among youth.<sup>25</sup>

### References

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