
INJURY PREVENTION AND SAFETY

TRAFFIC SAFETY

From 2020-2023, motor vehicle traffic crashes were the fourth leading cause of injury-related deaths in Hawaii when including deaths of occupants, pedestrians, motorcyclists, and bicyclists. An average of 105 people die in motor vehicle traffic crashes each year, including 41 occupants of cars and trucks, 31 motorcycle/moped/scooter riders, 7 bicyclists, and 26 pedestrians. Driver impairment, speeding, and failure to wear helmets are contributing behavioral factors involved in fatal motor vehicle crashes, according to earlier data. Alcohol-impaired driving was involved in over one-third (35%) of the deaths from traffic crashes in Hawaii, and nearly half (46%) of all fatalities were speeding-related. Motorcyclist and moped riders accounted for nearly a quarter (24%) of fatalities, and the majority (62%) were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.

INDICATORS

Decrease the age-adjusted mortality rate from motor vehicle traffic crashes

State	Year	Per 100,000
Baseline	2021-2023	6.8
Target	2030	6.5

Source: [Hawaii State Department of Health, Vital Statistics](#)

RELATED OBJECTIVE



Healthy People 2030

Increase helmet use by motorcycle riders

State	Year	Percentage
Baseline	2012-2016	55.7%
Target	2030	65.0%

Increase helmet use by moped riders

State	Year	Percentage
Baseline	2012-2016	26.9%
Target	2030	36.0%

INDICATORS

RELATED OBJECTIVE

Decrease the age-adjusted mortality rate of pedestrian traffic deaths

State	Year	Per 100,000
Baseline	2021-2023	1.6
Target	2030	1.5

Source: [Hawaii State Department of Health, Vital Statistics](#)

STRATEGIES

- ❖ Increase restraint use by public awareness messages regarding the new universal seat belt law and during “Click it or Ticket” campaign.
- ❖ Continue to support statewide child passenger safety efforts.
- ❖ Reduce impaired driving by supporting partnerships with the Department of Transportation, through data sharing and linkage initiatives.
- ❖ Increase helmet use among motorcycle and moped riders by supporting universal moped and motorcycle helmet laws.
- ❖ Decrease pedestrian fatalities by supporting the implementation of “complete streets” in each county.

SENIOR FALL PREVENTION

Falls are the most common type of fatal unintentional injuries for seniors (ages 65 and older) in Hawaii. Death rates from falling dramatically rise as age increases from the 35-44 year-old age range to the 45-64 year-old age range and beyond. Each year approximately 150 seniors die as a result of a fall. While several other reports and fall prevention plans including Hawaii’s Executive Office on Aging use ages 60 and older rather than 65 and older, in order to show comparisons between Hawaii and the Nation, 65 and older is used in this plan.

INDICATORS

Decrease the mortality rate due to falls among people 65 years of age and older



RELATED OBJECTIVE

Healthy People 2030

State	Year	Per 100,000
Baseline	2021-2023	49.3
Target	2030	46.8

Source: [Hawaii State Department of Health, Vital Statistics](#)

STRATEGIES

- ❖ Raise awareness about fall prevention among older adults, caregivers, and providers.
- ❖ Increase availability and accessibility of fall prevention programs statewide.
- ❖ Engage professionals and community members in fall prevention.

POISONING PREVENTION

Unintentional drug poisonings or overdoses was the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths in Hawaii from 2021 to 2023, resulting in at least 810 deaths. Preventing prescription drug overdoses requires getting more information on the type of drugs causing deaths and if the victim got them through legal or illegal means. The Hawaii State Department of Public Safety (DPS) established Hawaii's Prescription Drug Monitoring System as a first step in determining misuse and abuse of controlled substances.

INDICATORS

Decrease the mortality rate due to unintentional and undetermined poisonings

State	Year	Per 100,000
Baseline	2021-2023	17.8
Target	2030	16.9

RELATED OBJECTIVE



Community Health Needs Assessment

STRATEGIES

- ❖ Sustain access and use of DPS Prescription Drug Monitoring System (PDMS) database.
- ❖ Link autopsy records to PDMS database and analyze trends in decedent access to opioids.
- ❖ Provide data and logistical support to harm reduction and law enforcement partners to reduce overdoses related to illicit substances.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

Suicide was the 2nd-leading cause of fatal injuries in Hawaii over the 2021 - 2023 time period. In 2019, 14.6% of high school students reported making a plan for suicide (compared to the U.S. value of 15.7%), 10.5% had a non-fatal suicide attempt (compared to the U.S. value of 8.9%), and 3.2% had a non-fatal suicide attempt with a resulting injury, poisoning, or overdose (compared to the U.S. value of 2.5%). Reports of making a plan for suicide and attempting suicide were higher among female students. Reports of suicide attempts resulting in injury were higher among male students.

INDICATORS

Reduce the mortality rate due to suicides

State	Year	Per 100,000
Baseline	2021-2023	16.0
Target	2030	12.8

Source: [Hawaii State Department of Health, Vital Statistics](#)

RELATED OBJECTIVE



Healthy People 2030



Community Health
Needs Assessment

STRATEGIES

- ❖ Increase public knowledge and postvention services by working with state and military agencies, Prevent Suicide Hawaii Task Force (PSHTF), County Prevention Suicide Task Forces, Hawaii Governor’s Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (HI GC), Hawaii United Prevention Task Force (HUPTF), community organizations, advocates, and lived-experience individuals.
- ❖ Increase protective factors by promoting help-seeking, connectedness, life skills, resilience, and support for individuals and communities through trainings, outreach, and safe messaging.
- ❖ Improve statewide suicide prevention infrastructure by collaborating with experts in education, economics, housing, transportation, emergency response, healthcare and access, safe neighborhood, policies, violence prevention, and more.
- ❖ Identify and reduce risk factors by building a sustainable statewide gatekeeper training network and increase lethal means access and safety planning trainings for healthcare systems.

DROWNING PREVENTION

Drowning was the fifth leading cause of fatal injuries in Hawaii over the 2021 - 2023 time period. It is the leading cause of injury-related deaths among non-residents, who account for nearly half (49%) of the total drowning deaths. Including residents and non-residents, an average of 93 people die each year due to drowning, with 84% of drownings occurring in the ocean.

INDICATORS

RELATED OBJECTIVE

Reduce the mortality rate due to drowning

State	Year	Per 100,000
Baseline	2021-2023	5.8
Target	2030	5.5

Source: [Hawaii State Department of Health, Vital Statistics](#)

STRATEGIES

- ❖ Maintain the Drowning and Aquatic Injury Prevention Advisory Committee (DAIPAC), the statewide task force for drowning prevention.
- ❖ Implement a statewide educational campaign to increase ocean safety awareness among residents and visitors.
- ❖ Evaluate current drowning prevention efforts and disseminate information about best practices.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Violence is a serious public health problem in the United States. From infants to the elderly, it affects people in all stages of life. CDC's 2019 data shows that 19,141 people were victims of homicide. The number of violent deaths tells only part of the story. Many more survive violence and are left with permanent physical and emotional scars. Violence also erodes communities by reducing productivity, decreasing property values, and disrupting social services. Child abuse and neglect (CAN), domestic violence (DV), and sexual violence (SV) are types of violence which are particularly concerning.

INDICATORS

Reduce the rate of confirmed CAN reports per 1,000 children (<18 years)

State	Year	Per 1,000
Baseline	2019	2.6
Target	2030	2.5

RELATED OBJECTIVE



Healthy People 2030



Community Health
Needs Assessment

STRATEGIES

- ❖ Train and educate professionals, communities on the issues of CAN.
- ❖ Provide training and technical assistance to Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) funded organizations on the implementation of sexual violence prevention strategies.
- ❖ Provide parent education and family supports to strengthen families, reduce social isolation, and stressors that may place families at risk for CAN.
- ❖ Screen for domestic violence and refer to DV resources/services by home visiting program personnel.