

2024 Annual Report of Child Abuse & Neglect Fatalities in Indiana



Calendar Year 2024

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Preface

The Annual Report of Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities in Indiana is the state's official record of child deaths determined by the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) to have been caused by caregiver maltreatment or neglect. The following contains data from calendar year 2024.

DCS completes a review of all child fatalities that fit the following circumstances:

- Children under age 3: The child's death is sudden, unexpected or unexplained, or there are allegations of abuse or neglect.
- Children age 3 or older: The child's death involves allegations of abuse or neglect.

This report identifies common risk factors in fatalities resulting from abuse or neglect. DCS encourages communities to reference this report when considering prevention, educational and service programs. The data is also used to evaluate, review and modify DCS policy, practice and procedure when warranted.

Each fatality investigation involves a multi-step process to ensure fair and unbiased decision making. The decision to substantiate an allegation requires DCS to meet a legal threshold indicating the caregiver is responsible for the maltreatment.

Every death DCS is required by statute to investigate is reviewed at both the county and state level. A team of professionals from the county where the death occurred first determines whether it is believed to be a result of abuse or neglect. Following the local county's recommendation, an independent team of DCS personnel provides a supplementary review. This ensures personal biases do not impact decisions and provides the chance for ample discussion of cases in which the circumstances surrounding the death might not be clear.

Executive Summary

In 2024, the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) was called to investigate 276 child fatalities in which abuse or neglect was suspected to be a factor, or which involved a child under age 3 whose death was sudden, unexpected or unexplained. This is up from 261 in 2023. Fifty-nine (21%*) of those deaths were determined to be a direct result of caregiver maltreatment. By comparison, 56 deaths were caused by maltreatment in 2023.

Of the total fatalities covered by this report, 18 were due to abuse, and 41 were due to neglect.

In 42 (71%) of the fatalities, the victim was 3 years old or younger. This finding demonstrates a consistent trend (nationally and in Indiana) that young children are at the highest risk of abuse or neglect.

Marion County recorded the state's highest number of child fatalities (10) caused by abuse or neglect.

Fifteen of the victims (25%) included in this report were previously victims in a DCS case of substantiated abuse or neglect.

The manner of death is taken from state death certificates. Death by weapon, which can include a body part (e.g., a closed fist), was the most common cause of death, listed as the primary factor in 12 (20%) of the 59 cases.

In 43 cases (73%), the death occurred at the victim's own home.

The victim's biological parents were often deemed responsible for the child fatalities detailed in this report, accounting for 63 (81%) of the 78 alleged perpetrators. Note that some cases cite multiple perpetrators as responsible for the death of the same child.

In some cases, caregiver stressors were determined to play a role in the death of a child. Insufficient income, unemployment and substance abuse were frequently cited as stress factors among caregivers.

*Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number. As a result, the individual numbers may not add up to 100%.

Abuse and neglect fatalities by county

County	Abuse	Neglect	Total
Adams	0	1	1
Allen	0	2	2
Bartholomew	0	1	1
Carroll	0	1	1
Clay	0	1	1
Dearborn	1	1	2
Delaware	0	1	1
Elkhart	2	1	3
Floyd	0	1	1
Greene	1	0	1
Henry	1	2	3
Howard	0	1	1
Jackson	1	0	1
Knox	0	1	1
Kosciusko	0	2	2
La Porte	0	1	1
Lagrange	0	1	1

County	Abuse	Neglect	Total
Lake	1	3	4
Madison	1	0	1
Marion	1	9	10
Montgomery	0	1	1
Morgan	0	1	1
Newton	1	1	2
Noble	3	0	3
Parke	0	1	1
Perry	0	1	1
Porter	1	0	1
Switzerland	0	1	1
Tippecanoe	1	0	1
Vanderburgh	3	1	4
Vigo	0	1	1
Wayne	0	3	3
Total	18	41	59

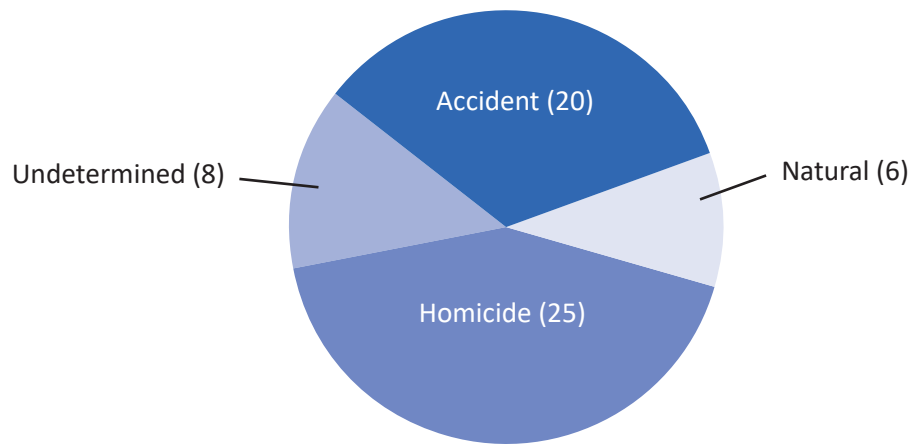
Only counties with substantiated fatalities are listed. Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Assessment statistics for investigation by other agencies, all children

Investigation	Abuse	Neglect	Total
All child fatalities	18	41	59
Coroner cases	18	41	59
Autopsies performed	18	40	58
Scene investigated by coroner	13	31	44
Scene investigated by coroner investigator	5	9	14
Scene investigated by law enforcement	18	40	58
Scene investigated by fire investigator	0	1	1
Emergency medical services was on scene	7	31	38

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Manner of death, all children



Manner of death obtained from state death certificates.

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Primary cause of death, all children

Asphyxia	10
Cardiovascular	1
Diabetes	1
Drowning	6
Fall or crush	1
Fire, burn or electrocution	1
Malnutrition/dehydration	4
Motor vehicle and other transport	3
Other infection	4
Other medical condition	2
Poisoning, overdose or acute intoxication	9
Undetermined	5
Weapon, including body part	12
Total	59

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Fatalities Due to Abuse

Victim: 6-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: Ongoing program of Informal Adjustment

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 6-month-old boy died from abusive head trauma. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the incident, the mother was not home, and the father was caring for the child. The father stated the child had been sleeping, and when he checked on him, he found him unresponsive. The child was observed to have bruises on his head and back. The father admitted to hitting the child several days prior because the child would not stop crying. The father stated that on the day of the child's death, he hit the child. The child cried for an hour and then became quiet. Postmortem x-rays showed that the child had a healing wrist fracture.

Victim: 28-day-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 28-day-old boy died from suffocation due to smothering. He lived with his parents and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the father cared for the child while the mother was at work. The father stated he placed the child to sleep in the bassinet and then went back to sleep. The father stated he woke up a few hours later and found the child face down and unresponsive. The child was observed to have an injury to his bottom lip. The father stated he had auditory hallucinations with different voices telling him to do things, which he sometimes did. The father eventually admitted that he put a pacifier in the child's mouth, placed the child face down in the bassinet so the pacifier would stay in place, and applied force to the child's head for two to three minutes until he thought the child was asleep. The father admitted that his actions caused the child's death.

Victim: 2-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 2-year-old boy died from asphyxia. He lived with his mother and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the child and sibling were at the father's house. At some point, the sibling called the mother and asked to be picked up. During the call, the father told the child to tell the mother that the child would never see the mother or father again. The mother could hear the father continuously saying bizarre things. The mother called 911 and requested law enforcement to do a welfare check at the father's home. Law enforcement arrived at the father's home, and the father would not answer his phone or follow commands. The father fired a weapon at law enforcement. After approximately 20 hours, law enforcement entered the home and found the deceased child with wet hair and clothes. The sibling was found hiding but safe.

Victim: 4-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother's boyfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 4-year-old girl died from undetermined reasons. She lived with her mother, mother's boyfriend and mother's roommates. On the day of the fatality, the mother went to work and left the child in the care of her boyfriend. Later that morning, the child was found deceased with multiple bruises on her body and face. The mother stated she observed a bruised bite mark on the child a few days prior, and the boyfriend admitted to biting the child. At autopsy, the child was found to have bite marks on her cheek and arm, multiple injuries on her body and face as well as an anoxic injury (caused when the brain is deprived of oxygen).

Victim: 9-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 9-month-old girl died from cranial trauma. She lived with her mother, father and a sibling. On the day of the incident, the mother left the child in the care of the father. Upon

returning home several hours later, the mother found the child unresponsive. 911 was contacted, and the child was transported to the hospital where she died the next day. At autopsy, the child was found to have brain injuries, retinal hemorrhages, multiple contusions, and fractures to the ribs, arms and legs.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father's girlfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 4

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from head injuries. He lived with his father, his father's girlfriend and the girlfriend's child. On the day of the incident, the father's girlfriend cared for the child while the father was at work. The father's girlfriend stated that the child fell out of his portable crib and became unconscious. The child was found to have a severe head injury that was not consistent with the fall described by the father's girlfriend. The child died three days later, and at autopsy, the child was found to have brain injuries and retinal hemorrhages. Law enforcement listened to the 911 call, and the father's girlfriend was heard saying that she thought she had hurt him. Additionally, a witness reported that the father's girlfriend confessed to pushing the child into his crib causing him to fall backward because he would not stop crying.

Victim: 11-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother's boyfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: An 11-month-old girl died from multiple injuries due to child abuse. She lived with her mother and her mother's boyfriend. On the day of the incident, the mother's boyfriend cared for the child while the mother was at work. The mother's boyfriend stated he slipped on water and fell while holding the child, causing the child to become unresponsive. The mother's boyfriend eventually called 911, and the child was transported to the hospital where she died the next day. Medical professionals stated that the child's injuries were not consistent with a fall as described by the mother's boyfriend. At autopsy, the child was found to have skull fractures, retinal and optic nerve hemorrhages, brain hemorrhages and spine hemorrhages.

Victim: 14-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 3

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 2

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 14-year-old boy died from ligature strangulation. He lived with his parents. Several days prior to the fatality, the child's older sibling contacted law enforcement due to her not being able to contact the mother and child. Law enforcement began investigating and was informed that previously the father had been physical with the mother and child. A witness contacted law enforcement and advised that the father said the mother and child were not coming back and provided directions of where they could be located. A search was conducted, and the mother and child were found buried in a shallow grave at a coal mine. It was reported that the father had been suffering with depression. After being arrested by law enforcement, the father admitted to killing the mother and child.

Victim: 10-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: Ongoing CHINS case; child in foster care

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 5

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Foster mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 10-year-old boy died from asphyxia. He lived with his foster parents and foster siblings. On the day of the incident, the child became angry and fled from the home. The foster mother found the child, and upon returning home, the child refused to get out of the vehicle. The foster mother stated that she opened the child's car door at which time the child tumbled to the ground, or she tackled him. The foster mother stated that she got on top of the child to prevent him from running away as the child kicked her. Video surveillance of the incident was observed, and the foster mother was seen lying on top of the child, on the front lawn, for at least 20 minutes; approximately 10 minutes of which the child did not move or make a sound. The foster mother eventually realized the child was unresponsive, and 911 was contacted. The child never regained consciousness and died two days later.

Victim: 1-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother's boyfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old girl died from abusive head and neck trauma. She lived with her mother and her mother's boyfriend. On the day of the incident, the mother's boyfriend cared for the child while the mother was at work. The mother's boyfriend initially stated the child became unconscious after she was knocked off an ottoman by their dog, so he drove the child to the mother's work, and together they transported the child to the hospital. Once hospitalized, the child underwent testing, and medical professionals stated the child's injuries were not consistent with a short fall. The child died a few days later. The mother's boyfriend later admitted to shaking the child after the child became upset because she did not want to get out of the bathtub. The mother's boyfriend admitted that he had shaken the child before. At autopsy, the child was found to have a subdural hematoma with a midline shift, spinal cord and retinal hemorrhages, as well as blunt impact injuries of the face, tongue, chest and extremities.

Victim: 3-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 3-month-old boy died from drowning. He lived with his parents. On the day of the fatality, the parents were at home with the child. The mother stated she was in the bedroom, and the father was in the living room with the child. The mother stated that the father came into the bedroom and hit her several times with a metal tool. The mother stated she heard the father leave the home. When she left the bedroom, she did not see the child, so she assumed the father had taken the child with him. The mother stated she drove herself to the hospital where it was determined she had sustained a skull fracture and brain injuries. The mother stated the father had been sending her messages saying the child was not his. Law enforcement eventually located the father, and he admitted that he assaulted the mother but denied knowing where the child was. Law enforcement searched the family's home, and found the child dead, submerged upside down in a five-gallon bucket of liquid laundry detergent.

Victims: 8-year-old girl, 6-year-old girl, 5-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for Victims: 8-year-old girl, 4; 6-year-old girl, 1; 5-year-old girl, 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for Victims: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No; mother deceased

Circumstances: An 8-year-old girl, 6-year-old girl and 5-year-old girl died from inert gas asphyxiation. They lived with their mother. Prior to the fatalities, the father of the children had filed a contempt motion with the court due to the mother not allowing him to see the children. Prior to the court date, the mother sent a suicide letter to the court which prompted a welfare check at the home. Once at the home, law enforcement found the mother and children deceased. The mother had used nitrous gas to kill each of the children and then herself.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother's boyfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from head trauma. He lived with his mother and his mother's boyfriend. On the day of the incident, the mother left the child in the care of her boyfriend while she was at work. A couple hours later, the mother's boyfriend contacted the mother and stated that something was wrong with the child. The mother's boyfriend picked the mother up from work, and then they all went to the boyfriend's mother's house. The boyfriend's mother instructed them to take the child to the hospital right away. Upon arrival at the hospital, blood was observed in the child's mouth. The child was found to have a skull fracture, subdural hematoma and liver laceration. The child underwent emergency surgery, but he died several days later. The mother stated the child was acting normally when she left for work, and the mother's boyfriend admitted to being the sole caregiver of the child when the child became lethargic.

Victim: 9-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 2; mother, 2

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 9-month-old girl died from blunt force injuries. She lived with her parents and a sibling. On the day of the incident, the child was admitted to the hospital in cardiac arrest. The child was found to have bruises, spinal fractures and blood in the brain. The parents provided different

and inconsistent statements as to how the child sustained the injuries. The parents stated that in the month prior, they had seen the child with a bloody nose, bruising to the body and hemorrhaging in the eyes but did not seek medical care for the child. The child remained on life support for several months before she passed away from her injuries.

Victim: 2-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Family friend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 2-year-old boy died from blunt force injuries. He lived with his mother and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the child and the child's sibling were left in the care of the sibling's father while the mother was at the hospital. Later that day, the sibling's father called 911 due to the child being unresponsive. The sibling's father stated the child had been in the bathtub, and when he checked on him, he found him face down in the bathtub. The child was observed to have several injuries. At autopsy, the child was found to have several abrasions and bruises on his body as well as a lacerated liver.

Victim: 7-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

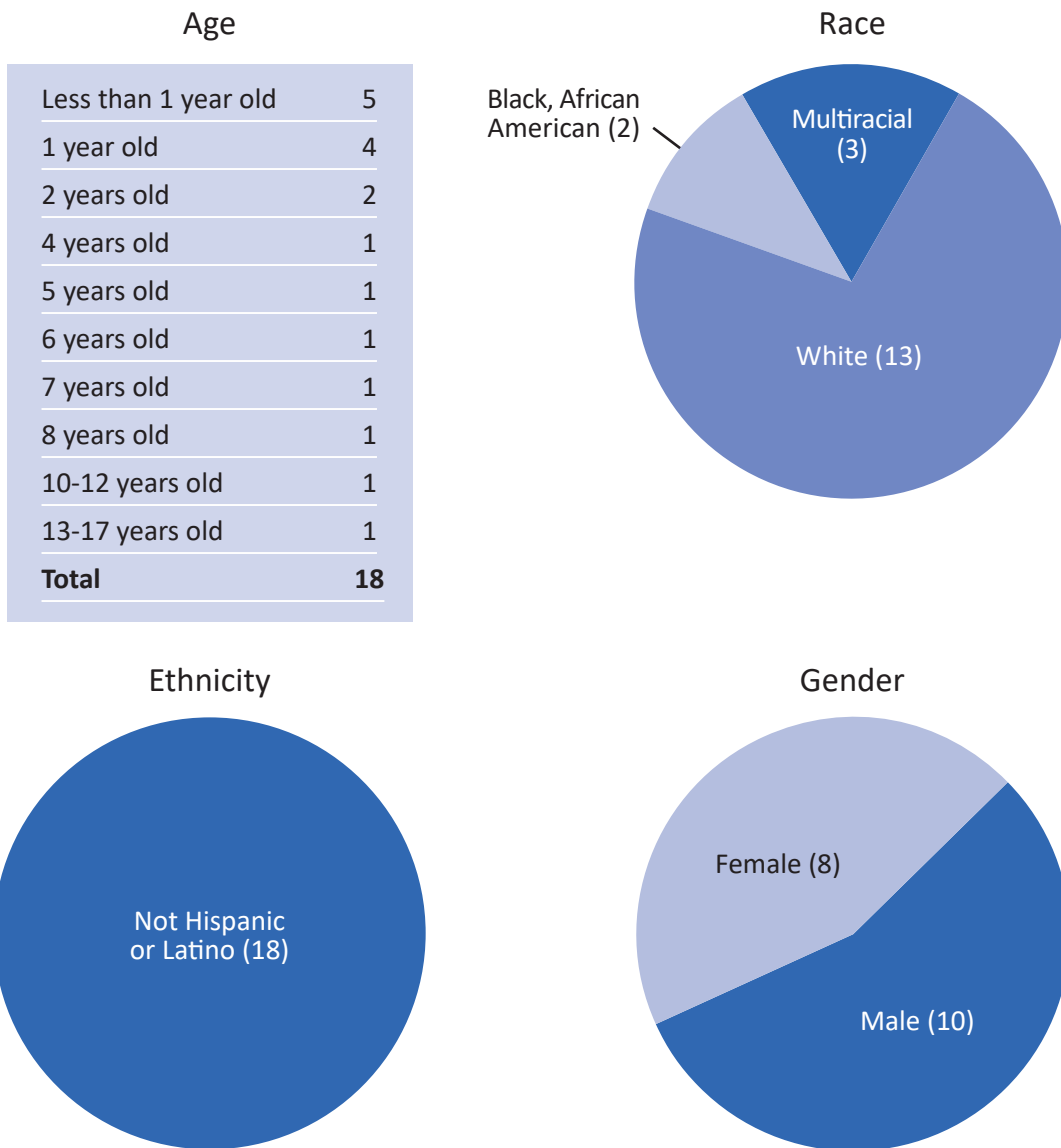
Perpetrators: Father, father's girlfriend

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 1; father's girlfriend, 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 7-year-old boy died from blunt force injuries. He lived with his father, siblings and the father's girlfriend. On the night prior to the fatality, the child went to bed around 10 p.m., and when the father checked on the child in the afternoon the next day, the child was deceased. The child was observed to be very skinny and malnourished with several injuries covering his body. The father and his girlfriend were the sole caregivers of the child in the weeks leading up to the child's death. At a medical appointment a few months prior to the child's death, the child weighed 49 pounds and, at death, he weighed 32 pounds. The father and the father's girlfriend stated the child stopped eating several weeks prior, and they never sought medical care for the child. The father and the father's girlfriend stated the child caused his injuries by throwing himself on the floor which was inconsistent with the constellation of the child's injuries. At autopsy, the child was found to have multiple blunt force injuries of the head, chest, abdomen, back, buttocks and extremities.

Abuse statistics: demographic characteristics of the child



Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

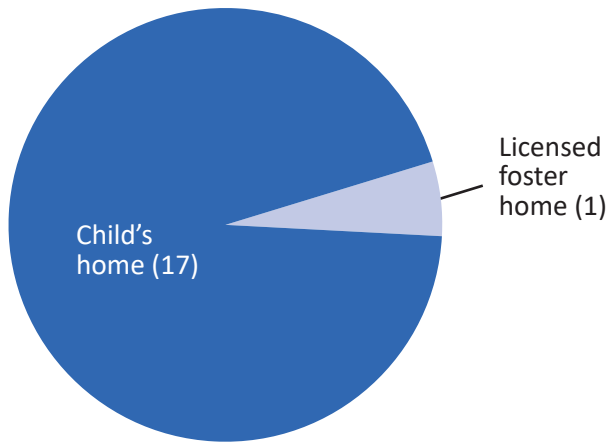
Abuse statistics: characteristics of the case

Type of abuse		Type of abuse	
Abusive head trauma	7	Drowning	1
Beating/kicking	4	Poisoning	3
Asphyxiation/suffocation	3	Other	1

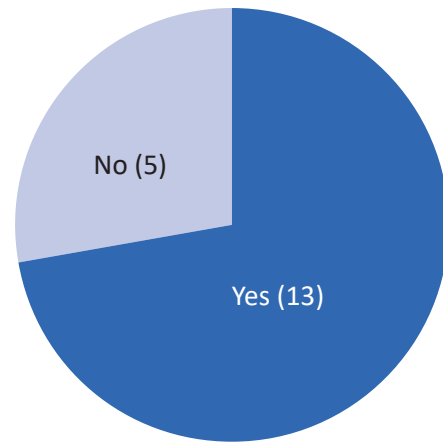
Source: Indiana Child Death Review form Note: A child might have experienced more than one type of abuse.

Abuse statistics: characteristics of the household

Location of incident



Other children in household



Caregiver 1 employment status

Employed	12
Unemployed	2
Unknown	4
Total	18

Caregiver 2 employment status

Employed	7
Stay-at-home	2
Unemployed	3
Unknown	5
Total	17

Caregiver 1 education level

High school	3
College	1
Unknown	14
Total	17

Caregiver 2 education level

High school	2
College	2
Unknown	13
Total	17

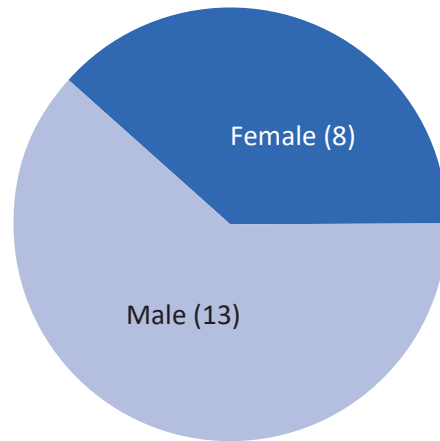
Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Abuse statistics: characteristics of the perpetrator

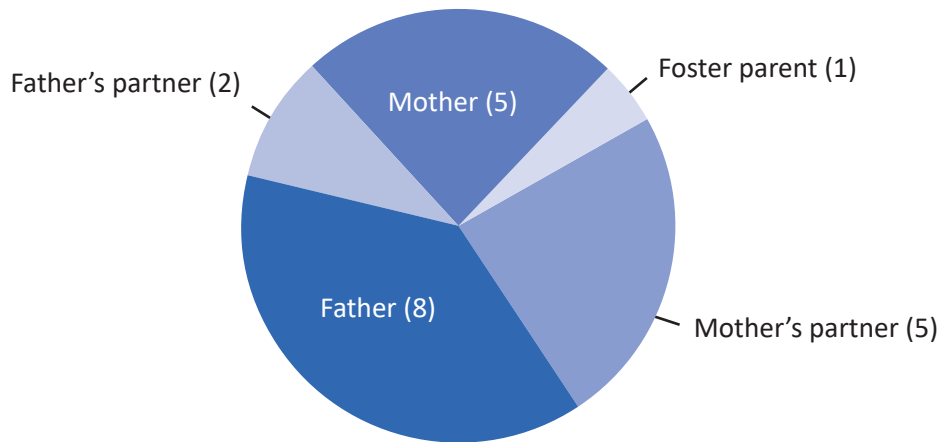
Age

Less than 20 years old	1
20-24 years old	4
25-29 years old	7
30-34 years old	5
35-39 years old	3
40-49 years old	1
Total	21

Gender



Relationship to child



Note: 21 perpetrators total; a child's death might have been caused by more than one perpetrator.

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Abuse statistics: known stress factors impacting child

At least one parent was a first-generation immigrant	2
History of homelessness	1
History of intimate partner violence (involvement unknown)	4
History of receiving mental health services	1
History of disability or chronic illness	2

Was acutely ill in two weeks before death	1
Was on medication for mental illness	1
Was receiving mental health services	1
History of child maltreatment as victim	4
Residence overcrowded	1

Note: A child might have had more than one stress factor. Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Abuse statistics: known stress factors impacting caregiver

Caregiver 1

New residence in the past 30 days	2
Residence overcrowded	1
Employment status	2
Insufficient income	8
History of substance abuse	10
History of child maltreatment as victim	7
History of intimate partner violence as victim	7
History of intimate partner violence as perpetrator	1

Caregiver 2

New residence in the past 30 days	2
Residence overcrowded	1
Employment status	3
Insufficient income	6
Language problem	1
History of substance abuse	6
History of child maltreatment as victim	3
Disability or chronic illness	2
History of intimate partner violence as victim	1
History of intimate partner violence as perpetrator	9

Note: A caregiver might have had more than one stress factor. Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Fatalities Due to Neglect

Victim: 1-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 1-month-old girl died from undetermined reasons. She lived with her mother and spent half the time with her father due to a visitation arrangement. On the day of the fatality, the child was with the father. He stated he had been up all night with the child due to her being fussy. The father stated on the morning of the fatality, he went to bed, on a twin-size bed, and placed the child in bed with him on a pillow next to his arm. The father stated he woke up a couple hours later and observed a blanket over the baby's face, and the baby was unresponsive. The father's home was found to have drug paraphernalia and a large amount of marijuana. The father was observed to appear impaired by slurring his speech and being out of it. The father submitted to a drug screen and was positive for THC and cocaine. Evidence showed that the child's time of death and the timeline provided by the father were inconsistent.

Victim: 1-day-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0 in Indiana; 5 in Kentucky

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 1-day-old girl died from complications of prematurity with acute methamphetamine intoxication contributing to the death. The child was born in the parents' vehicle outside of a hospital and died a short time later. The mother did not receive prenatal care. The mother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for amphetamine, methamphetamine and THC. At autopsy, the child's toxicology was positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine. Per the National Library of Medicine, methamphetamine use in pregnancy has been linked to a higher chance for preterm delivery, poor growth and low birth weight. Some studies have suggested that methamphetamine use in pregnancy can increase the chance for high blood pressure, placental abruption and fetal or infant death.

Victim: 3-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 3-month-old girl died from probable asphyxia with cocaine exposure and respiratory viral illness. She lived with her parents and siblings. On the evening prior to the fatality, the parents mixed alcohol and oxycodone (obtained illegally) prior to going to sleep on a couch with the child. The mother slept with the child on her chest and the next morning the child was found face down in the mother's armpit. The parents stated they were aware of safe sleep recommendations and had a crib and bassinet, both of which were full of clothes and other items. The family's home was observed to have dog feces and trash throughout. The home was heated by an oven and space heaters, with extension cords, connected to multiple items, running through the home. The parents admitted to using excessive amounts of cocaine a few days prior. The parents submitted to drug screens and the father was positive for THC and cocaine while the mother was positive for cocaine and oxycodone. At autopsy, the child's toxicology was positive for a cocaine metabolite.

Victim: 9-day-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 2

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 9-day-old boy died from positional asphyxia. He lived with his mother, sibling and mother's roommates. On the afternoon prior to the fatality, the mother and children returned home after visiting a friend, and the child was asleep in his car seat. The mother left the child in his car seat while she and the sibling went to bed. When the mother checked on the child 13 hours later, she found the child unresponsive, in the car seat, with his head hanging to the side. The mother stated she last fed the child at her friend's house the day before, which meant the child had not eaten for approximately 14 hours.

Victim: 5-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 0; mother, 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 5-month-old boy died from acute fentanyl and methamphetamine toxicity. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated she placed the child in bed with the father. When she checked on him a short time later, he was unresponsive. The family's home was observed to have trash throughout, and the only food in the home was rotten. The parents submitted to drug screens and were positive for methamphetamine, amphetamine and fentanyl. At autopsy, the child's toxicology was positive for fentanyl and methamphetamine.

Victim: 7-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 2

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 7-month-old girl died from asphyxia. She lived with her parents and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the mother fell asleep in a recliner while holding the child. When she woke up two hours later, the child was face down in the chair, unresponsive. The family's home was observed to be deplorable with clutter throughout, soiled baby bottles and fire hazards. The mother admitted to using methamphetamine, marijuana and narcotic prescription medication. The mother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for methamphetamine, amphetamine, hydrocodone and marijuana.

Victim: 8-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Babysitter

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: An 8-month-old boy died from positional asphyxia. He lived with his mother and sibling. On the morning of the fatality, the mother dropped the child off at the babysitter's house. A couple of hours later, the child was placed to sleep in a bassinet, on his back, on top of a U-shaped pillow. Approximately four hours later, the babysitter found the child on his stomach with his face down on a portion of the U-shaped pillow. The child was in the babysitter's care for approximately seven hours, and the babysitter admitted not feeding the child during that time. The babysitter had been caring for nine children under the age of four at the time.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 2

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from compressional asphyxia. He lived with his parents and a sibling. On the morning of the fatality, the mother woke up and fed the child and then went back to bed with the father, leaving the child awake and unsupervised with access to the child's bedroom and living room. Several hours later, the parents got up and found the child deceased under a dresser in the child's room. The dresser had been unsteady due to the flooring in the child's bedroom. It was reported that the parents wanted the child to play freely and be independent. The mother advised that she heard the child cry three times but went back to sleep. It was reported that the father heard the dresser fall and the child scream for a few seconds, but when the child got quiet, the father went back to sleep without checking on the child.

Victim: 2-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 2-year-old boy died from a gunshot wound. He lived with his mother and sibling. On the night of the fatality, the mother and child returned home, and the mother put her purse on her bed. The mother stated she was in the living room while the child went to another area of the home. The mother stated she heard a pop noise and found the child on her bed, near her purse, with a gunshot wound. The mother stated she had a loaded handgun in her purse. The child accessed it and shot himself. The mother stated she usually stored the gun under her mattress.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from a gunshot wound. He lived with his mother. On the day of the fatality, the child was visiting his father. The father placed the child in the father's bed to take a nap. The father went downstairs, and approximately ten minutes later, he heard a bang. The father went back upstairs to his bedroom and observed the child with a gunshot wound. The father stated he kept his loaded firearm under the mattress of the bed the child had been lying on. The father stated that when he found the child, the gun was on the floor by the bed.

Victim: 7-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 7-year-old girl died from infections of the lungs and kidneys. She lived with her parents, siblings, grandparents and cousins. On the day of the fatality, the parents observed the child become limp and unresponsive. The parents stated the child had mostly stopped eating a couple of weeks prior. The parents stated they attempted to give the child nutritional drinks without success. A week prior to the fatality, the mother contacted the child's doctor's office and was advised that if the child did not improve to have the child seen by the doctor the next day, which did not happen. The parents stated the child started sleeping often, which they reported was concerning. Medical records noted that approximately a month prior to the child's death she weighed 42 pounds, and at autopsy, the child only weighed 35.5 pounds. Even though the child's health continued to decline, the parents never sought medical care for the child.

Victim: 2-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 2-month-old girl died from asphyxia due to overlay/wedging. She lived with her mother and a cousin. On the day of the fatality, the mother fell asleep on a couch with the child in her arms. At some point, the cousin found the child face down, mostly underneath the couch cushion, unresponsive. The cousin had a hard time waking up the mother. Law enforcement observed narcotic drug paraphernalia in the room the mother and the child had been sleeping in. While being interviewed, the mother fell asleep during conversations. The mother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine.

Victim: 2-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 2-month-old boy died from starvation and malnourishment. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the mother observed the child to be lethargic with shallow breathing, so she and the father decided to drive the child to the hospital. The parents arrived at the hospital approximately an hour later even though the hospital was only 10 minutes from their home. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child's body temperature was 87.5° F. The child was observed to appear malnourished and skinny, with loose skin. The mother stated she was aware of the child's weight loss and poor eating but had not taken the child to the doctor since birth. The parents submitted to drug screens and were positive for THC. Medical records noted that, at birth, the child weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces, and, at death, the child weighed 6 pounds, 9.08 ounces.

Victim: 3-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Grandmother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 3-year-old girl died from drowning. She lived with her mother and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the child and a sibling were being cared for by the grandmother. The grandmother and children decided to go swimming in the grandmother's backyard swimming pool. The children got their swimming suits on while the grandmother prepared lunch. At some point, the grandmother noticed the child was missing and began looking for the child. The child was later located in the backyard pool. The grandmother stated the child had gotten out of the home before and had run towards the pool, but a family member had always been able to intervene before the child got to the pool. The pool did not have a fence around it or any protective barriers in place to prevent the child from accessing the pool.

Victim: 9-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 0; mother, 2

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 9-month-old girl died from septicemia (blood poisoning) due to diaper dermatitis contributed to by congenital heart disease. She lived with her parents and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the mother woke up in the morning to feed the child and found her unresponsive. The mother stated the child was fed via g-tube, but she had recently started skipping the child's 4 a.m. feeding and diaper change, so she could sleep. The family's home was observed to be dirty and smelled of trash and animal urine. At autopsy, the child was found to have large open raw spots covering her genitals and buttocks, some of which were very deep with a terrible odor. The child's diaper was completely soiled with an extreme amount of feces and blood.

Victim: 2-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 2; mother, 1

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 2-month-old girl died from complications of human rhinovirus/enterovirus infection. She lived with her parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated she placed the child to sleep in a crib, on her back, with a blanket. The mother stated she checked on the child approximately an hour later and found the child not breathing. The family's home was observed to be extremely dirty. The parents submitted to drug screens, and they both tested positive for amphetamine and methamphetamine. Medical records revealed that the child was last seen by her pediatrician at 4-days-old and was to be seen again approximately three weeks later, but that did not happen. Medical professionals reported that the child would have exhibited symptoms of illness prior to her death, and a sober adult would have recognized this and sought medical attention. A physician stated that the illness that caused the child's death was 100% preventable.

Victim: 3-month-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 3; mother, 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 3-month-old boy died from inhalation of products of combustion and thermal burns. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the mother left the children at home with the father while she ran an errand. The mother stated the child was asleep when she left, and the father and older siblings were awake. The mother stated she returned home approximately 20 minutes later and observed fire and police personnel at the home. The father stated he was asleep when his oldest child woke him up and said the house was on fire. The father stated he grabbed the siblings and the dog and got out of the house. Law enforcement stated the father was heavily intoxicated and did not report that the child was still in the home until law enforcement asked if all the children had been accounted for. The child was eventually located in his crib by fire personnel, in the room shared by the parents and siblings, and was transported to the hospital where he died shortly after. The mother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for THC. Law enforcement reported that the father's blood alcohol content was 0.262. The mother and father admitted that the father was an alcoholic.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from blunt force injuries following a motor vehicle accident. He lived with his mother. On the day of the fatality, the mother and child had been at a family party for several hours. The mother and child left the party in a vehicle driven by the child's uncle. At some point, the uncle disregarded a traffic signal which resulted in the vehicle being T-boned by another vehicle. The child was seriously injured and later passed away at the hospital. Witnesses reported that prior to the accident, the uncle was observed driving recklessly at a high rate of speed. The mother stated the child had been restrained in a child safety seat in the back seat of the vehicle. Evidence from inside the vehicle suggested that the child's safety seat had not been properly secured to the vehicle. The uncle's blood alcohol content was 0.129, and he tested positive for THC. The mother knew that the uncle had been drinking at the family party and still placed the child in a vehicle being driven by the uncle.

Victim: 3-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 3-year-old girl died from blunt force injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. She lived with her parents and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the father was driving a vehicle with the child and sibling and became involved in a vehicle crash which resulted in the child being ejected. The child was not in a child safety seat and appeared to have not been restrained. The father submitted to a blood draw and was positive for THC.

Victim: 1-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old girl died from a submersion injury. She lived with her parents, a sibling and a grandparent. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated that she took a shower with the child. When she looked away, she heard a thud, and the child was unconscious. 911 was called, and upon arrival the first responders observed the child lying on the living room floor, face down, cold and wet. The mother provided inconsistent statements as to what occurred, but she later admitted to leaving the child unattended in the bathtub. The father stated the mother woke him up after the child was already unresponsive. The home was observed to be in disarray, and the flooring near the bathroom was saturated with water. Portable breath tests were given to the parents. The mother's test was negative, while the father's result was 0.44. The parents submitted to drug screens, and they both tested positive for THC.

Victim: 5-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 5

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Stepmother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 5-year-old girl died from drowning. She lived with her father, stepmother and siblings, and custody was shared with the mother. On the day of the fatality, the child was in the care of the stepmother while the father was at work. The stepmother took the child and siblings to a river to swim. At some point, she realized she could not find the child. 911 was contacted, and the child was later recovered from the river. The stepmother provided inconsistent statements as to what occurred prior to her realizing the child was missing. The stepmother's behavior was erratic, she smelled of alcohol and her blood alcohol content was 0.199. The stepmother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for THC.

Victim: 4-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 4-month-old girl died from undetermined reasons. She lived with her parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the mother fell asleep in a chair while holding the child. The mother was awakened several hours later, and the child was wedged between the mother and the arm of the chair. The mother's behavior was described as someone who had been impaired by methamphetamine use. The mother submitted to a drug screen and was positive for high levels of methamphetamine and amphetamine. The mother acknowledged that she appeared to be out of it.

Victim: 2-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 0; mother, 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 2-month-old girl died from malnutrition due to parental neglect. She lived with her parents. On the day of the fatality, the parents took the child to the hospital where the child was pronounced deceased. The child was observed to be very malnourished and weighed approximately what she weighed at birth. The mother stated she last fed the child approximately 10 hours prior to finding the child deceased. The parents reported to medical staff that the night prior they put water on the child because she was not acting right, and they thought it was odd that the child was sleeping with her eyes open. The child had only been seen by a doctor once, shortly after birth. The parents reported that they were aware that the child looked skinny but never sought medical care.

Victim: 26-day-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 1; mother, 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 26-day-old girl died from rhinovirus infection with dehydration. She lived with her parents and a sibling. On the day of the fatality, the parents took the child with them while they picked up items from different stores and delivered them to people. After they had been in the car approximately five hours, the mother stated the child turned pale, would not eat, and started wheezing. Over an hour later, while still in the vehicle, the mother stated the child looked paler, and the father stated the child's eye started to look lazy. Approximately an hour after that, the family returned home where the parents gave the child a bath while she was limp, pale and not very responsive. The parents stated that after the bath did not help the child's condition, they monitored the child for an hour before they drove the child to the hospital, where she was pronounced deceased. The parents did not seek medical care for the child when they noticed the child was in distress, and when they did take the child to the hospital, they did not take her to the nearest hospital.

Victim: 8-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 7 (the family was unable to be located during 4 of the assessments)

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 3

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 3; mother, 4

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: An 8-year-old girl died from acute fentanyl intoxication. She lived with her parents, siblings, grandmother and an aunt. On the day of the fatality, the parents stated the child complained of a stomachache and went to sleep on the living room floor. Not long after, the parents stated the rest of the family started getting ready to go to bed, and the father noticed that the child was unresponsive. 911 was contacted, and the child was pronounced deceased at the hospital. The parents' behavior was consistent with being under the influence of drugs, but they refused to submit to drug screens. Upon arrival at the family's home, the windows were observed to be busted out, and the house was observed to be cluttered and dirty. Approximately two weeks after the fatality, the parents submitted to drug screens and were positive for fentanyl and norfentanyl.

Victim: 10-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 10-month-old girl died from fentanyl intoxication. She lived with her mother,

siblings and mother's friend. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated she placed the child to sleep, and an hour later, she found the child unresponsive. The mother stated she contacted the child's father. He contacted his friend and asked the friend to take the child to the hospital. The mother stated the father's friend arrived at her house and took the child to the hospital. The mother stated she had been the only caregiver of the child. Law enforcement executed a search warrant at the mother's home and several narcotics, consisting of 321 tablets of fentanyl, heroin and bromazepam, were located along with marijuana and several firearms. The child passed away two days later. At autopsy, the child's toxicology was positive for fentanyl, norfentanyl and 4-ANPP.

Victim: 2-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 2-year-old boy died from drowning due to lack of supervision. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the father cared for the child while the mother was at work. The father stated that he was working in the garage and left the screen door open so he could hear the child playing in the home. The father stated that he had used a power saw for approximately 10 minutes, and after he shut it off, he realized he did not hear the child. The father stated he went to check on the child, and the child was not in the home. The father stated he went outside to look for the child and found the child floating in a nearby pond.

Victim: 2-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 2-year-old girl died from hyperthermia due to prolonged exposure to a hot environment. She lived with her parents and siblings. On the evening prior to the fatality, the parents reported that the child was placed in her crib, located inside a walk-in closet, around 6 p.m. The parents reported that the mother turned on a space heater they had placed in the closet and closed the door but not all the way. No one checked on the child for at least 20 hours at which time they found the child deceased in her crib. Law enforcement measured the temperature in the closet, and it was 96-108 degrees Fahrenheit. The child's body temperature was 108 degrees Fahrenheit. The closet the

child was found in was observed to have fecal matter in it as well as other trash. The home conditions were observed to be deplorable with minimal food.

Victim: 12-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 10

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 2

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Father, 1; Mother, 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 12-year-old girl died from diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA). She lived with her parents and siblings. On the morning of the fatality, the mother stated the child did not join the family for breakfast, and she did not see the child all day until around 4:30 p.m. after an older sibling said that something was wrong with the child. The mother checked on the child and noticed that the child was not breathing correctly. The child was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes, so the mother checked the child's blood sugar, and it was over 600. The mother stated she gave the child insulin and left the child in bed. Thirty minutes later, the mother checked on the child, and the child had not recovered, so she allowed her to continue sleeping. Approximately an hour after that, the mother checked on the child, and she was deceased. The family's home was observed to be in deplorable condition with trash, mold and feces on the floors. A continuous glucose monitor was found in the home, but it was broken. Insulin pumps were found in the home, but they were not being used. The child's medical records were reviewed, and it was noted that the parents had a history of failing to manage the child's diabetes even though they had been trained on how to treat the condition over 10 separate times.

Victim: 1-day-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 4

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 1-day-old girl died from acute cocaine toxicity. The child's mother stated she was homeless. The mother was hospitalized and gave birth to the child. The mother did not receive prenatal care and admitted to drinking alcohol and using cocaine throughout her pregnancy. The mother provided a drug screen and was positive for cocaine. The child's umbilical cord was tested and was positive for cocaine and THC.

Victim: 1-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: Ongoing CHINS case

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 4

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Foster mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 1-year-old girl died by drowning due to lack of supervision. She lived with her foster parents and their children. On the day of the incident, the foster mother placed the child in the bathtub and left the child unsupervised while she went to another area of the home. Approximately 20 minutes later, the foster mother found the child unresponsive floating in the bathtub. 911 was contacted, and the child was placed on life support at the hospital but died several days later.

Victim: 3-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 3

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 3-year-old-boy died by drowning due to lack of supervision. He lived with his mother, siblings and mother's roommate. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated she went to put her youngest child down for a nap and approximately 15 minutes later, she noticed that her other children were no longer in the house. The mother stated she went outside to look for the children and found the child unresponsive in the apartment pool. Video surveillance was obtained, which revealed that the child had been in the pool 45 minutes before the mother arrived at the pool. The mother then pulled the child out of the pool and sat with the child for 10 minutes before taking the child back home where 911 was called.

Victim: 2-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 2-year-old girl died from mechanical asphyxia. She lived with her parents and

siblings. On the evening of the fatality, the child and a sibling were locked in their shared bedroom. Approximately 30 to 60 minutes later, the parents heard a thud and found the child unresponsive with a dresser and closet doors on top of her. Upon the arrival of law enforcement, the other siblings were found locked in their bedroom. The children's bedroom doors were observed to have the doorknobs turned around so that the children could be locked inside. Human fecal matter was observed on the walls in the child's bedroom.

Victim: 13-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 6

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 13-year-old girl died from complications of malnutrition and congenital cerebral disorder. She lived with her mother and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the mother fed the child blended food via g-tube and then took a nap. When the mother checked on the child later, she found her unresponsive. At autopsy, the child was found to have severe malnutrition. According to medical professionals, the child should have been receiving medical treatment on a regular and consistent basis due to her having multiple medical diagnoses. The mother failed to follow recommendations from medical providers, and the child had not been examined by a physician for approximately six years.

Victim: 3-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 3-month-old girl died from failure to thrive due to enterocolitis. She lived with her mother, siblings, a grandmother and an uncle. On the day of the fatality, the mother stated the child would not take her bottle and was lethargic. The mother stated she drove the child to the hospital, and when she arrived, the child was stiff and must have died enroute to the hospital. The mother stated she took the child to the hospital a couple of weeks prior due to the child being sick with diarrhea and vomiting for an extended period. The mother stated she left the hospital prior to the child being seen because the wait was too long. The grandmother stated that the mother told her she took the child to the hospital a few weeks prior and the doctor said the child was fine. When the child died, she was malnourished and weighed approximately a pound less than she weighed the month prior.

Victim: 4-month-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: In-home CHINS

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 1

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 1

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 4-month-old girl died from sudden unexplained death of an infant with unsafe-sleep factors identified. She lived with her mother at a sober living home. On the day of the fatality, the mother fell asleep with the child in the mother's bed. The mother stated that when she woke up, she and the child were on the floor, and the child was deceased. The mother admitted to using gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) prior to going to sleep. The mother underwent a blood draw ordered by law enforcement and was positive for GHB. Some of GHB's side effects are drowsiness, amnesia, confusion and hallucinations.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Father

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from blunt force trauma after being run over by a forklift. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the father was using a forklift to move items from one spot to another while the child was nearby. The father stated that while he was backing up, he felt a bump and figured he had run over wood. The father stated he went inside a shop on the property and a short time later, he heard someone yelling and observed the child under the forklift. The father was the sole caregiver of the child at the time of the accident and was not properly supervising the child.

Victim: 4-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 4

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 4-year-old boy died from blunt force injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. He lived with his parents. On the day of the incident, the mother and child were in a vehicle being driven by the mother. The mother stated she was arguing with someone via text message, and when she looked up, she realized she had crossed into oncoming traffic and collided with another vehicle. The child died from his injuries several days later.

Victim: 5-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 5 (the family was unable to be located during 4 of the assessments)

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 2

Screened-out reports: 2

Perpetrators: Mother, mother's boyfriend, grandmother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: Mother, 2; mother's boyfriend, 0; grandmother, 0

Criminal charges: Yes

Circumstances: A 5-year-old girl died from complications of malnutrition and dehydration. She lived with her mother, siblings and the mother's boyfriend. On the day of the fatality, the mother called 911 due to the child becoming unresponsive. Upon arrival at the hospital, the child was observed to be extremely gaunt and emaciated with her bones protruding. Fecal matter was observed on the child's body from her head to the soles of her feet. The child's head was covered with lice, and the child weighed less than she had two years prior. The mother and her boyfriend provided inconsistent stories regarding the events leading up to the child's death. Law enforcement searched the home and found that the closet in the children's bedroom was covered in urine and human fecal matter. The mother eventually admitted that she did not have a bond with the child, and she had been locking the child in the closet for several months. The mother stated she did the bare minimum for the child and wanted the child out of her life. The mother stated that the grandmother had watched the child for her a few times and was aware of the child being locked in the closet. The mother's boyfriend and the grandmother were aware of how the child was being neglected but at no time intervened.

Victim: 2-year-old girl

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 1

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

Perpetrator: Grandmother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 5

Criminal charges: No

Circumstances: A 2-year-old girl died from oxycodone intoxication. She lived with her mother and a sibling. On the night prior to the fatality, the child was in the care of the grandmother and at some point, the child fell asleep on the couch with the grandmother. The next morning, the grandmother

found the child unresponsive on the couch. The grandmother was prescribed oxycodone and had a history of dropping pills. On two separate occasions, the grandmother had been advised to make sure her medication was secure after the medication had previously been found in the couch. The grandmother stated she kept her medication in her pocket, but it sometimes fell out.

Victim: 1-year-old boy

DCS involvement at time of fatal event: No open DCS involvement

Number of previous unsubstantiated assessments for victim: 0

Number of previous substantiated assessments for victim: 0

Screened-out reports: 0

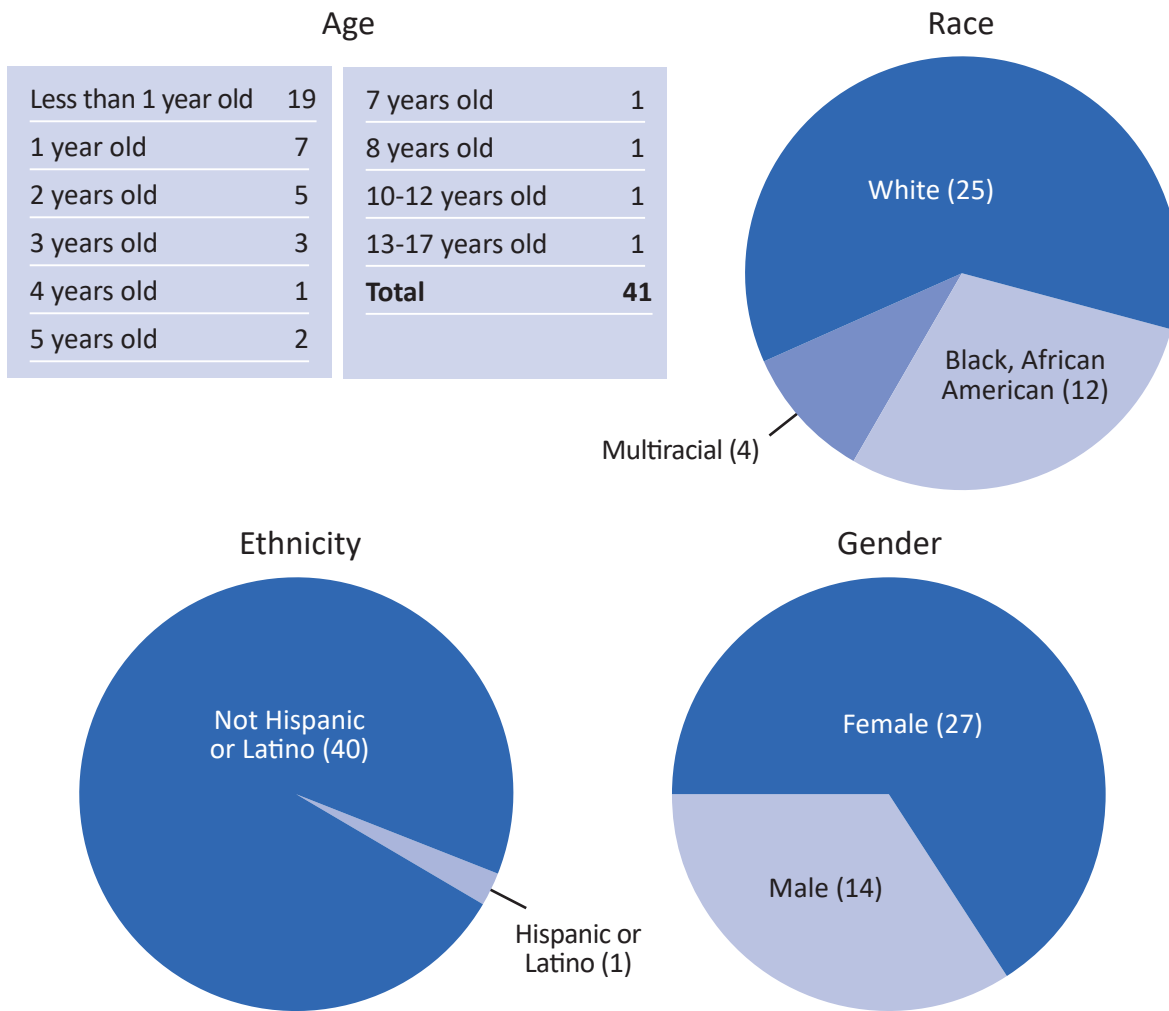
Perpetrators: Father, mother

Perpetrator history of substantiated assessments: 0

Criminal charges: No

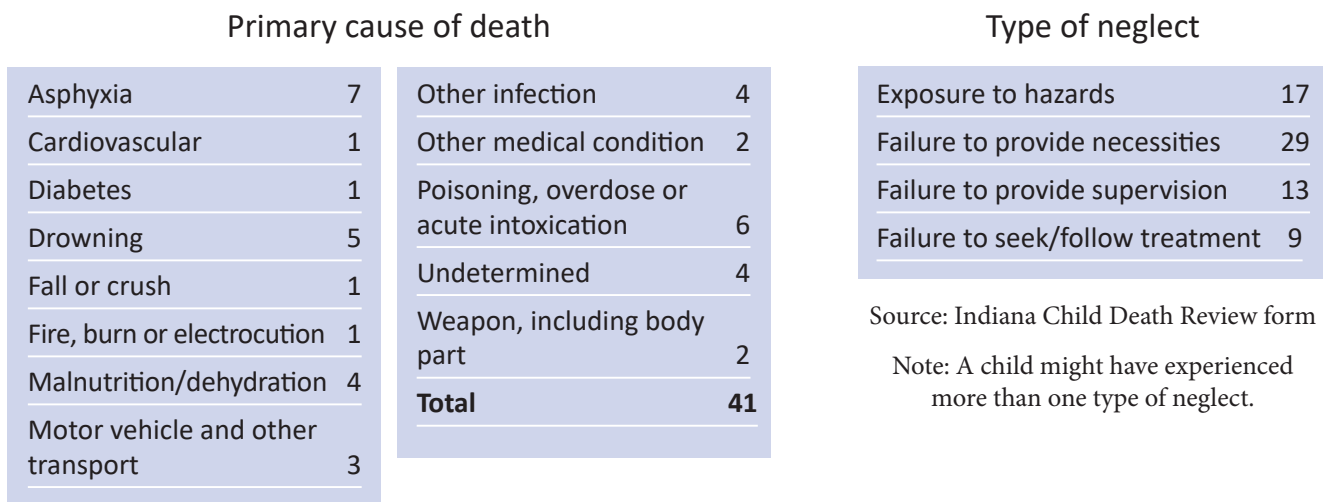
Circumstances: A 1-year-old boy died from congestive heart failure due to pulmonary hypertension. He lived with his parents and siblings. On the day of the fatality, the child had been sleeping and woke up crying. Shortly after, the child started struggling to breathe. The child was transported to the hospital by medics and died a short time later. The child had been hospitalized several months prior and diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension and heart failure. The child was prescribed several medications to be taken daily, but prescription records showed that the medications had not been picked up for over two months. Medical records showed that the child was to be on a BiPAP machine for 10 to 12 hours every night. The fatal incident occurred around 3 a.m., and the BiPAP machine was nowhere near where the child slept, and the parents never reported that the child was to use a BiPAP machine. The child was not compliant with seeing the cardiologist or pulmonologist. A doctor stated that if the child had been seen by specialists as recommended, it could have helped in identifying any issues going on with the child. A doctor stated that the child not being given a medication he was prescribed to prevent fluid building up in his lungs could have contributed to the child's decline. A doctor stated that the child not using the BiPAP machine as directed could have advanced the child into respiratory failure.

Neglect statistics: demographic characteristics of the child



Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Neglect statistics: characteristics of the case

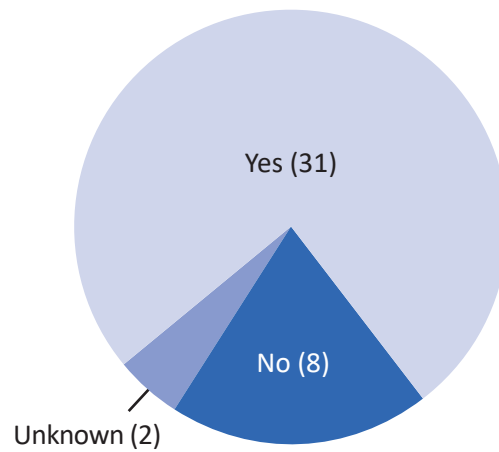


Neglect statistics: characteristics of the household

Location of incident	
Child's home	26
Body of water near home	1
Apartment swimming pool	1
Hospital	3
Licensed foster home	1
Other recreational area	1
Relative's home	4
Roadway	3
Unlicensed daycare	1

Note: A child might have experienced neglect in more than one location.

Other children in household



Caregiver 1 employment status	
Employed	14
Stay-at-home	3
Unemployed	18
Unknown	6
Total	41

Caregiver 2 employment status	
Employed	21
Retired	1
Unemployed	8
Unknown	3
Total	33

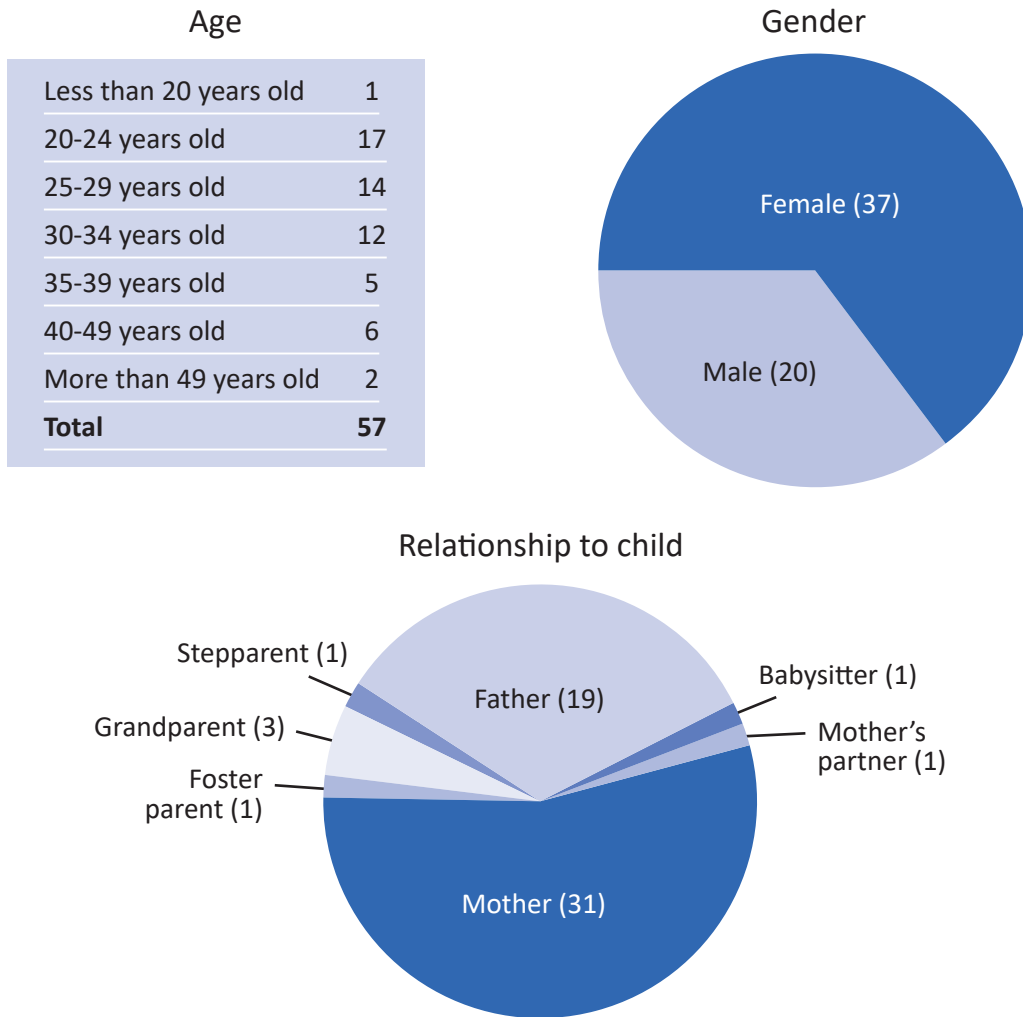
Child's home
 Child's home/farm
 Child's home/roadway
 Friend's home
 Hospital
 Short-term rental
 Wooded area/roadway
 Relative's home
 Roadway

Caregiver 1 education level	
Less than high school	1
High school	8
College	1
Unknown	31
Total	41

Caregiver 2 education level	
Less than high school	1
High school	5
College	1
Unknown	26
Total	33

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Neglect statistics: characteristics of the perpetrator



Note: 57 perpetrators total; a child's death might have been caused by more than one perpetrator.

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Neglect statistics: known stress factors impacting child

At least one parent who was a first generation immigrant	2
History of homelessness	3
History of intimate partner violence (involvement unknown)	1
Prior disability or chronic illness	10
Acutely ill in the two weeks before death	2
History of child maltreatment as victim	11
Residence Overcrowded	2

Note: A child might have had more than one stress factor. Source: Indiana Child Death Review form

Neglect statistics: known stress factors impacting caregiver

Caregiver 1		Caregiver 2	
New residence in the past 30 days	3	New residence in the past 30 days	3
Residence overcrowded	2	Residence overcrowded	2
Employment status	18	Employment status	8
Insufficient income	26	Education	1
Education	1	Insufficient income	16
Language problem	1	Language problem	1
History of substance abuse	22	History of substance abuse	19
History of child maltreatment as victim	9	History of child maltreatment as victim	6
Disability or chronic illness	4	Disability or chronic illness	1
History of intimate partner violence as victim	9	History of intimate partner violence as perpetrator	15

Note: A caregiver might have had more than one stress factor.

Source: Indiana Child Death Review form