

Deaths of Children, Youth and Young Adults Receiving Child Intervention Services

April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2021

The Ministry of Children’s Services is committed to publicly reporting the deaths of children, youth and young adults that occurred while receiving child intervention services.

Table 1: By Type of Intervention

Type of Intervention*	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021
Initial Assessment	7	7	8	10	12	15	15	11	11	12
Not In Care	0	0	5	10	1	1	3	6	3	2
In Care	11	10	8	10	6	8	7	9	9	6
Over 18 and Receiving Support and Financial Assistance (SFA)	1	1	3	3	3	2	8	7	10	14
Total	19	18	24	33	22	26	33	33	33	34

***Type of Intervention notes:**

- **Initial Assessment** refers to the period of time when families are assessed to determine if intervention is required and what the right level of support is to meet identified needs
- **Not In Care** refers to children who remain at home while the family receives services to resolve matters of concern.
- **In Care** refers to children who have been placed outside of their home on a temporary or permanent basis. These children may be placed in: kinship homes, foster homes, group homes or treatment facilities.
- **Support and Financial Assistance (SFA)** agreements are available to young adults between the ages of 18 and 24 who were previously involved in Child Intervention, to help support them in fully reaching their independence.

Table 2: By Manner of Death

	Manner of Death	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021
All Children	Accidental	1	3	2	5	4	7	9	8	11	5
	Homicide	2	1	1	1	5	0	3	2	0	0
	Natural	9	5	6	4	1	4	4	2	1	0
	Pending	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	6	19
	Suicide	0	4	4	7	4	3	3	8	6	6
	¹ Unclassified	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	² Undetermined	7	3	7	6	4	2	5	7	1	1
	Death not investigated by OCME	0	1	4	7	3	6	5	5	8	3
	Death occurred outside of Alberta	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
	Total	19	18	24	33	22	26	33	33	33	33

The Manner of Death (MOD) is determined by the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) in most circumstances. In some cases, such as when a child dies in hospital while under the care of medical professionals, an attending physician may determine the manner of death as natural, and no further review is required by the OCME. In these cases, the death is classified as "Death not investigated by the OCME." Further, the OCME is unable to investigate deaths that occur outside of Alberta and a confirmed manner of death may not be provided by the other jurisdiction. Results may change from month to month as a result of OCME determinations.

¹Prior to January 1, 2016, this term was used to classify deaths due to drug toxicity that were not clearly accidental, homicidal or suicidal. As of January 1, 2016, this term is used only for Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) deaths.

²When a completed death investigation does not give enough evidence to determine the manner of death. Link to OCME - <https://www.alberta.ca/death-investigation-process.aspx>

Table 3: By Manner of Death

	Manner of Death	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021
Indigenous	Accidental	1	0	1	4	2	3	4	5	8	3
	Homicide	0	0	1	1	2	0	3	2	0	0
	Natural	6	5	4	0	1	3	3	2	0	0
	Pending	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	15
	Suicide	0	2	3	6	3	3	1	4	4	2
	¹ Unclassified	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	² Undetermined	3	3	3	5	1	1	2	3	0	1
	Death not investigated by OCME	0	1	3	4	3	1	2	3	3	2
	Death occurred outside of Alberta	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	Indigenous Subtotal	10	12	15	20	12	14	15	19	19	23
Non-Indigenous	Accidental	0	3	1	1	2	4	5	3	3	2
	Homicide	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	Natural	3	0	2	4	0	1	1	0	1	0
	Pending	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	2	4
	Suicide	0	2	1	1	1	0	2	4	2	4
	¹ Unclassified	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
	² Undetermined	4	0	4	1	3	1	3	4	1	0
	Death not investigated by OCME	0	0	1	3	0	5	3	2	5	1
	Death occurred outside of Alberta	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
	Non-Indigenous Subtotal	9	6	9	13	10	12	18	14	14	11

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Table 4: By Indigenous/Non-Indigenous

Status	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021
Indigenous	10	12	15	20	12	14	15	19	19	23
Non-Indigenous	9	6	9	13	10	12	18	14	14	11
Total	19	18	24	33	22	26	33	33	33	34

Table 5: By Gender

Gender	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021
Female	12	5	14	17	9	10	14	16	18	15
Male	7	13	10	16	13	16	19	17	15	19
Total	19	18	24	33	22	26	33	33	33	34

Table 6: By Age Group

Age Group	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021
0-5	13	9	13	17	8	13	16	14	13	10
6-12	3	2	4	1	0	3	0	1	3	1
13-15	1	3	2	7	7	3	3	4	4	5
16-17	1	3	2	5	4	5	6	7	2	4
18+	1	1	3	3	3	2	8	7	11	14
Total	19	18	24	33	22	26	33	33	33	34