

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



## Creating a Safer and Stronger Future

Since 1949, the South Dakota Safety Council has provided programs and services to help employers and workers, families and communities prevent injury. We are committed to the safety of all South Dakotans — at work, on the road, at home and at play.

Unintentional injuries are a leading cause of death, disability and economic loss in South Dakota. But deaths are just part of the story. In far greater numbers, non-fatal incidents alter lives and limit the potential of those who are injured.

For every injury death it's estimated that there are three severe traumas, including brain and spinal cord injuries, ten injuries that require hospitalization and 100 injuries that result in emergency department treatment.

In addition to medical expenses, economic losses include wage and productivity costs, lost time, insurance and legal costs, uninsured costs and property damage.

### AMONG RECENT TRENDS:

- ▶ Thirty work-related deaths were recorded in South Dakota in 2017, a decrease of one from 2016. Fatal work injuries in the state have ranged from a high of 46 in 1999 to a low of 20 in 2013.
- ▶ South Dakota's 141 traffic fatalities in 2017 is an increase from 2016. South Dakota's seat belt use rate increased slightly in 2017 to 74.8 percent.

In the pages of this annual report, you'll learn more about the problem of injury in South Dakota, and the programs and services we've provided over the past year to help solve it. You'll see how the leadership of our Board of Directors, our strong bonds with members and other partners, and the commitment of our staff combine to make a difference in the lives of South Dakotans.

### OUR MISSION:

To improve the quality of life for the people of South Dakota by reducing incidents, injuries and occupational illnesses from preventable causes.

# INJURY IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death in South Dakota from ages one through 39 and the third leading cause overall. In 2017\*, 537 South Dakotans died from unintentional injuries. Tens of thousands more required medical care.

Falls were the leading cause of unintentional-injury death in 2017, taking the lives of 196 people, an increase from 2016.

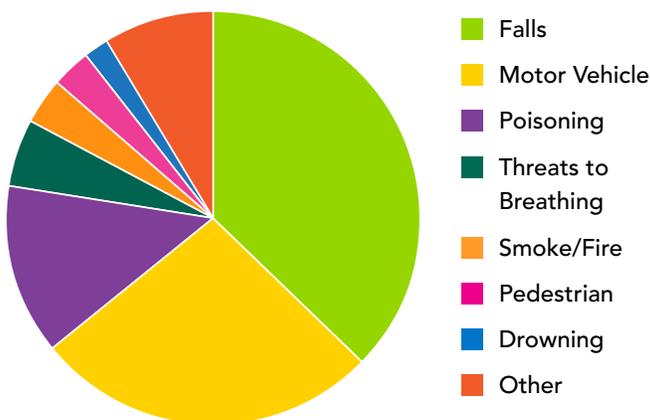
Motor vehicle crashes were second — 141 people died on South Dakota roads, an increase from the state's total of 116 fatalities in 2016.

Unintentional poisoning ranked third with 70 deaths, slightly more than the previous year. Nationally, unintentional poisonings remain the leading cause of injury death from ages 25-64. Most of these deaths are the result of opioid overdoses, including prescription painkillers and heroin.

Other leading causes of unintentional-injury death include threats to breathing (asphyxiation, aspiration, etc.), accounting for 28 deaths in 2017; pedestrian (16 deaths); smoke/fire/flame (19 deaths) and drowning (10 deaths). Overall, unintentional-injury deaths increased 6.7 percent from last year.

Unintentional injury remained the third leading cause of death in South Dakota in 2017 and accounted for 6.7 of resident deaths, a 4.7 percent increase from 2016.

## UNINTENTIONAL INJURY DEATHS South Dakota Residents, 2017



Source: South Dakota Department of Health

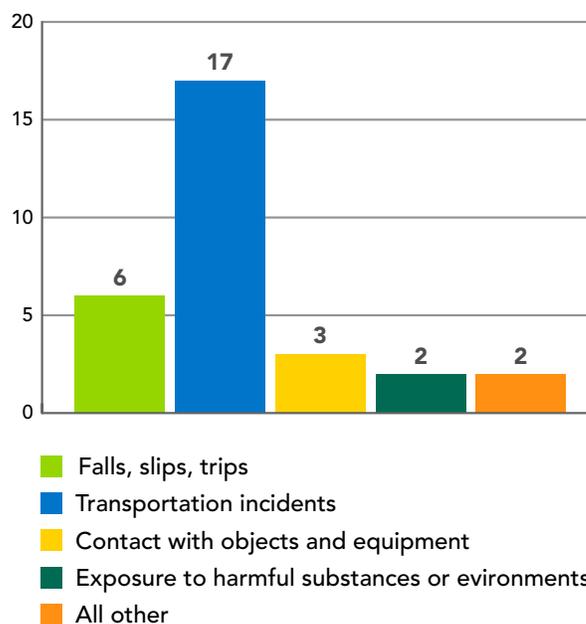
\*Most current data.

A break-out by racial group shows that unintentional injuries were the fifth leading cause of death at 5.7 percent for whites, but for the American Indian population, it was the first leading cause of death at 15.4 percent. Men are more likely to die from unintentional injuries than women, accounting for 72 percent of unintentional-injury deaths in 2017.

Fatal work injuries totaled 30 in 2017 for South Dakota, a decrease of one from the previous year. Work-related deaths in the state have ranged from a high of 46 in 1999 to a low of 20 in 2013.

Falls, slips, or trips resulted in six fatal work injuries and transportation incidents resulted in 17 fatalities. These two major categories accounted for approximately 77 percent of all workplace fatalities in the state. The private service-providing sector had the largest number of fatalities.

## FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES BY SELECTED EVENT South Dakota, 2017



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

# HELPING MAKE LIFE SAFER



## OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING

We are committed to working with organizations to protect their workers and strengthen their workplace safety programs. Our training and consultation services, on-site support and safety management tools help employers prevent injuries, comply with regulations and achieve their goals:

- On-site consulting services such as safety audits provided customized solutions.
- Professional development programs stayed strong with nine Workplace Safety Certificate graduates and 15 Advanced Safety Certificate graduates.
- Popular classroom sessions included OSHA compliance training, program development, and train-the-trainer courses. Customized on-site training in first aid/CPR/AED, defensive driving, and occupational safety was delivered to dozens of locations statewide.
- The South Dakota Safety & Health Conference, a flagship event for the state's safety community, provided a one-stop opportunity for learning, networking and elevating critical safety issues. Over six hundred people attended more than twenty educational sessions and consulted with 46 safety vendors in the exhibit hall. At the Governor's Workplace Safety Awards Luncheon, we recognized 49 South Dakota employers for excellence in safety.

Our sponsoring partners were Sioux Empire Society for Human Resource Management, South Dakota Chiropractors Association, Avera Health, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, and Sanford Health.

- First Aid/CPR/AED training increased — reaching over 3,500 people statewide. We also trained and certified 41 new instructors and distributed 56 automated external defibrillators (AEDs) to member worksites across the state.
- Our regional safety groups expanded throughout the state. The East River Safety Coalition and the Sioux Falls Regional Safety Group continue to grow. Interest remains strong for two new member networking groups in Aberdeen and



Rapid City, and plans are in place to create a new group in the Yankton area. These opportunities to connect and share expertise have helped members grow professionally and improve their workplace safety programs.

- We also provided safety training materials and other safety products through partnerships with National Safety Council, J.J. Keller, ManComm, Kidde and Philips. Our collaboration with Aurora Pictures has allowed us to provide streaming safety videos for members, with 2,500 videos viewed since 2016!

## TRAFFIC SAFETY

Traffic crashes are a significant cause of injury, death and economic loss in South Dakota. We work to make our roads safer through several programs and partnerships:

- Our network of certified instructors brought the National Safety Council's classroom Defensive Driving Course to more than 286 adults in workplace and community training sessions. The training helped drivers refresh their skills and develop safe habits and attitudes.
- In partnership with the Department of Public Safety, the State Patrol, and the judicial system, we reached 96 young drivers, ages 14-25 through the "Alive @ 25" program. Alive @ 25 focuses on driver behaviors, judgment and decision-making, helping to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities.
- Through an ongoing contract with the state of South Dakota, we completed our 42nd year of coordinating the South Dakota Motorcycle Rider Education Program. This past year we offered 308 classes statewide, helping 1,583 motorcyclists enhance their skills and reduce their risk on the road. In total, we have trained 43,055 students over our forty-two years with 52 instructors!

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**Our strong member retention rate, holding steady at 95 percent, reflects our continuing commitment to providing effective safety information, resources and expertise.**

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# YOUR MEMBERSHIP COUNTS!

We invest every membership dollar in the promotion of safety and health. Your membership provides the foundation for developing safety programs that work. And our community programs help keep your employees safe away from work. Protecting lives and protecting your bottom line are closely linked.

Hundreds of companies — large and small, from a variety of industries — have formed partnerships with the South Dakota Safety Council, which includes membership in the National Safety Council. Whether you're updating an existing safety program or starting from scratch, membership in the

South Dakota Safety Council gives you access to the resources you need:

- Free on-demand streaming videos.
- Free workplace safety toolkits from National Safety Council (NSC).
- Free phone and e-mail consultation from our in-house safety and health experts.
- Access to NSC "Members Only" content, including downloadable posters, safety talks and presentations.
- Free NSC safety webinars.
- Free e-newsletters with the latest national and local safety and health news, issues and regulatory developments.

- Special pricing on training and reference materials, and safety products.
- Discounts on all occupational, first aid/CPR/AED and driver training classes.
- NSC's Safety + Health magazine mailed to your designated employees for free.
- The annual South Dakota Safety & Health Conference, a great opportunity for education and networking.
- Packaged training programs, manuals, and other safety resources, discounted for members.
- Regional safety networks, developed to give members throughout the state training and networking opportunities.

*Thanks for helping to make South Dakota a safer place to live!*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Associate Director

**Connie Fitch**  
Manager of Member Services

**Rick Kiley**  
Director, Motorcycle Rider  
Education Program

**Johnny Kirchner**  
Manager of Occupational Safety  
and Health Services

26th Annual South Dakota Safety & Health Conference



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