Key Takeaways – Injury & Violence in Yellowstone County

- Among Yellowstone County adults:
  - 75.2% always wear a seat belt when driving or riding in a vehicle, less commonly men.
  - 38.5% age 45+ have fallen at least once in the past year.
  - 21.9% acknowledge that they have ever been hit, slapped, pushed, kicked, or otherwise hurt by an intimate partner, a significant increase over time. This trend is unfavorably higher than the US figure.
  - 23.6% have an unlocked firearm in or around their home, property, or vehicle. This is more common among men, adults age 40+, and higher income adults.
  - 86.3% consider their own neighborhoods to be “extremely safe” or “quite safe,” and 11.7% indicate that they feel “slightly safe” or “not at all safe” walking alone in their neighborhood.

- 38.5% of households have a family emergency plan that describes what they will do before, during, and after a natural disaster or other emergency.
- 41% of children age 5 to 17 always wear a helmet when riding a bicycle.
- Between 2008 and 2017, Yellowstone County residents died from homicide at a rate of 3.3 deaths per 100,000 residents. This favorably lower than Montana and national rates.
- Between 2014 and 2016, violent crimes were committed at a rate of 362 per 100,000 residents, higher than in Montana but below the national rate.
- Between 2015 and 2017, residents died from unintentional injuries at a rate of 46.5 deaths per 100,000 residents, an increase over time, yet remaining below the Montana rate. Falls, motor vehicle crashes, and poisoning (including unintentional drug overdose) accounted for most unintentional injury deaths in Yellowstone County during this timeframe.

Community Feedback:

Select Key Informant Survey Responses

We have seen an increase in the Emergency Department in the number of injuries and severity of violent injuries.

– Healthcare Provider

I worked for a number of years in the field of human services and have seen firsthand the level of domestic violence and also violence related to substance addiction and mental illness. In addition, in regard to injury, given the high level of refinery and manufacturing work in Billings, job related injury is high. Lastly, Montana is a “gun state” in which almost everyone owns/has access to firearms, increasing the risk for high-level violence and injury.

– Business Leader
**Unintentional Injuries: Age-Adjusted Mortality**

*(2015-2017 Annual Average Deaths per 100,000 Population)*

**Healthy People 2020 = 36.4 or Lower**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yellowstone</th>
<th>MT</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>53.5</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:**
- CDC WONDER Online Query System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Epidemiology Program Office, Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics. Data extracted October 2019.
- Deaths are coded using the Tenth Revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10).
- Rates are per 100,000 population, age-adjusted to the 2000 US Standard Population.

**Unintentional Injuries: Age-Adjusted Mortality Trends**

*(Annual Average Deaths per 100,000 Population)*

**Healthy People 2020 = 36.4 or Lower**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone Co</td>
<td>43.0</td>
<td>38.0</td>
<td>36.8</td>
<td>33.1</td>
<td>34.4</td>
<td>39.3</td>
<td>43.2</td>
<td>46.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>56.8</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>55.6</td>
<td>54.1</td>
<td>55.5</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>53.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>38.7</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>39.7</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>46.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:**
- CDC WONDER Online Query System, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Epidemiology Program Office, Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics. Data extracted October 2019.
- Deaths are coded using the Tenth Revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10).
- Rates are per 100,000 population, age-adjusted to the 2000 US Standard Population.
Leading Causes of Unintentional Injury Deaths
(Yellowstone County, 2015-2017)

- Falls: 33.9%
- Motor Vehicle Crashes: 25.5%
- Poisoning/Noxious Substances (including Drug Overdoses): 18.7%
- Other: 21.5%

Sources:
- CDC WONDER Online Query System. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Epidemiology Program Office, Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics. Data extracted October 2019.
- Deaths are coded using the Tenth Revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10).

“Always” Wear a Seat Belt When Driving or Riding in a Vehicle
(Yellowstone County)
Healthy People 2020 Target = 92.0% or Higher

Sources:
- PRIC Community Health Surveys, Professional Research Consultants, Inc. [item 302]

Notes:
- Asked of all respondents.
"Always" Wear a Seat Belt When Driving or Riding in a Vehicle
(Yellowstone County, 2020)
Healthy People 2020 Target = 92.0% or Higher

- Men: 65.8%
- Women: 84.1%
- 18 to 39: 73.4%
- 40 to 64: 76.3%
- 65+: 78.3%
- Low Income: 70.1%
- Mid/High Income: 78.7%
- Yellowstone County: 75.2%

Sources:
- 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants, Inc. [Item 302]

Notes:
- Asked of all respondents.
- Income categories reflect respondent's household income as a ratio to the federal poverty level (FPL) for their household size. "Low income" includes households with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level. "Mid/High Income" includes households with incomes at 200% or more of the federal poverty level.

Child “Always” Wears a Helmet When Riding a Bicycle
(Yellowstone County Parents on Behalf of Children Age 5-17)

- Yellowstone County: 41.0%
- US: 48.8%

Sources:
- PRC Community Health Surveys, Professional Research Consultants, Inc. [Item 324]
- 2017 PRC National Health Survey, PRC, Inc.

Notes:
- Asked of all respondents with children age 5 to 17 at home.
Community Feedback:

Select Key Informant Survey Responses

Racism- it creates violence that actively destroys the lives of all people in the Billings community. The community refuses to provide visible leadership which actively confronts this health issue. As a result, racism will continue to underlie many of the other issues in Billings. – Community Leader

High incidences of assault, family and domestic violence, elder abuse and child neglect, largely contributed to by drug and alcohol use and poverty. – Healthcare Provider

Number of Falls in Past 12 Months
(Adults Age 45 and Older; Yellowstone County, 2020)

- None 61.5%
- One 18.1%
- Two 8.2%
- Three/More 12.2%

Sources: 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, PRC, Inc. (Item 107)
Notes: Asked of all respondents age 65+.
Community Feedback:

Select Key Informant Survey Responses

It seems that the number of injuries and violence in our community are increasing. Billings has become a center for human trafficking and illegal drugs. We have a continuing increase in abused and neglected children going into the state foster care system. A vast number have parents that have major addiction. Suicide continues to stay high for youth and adults, and there are so many vehicle and motorcycle accidents due to alcohol use that they have become the norm. – Community Leader
Violent Crime
(Rate per 100,000 Population, 2014-2016)

Yellowstone County: 362.0
MT: 306.1
US: 384.8

Sources:
- Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI Uniform Crime Reports.

Notes:
- This indicator reports the rate of violent crime offenses reported by the sheriff’s office or county police department per 100,000 residents. Violent crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. This indicator is relevant because it assesses community safety.
- Participation by law enforcement agencies in the UCR program is voluntary. Sub-state data do not necessarily represent an exhaustive list of crimes due to gaps in reporting. Also, some institutions of higher education have their own police departments, which handle offenses occurring within campus grounds; these offenses are not included in the violent crime statistics but can be obtained from the Uniform Crime Reports Universities and Colleges data tables.

Have Ever Been Hit, Slapped, Pushed, Kicked, or Hurt in Any Way by an Intimate Partner

Yellowstone County:
- 21.9%

US:
- 14.2%

Sources:
- 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, PRC, Inc. [Item 47]
- 2017 PRC National Health Survey, PRC, Inc.

Notes:
- Asked of all respondents.
Currently Have an Unlocked Firearm in or Around the Home or Vehicle
(Yellowstone County, 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>33.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 to 39</td>
<td>15.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 64</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid/High Income</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone County</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, Professional Research Consultants, Inc. [item 307]
Notes: Asked of all respondents.
Income categories reflect respondent's household income as a ratio to the federal poverty level (FPL) for their household size. “Low Income” includes households with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level. “Mid/High Income” includes households with incomes at 200% or more of the federal poverty level.
In this case, the safety is not considered to be a lock.

Perceived Safety of Walking Alone in the Neighborhood
(Yellowstone County, 2020)

- Not At All Safe: 1.7%
- Slightly Safe: 10.0%
- Quite Safe: 39.6%
- Extremely Safe: 48.7%

Sources: 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, PRC, Inc. [item 304]
Notes: Asked of all respondents.
Perceived Safety of Own Neighborhood
(Yellowstone County, 2020)

Not At All Safe 0.9%
Slightly Safe 12.8%
Quite Safe 55.4%
Extremely Safe 30.9%

Sources:
- 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, PRC, Inc. [Item 303]

Notes:
- Asked of all respondents.

Perceive Own Neighborhood as “Slightly” or “Not At All” Safe
(Yellowstone County, 2020)

100%
80%
60%
40%
20%
0%

Men | Women | 18 to 39 | 40 to 64 | 65+ | Low Income | Mid/High Income | Yellowstone County | US
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
13.3% | 14.1% | 17.5% | 13.4% | 6.8% | 20.8% | 11.2% | 13.7% | 15.6%

Sources:
- 2020 PRC Community Health Survey, PRC, Inc. [Item 303]
- 2017 PRC National Health Survey, PRC, Inc.

Notes:
- Asked of all respondents.
- Income categories reflect respondent’s household income as a ratio to the federal poverty level (FPL) for their household size. “Low Income” includes households with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level; “Mid/High Income” includes households with incomes at 200% or more of the federal poverty level.
Community Feedback: 
Select Key Informant Survey Responses

There is a significant risk of violence in Yellowstone County especially amongst the homeless and the transgender community. 40% of homeless youth in Billings are LGBTQ+ and at an increased risk for trafficking and violence from pimps and johns. The rate of domestic violence in Billings is above the national average. Montana has the highest suicide rate in America.

- Community Leader

I’ve read that two out of three Native women under 21 will be sexually abused.

We have a lot of assaults and murders.

- Business Leader

We have seen an increase in the Emergency Department in the number of injuries and severity of violent injuries.

- Healthcare Provider

Perceptions of Injury and Violence as a Problem in the Community
(Key Informants, 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Problem</th>
<th>Moderate Problem</th>
<th>Minor Problem</th>
<th>No Problem At All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27.9%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources:
PRC Online Key Informant Survey, PRC, Inc.
Notes:
Asked of all respondents.

Community Feedback:
Top concerns of Key Informants

- Drugs/Alcohol
- Domestic/Family Violence
- Prevalence/Incidence
- Contributing Factors
- Vulnerable Populations
- Violence
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Injury &amp; Violence Prevention</th>
<th>Yellowstone County</th>
<th>Yellowstone vs. Benchmarks</th>
<th>Yellowstone County Trends</th>
<th>Baseline vs. Current Data $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unintentional Injury (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>53.5</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>36.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Vehicle Crashes (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% &quot;Always&quot; Wear Seat Belt</td>
<td>75.2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Child [Age 5-17] &quot;Always&quot; Wears Bicycle Helmet</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[65+] Falls (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% [Age 45+] Fell in the Past Year</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Have a Family Emergency Plan</td>
<td>38.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearm-Related Deaths (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Have an Unlocked Firearm in the Home or Vehicle</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide (Age-Adjusted Death Rate)</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Crime per 100,000</td>
<td>362.0</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Perceive Neighborhood as &quot;Slightly/Not At All Safe&quot;</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Feel &quot;Slightly/Not At All Safe&quot; Walking in the Neighborhood</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Victim of Domestic Violence (Ever)</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$ For survey indicators, this represents baseline findings (earliest year available) vs. 2020 (current findings). For secondary data indicators (those marked with a "$"), data years can vary but typically represent a span of 7 to 10 years.