



Beterem – Safe Kids Israel
Child Injuries in Israel's Arab Society: An Overview

2016-2018

בִּטְרֵם
פשוט לשמור על הילדים



BETEREM
SAFE KIDS ISRAEL

Data Sources

'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem – Safe Kids Israel (2009-2018)

Hospitalization Central Database, Ministry of Health, Information and Computer Services, Information (2015-2017)

Emergency Dept. Visits Database, Ministry of Health, Information and Computer Services, Information (2015-2017)

National Trauma Registry, Israel National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research, Gertner Institute (2015-2017)

'Urgent Care Visits Documentation (MDS-ED) Database, Beterem – Safe Kids Israel (2016-2018)

Comparison to the Jewish Population

Over the past three years, 2016-2018, an average of 60 Arab children died every year as the result of unintentional injuries. They comprise 50% of child mortality in Israel as the result of injury. Between 2008 and 2018 there was a 12.5% decline in the mortality rate of Arab children. The risk of dying from an unintentional injury for an Arab child is 3 times higher than the risk for a Jewish child. The relative proportion of Arab children involved is higher the more severe the injuries (**Figures 1, 2**).

Traffic accidents are the most significant cause of the great discrepancies between the two populations in mortality as a result of unintentional injury.

Much of the increase in the gap between the two populations in the area of traffic accident injuries is the result of a significant increase in the gap (2.2 times greater) between the two populations in the category of motor vehicle accidents: There was 43% reduction in mortality from motor vehicle accidents among Jewish children during this time period, in contrast to a corresponding increase of approximately 16% in mortality from these accidents among Arab children (**Figures 3, 4**).

Risk Groups

The 0-4 age group is the age group with the highest risk of injury among Arab children. The risk for children in the two age groups 0-4 and 15-17 is almost three times higher than that of children at age 5-9 and 10-14 (**Figure 5**).

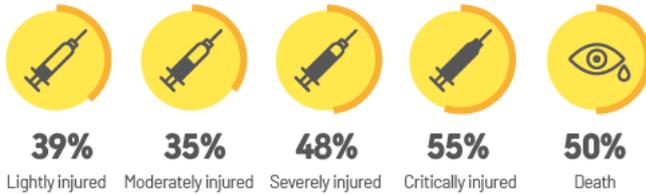
Population Groups and Districts

The Bedouin population in the south is at increased risk of mortality resulting from injuries, with a mortality rate of 16.4 per 100,000 children (3.4 times higher than the mixed Arab population group, 2.7 times higher than the Druze population group and 2.2 times higher than the Muslim population group) (**Figure 6**).

The highest hospitalization rates for 2015-2017 were in the Northern (140.9 per 10,000 children) and Haifa (139.4 per 10,000 children) Districts, notably in Druze local authorities. The Northern District also has the highest rate of emergency department visits (1,024.2 per 10,000 children), notably in mixed Arab local authorities (**Figure 7**).

Figure 1

The proportional mortality burden (2016–2018) and hospitalization burden (2015–2017) resulting from the injury of Arab children, by levels of injury severity, in relation to their proportional part in the overall population of children in Israel, average per year



Proportional burden at each level of injury severity

50% The proportional mortality burden of Arab children is approximately

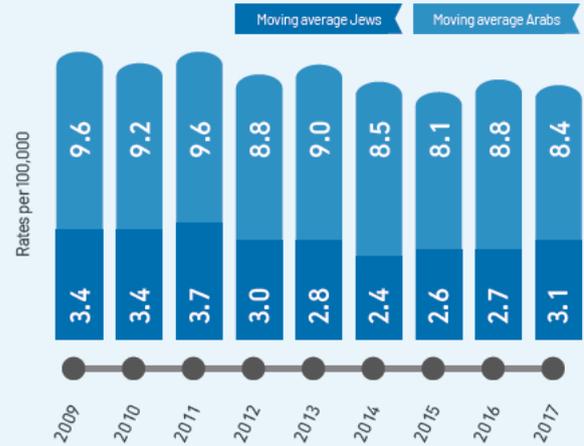
25% Their relative proportion in the overall population of children in Israel



Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem – Safe Kids Israel; Analysis of data from the National Trauma Registry, Israel National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research, Gertner Institute.

Figure 2

Mortality rates as the result of unintentional injury of Arab and Jewish children, moving three-year averages, 2009–2017

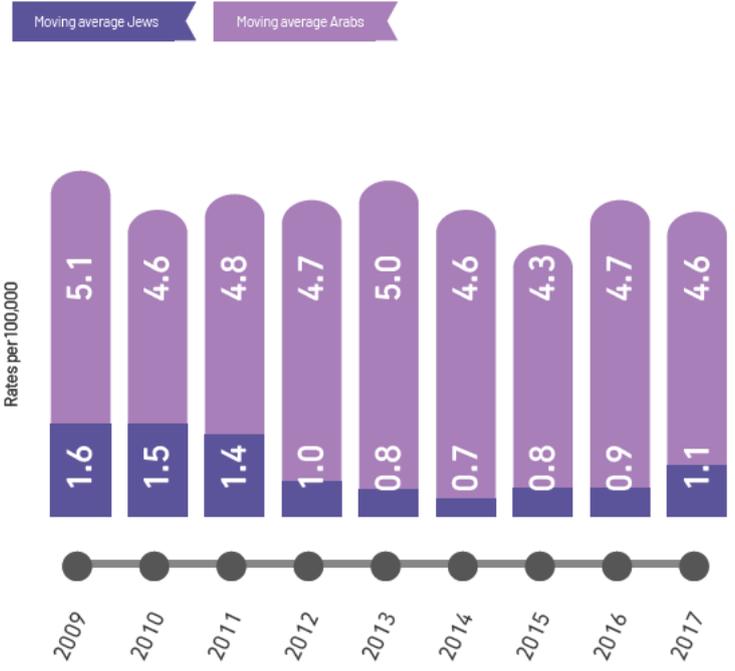


8.4 An average of 8.4 Arab children (per 100,000) died as the result of unintentional injury in 2016–2018

Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem – Safe Kids Israel; Analysis of data from the National Trauma Registry, Israel National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research, Gertner Institute.

Figure 3

Mortality rates as a result of traffic accidents of Arab and Jewish children, moving three-year averages, 2009-2017

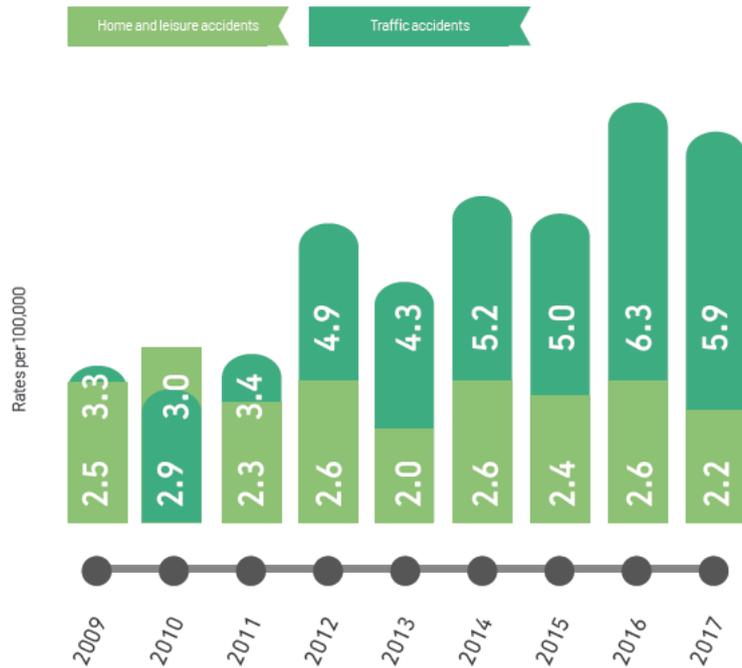


The risk of dying in a traffic accident for an Arab child is 5 time higher than the risk for a Jewish child

Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel; Analysis of data from the National Trauma Registry, Israel National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research, Gertner Institute.

Figure 4

Ratio of mortality rates between Arab and Jewish children, as a result of traffic accidents and accidents at home and at leisure, 2009-2017, based on moving three-year averages rates per 100,000 children



+30.7%



-20.6%

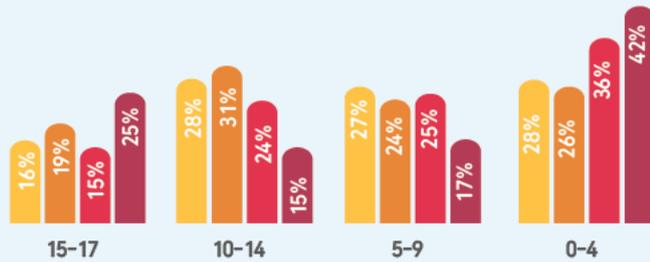
The percentage of change over the period examined reveals that the gap between Jewish and Arab child mortality rate as the result of injuries from traffic accidents continues to increase. In contrast, the gaps in rates of mortality as the result of home and leisure accident, between Jewish and Arab children, continues to grow smaller

Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel

Figure 5

Proportional burden of Arab children in mortality (2009-2018), hospitalization, and emergency department visits (2015-2017) as a result of unintentional injury, and their relative proportion in the population of Arab children, by age group, by percentage

- Proportional burden of mortality
- Proportional burden of hospitalization
- Proportional burden of Emergency Room visits
- Proportional part of the Arab children population



42%

The 0-4 age group bears about 42% of the burden of mortality as the result of injury, a rate greater by 1.5 than its proportional part in the overall population of Arab children.

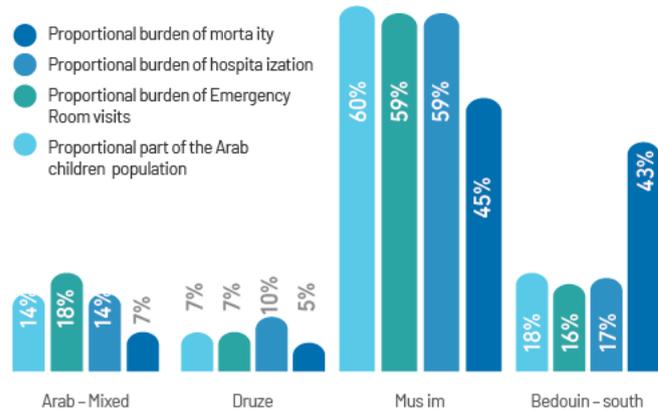


Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel; Analysis of data from the Hospitalization Central Database, Ministry of Health; Analysis of data from the Emergency Dept. Visits Database, Ministry of Health.

Figure 6

Proportional burden of Arab children in mortality (2009-2018), hospitalization, and emergency department visits (2015-2017) as a result of unintentional injury, and their relative proportion in the population of Arab children, by population group, by percentage

- Proportional burden of mortality
- Proportional burden of hospitalization
- Proportional burden of Emergency Room visits
- Proportional part of the Arab children population



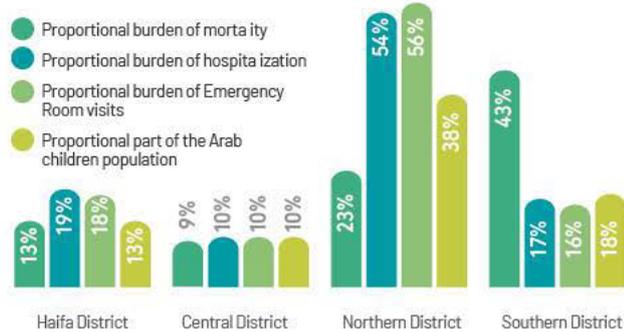
The population of Bedouin children bears about 43% of the mortality burden, a rate greater by 2.4 than its proportional part in the overall population of Arab children.

43%

Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel; Analysis of data from the Hospitalization Central Database, Ministry of Health; Analysis of data from the Emergency Dept. Visits Database, Ministry of Health.

Figure 7

Proportional burden of Arab children in mortality (2009-2018), hospitalization, and emergency department visits (2015-2017) as a result of unintentional injury, and their relative proportion in the population of Arab children, by district, by percentage



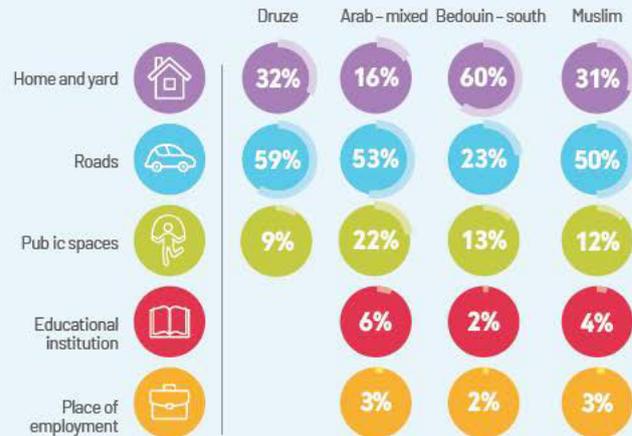
The Southern District bears about 43% of the mortality burden, a rate greater by 2.4 than its proportional part in the overall population of Arab children.



Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel; Analysis of data from the Hospitalization Central Database, Ministry of Health; Analysis of data from the Emergency Dept. Visits Database, Ministry of Health

Figure 8

Distribution of Arab children's mortality, by injury site and population group, 2014-2018



Most incidents of mortality in the Bedouin population occurred at home. For all other population groups, most incidents of mortality were the result of a traffic accident.



Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel

Scene of the Injury

Over the past five years, about 37% of the unintentional injuries resulting in mortality among Arab children occurred in the home or the yard. A similar percentage of injuries resulting in mortality, of about 39%, occurred on the road (**Figure 8**).

Notable Injury Mechanisms

(**Figures 9, 10**)

Motor vehicle accidents¹

(**60 incidents of mortality were found for 2014-2018**)

Comprise about 20% of the overall mortality as the result of injury among Arab children.



Are characteristics of adolescents in the 15-17 age group (comprising 60% of mortality from this type of accidents). Are characteristic of the Haifa and Northern Districts (comprising about 2/3 of the overall mortality from this type of accident, and specifically, comprise more than 3/4 of fatalities in accidents categorized as "using other motor vehicle").



In most cases of traffic accidents involving adolescents, they were driving with friends or other youngsters.



1. Motor vehicle accidents include: accidents while travelling as a passenger, accidents by "users of other motor vehicles" and other motor accidents, including as drivers and passengers of public transportation.

Accidents in the vicinity of the vehicle

(**43 incidents of mortality found for 2014-2018**)

Comprise about 15% of the overall mortality as the result of injury among Arab children.



Are characteristics of children from the Bedouin population group (who account for about 84% of the mortality in this type of accident), and particularly of Bedouin children in the south, ages 1-4, who account for about 72% of mortality as result of this type of injury).



Close to 90% of the incidents were cases of running-over the child while driving in reverse, almost always in the yard.



Accidents as pedestrians

(**40 incidents of mortality found for 2014-2018**)

Comprise about 14% of the overall mortality as the result of injury among Arab children.



Are characteristics of children ages 1-4, (who account for about 30% of mortality in this type of accident), and adolescents ages 15-17 (who account for about 23% of the mortality as result of this type of injury).



Are characteristics of children from the Bedouin population group (with a mortality rate in accidents as pedestrians that is 2.7 times higher than Arab children from other population groups). Close to 1/3 of injuries from traffic accidents as pedestrians among Arab children involved mid-sized and heavy vehicles.



Drowning accidents

(29 cases of mortality were identified in 2014–2018)

Drowning incidents comprise about 10% of the overall mortality as the result of injury among Arab children.



Are characteristics of children ages 1–4 (who account for about half of all mortality in this type of accident), and adolescents aged 15–17 (who account for about a quarter of all mortality in this type of accident).



Are characteristic of children from the Bedouin population group (who die at a rate three times higher than Arab children from other population groups). About 72% of all drowning incidents occurred in public places and about 28% occurred at home or in the yard.



Ages 1–3: drowning at home or in the yard. About 2/3 of the incidents involve tubs and pails.
Ages 4–9: 3/4 of the drowning incidents occurred in swimming pools, nearly all of them in hotels and bed & breakfasts
Youths and adolescents: about 2/3 of incidents occur at the beach.



Burn / scalding incidents

(23 cases of mortality and 2014–2018)

856 cases resulting in hospitalization in 2015–2017 were identified).



Comprise about 10% of the overall mortality as the result of injury among Arab children.

Are characteristics of children ages 0–4 (who account for about 68% of all mortality in this type of accident). There is particular prevalence of this type of injury in the Southern District (where it comprises about 39% of all mortality in this type of injury) and the Jerusalem District (which accounts for about 48% of all mortality as the result of this injury).



About 40% of all mortality as a result of burn / scalding incidents involve heating stoves. About 60% of hospitalization cases among children ages 0–4 involve hot liquids.



Falls

(6,031 cases of resulting in hospitalization were identified in 2015–2017)

Falling incidents account for about 46% of all hospitalizations as a result of injury among Arab children.



Are the most prevalent cause of hospitalizations as a result of injury for each of the age groups, with the exception of the 15–17 age group, where falling is as prevalent a cause of injury as motor vehicle and traffic accidents.

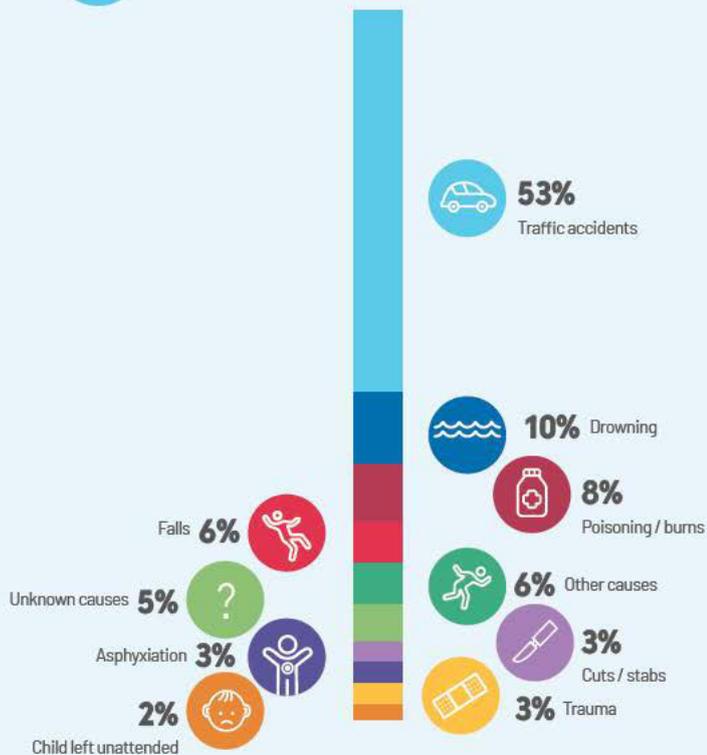


Are characteristics of children ages 0–4 who account for about 45% of all hospitalizations resulting from injuries. Over 85% of injuries among children ages 0–4 occurred in the home or yard. Prominently involved products were stairs and beds.



Figure 9

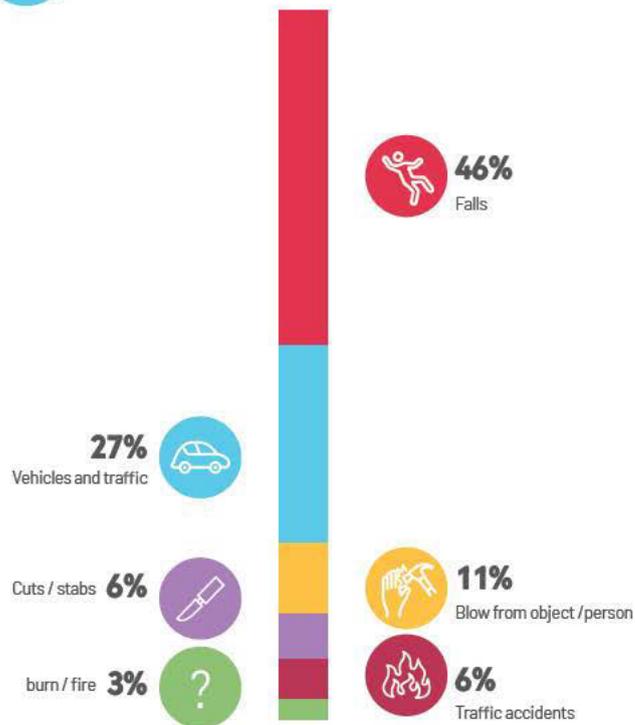
Distribution of mortality as a result of injury among Arab children, by injury mechanism, 2014–2018



Sources of data: 'Documentation of Injuries in the Media' Database, Beterem - Safe Kids Israel

Figure 10

Distribution of causes for hospitalizations of Arab children as the result of injuries, 2015–2017



Source of data: Special analysis of data from the National Trauma Registry, Israel National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research, Gertner Institute

Beterem Action in Arab Society

Identification of risk groups and significant gaps led to the development of a dedicated plan for improving safety in Bedouin Society: The Prevention of Child Accidents among the Bedouin Population Project.' This project entailed a multi-sector partnership operating focused plans in the home sphere for children ages birth to four and 15-17, and implementation on a large scale with a long-term commitment. This move was accompanied over the years by information dissemination, marketing and public relations activities. The project began in 2014 with three Bedouin local authorities in the Negev and as of July 2019, the project encompasses all nine recognized Bedouin settlements in the Negev.

Below are some of the programs chosen by the settlements for implementation.

Home Visits for a Safe Home: intervention in the family home with proven monitoring tools to test the level of safety in the home.

Youth Leadership: A three-year program for high school students aiming to shape the next generation of leaders as agents of change in child safety. The program is intended to provide knowledge and increase awareness of safety and child injury, create a leadership group focused on child safety, foster social and community responsibility among adolescents, and empower individual capabilities of those youth.

Aziz the Bear in Kindergartens: Activities for children ages 3-5 on the subject of preventing accidents in the yard, using a teddy bear named Aziz who is lightly injured and wants to help other children avoid injury.

Additional Programs and Activities

Safety Everywhere 'Here Elephant from Here': An annual safety educational program, developed specifically for the Arab population for implementation in daycare centers, with significant inclusive activities with children and the transmission of knowledge to parents. The program was developed with the assistance of pedagogical specialists from the Arab community.

Intergenerational Transmission: volunteer grandmothers promote child safety in the Northern District. A group of volunteers work as agents of change, transmitting knowledge and tools to other women around them.

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