

Injuries, Deaths and Child Abuse in Child Care Settings

Creating safe environments, providing for appropriate ratios, and the actively supervising children are proven methods in preventing injuries. Montana's Child Care Licensing program has established rules to support caregivers in providing these foundational health and safety measures. Child care providers are required to give parents a written report delineating incidents, accidents, or injuries involving their child and to report to Child Care Licensing any fatality and any accident that required medical attention. In the same way, parents should maintain an open communication with caregivers and take the initiative to protect their children. Child Care Licensing, child care providers, and parents work together to protect children from undue harm.

| | Date | Child Care Center | Group Child Care | Family Child Care | Family, Friend and Neighbor | Unlicensed Child Care |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Injuries | 07/01/16 - 06/30/17 | 37 | 15 | 6 | 1 | N/A |
| | 07/01/17 - 06/30/18 | 22 | 4 | 1 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/18 - 06/30/19 | 17 | 8 | 3 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/19 - 06/30/20 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/20 - 06/30/21 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| | 07/01/21 - 06/30/22 | 14 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| | 07/01/22 - 06/30/23 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Child Abuse Neglect | 07/01/16 - 06/30/17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/17 - 06/30/18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/18 - 06/30/19 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/19 - 06/30/20 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/20 - 06/30/21 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| | 07/01/21 - 06/30/22 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| | 07/01/22 - 06/30/23 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Deaths | 07/01/16 - 06/30/17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/17 - 06/30/18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/18 - 06/30/19 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/19 - 06/30/20 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | N/A |
| | 07/01/20 - 06/30/21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | 07/01/21 - 06/30/22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| | 07/01/22 - 06/30/23 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 |

*The role of the Child Care Licensing Program is to regulate and monitor child care facilities to ensure that the minimum requirements are being met. Additionally, the Child Care Licensing Program is responsible for protecting the health, safety and well-being of the children receiving child care in Montana.

*Child care providers are required to report injuries which result in a child being hospitalized, requiring ambulance transport or intervention, or physician treatment.

*Unlicensed child care is not tracked or regulated and therefore the data is based on limited information provided to the department.