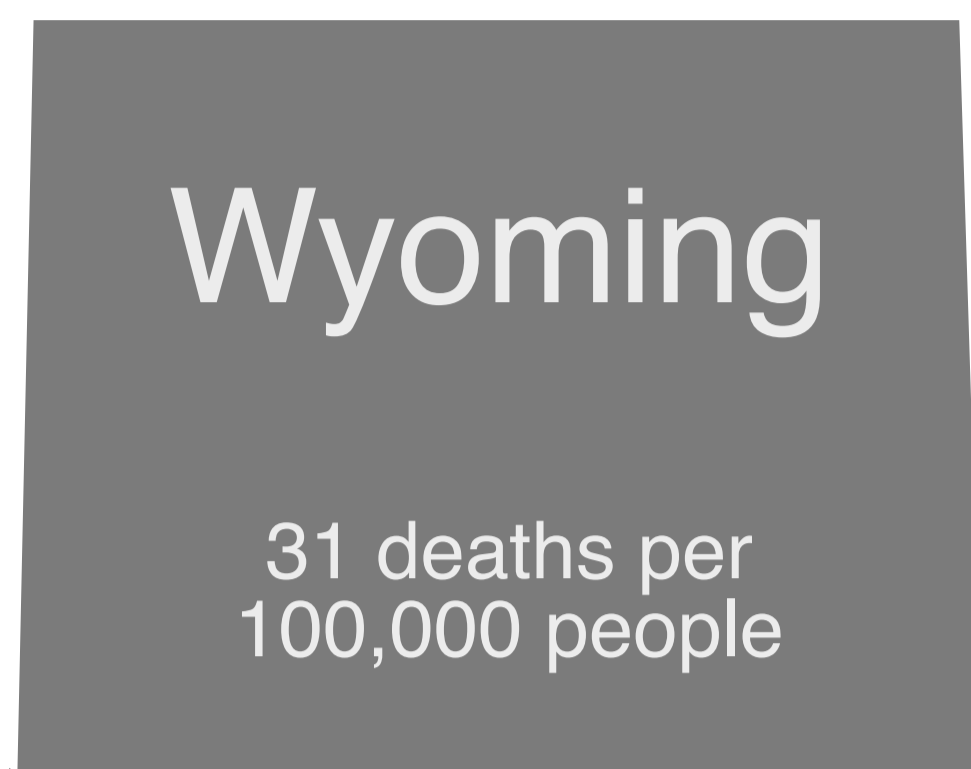


TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) IN WYOMING

WYOMING INJURY & VIOLENCE PREVENTION

2018

In the years 2008-2014, the TBI fatality rate in Wyoming was **two times higher** than the U.S. rate.



Wyoming ranks among the highest in the nation for fatal TBI.

Each year, there are approximately 175 fatal TBIs and an additional 311 hospitalizations for non-fatal TBIs.

What is a TBI?

A TBI is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or a penetrating head injury that disrupts the normal function of the brain.

TBI can range from mild (concussion) to severe (extended period of unconsciousness), but all TBIs are serious injuries and have the potential for **life-long consequences**.

50% of people with TBI experience further decline in their daily lives or die within five years of their injury.

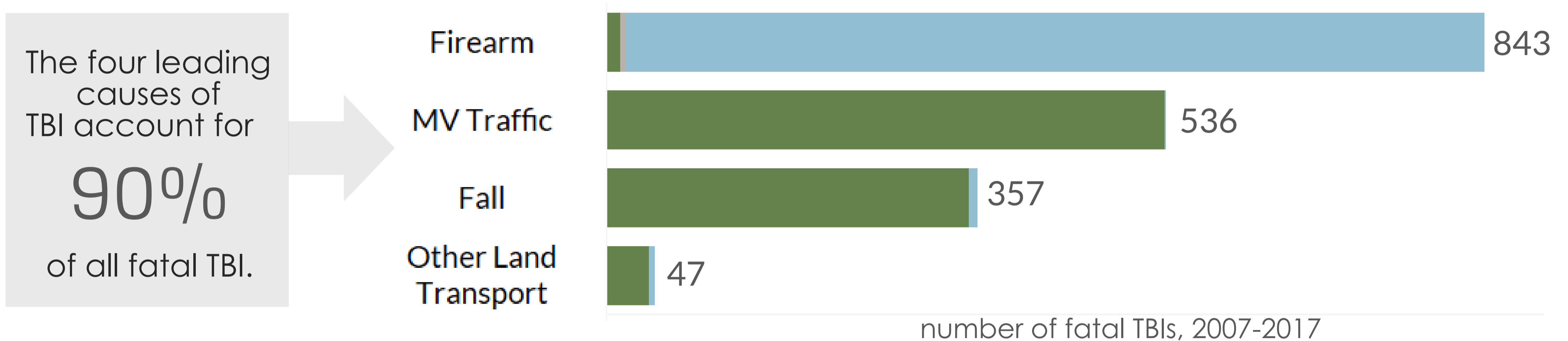


The estimated combined lifetime work loss and medical cost per TBI in Wyoming in 2016.

The cause of TBI varies by intent.

Intentional TBIs account for almost half (44%) of all fatal TBIs in Wyoming.

Unintentional TBIs, those that occurred without anyone intending harm, make up just over half (54%). About 1% of TBIs have an **undetermined** intent.



TBI is preventable.

There are many programs, policies, and strategies that can be implemented to help prevent TBI. Because TBI can have different causes, there is not a one-size-fits-all approach. Some examples include:

Public Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary seat belt laws allow law enforcement officers to ticket a driver or passenger for not wearing a seat belt without any other traffic offense taking place, and can encourage the consistent use of seat belts. Universal helmet laws increase helmet usage while riding or while playing. Helmets can prevent or minimize TBI severity.
In the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playgrounds should have shock-absorbing surfaces, such as mulch or sand, to reduce the severity of a fall-related injury. Active supervision encourages safe playing. Educate the community about the risks of firearm injury and ways to reduce it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep guns locked in a cabinet Store guns unloaded Store ammunition apart from guns
At home or at play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents, coaches, and caregivers should learn how to recognize and respond to head injuries, and know the signs of a TBI. Conduct a home safety assessment to make living areas safer for seniors.



If you have any question about injury prevention in Wyoming, please contact the Wyoming Injury and Violence Prevention Program at (307) 777-8034 or at wdh-wipp@wyo.gov.
<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/prevention/wivpp/>



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 • Wyoming Hospital Discharge Data. [2009-2015].
 • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS). National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC (producer). <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>
 • Institute on Disability N, Living I, Research R. Moderate to Severe Traumatic Brain Injury Is a Lifelong Condition. www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury.
 • Traumatic Brain Injury & Concussion, CDC. <https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/>
 • HEADS UP to Youth Sports | HEADS UP | CDC Injury Center. <https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/index.html>.
 • Playground Safety | Child Safety and Injury Prevention | CDC Injury Center. <https://www.cdc.gov/safecchild/playground/index.html>.
 • Primary Enforcement of Seat Belt Laws | Motor Vehicle Safety | CDC Injury Center. <https://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/calculator/factsheet/seatbelt.html>.
 • American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Firearms and Suicide Prevention Program — AFSP. <https://afsp.org/about-suicide/firearms-and-suicide-prevention/firearms-and-suicide-prevention-program/>.