



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

**Texas Department of State
Health Services**

Welcome to the [Injury Prevention](#) Newsletter!

During May and June, we want to highlight National Trauma Awareness Month, Child Passenger Safety Technician Month, National Mental Health Awareness Month, EMS and Trauma Registries activities, and Texas Overdose Data to Action's Naloxone Locator Map.

May is [National Trauma Awareness Month](#).

This annual [American Trauma Society](#) campaign promotes injury prevention and safety practices. This year's theme is "Model Safety Every Day: For a Stronger Tomorrow." The message is each of us can make safe choices in our everyday lives. These choices include small actions like wearing a seatbelt, using protective gear, or eliminating distractions.

During National Trauma Awareness Month and all year long, we can be a part of making choices that prevent injury and create safer, healthier communities!

Additional Resources:

- [Model Safety Every Day: For A Stronger Tomorrow Pledge](#)
 - [American Trauma Society](#)
 - [Trauma Survivors Network](#)
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May is [Child Passenger Safety Technician Month](#).

We recognize the important role Child Passenger Safety (CPS) technicians and instructors play in advocating for the safe transportation of children in vehicles. Technicians educate parents, caregivers, and community stakeholders about child passenger safety. This helps prevent unintentional motor vehicle-related injuries and deaths. CPS technicians teach caregivers how to choose an appropriate child safety seat for the child's size and development for the family vehicle. They offer hands-on help to show families how to use seats properly. CPS technicians tailor their education based on each family's circumstances and needs.

The [Safe Riders Child Passenger Safety Program](#) works to prevent child deaths and reduce child injuries due to motor vehicle crashes – a leading cause of death for children. Safe Riders offers and recertification support for more than [1,800 CPS technicians in Texas](#).

Learn:

- About the [Safe Riders program](#);
 - How to [become a certified CPS technician](#); and
 - [The important role CPS technicians play](#) in keeping children safe on Texas roadways!
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May is [Mental Health Awareness Month](#).

Mental wellness can lay the foundation for overall health and safety. A person's mental wellness can affect their thinking, feeling, behavior, and mood. "These conditions deeply impact day-to-day living and may also affect the ability to relate to others" ([National Alliance on Mental Illness](#) – NAMI).

According to [NAMI](#):

- 1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness each year.
- 1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year.
- Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people ages 10-14 and ages 15-24.

Understanding and [talking about](#) how mental health impacts suicide rates, substance use disorders, or violence against oneself or others can reduce stigma and injuries.

We can create safer, healthier communities by:

- Providing [safe spaces](#) for those struggling with mental health,
 - Helping people get access to [mental health resources](#), and
 - [Knowing the signs](#) someone is struggling and where to get help.
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[EMS and Trauma Registries](#) Highlights

EMS and Trauma Registries (EMSTR) is a statewide surveillance system collecting reportable event data from EMS providers, hospitals, justices of the peace, medical examiners, and rehabilitation facilities. Texas is home to one of the largest EMS registries in the U.S. We use EMSTR data to inform injury prevention activities and create a safer Texas.

EMSTR closed the 2024 EMS and trauma datasets at the end of April, and many EMS providers are sending patient records in real-time. This allows for more robust public health surveillance at the state and national level. Receiving large amounts of data in real-time paints a more comprehensive picture of what injury, prevention activities, and quality improvement looks like in Texas.

Learn more about EMSTR and how they support Texas injury prevention:

- [EMS and Trauma Registries | Texas DSHS](#)
 - [EMSTR Surveillance Reports and Data Presentations | Texas DSHS](#)
 - [NEMSIS Public Dashboards - NEMSIS](#)
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[Texas Overdose Data to Action Naloxone Locator Map](#)

[Texas Overdose Data to Action \(TODA\)](#) recently released their [Texas Naloxone Locator Map](#). This interactive map allows community members to locate free and reduced-cost naloxone (brand name – Narcan) in their area. We can add locations that offer naloxone to the public to the locator map using the [Naloxone Map Form](#) request.

Naloxone can rapidly reverse opioid-involved drug poisonings. This includes heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medications. Giving naloxone right away can save a life during a drug poisoning!

Learn more about naloxone and TODA's work to reduce drug poisonings in Texas:

- [CDC's 5 Things to Know About Naloxone](#)
 - [CDC's How to Administer Naloxone Tutorial Video](#)
 - [TODA Resource Maps](#)
 - [TODA General Resources](#)
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General Injury Prevention Resources

- Learn more about our programs: [Injury Prevention | Texas DSHS](#)
- Find state and national Injury Prevention resources: [Injury Prevention Resources | Texas DSHS](#)
- Locate more Injury Prevention-related news, events, and observances: [Injury Prevention Calendar | Texas DSHS](#)

Questions? Want to be featured in a future newsletter? Email us at injury.prevention@dshs.texas.gov.

Thank you!

The Injury Prevention Team

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