

Texas Department of State Health Services

Welcome to the <u>Injury Prevention</u> Newsletter!

During September and October, we are highlighting National Child Passenger Safety Week, Texas Naloxone Distribution Expansion, the new EMS-Reported Non-Fatal Drug Poisonings Dashboard, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Webinars, and the 2025 Texas Injury Prevention Conference.

National Child Passenger Safety Week

September 21-27, 2025, is <u>National Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Week</u>. This week includes National Seat Check Saturday on September 27, 2025. CPS Week brings awareness to car seat safety. This weeklong campaign promotes proper car seat and seat belt use to prevent motor vehicle crash injuries and fatalities. Visit the <u>Safe Riders website to find an event near you</u>. Call a certified CPS technician today and make sure your child's car seat is correct for their size and installed according to manufacturer's instructions.

For more information or questions, contact Safe Riders at saferiders@dshs.texas.gov.

Additional CPS Week 2025 and general child passenger safety resources:

- National Child Passenger Safety Board Child Passenger Safety Week
- National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Traffic Safety Marketing Car Seats,
 Boosters, and Seat Belts
- <u>Safe Riders Child Passenger Safety</u>

Texas Naloxone Distribution Expansion

<u>Texas Overdose Data to Action</u> (TODA) and <u>Naloxone Texas</u> are providing free naloxone vending machines, dispenser stands, and wall boxes to expand naloxone availability in Texas communities. Communities can reference the <u>Naloxone Distribution Checklist</u> to assess readiness and learn TODA-recommended best practices. Communities can apply for naloxone containers through the <u>Naloxone Distribution Container Application</u>.

As part of the initiative to expand naloxone access, Naloxone Texas installed their first

vending machine outside a <u>Denton music venue in July</u>. It is the first of <u>112 vending machines</u> Naloxone Texas will deploy across the state.

Not sure if there is a naloxone distribution hub in your community? Check out TODA's Naloxone Locator Map.

Additional naloxone resources:

- How to Use NARCAN Nasal Spray
- Texas Targeted Opioid Response
- Overdose Bystander Law: <u>HB 1694 Educational Brief</u>
- Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council

EMS-Reported Non-Fatal Drug Poisonings Dashboard

The new <u>EMS-Reported Non-Fatal Drug Poisonings Dashboard</u> is now available. This dashboard shows Texas data for when Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responds and provides care to someone experiencing a drug poisoning.

EMS is crucial to provide immediate life-saving interventions, including when someone is experiencing a drug poisoning. Paramedics can assess and manage drug poisonings, administer naloxone, and transport patients to health care facilities.

This dashboard showcases <u>Texas EMS and Trauma Registries</u> (EMSTR) data and highlights differences in the numbers and rates of drug poisoning responses over time, throughout the state, and based on demographic information. Visitors can view data for all drugs, opioids, and stimulants.

Prevention partners can use this dashboard to develop targeted prevention measures for communities at increased risk of experiencing drug poisonings.

Additional drug poisoning and prevention resources:

- <u>Texas Health Data Dashboards Drugs and Alcohol</u>
- <u>Injury and Violence Prevention Syndromic Surveillance Reports</u>
- <u>Texas Overdose Data to Action</u>
- Texas Health and Human Services Fentanyl: One Pill Kills
- <u>Texas Targeted Opioid Response</u>

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month Webinars

September is suicide prevention awareness month. Suicide is a major public health problem. According to the <u>International Association for Suicide Prevention</u>, there are currently more than 720,000 suicides per year worldwide. <u>In Texas between 2019 and 2022</u>, there were approximately 4,000 deaths per year, and in 2023, Texas had the most suicides of any state in the country. In observation of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, <u>Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) Office of Mental Health Coordination</u> is offering a suicide prevention webinar series every Friday in September:

September 5	Hope and Healing Through Postvention Support
10 a.m. – 11 a.m.	You will learn about support strategies for survivors of suicide loss and survivors of suicide attempt.
September 12	Language Matters
10:30 a.m 11:30 a.m.	The HHSC Suicide Prevention Team will discuss ways to talk about suicide in a clear and factual manner and give tips for safe messaging about suicide prevention.
September 19	Voices of Lived Experience
10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	This session features a panel of survivors of a suicide attempt who will share their perspectives on postvention supports and what worked best for them as they live through their experiences with suicides.
September 26	Role of Mindfulness in Suicide Prevention
10 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Mindfulness offers a promising avenue for suicide prevention by mitigating impulsive, reactive responses.

Additional state and national suicide prevention resources:

- <u>Texas Health and Human Services Commission Suicide Prevention Program</u>
- Texas Violent Death Reporting System data brief on Texas Suicide Deaths, 2019- 2022
- 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline
- Veteran's Crisis Line
- World Suicide Prevention Day Campaign Pack

2025 Texas Injury Prevention Conference Registration is Open.

The Texas Department of State Health Services <u>2025 Injury Prevention Conference</u> will be November 4-5, 2025, in Austin, Texas.

The conference will take place in person at the Hilton Austin Airport Hotel in Austin, Texas. This year's theme is "Prevent Today, Protect Tomorrow: Innovating Safety for Stronger Communities." The Injury Prevention Conference gives injury prevention professionals across the state the opportunity to network and learn from one another about their amazing work in Texas. This conference is a chance to collaborate and discuss innovative solutions and challenges in injury prevention. A complete agenda will be posted by September 19, 2025.

Mark Your Calendars

Date: November 4-5, 2025

Location: Hilton Austin Airport Hotel, Austin, Texas

Register Now!

General Injury Prevention Resources

- Learn more about our programs: <u>Injury Prevention | Texas DSHS</u>
- Find state and national Injury Prevention resources: <u>Injury Prevention Resources</u>
 <u>Texas DSHS</u>
- Locate more Injury Prevention-related news, events, and observances: <u>Injury</u>
 <u>Prevention Calendar | Texas DSHS</u>

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

Thank you!

The Injury Prevention Team

<u>Injury Prevention | Texas DSHS</u>