

Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Child Custody Deaths

Calendar Year 2014 (January 1 st – December 31 st , 2014)			
Custody Deaths [*]			
Total Number	9		
<p>In 2014, there were a total of 9 custody deaths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One child came into custody as a result of an injury that occurred outside of custody (substantiated). • Three children were medically fragile (all unsubstantiated). • Two children committed suicide (both unsubstantiated). • One child committed suicide in a YDC (substantiated). • One child committed suicide in a YDC (unsubstantiated). • One child died as a result of an underlying medical condition and toxicity (unsubstantiated). 			
Classifications ^{**}			
	Number	Percent	
Substantiated	2	22%	
Unsubstantiated	7	78%	
Unable to Complete	0	0%	
Pending	0	0%	
		100%	
<p>[*] A custody death is defined as any child in the state of Tennessee who is in the custody of the Department at the time of his or her death.</p>			
<p>^{**} There are four types of classifications. Substantiated means that there is a preponderance of evidence that abuse or neglect occurred. Unsubstantiated means that there is not enough evidence to sustain the allegation. Pending classification refers to cases that have not yet closed. Finally, Unable to Complete is an investigation that cannot be concluded (Policy 14.7, Section C.6).</p>			

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