

Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Child Custody Near Deaths

Calendar Year 2022 (January 1 st – December 31 st , 2022)	
Custody Near Deaths*	
Total Number	2
<p>In 2022, there were a total of 2 custody near deaths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One child sustained critical, life-threatening injury as the result of physical abuse. • One child sustained critical, life-threatening injury as the result of lack of supervision. 	
<p>* A custody near death is defined as any child in the state of Tennessee who is in DCS custody who has a serious or critical medical condition resulting from child abuse or child sexual abuse, as reported by a physician who has examined the child subsequent to the abuse. This is defined in TCA 37-5-107. The Department has elected to exceed the statutory definition to include more situations as near deaths. As such, the Department will record a near death for a child in custody if the allegation of abuse or neglect is substantiated and a physician reviews the case and determines the child was in a serious or critical medical condition.</p>	

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