

Preventing Youth Tobacco Use

Youth tobacco use has declined steadily since 1991. Lincoln and Lancaster County High School youth that currently smoke has fallen from 40% in 1991 to 23% in 2005. Extensive outreach through school and community education has reached several thousand youth with facts about the dangers of tobacco use. Compliance checks have been conducted at several local businesses to monitor the sales of tobacco to minors. The compliance checks, along with education and enforcement, have significantly reduced the sale of tobacco to youth.

If you would like more information about this program, please call 441-8045.



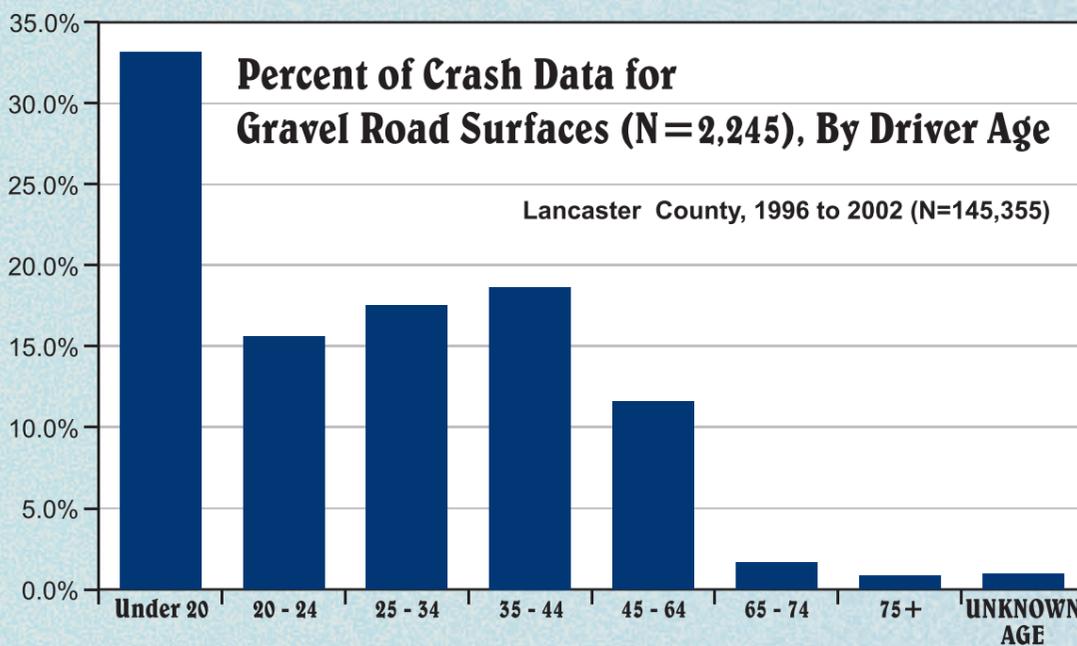
Over a 5-year period (1999-2003), 25,848 Lancaster County children 14 years of age and younger, received hospital care for unintentional injuries. 6 Task Forces of the Safe Kids Lincoln-Lancaster County offer a wide range of injury prevention programs:

- Bicycle Safety
- Child Passenger Safety
- Child Pedestrian Safety
- Fire and Burn Prevention
- Sports Injury Prevention
- Water Safety

Injury Prevention

The Division of Health Data and Evaluation works closely with everyone in the Department to monitor, track and report public health trends and emerging public health issues. Motor Vehicle Crash Data is used extensively in the Injury Prevention Program. For instance, based on crash data from 1996 to 2002, we are able to determine that 29,782 individuals (drivers, passengers and persons in other cars) have been involved in crashes where the driver was 19 and under. That represents 20.4% of the 145,355 persons involved in motor vehicle crashes for the period.

The graph below illustrates the importance of promoting safe driving for youth on rural (gravel) roads. Programs like "Safe Travel on the Gravel" and "Teens on the Road" have promoted drivers education and safe driving habits for high school youth in rural Lancaster County.



The Early Development Network Services Coordination



This program provides services coordination to families of eligible children (birth to 3 years) with disabilities to identify and meet the child and family needs through the coordination of informal and formal supports. It is designed to assist families when needed, while working toward self-direction and empowerment. Last year, 614 referrals were received. To accomplish the goal of referring children earlier to receive the maximum benefit of needed services, staff continue to strive for the development of strong community partnerships and cooperation.

Summer Food Program



FREE SUMMER MEAL
COMIDA GRATUITA EN EL VERANO
For: Anyone 18 and younger

The Summer Food Program served over 34,000 meals in 49 days in 2005. Twenty-four sites served breakfast, lunch or breakfast and lunch to children from the ages of 2 to 18 years of age. Partners involved with the effort included Lincoln Public Schools, Russwood Chrysler Plymouth, Lincoln Parks & Recreation, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and various churches.