

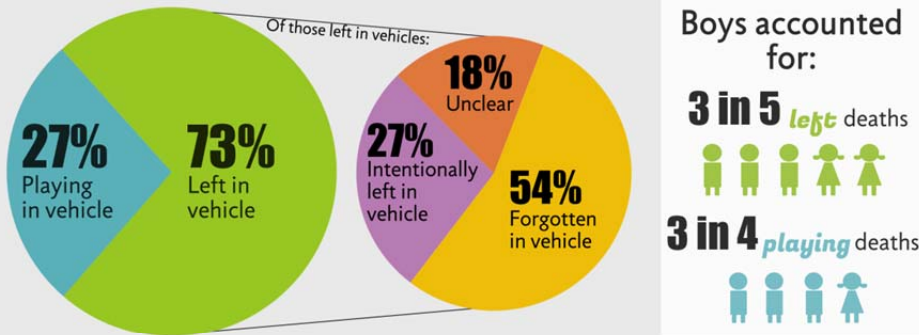
# Heatstroke Deaths of Children in Vehicles



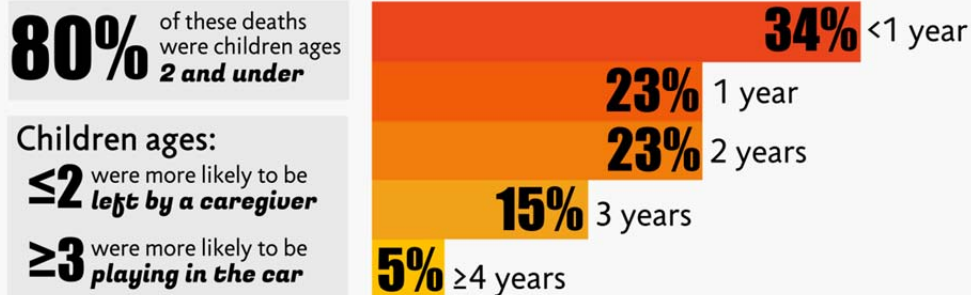
## BY THE NUMBERS NHTSA (2012)

- 10** the minutes it takes for a car to reach deadly temperatures on an 80 degree day
- 38** the average number of children who die from vehicular heatstroke in the US each year
- 57** the lowest known outside temperature at which heatstroke can occur

## BY CIRCUMSTANCE Guard (2005)



## BY AGE Guard (2005)



## TIPS NHTSA (2012)

- Never** leave children in a vehicle unattended, even with the windows cracked, even "for a minute"
- Always** check the backseat when exiting the vehicle (put your phone or your purse in the backseat to create a reminder system)
- Always** keep vehicle doors and trunks locked and keys out of reach
- Make** an agreement with your childcare provider to always call you when your child is absent
- Call 911** if you see a child alone in a vehicle

For detailed sources and resources: [ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org/publications/heatstrokeinfographic](http://ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org/publications/heatstrokeinfographic)  
 For NHTSA's Look Before You Lock Campaign: [safercar.gov/parents/heat-involved.htm](http://safercar.gov/parents/heat-involved.htm)

## By the numbers:

10: the minutes it takes for a car to reach deadly temperatures on an 80 degree day

38: the average number of children who die from vehicular heatstroke in the US each year

57: the lowest known outside temperature at which heatstroke can occur

(National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 2012)

## By circumstance:

27% playing

73% left

54% forgotten in vehicle

27% intentionally left in vehicle

18% unclear

Boys accounted for 3 in 5 left deaths and 3 in 4 playing deaths

(Guard & Gallagher, 2005)

## By age:

34% <1 year

23% 1 year

23% 2 years

15% 3 years

5% ≥4 years

80% of these deaths were children ages 2 and under

Children ages:

≤2 were more likely to have been left by a caregiver

≥3 were more likely to have been playing in the car

(Guard & Gallagher, 2005)

## Tips:

Never leave children in a vehicle unattended, even with the windows cracked, even “for a minute”

Always check the backseat when exiting the vehicle (put your phone or your purse in the backseat to create a reminder system)

Always keep vehicle doors and trunks locked and keys out of reach

Make an agreement with your childcare provider to always call you when your child is absent

Call 911 if you see a child alone in a vehicle

(National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 2012)

For NHTSA’s Look Before You Lock Campaign: <http://safercar.gov/parents/heat-involved.htm>

## Sources:

Guard, A., & Gallagher, S. S. (2005). Heat related deaths to young children in parked cars: an analysis of 171 fatalities in the United States, 1995-2002. *Injury prevention journal of the International Society for Child and Adolescent Injury Prevention*, 11, 33–37. doi:10.1136/ip.2003.004044

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). (2012). Children left in cars and heatstroke. Retrieved from [http://www.safercar.gov/parents/assests/english/Heatstroke\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.safercar.gov/parents/assests/english/Heatstroke_Fact_Sheet.pdf)