

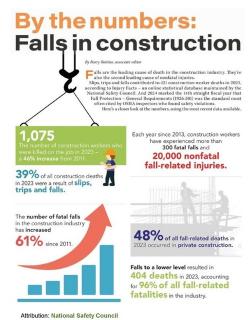
Weekly Safety Tip

Prevent Falls in Construction StandDown



For "Prevent Falls in Construction Stand-Down"







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Weekly Safety Share



Hot Car Fatalities Are a Year-Round Threat to Children and



A FAMILY SAFETY SHARE



Hot Car Fatalities Are a Year-Round Threat to Children and Pets

Testing shows it does not take scorching temperatures for a hot car to pose life-threatening risk to small children

Heatstroke can be a four-season threat in some parts of the country. About 39 children die each year from vehicular heatstroke, according to <u>Kids and Car Safety</u> and <u>NoHeatstroke.org</u>.

Heatstroke is the leading cause of death in vehicles (excluding crashes) for those 14 and younger.

There were 40 hot car deaths in 2024, according to Kids and Car Safety. In most cases, the children were unknowingly left behind in the vehicle. While it may be difficult to believe that you or your friends and family could face such a sad event, it's important to remember that research shows these tragedies can happen to anyone.

Historically, about 25% or one quarter of hot car deaths have been the result of the child gaining access to the car on their own, according to NoHeatstroke.org.

As temperatures rise and more kids are playing outside, parents and caregivers need to be extra mindful of their children's whereabouts. And they need to **keep vehicles locked in the garage or driveway, and the keys out of children's reach**. Even if you don't have children, it's important to take those precautions to protect neighboring families.

If your child is missing, always remember to first check your pool, if you have one, and then your vehicle, including the trunk.

It's never safe to leave a child unattended in a vehicle. Even with windows cracked or the vehicle parked in the shade, the car's interior temperatures can reach dangerous levels in very little time.

Why Cars Heat Up. Closed cars get hot quickly because sunlight heats up inside elements, including the dash, upholstery, and steering wheel, according to NoHeatstroke.org. Those elements radiate their heat into the air, increasing the ambient temperature inside the car.

Why cracked windows aren't enough. Partly opened windows allow some heat to escape, but as long as the heat source (the sun) continues to beat down and heat up the inside car elements, the temperature can stay dangerously high. (see graphic on last page)

TIP: Don't be fooled by the thermometer:

On days with mild temperatures, the heat inside a closed vehicle can reach dangerous levels within an hour, posing serious risk to small children or pets left inside.

Consumer Reports testing found that:

even when it was 61° F outside, the temperature inside a closed car reached more than 105° F in just 1 hour,

an extremely dangerous and potentially fatal level for a child.

So, the Consumer Reports test results help dispel the myth that hot car deaths or heatstroke happen only on blisteringly hot days in the dead of summer.









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