Arizona’s Rank: 19th out of 51 States (including Washington D.C)

Arizona’s Score: 54.00 out of 100 Points

In the past ten years, 222 children have died from sports related injuries while participating in organized high school athletics. Some of the most common causes of death in sports are sudden cardiac arrest, exertional heat stroke, and traumatic head injury.

The Korey Stringer Institute is dedicated to preventing sudden death in sports. Recently KSI has published a study that ranked states by their health and safety policies according to best practices established by panels of experts in the field.

Our mission is to inform parents, coaches, and community members about the steps that Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) and Arizona’s legislators have taken to protect athletes.

ABOUT KSI

Strengths

- Heat Stroke
- Healthcare Coverage
- Emergency Preparedness

Areas for Improvement

- Traumatic Head Injuries
- Cardiac Arrest

Arizona Score Breakdown

Definitions:
AHCC (Appropriate Healthcare Coverage), EHS (Exertional Heat Stroke), EP (Emergency Preparedness), SCA (Sudden Cardiac Arrest), THI (Traumatic Head Injuries)

Ranks and Scores are accurate as of August 2019
What Can You Do?

Reach out to the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA). Make sure the officials responsible for student-athlete safety are using best practices.

AIA Executive Director
David Hines
Email: dhines@aiaonline.org

AIA Assistant Executive Director
Joe Paddock
Email: jpaddock@aiaonline.org

AIA Executive Assistant
Tayler Coady
Email: tcoady@aiaonline.org

Arizona leads the nation when it comes to Appropriate Healthcare Coverage, and performs extremely well in Exertional Heat Stroke and Emergency Preparedness.

However, Arizona has room to grow with Traumatic Head Injuries and Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

Arizona would benefit the most by focusing on traumatic head injury policies. Improving policies in this area could move Arizona from 19th to 7th!

Arizona and Traumatic Head Injuries

Every Day **153 People Die** From Traumatic Brain-Related Injuries.

Traumatic Head Injury Policies

Policies Currently in Place for Arizona

**Policy 3THI:** Athletes not permitted to return to activity on the same day if a concussion is suspected

**Policy 4THI:** Athletes not permitted to return to activity until cleared by an appropriate healthcare professional (MD, ATC, PA, APRN)

**Policy 7THI:** Require 4th Edition PPE forms from American Academy of Pediatrics of equivalent - Concussion

**Policy 5THI:** Athletes are not permitted to return to play until they fully return to school

Possible Improvements for Arizona

**Policy 1THI:** Heads up Football training for football coaches

**Policy 2THI:** Heads up Football Training for all coaches

**Policy 6THI:** A minimum of a 5-step graduated return to play protocol before full return to activity. No more than 2 phases in any one day. If symptoms return during any one step, athlete must regress to previous step