Georgia’s Rank: 5th out of 51 States (including Washington D.C)

Georgia’s Score: 69.58 out of 100 Points

ABOUT KSI

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 Georgia High School Association (GHSA) and Georgia’s legislators have taken to protect athletes.

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Strengths | Areas for Improvement
---|---
Healthcare Coverage | Traumatic Head Injuries
Exertional Heat Stroke | 
Sudden Cardiac Arrest | 
Emergency Preparedness | 

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 Georgia High School Association (GHSA). Make sure the officials responsible for student-athlete safety are using best practices.

GHSA Executive Director
Dr. James Hines
Email: robin.hines@ghsa.net

GHSA Assistant Executive Director
Jay Russell
Email: jayrussell@ghsa.net

GHSA Associate Director
Ernie Yarbrough
Email: ery@ghsa.net

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

Traumatic Head Injury Policies

Policies Currently in Place for Georgia

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)

Possible Improvements for Georgia

Policy 1THI: Heads up Football training for football coaches
Policy 2THI: Heads up Football Training for all coaches
Policy 5THI: Athletes are not permitted to return to play until they fully return to school
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

Georgia leads the nation when it comes to Appropriate Healthcare Coverage, Exertional Heat Stroke, Emergency Preparedness and Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

Georgia has the most room to improve in Traumatic Head Injuries.

Traumatic Head Injuries is the area where Georgia falls farthest below the national average. By passing policies Georgia can increase its ranking from 5th to 1st according to current data!