



Leading causes of injury deaths, hospital discharges, and emergency department visits, Maine, 2007-2011

Injury is an important public health issue in Maine. Every week, on average, during 2007-2011, there were 16 injury deaths, 154 injury hospital discharges, and 3,403 injury emergency department visits (that did not end in hospitalization) involving Maine residents. Identifying the most common causes of injury events in the state is a key step in planning injury prevention activities.

The leading causes of injury table shows causes that were responsible for at least 10% of injury deaths, hospital discharges, or emergency department visits among Maine residents in 2007-2011. The table shows the leading causes for the state as a whole, for females and males, and for specific age groups. For each leading cause, the average annual number of injury events due to that cause during 2007-2011 and the percentage of all injury events during 2007-2011 that were due to that cause also are shown. For example, looking at the emergency department visit column for the Maine total, we see that there were an average of 46,200 unintentional fall related injury emergency department visits among Maine residents each year during 2007-2011 and that 26% of all injury emergency department visits by Maine residents during this 5-year period were due to unintentional falls. Additional information about the table can be found in the footnotes.

Leading causes* of injury deaths, hospital discharges, and emergency department visits by selected demographics, Maine, 2007-2011

GROUP		DEATHS [†] CAUSE (AVERAGE ANNUAL #; % OF INJURY DEATHS)	HOSPITAL DISCHARGES [‡] CAUSE (AVERAGE ANNUAL #; % OF INJURY DISCHARGES)	EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS [§] CAUSE (AVERAGE ANNUAL #; % OF INJURY VISITS)
Maine total		Suicide (196; 24%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (153; 19%) Unintentional poisoning (140; 17%) Unintentional fall (94; 12%)	Unintentional fall (4,208; 53%)	Unintentional fall (46,200; 26%) Unintentional struck by, against (21,423; 12%) Unintentional overexertion (19,595; 11%)
Sex	Female	(tie) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (49; 18%) (tie) Unintentional poisoning (49; 18%) Unintentional fall (42; 16%) Suicide (39; 15%)	Unintentional fall (2,691; 61%)	Unintentional fall (25,399; 30%) Unintentional overexertion (9,750; 12%) Unintentional struck by, against (8,436; 10%)
	Male	Suicide (157; 29%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (104; 19%) Unintentional poisoning (91; 17%)	Unintentional fall (1,517; 42%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (482; 13%)	Unintentional fall (20,799; 22%) Unintentional struck by, against (12,986; 14%) Unintentional overexertion (9,844; 11%)
Age	Under 1	Unintentional suffocation (3; 60%) Homicide (1; 24%)	Unintentional fall (13; 29%) Assault (12; 28%)	Unintentional fall (447; 42%)
	1-4	Homicide (1; 23%) (tie) Unintentional drowning (1; 18%) (tie) Unintentional pedestrian, other (1; 18%) (tie) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (1; 14%) (tie) Unintentional suffocation (1; 14%)	Unintentional poisoning (32; 30%) Unintentional fall (27; 25%)	Unintentional fall (3,020; 34%) Unintentional struck by, against (1,217; 14%) Unintentional natural/environmental (918; 10%)
	5-14	Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (3; 33%) Unintentional drowning (1; 15%) Homicide (1; 13%) Suicide (1; 10%)	Unintentional fall (56; 31%) (tie) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (21; 12%) (tie) Unintentional transport, other (21; 12%)	Unintentional fall (5,659; 27%) Unintentional struck by, against (4,659; 22%)
	15-24	Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (34; 39%) Suicide (22; 26%) Unintentional poisoning (14; 16%)	Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (169; 25%) Self-inflicted (152; 23%) Unintentional fall (86; 13%)	Unintentional fall (5,666; 16%) Unintentional struck by, against (5,601; 16%) Unintentional overexertion (4,141; 12%)
	25-34	Unintentional poisoning (30; 33%) Suicide (22; 25%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (21; 24%)	Self-inflicted (144; 25%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (117; 20%) Unintentional fall (93; 16%)	Unintentional fall (4,793; 18%) Unintentional overexertion (3,980; 15%) Unintentional struck by, against (2,931; 11%)
	35-44	Suicide (36; 33%) Unintentional poisoning (33; 30%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (20; 18%)	Self-inflicted (175; 25%) Unintentional fall (155; 22%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (105; 15%)	Unintentional fall (4,762; 20%) Unintentional overexertion (3,491; 15%) Unintentional struck by, against (2,389; 10%)

Leading causes* of injury deaths, hospital discharges, and emergency department visits by selected demographics, Maine, 2007-2011

GROUP	DEATHS [†] CAUSE (AVERAGE ANNUAL #; % OF INJURY DEATHS)	HOSPITAL DISCHARGES [‡] CAUSE (AVERAGE ANNUAL #; % OF INJURY DISCHARGES)	EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS [§] CAUSE (AVERAGE ANNUAL #; % OF INJURY VISITS)
45-54	Suicide (48; 34%) Unintentional poisoning (42; 29%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (22; 15%)	Unintentional fall (303; 33%) Self-inflicted (149; 16%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (121; 13%)	Unintentional fall (5,396; 24%) Unintentional overexertion (2,857; 13%)
55-64	Suicide (30; 31%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (20; 21%) Unintentional poisoning (12; 13%)	Unintentional fall (488; 52%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (103; 11%)	Unintentional fall (4,746; 31%) Unintentional overexertion (1,553; 10%)
65-74	Suicide (17; 27%) (tie) Unintentional fall (12; 19%) (tie) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (12; 19%)	Unintentional fall (599; 65%)	Unintentional fall (3,707; 39%)
75-84	Unintentional fall (28; 32%) Unintentional motor vehicle traffic (13; 15%) Suicide (12; 14%)	Unintentional fall (1,136; 77%)	Unintentional fall (4,408; 52%)
85 and over	Unintentional fall (37; 32%)	Unintentional fall (1,252; 85%)	Unintentional fall (3,595; 66%)

Data sources: Deaths -- death certificate datasets from Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; Inpatient discharges -- hospital discharge datasets from Maine Health Data Organization; Outpatient emergency department visits -- hospital outpatient datasets from Maine Health Data Organization.

* Leading causes are defined as specific causes known to be responsible for 10% or more (before rounding) of that type of injury event; excludes non-specific causes such as unintentional unspecified or other specified. Average annual counts and percentages might be underestimates due to factors such as cause not being reported for some injury events or incomplete information about Maine residents who died out of state in 2010 and 2011.

[†] Deaths of Maine residents for which underlying cause of death was an injury cause (ICD-10 V01-Y36, Y85-Y87, Y89, or U01-U03).

[‡] Inpatient discharges of Maine residents from Maine acute care hospitals for which principal diagnosis was injury (ICD-9-CM 800-909.2, 909.4, 909.9, 910-994.9, 995.5-995.59, or 995.80-995.85).

[§] Emergency department visits by Maine residents at Maine acute care hospitals for which principal diagnosis was injury (ICD-9-CM 800-909.2, 909.4, 909.9, 910-994.9, 995.5-995.59, or 995.80-995.85) or an E800-E869, E880-E929, or E950-E999 external cause of injury code was present, and which did not end with patient being admitted to that hospital as an inpatient.