

13.0 INJURY MECHANISM COMPARISON BY AGE GROUPS

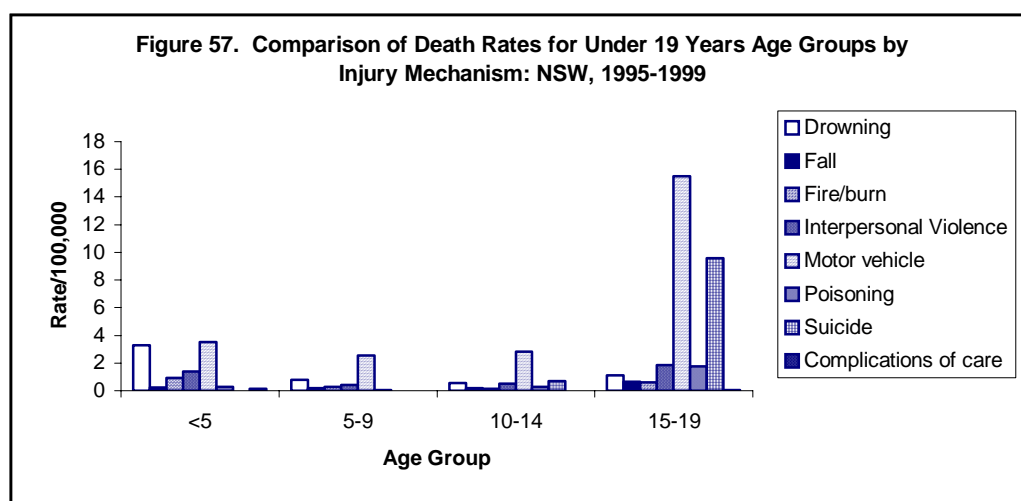
13.1 Introduction

The following sections compare death and hospitalisation rates for various age groups by each injury mechanism. The age groups are broken down into three age-brackets: under age 19 years, aged 20-59 years and aged 60-80+.

13.2 Deaths

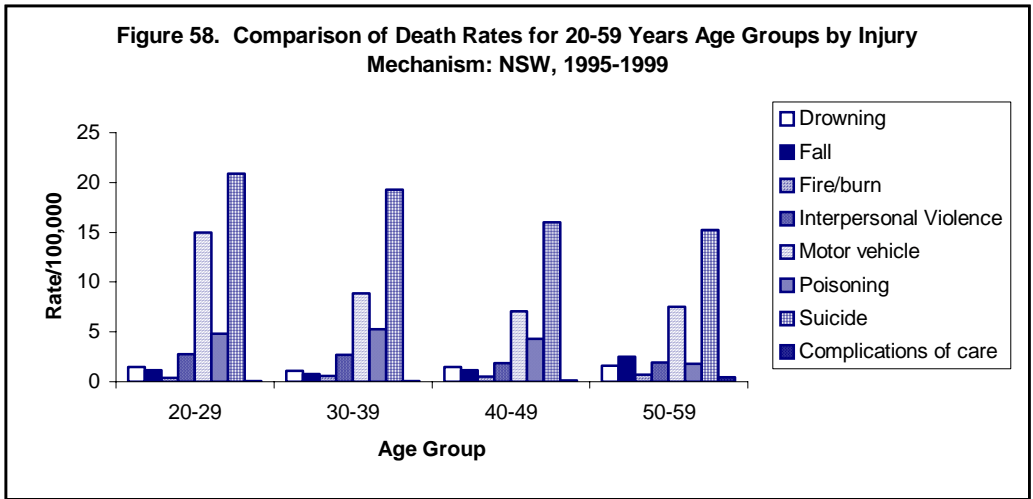
13.2.1 Death Rates for Under 19 Age Groups

Figure 57 shows that motor vehicle transport accidents are the leading cause of injury death in people under age 19. Drowning is the second leading cause of injury death for children under age nine and suicide is the second leading cause of injury death in people aged 10-19.



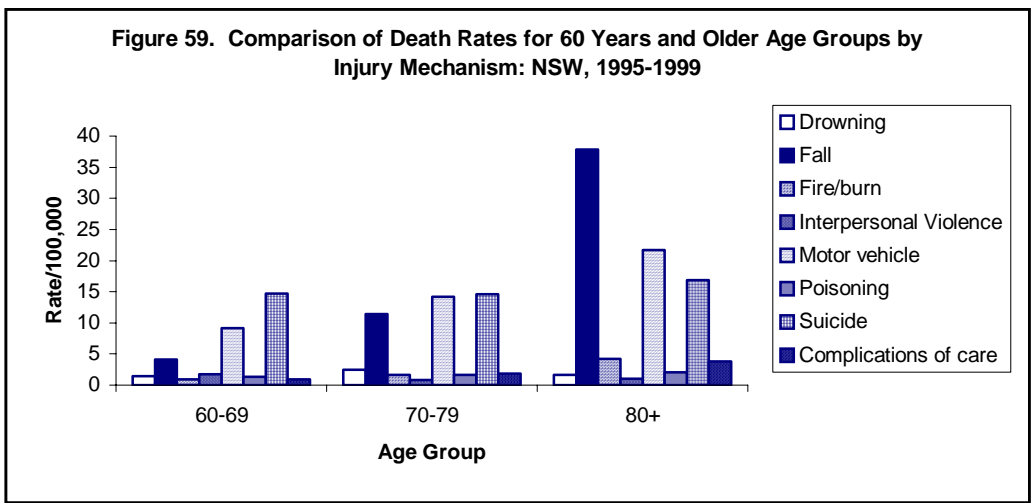
13.2.2 Death Rates for 20-59 Age Groups

Figure 58 shows that suicide is the leading cause of injury death in people aged 20-59 and that motor vehicle transport accidents are the second leading cause of injury death for this age group.



13.2.3 Death Rates for 60 Years and Older Age Groups

Figure 59 shows that suicide is the leading cause of injury death in people aged 60-79 and that falls are the leading cause of injury death in people aged 80 and over. The figure also shows that motor vehicle transport accidents are the second leading cause of injury death for people aged 60 and older.



13.2.4 Top Ten Leading Causes of Injury Deaths by Age Group

Table 39 shows the leading causes of injury deaths by age groups in NSW for 1995-1999. Three injury mechanisms accounted for the leading causes of injury hospitalisation, although they varied by age group. Suffocation was the leading cause among children under age one and motor vehicle transport was the leading cause of injury hospitalisation for children between 1 and 14 years of age and people aged 15-24. Suicide was the leading cause for people 25 years old and older. The number of cases for leading cause of injury hospitalisation for the age groups 5-14 years and 25-54 years differed greatly from the number of cases for the next leading cause.

Table 39. Top Ten Leading Causes of Death by Age Group and Injury Mechanism: NSW, 1995-1999*

	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
1	Suffocation 21	Motor vehicle 69	Motor vehicle 56	Motor vehicle 61	Motor vehicle 756	Suicide 986	Suicide 877	Suicide 606	Suicide 390	Suicide 608	Suicide 4,151
2	Drowning 12	Drowning 60	Drowning 17	Suicide 15	Suicide 669	Motor vehicle 507	Motor vehicle 369	Motor vehicle 273	Motor vehicle 242	Fall 604	Motor vehicle 2,915
3	IPV 12	Fire/burn 19	IPV 9	Drowning 12	Poisoning 130	Poisoning 273	Poisoning 239	Poisoning 114	Fall 78	Motor vehicle 574	Fall 901
4	Motor vehicle 8	IPV 18	Fire/burn 6	IPV 11	IPV 92	IPV 138	IPV 114	IPV 84	IPV 44	Suffocation 106	Poisoning 870
5	Poisoning #	Suffocation 13	Suffocation #	Poisoning 6	Drowning 60	Drowning 66	Drowning 59	Fall 72	Poisoning 37	Complications of care 82	IPV 566
6	Fall #	Struck by/Against 5	Fall #	Rail Transport 6	Fall 44	Fall 48	Fall 42	Drowning 63	Drowning 35	Drowning 81	Drowning 465
7	Fire/burn #	Poisoning #	Struck by/Against #	Fall #	Rail Transport 28	Fire/burn 29	Air Transport 23	Fire/burn 22	Fire/burn 28	Fire/burn 76	Suffocation 230
8	Struck by/Against #	Fall #	Poisoning #	Fire/burn #	Fire/burn 19	Rail Transport 20	Machinery 22	Air Transport 21	Suffocation 26	Poisoning 64	Fire/burn 223
9		Machinery #	Machinery #	Struck by/Against #	Suffocation 10	Suffocation 14	Fire/burn 20	Struck by/Against 19	Complications of care 14	IPV 44	Complications of care 121
10		Rail Transport #	Rail Transport #	Suffocation #	Struck by/Against 9	Struck by/Against 13	Suffocation 17	Suffocation 18	Machinery 13	Nat/Env Factors 37	Struck by/Against 90

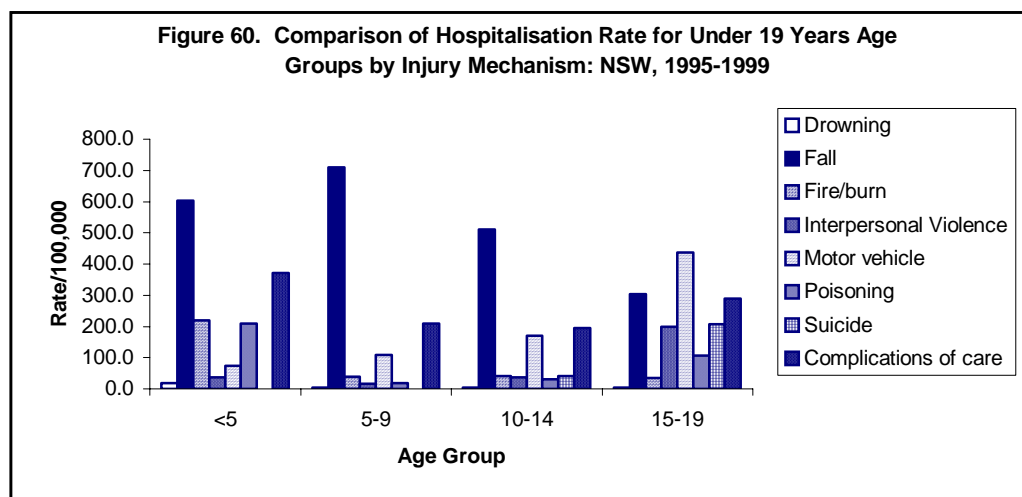
* Injury mechanisms were classified according to recommended Ecode groupings for ICD-9 and ICD-10 from the Centers for Disease Control, USA

Cell size less than five cases

13.3 Hospitalisations

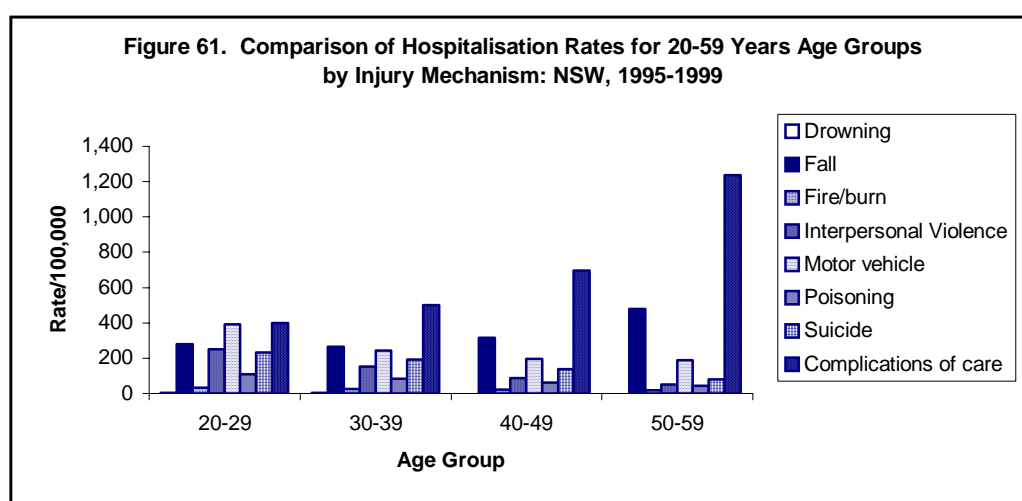
13.3.1 Hospitalisation Rates for Under 19 Age Groups

Figure 60 shows that falls are the leading cause of injury hospitalisation in people under age 14 and that motor vehicle transport accidents are the leading cause of injury hospitalisation in people aged 15-19. Complications of care are the second leading cause of injury hospitalisation for children under age 14 and falls are the second leading cause of injury hospitalisation in people aged 15-19.



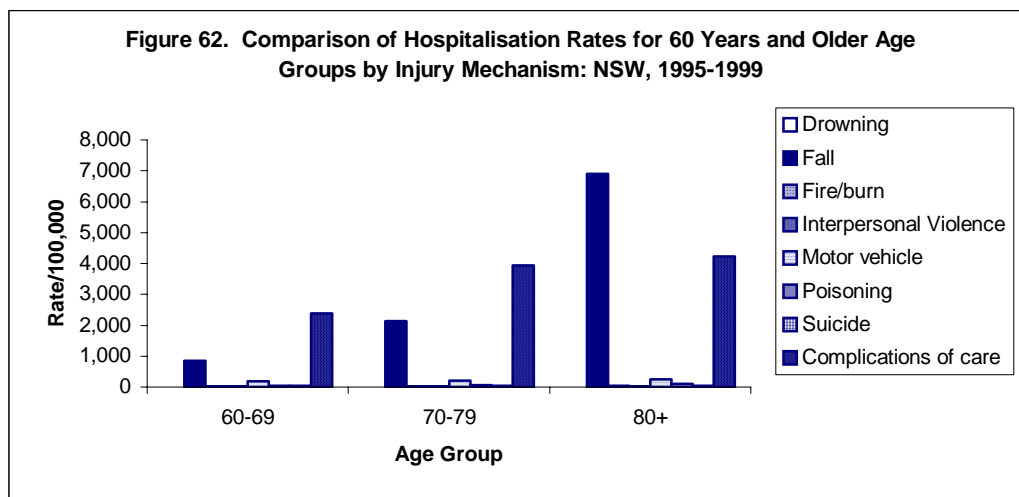
13.3.2 Hospitalisation Rates for 20-59 Age Groups

Figure 61 shows that complications of care are the leading cause of injury hospitalisation in people aged 20-59. The second leading cause of injury hospitalisation is motor vehicle transport accidents for people aged 20-29 and falls for people aged 30-59.



13.3.3 Hospitalisation Rates for 60 Years and Older Age Groups

Figure 59 shows that adverse vents are the leading cause of injury hospitalisation in people aged 60-79 and that falls are the leading cause of injury death in people aged 80 and older. The figure also shows that falls are the second leading cause of injury hospitalisation for people aged 60-79 and that adverse vents are the second leading cause of injury hospitalisation for people aged 80 and older.



13.3.4 Top Ten Leading Causes of Injury Hospitalisations by Age Group

Table 40 shows the leading causes of injury hospitalisation by age groups in NSW for 1995-1999. Three injury mechanisms accounted for the leading causes of injury hospitalisation, although they varied by age group. Complications of care were the leading cause among children under age one and people 25 years old and older. Falls were the leading cause of injury hospitalisation for children between 1 and 14 years of age and motor vehicle transport was the leading cause of injury hospitalisations in people aged 15-24. For most age groups, the leading cause of injury hospitalisation had twice as many cases as the next leading cause.

Table 40. Top Ten Leading Causes of Hospitalisation by Age Group and Injury Mechanism: NSW, 1995-1999*

	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
1	Complications of care 3,045	Fall 11,572	Fall 15,628	Fall 11,128	Motor vehicle 19,656	Complications of care 21,595	Complications of care 27,609	Complications of care 36,163	Complications of care 46,983	Complications of care 145,122	Complications of care 309,102
2	Fall 1,596	Complications of care 5,084	Complications of care 4,607	Complications of care 4,217	Complications of care 14,677	Motor vehicle 14,381	Fall 13,672	Fall 15,139	Fall 17,159	Fall 112,554	Fall 224,141
3	Fire/burn 879	Poisoning 4,164	Motor vehicle 2,391	Motor vehicle 3,707	Fall 12,970	Fall 12,723	Motor vehicle 10,450	Motor vehicle 7,607	Motor vehicle 4,935	Motor vehicle 8,486	Motor vehicle 73,245
4	Poisoning 389	Fire/burn 3,932	Struck by/Against 1,969	Overexertion 2,559	IPV 10,597	Suicide 10,322	Suicide 8,164	Suicide 4,311	Cut/Pierce 2,363	Poisoning 2,669	Suicide 36,617
5	IPV 387	Struck by/Against 1,822	Cut/Pierce 1,826	Struck by/Against 2,424	Suicide 9,871	IPV 9,479	IPV 5,727	Cut/Pierce 3,827	Overexertion 1,673	Cut/Pierce 2314	Cut/Pierce 35,184
6	Suffocation 235	Nat/Env Factors 1,774	Nat/Env Factors 1,253	Cut/Pierce 1,840	Cut/Pierce 8,227	Cut/Pierce 7,530	Cut/Pierce 5,402	Overexertion 3,237	Suicide 1,459	Overexertion 2,287	IPV 32,353
7	Struck by/Against 194	Cut/Pierce 1,751	Fire/burn 870	Nat/Env Factors 1,099	Overexertion 7,199	Overexertion 6,166	Overexertion 4,659	IPV 2,577	Nat/Env Factors 1,264	Struck by/Against 2,136	Overexertion 28,495
8	Motor vehicle 154	Motor vehicle 1,478	Overexertion 586	Suicide 894	Struck by/Against 5,382	Struck by/Against 4,529	Poisoning 3,578	Poisoning 2,069	Struck by/Against 1,223	Nat/Env Factors 2,124	Struck by/Against 24,765
9	Nat/Env Factors 137	IPV 438	Poisoning 409	Fire/burn 881	Poisoning 4,996	Poisoning 4,512	Struck by/Against 3,075	Struck by/Against 2,011	Poisoning 1,141	Suicide 1,575	Poisoning 24,582
10	Cut/Pierce 104	Suffocation 344	IPV 363	IPV 795	Nat/Env Factors 2,040	Nat/Env Factors 2,319	Nat/Env Factors 2,197	Nat/Env Factors 1,848	IPV 1,076	Fire/burn 1,113	Nat/Env Factors 16,055

* Injury mechanisms were classified according to recommended Ecode groupings for ICD-9-CM and ICD-10-AM from the Centers for Disease Control, USA

13.4 Summary

Comparison of death and hospitalisation rates for all injury mechanisms showed similar patterns within specific age groupings. For example, the leading and second leading causes of injury death and hospitalisation were the same for several age groups within each bracket. For example, for children in the 1 to 14 age group, injury deaths mainly occurred due to motor vehicle crashes and injury hospitalisations were due primarily to falls followed by complications of care. For 15 to 64 year olds, injury deaths were mainly due to suicide or motor vehicle crashes. Injury hospitalisations for 15 to 34 year olds were due complications of care or motor vehicle crashes, and for over 34 year olds, hospitalisations for injury were mainly due to complications of care followed by falls. For children under one year of age, different patterns were seen. Injury deaths were mainly due to suffocation followed by considerably smaller numbers of drownings or IPV and injury hospitalisations were due to complications of care or falls.

The similarities between the types of injuries for groups of ages suggests that the situations in which these injuries occur have similar characteristics that put all ages in the bracket at increased risk for some types of injuries and not others. These characteristics may be environmental and/or behavioral in nature, but need to be investigated further to identify areas for possible injury prevention and policy initiatives.