Unintentional Injury

- There were 5,687 unintentional injury deaths registered in Connecticut between 2000 – 2004, averaging 1,137 deaths per year.
- More than one-fourth (26.7%) of unintentional injury deaths were due to motor vehicle crashes, which is the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths, followed by poisoning (23.8%), falls (16.0%) and suffocation (10.0%).
- Unintentional injury was the leading cause of death for children, youth and adults from 1-44 years of age—both in Connecticut and in the nation - and was the fifth leading cause of death for the population overall.
- Between 2000 – 2004, 72,888 unintentional injury hospitalizations were registered in Connecticut, averaging 14,578 injury hospitalizations per year.
- Unintentional injuries accounted for nearly 85% of all injury hospitalizations.

- Approximately 60% of unintentional injury hospitalizations were due to falls.
- The second leading unintentional injury hospitalizations were motor vehicle traffic crashes (16.6%), followed by poisoning (4.7%) and struck by / Against (2.9%).
- Unintentional injury hospitalizations were more than 13 times that of the unintentional injury deaths, meaning that one person died for every thirteen persons hospitalized.
- Average length of hospital stay for unintentional injuries was 3 days.
- Between 2000-2004, the overall hospitalization charges for all unintentional injuries were $1,211,294,776, with an average charge of $11,553 per hospital stay.
Figure 5
Unintentional Injury Deaths by Mechanism
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004
(n = 5,687; average = 1,137)
Figure 6
Unintentional Injury Hospitalizations by Mechanism
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004
(n = 72,888; average = 14,578/year)

- Fall: 12,098 (16.6%)
- Motor Vehicle Traffic: 2,134 (2.9%)
- Poisoning: 5,457 (4.7%)
- Struck By/Against: 1,599 (2.1%)
- Overexertion: 1,509 (2.1%)
- Transport, Other: 1,329 (1.8%)
- Fire/Burn: 965 (1.3%)
- Cut/Pierce: 921 (1.3%)
- Pedal Cyclist, Other: 850 (1.1%)
- Natural/Environmental: 596 (0.8%)
- Machinery: 303 (0.4%)
- Suffocation: 243 (0.3%)
- Firearm: 133 (0.2%)
- Pedestrian, Other: 91 (0.1%)
- Drowning/Submersion: 42,418 (58.2%)
- Other/Unspecified: 921 (1.3%)

Number of Injury Hospitalizations

0  5,000  10,000  15,000  20,000  25,000  30,000  35,000  40,000  45,000

Unintentional Injury
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
Intentional Injury