

Hand Sanitizer Poisoning

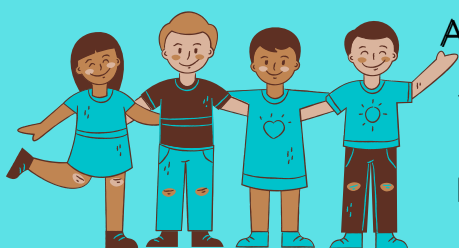
SURVEILLANCE DATA: 2019-2020

FLORIDA VIOLENCE AND INJURY PREVENTION

From January 2019 to December 2020, there were over 1,400 exposure calls related to hand sanitizers.



Approximately 88% of exposure calls were for ethanol-based hand sanitizer.



ABOUT 66% OF HAND SANITIZER EXPOSURE CALLS WERE MADE FOR CHILDREN AGES 0-17 YEARS.

Poisonings Include:

- **INGESTION** of chemicals or drugs
- **EXCESSIVE USE** or overdose of a drug
- Environmental substance **EXPOSURE**

Prevent Poisonings

- Store hand sanitizers and household products out of reach of children.
- Read the labels and follow directions.
- Use child-resistant packaging
- Beware of packaging shaped like food products.
- Don't transfer sanitizers into food or beverage containers.
- Supervise children's use of hand sanitizers.



MOST COMMON TYPE OF HAND SANITIZER POISONING:
Ingestion

For suspected poisonings, contact **Florida's Poison Control Centers** first.

The majority of poisoning cases can be **handled in-home** with Poison Control's guidance, **keeping you safe** while reducing emergency department visits.

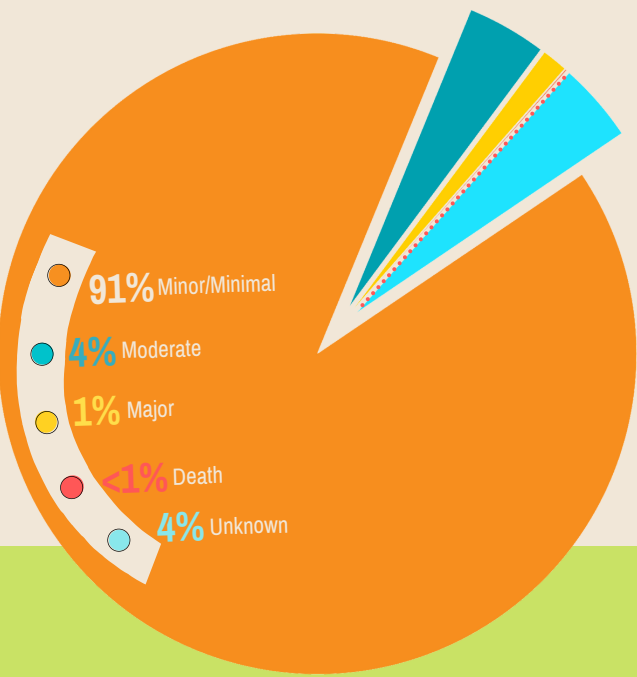
Get guidance and treatment recommendations by calling **1-800-222-1222**.



Learn More:
floridapoincontrol.org

www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/safely-using-hand-sanitizer

Florida Hand Sanitizer Poisoning by the Numbers



Medical Outcomes*

Minor/Minimal Effect: Patient experienced some symptoms from the exposure, but didn't have long-lasting problems. Examples: skin irritation, drowsiness, mild stomach symptoms.

Moderate Effect: Patient experienced more pronounced or prolonged effects that resolved and that were not life-threatening. Examples: disorientation, high fever, isolated brief seizures that responded to treatment.

Major Effect: Life-threatening symptoms or symptoms that caused significant permanent health issues. Examples: cardiac arrest or respiratory arrest, coma.

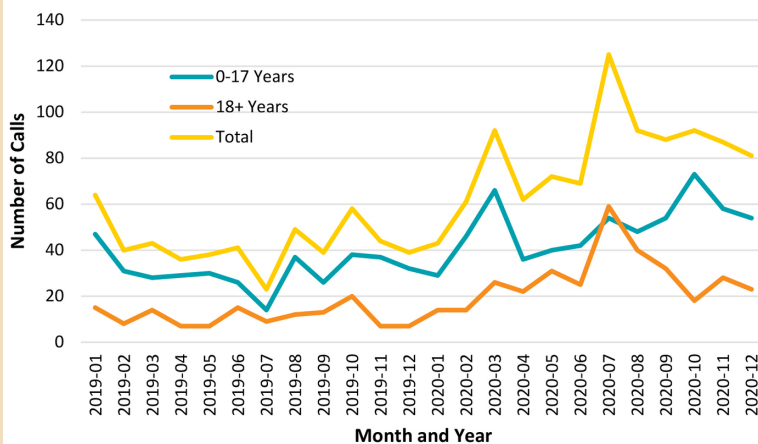
Ethanol Based Calls	
Age	# of Calls
0-17 yrs	889
18 yrs+	391
Unknown	24
Total	1,304

Who is Injured?

Medical Outcome	0-17 Years	18+ Years
Minor / Minimal Effects	98.0%	76.2%
Moderate Effect	0.5%	11.6%
Major Effect	0.0%	4.1%
Death	0.0%	0.2%
Unknown	1.5%	7.9%
Total Number of Calls	975	466

The total number of calls to Poison Control are higher for children under 17 compared to adults; however, adult cases are more severe.

Poison Control Hand Sanitizer-Related Exposure Calls
Florida: January 2019 to December 2020



Data Source: Florida Department of Health Bureau of Epidemiology, ESSENCE-FL Poison Control Center by Case

Data results are provisional and may be subject to change. Multiple substances may be listed. The Florida Poison Information Center Network (FPICN) call data presented are based upon information provided by the patient and/or treating health care professional. Exposure calls with the following medical outcomes are included in analysis: Death, Death Indirect Report, Major Effect, Minor Effect, Moderate Effect, Not Followed, Minimal Clinical Effects Possible (no more than minor effect possible), Unable to Follow (judged as a potentially toxic exposure).

*Medical Outcome definitions were obtained from the Safe Kids Worldwide 2015 report: https://www.safekids.org/sites/default/files/research_reports/medicine_safety_study_2015_v7-lr.pdf

Florida Violence and Injury Prevention

