Poisonings in Florida

SURVEILLANCE DATA: 2013

Florida Injury Prevention

Poisonings were the second leading cause of injury death, trailing falls by 82 deaths.
2,596 died from poisoning.
19,472 were hospitalized for non-fatal poisonings.

Fatal unintentional poisoning by prescription drugs is a public health concern—drug overdose is the leading cause of unintentional injury death for adults.

Prevent Poisonings

Put medicines away after use.
Take only the prescribed amount of a medicine.
Avoid harmful interactions. Give your health care provider a list of all your medicines: prescriptions, over-the-counter medicine, vitamins & herbal products.
Safely dispose leftover or unwanted medications.
Never tell anyone, especially children, that medicine is candy.

Poisonings are the leading cause of injury-related deaths and hospitalizations among Florida residents ages 25–54 years.

Unintentional Poisoning Includes:
Unsupervised ingestion of drugs or chemicals.
Overdoses or the excessive use of a drug.
Exposure to environmental substances.

THE MOST COMMON POISONS:
Prescription & over-the-counter medications.
Cleaning products & makeup.
Personal care products.

Store household products in separate places from food and medicine, and out of children’s reach. Install child safety locks on cabinets where poisonous products are stored.
Follow label directions on household products—mixing products can cause dangerous gases to form.

Install a carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home and near sleeping areas.

Keep appliances, furnaces, fireplaces and wood-burning stoves in good repair.

LEARN MORE:
### Florida Poisoning Rates per 100,000

**Hospitalizations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>RATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>107.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>109.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>110.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>102.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>100.8</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Deaths**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>RATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>17.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>16.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>14.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>13.4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Florida Poisoning Rates

- **$21,272**: The median admission charge for poisoning-related, non-fatal unintentional injury hospitalizations.
- **$648.8 million**: Total charges exceeded this amount.
- **2 days**: The median length of stay.

### Who is Injured?

- **Adults ages 25–64** had the highest poisoning fatality and hospitalization rates.
- **Male poisoning fatality rate** was 1.5 times higher than females.

### DEATHS

- **Females**: 1,082
- **Males**: 1,514
- **Whites**: 2,401
- **Blacks**: 150
- **Others & Non-Whites**: 41
- **Both Sexes, All Races**: 2,596

### NON-FATAL HOSPITALIZATIONS

- **Females**: 10,974
- **Males**: 8,496
- **Whites**: 15,488
- **Blacks**: 2,434
- **Others & Non-Whites**: 1,331
- **Both Sexes, All Races**: 19,472

### Who Paid?

- **Medicare**: 34%
- **Self-pay/under-insured**: 23%
- **Medicaid**: 21%

### Florida Injury Prevention

floridahealth.gov/injury

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