

Injuries in Hamilton-Wentworth

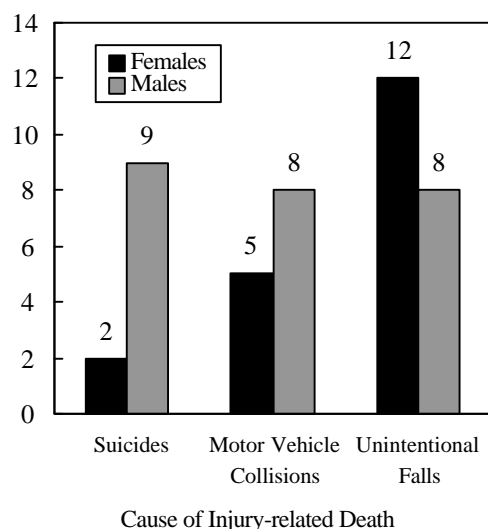
Deaths

In Hamilton-Wentworth (H-W), there were 158 injury-related deaths accounting for 4% of all deaths in 1997. Unintentional falls were the leading cause of injury-related death followed by motor vehicle collisions and suicide.

Injury death rates varied by gender and age group in H-W in 1997. Deaths due to falls were more frequent among females compared to males, while motor vehicle collision and suicide deaths were more frequent among males than females in H-W in 1997 (Figure 16).

Figure 16. Number of Injury-related Deaths Due to Suicides, Motor Vehicle Collisions and Unintentional Falls by Gender, Hamilton-Wentworth, 1997

Number of deaths per 100,000 population



Source: MOHLTC, Provincial Health Planning Database, 2000.

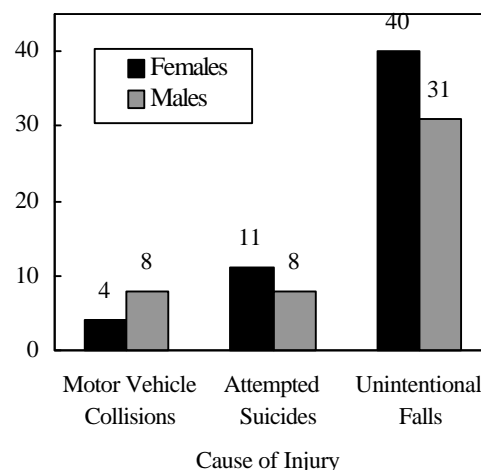
In H-W in 1997, falls were the most common cause of injury-related death among people aged 65 years and over, especially among females (68 per 100,000). Motor vehicle collisions contributed to injury-related deaths in all age groups, but were most frequent among males aged 20 to 29 years (18 per 100,000). Suicide was also a major contributor to injury-related deaths in all age groups, particularly among males aged 20 to 49 years (12 per 100,000).

Hospital Utilization

In H-W, falls were the most common cause of injury-related hospitalization in 1998 (fiscal year) followed by attempted suicide and motor vehicle collisions. In 1998 (fiscal year), injury-related hospitalization rates varied by gender (Figure 17).

Figure 17. Number of Hospitalizations due to Motor Vehicle Collisions, Attempted Suicides and Unintentional Falls, Hamilton-Wentworth, 1998 (fiscal year)

Number of hospitalizations per 10,000 population



Source: MOHLTC, Provincial Health Planning Database, 2000.

Among people aged 14 years and under and 35 years and over, falls were the most frequent reason for hospitalization due to injury in H-W in 1998. People aged 85 years and over had the highest hospitalization rate due to falls, especially among females (507 per 10,000). Among people aged 15 to 34 years, attempted suicide was the most frequent cause of injury-related hospitalization in H-W in 1998, especially among females aged 15 to 19 years (23 per 10,000).

Acts of physical violence resulted in a hospitalization rate of 4 per 10,000 males and 1 per 10,000 females in H-W in 1998 (fiscal year). Males aged 15 to 19 years had the highest hospitalization rate due to violence (11 per 10,000). These rates likely underestimate the true incidence of injury due to violence in H-W since only the most severe incidents of violence result in hospitalization.

Child Pedestrian Injuries

A recent study reviewed pedestrian motor vehicle injuries to children up to 14 years of age in the City of Hamilton from 1978 to 1994. The child pedestrian injury rate was 2.5 times higher on one-way streets than on two-way streets (46 vs. 20 per 100,000 children per 100 km of street per year). Children living in the poorest Hamilton neighbourhoods were three times more likely to be injured than those living in the wealthiest neighbourhoods (33 vs. 12 per 100,000 children per 100 km of street per year).