

# LOUISIANA NONFATAL INJURIES

Nonfatal injuries occur frequently and can have lifelong consequences.

**Every year, over 22,000 people in Louisiana are admitted to a hospital due to injury.<sup>1</sup>**

Nonfatal injuries have lasting impacts including poor mental health, chronic pain, high medical costs, long-term disability, and diminished quality of life.<sup>2</sup> Understanding which injuries affect specific age groups helps focus prevention and intervention strategies to meet their unique needs, ultimately improving overall health outcomes.

## Injuries can be prevented!

### TOP 3 CAUSES OF NONFATAL INJURY RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS IN 2022<sup>1</sup>



**10,255** - Unintentional Fall-Related



**3,019** - Motor Vehicle Traffic



**2,792** - Drug Overdoses



### CAUSES OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES<sup>1</sup>

About **1 in 6 hospitalizations** related to injuries involved **traumatic brain injury.<sup>1</sup>**

- 24% of motor vehicle traffic-related
- 23% non-fatal assaults
- 18% unintentional falls
- 8% firearm-related

## NONFATAL INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS BY GENDER<sup>1</sup>

### Injury & Men



Men accounted for:

- **85% of all hospitalizations due to unintentional and intentional firearm-related injuries** and
- **80% of all assault-related hospitalizations.**
- **25-34 year old men** had the highest age-adjusted rate of **firearm-related hospitalizations** compared to other age groups.

### Injury & Women



- Hospitalizations related to **intentional self-harm** were about **1.7 times higher for females** than males.

*\*Number of hospitalizations may be underreported. Not all Louisiana hospitals provide discharge data to the Office of Public Health and hospitalization data does not include emergency department visits that do not result in an inpatient admission.*

Data Sources: 1. Louisiana Hospital Discharge Data, federal fiscal year 2022. 2. www.HealthyPeople.gov 3. CDC's Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths & Injuries (STEADI) 4. HealthInAging.org 5. Louisiana Opioid Surveillance Report, 2023.

For more injury prevention data, visit [PartnersforFamilyHealth.org/Data-Center](https://PartnersforFamilyHealth.org/Data-Center)

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## AGES 1-34 - MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC - 1,130 HOSPITALIZATIONS\*1



### Ages 1-34

**Men** accounted for **85% of all hospitalizations** related to **motor vehicle** crashes.

#### What You Can Do:

**Expand** educational and promotional activities focused on motor vehicle safety, including policy changes, environmental modifications and increased enforcement for safer streets, highways, and sidewalks.

**Ensure** children are always be buckled in the appropriate safety seat for their age and size, such as rear-facing car seats, booster seats, and seatbelts. Visit NHTSA to find the right seat for your child.

**Encourage** teens to always wear a seatbelt and follow a graduated driver licensing system to build more skills and gain driving experience.

## AGES 35-54 - DRUG OVERDOSES - 962 HOSPITALIZATIONS\*1



### Ages 35-54

From 2019 to 2022, there was a **55% increase** in all drug-related ED visits, a **90% increase** in opioid-related ED visits.<sup>5</sup>

#### What You Can Do:

**Increase** use of proven methods of treatment of substance use disorders at state and community levels.

**Support** and promote evidence-based treatments to effectively manage pain.

**Promote** harm reduction services, including those that are part of healthcare.

## AGES 55+ - UNINTENTIONAL FALLS - 8,895 HOSPITALIZATIONS\*1



### Ages 55+

**75+ year olds** accounted for **over half of hospitalizations** related to **unintentional falls**.

**Older women (65+)** are **over 1.5 times more likely to be hospitalized for hip fractures** than men. **3 out of 4** of these women's hip fractures were due to **unintentional falls**.

#### What You Can Do:

**Incorporate** fall risk screenings into clinical practice, help patients identify ways to reduce fall risk, and refer to effective methods such as physical therapy, home safety evaluation through occupational therapy, shoe fit and traction, or eye exams.<sup>3</sup>

**Encourage** regular activity and exercise to boost mobility and strength, reduce fall hazards at home, and caregivers should inform healthcare providers of any repeated falls or near-falls for further medical evaluation.<sup>4</sup>

Learn more about evidence-based programs (such as A Matter of Balance and Tai Chi) for falls prevention here.