



Although injury is among the leading causes of death and hospitalisation in New Zealand for all age groups (see IPRU Fact Sheet 24), the relative importance of injury mechanisms varies. These tables show the major causes of injury in each age group for deaths and hospitalisations.

10 Leading Causes of Injury Resulting in Death* – New Zealand 1994-1998

Rank	Age Groups (years)												Total
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+	
1	SUFFOCATION 23.7%	PEDESTRIAN 24.6%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 25.5%	MVT OCCUPANT 36.9%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 39.1%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 39.8%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 40.7%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 38.3%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 36.4%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 33.3%	FALL 45.6%	FALL 71.1%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 31.4%
2	MVT OCCUPANT 20.6%	MVT OCCUPANT 23.8%	MVT OCCUPANT 23.6%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 35.8%	MVT OCCUPANT 29.6%	MVT OCCUPANT 26.5%	MVT OCCUPANT 22.4%	MVT OCCUPANT 23.6%	MVT OCCUPANT 20.2%	MVT OCCUPANT 21.6%	MVT OCCUPANT 16.5%	UNSPECIFIED 8.4%	MVT OCCUPANT 23.5%
3	DROWNING 16.6%	CYCLIST 13.1%	PEDESTRIAN 12.7%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 5.6%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 7.4%	DROWNING 6.3%	DROWNING 5.5%	DROWNING 7.4%	DROWNING 7.0%	FALL 18.3%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 14.5%	MVT OCCUPANT 3.8%	FALL 13.0%
4	PEDESTRIAN 12.3%	DROWNING 10.7%	CYCLIST 8.3%	DROWNING 4.4%	DROWNING 5.6%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 5.3%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 5.1%	OTHER TRANSPORT 4.8%	PEDESTRIAN 0.0%	PEDESTRIAN 5.0%	PEDESTRIAN 5.3%	SUICIDE/SELF-INFLICTED 3.8%	DROWNING 5.4%
5	HOMICIDE 9.5%	HOMICIDE 8.2%	HOMICIDE 5.1%	PEDESTRIAN 4.0%	HOMICIDE 3.4%	HOMICIDE 4.8%	OTHER TRANSPORT 3.8%	FALL 4.5%	FALL 5.7%	DROWNING 3.5%	UNSPECIFIED 2.9%	OTHER SPECIFIED 2.9%	PEDESTRIAN 4.4%
6	FIRE 8.9%	FIRE 8.2%	SUFFOCATION 4.5%	HOMICIDE 3.0%	FALL 3.1%	OTHER TRANSPORT 3.5%	PEDESTRIAN 3.4%	HOMICIDE 4.1%	HOMICIDE 3.6%	SUFFOCATION 2.9%	FIRE 2.3%	PEDESTRIAN 2.3%	HOMICIDE 3.5%
7	FALL 2.5%	OTHER TRANSPORT 4.9%	DROWNING 3.8%	FALL 2.8%	PEDESTRIAN 3.0%	PEDESTRIAN 3.0%	HOMICIDE 3.4%	POISONING 3.0%	SUFFOCATION 2.4%	OTHER SPECIFIED 2.1%	OTHER SPECIFIED 2.2%	SUFFOCATION 2.1%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 3.5%
8	POISONING 1.2%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 1.6%	FALL 3.2%	OTHER TRANSPORT 1.4%	OTHER TRANSPORT 1.8%	FALL 2.7%	POISONING 2.8%	PEDESTRIAN 2.5%	OTHER SPECIFIED 2.2%	HOMICIDE 1.7%	SUFFOCATION 2.0%	FIRE 1.5%	OTHER TRANSPORT 2.4%
9	STRUCK BY, AGAINST 0.9%	SUFFOCATION 0.8%	OTHER TRANSPORT 2.5%	CYCLIST 1.3%	POISONING 1.7%	FIRE 1.2%	FALL 2.7%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 1.8%	MACHINERY 2.1%	FIRE 1.7%	DROWNING 1.5%	NATURAL/ ENVIRONMENTAL 0.8%	SUFFOCATION 2.2%
10	NATURAL/ ENVIRONMENTAL 0.6%	POISONING 0.8%	OTHER SPECIFIED 1.9%	FIRE 1.0%	STRUCK BY, AGAINST 1.2%	POISONING 1.1%	OTHER SPECIFIED 1.7%	MACHINERY 1.7%	FIRE 2.1%	MACHINERY 1.6%	POISONING 1.5%	CUT/PERCE 0.8%	FIRE 1.8%
All Other	2.8%	3.3%	8.9%	3.7%	4.0%	5.6%	8%	7.7%	11.8%	7.6%	2.8%	2.6	7.9%
Unspecified	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	0.7%	2.9%	8.4%	1.1%
Total (n)	325	122	157	871	1031	1652	1091	825	583	579	733	658	8627

Data Source: New Zealand Health Information Service Public Hospital Mortality Data 1994-1998

*These data include all fatalities with a primary diagnosis of injury, and exclude adverse effects due to drugs and medical procedures.

10 Leading Causes of Injury Resulting in Hospitalisation* - New Zealand 2000

Age Groups

Rank	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+ years	Total
1	FALL 39.0%	FALL 61.7%	FALL 45.3%	FALL 20.6%	FALL 21.1%	FALL 19.3%	FALL 20.2%	FALL 28.3%	FALL 41.6%	FALL 60.5%	FALL 78.0%	FALL 86.8%	FALL 41.2%
2	POISONING 10.6%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 6.6%	CYCLIST 9.2%	MVT OCCUPANT 13.9%	CUT/PIERCE 11.2%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 11.8%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 12.9%	CUT/PIERCE 10.2%	MVT OCCUPANT 8.4%	MVT OCCUPANT 6.9%	OVEREXERTION 4.3%	UNSPECIFIED 2.2%	CUT/PIERCE 7.5%
3	CAUGHT BETWEEN 8.8%	CYCLIST 6.2%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 8.7%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 10.8%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 10.5%	CUT/PIERCE 11.6%	CUT/PIERCE 11.0%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 9.0%	OVEREXERTION 7.0%	OVEREXERTION 6.5%	MVT OCCUPANT 3.2%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 2.2%	MVT OCCUPANT 6.6%
4	HOT OBJECT/SCALD 7.7%	CUT/PIERCE 5.9%	OTHER TRANSPORT 7.5%	CUT/PIERCE 9.9%	MVT OCCUPANT 10.5%	MVT OCCUPANT 8.3%	MVT OCCUPANT 8.2%	MVT OCCUPANT 8.5%	CUT/PIERCE 6.4%	CUT/PIERCE 3.8%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 2.5%	OVEREXERTION 2.2%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 6.2%
5	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 6.1%	OTHER TRANSPORT 3.3%	CUT/PIERCE 7.5%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 8.9%	ASSAULT 9.5%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 8.2%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 6.5%	OTHER TRANSPORT 6.5%	OTHER TRANSPORT 4.4%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 3.0%	UNSPECIFIED 1.9%	MVT OCCUPANT 1.4%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 6.1%
6	CUT/PIERCE 4.5%	CAUGHT BETWEEN 3.0%	MVT OCCUPANT 3.4%	ASSAULT 8.4%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 8.6%	ASSAULT 7.7%	OTHER TRANSPORT 6.3%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 5.5%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 4.2%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 2.3%	CUT/PIERCE 1.4%	POISONING 0.8%	OTHER TRANSPORT 4.6%
7	PEDESTRIAN 3.6%	PEDESTRIAN 3.0%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 2.6%	OTHER TRANSPORT 6.5%	OTHER TRANSPORT 5.9%	OTHER TRANSPORT 6.4%	ASSAULT 6.3%	OVEREXERTION 5.3%	STRUCK BY/AGAINST 4.2%	OTHER TRANSPORT 2.1%	POISONING 1.4%	PEDESTRIAN 0.8%	ASSAULT 3.8%
8	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 3.4%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 2.6%	OVEREXERTION 2.0%	CYCLIST 3.0%	OVEREXERTION 3.8%	OVEREXERTION 4.7%	OVEREXERTION 6.0%	MACHINERY 4.4%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 3.8%	SELF-INFLICTED INJURY 2.0%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 1.2%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 0.6%	OVEREXERTION 3.7%
9	MVT OCCUPANT 2.0%	MVT OCCUPANT 1.7%	PEDESTRIAN 2.6%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 3.0%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 3.7%	MVT MOTORCYCLIST 3.5%	MACHINERY 3.5%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 3.5%	MACHINERY 1.9%	UNSPECIFIED 1.1%	PEDESTRIAN 0.5%	OTHER TRANSPORT 2.7%	CYCLIST 2.7
10	FOREIGN BODY 2.5%	FOREIGN BODY 1.1%	POISONING 1.7%	POISONING 2.6%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 2.3%	MACHINERY 3.5%	NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL 3.3%	ASSAULT 3.2%	POISONING 2.6%	FOREIGN BODY 1.8%	OTHER TRANSPORT 1.0%	FOREIGN BODY 0.5%	POISONING 2.5%
All Other	9.1%	4.3%	9.7%	11.6%	12.7%	13.5%	14.0%	14.0%	12.2%	7.0%	2.0%	1.6%	13.5%
Unspecified	2.1%	0.6%	1.4%	1.6%	2.0%	1.4%	1.7%	1.5%	1.6%	2.0%	1.9%	2.2%	1.6%
Total	3079	3611	3288	3594	3193	5510	4491	3285	2346	2541	2541	2772	41483

CAUSE OF INJURY

DESCRIPTION

CAUGHT BETWEEN

Unintentional injuries from being caught in or between objects

CUT/PIERCE

Unintentional injuries caused by cutting and piercing instruments or objects

CYCLIST

Rider or passenger on a pedal cycle involved in a crash on or off a public road

DROWNING/SUBMERSION

Unintentional injury from submersion while engaged in sport or recreational activities, while swimming, in bathtub, or following a water transport crash

FALL

Unintentional injury resulting from a fall, e.g. from stairs, tripping, slipping, or from playground equipment

FIRE

Unintentional injury caused by fire and flames e.g. conflagration in private dwelling, conflagration in other building or structure,

FOREIGN BODY

Unintentional foreign body entering eye, adnexa or other orifice

HOMICIDE/ASSAULT

Injury purposely inflicted by other persons

HOT OBJECT/SCALD

Unintentional injuries caused by hot substance or object, caustic or corrosive material and steam

MACHINERY

Unintentional injury caused by machinery

MVT MOTORCYCLIST

Rider or passenger of a motorcycle involved in a crash on a public road

MVT OCCUPANT

Driver or passenger of a motorised transport vehicle, including car, van, truck, bus etc involved in a crash on a public road

NATURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL

Unintentional injuries from natural and environmental factors, eg: excessive heat, excessive cold, hunger, neglect, venomous animals and plants, other injury caused by animals, lightning, cataclysmic storms, floods, earth surface movements, or other and unspecified environmental cause

OTHER TRANSPORT

Injury from a transport crash excluding a motor vehicle on a public road, e.g. water transport, aircraft, motor vehicles not on a public road, and animals being ridden

OVEREXERTION

Unintentional injury from overexertion and strenuous movements e.g. lifting, pulling, pushing, excessive physical exercise

PEDESTRIAN

Any person involved in a crash on or off a public road who was not at the time of the accident riding in or on a motor vehicle, railway train, streetcar, animal-drawn or other vehicle, or on a pedal cycle or animal

POISONING

Unintentional poisoning by drugs, medicinal substances, biologicals, other solid and liquid substances, gases or vapours

SELF-INFLICTED INJURY/SUICIDE

Injury resulting from intentional self-harm

STRUCK BY/AGAINST

Unintentional injury from being struck by a falling object, or striking against, or being struck by objects or persons

OTHER SPECIFIED

All other causes of unintentional injury

UNSPECIFIED

Unspecified cause of unintentional injury

Data Source: New Zealand Health Information Service Public Hospital Morbidity Data 2000

*This data includes all discharges from public hospitals with a primary diagnosis of injury, and excludes the following: readmissions for prior injury, stays of less than 1 day, those discharged dead, and adverse effects due to drugs or medical procedures.

The table is based on the ICD9 and ICD10 Revised Frameworks of E-code Groupings provided by the National Centre for Injury Prevention and Control. Minor modifications have been made by the IPRU to enable the ICD9 and the ICD10 frameworks to be comparable.

Prepared by: NA Dow, SCR Stephenson, DM Casey, February 2003

INJURY PREVENTION RESEARCH UNIT

Department of Preventive and Social Medicine

University of Otago

PO Box 913 Dunedin New Zealand

Tel 64 3 479 8342 Fax 64 3 479 8337

Email iprunz@otago.ac.nz Website www.otago.ac.nz/ipru