

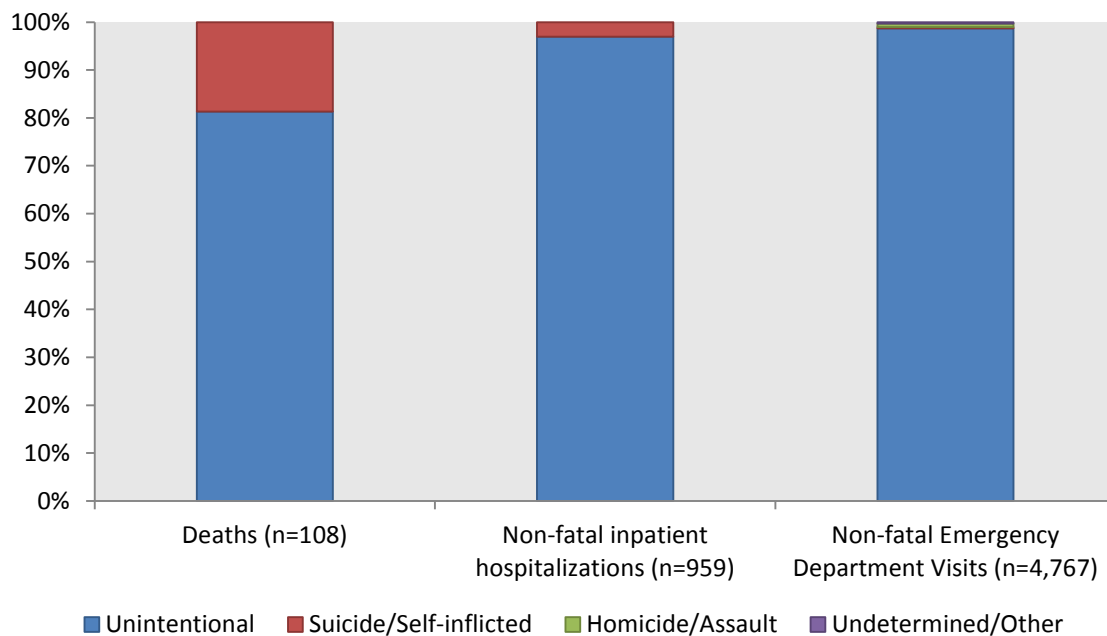
Unintentional Injury among Residents of Sun City West, Arizona 2012-2014

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June, 2015

Introduction

Among all injury-related deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits in Sun City West from 2012 through 2014, unintentional injuries were the most common. Figure 1 below shows the distribution of injuries in Sun City West by manner.

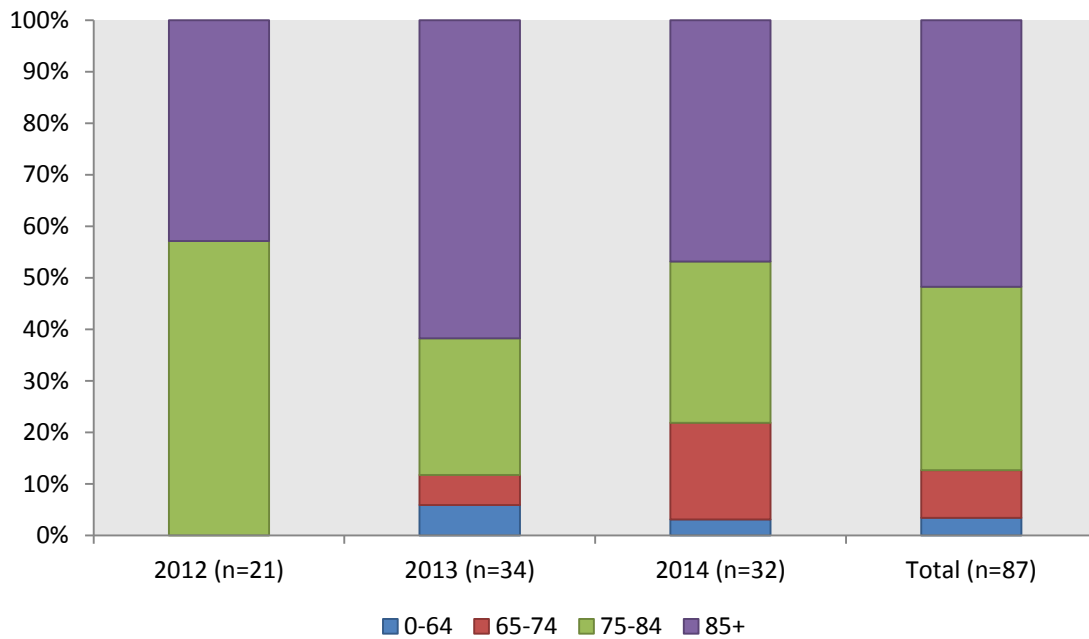
Figure 1. Injury-related Deaths, Hospitalizations, and Emergency Department Visits by Manner, Sun City West, Arizona, 2012-2014



Unintentional Injury-Related Deaths

In 2012, there were 21 unintentional injury-related deaths in Sun City West, compared to 34 deaths in 2013 and 32 deaths in 2014. During the three year time period there were 87 unintentional deaths overall. Males represented 56 percent of the deaths (n=49) and females 44 percent (n=38). However, due to small numbers, it is impossible to reliably determine whether or not this difference is significant. The age group most effected by injuries are those 65 years and older, accounting for 97 percent of all unintentional deaths (n=84). Eight deaths were among those 65 to 74 years of age, 31 deaths for those 75 through 84 and 45 deaths among those 85 years and older. Figure 2 illustrates the age distribution by year.

Figure 2. Unintentional Injury-Related Deaths, by Age Group, Sun City West, Arizona, 2012-2014 (n=87)

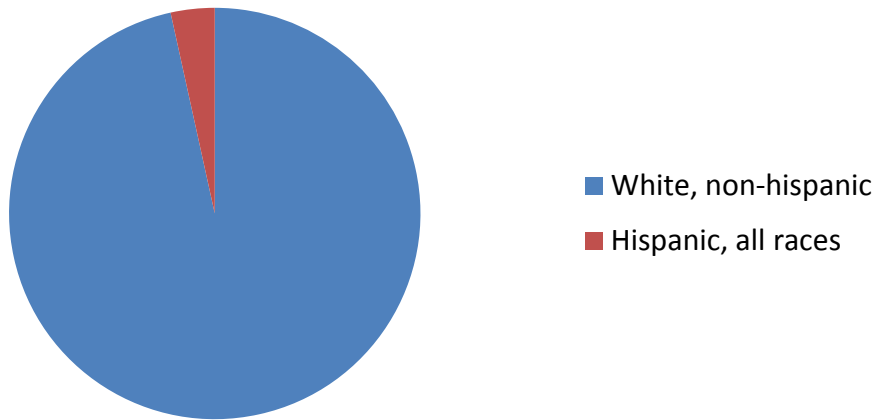


Falls among the elderly represented the greatest number of unintentional injury deaths in Sun City West (n=64, 74%), 2012-2014. Seventy-three percent of the deaths due to falls occurred in the residential home (n=47) and an additional 21 percent occurred in public places away from the home (n=13). Suffocation and motor vehicle traffic crashes accounted for an additional 15 percent of the deaths (n=7 and n=6 respectively). Table 1 lists the leading causes of unintentional injury-related deaths in Sun City West. The numbers for suffocation and motor vehicle traffic crashes were too small to list individually by year, but were listed as notable causes during the 3-year time frame.

Table 1. Leading Causes of Unintentional Injury-related death, Sun City West 2012-2014

Cause	2012	2013	2014	Total
Fall	16	26	22	64
Suffocation	*	*	*	7
Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes	*	*	*	6
Other	*	*	*	10
Total	21	34	32	87

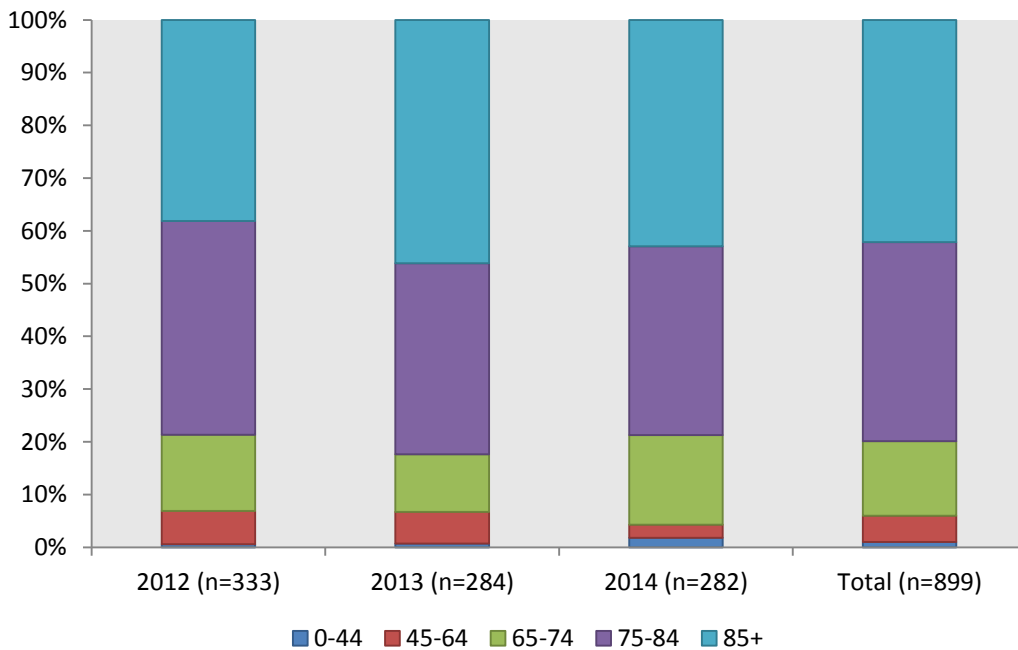
Figure 3. Unintentional Injury-Related Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Sun City West, Arizona, 2012-2014 (n=87)



Unintentional Injury-related Inpatient Hospitalizations

Between 2012 and 2014 there were 899 unintentional injury-related inpatient hospitalizations among Sun City West residents. Females accounted for 66 percent of the total injury-related hospitalizations (n=593) and males composed the additional 34 percent (n=306). White, non-Hispanics made up 97 percent of the hospitalizations (n=873) and residents 65 years and older had the highest incidence of hospitalizations (94%, n=845).

Figure 4. Unintentional Injury-Related Inpatient Hospitalizations among Sun City West Residents by Age Group and Year, 2012-2013 (n=899)



Falls were the most common cause of unintentional injuries among Sun City West residents accounting for 84 percent of the injury-related inpatient hospitalizations (n=752). Table 2 illustrates the causes of unintentional injury-related hospitalizations among residents by year.

Table 2. Leading causes of Unintentional Injury-Related Inpatient Hospitalizations among Sun City West residents, Arizona 2012-2014 (n=899)

Cause	2012	2013	2014	Total
Falls	276	238	238	752
Motor Vehicle Traffic	14	17	11	42
Other/Unspecified	43	29	33	105
Total	33	284	282	899

Falls

Females accounted for 66 percent of unintentional fall-related hospitalizations (n=509) and males composed the additional 34 percent (n=243). One hundred percent of the fall-related hospitalizations occurred among individuals 65 and older (n=752).

For 34 percent of the unintentional fall-related hospitalizations information regarding contributing event was not specified in the hospital discharge database (n=261). Table 3 shows the number of in-patient hospitalizations due to falls by contributing event. Due to small numbers, only two contributing factors were listed. Falls due to slipping, tripping or stumbling accounted for 52 percent of the total fall hospitalizations (n=394). Additional contributing factors include falls from ladders, chairs, wheelchairs and from stairs or steps.

Table 3. Inpatient Hospitalizations due to Unintentional Falls by Contributing Event, Sun City West, Arizona 2012-2014 (n=752)

Contributing Event	2012	2013	2014	Total
Slipping, tripping, stumbling	146	125	123	394
From Bed	11	8	10	29
Other	119	105	105	329
Total	276	238	238	752

Non-Fatal Emergency Department Visits

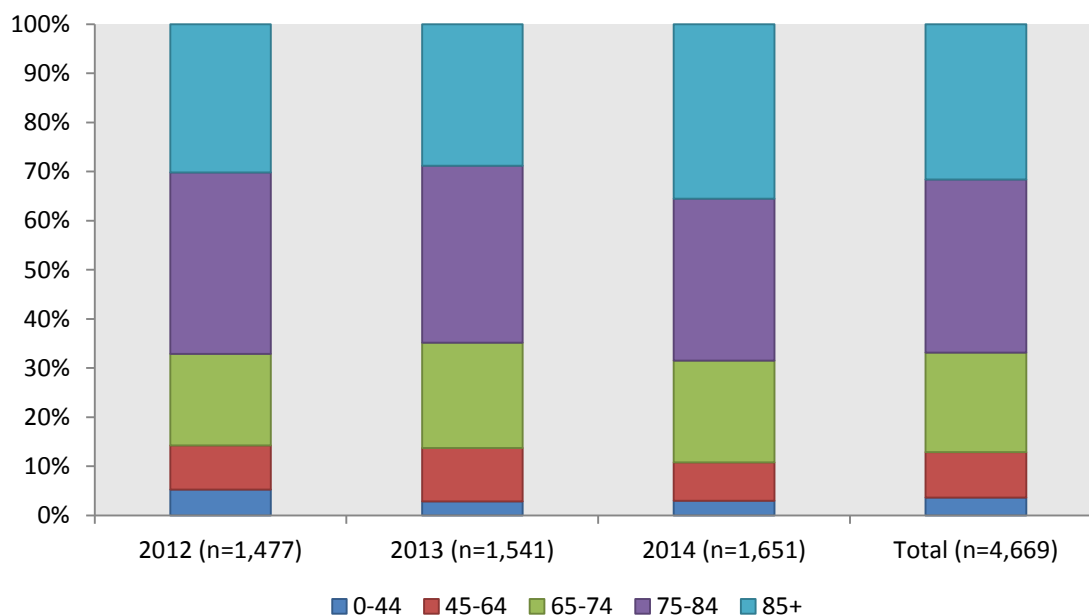
In 2012, there were 1,477 unintentional injury-related emergency department visits among Sun City West residents. Fifty-nine percent of emergency department visits were among females (n=874), and 41 percent were male (n=603). White, non-Hispanic residents had the highest incidence of hospitalization with 97 percent (n=1,434). Eighty-six percent of the emergency department visits were among those 65 years and older (n=1,266).

In 2013, there were 1,541 unintentional injury-related emergency department visits among Sun City West residents. Sixty-one percent of emergency department visits were among females (n=940), and 39 percent were male (n=601). White, non-Hispanic residents had the highest incidence of hospitalization with 97 percent (n=1,500). Eighty-six percent of the emergency department visits were among those 65 years and older (n=1,329).

In 2014, there were 1,651 unintentional injury-related emergency department visits among Sun City West residents. Sixty-one percent of emergency department visits were among females (n=997), and 39 percent were male (n=654). White, non-Hispanic residents had the highest incidence of hospitalization with 97 percent (n=1,607). Eighty-eight percent of the emergency department visits were among those 65 years and older (n=1,455).

Figure 5 below shows the age distribution by year. The age distribution is similar among emergency department visits compared to hospitalizations (shown in Figure 4). As with the deaths and inpatient hospitalizations, the highest percentage of is among residents 65 and older.

Figure 5. Unintentional Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits among Sun City West Residents by Age Group and Year, 2012-2014 (n=4,669)



The most common causes of unintentional injury-related emergency department visits were falls (63 percent, n=2,931). Table 4 illustrates the causes of unintentional injury-related emergency department visits among residents of Sun City West by year.

Table 4. Causes of Non-Fatal Unintentional Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits among Sun City West residents, Arizona 2012-2014

Cause	2012	2013	2014	Total
Falls	892	928	1,111	2,931
Overexertion	109	106	90	305
Struck by/Against	100	108	91	299
Motor Vehicle Traffic	99	99	78	276
Cut/Pierce	76	81	60	217
Nature/Environmental	31	37	36	104
Other/Unspecified	170	182	185	537
Total	1,477	1,541	1,651	4,669

Falls

There were 2,931 unintentional fall-related emergency department visits in 2012-2014. Females accounted for 64 percent of the visits (n=1,866) and males composed the additional 36 percent (n=1,065). From 2012-2014, 93 percent of unintentional fall-related emergency department visits were among individuals 65 years and older (n=2,710) and those 55 to 64 years comprised an additional five percent (n=136).

For 33 percent of the unintentional fall-related hospitalizations in 2012-2014, information regarding contributing event was not specified in the hospital discharge database (n=949). Table 5 shows the number of emergency department visits due to falls by contributing event by year.

Table 5. Non-Fatal Emergency Department Visits due to Unintentional Falls by Specified Contributing Event, Sun City West, Arizona 2012-2014 (n=2,931)

Contributing Event	2012	2013	2014	Total
Slipping, tripping, stumbling	495	545	641	1681
From Bed	48	41	46	135
On or from sidewalk/curb	20	16	18	54
From Chair	18	22	25	65
From wheelchair	14	13	20	47
Other/Unspecified	297	291	361	949
Total	892	928	1,111	2,931

Appendix A. Definitions of Fall Categories	
Cause	Definition
Fall from stairs/ladder	Includes falls on or from stairs, steps, and ladders. Escalators, sidewalk curbs, and scaffolding are included here.
Fall from wheelchair/furniture/bed	Includes falls from chairs, wheelchairs, beds, commodes, and other furniture
Fall resulting in striking against an object	Includes falls in which the person strikes an object, sharp or blunt.
Other fall	Falls specifying a contributing factor not already classified, and unspecified falls. May include falls from buildings, cliffs, or into holes.
Other fall from one level to another	Falls from a specified object, like furniture, not previously classified
Slipping, tripping, or stumbling	Includes falls from slipping, tripping or stumbling, such as slipping on a wet floor, or tripping over a household object.

Appendix B. Data Sources

Mortality data were selected from the Arizona Electronic Mortality database for deaths occurring in 2012-2014 to residents listing 'Sun City West, Arizona' as their city of residence.

Morbidity data were selected from the Arizona Hospital Discharge Database for patients discharged alive from private, acute-care, non-federal, non-psychiatric facilities in Arizona during 2012-2014 and listing ZIP Code 85375 as their ZIP Code of residence.