

Unintentional Injuries

Why Is This Important?

Unintentional injuries are those that occur without the intent of harm, either from the victim or someone else. Common unintentional injury causes are: falls, transportation-related, sports injuries, drownings, fire/burns, and poisonings.

In Canada, injuries are the leading killer of people under 45 years old.

Unintentional injuries account for over 200,000 hospitalizations and over three million emergency department visits every year in Canada.

Workplace injuries are also common. In 2013, Saskatchewan had the second highest lost time injury rate in the country.

Inequities in injury rates persist within the Saskatoon Health Region. It was reported that from 2004 to 2010, rates of injury hospitalizations were disproportionality higher in individuals living in the least advantaged areas of Saskatoon (See [Advancing health equity in health care](#)).

What Is Being Done?

[Safe Saskatchewan](#)

See other fact sheets in this series of injury [releases](#).

To Learn More:

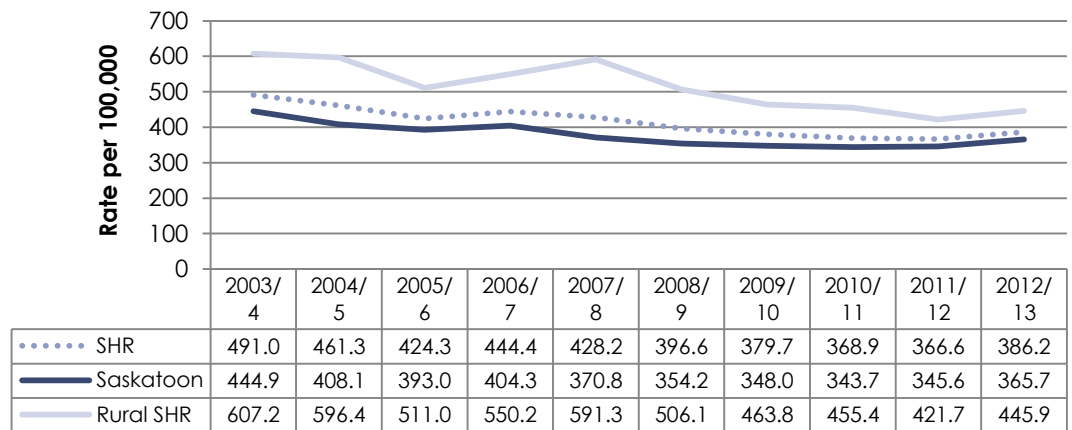
Chief Medical Health Officer's [Call to Action](#)

Highlights

Unintentional injury hospitalization rates have been decreasing over time.

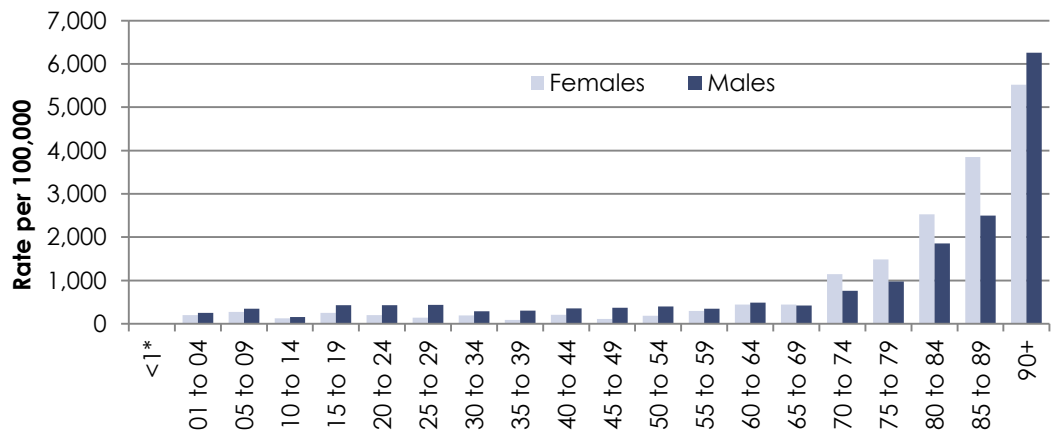
- In 2012/13, the number of unintentional injury hospitalizations was over 1,300, a rate of 386 per 100,000 (Figure 1). Unintentional injury hospitalizations decreased 21% between 2003/04 and 2012/13.
- Unintentional injury hospitalization rates for residents living in rural areas of the Region were significantly higher every year compared to those living in Saskatoon (Figure 1).
- Unintentional injury hospitalization rates varied by age and sex. Males had higher injury rates in every age group up to 65 years old. For those 65 years and older, females had higher injury rates. (Figure 2).
- Unintentional injury hospitalization rates vary by sub-group. Click [here](#) to see rates by geographic area, socio-economic status and workplace.

Figure 1: Age Sex Standardized Unintentional Injury Hospitalization Rates, Saskatoon Health Region, 2003/04 to 2012/13



Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Health

Figure 2: Unintentional Injury Hospitalization Rates, Age Group and Sex, Saskatoon Health Region, 2012/13



* Not reportable due to small cell size.

Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Health