

# Seniors' Injuries in Alberta



**An injury-free Alberta  
in which to live, work and play.**



Alberta Centre for

**INJURY**  
Control & Research



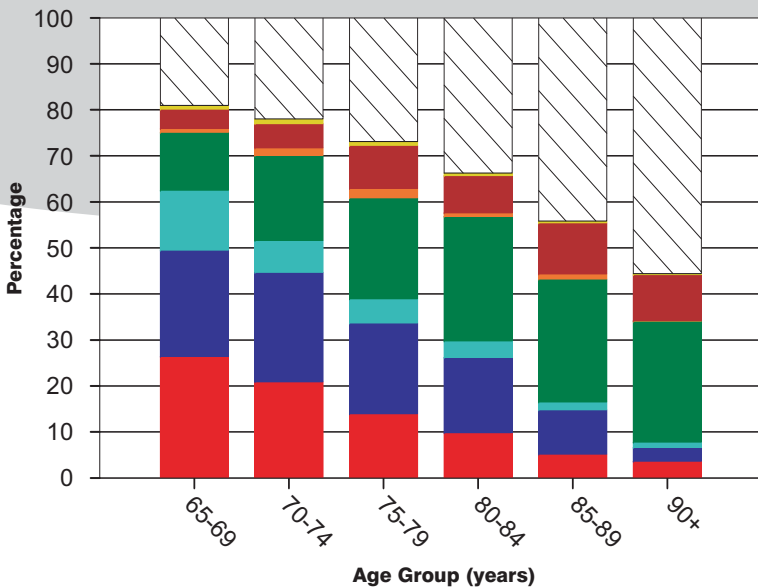
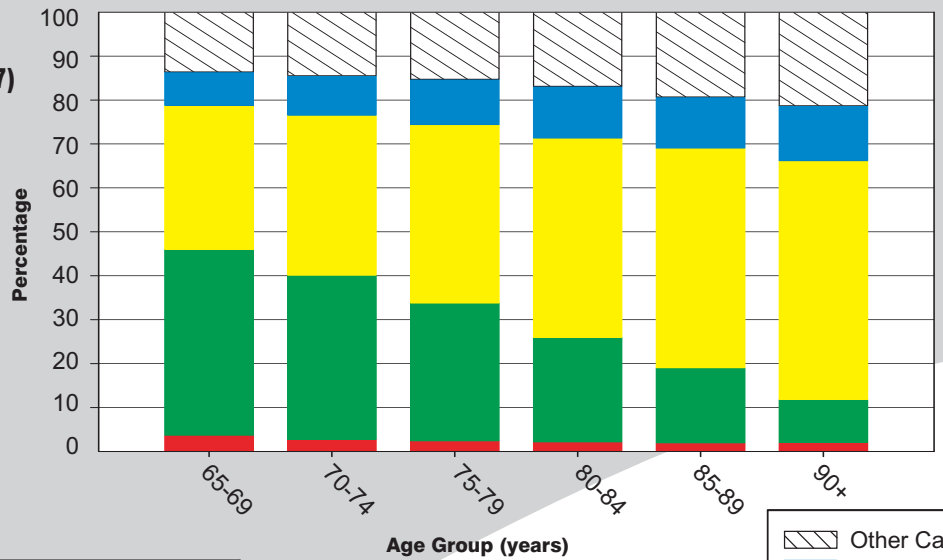
SCHOOL OF  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

**Government of Alberta** ■  
Health and Wellness

# Deaths-All Causes (2007)

- Cancer is the leading cause of death for Alberta seniors between 65 and 74 years of age.
- Circulatory diseases were the leading cause of death for those 75 years of age and older.

Source: Vital Statistics

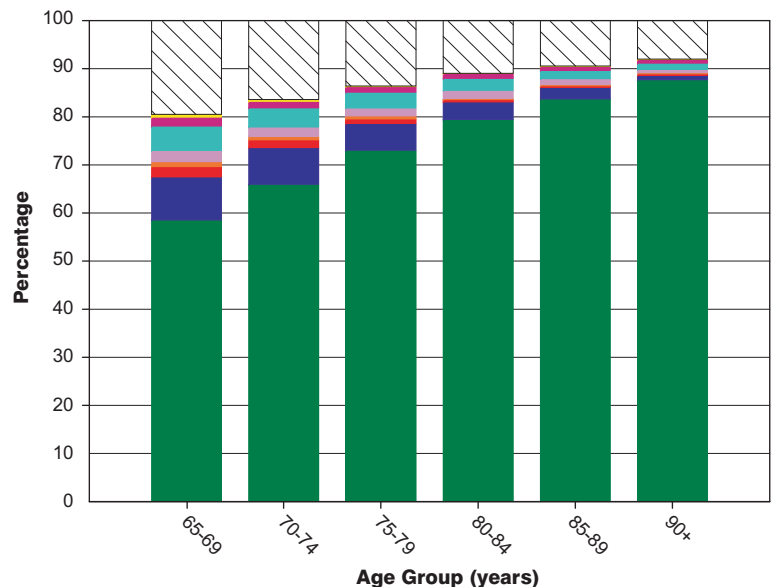


# Injury Deaths (1999-2008)

- Suicides were the leading cause of injury death for seniors between 65 and 69 years of age.
- Motor vehicle collisions were the leading cause of injury death for seniors between 70 and 79 years of age.
- Falls were the leading cause of injury death for seniors 80 years of age and older.

# Injury Hospital Admissions (1999-2008)

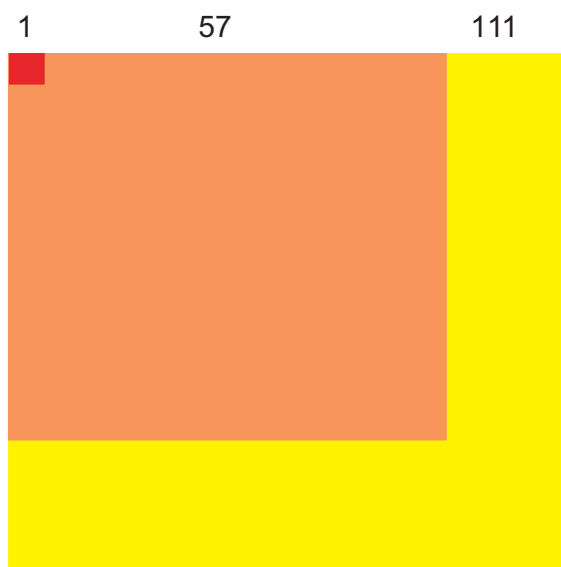
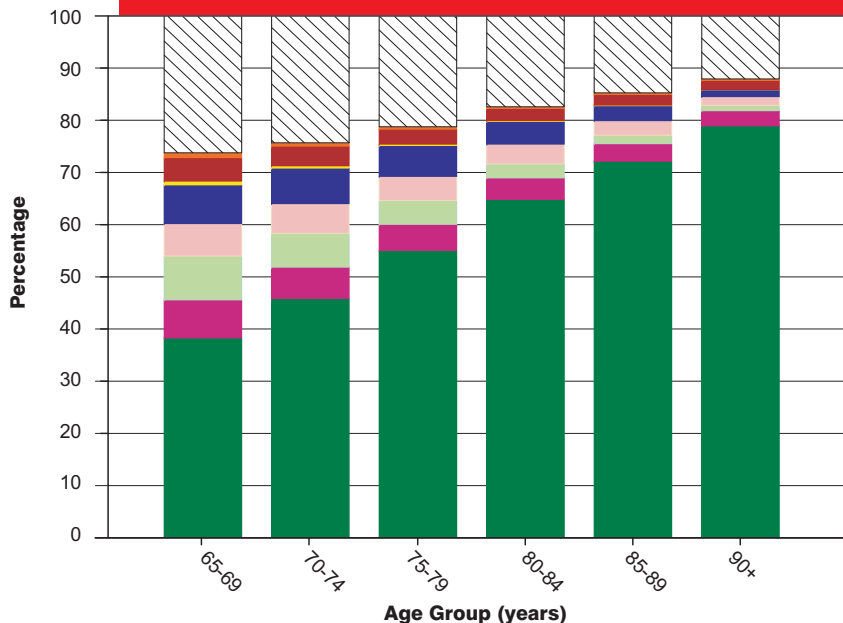
- Fall-related hospital admissions were the leading cause of injury admissions for seniors.
- Fall-related hospital admissions accounted for 76 per cent of injury admissions for seniors.
- The percentage of fall-related hospital admissions increased with age.



# Injury Emergency Department Visits (1999-2008)

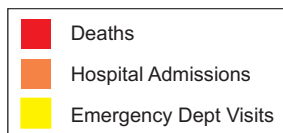
(1999-2008)

- Fall-related emergency department visits were the leading cause of injury visits for seniors.
- Fall-related emergency department visits accounted for 55 per cent of injury visits for seniors.
- The percentage of fall-related emergency department visits increased with age.



## Injuries (1999-2008)

- For every injury death, there were 57 injury hospital admissions and 111 emergency department visits for seniors 65 years of age and older.



## Gender Breakdown by Mechanism of Injury

### Overall Injuries (seniors 65 years of age and older)

- Males accounted for - 57 per cent of injury deaths
- Females accounted for - 56 per cent of injury hospital admissions
- 57 per cent of injury emergency department visits

### Falls (seniors 65 years of age and older)

- Males accounted for - 53 per cent of fall-related deaths
- Females accounted for - 70 per cent of fall-related hospital admissions
- 67 per cent of fall-related emergency department visits

### Motor Vehicle Collisions (seniors 65 years of age and older)

- Males accounted for - 59 per cent of motor vehicle-related deaths
- 51 per cent of motor vehicle-related hospital admissions
- Females accounted for - 51 per cent of motor vehicle-related emergency department visits

# Did You Know?.... For Seniors in Alberta in 2008

## Injuries

- 421 deaths
- 19,495 hospital admissions
- 42,123 emergency department visits

## Motor Vehicle Collisions

- 55 deaths
- 414 hospital admissions
- 1,689 emergency department visits

## Falls

- 105 deaths
- 7,219 hospital admissions, accounted for 77 per cent of injury admissions
- 19,414 emergency department visits, accounted for 57 per cent of injury visits

The ACICR is committed to advancing injury control in Alberta by promoting stakeholder collaboration, capacity building and evidence-based practice in the field of injury control and research.

ACICR believes in a population health perspective, where strategies will enhance the health and well-being of the overall population. ACICR provides leadership, initiative, influence, coordination and support for injury-related policies, programming, education, research across the province in order that stakeholders can fulfill their mandates of injury control.

The ACICR is a provincial centre within the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta and receives its core funding from Alberta Health and Wellness.

## Alberta Centre for Injury Control & Research School of Public Health

University of Alberta  
4075 RTF, 8308 - 114 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E1  
Phone: 780-492-6019  
Fax: 780-492-7154  
Website: [www.acicr.ualberta.ca](http://www.acicr.ualberta.ca)  
Email: [acicr@ualberta.ca](mailto:acicr@ualberta.ca)

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