HOW TO USE THE COLORADO HEALTH INFORMATION DATASET (COHID)
Data on injury deaths and hospitalizations
November 2011

COHID provides information on the numbers and rates for user-defined questions on a variety of health issues, using databases from the state health department. COHID can be found on the Web at http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/cohid/

Injury hospitalizations

1. From the main page, click on "**Injury Statistics**" on the left hand side of the page.

2. The next page shows two options: "Pick a Quick Report" or "Request a Customized Report".

3. "**Pick a Quick Report**" provides three types of standard reports:
   a. Major injury mechanisms for all ages combined
   b. Major injury mechanisms for standard age groups
   c. A detailed list of injury mechanisms for all ages combined
   Selection options are limited to year of hospitalization, gender and geographic area. The Quick Reports provide a quick overview of injury hospitalizations in a given area or year.

4. "**Request a Customized Report**" allows you to pick specific injury mechanisms, age groups, gender, geographic areas and other specifics regarding the injury hospitalization.
   a. Select a mechanism of injury. Each major category has subcategories that provide more detailed information. For example, under the major category of "Fall", you can select the subcategory of "Falls due to skiing".
   b. For transportation-related injuries, you need to make two additional selections "Transportation mode" and "Injured person type."
      i. "Transportation mode"
         1. "Motor vehicle traffic" means the injury involved a motor vehicle on a public roadway (street, highway, etc.)
         2. "Motor vehicle non-traffic" means the injury involved a motor vehicle NOT on a public roadway (for example, in a parking lot, driveway, private road, mountainside, etc.)
         3. "Other road vehicle crashes" means the injury involved some other type of vehicle (not a motor vehicle) (for example, a bicycle, an animal being ridden or an animal-drawn vehicle)
      ii. "Injured person type" = the person who was injured
         1. "Total motor vehicle occupant" includes both drivers and passengers
   See the table on the next page for recommendations on selecting the transportation mode and person type for different scenarios.

Injury Mechanism = Transportation

SCENARIO	TRANSPORTATION MODE	INJURED PERSON TYPE
Motor vehicle occupant injured on a street or highway	Motor vehicle traffic	Total motor vehicle occupant
Pedestrian struck in a driveway or parking lot	Motor vehicle non-traffic	Pedestrian
Pedestrian struck by a train	Railway	Pedestrian
Pedestrian struck by a bicyclist	Other road vehicle crashes*	Pedestrian
Motor vehicle occupant struck by a train	Railway	Total motor vehicle occupant
Off-road motorcyclist	Motor vehicle non-traffic	Total motorcyclist
Snowmobiler	Motor vehicle non-traffic	Snowmobile driver/passenger
Bicyclist (all scenarios)	All transportation	Pedal cyclist
Bicyclist struck by a car	Total motor vehicle	Pedal cyclist
Bicyclist hurt in a non-MV situation	Other road vehicle crashes	Pedal cyclist
Injured while riding a horse	Other road vehicle crashes	Rider of animal/occupant of animal-drawn vehicle**
Injured in a plane crash	Air and space transport***	Occupant of aircraft/spacecraft

*The number obtained is an overestimate since the transportation mode includes more than one type of transportation.

**The number obtained is an overestimate since the injured person type includes more than one type of person.

***The number obtained is an overestimate since this combination of transportation mode and injured person type would also include balloonists, hang-gliders, gliders or other types of air transportation.

    c. Decide if you want to know the number of hospitalizations that resulted in death. IMPORTANT: The number provided is NOT the total number of deaths due to that mechanism of injury. The number provided is the number who died while they were in the hospital. For most mechanisms of injury, only about 20% of deaths occur after a person has been admitted to the hospital. For the total number of injury deaths, use the "Death Statistics" module of COHID (described below).

    d. Decide if you want to know the number of hospitalizations that involved a traumatic brain injury.

    e. Select the years of data you want included.

    f. Select the person's characteristics (gender and age group). For a specific age group (for example children ages 0-8), select "Custom age" and the ages you want included.

    g. Select the geographic area. IMPORTANT: This is based on the county of residence of the person, not the county where the injury occurred.

A few things to keep in mind:

    1. The data presented are based on admission to an acute care hospital in Colorado. They do not include patients who are treated in an emergency department or doctor's office and then sent home (that is, who are not admitted as a hospital inpatient).

2. The number of hospitalizations per year is based on the date of discharge from the hospital, not on the date of admission.
3. "County" is based on county of residence of the person, not the county where the injury occurred.
4. "Colorado" tables include numbers for both occurrences and residents. Occurrences include all hospitalizations (whether or not a person was a resident of Colorado). Residents only include people who are residents of Colorado.
5. Regions are based on Regional EMS and Trauma Advisory Councils (RETACs). For a list of the counties in each RETAC, see http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/cohid/injurydata.html

Injury Deaths

1. From the main page, click on "Death statistics".
2. This module is very similar to the Injury Hospitalization module except:
   a. It also allows you to select race/ethnicity
   b. The mechanisms of injury are more limited. The broad categories are
      a. Injury Unintentional
      b. Injury Intentional
      c. Injury Undetermined

For both injury hospitalizations and deaths

1. Age-adjusted rates: This is a statistical adjustment to the rates that accounts for changes in the age composition in a population over time. Use this feature if you want to compare the same population over time or to compare rates for two different geographic regions (for example, comparing a county's rate to the state rate, or comparing rates between two different counties).

2. 95% Lower limit/Upper limit: These values show the range within which the true rate exists. The smaller the number of events, the larger the range will be. Use the lower and upper limits to identify statistically significant difference between rates. For example if the LL/UL of a given rate for County A is 1.0 – 5.0 and the LL/UL for County B is 3.0 – 6.0, the rates of the two counties would not be statistically different since the ranges overlap. However if the LL/UL of County A is 1.0 – 5.0 and the LL/UL for County B is 6.0 – 9.0, then the rates would be statistically different (there is no overlap in the ranges). The rate for County B is statistically higher than the rate for County A.

For more information regarding the use of COHID for injury data, please contact:

Holly Hedegaard, MD, MSPH

EMS and Trauma Data Program
Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment
(303) 692-3005
holly.hedegaard@state.co.us