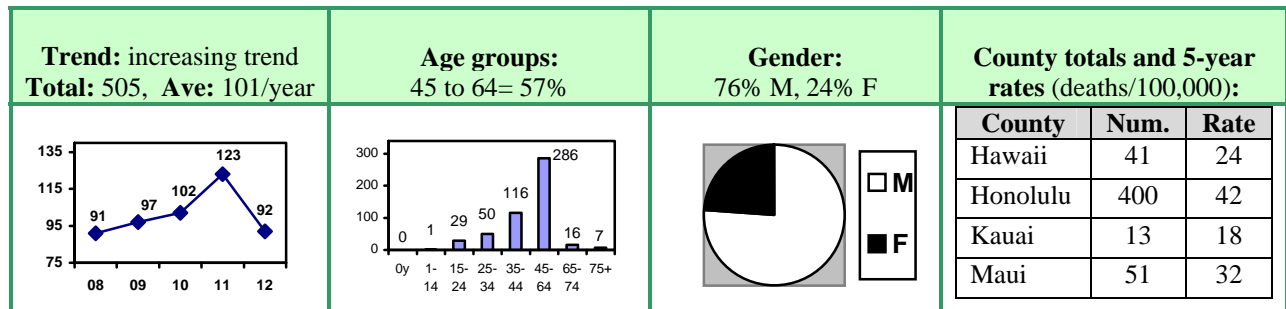


Poisonings

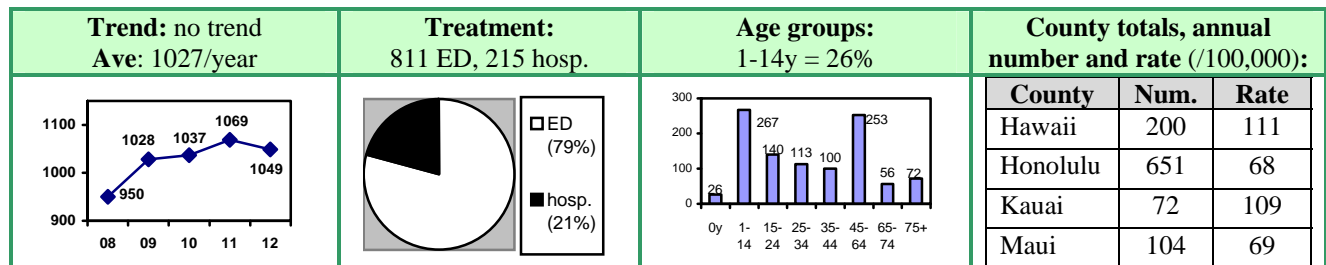
Fatal injuries

There was an increasing trend in the annual number of unintentional poisonings over the 2007 to 2011 period, followed by a low total in 2012. (There was no consistent trend in the number of poisonings of undetermined intent over this period.) Victim age was narrowly distributed, as 57% were in the 45 to 64 year age range. Males comprised 76% of the victims. Most (79%) of the victims were poisoned on Oahu, and the highest fatality rates were computed for Honolulu County residents. Inclusion of poisonings of undetermined intent resulted in significantly lower rates among Oahu residents compared to Neighbor Island residents, however, so these comparisons are unreliable. Drugs caused almost all (93%) of the poisonings, including 37% from “sedative-hypnotic and psychotropic drugs”, and 29% from “narcotics and hallucinogens”.



Nonfatal injuries

There were more than 1000 nonfatal poisonings year in the state, with no consistent trend in the annual number. Gender was nearly equally distributed with 52% male patients. Patient age was broadly distributed, although one-quarter (26%) were 1 to 14 years of age. Seniors comprised only 12% of all patients, but 24% of those who were hospitalized. Rates of ED visits were highest by far for residents under 5 years of age, nearly 5 times higher than the rate for all other age groups. Residents of Honolulu and Maui counties had comparable injury rates, significantly lower than the rates for residents of Hawaii and Kauai counties.



Patients were hospitalized for slightly over 3 days on average, with nearly \$19,000 in medical charges. Most (76%) of the poisonings were caused by drugs or medicinal substances, including 92% of those that required hospitalization. Narcotics caused 21% of the hospitalizations, tranquilizers 14%, aromatic analgesics (which include acetaminophen, or Tylenol) 7%, and cardiovascular agents 7%.