



Profile of injury hospitalisations (2001-2003) by age & ethnic group

This factsheet presents data on injury hospitalisations by age-group and three ethnic groupings: Maori, Pacific, New Zealand (NZ) European/Other (Pakeha and all other ethnic groups). The data were sourced from the NZ Health Information Service for the years 2001-2003. Between 2001 and 2003, 131,648 New Zealanders were hospitalised overnight for treatment of an injury. Seventy-eight percent of the hospitalisations were for NZ European/Other (n=102,883), 16% were Maori (n=21,251), and 6% were Pacific (n=7,514).

Maori had the highest age-standardised rate of hospitalised injury (1,027 per 100,000 person years), followed by Pacific (824 per 100,000 person years) and New Zealand European/Other (797 per 100,000 person years). Falls were the leading cause of injury hospitalisations across all ethnicities. Motor vehicle crashes and cutting/piercing were the next cause of injury hospitalisations across all ethnicities.

Leading causes of injury hospitalisations by age and ethnic group.

All ages

Maori (n=21251)		NZ European/Other (n=102883)		Pacific (n=7514)	
Falls	28%	Falls	42%	Falls	29%
Cutting & piercing	11%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	9%	Cutting and piercing	13%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	11%	Cutting and piercing	7%	Assault	9%
Assault	9%	Attempted suicide	7%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	9%
Striking an object or person	6%	Striking an object or person	4%	Striking an object or person	7%

0-4 years

Maori (n=2618)		NZ European/Other (n=5093)		Pacific (n=1121)	
Falls	37%	Falls	42%	Falls	29%
Caught between objects	10%	Unintentional poisoning	12%	Caught between objects	19%
Unintentional poisoning	8%	Caught between objects	8%	Scalding from hot liquids & vapours	8%
Scalding from hot liquids & vapours	5%	Suffocation	5%	Cutting and piercing	6%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	5%	Scalding from hot liquids & vapours	5%	Unintentional poisoning	6%

5-14 years

Maori (n=4989)		NZ European/Other (n=13742)		Pacific (n=1702)	
Falls	46%	Falls	49%	Falls	47%
Cutting & piercing	9%	Cycle crashes	8%	Cutting and piercing	13%
Cycle crashes	7%	Striking an object or person	7%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	6%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	6%	Cutting and piercing	6%	Striking an object or person	6%
Striking an object or person	6%	Non-road transport crashes	6%	Cycle crashes	5%

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15-24 years

Maori (n=4732)		NZ European/Other (n=15060)		Pacific (n=1696)	
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	16%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	17%	Falls	20%
Cutting & piercing	15%	Falls	16%	Assault	17%
Assault	15%	Attempted suicide	13%	Cutting and piercing	14%
Falls	14%	Cutting and piercing	9%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	12%
Attempted suicide	9%	Striking an object or person	7%	Striking an object or person	10%

25-39 years

Maori (n=5181)		NZ European/Other (n=17648)		Pacific (n=1724)	
Falls	17%	Falls	17%	Falls	19%
Assault	14%	Attempted suicide	14%	Cutting and piercing	16%
Cutting & piercing	14%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	12%	Assault	14%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	12%	Cutting and piercing	10%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	9%
Attempted suicide	9%	Assault	6%	Striking an object or person	9%

40-59 years


Maori (n=2715)		NZ European/Other (n=19139)		Pacific (n=895)	
Falls	23%	Falls	28%	Falls	21%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	14%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	11%	Cutting and piercing	15%
Cutting & piercing	10%	Attempted suicide	10%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	13%
Assault	10%	Cutting and piercing	10%	Assault	10%
Attempted suicide	7%	Overexertion/strenuous movements	5%	Incidents involving machinery	10%


60-74 years

Maori (n=718)		NZ European/Other (n=10901)		Pacific (n=245)	
Falls	41%	Falls	55%	Falls	44%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	15%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	8%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	12%
Cutting & piercing	7%	Overexertion/strenuous movements	7%	Cutting and piercing	10%
Overexertion/strenuous movements	6%	Cutting and piercing	5%	Unintentional poisoning	6%
Unintentional poisoning	4%	Others/unspecified	3%	Others/unspecified	5%

75+ years

Maori (n=298)		NZ European/Other (n=21300)		Pacific (n=131)	
Falls	73%	Falls	82%	Falls	70%
Motor vehicle crash on a public road	7%	Motor vehicle crash on a public road	4%	Unintentional poisoning	8%
Others/unspecified	4%	Overexertion/strenuous movements	3%	Others/unspecified	6%
				Motor vehicle crash on a public road	5%

 Falls were the leading cause of injury hospitalisations across most age-groups and within each ethnic group.

 The percentage of fall-related injuries increases significantly in the 60-74 and 75+ age groups across all ethnicities.

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