

BURDEN OF INJURY IN WA

Burden of disease analysis assists in quantifying the fatal and non-fatal burden of injury in Western Australia (WA). The disability-adjusted life years (DALY) measure represents years of healthy life lost due to injury, either through premature death (years of life lost, YLL) or living with an injury (years lived with disability, YLD).

In 2018, injury contributed to 52,018 DALY, making it the fifth highest cause of burden in WA. The majority of this burden was due to premature death (44,778 YLL, 86% of DALY) rather than living with an injury (7,239 YLD, 14% of DALY). In the same year, injury contributed to 418,206 DALY nationally.

The rate of injury burden in WA (20.1 DALY per 1,000 people) was higher than the Australian average (16.6 DALY per 1,000 people) making it the second highest in country after the Northern Territory.

Some groups in the community are at higher risk than others. Males, older adults, Aboriginal peoples and regional residents are more likely to experience burden as a result of injury. Alcohol use and illicit drug use were the leading modifiable risk factors for injury in WA, contributing to 20% (10,310 DALY) and 15% (7,752 DALY) of the total burden, respectively.

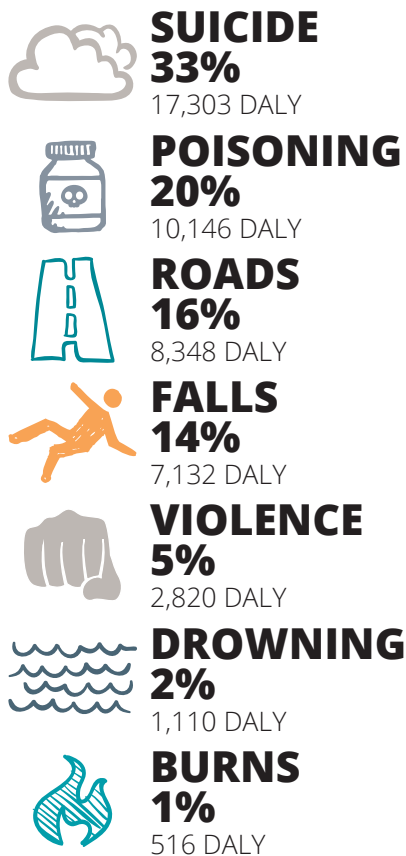


Figure 1. WA total injury burden (DALY) number and proportion (%) by injury topic, 2018.

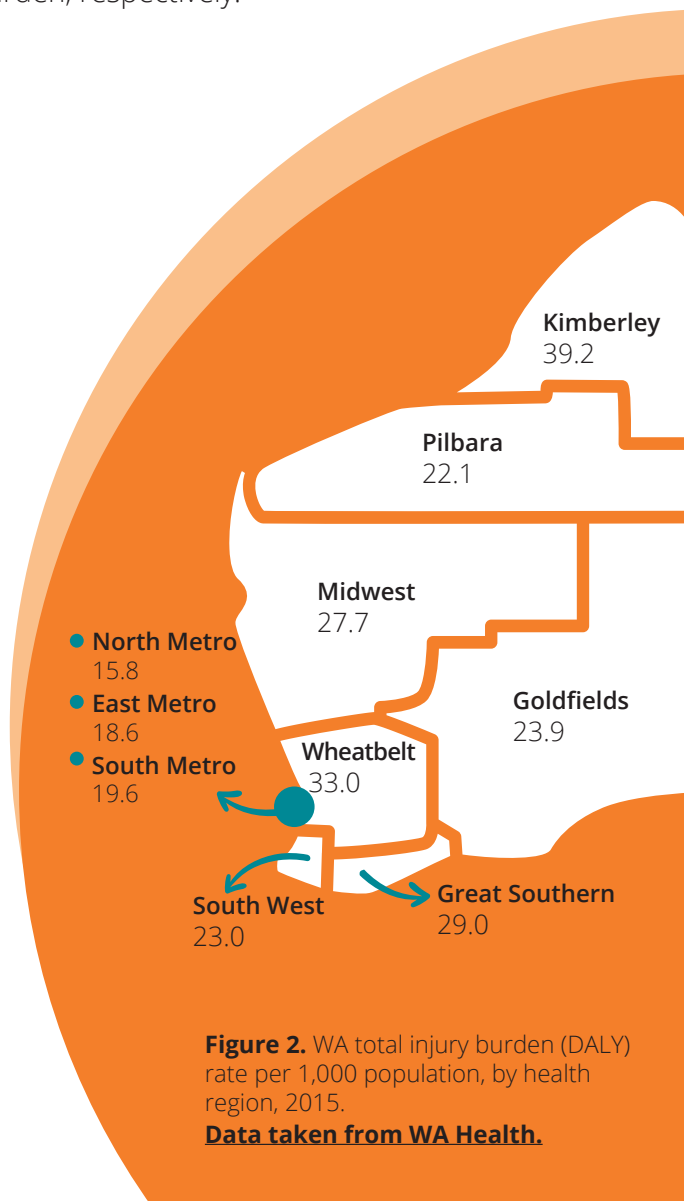


Figure 2. WA total injury burden (DALY) rate per 1,000 population, by health region, 2015.

Data taken from WA Health.

IN 2018, WA EXPERIENCED THE **SECOND HIGHEST RATE OF INJURY BURDEN IN AUSTRALIA.**

ALCOHOL AND ILLICIT DRUG USE WERE THE LEADING MODIFIABLE RISK FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO WA'S INJURY BURDEN.

ABORIGINAL PEOPLE EXPERIENCED DALY 3 TIMES HIGHER THAN NON-ABORIGINAL PEOPLE

(57 PER 1,000 POPULATION, COMPARED TO 19).

INJURY BURDEN WAS TWICE AS HIGH AMONG MALES

(28 PER 1,000 PEOPLE)

COMPARED TO FEMALES

(12 PER 1,000 PEOPLE).

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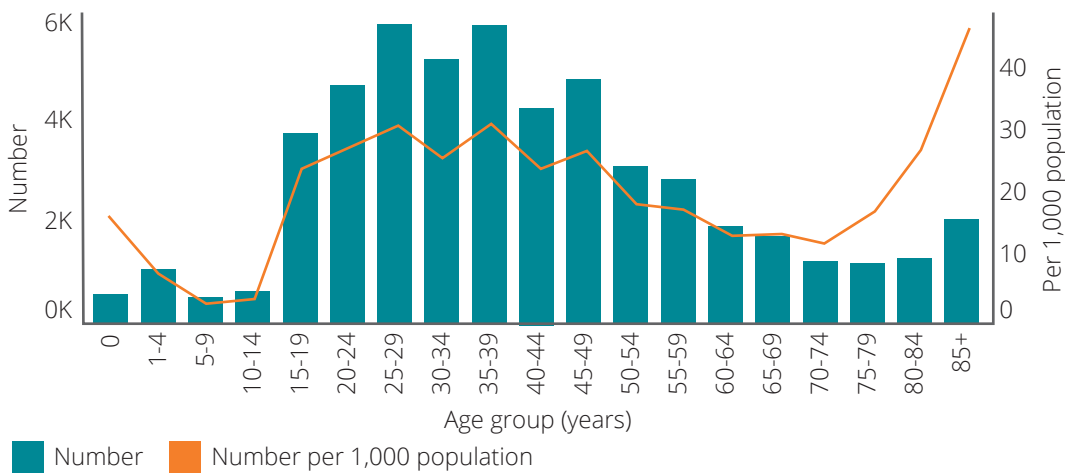


Figure 3. WA total injury burden (DALY) number and rate per 1,000 population, by age groups, 2018.

	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65-84	85+
1	Homicide and violence (27%)	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries (41%)	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries (39%)	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries (37%)	Falls (55%)	Falls (90%)
2	Falls (10%)	Road traffic injuries – motor vehicle occupants (23%)	Poisoning (external cause) (28%)	Poisoning (external cause) (26%)	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries (16%)	Road traffic injuries – motor vehicle occupants (3%)
3	Road traffic injuries – motor vehicle occupants (10%)	Poisoning (external cause) (9%)	Road traffic injuries – motor vehicle occupants (10%)	Falls (10%)	Poisoning (external cause) (6%)	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries (3%)
4	Drowning (9%)	Road traffic injuries - pedestrians (4%)	Homicide and violence (5%)	Road traffic injuries – motor vehicle occupants (8%)	Road traffic injuries – motor vehicle occupants (4%)	Poisoning (external cause) (0.7%)
5	Road traffic injuries - pedestrians (6%)	Drowning (4%)	Road traffic injuries – motorcyclist (4%)	Homicide and violence (5%)	Homicide and violence (3%)	Road traffic injuries - pedestrians (0.3%)

Figure 4. WA leading five causes of total injury burden (proportion %), by age groups, 2018. Note: 'Other land transport injuries,' 'other unintentional injuries' and 'all other external causes of injury' have been excluded.



**THE
TOTAL
COST OF
INJURY
IN 2018-19
WAS
OVER
ONE
BILLION
DOLLARS**



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INJURY TYPE		COST (AUD, million)
	Falls	\$ 408
	Road traffic injury (Motor vehicle occupants)	\$ 54
	Homicide and violence	\$ 49
	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	\$ 29
	Road traffic injury (Motorcyclists)	\$ 18
	Fire, burns and scalds	\$ 18
	Road traffic injury (Pedal cyclists)	\$ 14
	Poisoning	\$ 13
	Road traffic injury (Pedestrians)	\$ 6
	Drowning	\$ 1
	All other injuries	\$ 466
Total		\$ 1,075

Figure 5. Estimated WA healthcare expenditure, by injury topic, 2018-19.

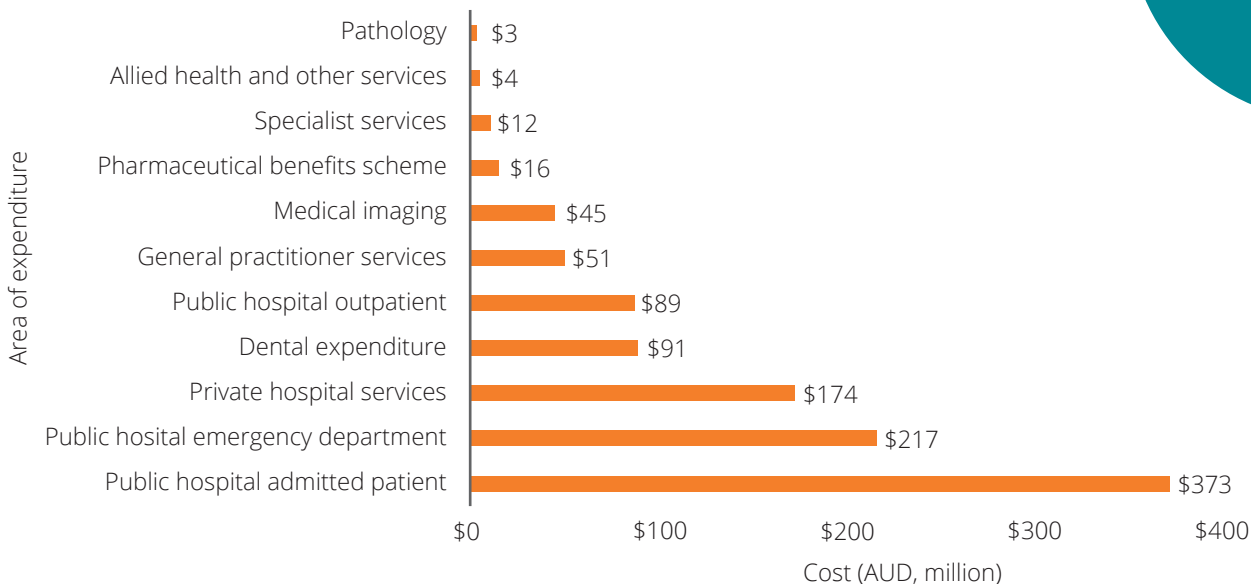


Figure 6. Estimated WA healthcare expenditure on injuries by area of expenditure, 2018-19

Data notes:

1. The data included in this resource was supplied by the Epidemiology Directorate and extracted from the Australian Burden of Disease Study 2018, available from; <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/burden-of-disease/abds-2018-interactive-data-disease-burden/contents/state-and-territory-estimates>
2. Further information regarding the methodology behind the estimated cost figures is available from; <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/health-welfare-expenditure/disease-expenditure-australia/contents/summary>
3. Please note that the majority of the resource includes 2018 calendar year data, unless otherwise outlined such as in Figures 2, 5 and 6.



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This resource was produced in collaboration between Injury Matters and the WA Department of Health's Epidemiology Directorate.