



The Burden of Falls in Vermont

Scope of Falls Injury

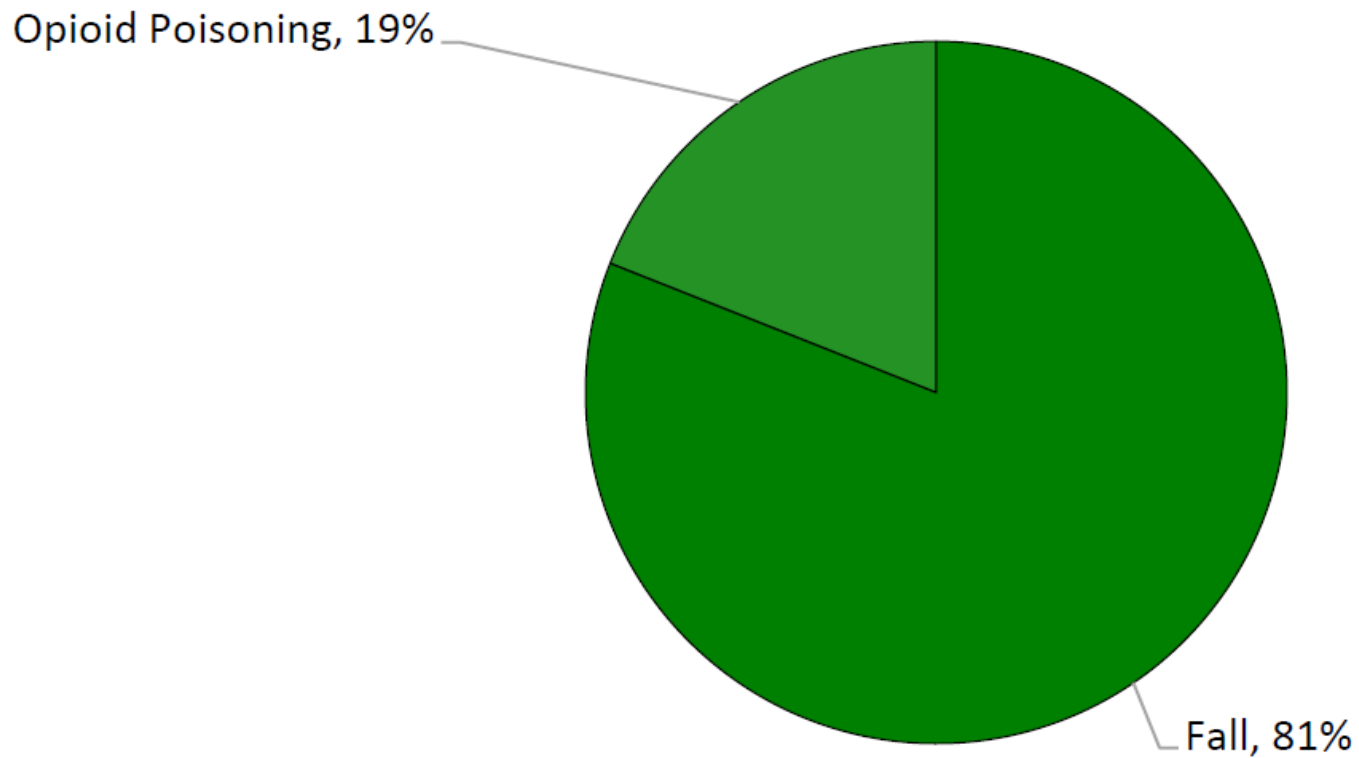
Fall Injury Facts:



- ❑ Vermont is ranked 41st in the nation for its high rate of preventable falls among those over age 65.
- ❑ Falls are the number one call to EMS providers and account for 43% or (nearly half) of all unintentional injury deaths in Vermont.
- ❑ Falls are the leading cause of injury death in Vermont at 31%, whereas poisonings (including drug overdose) account for 19% of all injury deaths.

Falls compared to Opiate Deaths

**Unintentional Fall and Opiate Poisoning Deaths by Cause
Vermont Residents, 2010-2014**



Fall Injury Facts:



- ❑ 90% of those who fall are age 65 or older.
- ❑ According to the CDC, an average hospital cost for a fall injury is \$30,000.
- ❑ In 2013, falls among older adults cost the U.S. health care system \$34 billion in direct medical costs.
- ❑ There is currently no dedicated funding in Vermont to work on falls prevention.

What is a Burden Document?

□ Contents:

- ▣ Summarizes the most current available information and data
- ▣ Highlights specific groups of high risk
- ▣ Identify where gaps in data exist
- ▣ Guide efforts in prevention

□ Goals of Injury Burden Document:

- ▣ To better understand the scope and extent of injury in Vermont and inform the State Health Assessment
- ▣ To set data driven injury prevention priorities
- ▣ To appropriately allocate resources

Data Sources



- ❑ Vermont Vital Statistics
- ❑ Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Dataset
- ❑ The Statewide Incident Reporting Network (SIREN)
- ❑ The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Leading Causes of Injury-Related Death, by Age Group and Count, 2010-2014

Rank	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
1	Suffocation 15	Motor Vehicle Traffic 73	Poisoning 134	Firearm 115	Falls 615	Falls 687
2	Motor Vehicle Traffic 8	Firearm 34	Motor Vehicle Traffic 76	Poisoning 111	Firearm 77	Motor Vehicle Traffic 317
3	Drowning 6	Suffocation 24	Firearm 72	Motor Vehicle Traffic 86	Motor Vehicle Traffic 74	Firearm 303
4	Six Tied -	Poisoning 23	Suffocation 35	Falls 63	Suffocation 39	Poisoning 285
5	Five Tied -	Drowning 7	Poisoning 29	Poisoning 57	Poisoning 17	Suffocation 102

Data Source: Vermont Vital Statistics

Counts less than 6 are suppressed.

White cells indicate deaths due to unintentional injuries; Green coloring indicates deaths by suicide

Leading Causes of Injury-Related Hospitalization, by Age Group and Count, 2010-2014

Rank	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
1	Falls 159	Poisoning 284	Poisoning 623	Falls 1,719	Falls 7,229	Falls 9,669
2	Poisoning 63	Motor Vehicle Traffic 224	Falls 399*	Poisoning 478*	Poisoning 284*	Poisoning 1,486*
3	Motor Vehicle, Other 44*	Falls 163	Motor Vehicle Traffic 262	Poisoning 306	Motor Vehicle Traffic 217	Motor Vehicle Traffic 1,024
4	Struck by/against 33	Motor Vehicle, Other 82*	Poisoning 194	Motor Vehicle Traffic 299	Struck by/against 129	Poisoning 923
5	2 Tied** 22	Poisoning 76	Motor Vehicle, Other 123	Motor Vehicle, Other 182	Overexertion 116	Motor Vehicle, Other 528


Data Source: Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Dataset

* where "other" would have replaced this cause

** Motor Vehicle Traffic, Intentional Poisoning

White cells indicate unintentional injuries; Green coloring indicates intentional injuries (including self-inflicted)

Leading Causes of Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits, 2010-2014

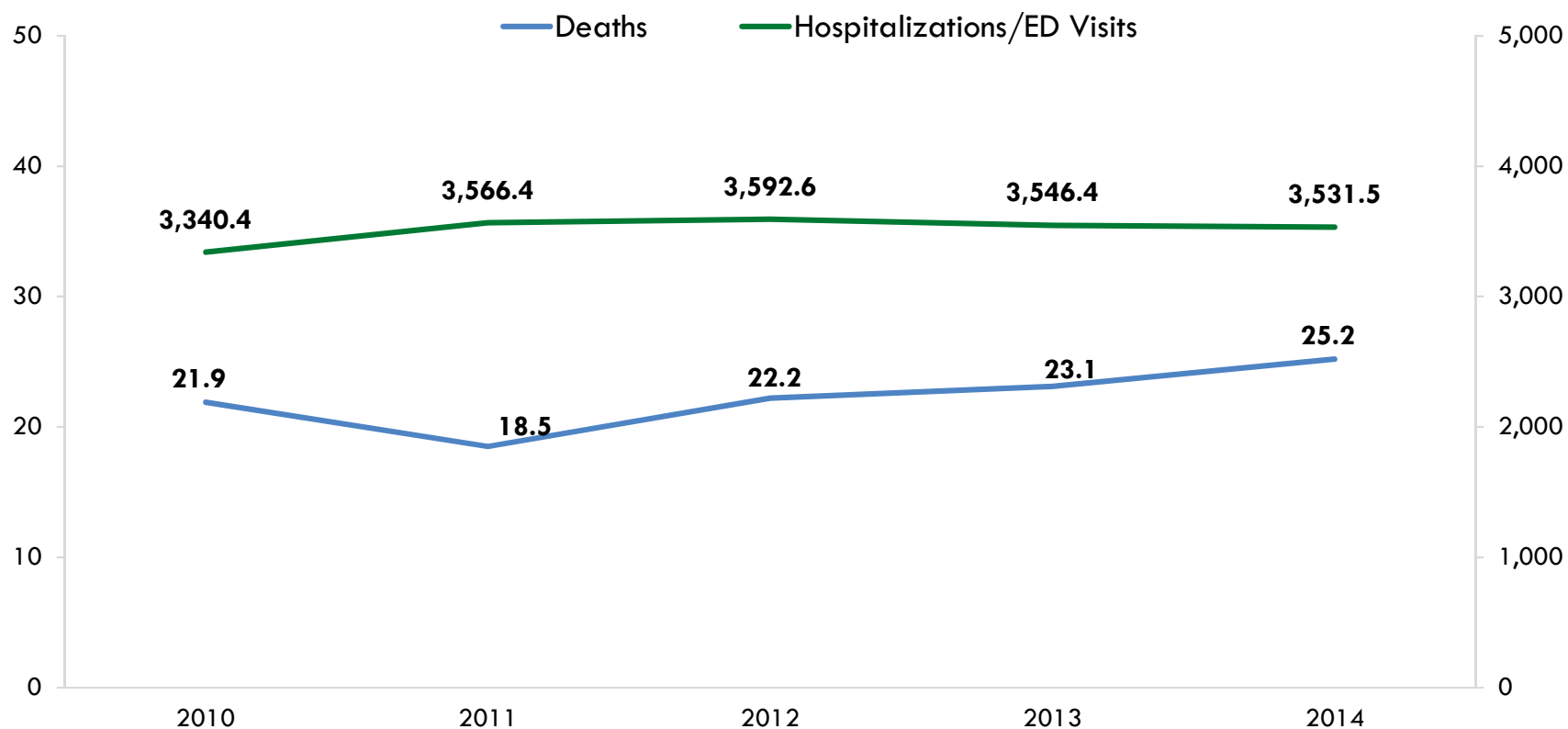


Rank	0-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65+	Total
1	Falls 20,783	Falls 13,560	Falls 19,547	Falls 21,474	Falls 24,925	Falls 100,299
2	Struck by/against 11,734	Struck by/against 11,144	Overexertion 13,366	Overexertion 7,896	Overexertion 2,525*	Struck by/against 39,348
3	Overexertion 4,303*	Overexertion 7,965	Cut/Pierce 9,918	Cut/Pierce 7,229	Cut/Pierce 2,259	Overexertion 36,056
4	Cut/Pierce 4,143	Cut/Pierce 6,507	Struck by/against 9,344	Struck by/against 5,080*	Bites/Stings 2,117	Cut/Pierce 30,053
5	Bites/Stings 3,657	Motor Vehicle Traffic 6,457	Motor Vehicle Traffic 6,863*	Bites/Stings 4,010	Struck by/against 2,046	Motor Vehicle Traffic 20,443*

Data Source: Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Dataset
 All leading causes by age group are of unintentional intent
 * where "other" would have replaced this cause

Unintentional Falls

Unintentional Fall-related Death and Hospitalization/ED Visit Rates per 100,000, 2010-2014

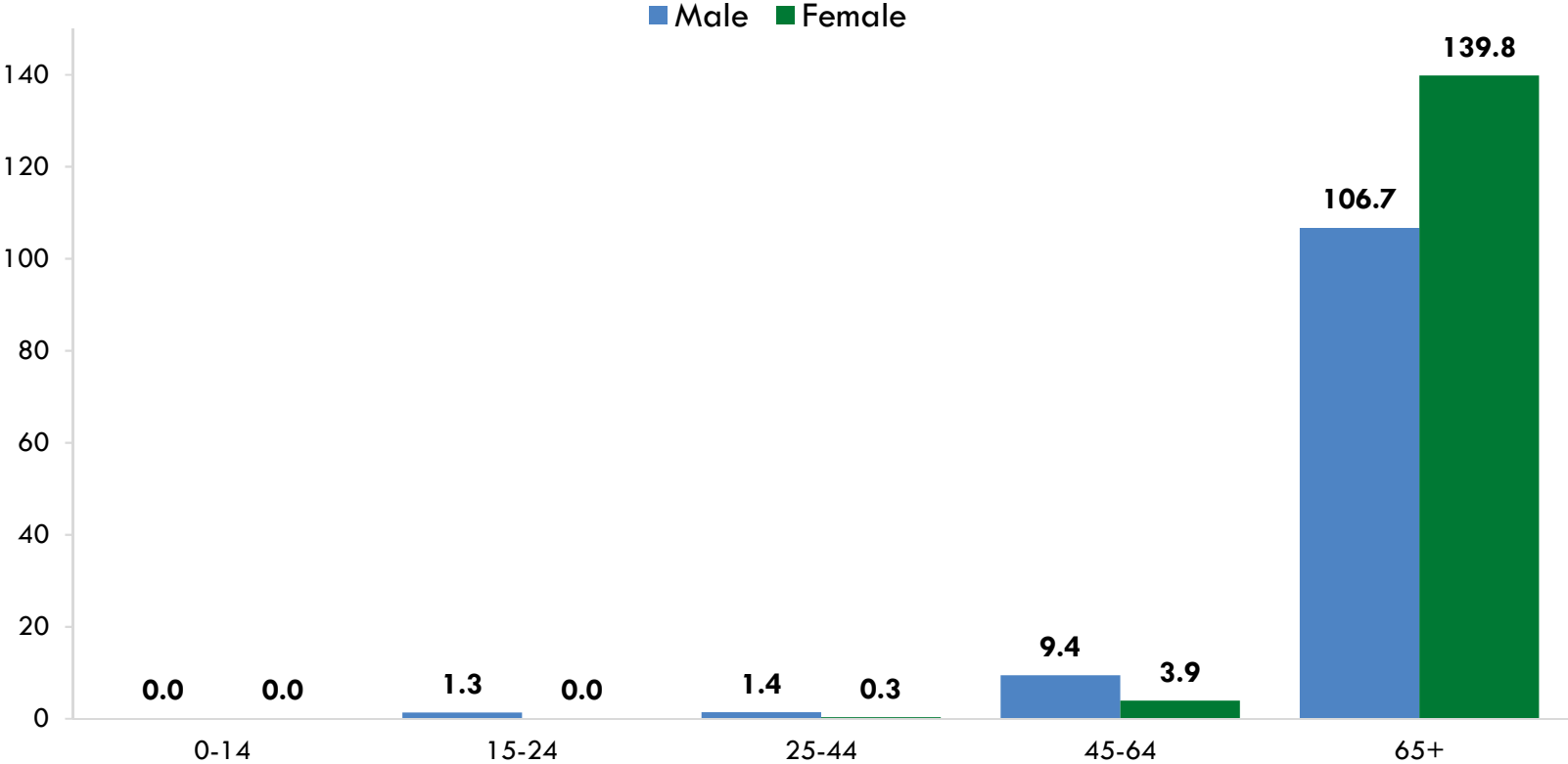


Data Source: Vermont Vital Statistics, Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Dataset

Deaths are among Vermont residents, hospitalizations are among Vermont residents at Vermont hospitals

Unintentional Falls

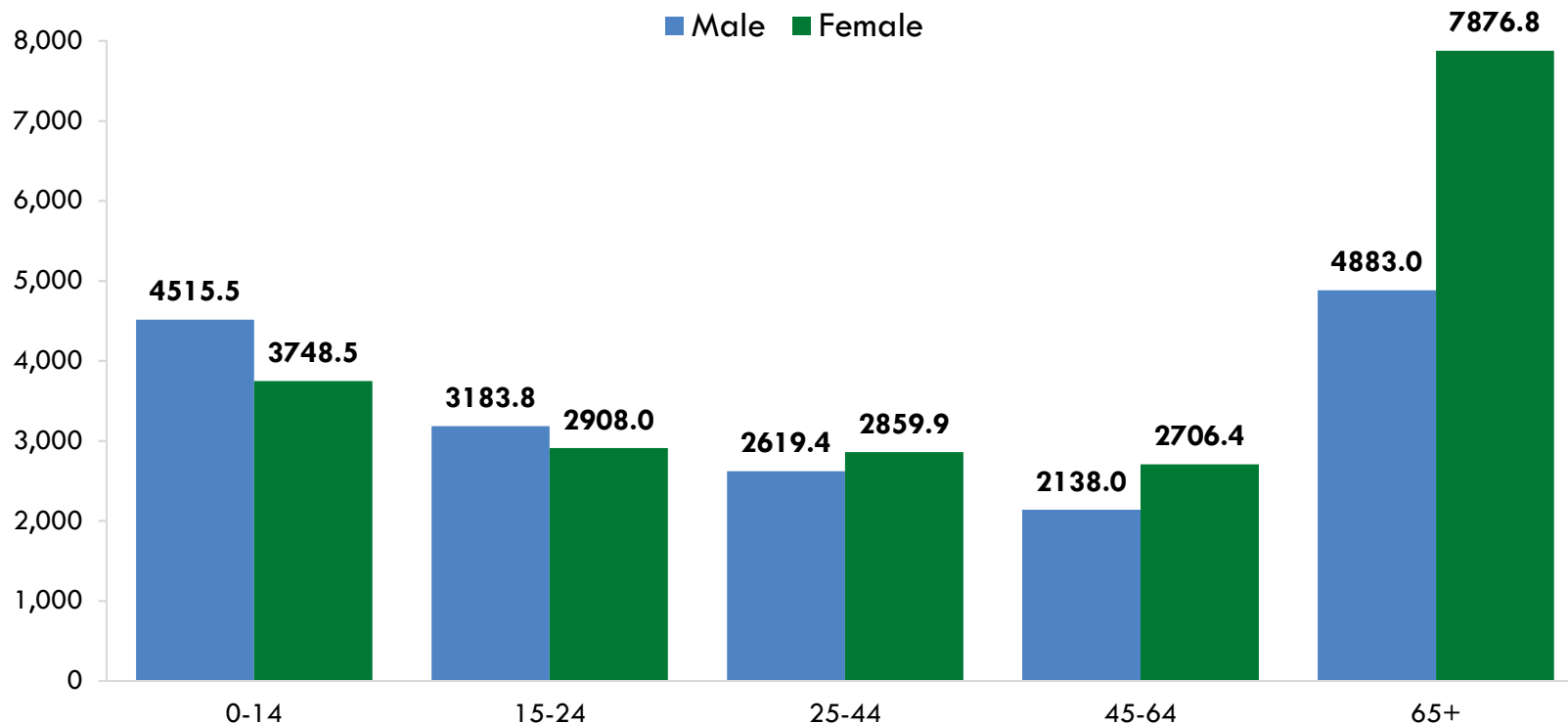
Unintentional Fall-Related Death Rate per 100,000 by Gender and Age, 2010-2014



Data Source: Vermont Vital Statistics

Unintentional Falls

Unintentional Fall-Related Hospitalization/ED Visit Rate per 100,000 by Gender and Age, 2010-2014



Data Source: Vermont Uniform Hospital Discharge Dataset

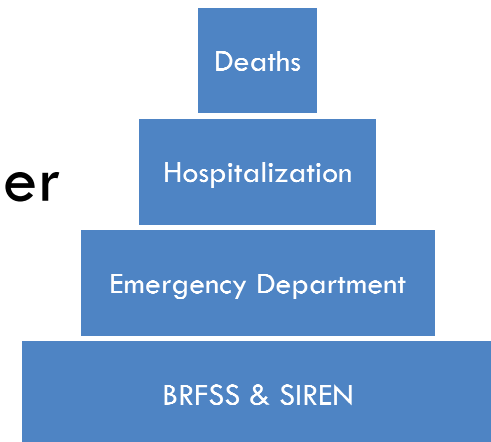
Unintentional Falls

- SIREN Data, 2015-2016

- ▣ 1,497 EMS calls for lift assists
- ▣ 79% for individuals ages 65 and older

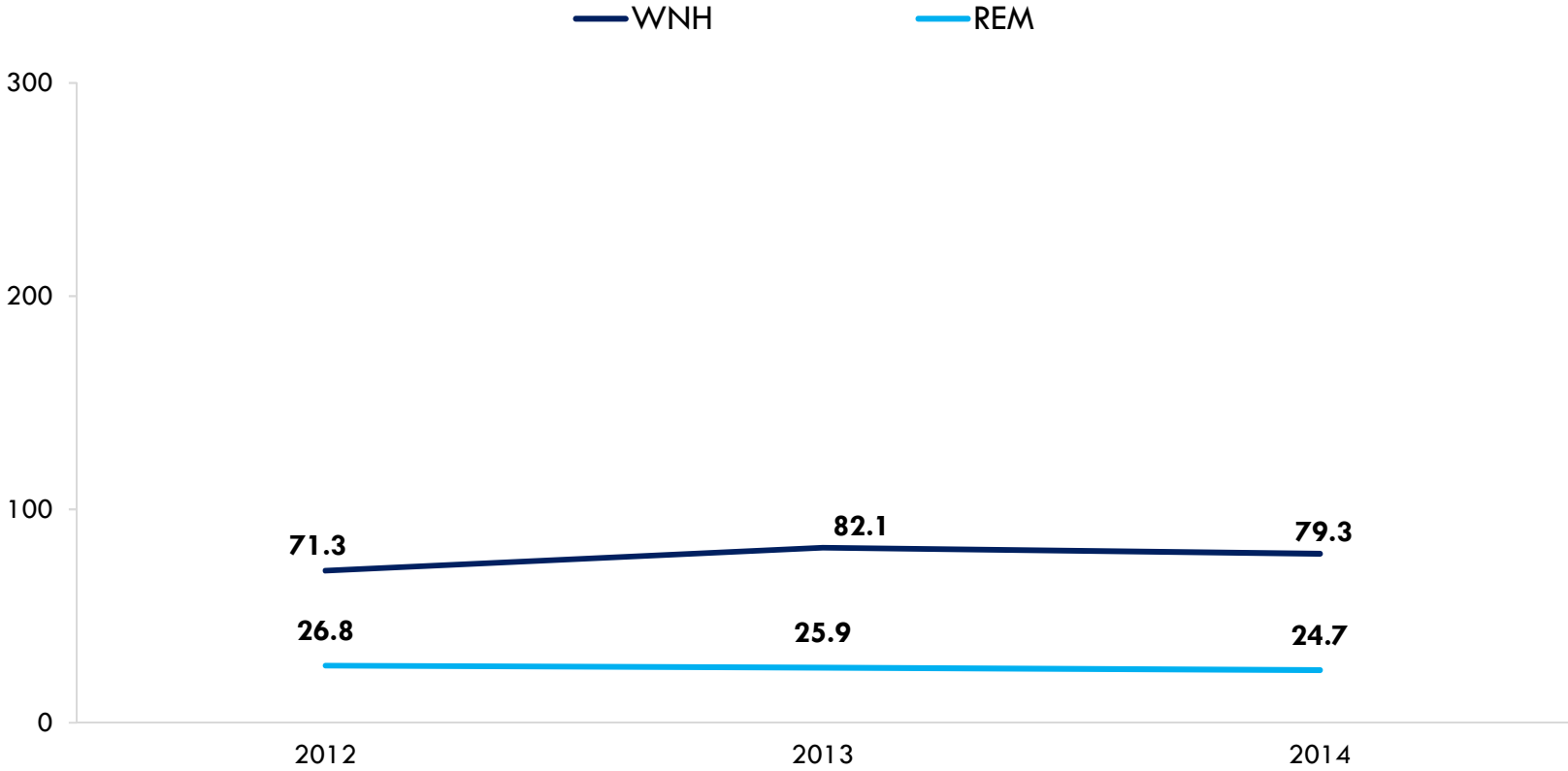
- BRFSS Data, 2016

- ▣ 35% of Vermonters ages 45 and older said they fell at least once in the past 12 months
- ▣ 36% of adults 45 and older who fell at least once were injured as a result



Health Disparity

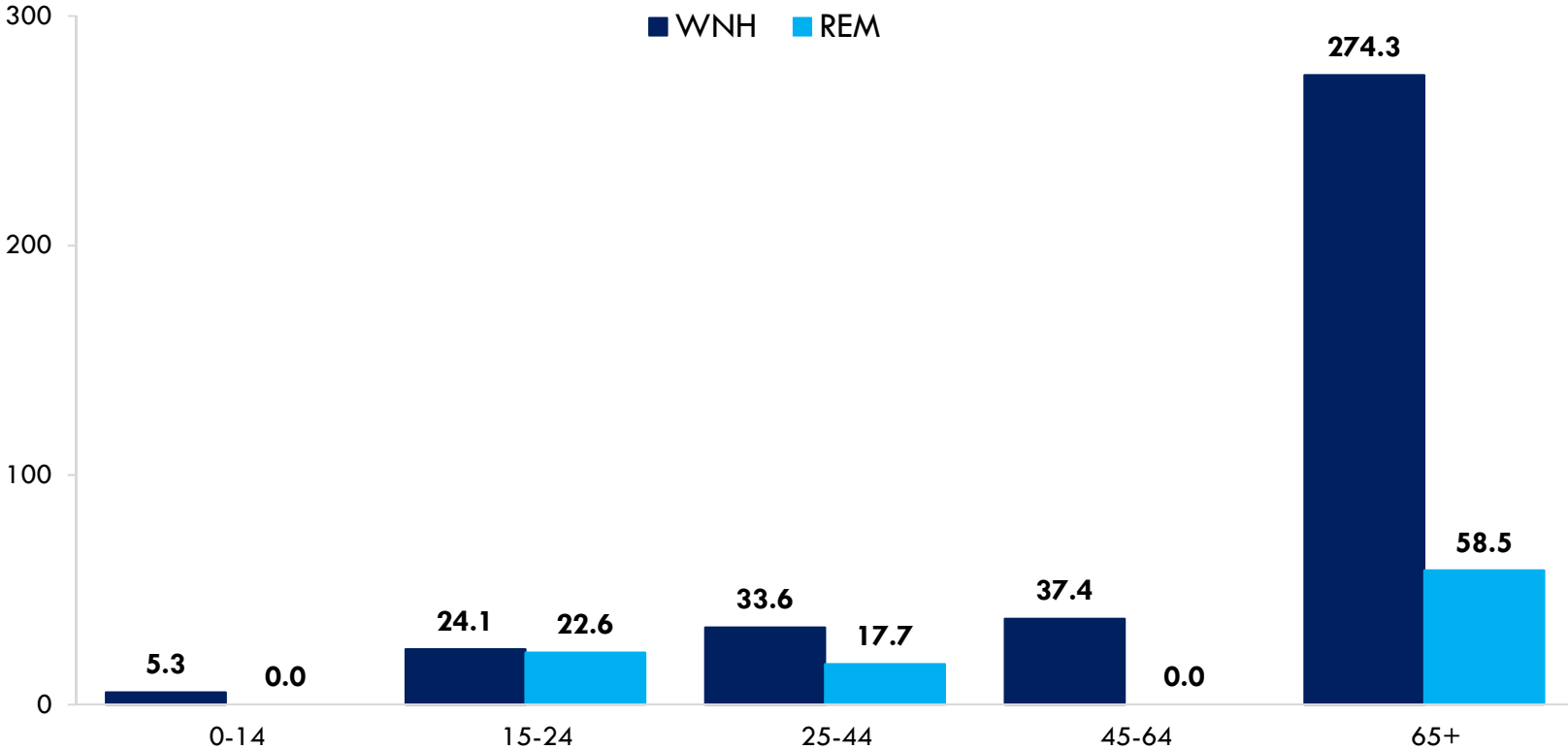
Injury Death Rates by Race and Ethnicity per 100,000, 2012-2014



Data Source: Vermont Vital Statistics
WNH: White, non-Hispanic; REM: Racial Ethnic Minority

Health Disparity

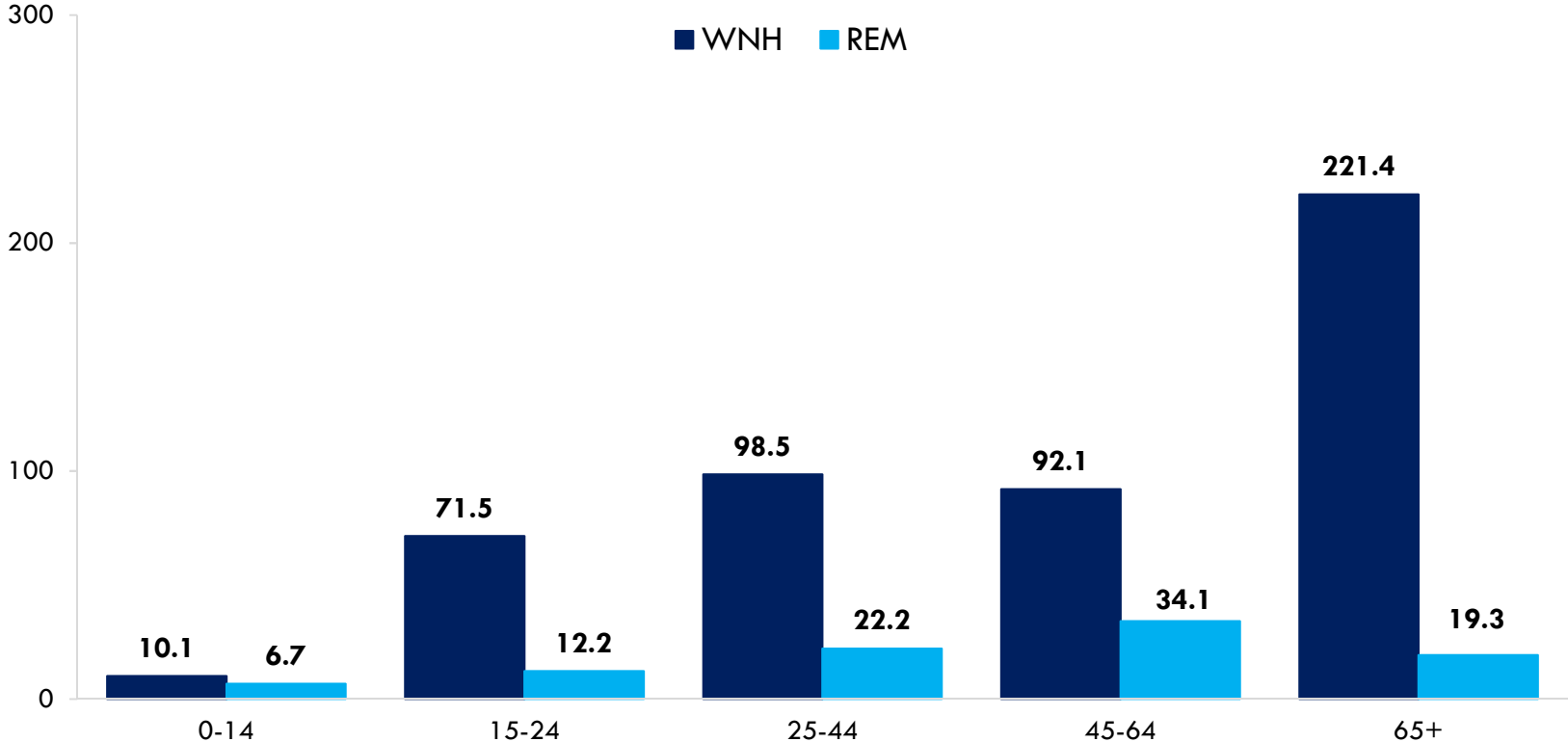
Female Injury Death Rate per 100,000 by Race and Ethnicity and Age, 2012-2014



Data Source: Vermont Vital Statistics
WNH: White, non-Hispanic; REM: Racial Ethnic Minority

Health Disparity

Male Injury Death Rate per 100,000 by Race and Ethnicity and Age, 2012-2014



Data Source: Vermont Vital Statistics
WNH: White, non-Hispanic; REM: Racial Ethnic Minority

Questions or comments?

Thank you!