

Injury Data Definitions: VOIRS Hospitalization Query

Intent (Manner): Whether an injury was caused by an act carried out on purpose by oneself or by another person, with the goal of injuring or killing.

Unintentional: Injury or poisoning that is not inflicted by deliberate means. Includes those injuries and poisonings described as unintended or "accidental", regardless of whether the injury was inflicted by oneself or by another person.

Self-Inflicted: Intentionally self-inflicted injuries, also known as intentional self-harm; includes suicide attempts.

Assault: Injuries purposely inflicted on someone by other persons.

Other: Injuries inflicted by the police or other law-enforcing agents, including military on duty, in the course of arresting or attempting to arrest lawbreakers, suppressing disturbances, maintaining order and other legal action; injuries resulting from operations of war.

Undetermined: Injury events undetermined whether accidentally or purposely inflicted.

Mechanism (Cause): The method by which the person sustained the injury; how the person was injured; or the process by which the injury occurred.

Bites and stings: This category includes injuries resulting from bites from mammals; bites and stings from venomous and nonvenomous spiders, reptiles, and insects; and punctures or stings by venomous marine animals and plants.

Cut/pierce: Injury resulting from an inclusion, slash, perforation, or puncture by a pointed or sharp instrument, weapon or object. This category does not include injury from being struck by or against a blunt object or bite wounds. This category includes injuries caused by butting and piercing instruments, such as knives, swords, and daggers; power lawn mowers, power hand tools, and household appliances; and other specified and unspecified sharp objects.

Drowning: Suffocation (asphyxia) resulting from submersion in water or other liquid with and without involvement of watercraft.

Falls: Injury received when a person descends abruptly due to the force of gravity and strikes a surface at the same or lower level.

Fire/flame: Severe exposure to flames, heat or chemicals that leads to tissue damage in the skin or places deeper in the body; injury from smoke inhalation to the upper airway, lower airway or lungs (excludes transport crash fires).

Firearm: A penetrating force injury resulting from a bullet or other projectile shot from a powder-charge gun. This category includes gunshot wounds from powder-charged handguns, shotguns and rifles. This category does not include injury caused by compressed air-powdered paint gun or a nail gun, which falls in the "other specified" category.

Hot object/substance: This category includes injuries resulting from exposure to heat and hot substances (i.e. boiling water, gases, vapors, appliances, tools).

Machinery: Injury that involves operating machinery, such as drill presses, fork lifts, large power-saws, jack hammers, and commercial meat slicers. This category does not include injury involving machines not in operation, falls from escalators or moving sidewalks, or injuries from powered lawn mowers or other powered hand tools or home appliances.

Motor Vehicle Traffic (MVT) Occupant: Either a driver or passenger injured as a result of a motor vehicle traffic crash.

MVT Motorcyclist: Any person riding on a motorcycle or in a sidecar or trailer attached to such a vehicle injured as a result of a collision with a motor vehicle on a public road.

MVT Pedal cyclist: Any person riding on a pedal cycle or in a sidecar or trailer attached to such a vehicle injured as a result of a collision with a motor vehicle on a public road.

MVT Pedestrian: A pedestrian is injured as a result of a collision with a motor vehicle on a public road.

MVT Other: An injury resulting from a motor vehicle traffic collision involving an occupant of a train or railway vehicle, an occupant of a streetcar, an animal-rider or occupant of an animal-drawn vehicle or an unauthorized rider of a motor vehicle.

MVT Unspecified: An injury resulting from a motor vehicle traffic collision when the victim's mode of transport is unknown or unspecified.

Not Specified: This category includes injuries not otherwise specified as to mechanism type (NOS).

Other Natural/Environmental: Injury resulting from exposure to adverse natural and environmental conditions, such as severe heat, severe cold, lightning, sunstroke, large storms, and natural disasters, as well as lack of food or water.

Other specified, Classifiable: This category includes injuries related to sexual assault, maltreatment, or abandonment; being caught between object; foreign bodies entering an orifice; explosions of pressurized devices, fireworks, blasting materials or other similar items; exposure to electric current or radiation; intentional self-harm by explosive material, by lying/being placed before a moving object, by burns, fire or scalding or extremes of cold; assault by bomb or explosive; legal executions; and certain war operations.

Other specified, Not Elsewhere Classifiable: Includes sequelae of accidents, self-harm, legal intervention/war, assault or events of undetermined intent; injuries due to exposure to other specified factors; self-harm, assault, or legal intervention by other specified means and other specified events of undetermined intent.

Other Transport: Vehicular injuries that are nontraffic-related (vehicle accident that occurs entirely in any place other than a public highway). This category includes watercraft, aircraft, railroad, animal-drawn transport, off-road vehicles, and vehicles mainly used for industrial and agriculture purposes.

Overexertion: Injury resulting from working the body or a body part too strenuously, causing damage to muscle, tendon, ligament, cartilage, joint or peripheral nerve (i.e. common cause of strains, sprains, and twisted ankles). This category includes overexertion from lifting, pushing or pulling, or from excessive force.

Pedal cyclist, other: A bicyclist injured without involving a motor vehicle on a public highway, such as falling off, or colliding with a stationary object.

Pedestrian, other: A pedestrian injured without involving a motor vehicle on a public highway, such as colliding with a stationary object.

Poisoning: Ingestion, inhalation, absorption through the skin, or injection of so much of a drug, toxin (biologic or non biologic), or other chemical, that a harmful effect results, such as a drug overdoses. This category does not include harmful effects from normal therapeutic drugs (i.e. unexpected adverse effects to a drug administered correctly to treat a condition) or a bacterial illness.

Struck by/against: Injury resulting from being struck by (hit) or crushed by a human, animal, or inanimate object or force other than a vehicle or machinery; injury caused by striking (hitting) against a human, animal or inanimate object or force other than a vehicle or machinery.

Suffocation: This category includes injuries that result in a threat to breathing (i.e. strangulation and airway obstruction).