

Statistics on hospitalisations due to injuries and poisonings in 2022

In 2022, approximately 145,000 people were hospitalised as a result of injury. This is the same number as in 2021 and represents almost 18 percent of all the people who were hospitalised. Of these 145,000 people, more than 95,000 received treatment due to accidents, 42,000 due to complications of medical and surgical care, 6,400 due to self-harm and 1,300 due to violence.

As many admissions as in 2021

In 2021 and 2022, the same number of people, 145,000 were hospitalised as a result of an injury. Around 95,000 of these, divided into 50,000 women (53 per cent) and 45,000 men (47 per cent), were treated as a result of accidents. There has been a slight decrease in the number of people hospitalised as a result of accidents as well as self-harm (intentional self-harm) and violence (assault), while slightly more people have been treated for complications of medical and surgical care in 2022 compared to 2021.

Three of four accidents are falls

As in previous years, falls are by far the most common cause of injury resulting in hospitalisations. Falls comprise around 75 percent of all accidents, which corresponds to just over 71,000 people, divided into almost 40,600 women (57 per cent) and almost 30,600 men (43 per cent). The proportion of women treated compared to men is slightly higher for falls than for accidents in general.

Figure 1. Fall accidents, 2001–2022, by sex and age

Number of persons per 100,000 inhabitants discharged from hospital



Source: Swedish National Patient Register, National Board of Health and Welfare

Falls are most common among the elderly and in 2022 about 76 per cent of the fall patients were aged 65 years or above. This group accounted for 81 per cent among women and for 69 per cent among men.

Almost 6 per cent of everyone aged 80 years or above were, at some point during 2022, hospitalised because of a fall. In this age group, fall accidents accounted for 92 per cent of all accidents. Fall accidents have decreased somewhat since the beginning of the 2000s, but among men 80 years or older, an increase has occurred.

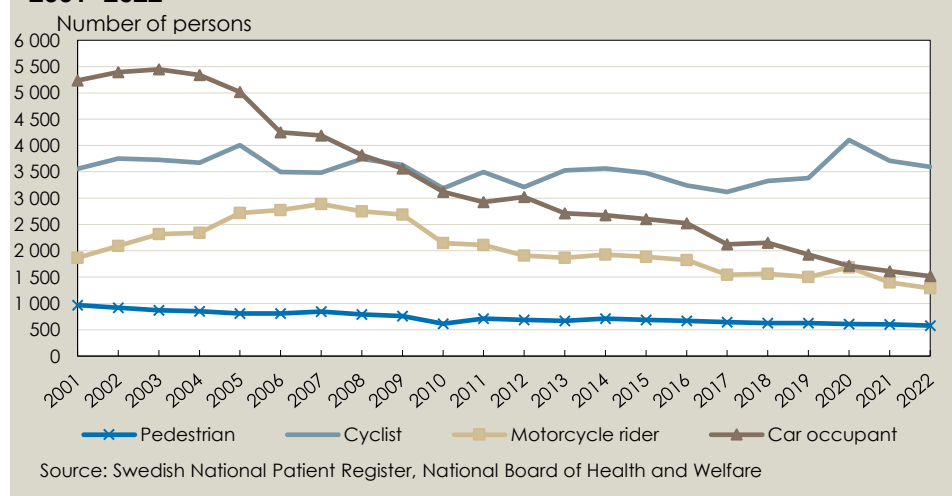
Femur fractures are most common

Among people hospitalised as a result of injury, femoral fracture is the most common main diagnosis. In 2022, around 18 600 people were hospitalised for femur fracture, which is over 1 000 more than in 2021. Despite this increase, the number of women hospitalised with femoral fracture has decreased since the early 2000s. When the population increase is taken into account, there has also been a slight decrease among men. In absolute numbers, more men, 6 700, were hospitalised with a femoral fracture in 2022 than in any other year since 2001. Significantly more women than men are hospitalised for a femoral fracture; in 2022, almost two out of three were women.

Fewer road traffic accidents

In 2022, roughly 7,100 people were hospitalised as a result of road traffic accidents, which is the lowest number during 2001–2022. Since the beginning of the 2000s the number of people that has been hospitalised due to road traffic accidents has decreased with about 5,000 persons. A very large part of this is due to a reduction in the number of persons treated as a result of car accidents – 1,500 in 2022 compared with 5,200 in 2001. In 2022, around 3,600 people were hospitalised for bicycle accidents; this number has remained relatively stable over the 2000s. Electric scooters and similar vehicles are classified as bicycles.

Figure 2. Road traffic accidents among some road user groups, 2001–2022



Ten years ago, it was by far most common for 15–24-year-olds to be hospitalised after road traffic accidents. However, in 2022, it was more common among 75–84-year-olds and older. There has been a clear decrease among younger people, while the decrease has been smaller among older people. There are almost twice as many men as women hospitalised after a road traffic accident. The difference is mainly seen in the number of motorcycle accidents, with more than 1,100 men and less than 200 women hospitalised in 2022.

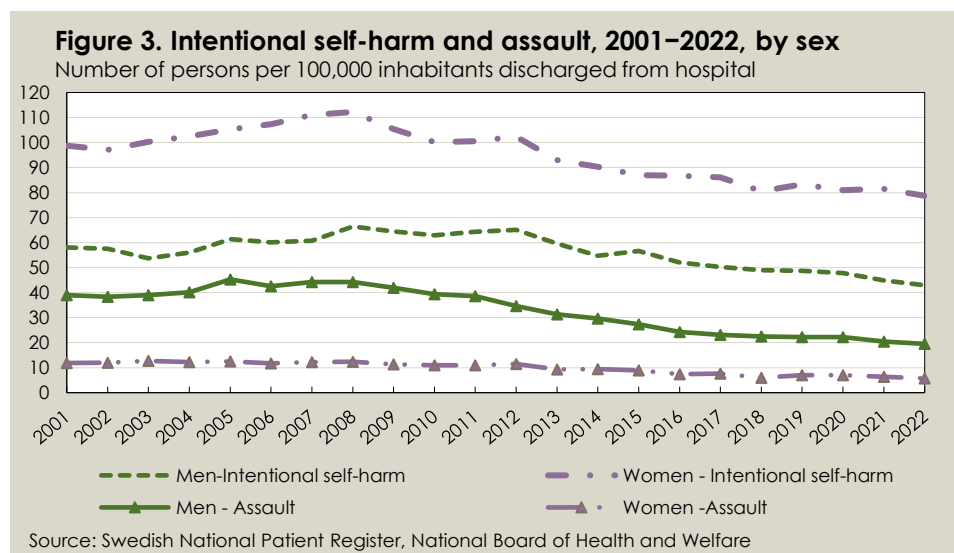
Fewer hospitalised after riding accidents

Between 2001 and 2021, between 1,000 and 1,200 people were hospitalised annually as a result of a riding accident - *V80 Animal-rider or occupant of animal-drawn vehicle injured in transport accident*. In 2022, however, the figure was lower at 860 people, with just over 810 women (95 per cent) and almost 50 men (5 per cent).

Slightly fewer hospitalised due to assault

In 2022, slightly over 1,300 people were hospitalised as a result of assaults, which is the lowest figure in the period 2001–2022. Although there has been a marked decrease in the number of hospitalisations due to violence since the early 2000s, there has been an increase in the number of hospitalisations due to assaults with firearms. Five per cent of those hospitalised due to violence in 2022 were treated for firearm violence.

It is more than three times more common for men to be hospitalised as a result of violence compared to women. In 2022 just over 1,000 men and around 300 women were hospitalised as a result of assault. Among men, it is largely the 15–24 age group that is hospitalised, while among women it is almost as common in the 25–44 age group as in the 15–24 age group.



In 2022, nearly 6,400 people received hospital treatment for intentional self-harm. Since 2012, there has been a slight decrease in people who were cared for

in hospital after intentional self-harm. During 2022 this trend continued when around 200 fewer people were hospitalised compared to 2021. However, more young girls, younger than 15 years, were hospitalised in both 2021 and 2022 compared to previous years. It is more common that women than men are cared for and many of them were young women aged 15–24. Among men, it is also most common in the age of 15–24 but almost as common in the age group 25–44. Nearly nine out of ten, corresponding to just over, 5,500 persons, have been hospitalised after intentional self-harm by intoxication, for example by pharmaceuticals.

Major regional differences

With regard to certain types of injuries, there are major regional differences. In 2022, fall accidents leading to hospitalisation among persons living on Gotland, where about 1 per cent of the population were hospitalised, were twice as common as in Uppsala County, where about 0.5 per cent of the population were hospitalised. However, the differences do not necessarily mean that there are higher risks in some regions. For example, the differences in fall accidents between the counties are reduced when the age structure in the county is considered. The decision to admit a person may be due to organisational reasons but also practical reasons, such as the distance between the hospital and the home.

Even in cases of intentional self-harm, large regional differences are observed. In relation to population size, most hospitalisations in 2022 due to intentional self-harm were reported from the county of Jönköping. However, variations among counties may also depend on how healthcare works with, for example, record keeping and coding in specific areas, which in turn affects the statistics.

Complications arising from medical care or surgery

In 2022, approximately 42,000 people received hospital treatment for complications, which is a decrease compared to 2021. Because it includes so-called 'expected' complications and adverse effects of pharmaceuticals, this group is not suitable as a metric for care-related injuries.

More information

You can find more tables, diagrams and other information in the Excel file: www.socialstyrelsen.se/en/statistics-and-data/statistics/

If you want to use our statistical database (in Swedish):
<https://sdb.socialstyrelsen.se/ifska/val.aspx>

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