

Motor Vehicle Traffic Injuries Cortland County Residents 2005-2007



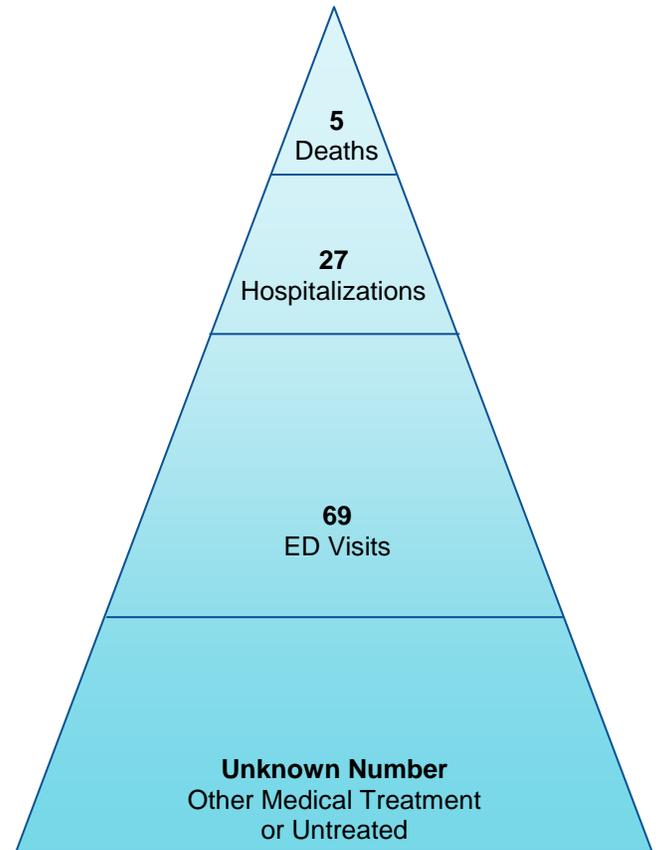
The Concern

Motor Vehicle Traffic Injuries are the leading cause of injury related death in Cortland County. Crash related injuries are the 3rd leading cause of injury related hospitalization and the third leading cause for injury related emergency department (ED) visits in Cortland County.

Crash-related injuries are not accidents! They are not random, uncontrollable acts of fate, but occur in predictable patterns, with recognizable risk factors and among identifiable populations. A crash-related injury is a predictable and preventable event!

Magnitude of the Crash Problem

- Every **two months**, because of a traffic-related crash, an average of:
 - 1 Cortland County resident died
 - 5 Cortland County residents were hospitalized
 - 12 Cortland County residents were treated in an ED
- Annually, traffic crashes resulted in an average of:
 - \$628 thousand in hospitalization charges
 - \$119 thousand in ED charges
- 13% of hospitalized crash victims are released to another hospital, rehabilitation center or long term care, **incurring additional costs**

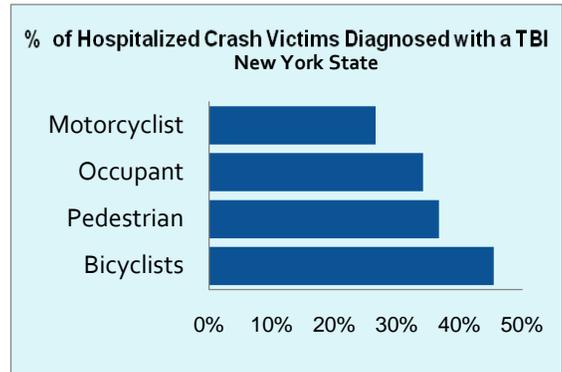


Yearly Average Number
Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash-Related Injuries
Cortland County Residents



Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) can result from traffic related crashes and may result in the loss of independent function, requiring long-term care, and increased life-long expenses.

- ⇒ Among Cortland County residents that were hospitalized following a traffic crash **45.7% were diagnosed with a TBI, with over two-thirds of bicyclists sustaining a TBI.**
- ⇒ The risk of TBI can be reduced by wearing your seat belt!
- ⇒ Bicyclists and Motorcyclists who wear helmets reduce their risk of a TBI!



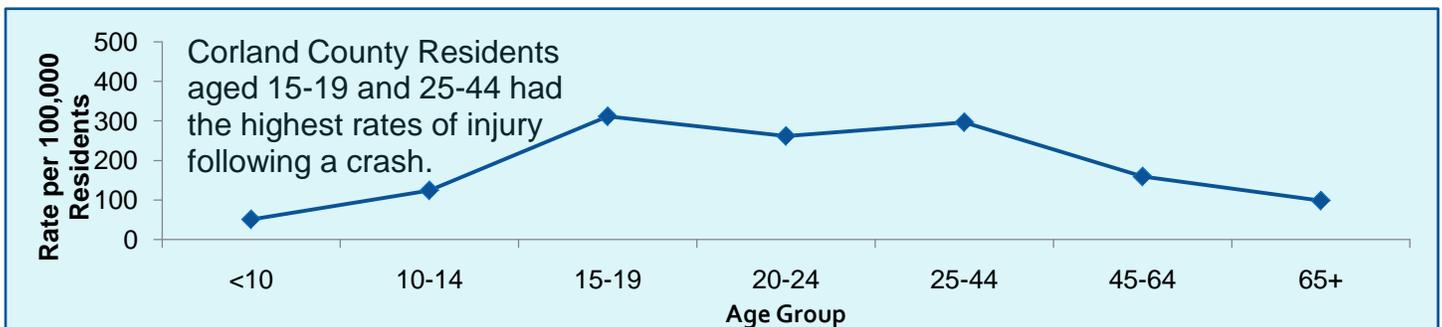
Who is at Risk for Crash-Related Injuries?

- Although most crash victims in New York State were vehicle occupants, **a higher percentage of bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorcyclists** were injured severely enough to require hospitalization.

In Cortland County:

- Males were had a higher rate of outpatient ED visits and were more likely to have been hospitalized from a traffic crash.
- Traffic-related crash injuries occur in all age groups.

Treatment at a Hospital Following a Crash



For more detailed information on motor vehicle traffic crashes in New York State:

Please see the detailed county tables provided at www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/traffic

Or visit the Governors Traffic Safety Committee website at www.safeny.com.

For additional questions or customized data requests, you may also contact the NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Injury Prevention at (518) 473-1143. iniurv@health.state.nv.us.

Motor vehicle crash injuries are the leading cause of injury related deaths for Cortland County Residents – and they can be prevented!