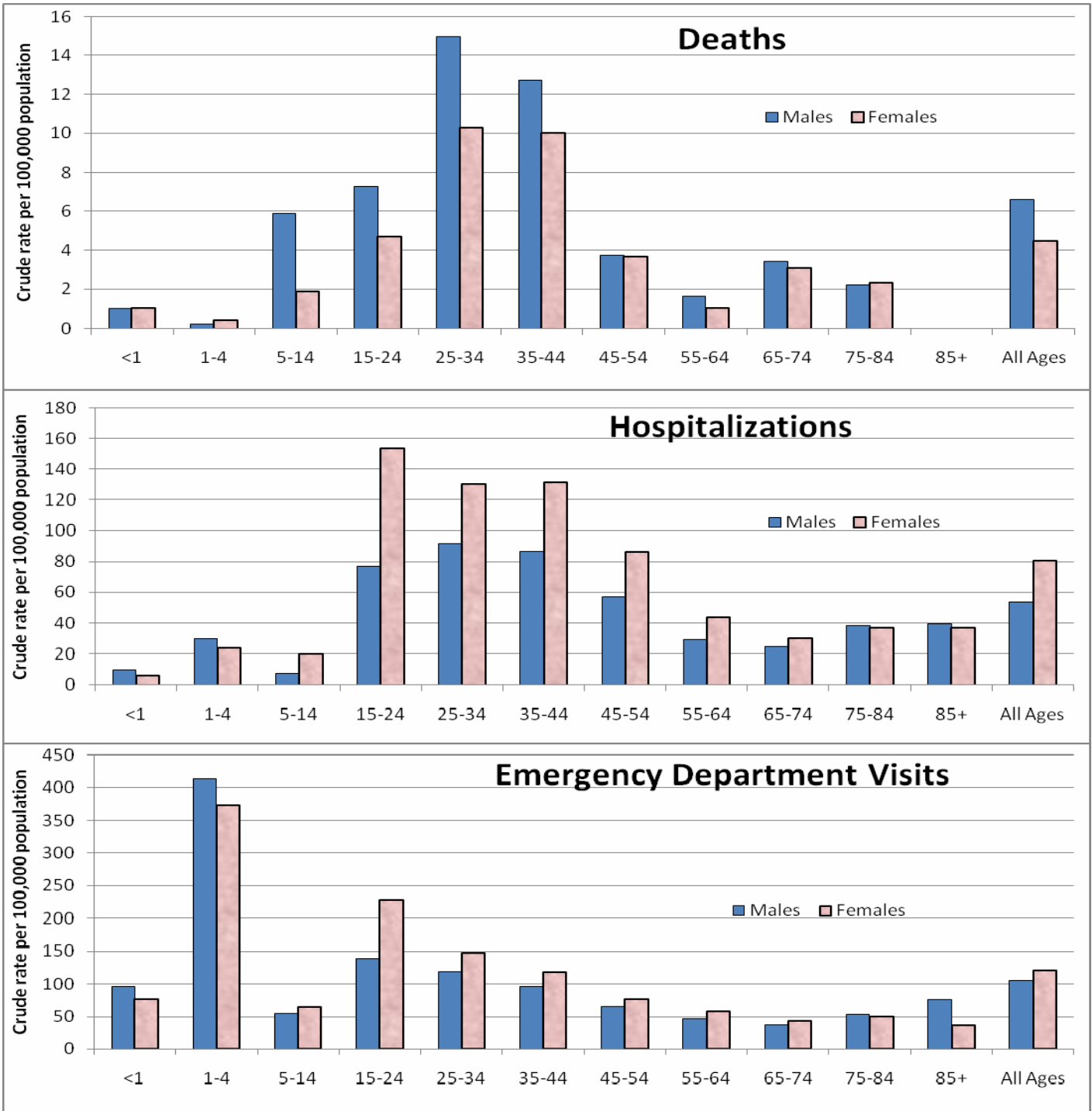


Indicators for poisoning, Iowa, 2002-2006

While Iowa's death rate due to poisoning (5.6/100,000) was lower than the 2004 national average of the NCIPC states (10.3/100,000), poisoning injuries are a particular concern in specific age groups. Fifty-three percent of poisoning deaths in Iowa are unintentional, 39 percent are due to suicide, and 8 percent are of undetermined intent. Poisoning rates and intents also vary greatly by county size and gender.



- On average, there were 166 deaths, 2,008 hospitalizations and 3,235 ED visits related to poisoning each year in Iowa from 2002-2006.
- The majority of poisoning deaths – 84 percent for males and 77 percent for females – occurred in Iowans aged 5-44.
 - The death rates for both males (15/100,000) and females (10/100,000) were highest in the 25- to 34-year-old age groups and were followed by the 35- to 44-year olds for both males (13/100,000) and females (10/100,000).
 - Between the ages of 5 and 44, the poisoning death rate for males was 50 percent higher than for females. After the age of 45, the poisoning death rates were very similar for both genders.
 - Fifty-three percent of all poisoning deaths in Iowa from 2002-2006 were unintentional, 39 percent were due to suicide, and 8 percent were of undetermined intent.
- Like the age distribution for poisoning deaths, the rates of poisoning hospitalizations were highest among the 15- to 44-year-old age groups.
 - In contrast to the death rates, females over the age of five had higher poisoning-related hospitalization rates than males.
 - The highest hospitalization rate was in 15- to 24-year-old females (154/100,000), compared to males of the same age (77/100,000).
 - Hospitalization rates consistently decreased until the age of 65, where it stayed relatively constant.
- Poisoning-related ED visit rates were by far the highest among children aged 1 to 4 (males: 396/100,000 and females: 356/100,000), and second highest among 15- to 24-year olds. They steadily declined in subsequent older age groups.
 - Overall, poisoning ED visit rates were nearly 1.2 times higher among females (116/100,000) than males (100/100,000).
 - Other than children under the age of five and seniors over the age of 74, females had a higher rate of poisoning-related ED visits than males. The greatest difference between females and males was in the 15- to 24-year-old age group, as females had a 70 percent higher ED visit rate.