



FLHealthCHARTS.com Statistical Brief

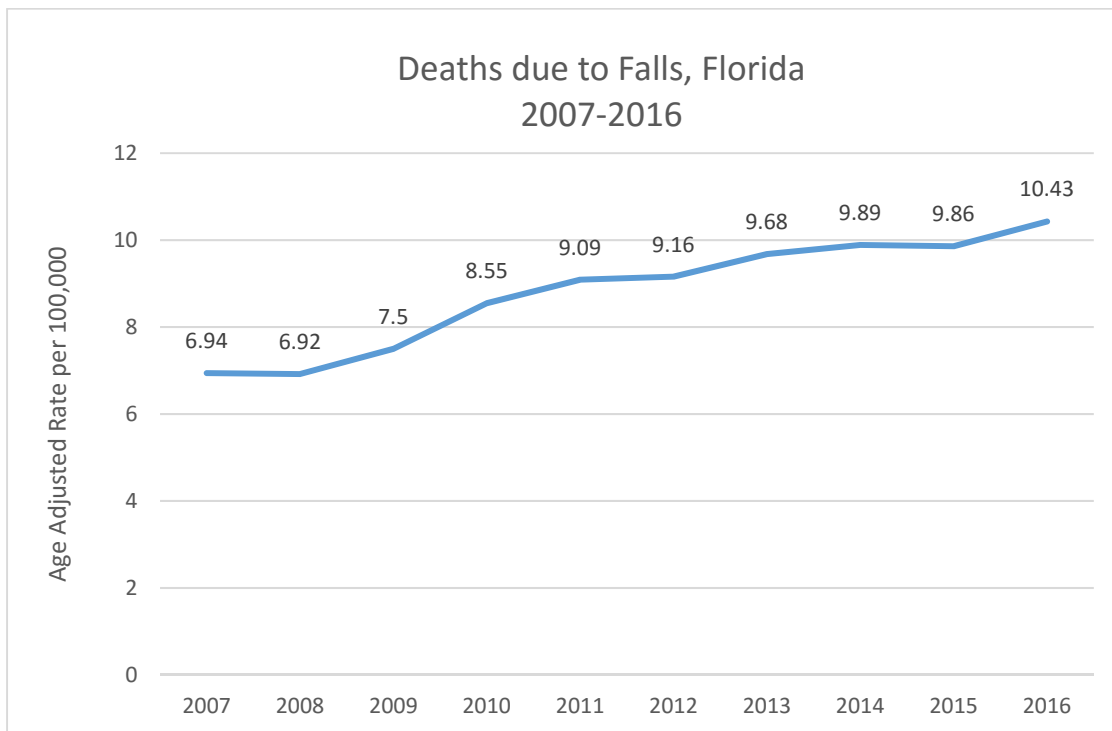
Trends in Fall-Related Death and Injury in Florida

Description

While falls are a significant cause of injury and death among the elderly, they also are a significant cause of injury overall and among all ages.

Data in Graph 1 from the Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics¹, shows that falls resulting in fatal injuries have increased from 6.94 to 10.43 per 100,000 (age adjusted death rate) from 2007 to 2016.

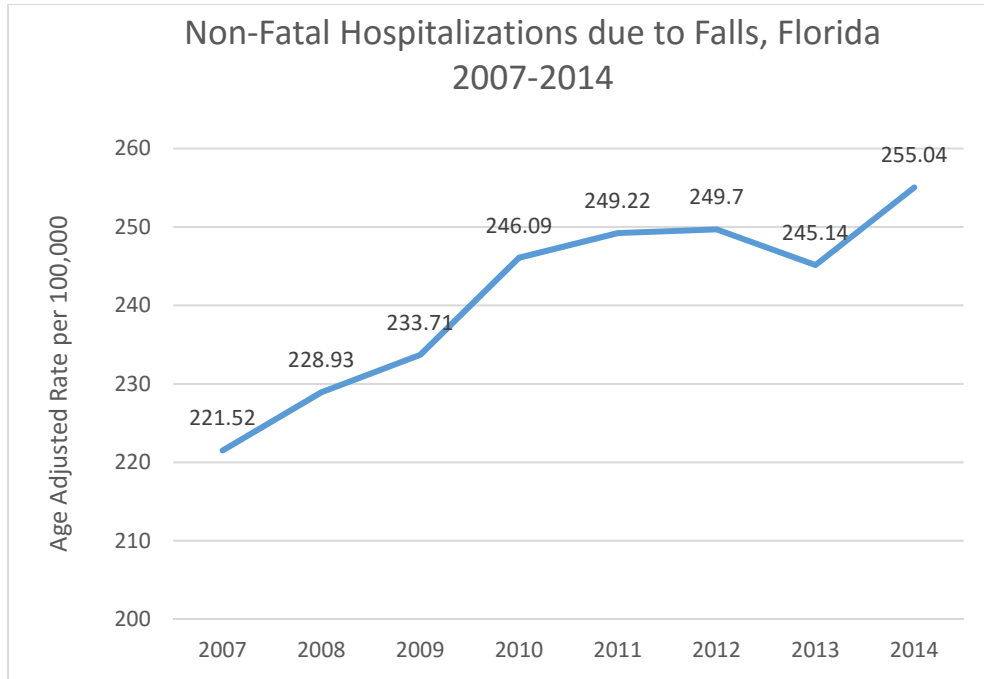
Graph 1



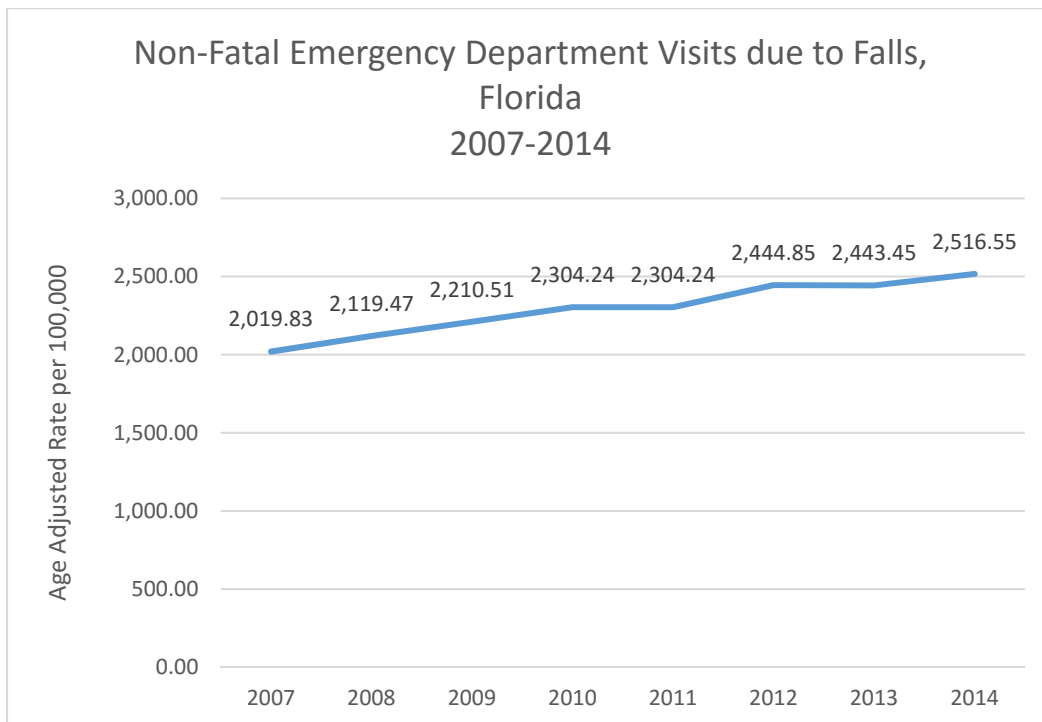
Looking at non-fatal injury hospitalizations² (Graphs 2 and 3), data from the Agency for Health Care Administration shows that falls increased from a rate of 221.52 in 2007 to 255.04 in 2014, and emergency department visits³ increased from a rate of 2019.83 to 2516.55 per 100,000 during the same period.

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Graph 2



Graph 3



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Among external causes of death, falls were among the top 10 causes in age groups 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75-84 and 85+ (2012-14, 3-year age-adjusted rates) (Table 1). As a cause of hospitalization and emergency department visits during the same period, falls ranked as the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd leading cause for every age group. In fact, emergency department visit rates for ages 1-4 at 5,353 per 100,000 exceeded rates for all other age groups except age 85+ during 2012-14.

Table 1

Fall-Related Deaths, Hospitalizations, and Emergency Department Visits Rates per 100,000 Population, 2012-2014

Age Group	Death Rate	Hospitalization Rate	ED Department Visit Rate
<1	0.31	138.15	4,295.04
1-4	0.19	65.30	5,352.52
5-9	0.09	63.96	3,285.03
10-14	0.09	47.48	2,777.31
15-19	0.34	38.78	1,759.10
20-24	0.87	39.88	1,504.08
25-34	0.98	51.77	1,715.64
35-44	1.54	73.99	1,626.66
45-54	3.68	139.75	1,856.31
55-64	6.71	279.34	2,012.13
65-74	16.00	551.75	2,446.97
75-84	62.35	1,522.88	4,572.89
85+	267.89	4,124.69	10,173.46

Discussion

Data for the years 2007 through 2014 show an increase in the rate of emergency department, hospitalizations due to falls. Death rates from falls continue to increase as well. Falls are a significant cause of morbidity across all age groups. While many interventions focus on falls prevention for older adults, given the increasing rate of falls in Florida, interventions for other age groups are also warranted.

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References

1. www.FLHealthCHARTS Profile of Fatal Injuries:
<http://www.flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=ChartsProfiles.InjuryProfileDASHBOARD>
2. www.FLHealthCHARTS Profile of Non-Fatal Hospitalizations:
<http://www.flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=ChartsProfiles.NonFatalInjuryHospitalizationsProfileDASHBOARD>
3. www.FLHealthCHARTS Profile of Non-Fatal Emergency Department Visits:
<http://www.flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=ChartsProfiles.NonFatalEDVisitsProfileDASHBOARD>

Hospitalization and emergency department visit data for 2007-2014 were used in this analysis so that results would not be confounded by the change in ICD coding which occurred during 2015.

Data in this statistical brief included total deaths, hospitalizations, or emergency department visits regardless of intention.