

National (American Association of Poison Control Centers) Data 2006

- 2,403,539 human exposures were reported to poison centers nationwide. Of these, 72.9% were managed over the telephone and not treated directly by a health care professional
- Almost 45% of human exposures were followed-up by poison center staff.
- Over 128,000 pet owners called a poison center about their animal.
- Calls about children under the age of six made up just half of all cases (1,223,815).

Washington Poison Center (WAPC) Data – 2007

- The WPC opened 95,629 charts, averaging 262 per day.
- Over 70% of calls were human exposures and more than 8% were about animals.
- 19,806 callers contacted the WAPC for information – preventing a poisoning.
- Healthcare providers, including hospitals, first responders and veterinarians accounted for 17% of calls.
- Almost 53% (36,770) of exposure calls were children under the age of six, of those 46.8% were poisoned by medications.
- 7.4% (2713) of children under the age of six were poisoned outside of their home.
- The older adult population continues to be at risk for poisonings making up 7.6% (5,297) of the total exposure calls received by the WAPC –more than the previous years.
- The top 5 exposure calls regarding substances were:
 - Ibuprofen
 - Benzodiazepine (like Valium)
 - Diaper care/rash products
 - Desiccant
 - Spoiled Food
- The top 5 categories of calls were:
 - Analgesics (pain killers)
 - Cosmetics/personal care products
 - Cleaning substances (household)
 - Foreign bodies/toys/miscellaneous
 - Food products/food poisoning

Washington State Department of Health Data

- According to the Childhood Injury Report between 1999 and 2001 there were 9 deaths, 465 hospitalizations and 3,490 Emergency Department visits of children 0-17 year olds.
- In 2004 there were 4,955 nonfatal hospitalizations due to poisonings – 1,902 were unintentional.
- Unintentional poisonings is the 2nd leading cause of hospitalizations overall.
- Just over 460 seniors over 65 years old were hospitalized for a nonfatal poisoning in 2004.