

In 2024, Washington Poison Center (WAPC) handled 77,972 inbound phone calls and managed 62,139 cases, over 213 calls and 170 cases per day.

There were 55,496 human poison exposures, with children five and younger accounting for 37% of all poison exposure cases. Human exposures with more serious outcomes (moderate, major, or death) accounted for 11.07% of all exposures. There were over 6,643 information calls.

While 81% of poisonings were unintentional; nearly 18% were intentional, with suicidal intent suspected in 12% of cases. Of the 10,743 medication errors, 7% were in children under 6 years old and over 47% were in adults 60 years and older.

Top 10 Exposures by Substance Major Category in 2024

All Ages	Adults 60 Years & Older	Adults 20 Years & Older
1 Analgesics	1 Cardiovascular drugs	1 Analgesics
2 Cleaning substances (household)	2 Analgesics	2 Antidepressants
3 Antidepressants	3 Hormones and hormone antagonists	3 Cardiovascular drugs
4 Cardiovascular drugs	4 Antidepressants	4 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics
5 Cosmetics/personal care products	5 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics	5 Cleaning substances (household)
6 Antihistamines	6 Anticonvulsants	6 Alcohols
7 Foreign bodies/toys/miscellaneous	7 Cleaning substances (household)	7 Hormones and hormone antagonists
8 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics	8 Miscellaneous drugs	8 Anticonvulsants
9 Dietary supplements/herbals	9 Anticoagulants	9 Antihistamines
10 Plants	10 Antimicrobials	10 Fumes/gases/vapors

Teens 13-19 Years	Children 6-12 Years	Children 0-5 Years
1 Analgesics	1 Foreign bodies/toys/miscellaneous	1 Cleaning substances (household)
2 Antidepressants	2 Analgesics	2 Analgesics
3 Antihistamines	3 Plants	3 Cosmetics/personal care products
4 Stimulants and street drugs	4 Cosmetics/personal care products	4 Foreign bodies/toys/miscellaneous
5 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics	5 Antihistamines	5 Dietary supplements/herbals
6 Cold and cough preparations	6 Stimulants and street drugs	6 Plants
7 Cardiovascular drugs	7 Dietary supplements/herbals	7 Vitamins
8 Anticonvulsants	8 Cleaning substances (household)	8 Topical preparations
9 Alcohols	9 Cardiovascular drugs	9 Antihistamines
10 Cleaning substances (household)	10 Cold and cough preparations	10 Pesticides

Top 10 Exposures by Substance Generic Name in 2024

All Ages	Adults 60 Years & Older	Adults 20 Years & Older
1 Ibuprofen	1 Beta Blocker Alone	1 Ethanol (Beverage)
2 Ethanol (Beverage)	2 Calcium Antagonist Alone	2 Atypical Antipsychotic
3 Atypical Antipsychotic	3 Antihyperlipidemic Alone	3 Beta Blocker Alone
4 Melatonin Alone	4 Angiotensin Receptor Blocker Alone	4 Benzodiazepine
5 Acetaminophen: Adult Formulation	5 Other Type of Anticoagulant	5 Acetaminophen: Adult Formulation
6 Diphenhydramine Alone	6 Ethanol (Beverage)	6 Bupropion
7 Acetaminophen: Unknown	7 ACE Inhibitor Alone	7 Gabapentin
8 Food Products	8 Acetaminophen: Adult Formulation	8 Food Products
9 Beta Blocker Alone	9 Thyroid Preparation	9 Acetaminophen: Unknown
10 Other Foreign Body	10 Gabapentin	10 Ibuprofen
Teens 13-19 Years	Children 6-12 Years	Children 0-5 Years
1 Ibuprofen	1 Melatonin Alone	1 Ibuprofen
2 Diphenhydramine Alone	2 Other Foreign Body	2 Melatonin Alone
3 Acetaminophen: Adult Formulation	3 Ibuprofen	3 Other Foreign Body
4 Acetaminophen: Unknown	4 Food Products	4 Acetaminophen: Pediatric
5 Fluoxetine	5 Methylphenidate	5 Diaper Care/Rash Product
6 Atypical Antipsychotic	6 Antihypertensive (Excluding Diuretic),	6 Multi Vitamin-Tablet
7 Sertraline	7 Cetirizine	7 Hand Sanitizers: Ethanol Based
8 Hydroxyzine	8 Hand Sanitizers: Ethanol Based	8 Cream/Lotion/Make-Up
9 Ethanol (Beverage)	9 Marijuana: Edible Preparation	9 Food Products
10 Escitalopram	10 Diphenhydramine Alone	10 Toothpaste With Fluoride