

In 2022, the Washington Poison Center (WAPC) handled 115,376 phone calls and managed 60,826 cases, over 316 calls and 166 cases per day.

There were 54,378 human poison exposures, with children five and younger accounting for 40% of all poison exposure cases. Human exposures with more serious outcomes (moderate, major, or death) accounted for 8.23% of all exposures. There were over 6,440 information calls. Slightly more than 50% of calls regarding children under 6 were for non-medications.

While 80% of poisonings were unintentional; nearly 20 % were intentional, with suicidal intent suspected in 13% of these cases. Of the 8,556 medication errors, 18 % were in children under 6 years old and over 30 % were in adults 60 years and older.

Please see our Annual Data Reports for information on Cannabis, Opioids, Nicotine, and Older Adults.

Top 10 Exposures by Substance Major Category in 2022

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 Cosmetics/personal care products	4 Antidepressants	4 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics
5 Cardiovascular drugs	5 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics	5 Cleaning substances (household)
6 Antihistamines	6 Anticonvulsants	6 Alcohols
7 Sedative/hypnotics/antipsychotics	7 Cleaning substances (household)	7 Anticonvulsants
8 Dietary supplements/herbals/homec	8 Antimicrobials	8 Antihistamines
9 Foreign bodies/toys/miscellaneous	9 Cosmetics/personal care products	9 Hormones and hormone antagonists
10 Stimulants and street drugs	10 Miscellaneous drugs	10 Stimulants and street drugs

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

Top 10 Exposures by Substance Generic Name in 2022

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 Melatonin Alone	3 Antihyperlipidemic, Alone	3 Benzodiazepine
4 Atypical Antipsychotic	4 Angiotensin Receptor Blocker	4 Beta Blocker, Alone
5 Acetaminophen: Adult	5 ACE Inhibitor	5 Acetaminophen: Adult
6 Acetaminophen: Unknown	6 Other Type of Anticoagulant	6 Ibuprofen
7 Other Non-Drug Substance	7 Gabapentin	7 Acetaminophen: Unknown
8 Diphenhydramine Alone	8 Atypical Antipsychotic	8 Gabapentin
9 Benzodiazepine	9 Benzodiazepine	9 Trazodone
10 Beta Blocker, Alone	10 Ethanol (Beverage)	10 Bleach: Hypochlorite (Liquid & Dry)
Teens 13-19 Years	Children 6-12 Years	Children 0-5 Years
1 Ibuprofen	1 Melatonin Alone	1 Melatonin Alone
2 Acetaminophen: Adult	2 Ibuprofen	2 Ibuprofen
3 Acetaminophen: Unknown	3 Other Non-Drug Substance	3 Acetaminophen: Pediatric
4 Fluoxetine	4 Other Foreign Body	4 Diaper Care/Rash Product
5 Sertraline	5 Hand Sanitizers: Ethanol Based	5 Other Foreign Body
6 Diphenhydramine Alone	6 Methylphenidate	6 Children's Multivitamin
7 Hydroxyzine	7 Diphenhydramine Alone	7 Hand Sanitizers: Ethanol Based
8 Atypical Antipsychotic	8 Loratadine	8 Homeopathic
9 Ethanol (Beverage)	9 Acetaminophen: Pediatric	9 Other Non-Drug Substance
10 Amphetamines	10 Cetirizine	10 Cream/Lotion/Make-Up