

# People's Health

Outcomes • Planning • Evaluation



## Know the Facts: Motor Vehicle Crash Injury Deaths

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Motor vehicle-related injuries are a leading cause of death for people age 29 and under in the United States.
- In 2013 there were more than 3,400 motor vehicle traffic deaths in California. Each year in the United States, more than 30,000 people are killed in motor vehicle crashes.
- Motor vehicle-related injuries sent more than 2.2 million adults to hospital emergency departments in 2012 in the United States.
- In 2013, crash deaths resulted in \$44 billion in medical and work loss costs in the United States, including \$4.5 billion in California.
- Young adults (18-24) have the highest crash-injury rates of all adults.
- Seat belts and child restraints saved more than 64,000 lives between 2008 and 2012 in the United States.

### WHERE WE WERE (BASELINE):

During 1999-01, there were 15.9 motor vehicle crash-related deaths per 100,000 persons in Shasta County.

### WHERE WE ARE:

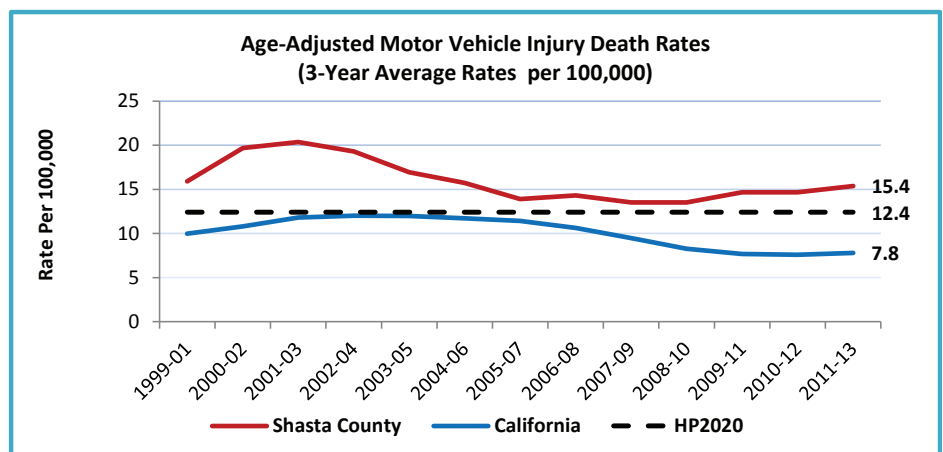
During 2011-13, there were 15.4 motor vehicle crash-related deaths per 100,000 persons in Shasta County.

### WHERE WE ARE AIMING:

The Healthy People 2020 goal is to reduce motor vehicle crash-related deaths to 12.4 deaths per 100,000 population.

### DEFINITION:

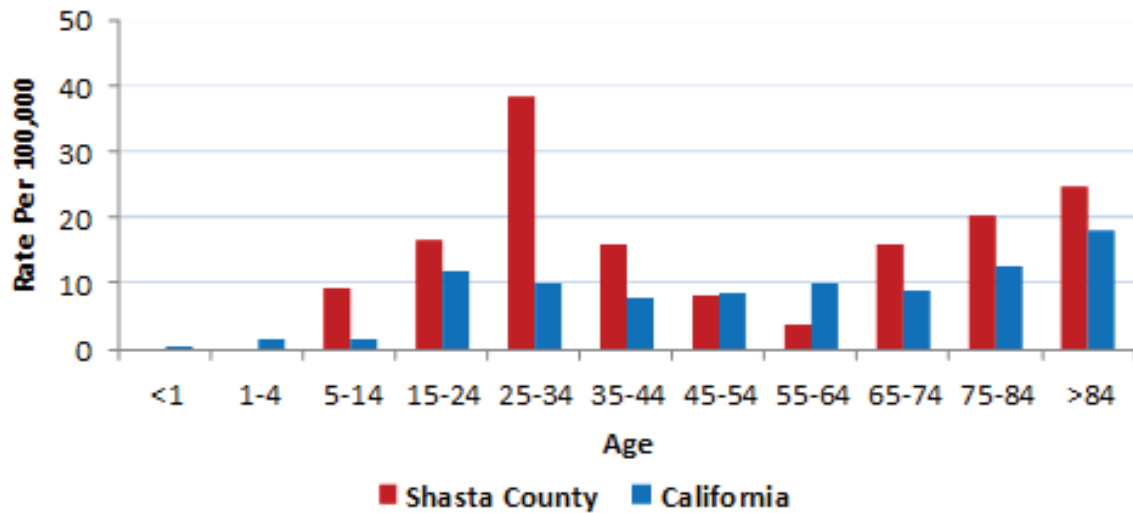
Number of deaths and death rate (age-adjusted deaths per 100,000 population) due to motor vehicle crash injuries for Shasta County residents, regardless of where the death occurred [ICD-10 codes V02-V04 (.1, .9), V09.2, V12-V14 (.3-.9), V19 (.4-.6), V20-V28 (.3-.9), V29-V79 (.4-.9), V80 (.3-.5), V81.1, V82.1, V83-V86 (.0-.3), V87 (.0-.8), V89.2].



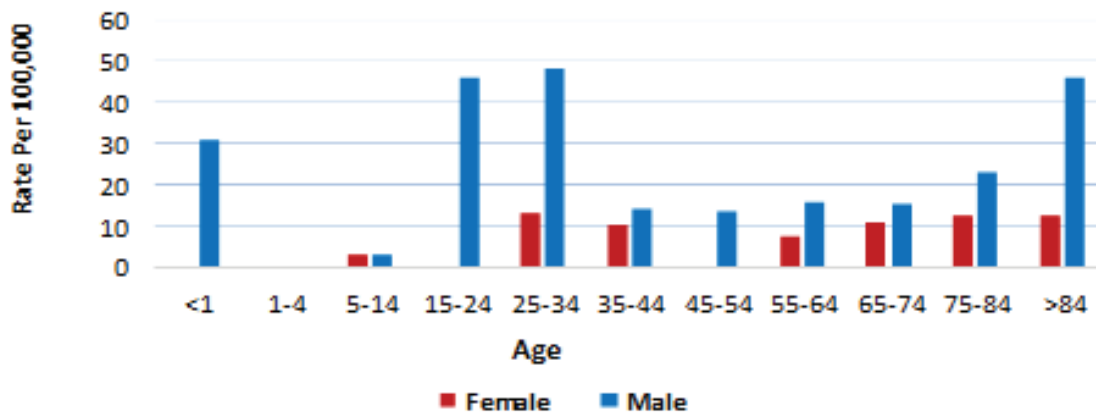
**Contributing Staff:** Ali Abadi and Stephanie Taylor. Last updated May 2016

Find more health information at [www.shastahhsa.net](http://www.shastahhsa.net). Click on "Health and Safety," then "Current Health Concerns." Questions? Email [shastahealthdata@co.shasta.ca.us](mailto:shastahealthdata@co.shasta.ca.us)

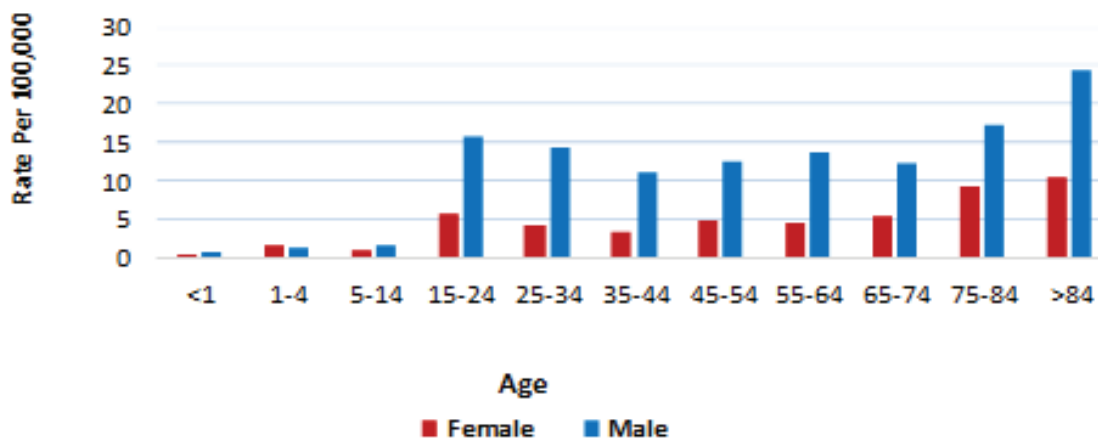
**Age-Specific Motor Vehicle Injury Death Rates in 2013**

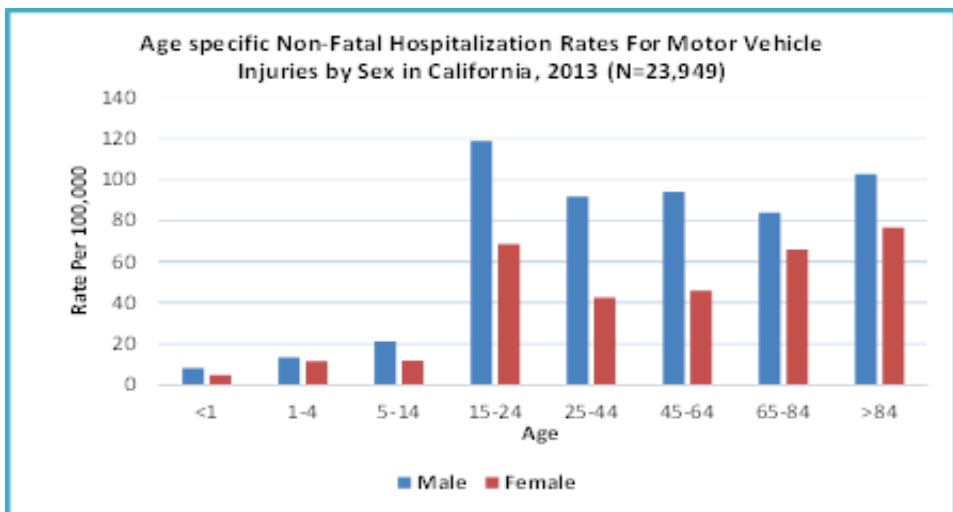
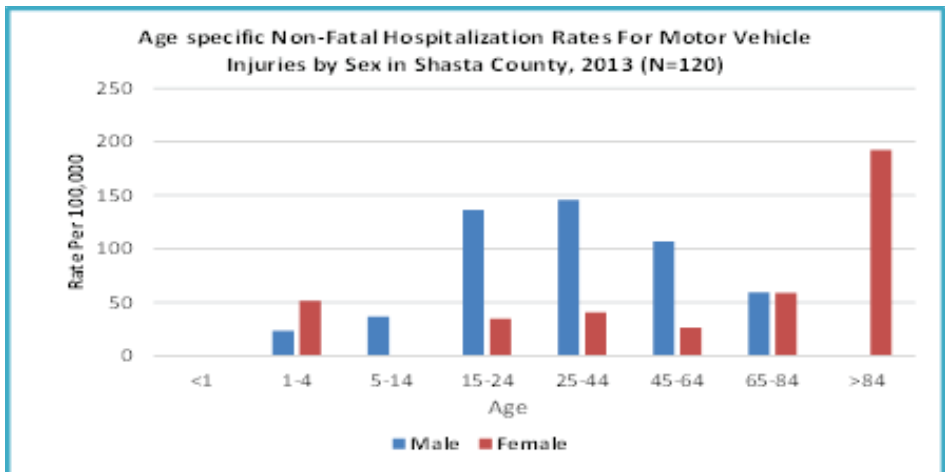
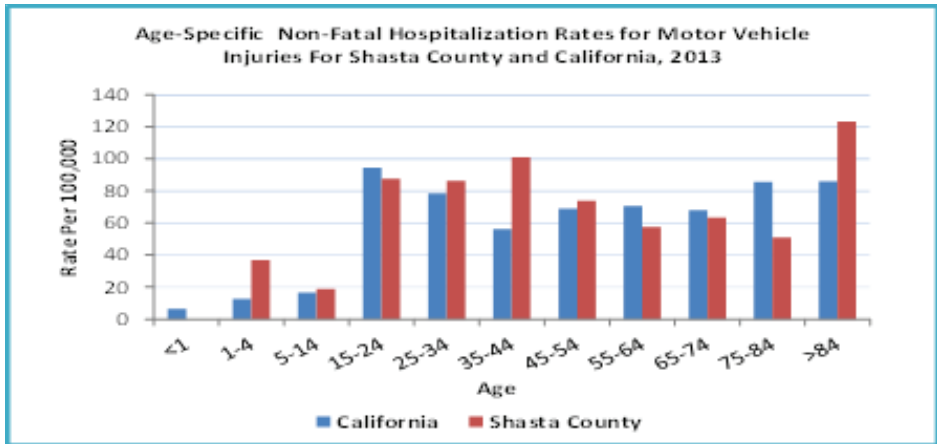
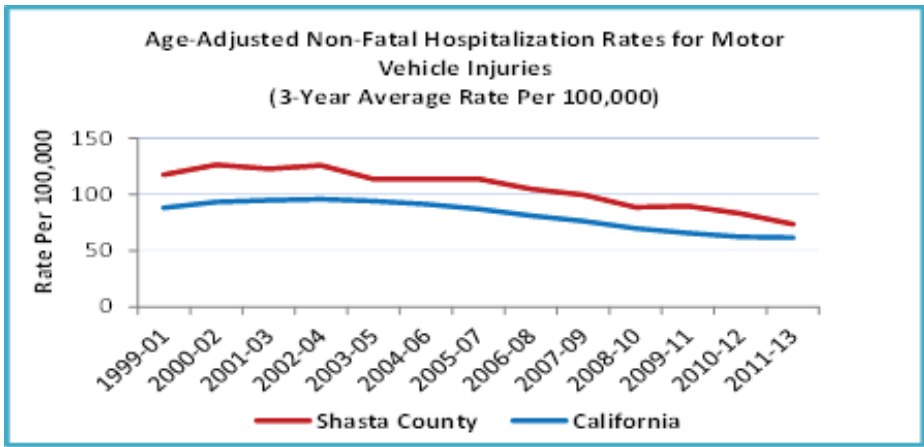


**Age-Specific Motor Vehicle Injury Death Rates By Sex In Shasta County during 2011-2013 (N=75)**



**Age-Specific Motor Vehicle Injury Death Rates By Sex In California During 2011-2013 (N=8,845)**





## KEY POINTS:

- While the age-adjusted death rate for motor vehicle crashes declined significantly in Shasta County during the last decade, Shasta County continued to suffer a rate that was much higher than California's (15.4 vs. 7.8 per 100,000) in 2011-2013, and did not meet the Healthy People 2020 goal of 12.4 per 100,000.
- Most of the motor vehicle injury deaths in California and Shasta County occurred among those aged 15 to 64 and the death rate in men was about three times higher than that of women.
- The age-adjusted non-fatal hospitalization rate for motor vehicle injury declined for Shasta County and California during 1999-2013. The rate for Shasta County was consistently about 50% higher than the average state rate during that period.
- The motor vehicle injury non-fatal hospitalization rate in 2013 was highest in those age 15 and older in Shasta County and California. The rate for men was higher than the rate for women in most of the age groups.

## PRIMARY PREVENTION ACTIVITIES:

- Enforce primary seat belt laws. A law enforcement officer may stop and ticket a driver directly for no seat belt use.
- Provide educational campaigns that increase seat belt and child safety seat use and promote safe driving practices.
- Enforce graduated licensing for new drivers.
- Enforce speed limits and laws that prohibit driving under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or other drugs.
- Encourage safer road engineering and better safety engineering of motor vehicles (e.g. front and side air bags in more vehicles, lower center of gravity to prevent roll-overs).
- Friends don't let friends drive drunk.

### From the Desk of **Andrew Deckert,** **MD, MPH**

*Shasta County  
Public Health Officer*



Motor vehicle-related injuries are among the frequent causes of emergency department visits, hospital admissions and deaths. Most of these injuries and the subsequent suffering and deaths are avoidable.

Preventing crash-related deaths involves three priority areas:

- Seat belts and child passenger safety
- Teen driver safety
- Preventing driving while impaired by alcohol, marijuana or other drugs

Each of these measures significantly reduces the number of motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths.

***To your health!***