



2022 Ohio Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Older Adults

FAST FACTS

- In 2022, 1,717 Ohioans aged 65 years and older died from an unintentional fall, an increase of 4% over 2021.
- The rate of unintentional fall deaths is higher among males. In 2022, the rate among males was 103.2 per 100,000 compared with 75.4 per 100,000 among females.
- Ohioans 85 years and older have the highest rate of unintentional fall deaths.
- White non-Hispanic Ohioans had the highest rate of unintentional fall deaths, which increased 8% from 2020 to 2022.
- For the majority of unintentional fall deaths among older adults, the injury occurred at home, regardless of sex and age.

RESOURCES

Ohio Older Adult Falls Prevention Coalition

<https://rb.gy/73638>

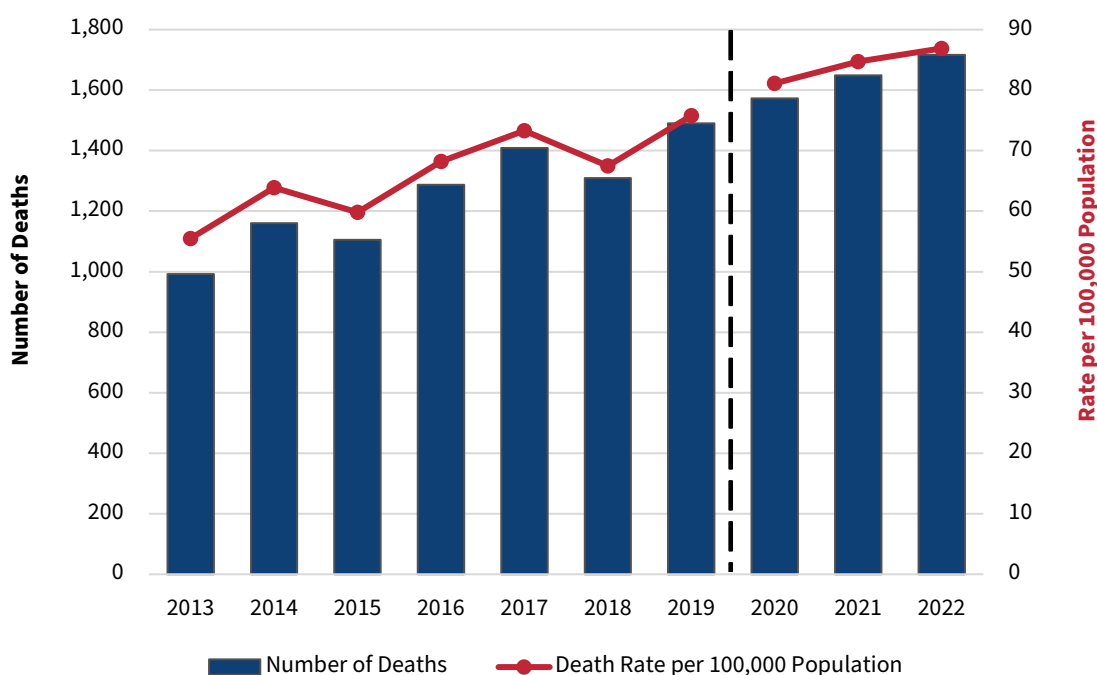
National Council on Aging

<https://www.ncoa.org/older-adults/health/prevention/falls-prevention/>

Unintentional Fall Deaths in Ohio

- Unintentional falls among older adults, aged 65 and older, are a leading cause of fatal and nonfatal injuries in the U.S. and Ohio. While older adults make up 18% of the Ohio population, they account for 88% of the unintentional fall deaths across the state.
- In 2022, 1,717 Ohioans 65 years and older died as a result of an unintentional fall or a health condition resulting or originating from a fall. This was a 4% increase over 2021 (1,649 deaths).
- From 2021 to 2022, the rate of unintentional fall deaths among older adults increased 3% (84.7 to 86.9 per 100,000 population).

Figure 1. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Year, Ohio, 2013-2022**



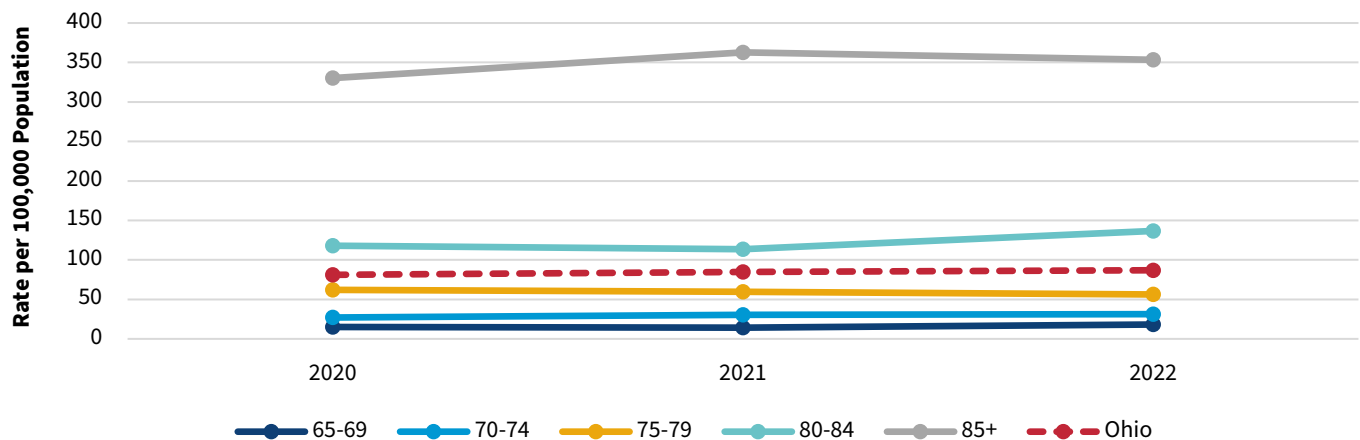
****At the time of this report, population files from the federal government reflecting new national standards and methodologies were available for 2020 through 2022 only. Because of this change, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) advises caution in comparing these rates to those from years prior to 2020, as indicated by the segmented line in the graphic.**

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section (VIESS). Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional fall (underlying cause of death International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision [ICD-10], codes W00-W19).

Demographics: Age and Sex

- Ohioans aged 85 years and older had the highest rate of unintentional fall deaths in all years shown. The rate decreased 3% from 362.8 deaths per 100,000 population in 2021 to 353.4 per 100,000 population in 2022.
- Adults 65-69 years of age had the largest percent increase in the rate of unintentional fall deaths from 2021 to 2022, a 28% increase from 14.2 to 18.2 deaths per 100,000 population.
- From 2021 to 2022, the rate of unintentional fall deaths increased 2% among Ohioans 70-74 years of age and 20% among Ohioans 80-84 years of age, while the rate among Ohioans 75-79 years of age decreased 6%.

Figure 2. Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Age Group, Ohio, 2020-2022



- In 2022:
 - Females made up 53% (906 deaths) of unintentional fall deaths among older adults, while males made up 47% (811 deaths).
 - The number and rate of unintentional fall deaths increased with age among both females and males.
 - Adults aged 85 years and older were disproportionately burdened by unintentional fall deaths.
 - Among adults 65-79 years, males had a higher number of unintentional fall deaths compared with females, while females had a higher number of deaths among those aged 80+ years.
 - For each age group presented in Figure 4, males had a higher rate of unintentional fall deaths compared with females.

Figure 3. Number of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Age and Sex, Ohio, 2022

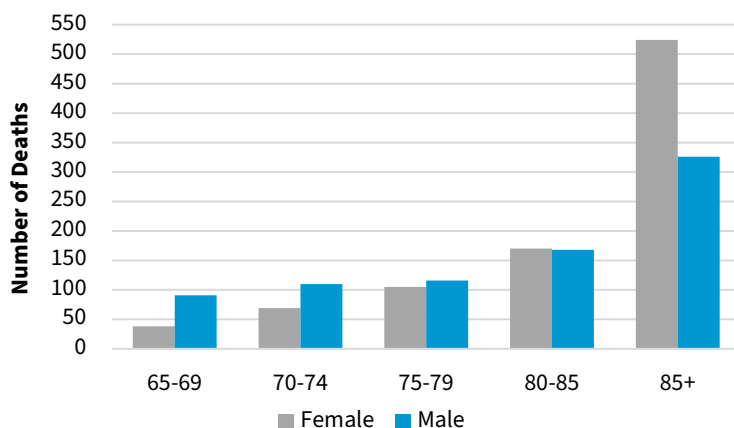
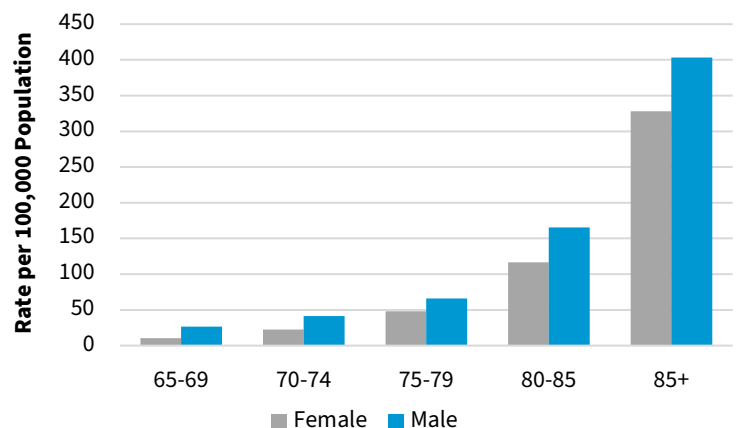


Figure 4. Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Age and Sex, Ohio, 2022



Demographics: Race and Ethnicity

- White non-Hispanic Ohioans had the highest rate of unintentional fall deaths in all years shown. Of the race/ethnicity groups presented, the White non-Hispanic population was the only group for which the rate consistently increased from 2020 to 2022. During this period, the rate of unintentional fall deaths increased 8% from 86.6 to 93.4 deaths per 100,000 population.
 - The increase from 2020 to 2021 was driven by White non-Hispanic females, while the increase from 2021 to 2022 was driven by White non-Hispanic males.
- From 2021 to 2022, Hispanic Ohioans had the largest percentage increase in the rate of unintentional fall deaths (19%). In contrast, the rate of fall deaths decreased among Black non-Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic Ohioans (20% and 13%, respectively).

Figure 5. Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2020-2022**

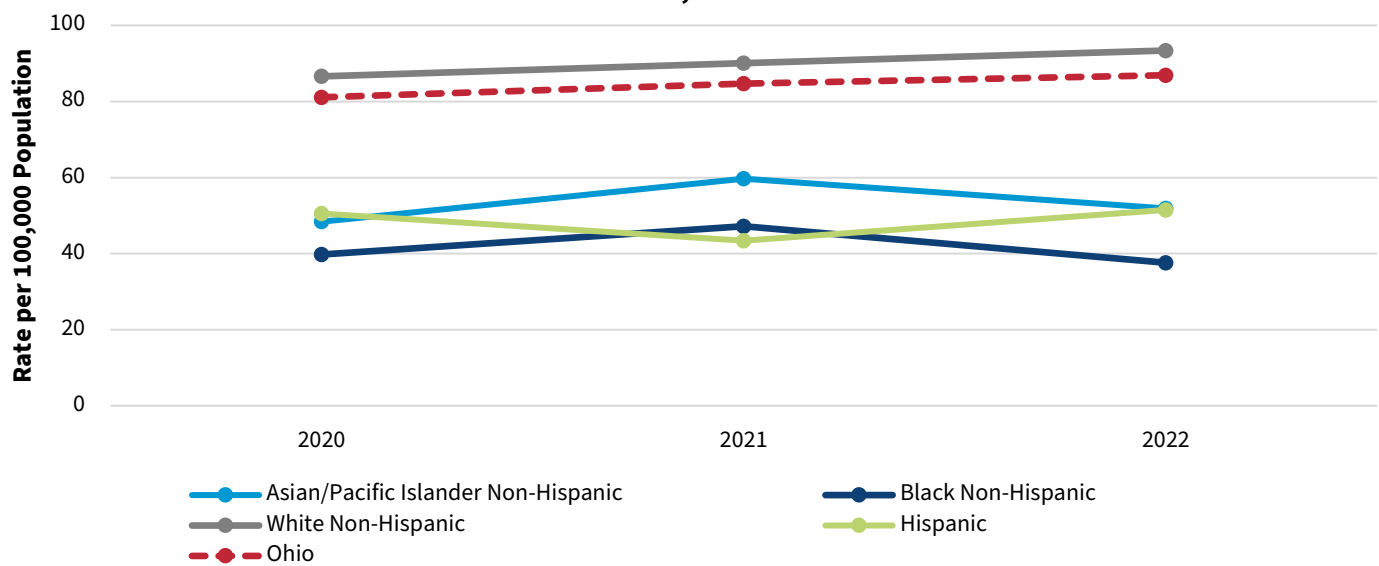
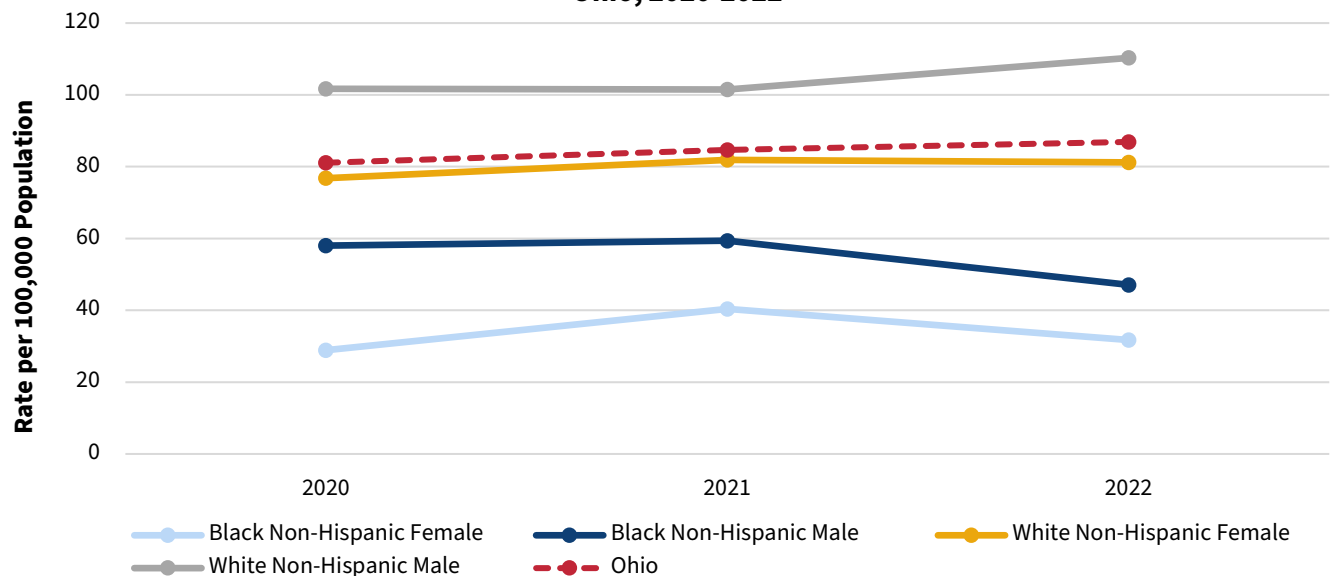


Figure 6. Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Race/Ethnicity and Sex, Ohio, 2020-2022**



Demographic Summary

Table 1. Number and Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Demographic, Ohio, 2018-2022

| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 | | 2020-2022 | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Demographics | Number | Number | Number | Rate ¹ | Number | Rate ¹ | Number | Rate ¹ | Number | Rate ¹ |
| Age | | | | | | | | | | |
| 65-69 | 90 | 95 | 102 | 14.9 | 99 | 14.2 | 129 | 18.2 | 330 | 15.8 |
| 70-74 | 108 | 140 | 148 | 27.1 | 176 | 30.6 | 179 | 31.3 | 503 | 29.7 |
| 75-79 | 171 | 203 | 220 | 62.1 | 214 | 59.7 | 221 | 56.2 | 655 | 59.2 |
| 80-84 | 236 | 258 | 282 | 117.8 | 274 | 113.6 | 338 | 136.7 | 894 | 122.8 |
| 85+ | 704 | 794 | 821 | 330.3 | 886 | 362.8 | 850 | 353.4 | 2,557 | 348.7 |
| Sex | | | | | | | | | | |
| Female | 701 | 816 | 847 | 70.9 | 916 | 76.4 | 906 | 75.4 | 2,669 | 74.2 |
| Male | 608 | 674 | 726 | 97.0 | 733 | 96.7 | 811 | 103.2 | 2,270 | 99.0 |
| Race/Ethnicity** | | | | | | | | | | |
| American Indian Non-Hispanic | 1 | 1 | 1 | . | 0 | . | 2 | . | 3 | . |
| Asian/Pacific Islander Non-Hispanic | 8 | 10 | 11 | 48.4 | 14 | 59.7 | 14 | 51.9 | 39 | 53.4 |
| Black Non-Hispanic | 48 | 74 | 69 | 39.8 | 84 | 47.2 | 66 | 37.6 | 219 | 41.5 |
| White Non-Hispanic | 1,245 | 1,398 | 1,475 | 86.6 | 1,537 | 90.1 | 1,614 | 93.4 | 4,626 | 90.0 |
| Multiracial Non-Hispanic | 0 | 2 | 3 | . | 2 | . | 4 | . | 9 | . |
| Hispanic | 7 | 4 | 14 | 50.5 | 12 | 43.4 | 16 | 51.5 | 42 | 48.4 |
| Race/Ethnicity and Sex** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Non-Hispanic Females | 25 | 40 | 31 | 28.9 | 45 | 40.4 | 37 | 31.7 | 113 | 33.6 |
| Black Non-Hispanic Males | 23 | 34 | 38 | 58.0 | 39 | 59.4 | 29 | 47.1 | 106 | 54.9 |
| White Non-Hispanic Females | 667 | 768 | 805 | 76.8 | 859 | 81.9 | 850 | 81.2 | 2,514 | 80.0 |
| White Non-Hispanic Males | 578 | 630 | 670 | 101.7 | 678 | 101.5 | 764 | 110.3 | 2,112 | 104.6 |
| Hispanic Females | 4 | 0 | 5 | . | 6 | . | 7 | . | 18 | 36.7 |
| Hispanic Males | 3 | 4 | 9 | . | 6 | . | 9 | . | 24 | 64.4 |
| Total Unintentional Fall Deaths² | 1,309 | 1,490 | 1,573 | 81.1 | 1,649 | 84.7 | 1,717 | 86.9 | 4,939 | 84.3 |

****This data reflects new national standards used in the creation of race categories. Caution should be used when comparing data to that of previous reports.**

Other race and ethnicity groups are not presented due to small numbers.

1. The death rates presented for age groups are age-specific. The death rates presented for sex and race/ethnicity are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

2. Total includes all unintentional fall deaths among Ohio residents.

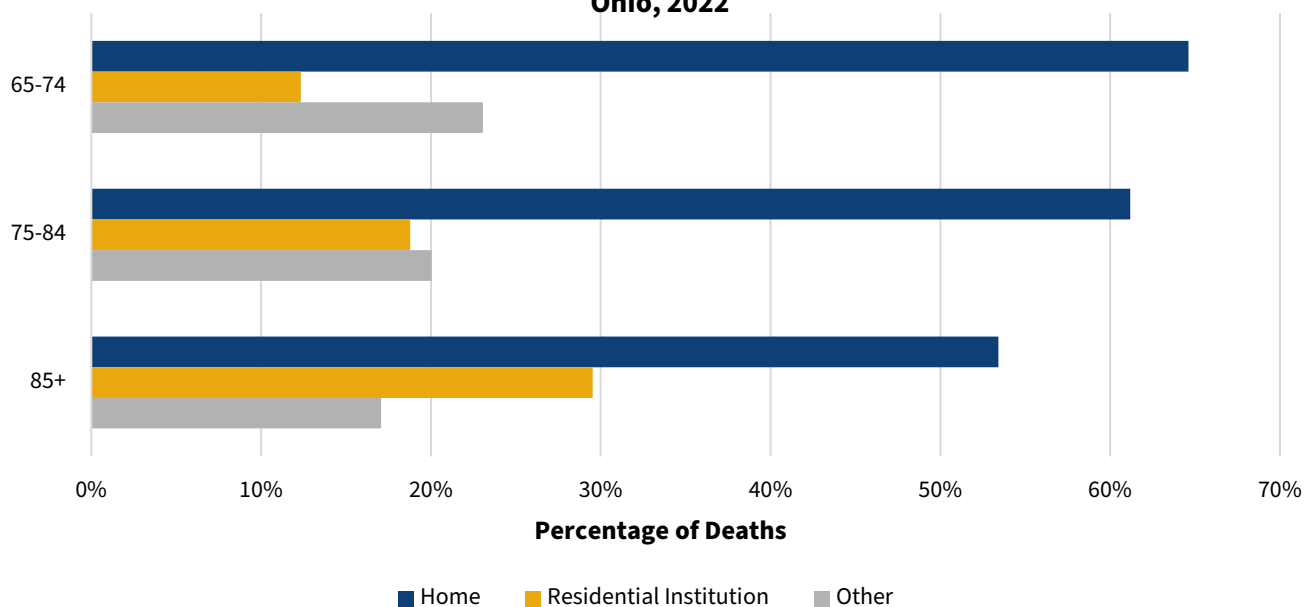
Location of Injury

- In 2022:
 - Home was the location of injury in a higher percentage of male deaths compared to female deaths (64% and 53%, respectively). In contrast, residential institution (e.g., nursing home, assisted living facility) was the location of injury for a higher percentage of female deaths compared with male deaths (30% and 15%, respectively).
 - Other location of injury, which includes school, other institutions, and administrative area; sports or recreation area; street/highway; trade and service area; industrial and construction area; farm; and other specified and unspecified place, was the location in 18% of female fall deaths and 21% of male deaths.
 - Home was the leading injury location among each age group shown in Figure 8.
 - The percentage of unintentional fall deaths in which home was the injury location decreased with age, while the percentage of deaths in which residential institution was the location of injury increased with age.

Figure 7. Percentage of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Location of Injury and Sex, Ohio, 2022



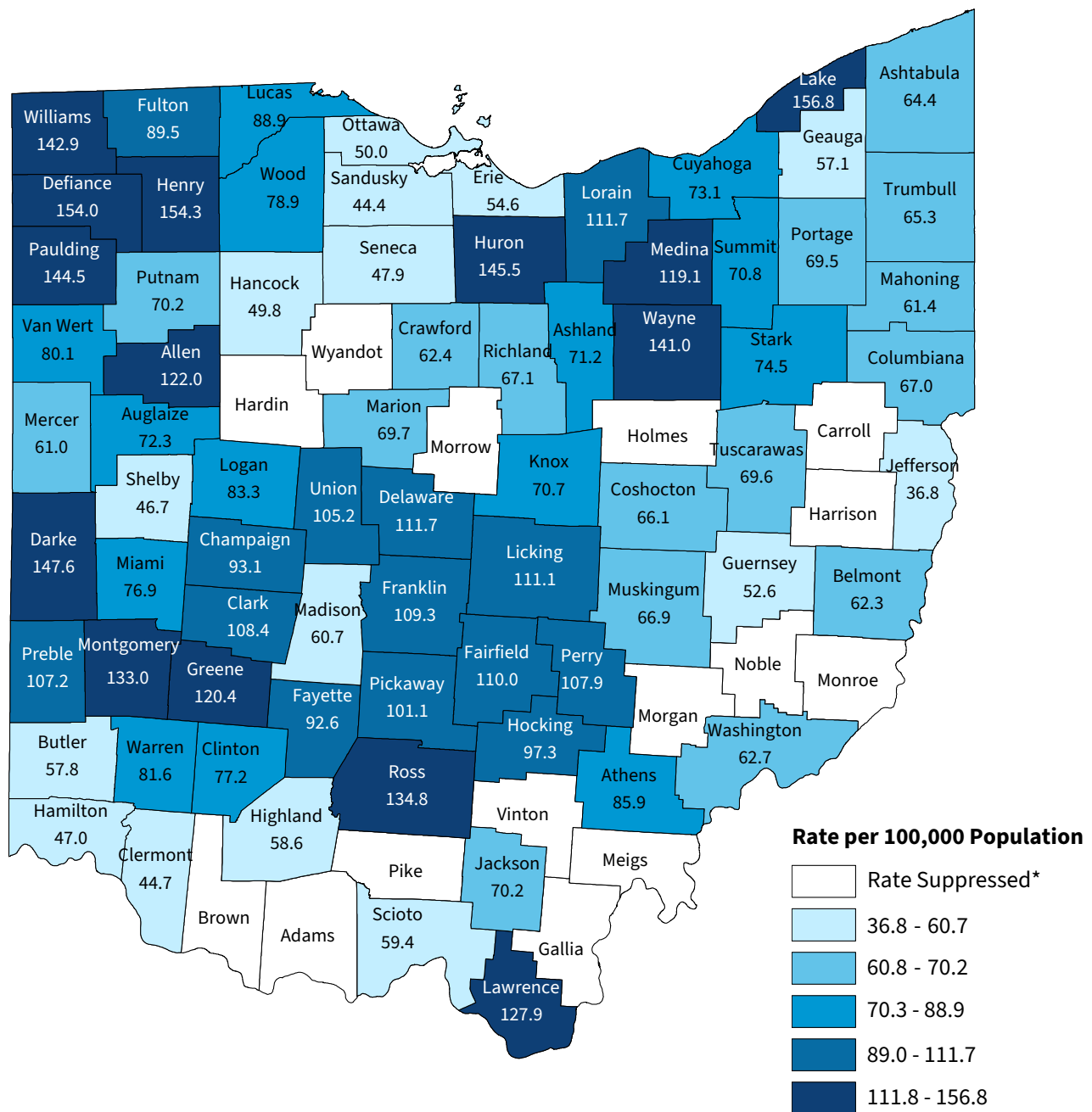
Figure 8. Percentage of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by Location of Injury and Age Group, Ohio, 2022



Other injury location includes school, other institutions, and administrative area; sports or recreation area; street/highway; trade and service area; industrial and construction area; farm; and other specified and unspecified place.

County

Figure 9. Average Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by County, Ohio, 2020-2022



*Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

- From 2020 to 2022, Lake County had the highest rate of unintentional fall-related deaths. For every 100,000 older adult residents, nearly 157 died from unintentional falls.

County

Table 2. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by County, Ohio, 2018-2022

| County ¹ | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2022 Rate ² | 2020-2022 Rate ² |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ohio | 1,309 | 1,490 | 1,573 | 1,649 | 1,717 | 86.9 | 84.3 |
| Adams | 3 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | . | . |
| Allen | 5 | 16 | 27 | 23 | 15 | 84.1 | 122.0 |
| Ashland | 2 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 10 | 98.7 | 71.2 |
| Ashtabula | 2 | 5 | 11 | 8 | 15 | 86.0 | 64.4 |
| Athens | 8 | 11 | 6 | 11 | 3 | . | 85.9 |
| Auglaize | 3 | 4 | 14 | 2 | 3 | . | 72.3 |
| Belmont | 10 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 9 | . | 62.3 |
| Brown | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | . | . |
| Butler | 21 | 25 | 29 | 30 | 37 | 65.0 | 57.8 |
| Carroll | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | . | . |
| Champaign | 3 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 5 | . | 93.1 |
| Clark | 18 | 23 | 18 | 30 | 34 | 133.8 | 108.4 |
| Clermont | 12 | 14 | 12 | 15 | 18 | 51.5 | 44.7 |
| Clinton | 5 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5 | . | 77.2 |
| Columbiana | 10 | 15 | 14 | 11 | 17 | 79.5 | 67.0 |
| Coshocton | 2 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 4 | . | 66.1 |
| Crawford | 6 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 7 | . | 62.4 |
| Cuyahoga | 153 | 206 | 193 | 160 | 163 | 69.5 | 73.1 |
| Darke | 16 | 10 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 157.8 | 147.6 |
| Defiance | 3 | 7 | 9 | 13 | 9 | . | 154.0 |
| Delaware | 24 | 15 | 31 | 26 | 34 | 117.2 | 111.7 |
| Erie | 6 | 10 | 14 | 7 | 6 | . | 54.6 |
| Fairfield | 24 | 30 | 25 | 29 | 25 | 99.9 | 110.0 |
| Fayette | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | . | 92.6 |
| Franklin | 100 | 114 | 150 | 173 | 161 | 107.7 | 109.3 |
| Fulton | 2 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 7 | . | 89.5 |
| Gallia | 4 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 2 | . | . |
| Geauga | 8 | 14 | 5 | 11 | 18 | 89.4 | 57.1 |
| Greene | 19 | 31 | 31 | 34 | 39 | 131.8 | 120.4 |
| Guernsey | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 4 | . | 52.6 |
| Hamilton | 56 | 69 | 70 | 55 | 52 | 40.0 | 47.0 |
| Hancock | 6 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 7 | . | 49.8 |
| Hardin | 5 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | . | . |
| Harrison | 0 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 2 | . | . |
| Henry | 0 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 5 | . | 154.3 |

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional fall (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes W00-W19).

1. County is determined by county of residence.

2. Death rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

County

Table 2. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by County, Ohio, 2018-2022

| County ¹ | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2022 Rate ² | 2020-2022 Rate ² |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ohio | 1,309 | 1,490 | 1,573 | 1,649 | 1,717 | 86.9 | 84.3 |
| Highland | 1 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 5 | . | 58.6 |
| Hocking | 7 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 6 | . | 97.3 |
| Holmes | 3 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 2 | . | . |
| Huron | 2 | 6 | 15 | 10 | 15 | 168.0 | 145.5 |
| Jackson | 2 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 3 | . | 70.2 |
| Jefferson | 7 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 4 | . | 36.8 |
| Knox | 8 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 6 | . | 70.7 |
| Lake | 49 | 70 | 79 | 54 | 84 | 180.5 | 156.8 |
| Lawrence | 8 | 8 | 20 | 13 | 4 | . | 127.9 |
| Licking | 19 | 27 | 29 | 32 | 26 | 97.7 | 111.1 |
| Logan | 6 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 4 | . | 83.3 |
| Lorain | 51 | 61 | 57 | 64 | 68 | 118.1 | 111.7 |
| Lucas | 54 | 51 | 53 | 58 | 68 | 100.5 | 88.9 |
| Madison | 6 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 7 | . | 60.7 |
| Mahoning | 26 | 18 | 14 | 28 | 47 | 95.9 | 61.4 |
| Marion | 8 | 9 | 4 | 9 | 10 | 87.4 | 69.7 |
| Medina | 28 | 17 | 34 | 42 | 37 | 112.9 | 119.1 |
| Meigs | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | . | . |
| Mercer | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 | . | 61.0 |
| Miami | 9 | 11 | 21 | 8 | 15 | 79.1 | 76.9 |
| Monroe | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | . | . |
| Montgomery | 126 | 135 | 121 | 135 | 130 | 134.8 | 133.0 |
| Morgan | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | . | . |
| Morrow | 5 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | . | . |
| Muskingum | 7 | 7 | 13 | 4 | 12 | 83.0 | 66.9 |
| Noble | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | . | . |
| Ottawa | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 8 | . | 50.0 |
| Paulding | 7 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 6 | . | 144.5 |
| Perry | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 4 | . | 107.9 |
| Pickaway | 8 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 11 | 122.4 | 101.1 |
| Pike | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | . | . |
| Portage | 15 | 16 | 12 | 23 | 17 | 68.3 | 69.5 |
| Preble | 4 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 11 | 161.8 | 107.2 |
| Putnam | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 6 | . | 70.2 |
| Richland | 6 | 9 | 12 | 17 | 19 | 80.0 | 67.1 |

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional fall (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes W00-W19).

1. County is determined by county of residence.

2. Death rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

County

Table 2. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Unintentional Fall Deaths Among Adults 65+ Years by County, Ohio, 2018-2022

| County ¹ | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2022 Rate ² | 2020-2022 Rate ² |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Ohio | 1,309 | 1,490 | 1,573 | 1,649 | 1,717 | 86.9 | 84.3 |
| Ross | 17 | 22 | 14 | 18 | 15 | 124.6 | 134.8 |
| Sandusky | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | . | 44.4 |
| Scioto | 8 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 82.0 | 59.4 |
| Seneca | 9 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 9 | . | 47.9 |
| Shelby | 2 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 3 | . | 46.7 |
| Stark | 61 | 66 | 58 | 45 | 58 | 79.8 | 74.5 |
| Summit | 55 | 38 | 66 | 70 | 69 | 71.0 | 70.8 |
| Trumbull | 15 | 19 | 16 | 36 | 32 | 74.4 | 65.3 |
| Tuscarawas | 9 | 10 | 14 | 16 | 8 | . | 69.6 |
| Union | 1 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 9 | . | 105.2 |
| Van Wert | 0 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 6 | . | 80.1 |
| Vinton | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | . | . |
| Warren | 23 | 30 | 26 | 33 | 21 | 62.5 | 81.6 |
| Washington | 6 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 11 | 88.2 | 62.7 |
| Wayne | 29 | 24 | 23 | 32 | 31 | 153.1 | 141.0 |
| Williams | 3 | 9 | 9 | 13 | 9 | . | 142.9 |
| Wood | 11 | 8 | 10 | 17 | 17 | 90.9 | 78.9 |
| Wyandot | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 | . | . |

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to unintentional fall (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes W00-W19).

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