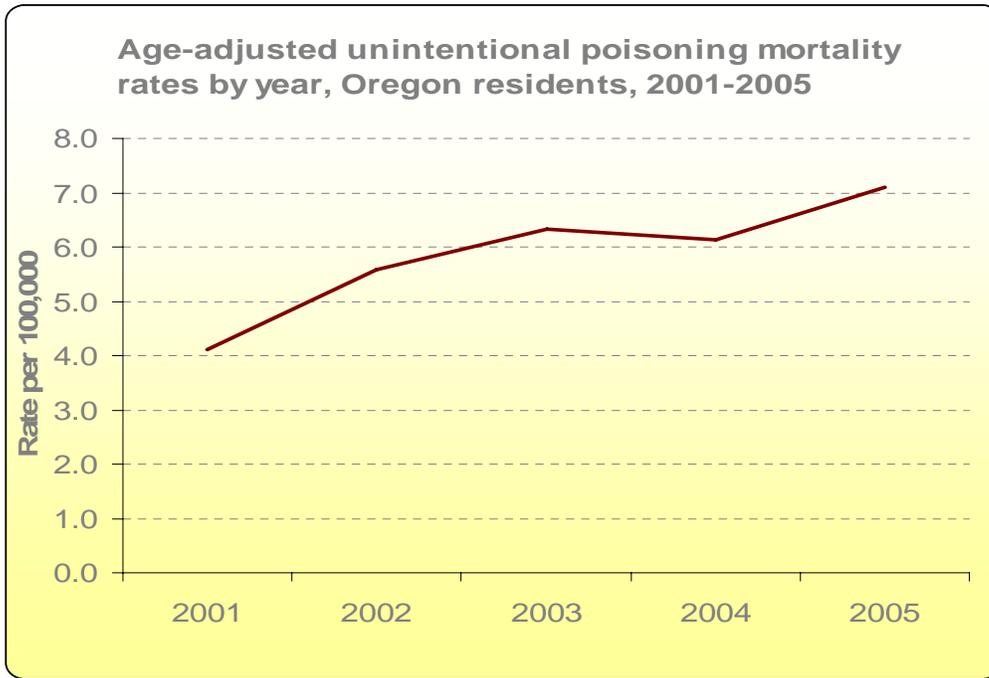


## Poisoning Injuries in Oregon



### What is the incident rate of death and hospitalization due to unintentional poisoning in Oregon?

- From 2001-2005, 1,050 Oregonians died as a result of unintentional poisoning.
- The unintentional poisoning death rate increased 42 percent from 2001 to 2005.
- From 2002-2004, over 4,700 individuals were discharged from Oregon hospitals for unintentional poisoning.
- Children under 5 and the elderly (aged 75+) are at greatest risk for unintentional poisoning hospitalization.
- Males aged 45-54 are at greatest risk for unintentional poisoning death.

### What are the causes of unintentional poisoning?

Much of the increase in death has been due to narcotics—this includes prescription “painkillers,” called opioids, and methadone that is also used as a painkiller.

### What is recommended to help prevent unintentional poisoning?

- Prescription monitoring programs can be utilized to identify patients who abuse drugs and fill multiple prescriptions.
- Identify providers whose practices in prescribing drugs are outside the appropriate medical standards of care.

**For more information contact:**  
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