

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes the events that led to the development of the Oregon Trauma System, and the components that characterize it today. Oregon Trauma Registry data are used to describe Oregon's trauma system, its patient population, and to analyze if changes in practice and outcome have occurred over the past several years.

- There are 50 acute care facilities participating in the Oregon Trauma System: forty-four in Oregon, four in Washington, one in Idaho, and one in California.
- Motor vehicle crashes accounted for nearly half of all patients reported to the Oregon Trauma Registry.
- Sixty-nine percent of all trauma registry patient deaths occurred after motor vehicle crashes (32%), falls (20%), and firearm incidents (17%).
- Of the patients tested for blood alcohol, 40% tested positive: 10.5% with a level of less than .08 gm/100cc, and 29.6% above the legal limit of .08 gm/100cc.
- Of all patients transported from the injury scene, 52% were taken directly to a Level I trauma facility, 21.2% to a Level II, 19% to a Level III, and 7.8% to a Level IV facility.
- July and August are the months with the highest trauma volume across the state.
- Eighty-two percent of patients identified for trauma system care required hospitalization; 11.2% underwent immediate surgery; and 20.9% were admitted to an intensive care unit from the emergency department.
- 16,773 operative procedures were performed on injured patients.
- While adult trauma injuries have been rising, the number of pediatric trauma injuries has remained fairly steady over the past ten years.
- The most frequent causes of pediatric trauma are motor vehicle crashes (40%) and falls (17%).
- The geriatric age group, although small in number, evidences a greater incidence of severe traumatic injury than other age groups.
- Motor vehicle crashes (39%) and falls (36%) are the most common causes of injury for geriatric trauma patients.
- Injuries from firearms resulted in the highest mortality rate for both the pediatric (17%) and geriatric (40%) populations.