

KNOW **INJURY** IN THE **KIMBERLEY**

In 2015 throughout the Kimberley there were 20 fatalities and 2,373 hospitalisations due to injury. These hospitalisations consumed 6,792 bed days at an approximate cost of \$14,567,368.

The leading causes of these hospitalisations were assault, falls and transport; whilst intentional self-harm, transport and assault were the leading causes of fatalities.

Individuals aged **25-44** contributed to the highest proportion of injuries in the Kimberley from 2011 to 2015.

Aboriginal peoples experienced over

3 times

the rate of injury hospitalisations in the Kimberley in 2006 to 2015.



Injury is defined as the intentional or unintentional harm to a person resulting from contact with an object, substance or another person, either through excessive energy or the sudden absence of vital elements, such as oxygen.¹

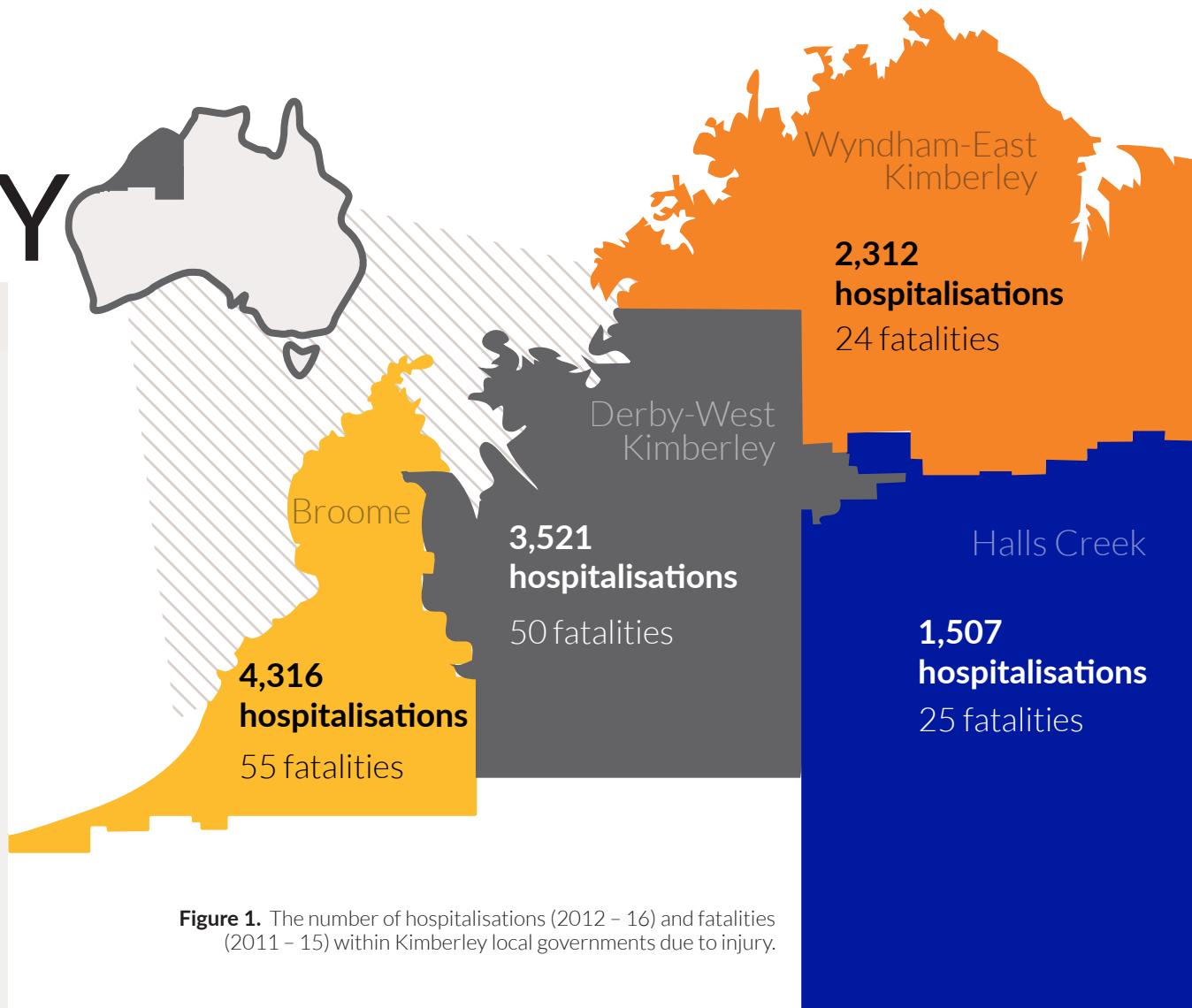


Figure 1. The number of hospitalisations (2012 – 16) and fatalities (2011 – 15) within Kimberley local governments due to injury.

Partner:



Department of Health



The Know Injury program is provided by Injury Matters in partnership with the Department of Health Western Australia.

t: (08) 6166 7688 e: info@knowinjury.org.au www.injurymatters.org.au



KNOW
INJURY IN THE
KIMBERLEY

| | Hospitalisations | | Fatalities | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---------|------------|------|
| | Number | ASR* | Number | ASR* |
| Falls | 1,984 | 1,248.9 | 6 | N/A |
| Road Trauma | 1,069 | 532.9 | 29 | 13.8 |
| Drowning | 21 | 12.0 | 7 | N/A |
| Violence | 3,104 | 1,480.9 | 10 | N/A |
| Suicide and Self-Harm | 511 | 250.6 | 84 | 42.4 |
| Burns and Scalds | 239 | 112.5 | 0 | N/A |
| Poisoning | 125 | 71.2 | 10 | N/A |

Figure 2. The number and rate of injury hospitalisations and fatalities in the Kimberley from 2011-15.

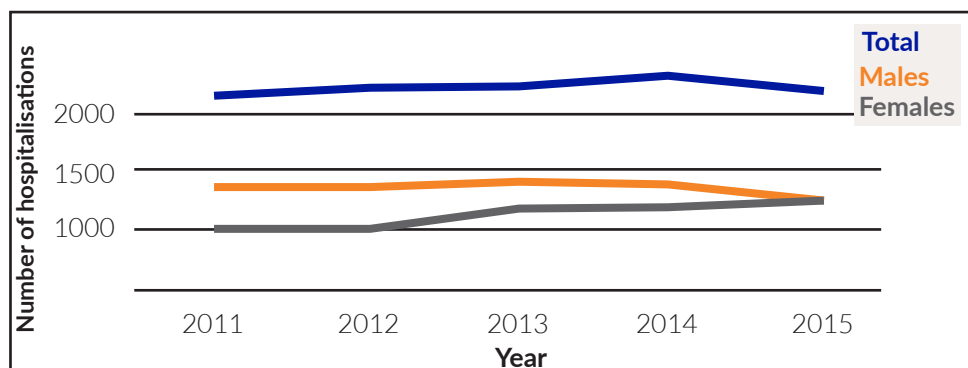


Figure 3. The number of hospitalisations in the Kimberley from 2011-15 due to injury.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters throughout Western Australia and pay respects to Elders past and present. We recognise the importance of continued connection to culture, country and community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

References:

1. National Public Health Partnership. The National Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Plan: 2004-2014. Canberra: Commonwealth of Australia; 2005 Jul. Report No.: 3738 (JN 9220). All data has been generated using HealthTracks Reporting, by the Epidemiology Branch, Department of Health WA in collaboration with the Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information (CRC-SI).

Data notes:

All hospital separations and fatalities within this report are identified using the principle diagnosis ICD-10-AM codes of S00-T98.
*ASR's (Age Standardised Rate) are standardised with the Australian 2001 standard population and expressed per 100,000 people.
Any hospitalisation or fatality counts less than five have been suppressed within this document to protect privacy and data confidentiality.

How can we reduce the impact of injury in the Kimberley?

Gaining an insight into the prevalence of injury within the Kimberley region can assist in identifying injury areas which may require targeted prevention interventions. Given the incidence of violence, suicide and self-harm, falls and road trauma in the Kimberley some actions which can be taken to reduce their prevalence include;

VIOLENCE

- Increase the capacity of first responders intervening in cases of family and domestic violence.
- Restrict alcohol advertising at sporting venues.



SUICIDE AND SELF-HARM

- Support local health professionals to complete Mental Health First Aid training.
- Promote the use of mental health and counselling services.



FALLS

- Engage in Stay On Your Feet® campaigns to increase community members' awareness of actions that they can take to reduce their risk of falling.
- Promote local strength and balance exercise classes.



ROAD TRAUMA

- Develop interventions which focus on the cornerstones of WA's Road Safety Strategy.
- Improve road infrastructure by sealing shoulders, installing audible edge lines, removing roadside hazards and installing safety barriers.



Visit www.knowinjury.org.au/know/injury-topics for additional injury prevention interventions.