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Humboldt County unintentional injury mortality data report, 2005-2018, version 6/27/2019

PURPOSE:

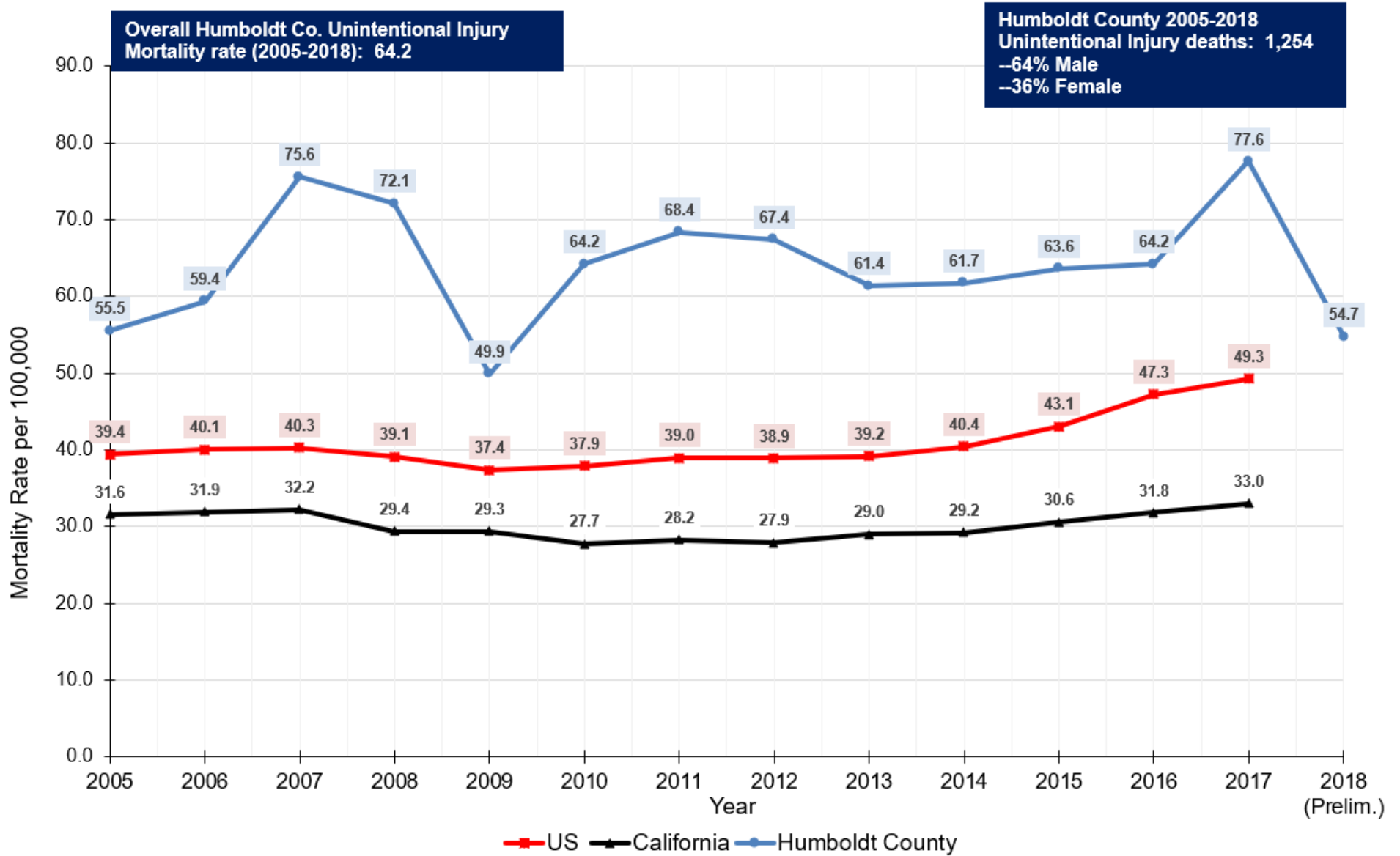
This report is a supplement to the “Health Outcomes and Risk Behaviors: Unintentional Injury” (Pg. 53) of the 2018 Humboldt County Community Health Assessment (CHA). The CHA can be found at: <https://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/71701/2018-Community-Health-Assessment-PDF>

SUMMARY:

1. In Humboldt County, deaths caused by unintentional injury are a significant public health concern. Annually, there are an average of 90 unintentional injury deaths, with an average rate/100,000 of 64.2, approximately 113% higher than California and 57% greater than the US rate (Figure 1). In 2018, the unintentional injury mortality rate decreased 33% from 2017 to the lowest rate since 2009. This represents a positive trend to monitor for 2019 (see notes on page 9 for a listing of unintentional injury deaths aggregated into this report).
2. From 2005-2018, there were 1,254 unintentional injury deaths in Humboldt County, with over 50% of those deaths from accidental poisoning (overdose) (Figure 2 & 6) for an annual average mortality rate per 100,000 of 28.8 (Figure 3).
3. With the exception of falls, Humboldt County has higher mortality rates for all major causes of unintentional injury and higher mortality rates by age range (except for age 70+) than California and the US (Figure 3 & 4).
4. In Humboldt County, the average age for accidental poisonings, motor vehicle crash injuries, bike and pedestrian injuries, drownings, and all other injures is between 40-49 years of age. For falls, the average age is nearly 76 years (Figure 5).
5. The unintentional injury mortality rate for Humboldt County American Indian/Alaska Native persons is 130% greater than Humboldt County White, non-Hispanics and 186% greater than other race/ethnicity groups within the county (Figure 7).

Figure 1:

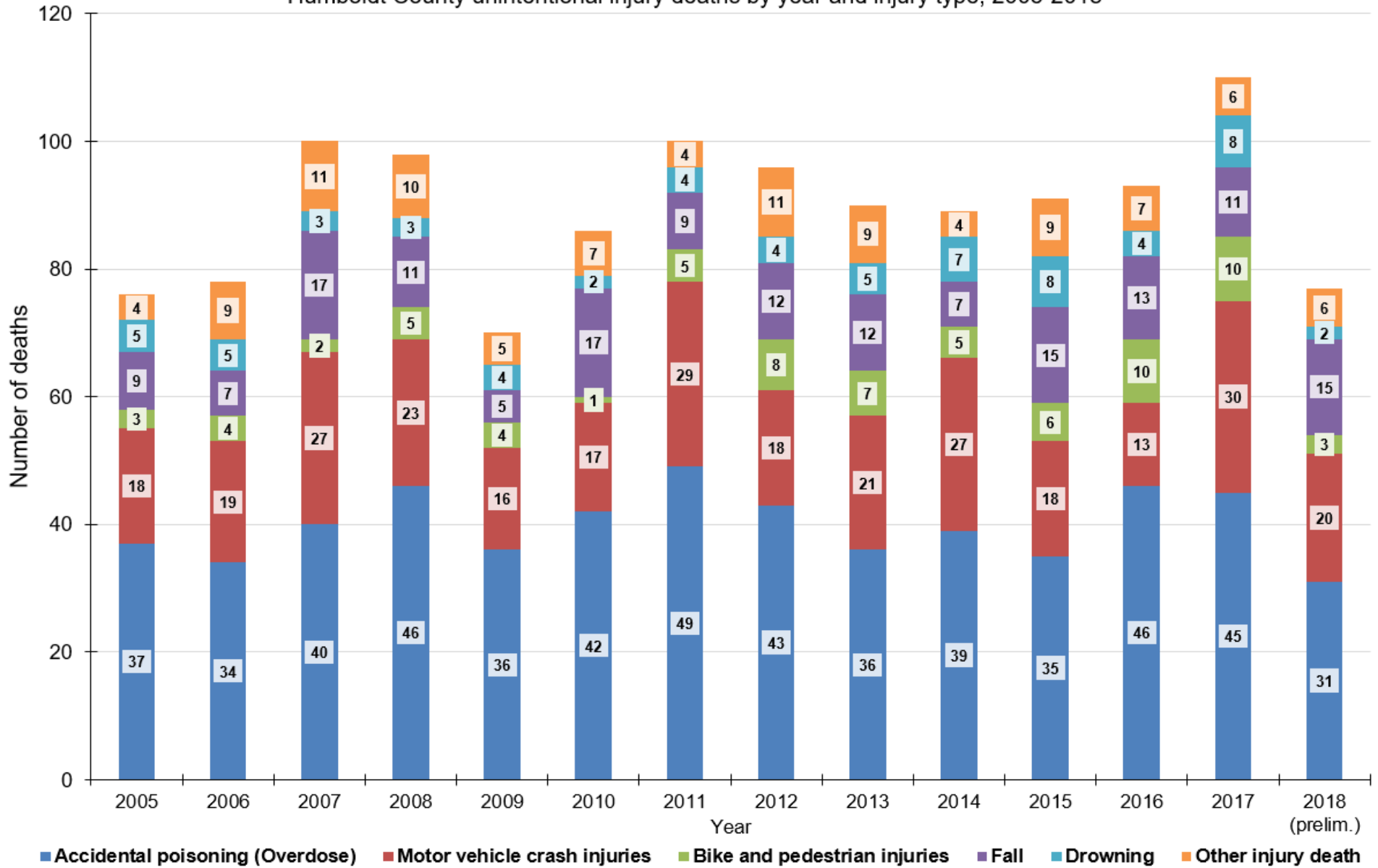
Overall Unintentional Injury Mortality Rates, US, California, Humboldt County, CA, 2005-2018



Sources: WISQARS Fatal Injury data Visualization Tool (<https://wisqars-viz.cdc.gov>), US Census American FactFinder, County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 2:

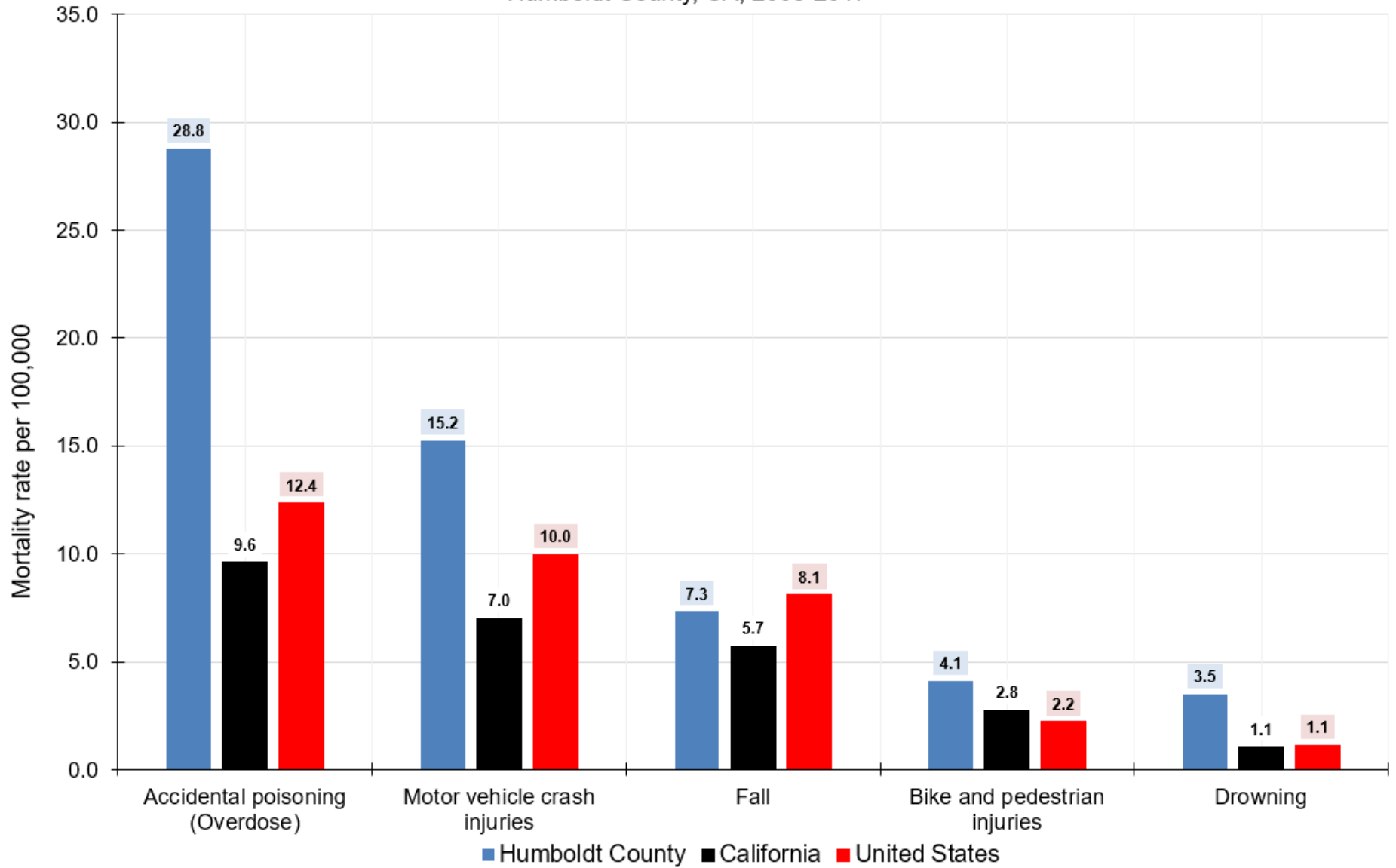
Humboldt County unintentional injury deaths by year and injury type, 2005-2018



Source: County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 3:

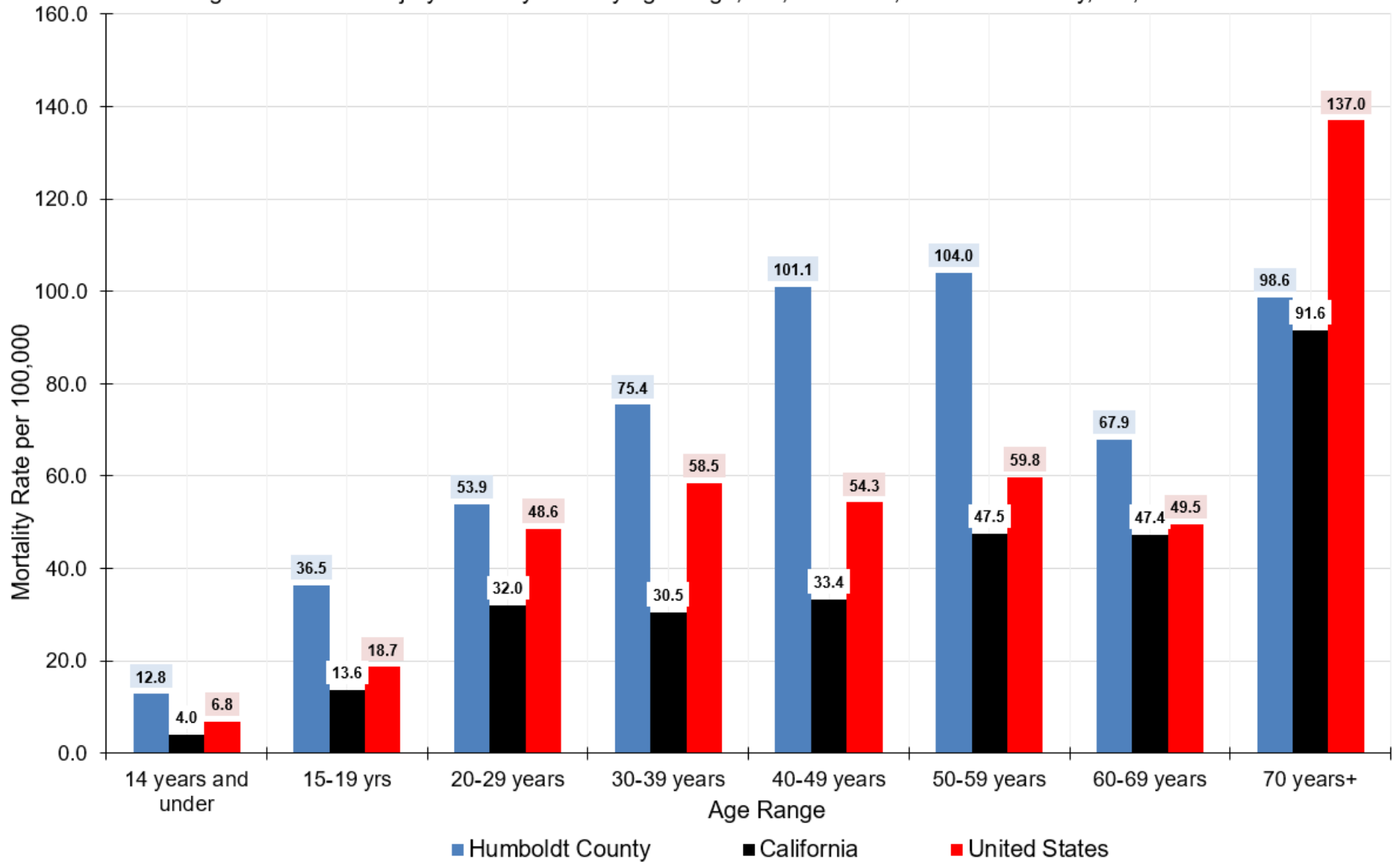
Average unintentional injury mortality rate per 100,000, by leading causes of injury, US, California, and Humboldt County, CA, 2005-2017



Sources: WISQARS Fatal Injury data Visualization Tool (<https://wisqars-viz.cdc.gov>), County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 4:

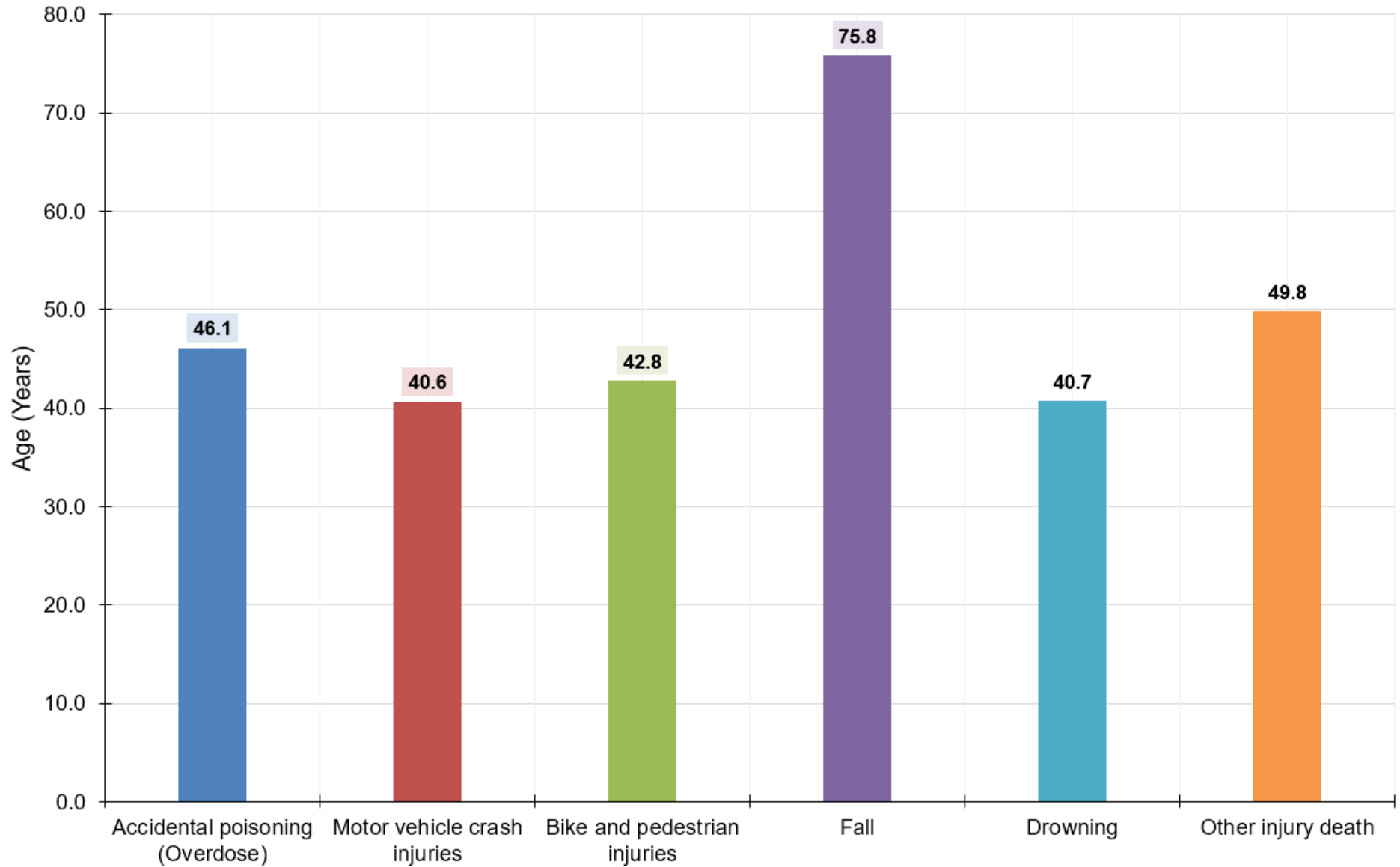
Average unintentional injury mortality rates by age range, US, California, Humboldt County, CA, 2005-2017



Sources: WISQARS Fatal Injury data Visualization Tool (<https://wisqars-viz.cdc.gov>), County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 5:

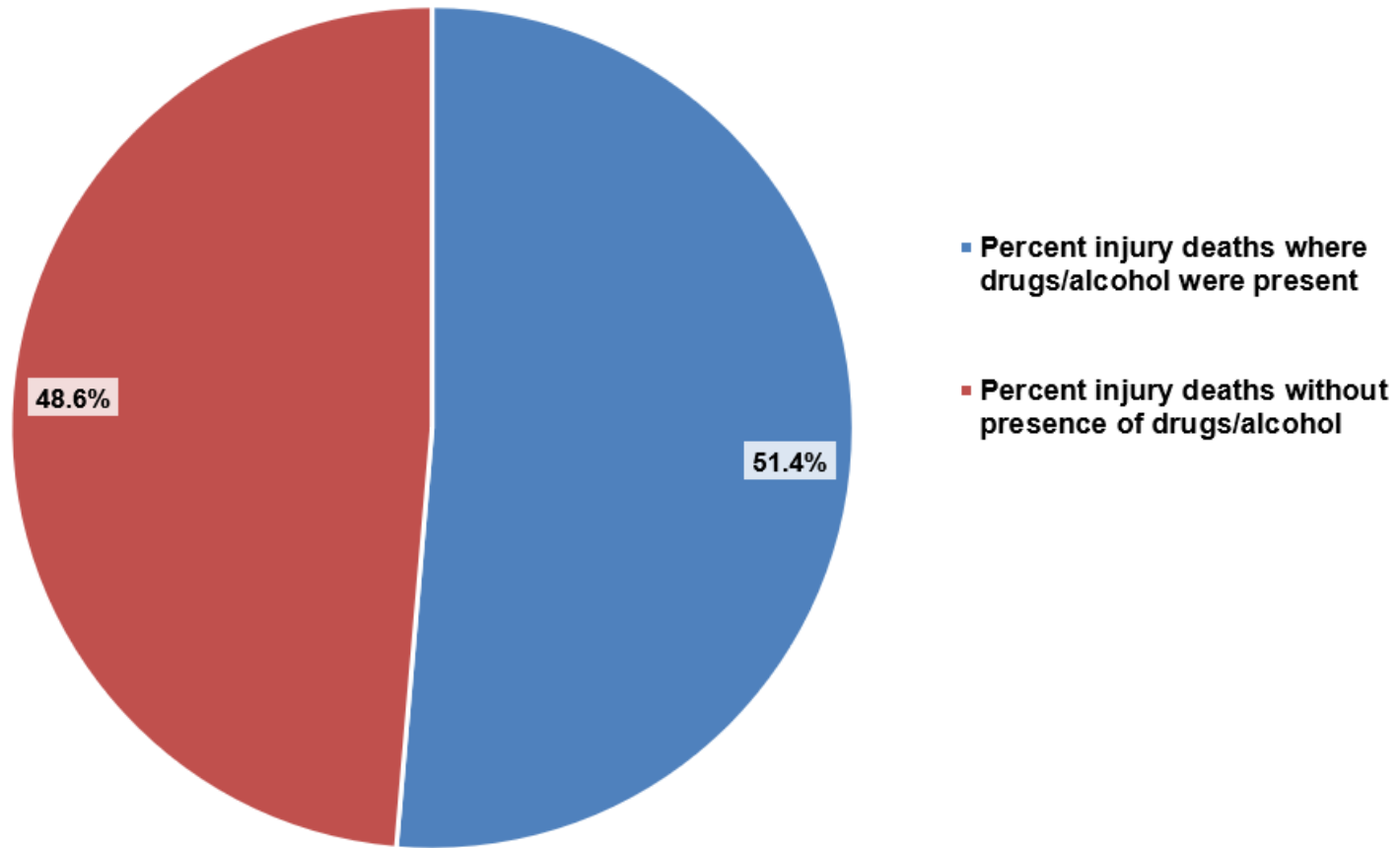
Humboldt County unintentional injury average age (in years) at time death, by injury type, 2015-2018



Source: County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

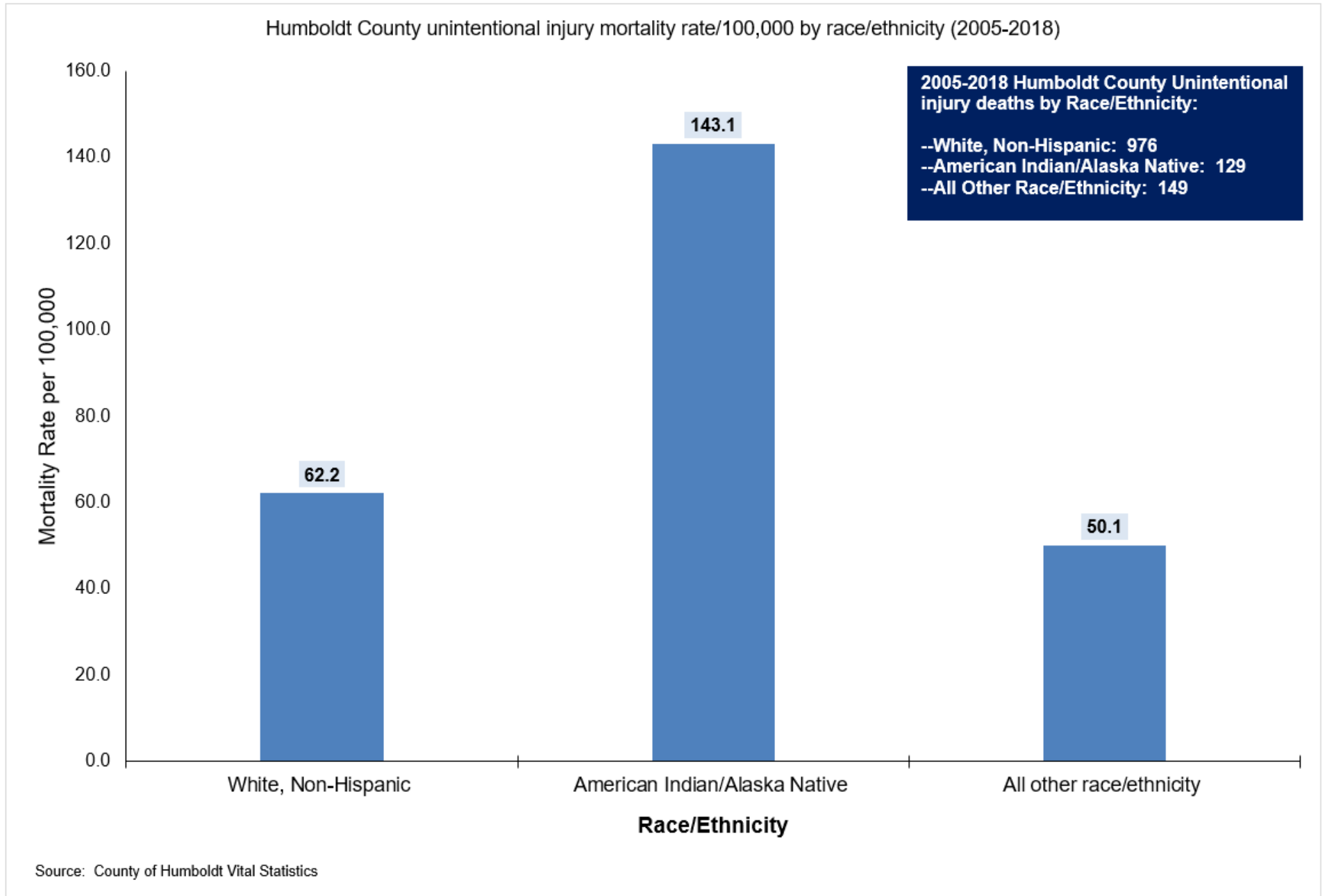
Figure 6:

2005-2018 Humboldt County unintentional injury deaths: Presence of drugs and/or alcohol



Source: County of Humboldt Vital Statistics
(see notes section, page 10)

Figure 7:



For questions regarding this report, contact Ron Largusa MSPH, Epidemiologist, Humboldt County DHHS-Public Health. (707)-268-2187. rlargusa@co.humboldt.ca.us

Sources:

California County Health Status Profiles, multiple years <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHSI/Pages/County-Health-Status-Profiles.aspx>

Census.gov American FactFinder <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

Humboldt County DHHS-Public Health Vital Statistics, 2005-2018

State of California Department of Finance—Demographics <http://www.dof.ca.gov/Forecasting/Demographics/>

WISQARS Fatal Injury data Visualization Tool <https://wisqars-viz.cdc.gov>

Notes:

Deaths are classified using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD–10). Unintentional injury deaths are defined in this report as having the following ICD–10 underlying cause-of-death codes:

1. V01-V09: Pedestrian injured in transport accident
2. V10-V19: Pedal cyclist injured in transport accident
3. V20-V29: Motorcycle rider injured in transport accident
4. V30-V39: Occupant of three-wheeled motor vehicle injured in transport accident
5. V40-V49: Car occupant injured in transport accident
6. V50-V59: Occupant of pick-up truck or van injured in transport accident
7. V60-V69: Occupant of heavy transport vehicle injured in transport accident
8. V70-V79: Bus occupant injured in transport accident
9. V80-V89: Other land transport accidents
10. V90-V94: Water transport accidents
11. V95-V97: Air and space transport accidents
12. V98-V99: Other and unspecified transport accidents
13. W00-W19: Falls
14. W20-W49: Exposure to inanimate mechanical forces
15. W50-W64: Exposure to animate mechanical forces
16. W65-W74: Accidental drowning and submersion
17. W75-W84: Other accidental threats to breathing
18. W85-W99: Exposure to electric current, radiation and extreme ambient air temperature and pressure
19. X00-X09: Exposure to smoke, fire and flames
20. X10-X19: Contact with heat and hot substances
21. X20-X29: Contact with venomous animals and plants
22. X30-X39: Exposure to forces of nature
23. X40-X49: Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances
24. X50-X57: Overexertion, travel and privation
25. X58-X59: Accidental exposure to other and unspecified factors
26. Y85-Y89: Sequelae of external causes of morbidity and mortality

Additionally, Humboldt County DHHS-Public Health-Epidemiology analyzes the electronic death registry system for California (CA-EDRS) using VRBIS (Vital Records Business System). The following text fields, or “Literals”, are qualitatively reviewed and each death is grouped into categories:

- a. Causes of death due to or as a consequence of a particular health event
- b. Significant conditions contributing to death
- c. Description of injury
- d. Manner of death, as determined by the Humboldt County Coroner or designee (example: Unintentional, Suicide, Natural, etc.)

Notes on “2005-2018 Unintentional injury deaths: Presence of drugs and/or alcohol (page 7)”:

- The majority of these deaths (87%) were from the ICD-10 underlying cause-of-death codes X40-X49, Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances.
- The remaining unintentional injury deaths in the presence of drugs/alcohol (13%) were distributed among other injury categories as follows (the percentage next to the injury cause is the percent where drugs/alcohol were identified as a contributing cause to the decedent. It is possible that there is an undercounting of these deaths, as toxicology results may not be present on electronic death certificates):
 - Drowning (29% Alcohol and/or drug present)
 - Motor vehicle crash injuries (13%)
 - Bike and pedestrian injuries (11%)
 - Fall (10%)
 - Other unintentional injuries (18%)

Death rates are considered “Unreliable” and must be viewed with caution when the rate estimate is calculated with a numerator of 20 or less and/or a relative standard error over 23%. For further information visit: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr63/nvsr63_09.pdf

Rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 US Census population distribution.