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Humboldt County alcohol-induced mortality data report, 2005-2018, version 3/6/2019

PURPOSE:

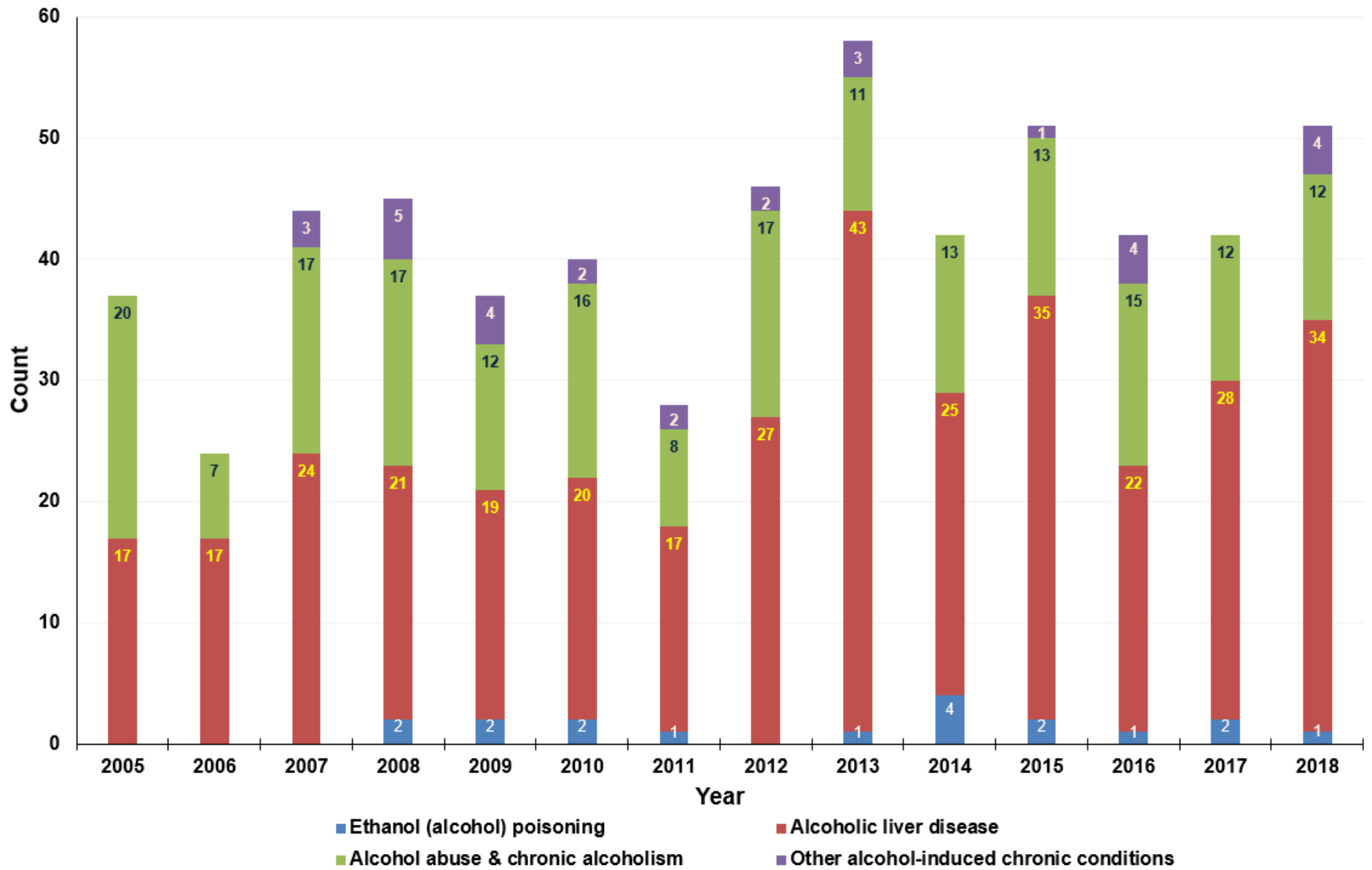
This report is an addition to the “Behavioral Health: Alcohol and Other Drug Use” (Pg. 61) and “Health Outcomes and Risk Behaviors: Liver Disease and Cirrhosis” (Pg. 56) sections of the 2018 Humboldt County Community Health Assessment (CHA). The CHA can be found at: <https://humboldt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/71701/2018-Community-Health-Assessment-PDF>

SUMMARY

1. In Humboldt County, deaths caused by alcohol abuse are a significant public health concern. Annually, there are an average of over 40 alcohol-induced deaths, with an average rate/100,000 of 25.6, making alcohol-induced deaths similar in community impact to drug poisonings and suicide (see notes on page 6 for a listing of alcohol-induced deaths aggregated into this report). Deaths where alcohol was involved, but not the sole cause of death (ex. motor vehicle crashes, drownings) are not included in this report; those deaths will be covered in the Humboldt County unintentional injury mortality report, scheduled for a mid-2019 release date.
2. From 2005-2018, there were 587 alcohol-induced deaths in Humboldt County, with 97% of those deaths from alcohol-induced chronic conditions (Figure 1). Alcoholic liver disease accounted for 60% of alcohol-induced chronic conditions.
3. In Humboldt County, the age group with the highest average (2005-2018) alcohol-induced mortality rate is ages 50-59 (Figure 2); the average age of alcohol-induced deaths is 57 years.
4. The alcohol-induced mortality rate for Humboldt County American Indian/Alaska Native persons is over twice that of Humboldt County White, non-Hispanics and all other race/ethnicity groups within the county (Figure 3).
5. Nationally and in California, there is no standard method for analysis of alcohol-induced and alcohol-related deaths, making comparisons difficult. However, we can use liver disease mortality as a comparison between Humboldt County and California/US:
 - a. The 2014-2016 Humboldt County liver disease mortality rate was twice that of California and the US (Figure 4).
 - b. Alcoholic liver disease is one of the main causes of chronic liver disease worldwide and accounts for up to 48% of liver disease and cirrhosis-associated deaths in the United States. Comparatively, 80% of liver disease/cirrhosis deaths in Humboldt County are from alcohol abuse (Figure 5).

Figure 1:

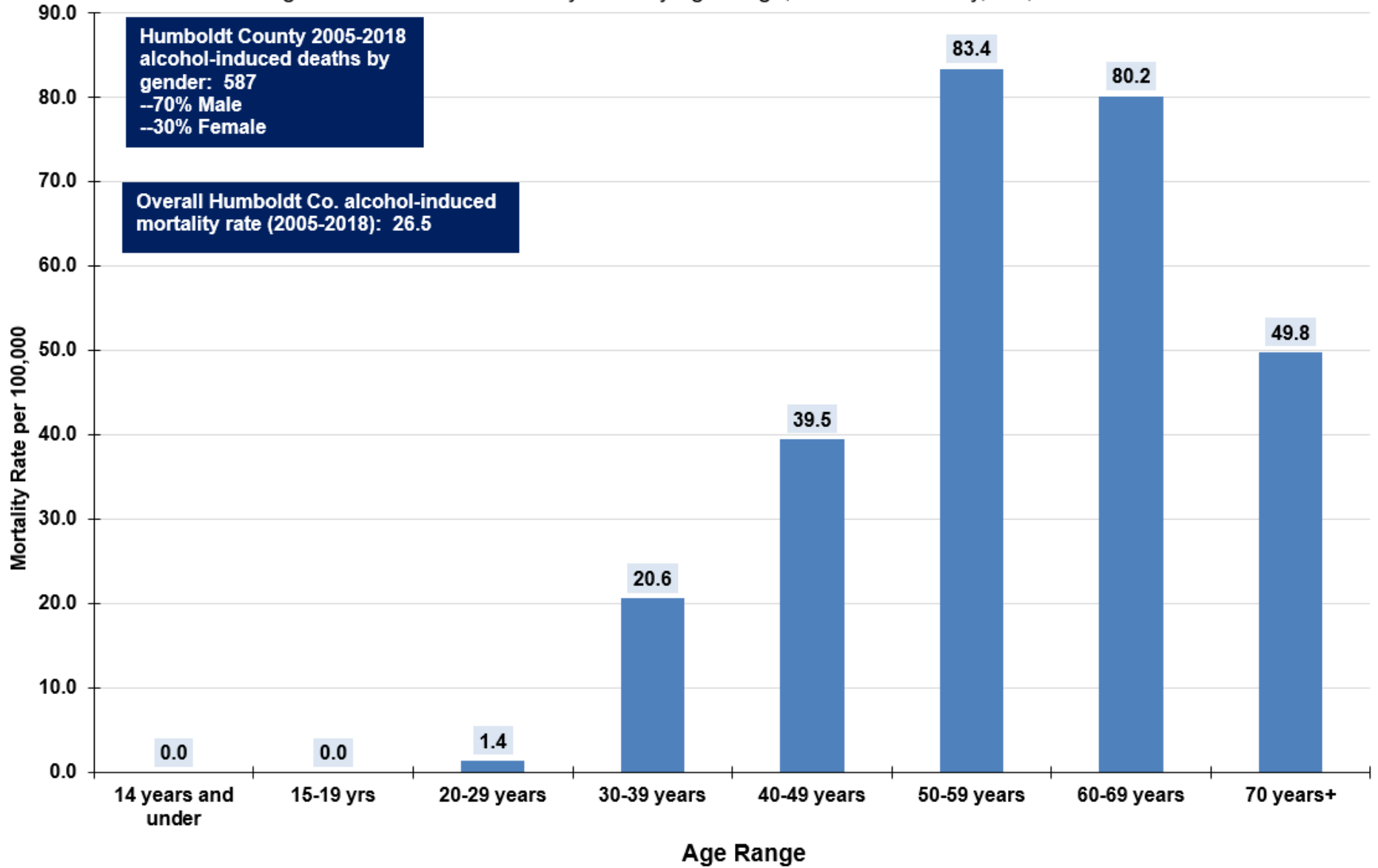
Humboldt County alcohol-induced deaths by category, 2005-2018



Source: County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 2:

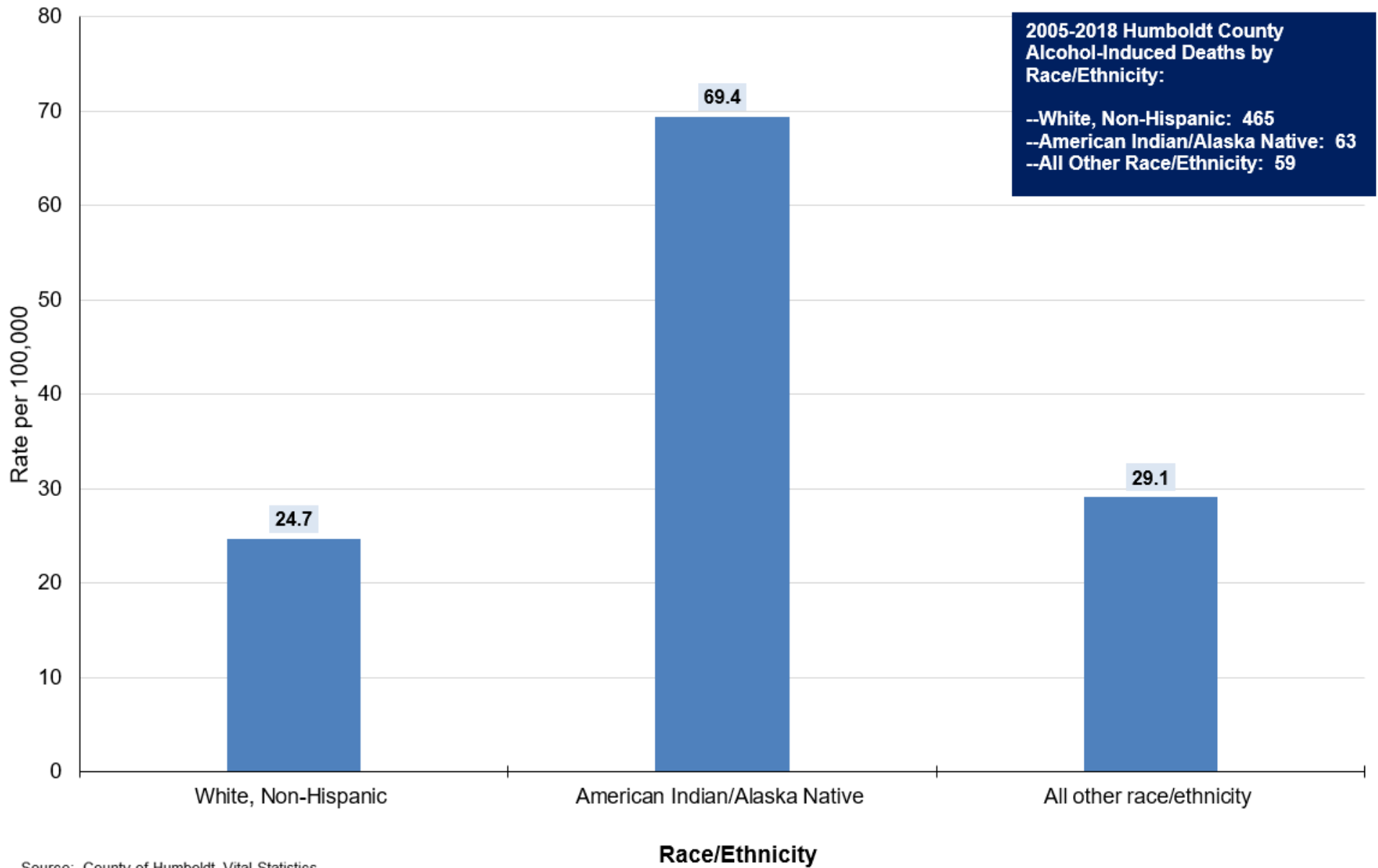
Average alcohol-Induced mortality rates by age range, Humboldt County, CA, 2005-2018



Source: County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 3:

Average alcohol-induced mortality rate by race/ethnicity, Humboldt County 2005-2018



Source: County of Humboldt Vital Statistics

Figure 4:

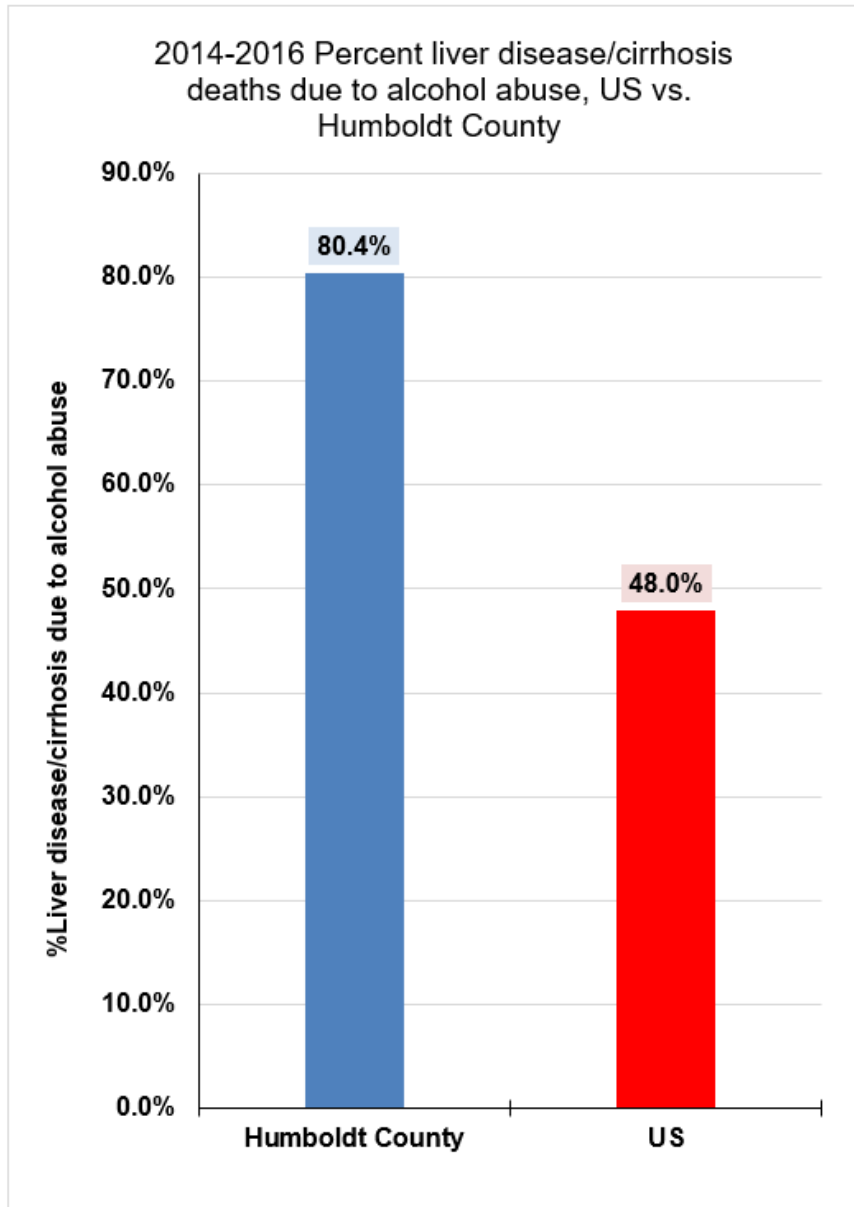
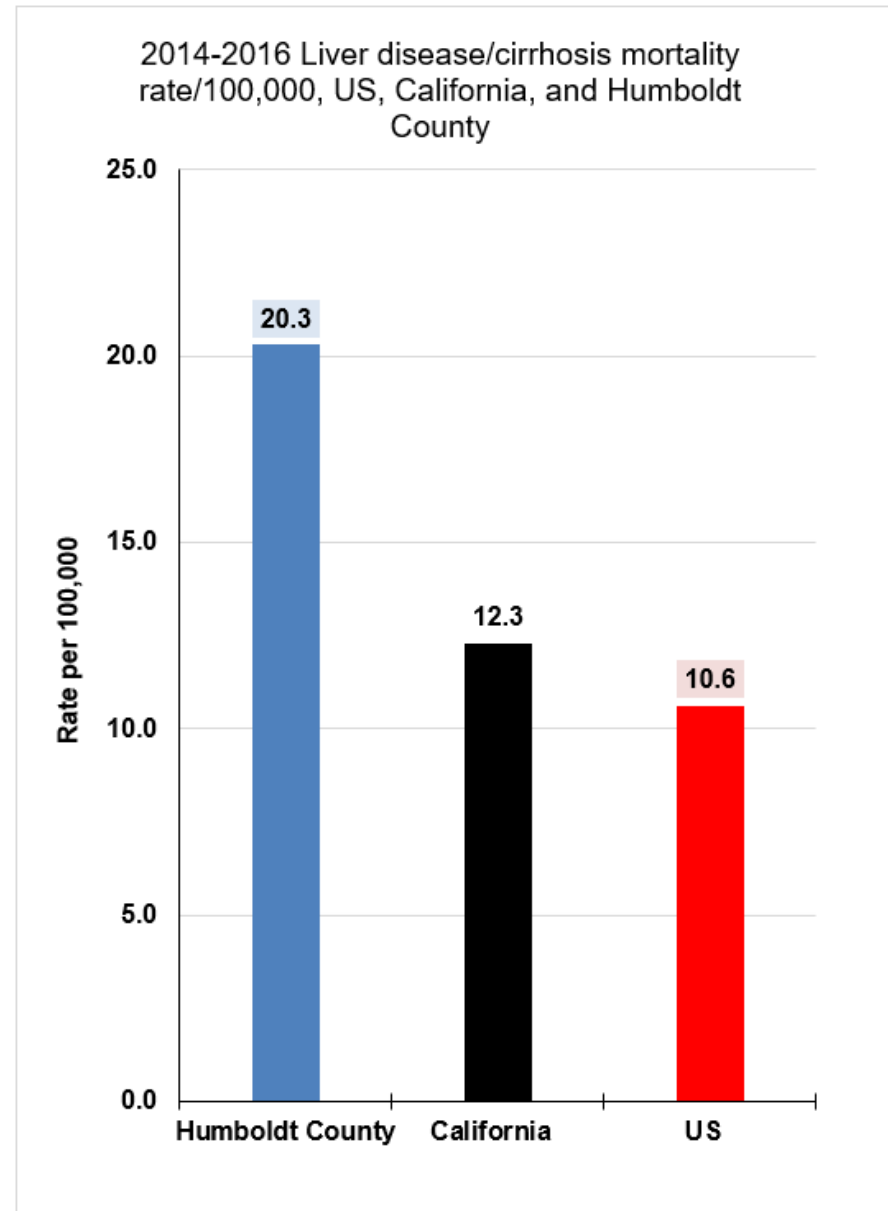


Figure 5:



Sources: 2018 California County Health Status Profiles; Humboldt County Vital Statistics: Yoon Y-H, Chen CM Surveillance Report #105. Liver cirrhosis mortality in the United States: national, state, and regional trends, 2000-2013

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

Sources:

2018 California County Health Status Profiles <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>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Alcohol and Public Health: Alcohol-Related Disease Impact (ARDO). Alcohol-Related ICD Codes https://nccd.cdc.gov/dph_ardi/info/icdcodes.aspx

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

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

Yoon Y-H, Chen CM Surveillance Report #105. Liver cirrhosis mortality in the United States: national, state, and regional trends, 2000-2013. <https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/surveillance105/Cirr13.htm>

Notes:

Deaths are classified using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD–10). Alcohol-induced deaths are defined in this report as having the following ICD–10 underlying cause-of-death codes that are 100% attributable to alcohol:

1. F10.0, F10.1: Alcohol abuse
2. F10.2: Alcohol dependence syndrome
3. F10.3-F10.9: Alcohol psychosis
4. G31.2: Degeneration of nervous system due to alcohol
5. G62.1: Alcohol polyneuropathy
6. G72.1: Alcohol myopathy
7. I42.6: Alcohol cardiomyopathy
8. K29.2: Alcohol gastritis
9. K70-K70.4, K70.9: Alcoholic liver disease
10. K85.2: Alcohol-induced acute pancreatitis
11. K86.0: Alcohol-induced chronic pancreatitis
12. Q86.0: Fetal alcohol syndrome
13. P0.43, O35.4: Fetus and newborn affected by maternal use of alcohol
14. X45: Accidental poisoning and exposure to alcohol
15. X65: Intentional self-poisoning

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.)

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.