OVERVIEW

Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) is a valuable resource for monitoring data related to suicide in Wisconsin. The following tutorial will assist in using the Injury Mortality, Injury Hospitalizations, and Injury Emergency Department Visits modules to examine suicide and self-harm data. All modules are accessible here: http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/.

All three modules are set up in a similar fashion. Thus, this tutorial gives a detailed explanation of the Injury Mortality module and then references this explanation when describing the use of the other two modules. In all three modules, users build a query, and WISH assembles the results of the query in an output table.

INJURY MORTALITY MODULE

The Injury Mortality module contains data on all resident deaths due to injury-related causes in Wisconsin obtained from resident death certificates. To use this module to examine suicide data:

Click on the INJURY MORTALITY link.
Click on QUERY 1999-2012.

STEP 1: WHICH MEASURE DO YOU WISH TO FOCUS ON?
Select the radio button for the desired type of information.

EXAMPLE: For suicide rate, select the radio button marked, “Injury Death Rate (per 100,000 population).”

DEFAULT: “Number of Injury Deaths.”

STEP 2: SELECT ONE OR MORE EXTERNAL CAUSE OF INJURY
Click on the external cause in which you are interested. To select more than one cause, hold the CTRL button and click on additional items.

EXAMPLE: For suicides related to firearms, select “Firearms.”

DEFAULT: “All Injury Causes.”

STEP 3: SELECT ONE OR MORE MANNER OR INTENT OF INJURY DEATH
Click on “Suicide/self-inflicted.”

DEFAULT: “All Intents.”
STEP 4: CHOOSE ONE OR MORE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS
All locations refer to place of residence. First select the radio button of interest. Once the radio button is selected, the corresponding menu can be highlighted to reflect your choice.

EXAMPLE: For Brown County, select the radio button next to “County;” then scroll through the list and click on “Brown.”

DEFAULT: “Wisconsin statewide.”

STEP 5: CHOOSE ONE OR MORE YEARS
You can select one or more years of data to include in your query. It is often useful to combine years of data if you are requesting data for a small population.

EXAMPLE: To include data from the years 2007-2011, select the radio button next to “One or more years” then hold CTRL and select “2011,” “2010,” “2009,” “2008,” and “2007.”

ALTERNATIVELY: You can select the radio button next to “Specify your own years” and enter “2007-2011” into the first box.

DEFAULT: Most recent year of available data.

STEP 6: CHOOSE A SPECIFIC SUBPOPULATION (OPTIONAL)
In this area, you can select your data by age, sex, race, or Hispanic ethnicity. There are five options for age group. Selecting the radio button next to each option allows you to scroll through a list and highlight the age group(s) of interest.

AGE
EXAMPLE: To include decedents aged 15-19 only, select the radio button next to “Age Groups (option 5),” and then click “15-17” in the corresponding box. Hold CTRL and click “18-19.”

DEFAULT: “Age Groups (option 1)” and “ALL” to capture all age groups.

SEX
EXAMPLE: For females only, click on “Female” to highlight it.

DEFAULT: “ALL” to capture both Female and Male.
RACE*
EXAMPLE: For the Asian subpopulation, click on “Asian” to highlight it.
DEFAULT: “ALL” to capture all racial groups.

ETHNICITY*
EXAMPLE: For the Hispanic subpopulation, click on “Hispanic” to highlight it.
DEFAULT: “ALL” to capture both Hispanic and Non-Hispanic.

*Race and ethnicity are separate constructs, and often you must make selections in both to get accurate data on your subpopulation of interest.

EXAMPLE: For White, Non-Hispanic, select “White” from the “Race” box and “Non-Hispanic” from the “Hispanic Ethnicity” box. Only selecting “White” from the “Race” box and leaving the default (“ALL”) for “Hispanic Ethnicity” will capture both Hispanic and Non-Hispanic White persons.

STEP 7: CHOOSE A ROW VARIABLE
Select the radio button for the option of interest. The option selected in this step becomes the row in the results table that is generated. Options are, “Geographic Area,” “Years,” “Age Groups,” “Sex,” “Race,” “Hispanic Ethnicity,” “Underlying Causes of Injury Death” and “Manner or Intent of Injury Death.” Rather than running separate queries for each option of interest, you can use the options in STEP 7 to get specific output in one comprehensive query.

EXAMPLE: Often users will be interested in results for males and females and will run one query for males and another for females, producing two output tables. However, by selecting “Sex” in this step you can get results for both males and females in one output table from one query. Males will be in one row and females in another row in the output table.

DEFAULT: The default output table uses the options for “Geographic Area.”

STEP 8: CHOOSE A COLUMN VARIABLE
Select the radio button for the option of interest. The option selected in this step becomes the column in the results output table. Options are the same as those in STEP 7. Rather than running separate queries for each option of interest, you can use the options in STEP 8 to get specific output in one comprehensive query.

EXAMPLE: Often users will be interested in results that examine two different
characteristics simultaneously. For example, users may be interested in examining suicide rates by age and sex. By selecting “Age Groups” in STEP 7 and “Sex” in STEP 8, users will generate an output table that includes age group categories in the rows of the table and sex categories in the columns.

DEFAULT: “None.”

Click on the SUBMIT button.

Although there are opportunities to click submit throughout the query, it is recommended that you go through each of the eight steps and then click submit. If you do not actively make any selections at each step, WISH runs the default options for each step.

A small box will pop up asking you to confirm your selections. If the selections are correct, click “OK.” If you need to modify, click “Cancel.” This will take you back to the original screen where you can make modifications to your query.

The results window will then display your results, which will be organized in table format. The rows of the table will match the variable of interest selected in STEP 7, and the columns will reflect the variable of interest selected in STEP 8.

INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS MODULE

Data in this module count inpatient stays, NOT individual patients. This means that patients transferred between hospitals, readmitted to a hospital for further treatment, or otherwise treated in more than one inpatient stay may have more than one record. The accuracy of statistics on hospital charges or hospital days is not affected by this. Data in this module include only residents of Wisconsin. The geographic choices you can make in STEP 4 reflect county of residence. It is important to note that data related to hospitalizations for self-inflicted injuries do not discriminate between suicide attempts and other self-harming behaviors.

To use this module to examine self-inflicted injury data:

Click on the Injury Hospitalization link.
Click on BEGIN QUERY.

STEP 1: SELECT A MEASURE OF INJURY-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS
Same as INJURY MORTALITY module.

STEP 2: SELECT ONE OR MORE CAUSES OF INJURY (OPTIONAL)
STEP 2A: STANDARD CAUSES OF INJURY
As in the INJURY MORTALITY module, you can click and highlight from a list of standard groupings of causes of injury based on groupings of ICD-9 codes in STEP 2A, “Standard Causes of Injury.” Press and hold CTRL to click on more than one option.

STEP 2B: USER-SPECIFIED GROUPS OF CAUSES
This section allows you to enter specific 3-digit E-codes if you are looking for a specific 3-digit E-code of interest. A list of 3-digit E-codes is provided as a hyperlink in this step to assist you in this process. E-codes for suicide attempts and self-inflicted injuries include E950-E959.

STEP 2C: DETAILED CAUSES OF INJURY
This section allows you to enter specific 4-digit E-codes if you are looking for a specific 4-digit E-code of interest. A list of 4-digit E-codes is provided as a hyperlink in this step to assist you in this process.

STEP 3: SELECT ONE OR MORE MANNER OR INTENT OF INJURY
Select “self-inflicted” for suicide and other intentional, self-inflicted injuries.

STEP 4: CHOOSE ONE OR MORE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS
Geographic area is determined based on a patient’s county of residence, not the county in which a patient was hospitalized. The default option is “All Areas.”

STEP 5: CHOOSE ONE OR MORE YEARS
Same as INJURY MORTALITY module.

STEP 6: CHOOSE PATIENT CHARACTERISTICS (Optional)
This step contains options to select subpopulations based on five different age groups, sex, race, Hispanic ethnicity, month admitted to hospital, discharge status and expected primary payer.

The default options for “Age,” “Sex,” “Race,” and “Hispanic Ethnicity” are “ALL,” as in the INJURY MORTALITY module.

The default option for “Month Admitted to Hospital” is “ALL Months.” Click on specific months to highlight them. Press and hold CTRL to click on more than one month. The default option for “Discharge Status” is “All Discharges.” This includes all of the following categories:

“Discharged to home.”
“Discharged to home with home health service or IV provider.”
“Transferred to general or long-term care hospital.”
“Discharged to skilled or intermediate care facility, other institution, or swing bed.”
“Discharged to rehab facility or referred for outpatient services.”
“Left against medical advice.”
“Expired” (i.e., died).
“Discharged to Hospice.”

If you are only interested in live discharges, you can press and hold CTRL and click on each discharge status except “Expired.”

The default option for “Expected Primary Payer” is “ALL.” This includes the following categories: “Medicare,” “Medicaid,” “Other Government,” “Private Insurance,” “Self-pay,” and “Other or Unknown.”

**STEP 7:** Choose a Row Variable
Select the radio button for the option of interest. The option selected in this step becomes the row in the results output table. Options are “Geographic Area,” “Years,” “Age Groups,” “Sex,” “Race,” “Hispanic Ethnicity,” “Admission Month,” “Discharge Status,” “Payer,” “Causes of Injury,” “User-Specified Causes of Injury: Groups,” “User-Specified Causes of Injury: Detailed” and “Manner or Intent of Injury.” Rather than running separate queries for each option of interest, you can use the options in STEP 7 to get specific output in one comprehensive query.

**EXAMPLE:** See INJURY MORTALITY module.

**DEFAULT:** The default output table uses the options for “Geographic Area.”

**STEP 8:** Choose a Column Variable (Optional)
Select the radio button for the option of interest. The option selected in this step becomes the column in the results output table. Options are the same as those in STEP 7. Rather than running separate queries for each option of interest, you can use the options in STEP 8 to get specific output in one comprehensive query.

**EXAMPLE:** See INJURY MORTALITY module.

**DEFAULT:** “None.”

Click on the **Submit** button.
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS MODULE

The Emergency Department Visits module allows you to query data on emergency department visits to Wisconsin hospitals for the treatment of relatively minor injuries, including self-inflicted injuries. It includes only emergency department visits that resulted in a patient being treated and released. It does not include emergency department visits that resulted in the patient being admitted as an inpatient in this or another acute-care hospital (see Injury Hospitalizations Module) or dying in the emergency department (see Injury Mortality Module). This module only includes data on emergency department visits among Wisconsin residents. As noted in the introduction to the Injury Hospitalizations module, emergency department visits for self-inflicted injuries do not discriminate between suicide attempts and other self-harming behaviors.

To use this module to examine self-inflicted injury data:

Click on the Injury Emergency Department Visits link. Click on BEGIN QUERY.

STEP 1: WHICH MEASURE DO YOU WISH TO FOCUS ON?
Same as INJURY MORTALITY module.

STEP 2: SELECT ONE OR MORE CAUSES OF INJURY (OPTIONAL)
Same as INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS module.

STEP 3: SELECT ONE OR MORE MANNER OR INTENT OF INJURY
Select “self-inflicted” for suicide and other intentional, self-inflicted injuries.

STEP 4: CHOOSE ONE OR MORE GEOGRAPHIC AREAS
Same as INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS module.

STEP 5: CHOOSE YEAR(S) AND MONTH(S)
As in INJURY MORTALITY and INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS, you can select from one or more years. The default option will be the most current data year. In this module, you can select the month of injury in addition to the year. You can press and hold CTRL while clicking on more than one month in the supplied list. The default option will be “ALL Months.”

STEP 6: CHOOSE AGE, SEX AND PAYER GROUPS (OPTIONAL)
This step contains options to select subpopulations based on five different age groups, sex and payer as in the INJURY HOSPITALIZATIONS module.

STEP 7: CHOOSE A ROW VARIABLE
Select the radio button for the option of interest. The option selected in this step becomes the row in the results output table. Options are, “Geographic Area of Residence,” “Years,” “Age Groups,” “Sex,” “Month,” “Payer,” “Causes of Injury,” “User-Specified Causes of Injury: Groups,” “User-Specified Causes of Injury: Detailed” and “Manner or Intent of Injury.” Rather than running separate queries for each option of interest, you can use the options in STEP 7 to include specific output in one comprehensive query.

EXAMPLE: See INJURY MORTALITY module.

DEFAULT: The default output table uses the options for “Geographic Area.”

STEP 8:

CHOOSE A COLUMN VARIABLE (OPTIONAL)

Select the radio button for the option of interest. The option selected in this step becomes the COLUMN in the results output table. Options are the same as those in STEP 7. Rather than running separate queries for each option of interest, you can use the options in STEP 8 to get specific output in one comprehensive query.

EXAMPLE: See INJURY MORTALITY module.

DEFAULT: “None.”

Click on the SUBMIT button.

WISH UPDATES

The WISH databases are updated as new years of data become available. Please refer to the WISH homepage at http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/ for the most up-to-date information regarding the databases.