# INJURIES AS A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM- SERBIAN EXPERIENCES

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# NATIONAL POLICIES

- There is no overall national policy for injury or violence prevention.
- There are specific national policies for road safety and poisoning prevention.

# OFFICIAL DATA SOURCES

- National Health Survey 2006:
- System of routine health statistics (primary, secondary and tertiary level
- of health services)
- Mortality statistics

# • According to the National Health Survey 2006:

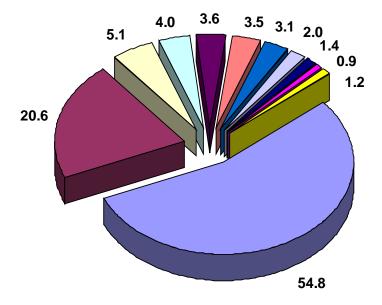
- 8.3% of the adult population in Serbia had at least one injury during the year prior to the Survey
- the incidence of injuries is lower in women (7.2%) than men (9.2%)
- 0.5% of adults had his last injury in traffic
- 3.3% of the adult population and 4.8% of population aged 65 and over, have been injured in the house
- 2.4% of adults had his last injury on the job, and the incidence was significantly higher in men

• According to the National Health Survey 2006:

• 12.5% of children and adolescents (age 7-19) in Serbia had injury during the year prior to the Survey

- boys were more exposed (17.0%) than girls (8.2%)
- 0.6% of children was injured in traffic and 2.7% at school

## LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH (expressed in %)



Most common causes of death (%) in Republic of Serbia, 2009

Diseases of the circulatory system (I00-I99)

Neoplasms (C00-D48)

□ Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified (R00-R99)

□ Diseases of the respiratory system (J00-J99)

■ Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (S00-T98)

Diseases of the digestive system (K00-K99)

Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases (E00-E90)

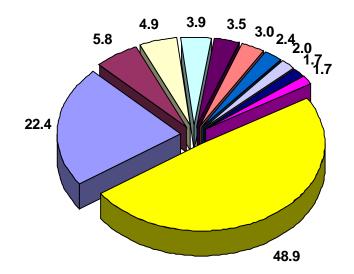
Diseases of the genitourinary system (N00-N99)

Diseases of the nervous system end senses (G00-H99)

Mental and behavioural disorders (F00-F99)

Other causes of death

## LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH (expressed in %)



Most common external causes of death (%) in Republic of Serbia, 2009

□ Intentional self-harm by hanging, strangulation and suffocation (X70)

Exposure to unspecified factor (X59)

Unspecified event, undetermined intent (Y34)

□ Motor- or nonmotor-vehicle accident, type of vehicle unspecified (V89)

Intentional self-harm by handgun discharge (X72)

Unspecified fall (W19)

Pedestrian injured in collision with car, pick-up truck or van (V03)

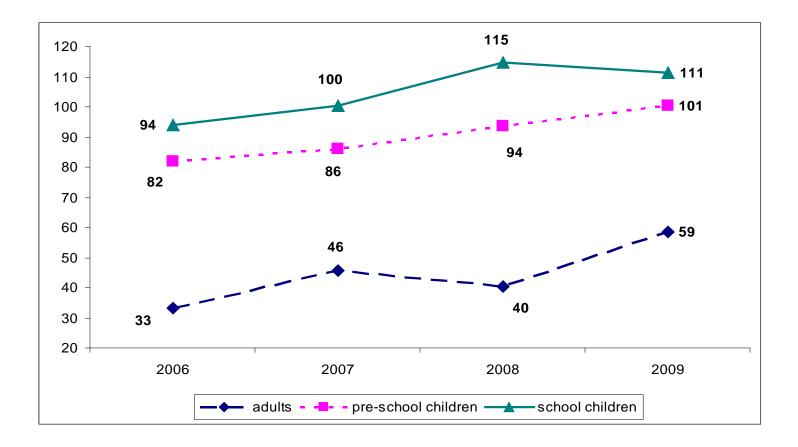
Car occupant injured in other and unspecified transport accidents (V49)

Intentional self-poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified chemicals and noxious substances (X69)

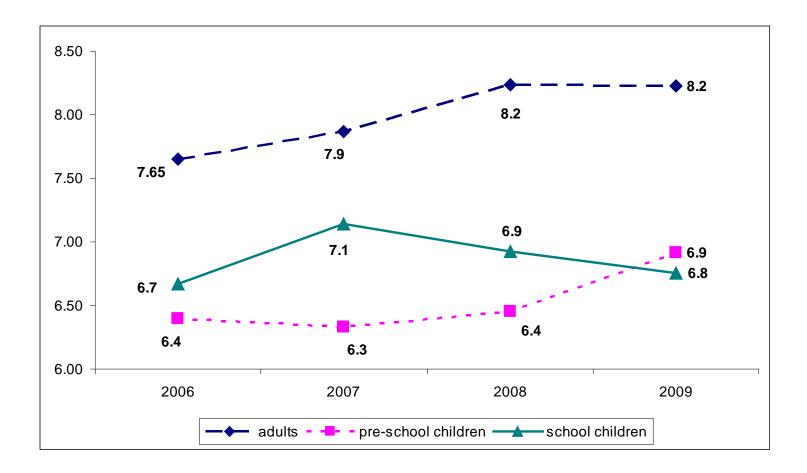
Poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics [hallucinogens], not elsewhere classified, undetermined intent (Y12)

Other external causes of death

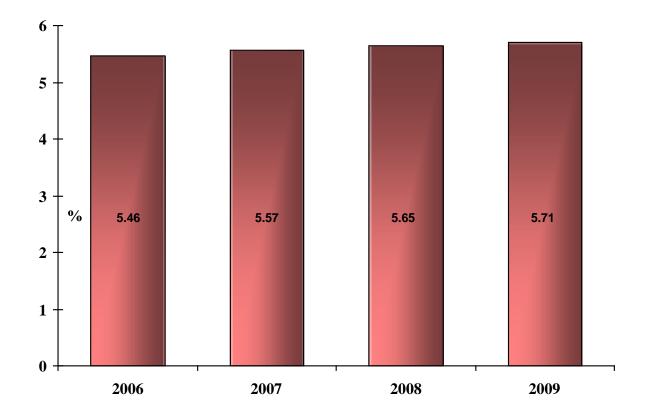
Figure 1. Number of diagnosed injuries (per 1000 inhabitants) within primary health care, adults, pre-school, and school children, Serbia, 2006-2009



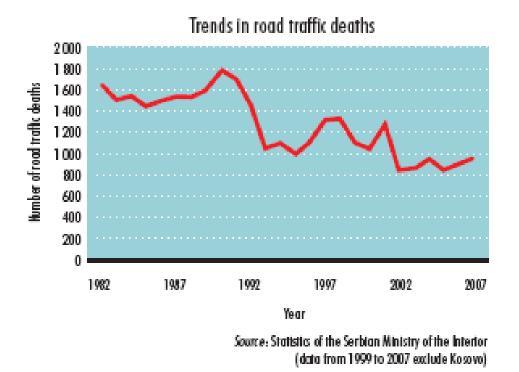
#### Figure 2. Number of hospital admissions (per 1000 inhabitants) due to injuries, Serbia, 2006-2009



### Figure 3. Percentage of all deaths related to injuries, Serbia, 2006-2009

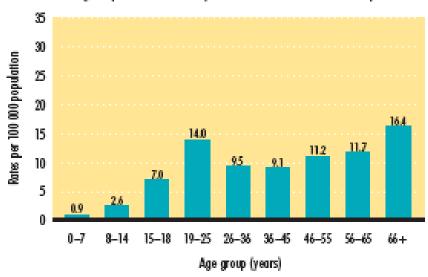


## **Road traffic deaths - situation in Serbia**



Serbia, trend in road traffic deaths – crude number (data after 1990 do not include data for Kosovo)

# Age specific mortality due to road traffic injuries in Serbia



Age-specific mortality rates from road traffic injuries

Source: 2007, Statistics of the Serbian Ministry of the Interior

**Conclution related to the road traffic injuries** 

- Road traffic injuries are a major public health (and economic, and safety, and security and development) problem
- WHO role as the lead coordinating agency for actions aimed at preventing the deaths disabilities
- Ministry of Health role to call on other sectors
- Action is still a challenge for many countries

## Key elements of policy development in injury and violence prevention in Serbia

| NATIONAL POLICIES  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <ul> <li>Overall national policy on injury prevention</li> </ul>       | ×            |
| <ul> <li>Overall national policy on violence prevention</li> </ul>     | ×            |
| <ul> <li>Commitment to develop national policy</li> </ul>              | $\checkmark$ |
| POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR INJURY AND VIOLENCE AGENDA                       | $\checkmark$ |
| EASY ACCESS TO SURVEILLANCE DATA                                       | ×            |
| INTERSECTORAL COLLABORATION  |              |
| • Key stakeholders identified  | ×            |
| <ul> <li>Secretariat to support the intersectoral committee</li> </ul> | ×            |
| Questionnaire answered in consensus with other sectors/stakeholders    | ×            |
|  |              |

# CAPACITY BUILDING Process in place Exchange of evidence-based practice as part of this process Promotion of research as part of this proces EMERGANCY CARE Evidence-based approach Quality assessment programme Process to build capacity identified

According to the The Burden of Disease and Injury Study in Serbia, an EU-funded project held in 2003

For the entire Serbian population Injuries were the third ranked cause of premature mortality. Unintentional injuries and intentional injuries (mainly suicide) accounted for over 8% of the mortality burden.

Cardiovascular disease, cancers andinjuries make up over <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of total burden of premature mortality.