




2018 ANNUAL REPORT

WWW.AZPOISON.COM

ARIZONA
Poison and Drug
Information Center



 1-800-222-1222

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ABOUT THE APDIC

The Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center (APDIC) is a center of excellence at the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy. Started in 1955 by Dr. Albert Picchoni, today the poison center answers over 30,000 calls annually.

As part of a college at a major research university, the poison center is also the regional hub of toxicology teaching for medical and pharmacy students, residents and fellows, and is a locus of extensive research in envenomation and treatment.

Poison centers are available 24/7/365 to answer your questions.

We provide health care.
We educate others.
We conduct medical research.
We save lives.
We reduce costs.

*"We answer every call,
big and small"*

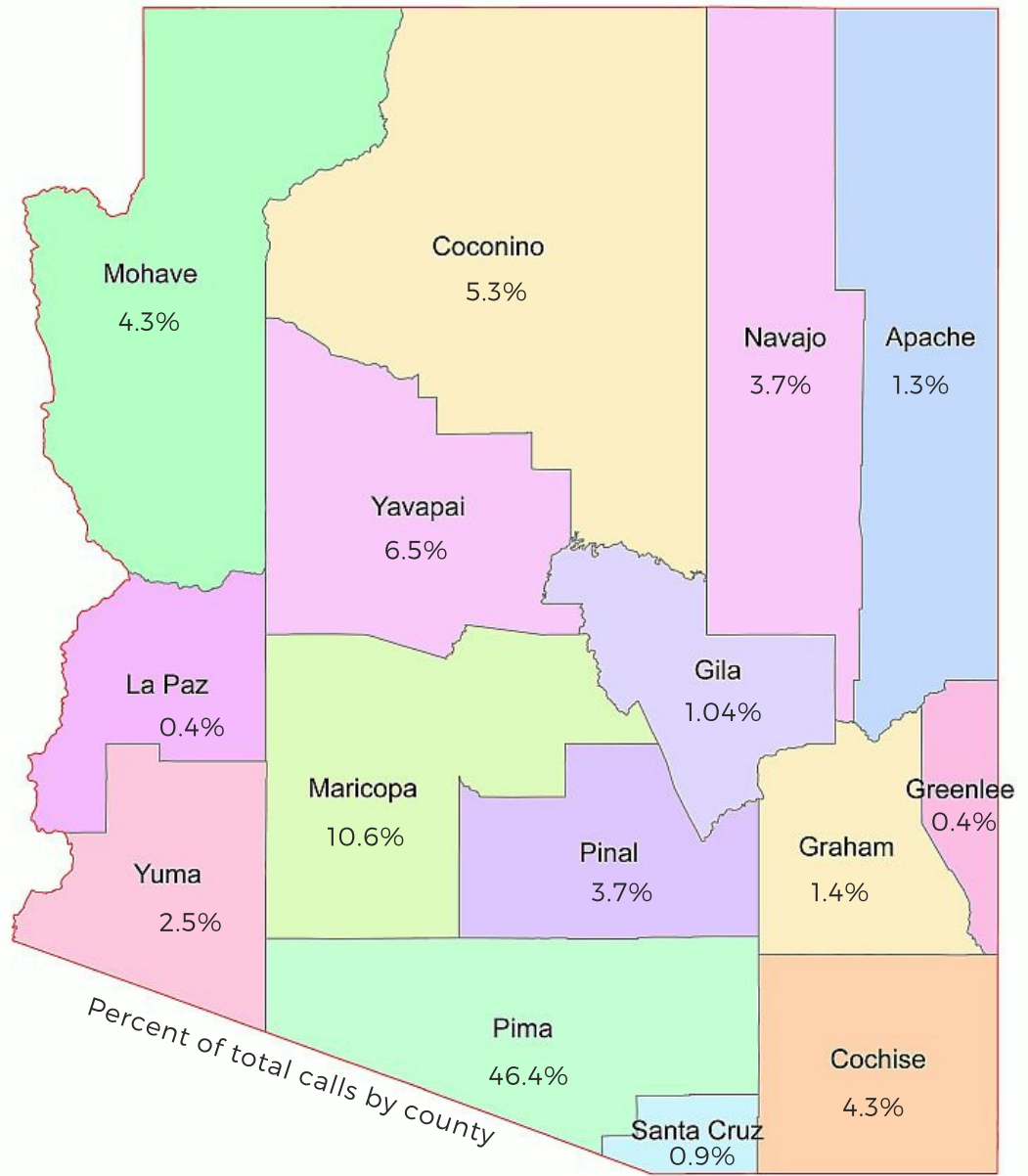
The mission of the APDIC is to prevent and reduce harm from poisoning through expertise, collaboration, and education.

ARIZONA
Poison and Drug
Information Center



 **1-800-222-1222**

In 2018,
the
Arizona
Poison
Center
received
30,477
total calls*



HUMAN EXPOSURES

The APDIC serves 14 of Arizona's 15 counties, excluding only Maricopa. The Banner Poison and Drug Information Center, Arizona's other poison center, serves Maricopa county.

Counties with the highest call volume include Pima, Maricopa, and Yavapai. Calls to the 1-800-222-1222 PoisonHelp line number are routed by phone area code; therefore, service area crossover between Arizona's two poison centers often occurs.

*Total calls include exposures (all species), information calls (all species), and calls originating from states outside of Arizona answered by the APDIC.



20,747 Human Exposures

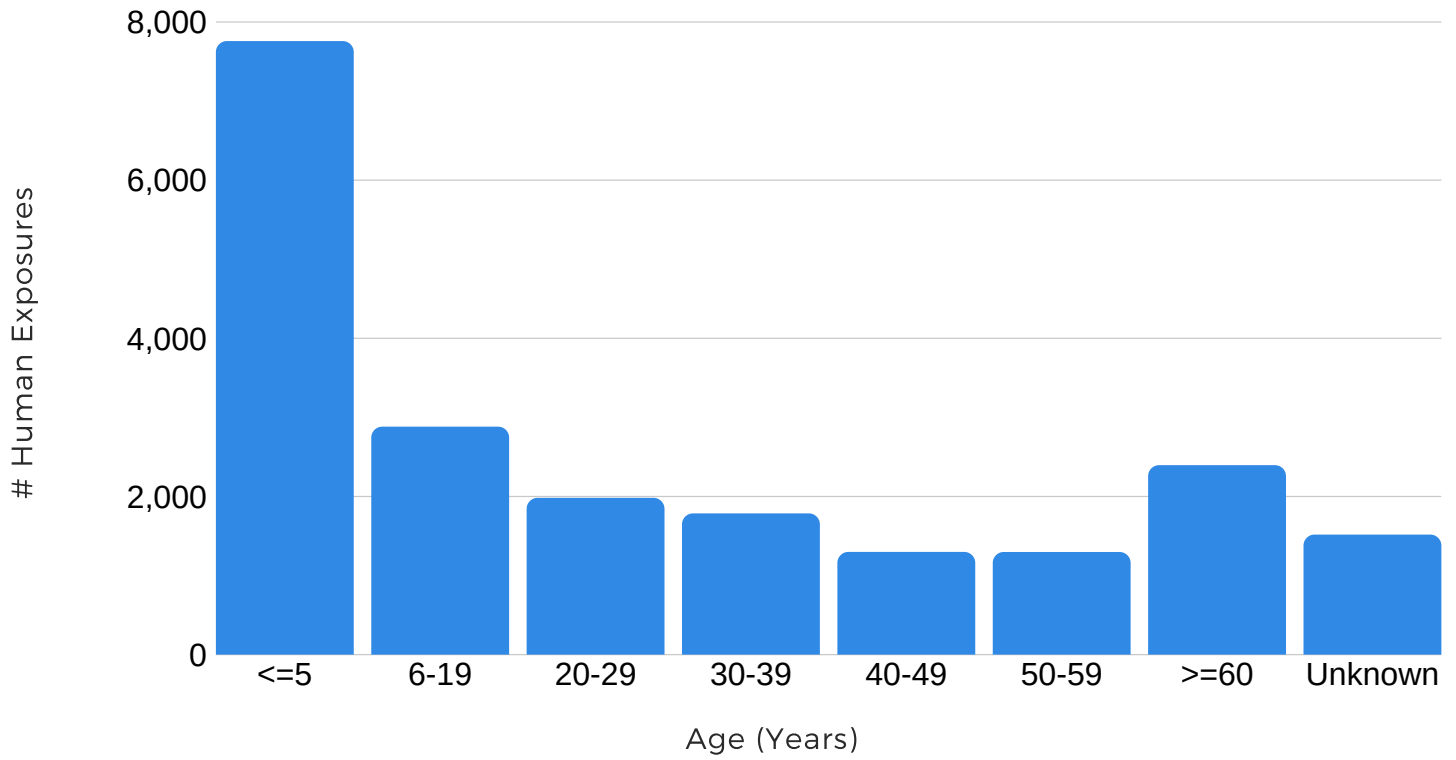


8,542 Information Requests



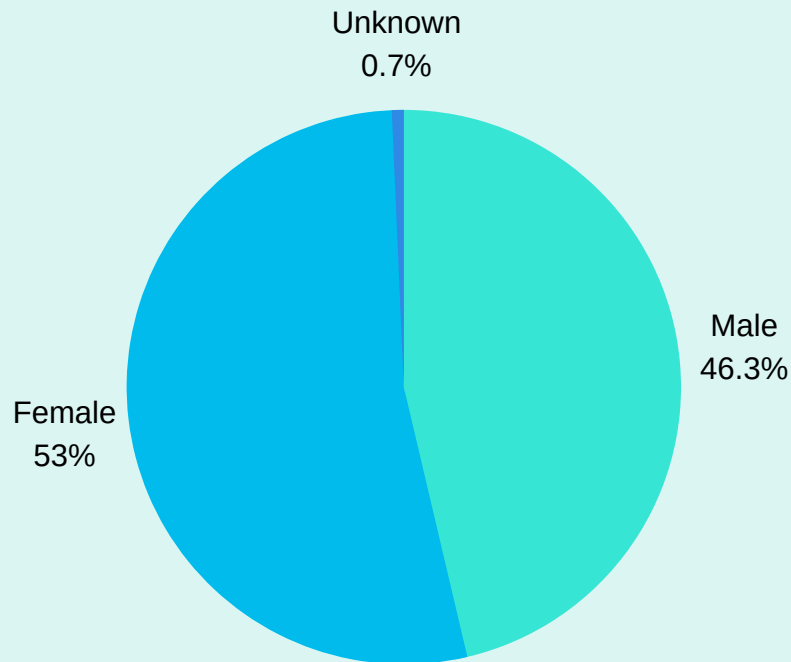
1,196 Animal Exposures

AGE



Approximately 40 percent of human exposures occurred in individuals five years and younger.

GENDER



46 percent of human exposures occurred in males, and 53 percent in females.

SUBSTANCES INVOLVED IN A POISONING

The tables below list the most common substances involved in human exposures reported to the APDIC in 2018. A patient may be exposed to more than one substance in a poisoning or overdose case.

TOP 10

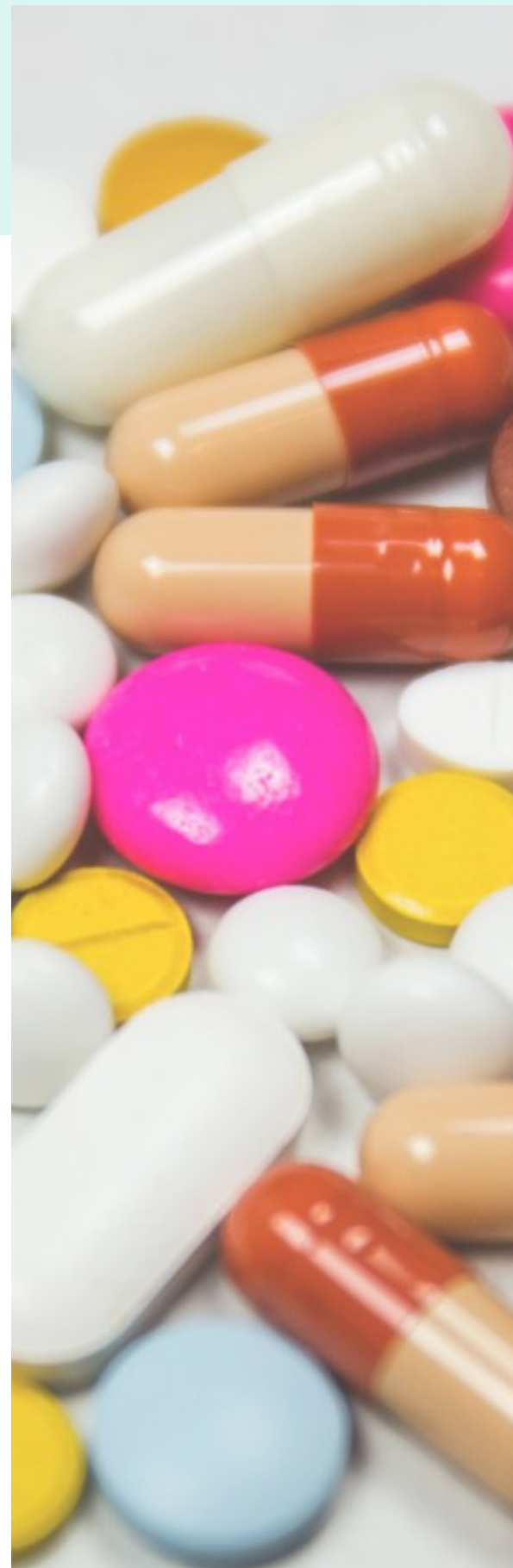
DRUG SUBSTANCES

	No.	%
Analgesics	2,621	12.6%
Sedatives/hypnotics/ antipsychotics	1,150	5.5%
Antidepressants	1,137	5.5%
Antihistamines	1,062	5.1%
Cardiovascular drugs	919	4.4%
Anticonvulsants	720	3.5%
Stimulants/ street drugs	580	2.8%
Hormones	569	2.7%
Cold and cough preparations	479	2.3%
Vitamins	473	2.3%

TOP 10

NON-DRUG SUBSTANCES

	No.	%
Bites/stings	2,435	11.7%
Cleaning substance (household)	1,560	7.5%
Cosmetics/ personal care products	1,350	6.5%
Alcohols	807	3.9%
Foreign bodies/toys/ misc.	736	3.5%
Pesticides	574	2.8%
Chemicals	485	
Plants	405	2.3%
Hydrocarbons	273	1.3%
Essential Oils	223	1.1%



BITES & ENVENOMATIONS

Arizona is the venomous creature capitol of the United States, boasting more diversity in venomous species than any other state. The APDIC specializes in envenomation treatment and research.

Rattlesnake season typically stretches from April to October, with a peak in August and September.

A common perception exists that the majority of snake bites occur when young people deliberately interact with snakes. However, the demographics of bite victims today are changing, with an upward trend in age and legitimacy of bites.



156 Rattlesnake Bites



1,598 Scorpion Stings



63 Spider Bites (Black Widow and Arizona Brown combined)



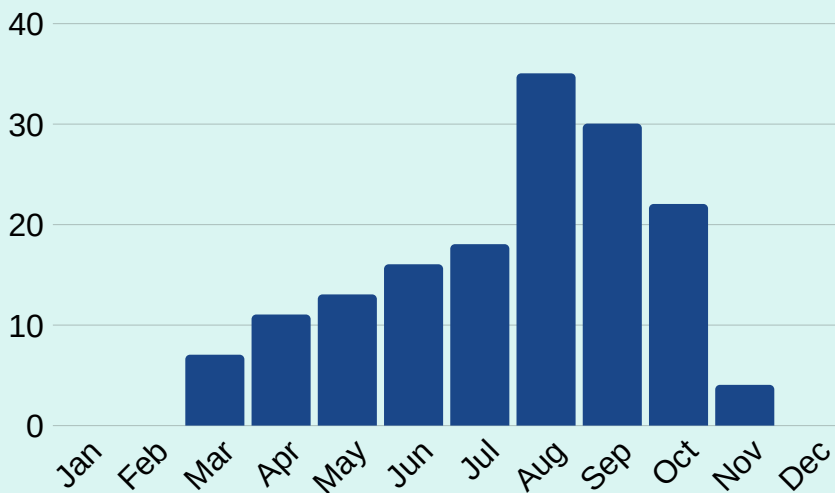
97 Bee/Wasp/Hornet Sting



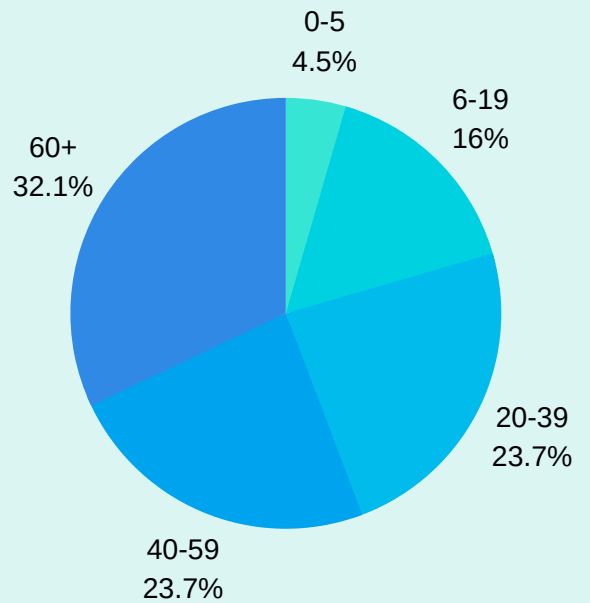
3 Gila Monster Bites

RATTLESNAKE STATISTICS

Rattlesnake Bites by Month, 2018

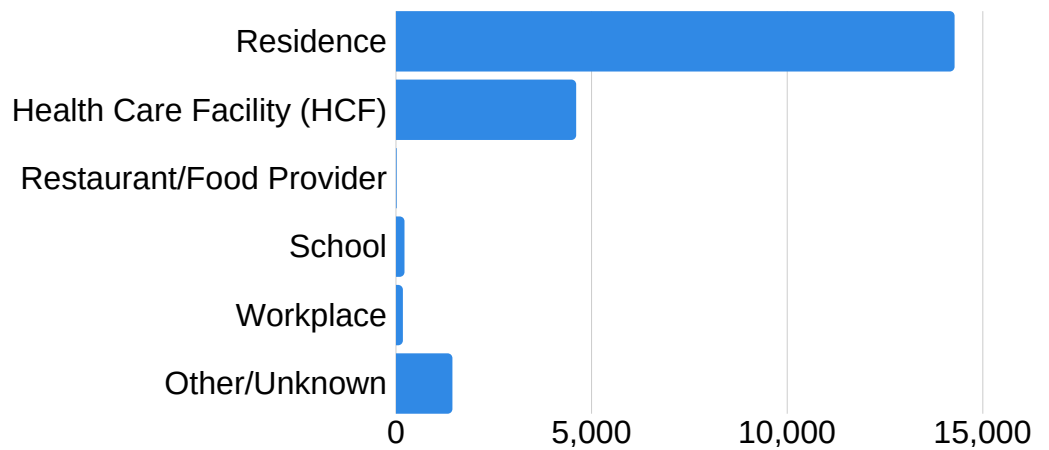


Rattlesnake Bites by Age (Years), 2018

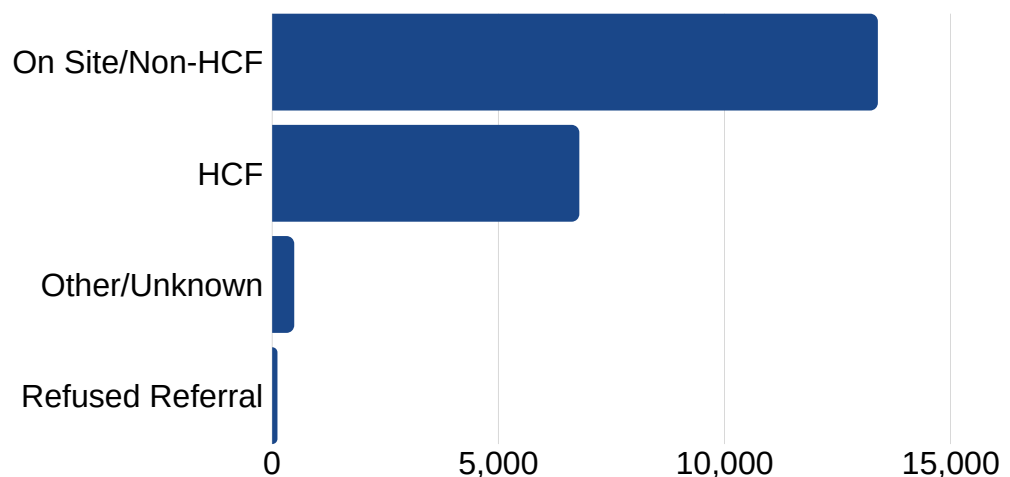


CASE MANAGEMENT

Site of Caller



Management Site



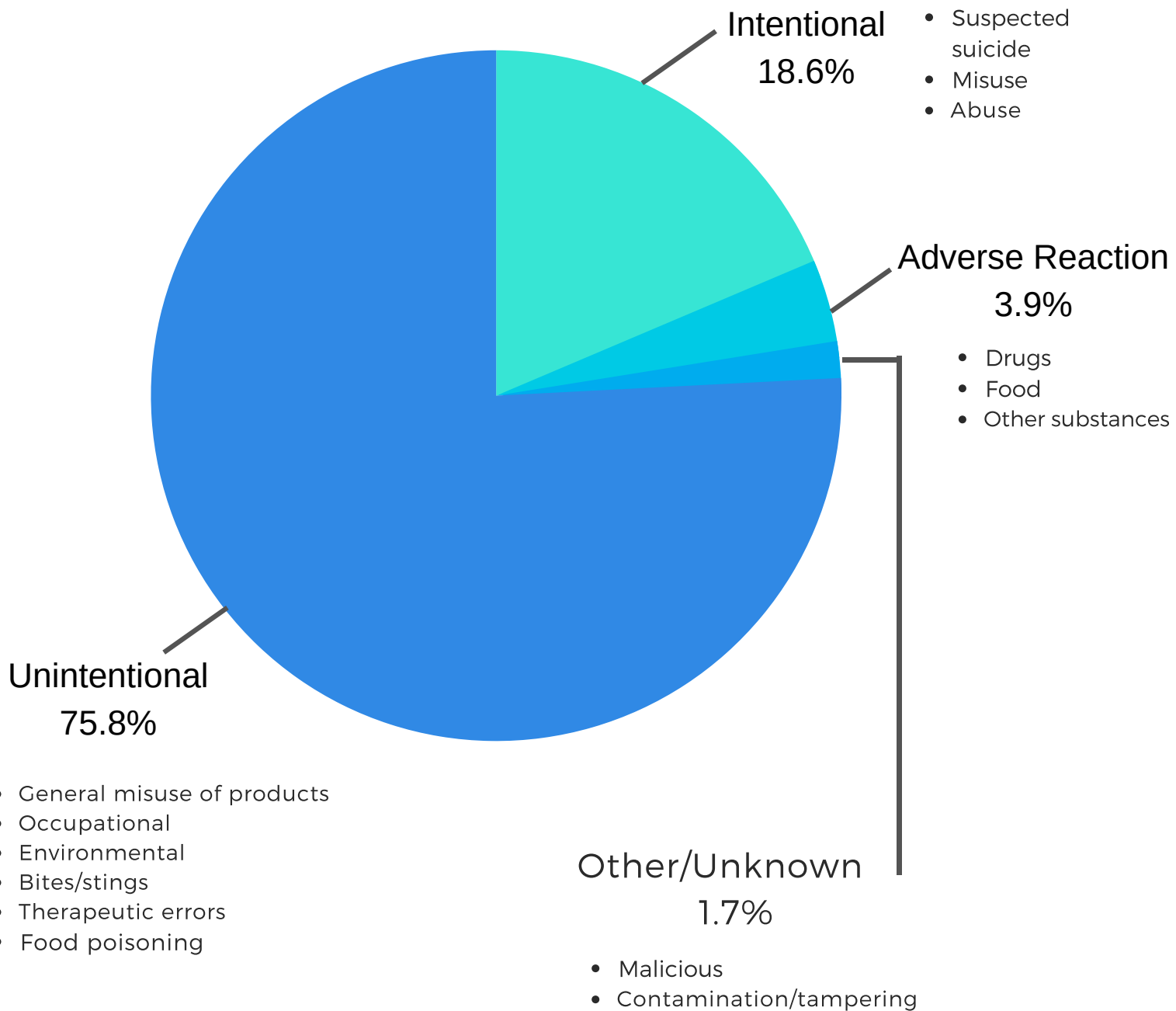
Of the cases managed in a health care facility:

- 43% were treated and released
- 12% were admitted to a critical care unit
- 11% were admitted for psychiatric treatment

CIRCUMSTANCE

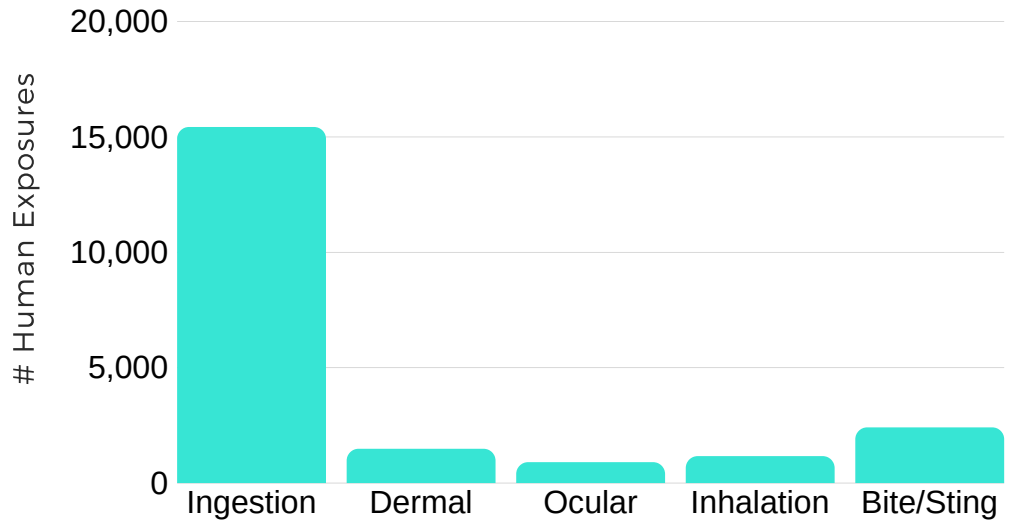
In young children under 5 years, the majority of exposures (99%) are unintentional, while in teens (13-19), only 34% of exposures are unintentional.

Exposures in adults (20-59) are split more evenly, with 57% being unintentional and 35% being intentional.

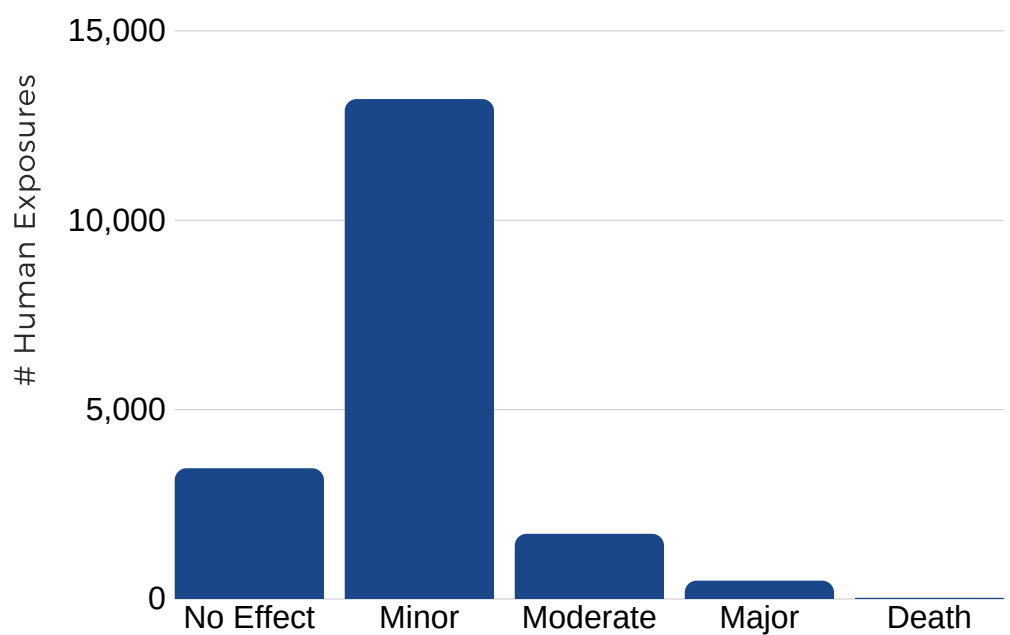




ROUTE OF EXPOSURE



OUTCOMES



PUBLIC EDUCATION

Our focus:

1. Increase public awareness of potentially dangerous substances in everyday life.
2. Help prevent poisonings from occurring by developing and encouraging poison prevention skills.
3. Highlight the expertise of the staff at the APDIC and its many valuable services.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: OTC MEDICINE SAFETY PROGRAM

During the 2018 Fall Semester, a Master of Public Health intern learned how to present the Over-The-Counter Medicine Safety program to 5th and 6th grade students in Tucson Unified School District.

The program was a great success, reaching over 400 students in five elementary schools.

Evaluation results show that after the program, 86% of students agreed that the local poison center is a good place to call if someone has taken too much medicine, compared to 65% before the program (a 21% increase).



111 events in 5 counties attended by 25,345 people



36 health fairs



75 presentations/programs



More than 35,000 pieces of educational materials distributed.





OPIOID ASSISTANCE AND REFERRAL LINE

The Opioid Assistance and Referral (OAR) Line is a joint effort between the Arizona Department of Health Sciences (ADHS) and Arizona's two poison centers.

Started in March 2018 in response to the Arizona Opioid Epidemic Act, the OAR line is one of the nation's first real-time comprehensive hotlines for healthcare providers seeking consultation for complex patients with pain and opioid use disorder.

The OAR line is also available to the public for referrals or questions about opioids.

1-888-688-4222



324 Calls to the OAR Line in 2018 (Statewide, March-December)



417 Calls about human opioid exposures in 2018 (APDIC)



647 Information requests about opioids in 2018 (APDIC)

APDIC STAFF

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