



ANALYZING AND DISSEMINATING PUBLIC HEALTH RELATED VIOLENCE DATA

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BACKGROUND

- > Violent crime has been at the forefront of news coverage and community concern in Jacksonville, FL for the past 2 years.
- > Numerous studies and reports have been created by special studies groups and the media to highlight and address this issue.
- > Emphasis has focused on the criminal nature of violence and secondary prevention strategies to combat the problem. Previous studies have focused mainly on increases in murder contributing to a limited view of violence in Jacksonville.
- > The Duval County Health Department took the initiative to evaluate violence as a public health issue, with a more extensive look at overall crime, patterns of violence and factors that may contribute to violent acts, that is focusing on prevention driven dynamics.
- > The analysis and presentation of data accentuates violence in terms of other mortality and morbidity outcomes, reveals a pattern of violence among low socioeconomic populations, specifically in definitive geographic locations and demonstrates the impact of violence on the health care system in terms of emergency room visits and hospitalizations.

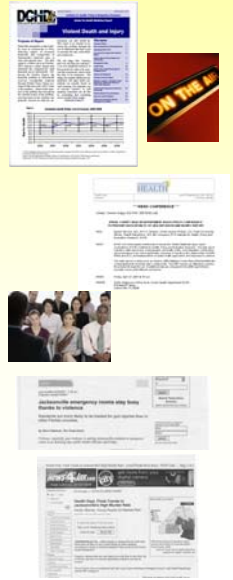
METHODS

- > Data was abstracted from various data sources by staff from the Center for Health Statistics at the Institute for Health, Policy and Evaluation Research
 - > Data for Jacksonville/Duval County was compared against other similar cities and counties.
 - > Rates and percents were calculated to adjust for population differences.
 - > Data were presented using line graphs for time series trends, bar graphs for group comparisons, and maps for illustrating themes among various geographical analyses.
 - > Data was displayed in a 28 page glossy report. This report was disseminated through mail and electronic mail to various health related agencies, higher education institutions, media, the school board, elected officials and other community based groups.
 - > Data was also disseminated through a press release and press conference. These press efforts resulted in television news spots, radio spots and newspaper articles and editorials.
- Data Sources:**
 Census Bureau (population and socio-economic)
 Vital Statistics (death)
 Hospital Discharge (Injury)
 Emergency Room (injury)
 Uniform Crime Statistics (Violent Crime, Murder, Aggravated Assault, Robbery and Forcible Sex Offenses)

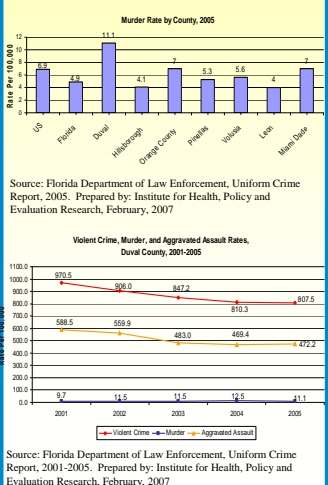


DATA PRESENTATION RESULTS

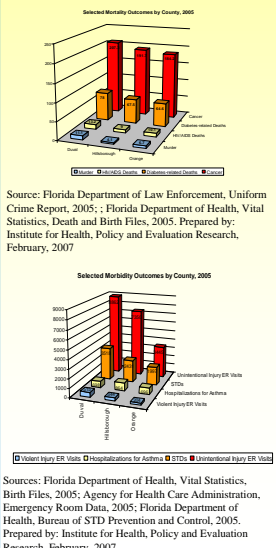
Data dissemination resulted in a glossy 28 page report, press release, press conference, and a multitude of radio, television news, and newspaper articles



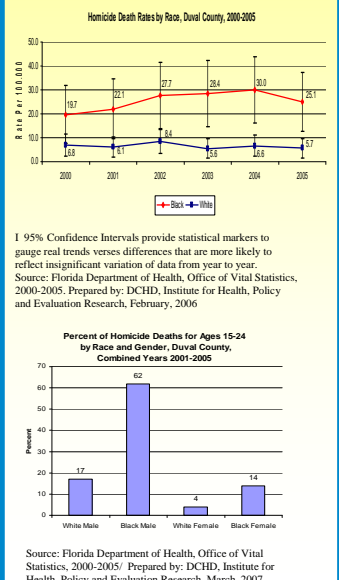
Overall crime results show that Duval County has the highest murder rate compared to selected counties. However, rates for overall violent crime and aggravated assaults have steadily been decreasing since 2001. In addition, Duval County has lower rates of aggravated assaults than the comparison counties, Orange and Hillsborough.



A comparison of violence to other morbidity and mortality outcomes indicate that violence related mortality and morbidity rates are lower than other public health problems, such as diabetes and unintentional injury



Homicide death rates show an disparity between blacks and whites. There is a significant difference in years 2001 to 2005 between these two races. In addition, black males age 15-24 have the highest rate of homicide deaths in this age group.



A comparison of Duval County's hospitalization and emergency room visits due to violence compared to similar counties indicates Duval County's rates are higher than both Orange and Hillsborough County across most injury types. Of particular note is the high rates of emergency room visits due to assaults.

Indicator	Duval (2005)	Hillsborough (2005)	Orange (2005)
Injury Prevention			
Emergency room visits caused by violent injuries* (Rate Per 100,000)	641.8	352.9	211.6
Hospitalizations caused by violent injuries* (Rate Per 100,000)	58.4	34.2	24.0
Emergency room visits caused by (Rate Per 100,000 population):			
Fight/brawls	145.0	174.7	92.1
Rape	10.3	1.1	1.1
Other Assaults**	312.1	154.9	96.1
Guns	28.4	4.0	4.8
Child/Adult abuse	20.3	13.4	13.3
Hospitalizations caused by (Rate Per 100,000 population):			
Fight/brawls	8.0	8.5	4.5
Rape	DSU*	DSU*	DSU*
Other Assaults**	25.6	17.0	12.2
Guns	17.3	3.6	5.4
Child/Adult abuse	2.3	3.0	1.8

* Not including suicide; * DSU = Data Statistically Unreliable
 ** Other assaults includes but is not limited to assault by poisoning, submersion, strangulation, and cutting and piercing instruments
 Source: Agency for Health Care Administration, In-Patient Hospitalization and Emergency Room, 2005. Prepared by: Institute for Health, Policy and Evaluation Research, February, 2007

Health Zone 1, also known as the Urban Core of Jacksonville/Duval County has the highest rate of homicide deaths, highest percent below poverty, the lowest number of high school graduates, the highest number rate of violent injury related hospitalizations, and the highest infant mortality. In addition, this Health Zone has an 80% minority population.

Comparison of age groups for emergency room visits due to violent injuries. Results reveal that almost 50% of gun related injuries were those ages 15-24

Source: Agency for Health Care Administration, In-Patient Hospitalization, 2005. Prepared by: Institute for Health, Policy and Evaluation Research, February, 2007

