

# Trauma in Kentucky 2022-23

Kentucky Trauma Data Bank Preview

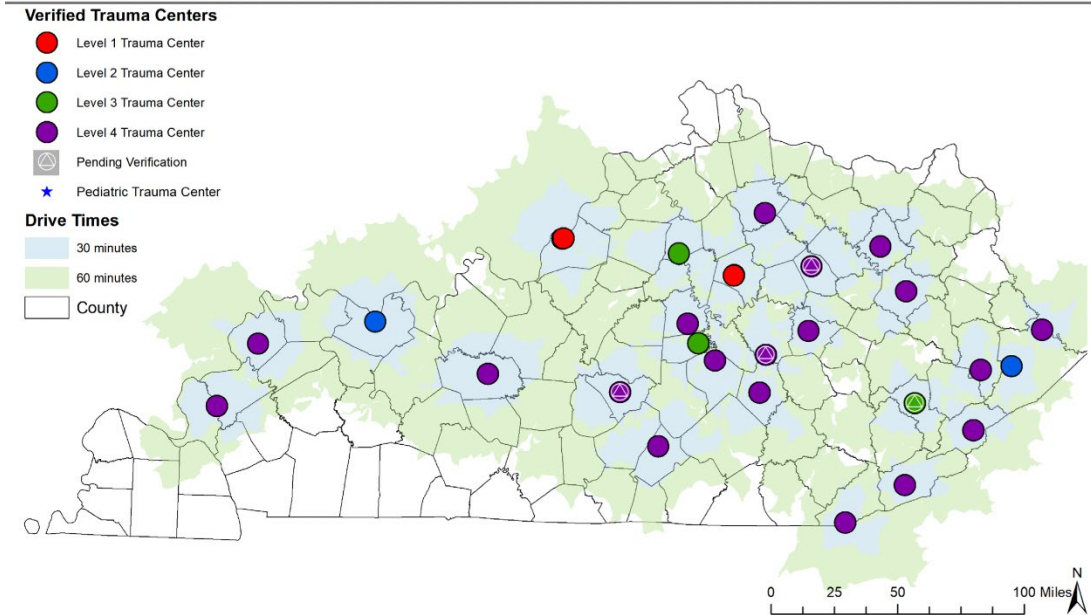
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# Trauma system participation and demographics

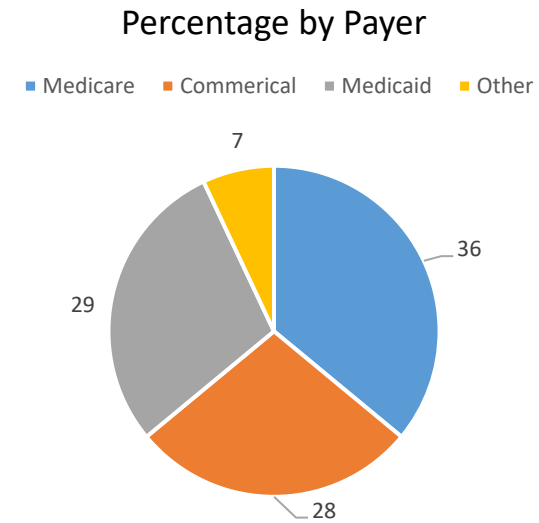
- Reporting facilities: 27 (2023)
- Number of records (2022):  
13,477
- Percentage male: 58%
- Percentage over 65: 35%  
disproportionately female
- Percentage white: 87%  
vs. 91% of population—  
non-white Kentuckians are  
over-represented

2019 Trauma Registry Facilities for Kentucky  
with 30/60 Minute Drive-Time Coverage



# Trauma system participation and demographics (2022)

- Primary payers:
  - Commercial insurance: 28%
  - Medicare: 36%
  - Medicaid: 29%
- “Self-pay” down dramatically after Kentucky’s coverage expansion
  - 2013: 16%
  - 2014: 11% (31% decline)
  - 2022: 3.4%



# Mechanisms of injury

- Nearly three-quarters (72%) of cases due to falls or motor vehicle collisions
  - Falls: 45% (young children and over-65)
  - Motor vehicle collision: 27%
- Other significant causes:
  - Firearms: 6% (up from 4% in 2017)
  - Other transportation: 5%
  - Struck by/against: 5%
  - Cut/pierce: 3%
  - Fire/burn: 2%
- Work-related trauma: 3.4%; most in construction, other services



# Transfers and discharge destinations

- Routine discharge (“home without services”): 53%
- Post-acute care: 21% (another reflection of Medicaid expansion)
- ED transfer to another hospital: 10%
- Inpatient admission transferred to another hospital: 1.5% (includes psych, LTAC)
- More information needed on ED “dwell time”, time to definitive care
  - Incident time unknown in many cases

# Trauma-specific data

- Transport mode
  - Ground ambulance: 70%
  - Helicopter ambulance: 13%
  - Private vehicle: 17%
- Injury Severity Score:
  - 1-9 (mild): 63%
  - 10-15 (moderate): 17%
  - Over 15 (severe/very severe): 20%



# Observations and limitations

- Not a full picture of trauma in Kentucky
- Incomplete statewide population health metrics
  - No info on Ky residents in out-of-state facilities
  - Northern Kentucky
  - Tennessee border counties (recent progress!)
- Injury is still the leading killer in the US for ages 1-44 BUT
  - Consequences of injury are typically more serious as age increases
- Trauma registry yields more clinically actionable findings and support for process improvement
- Need more detail on pre-hospital and inter-facility transfer times
- Increased trauma system participation supports progress on goals of both comprehensive and nuanced data
  - Discussions under way with 6 new facilities!



Thanks for the chance to share this overview  
—questions and suggestions most welcome!

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