

Poisoning Hospitalizations

- Poisoning was the third leading cause of unintentional injury hospitalizations, with 3,437 hospitalizations over the five-year period (2000 – 2004), or 687 per year
 - » Nearly 90% of poisoning hospitalizations were due to drugs and alcohol
 - » Solvents, pesticides and gases—including carbon monoxide—accounted for just over 5% of poisoning hospitalizations
- There were 2.5 times as many poisoning hospitalizations (3,437) as deaths (1,353) during this five-year period; in other words, there was one fatality for almost every three patients hospitalized for poisoning
- Children under 5 years of age were at significant risk for unintentional poisoning
 - » Nearly 30% of 299 hospitalizations in the 1- 4 year old age group were due to lead paint, lead compounds and its fumes
- Poisoning hospitalization rates were highest for adults 80 years and older, followed by children 1-4 years of age and adults 75-79 years old
- Males tended to have a slightly higher rate of hospitalization for poisoning than do females across most of the lifespan
- The hospitalization rate for poisoning among males (22.1) was nearly 25% higher than for females (17.8)
- The hospitalization rate among Non-Hispanic Blacks (29.3) was 59% higher than Non-Hispanic Whites (18.4), and 35% higher than among Hispanics (21.6)
- New Haven County—at 30.6 per 100,000 population—had a notably higher hospitalization rate for poisoning than any other County in the State; Tolland (10.7), Windham (12.0), New London (13.1) and Middlesex (14.9) Counties all had rates below 15.0 per 100,000 population—less than half that of New Haven County
- Over 85% of poisoning patients were admitted through the hospital’s emergency department, and close to 70% were discharged to the home
- Thirty hospitalizations resulted in the patient expiring (0.9%), and nearly half of these deaths were due to “narcotics & psychodysleptics”. Only one death was due to “gases or other/unspecified substances”
- Medicaid and Medicare covered the costs of over 60% of these hospitalizations, evenly split between the two payment sources; commercial insurance and hospital maintenance organizations (HMOs) and preferred provider organizations (PPOs) covered another 28% and self-pay accounted for 7.6% of hospital charges
- Average length of hospital stay for poisoning was 2 days
- **For the five-year period, the total charges for poisoning hospitalizations were \$36,950,620 with an average of \$6,733 per hospital stay**

Figure 38
Unintentional Poisoning* Hospitalizations by Mechanism
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004

(n = 3,437; average = 687/year)

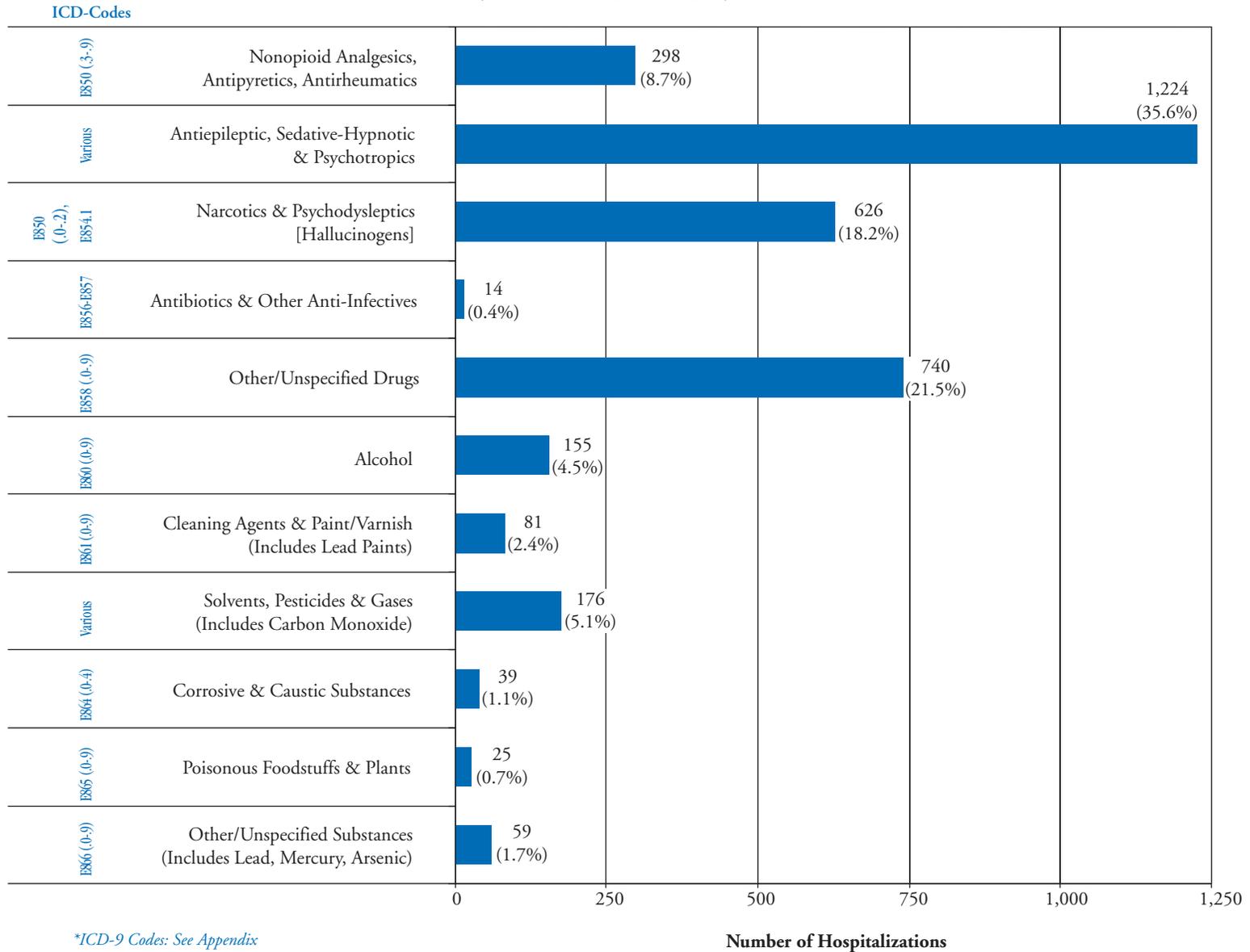


Figure 39
Poisoning Hospitalization Rates by Mechanism & Age
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004
 (n = 3,437; average = 687/year)

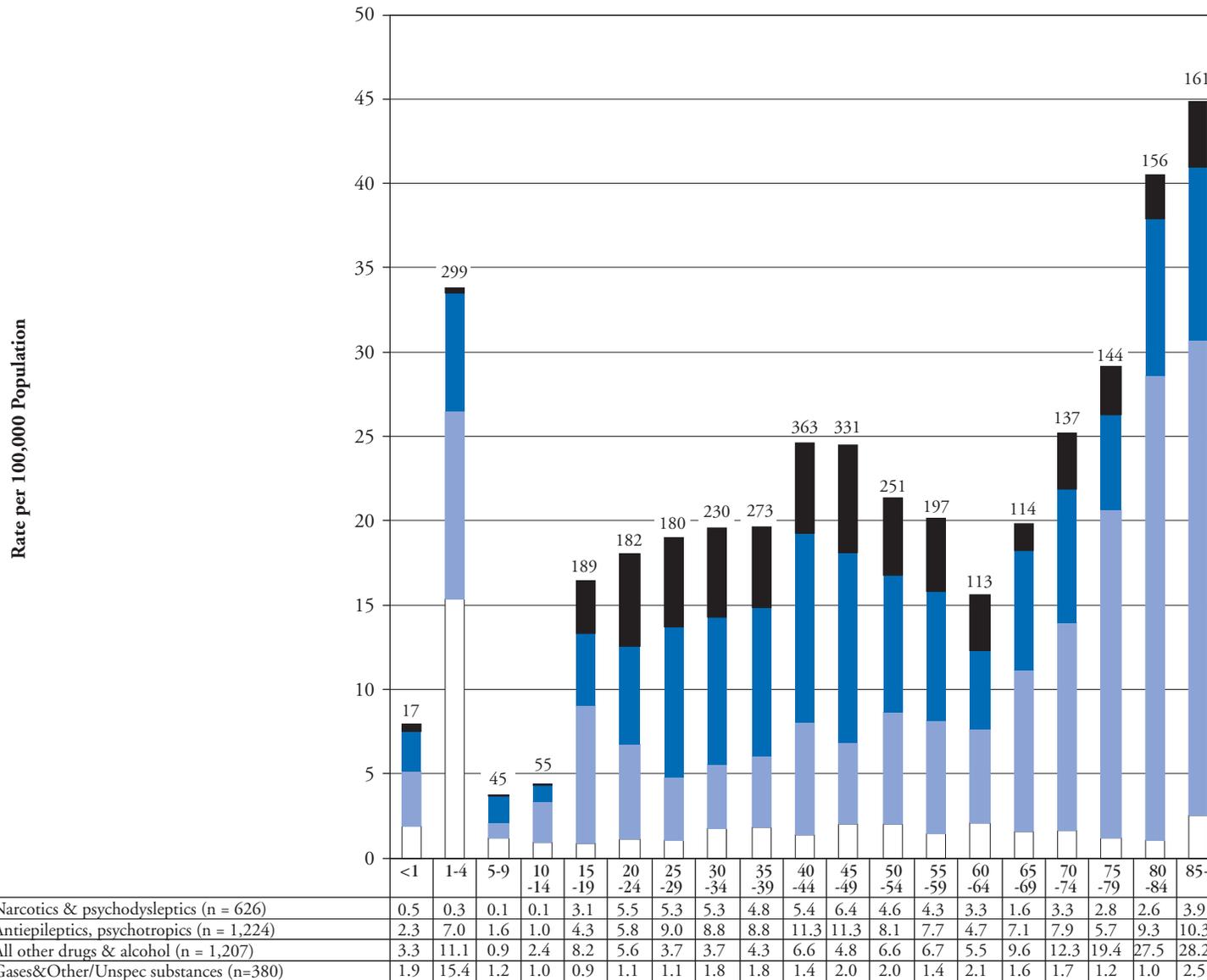


Figure 40
Poisoning Hospitalization Rates By Age & Sex
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004
 (n = 3,437; average = 687/year)

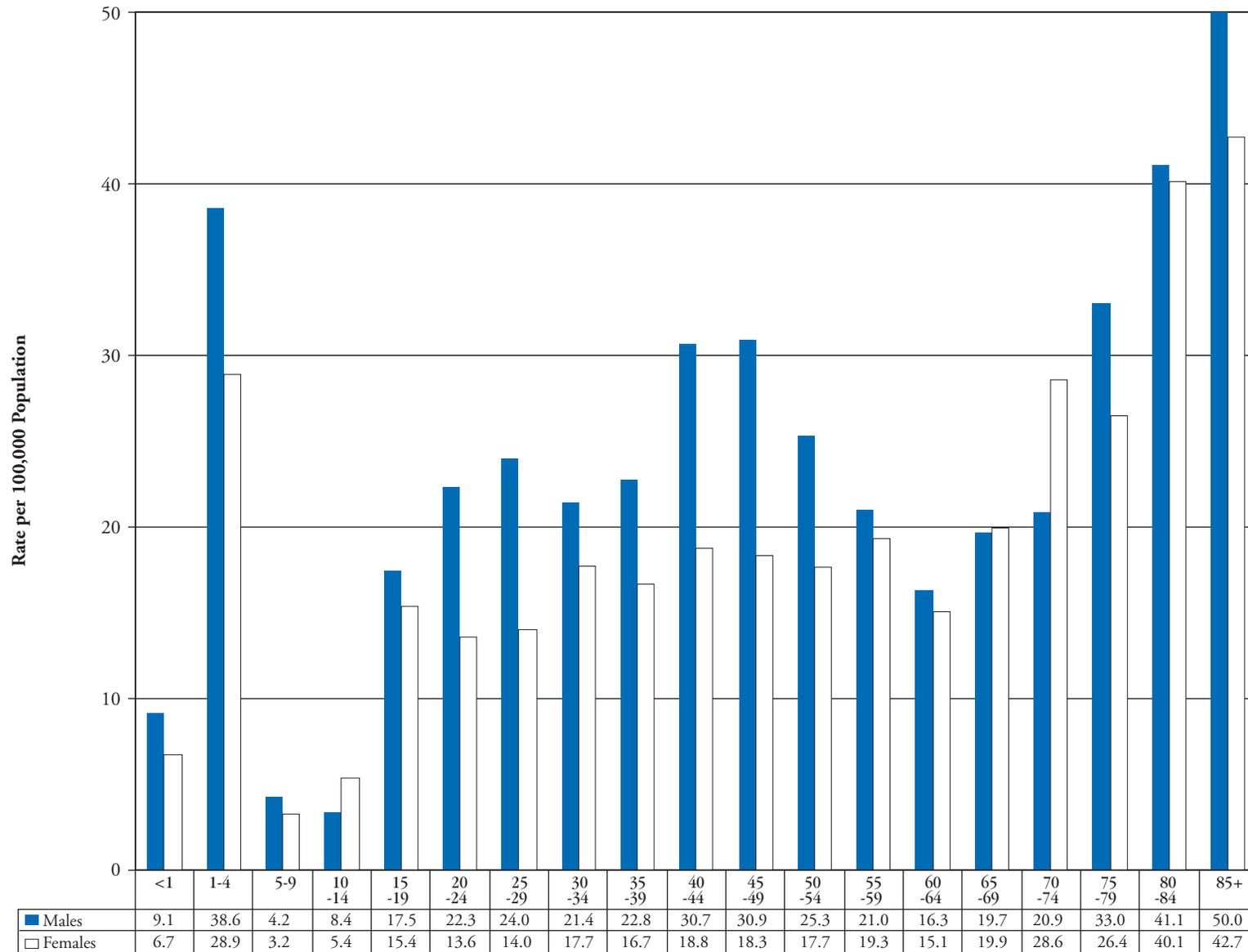


Figure 41
Poisoning Hospitalization Rates per 100,000 Population
by Sex, Race/Ethnicity & County of Residence
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004

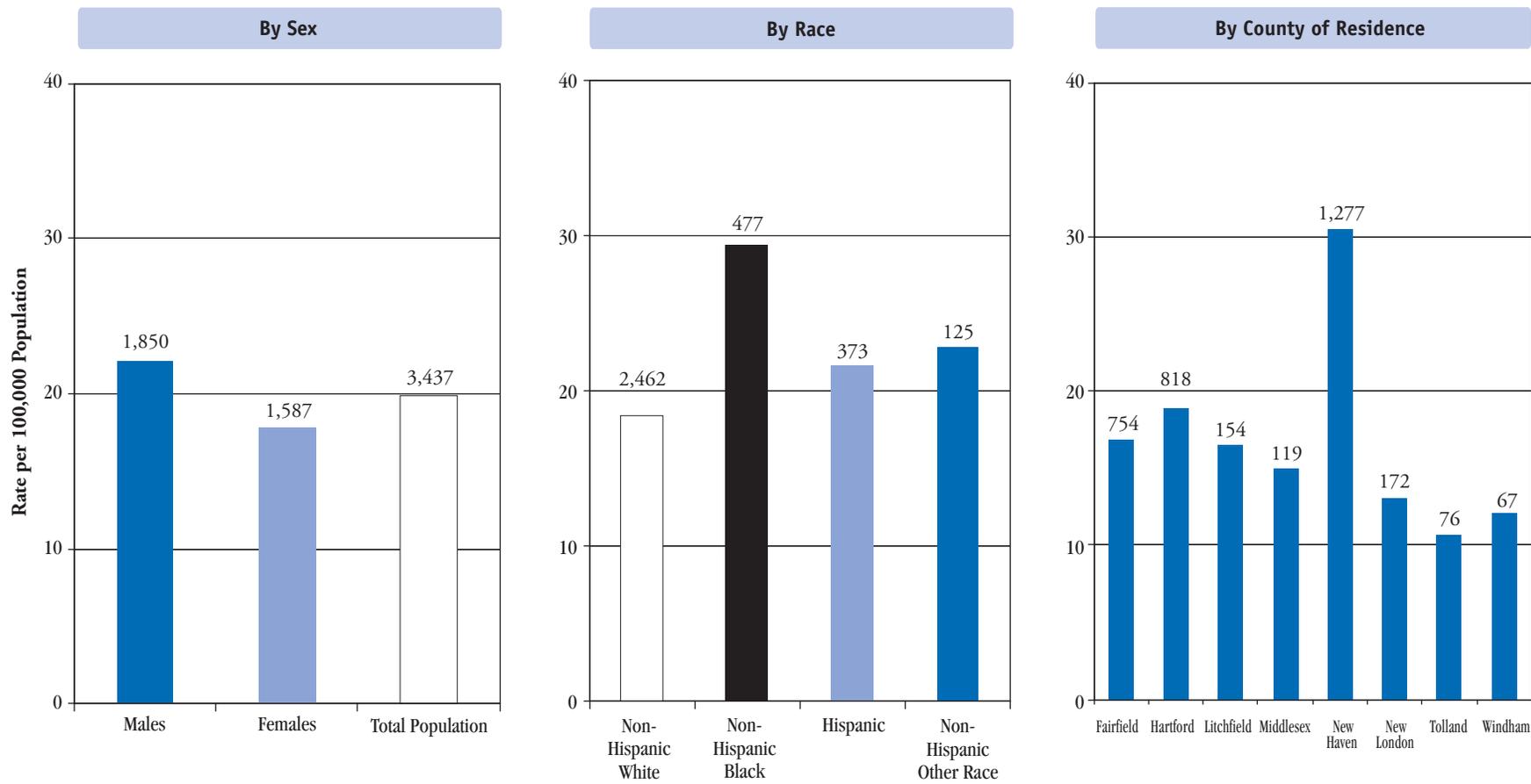


Figure 42
Poisoning Hospitalizations by Admission, Discharge & Primary Payer
Connecticut Residents, 2000 - 2004
 (n = 3,437; average = 687/year)

