

## **Falls Among Adults age 65 and Older, Adams/Broomfield Counties region\***

### **How big is the problem in the Adams/Broomfield Counties region?**

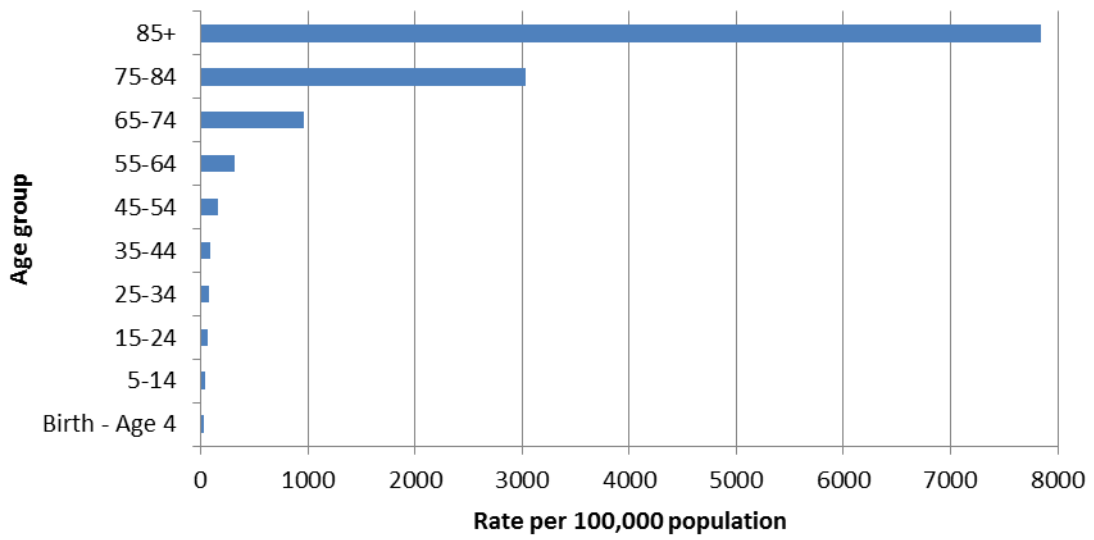
NOTE: Broomfield County has a smaller population and a smaller number of older adults who are hospitalized for fall-related injuries and who die from fall-related injuries. Small numbers can vary a lot from year to year. For this reason, Broomfield County is combined with Adams County to make the population estimates more stable from year to year.

- The rates of fall-related hospitalizations have increased over the past 10 years.
- Recent figures show that on average, over 700 residents age 65 and older in Adams and Broomfield Counties are hospitalized each year with fall-related injuries. This number has increased as the older adult population continues to grow. From 1990-2008, the 65 and older population in Adams and Broomfield Counties has grown 50% from 20,000 to 30,000 residents. An even greater number of older adults are seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. Of all the fall-related injury deaths in Adams and Broomfield Counties over the past 10 years, 85% were to people aged 65 or older.

### **Who is at risk?**

- Falls do not have to occur from a height to be injurious. The most common type of fall-related injury hospitalization among older adults is slipping, tripping, or stumbling on the same level.
- The risk of requiring hospitalization for a fall-related injury increases with age. Adults age 65 and older accounted for 62% of the fall-related hospitalizations in the Adams and Broomfield Counties region from 2006-2008. During this same time period, this age-group only accounted for 7% of the total population in Adams and Broomfield Counties.
- Adults age 85 and older are at greatest risk (Figure 1).

### Hospitalization rates for fall-related injuries by age group, Adams/Broomfield Counties, 2006-2008



\*All data obtained from the Colorado Health Information Dataset, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.  
Updated 9/24/2010

## **Falls Among Adults age 65 and Older, Arapahoe County\***

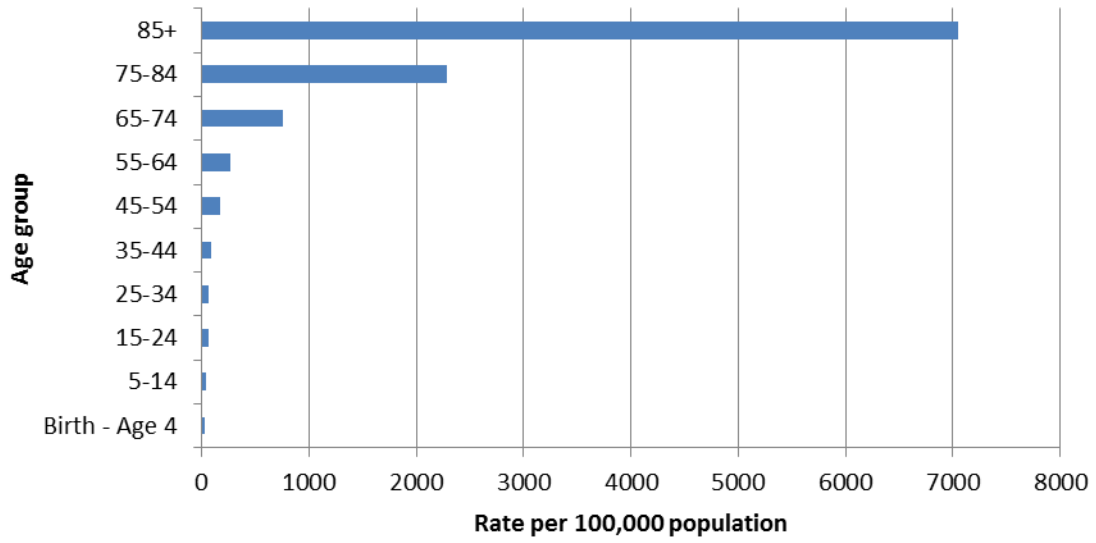
### **How big is the problem in Arapahoe County?**

- The rates of fall-related hospitalizations have increased over the past 10 years.
- Recent figures show that on average, 1,000 Arapahoe County residents age 65 and older are hospitalized each year with fall-related injuries. This number has increased as the older adult population continues to grow. From 1990 to 2008, the 65 and older population in Arapahoe County has grown 82% from less than 30,000 to over 50,000 residents. An even greater number of older adults are seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. Of all the fall-related injury deaths in Arapahoe County over the past 10 years, 87% were to people aged 65 or older.

### **Who is at risk?**

- Falls do not have to occur from a height to be injurious. The most common type of fall-related injury hospitalization among older adults is slipping, tripping, or stumbling on the same level.
- The risk of requiring hospitalization for a fall-related injury increases with age. Adults age 65 and older accounted for 66% of the fall-related hospitalizations in Arapahoe County from 2006-2008. During this same time period, this age-group only accounted for 9% of the total population in Arapahoe County.
- Adults age 85 and older are at greatest risk (Figure 1).

### Hospitalization rates for fall-related injuries by age group, Arapahoe County, 2006-2008



\*All data obtained from the Colorado Health Information Dataset, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Updated 9/24/2010

## Falls Among Adults age 65 and Older, Denver County\*

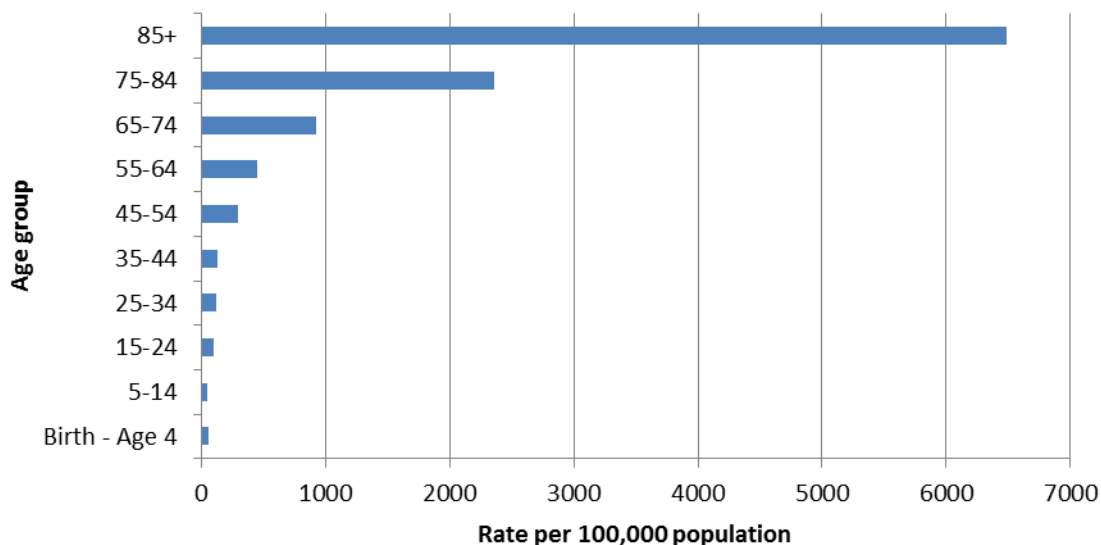
### How big is the problem in Denver County?

- The rates of fall-related hospitalizations have increased over the past 10 years.
- Recent figures show that on average, 1,300 Denver County residents age 65 and older are hospitalized each year with fall-related injuries. An even greater number of older adults are seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. Of all the fall-related injury deaths in Denver County over the past 10 years, 81% were to people aged 65 or older.

### Who is at risk?

- Falls do not have to occur from a height to be injurious. The most common type of fall-related injury hospitalization among older adults is slipping, tripping, or stumbling on the same level.
- The risk of requiring hospitalization for a fall-related injury increases with age. Adults age 65 and older accounted for 60% of the fall-related hospitalizations in Denver County from 2006-2008. During this same time period, this age-group only accounted for 10% of the total population in Denver County.
- Adults age 85 and older are at greatest risk (Figure 1).

**Hospitalization rates for fall-related injuries by age group,  
Denver County, 2006-2008**



\*All data obtained from the Colorado Health Information Dataset, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.  
Updated 9/24/2010

## Falls Among Adults age 65 and Older, Douglas County\*

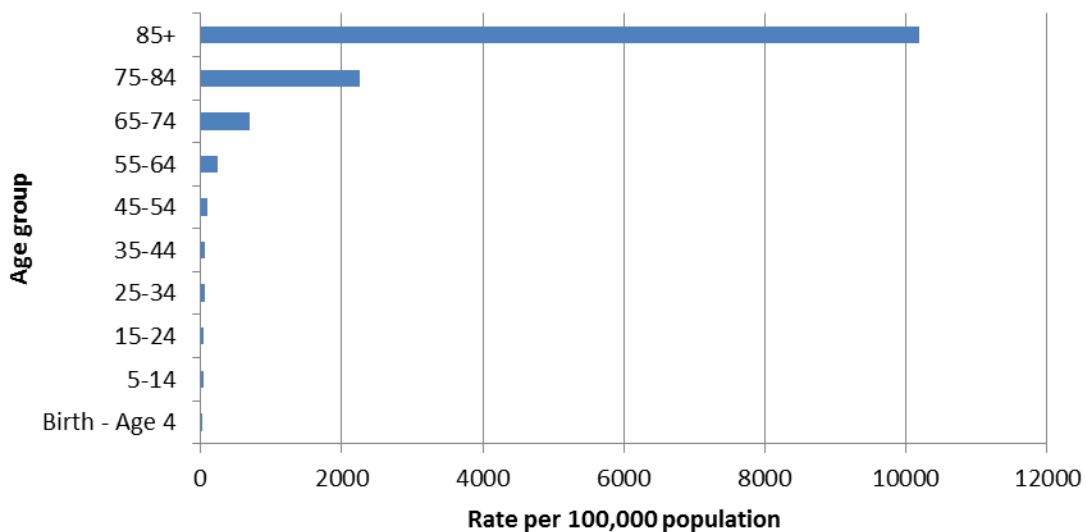
### How big is the problem in the Douglas County?

- The rates of fall-related hospitalizations have increased over the past 10 years.
- Recent figures show that on average, 230 Douglas County residents age 65 and older are hospitalized each year with fall-related injuries. This number has increased as the older adult population continues to grow. From 1990 to 2008, the 65 and older population in Douglas County has grown over 400% from 2,500 residents to 14,000 residents. An even greater number of older adults are seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. Of all the fall-related injury deaths in Douglas County over the past 10 years, 90% were to people aged 65 or older.

### Who is at risk?

- Falls do not have to occur from a height to be injurious. The most common type of fall-related injury hospitalization among older adults is slipping, tripping, or stumbling on the same level.
- The risk of requiring hospitalization for a fall-related injury increases with age. Adults age 65 and older accounted for 54% of the fall-related hospitalizations in Douglas County from 2006-2008. During this same time period, this age-group only accounted for 5% of the total population in Douglas County.
- Adults age 85 and older are at greatest risk (Figure 1).

**Hospitalization rates for fall-related injuries by age group, Douglas County, 2006-2008**



\*All data obtained from the Colorado Health Information Dataset, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Updated 9/24/2010

## Falls Among Adults age 65 and Older, Jefferson County\*

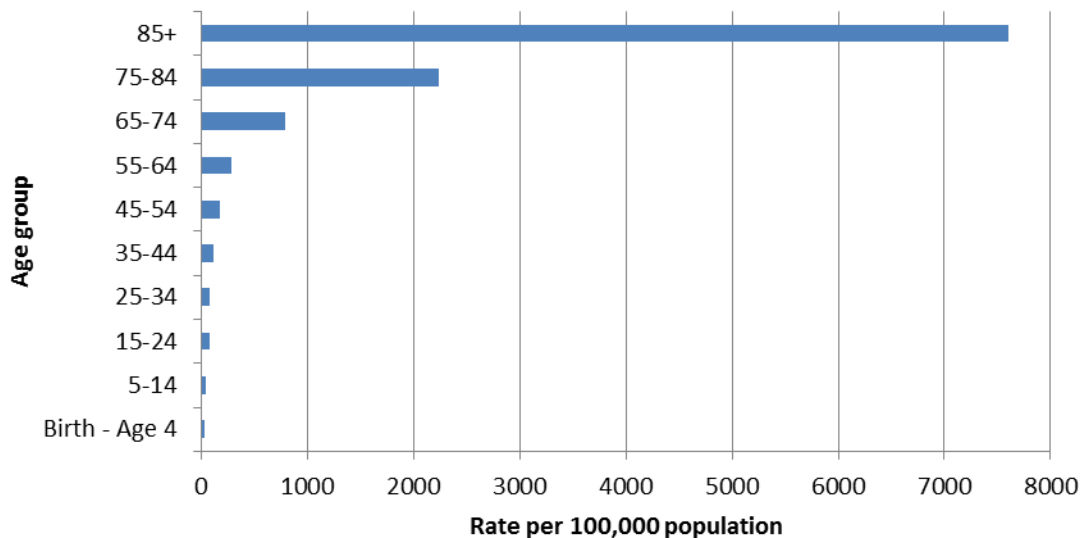
### How big is the problem in Jefferson County?

- The rates of fall-related hospitalizations have increased over the past 10 years.
- Recent figures show that on average, 1,000 Jefferson County residents age 65 and older are hospitalized each year with fall-related injuries. This number has increased as the older adult population continues to grow. From 1990 to 2008, the 65 and older population in Jefferson County has grown almost 80% from 35,000 to 63,000 residents. An even greater number of older adults are seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury.
- Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths. Of all the fall-related injury deaths in Jefferson County over the past 10 years, 87% were to people aged 65 or older.

### Who is at risk?

- Falls do not have to occur from a height to be injurious. The most common type of fall-related injury hospitalization among older adults is slipping, tripping, or stumbling on the same level.
- The risk of requiring hospitalization for a fall-related injury increases with age. Adults age 65 and older accounted for 68% of the fall-related hospitalizations in Jefferson County from 2006-2008. During this same time period, this age-group only accounted for 11% of the total population in Jefferson County.
- Adults age 85 and older are at greatest risk (Figure 1).

**Hospitalization rates for fall-related injuries by age group,  
Jefferson County, 2006-2008**



\*All data obtained from the Colorado Health Information Dataset, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.  
Updated 9/24/2010