

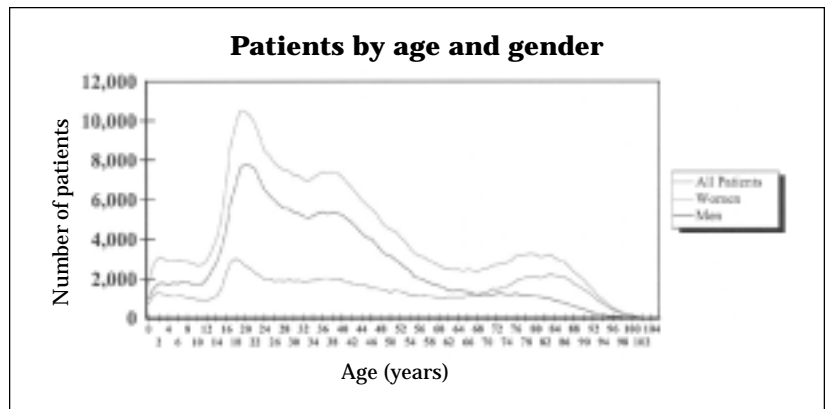
# ACS releases 2002 NTDB™ annual report

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In 1989, the ACS Board of Regents committed significant resources to establish the National Trauma Data Bank™ (NTDB) as a central national repository of data on trauma and trauma care. At the present time, the NTDB contains more than 400,000 records from 130 trauma centers in the U.S.

The most recent report from the NTDB—the *2002 Annual Report*—is an updated analysis of the largest aggregation of trauma registry data that has ever been assembled. The purpose of this report is to inform the medical community, the public, and decision makers about a wide variety of issues that characterize the current state of care for injured persons in our country. It has implications in many areas, including epidemiology, injury control, research, education, acute care, and resource allocation.

Injury is the leading cause of death in the U.S. for people less than 40 years of age. Upon closer examination, we see two early peaks (18–21 and 36–37). As we get older and pass those milestones, one has the sense that we have made it over the



Number of men and women at each age from 0 to 105. Total N = 430,577.

hurdle and are less likely to become a trauma statistic. In looking at the 430,577 records of the second annual report of the NTDB, we see the same trimodal distribution of injury that was identified in the first report—a finding that earned its place on the cover of that report (see table, above).

At 80 years of age there is a third peak of trauma. As one would expect, this is primarily due to blunt mechanism, including motor vehicle related injuries and falls. If one takes a

closer look at this peak, one can see, for the first time, a female preponderance.

A complete copy of the report may be found at <http://www.facs.org/dept/trauma/ntdbannualreport2002.pdf>.

If you are interested in submitting your trauma center's data, contact Melanie Neal, Manager, NTDB, at [mneal@facs.org](mailto:mneal@facs.org).

Future issues of the *Bulletin* will provide ongoing coverage of the NTDB and findings from the *2002 Annual Report*.



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