

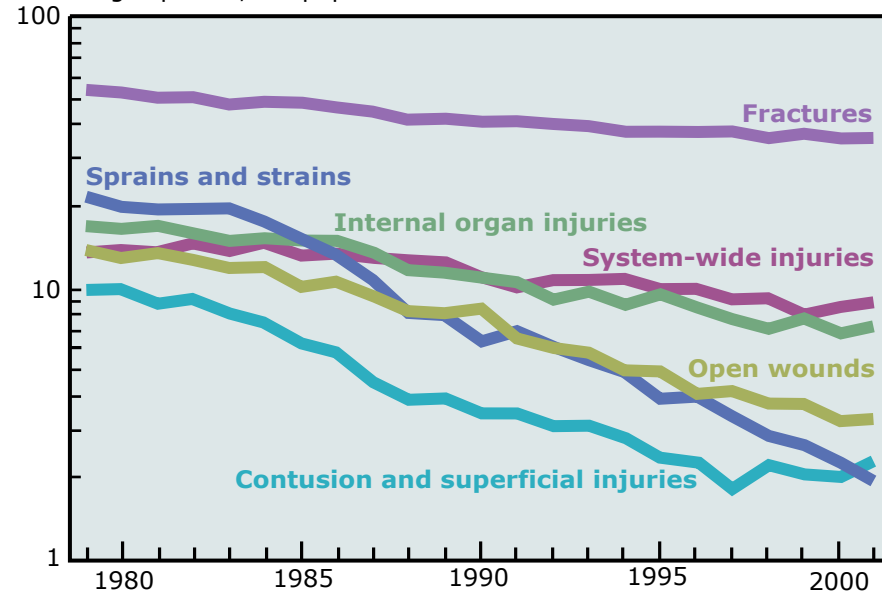
## Discharges by Injury Diagnosis

One dimension of the Barel Matrix is the nature of injury. From 1979 to 2001 fractures, sprains and strains, open wounds, internal organ injuries, contusions and superficial injuries, and system wide injuries accounted for the vast majority of injury hospital discharges (87\N94 percent). Throughout this time period, fracture discharge rates were higher than the rates for other leading injury diagnoses and declined on average only 2 percent per year (for a total decrease of 36 percent) to a rate of 35.4 per 10,000 population in 2001.

From 1979 to 2001 the rate for sprains and strains decreased more than did the rates for other types of injuries, an average of 11.1 percent per year (for a total decrease of 92 percent) to a rate of 1.9 per 10,000 population in 2001. Open wounds and contusion/superficial injury discharge rates, decreased on average 7.1 and 8.2 percent per year respectively (for total decreases of 80 and 85 percent), to rates of 3.3 and 2.3 per 10,000 population in 2001. System wide and internal organ injury discharge rates decreased on average 2.8 and 4.5 percent per year, respectively (for total decreases of 46 and 64 percent), to 9.0 and 7.3 per 10,000 population in 2001.

**Figure 9. Hospital discharge rates by injury diagnosis, 1979-2001**

Discharges per 10,000 population



NOTES: Data are plotted on the log scale. Discharge rates are age adjusted using the 2000 standard population (Appendix A). System wide injuries include poisoning, toxic effects, foreign bodies, early complications of trauma, other and unspecified effects of external cause, late effects of injury, poisoning, toxic effects, and other external causes, and child and adult maltreatment.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Hospital Discharge Survey.