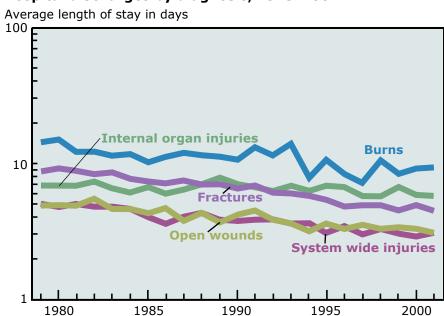
Average Length of Stay by Injury Diagnosis

From 1979 to 2001 persons hospitalized with burns generally had a longer average length of stay than those with other types of injury. In 2001 burn patients had an average length of stay of 9.3 days.

The length of stay for each injury type decreased over the time period. From 1979 to 2001, the length of stay for burns and open wounds decreased on average 2.2 and 2.3 percent per year, respectively (for total decreases of 38 and 40 percent). Fractures decreased on average 3.4 percent per year (for a total decrease of 54 percent), and system wide injuries decreased on average 2.4 percent per year (for a total decrease of 42 percent).

Figure 27. Average length of stay in days for injury hospital discharges by diagnosis, 1979-2001



NOTES: Data are plotted on the log scale. 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. Average length of stay (in days) is age adjusted using the 2000 standard population.

SOURCE: CDC/NCHS, National Hospital Discharge Survey.