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FACT SHEET: TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) IN SOUTH CAROLINA

#1 Cause of Death for Persons Ages 1 to 44 Years 61,000 South Carolinians Have TBI-related Disability

61,000 residents live with permanent disability due to TBI after being discharged alive from hospitals with TBI. TBI related disabilities include physical, cognitive, and behavioral limitations. Imagine sitting in the end zone at the University of South Carolina's Williams-Brice Stadium or Clemson Memorial Stadium for a football game. It would take 3 out of every 4 seats (76%) to accommodate these TBI residents.



To illustrate the magnitude of death related to TBI in South Carolina, in 2006, for ages 1 to 44 years, 598 persons died from TBI. For the same ages and same year, 322 persons died from cancer and 345 persons died from heart-related diseases.

Causes of TBI in South Carolina:

- Falls: 28%
- Motor vehicle crashes: 23%
- Struck by/against events: 8%
- Assaults: 10%

Each year in South Carolina:

- Over 1,300 people will sustain a life long TBI related disability
- Approximately 1000 people of all ages die as a result of TBI
- TBI continues to rank as the number one cause of death for people ages 1 to 44 years
- Approximately 3,000 people with new TBI are hospitalized and discharged alive from hospitals
- 12,000 people with new TBI are treated and released from Emergency Departments (ED)
- Societal willingness-to-pay (WTP) estimate accounting for direct and indirect cost for SC is \$3 billion

(Economists refer to WTP as intangibles. Example - the value lost for an avid worker because of losing his/her abilities to do the job)