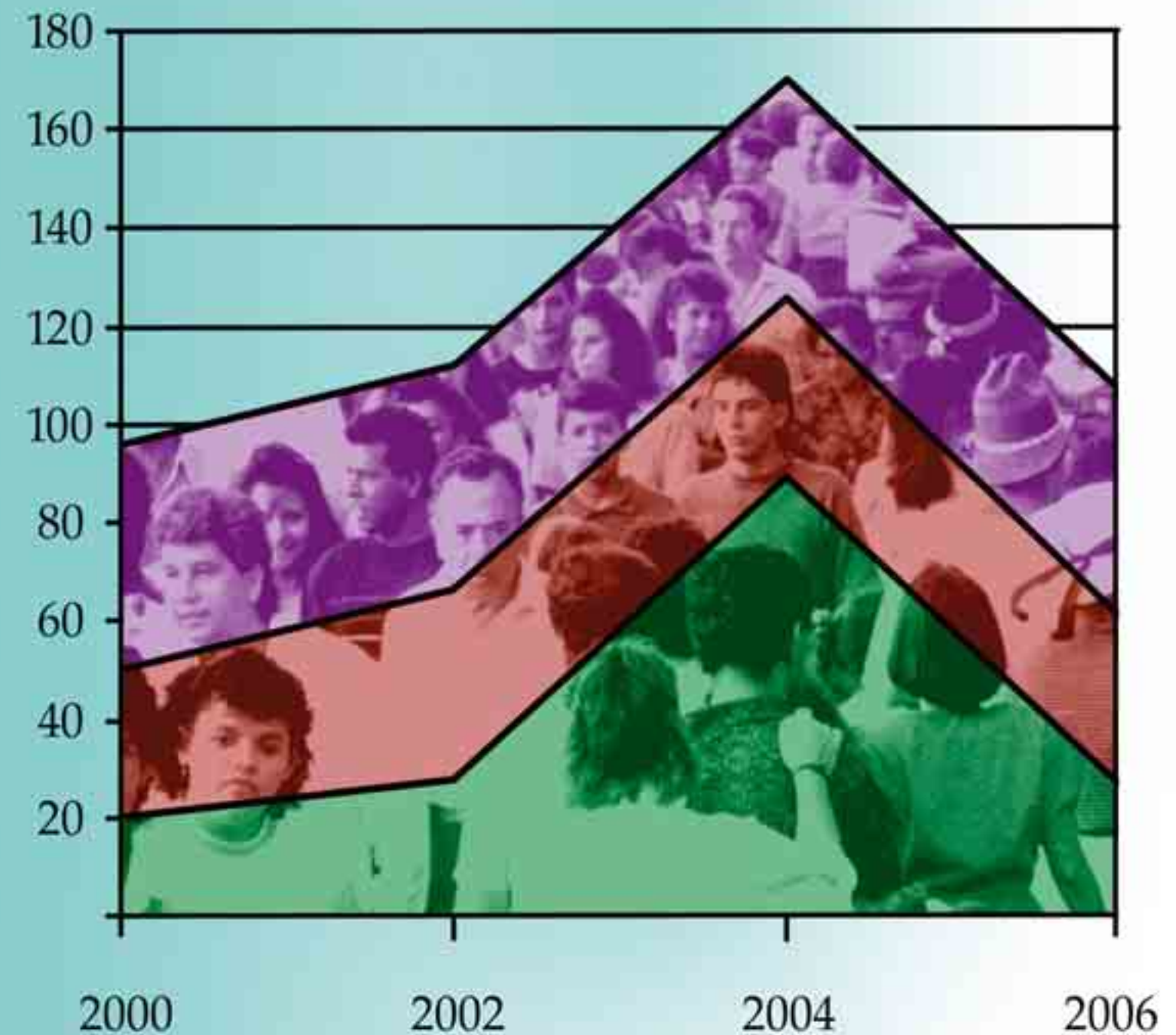


# Guidelines for conducting community surveys on injuries and violence

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# GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING COMMUNITY SURVEYS ON INJURIES AND VIOLENCE

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# ABBREVIATIONS

CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States
CPS	Cumulative population size
DALY	Disability-adjusted life year
DFID	Department for International Development, United Kingdom
DHS	Demographic and health survey
ICD	International Classification of Disease
ICECI	International Classification of External Causes of Injury
MoH	Ministry of health
MRC	Medical Research Council
NGOs	Nongovernmental organizations
PPS	Probability proportional to size
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
YPLLs	Years of potential life lost



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# FOREWORD

Injuries and violence pose a major public health and development problem worldwide. According to recent estimates, each year over 5 million people around the world die as a result of an injury. However, this total pales in comparison to the huge numbers who suffer non-fatal, disabling injuries each day. Although injuries and violence affect people of all ages, races and socioeconomic status, we know that the majority of the injury burden occurs among those from low-income and middle-income countries.

Over the past few decades, as more attention has been paid to the worldwide problem of injuries, we have come to a better understanding of the nature and extent of injuries and violence. Accidents and injuries are no longer perceived as wholly random, unavoidable events but rather as ones that are largely preventable. We know that there are numerous effective measures for preventing injuries.

In order to develop effective prevention strategies, most countries need better information on the burden of injuries and violence in their communities. It was this need that prompted the World Health Organization (WHO), in collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to publish in 2002 the *Injury surveillance guidelines*. These guidelines are aimed primarily at researchers and practitioners and provide practical advice on how to develop information systems for the systematic collection of data on injuries in health care facilities. The *Injury surveillance guidelines* have since been utilized in numerous countries around the world, and in a diverse number of settings.

Hospital-based injury surveillance systems do not, however, capture all injury events and deaths in a population. The present manual, which provides a relatively simple standard methodology for collecting data on injuries in the community, thus acts as companion document to the *Injury surveillance guidelines*. Household or community-based surveys are an important supplement to hospital-based surveillance in that they have the potential to gather more detailed information on both injury events and risk factors for injury, and are population-based.

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