

# Playground Injuries Fact Sheet

Playground injury data is typically taken from children arriving at a hospital emergency room for treatment. This information provides an opportunity to review your playground and analyze problem areas where most injuries occur.

## Where Children Get Injured:

- About 45% of playground-related injuries are severe-fractures, Internal injuries, concussions, dislocations and sometimes even amputations (Tnsworth 2001).
- 75% of nonfatal injuries related to playground equipment occur on public playgrounds such as schools and day care centers.
- On occasion, a small percentage of playground injuries result in death. (70%) of injuries resulting in deaths occur on home playgrounds. When children die as a result of playground injuries 56% of the time it is from strangulation and 20% of the time it is a result of falls to the surfacing.

## At Risk Groups

- 55% of injuries are to girls
- 45% of injuries are to boys

## Injuries Based on Equipment Type

- In public playgrounds, most injuries occur on climbers
- On home playgrounds most injuries occur on swings
- Low income areas are also a risk factor for injuries. It seems that low-income areas are maintained less and related hazards are more plentiful in these areas (ie. trash, rusty equipment and improper or not well maintained playground surfacing etc.)

## References

Tinsworth D, McDonald J. Special Study: Injuries and Deaths Associated with Children's Playground Equipment. Washington (DC): U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission; 2001

CDC Playground Injury Fact Sheet -

<http://www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Playground-Injuries/playgroundinjuries-factsheet.htm>