

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>