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Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)



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CHIRPP NEWS

Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program

Issue 12

November 1997

THE CHIRPP SAMPLER

a selection of facts and figures from the CHIRPP database

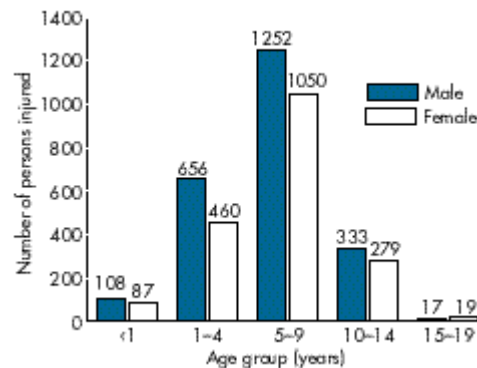
Injuries Associated with Playground Equipment The 1996 CHIRPP database, patients 0-19 years of age

Number of records in the CHIRPP database as of April 1997 = 646,335

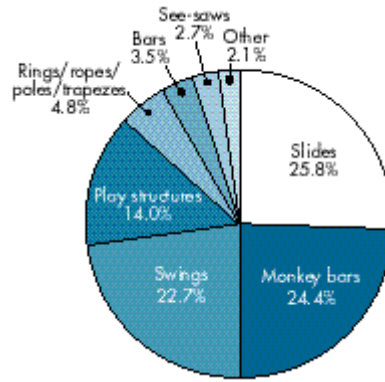
Number of records for 1996 = 112,114

Number of 1996 records associated with playground equipment = 4,261

Age and sex distribution



Type of playground equipment



Note: For injury events for which the type of equipment was specified.

Nature of injury and body part injured

| Nature and site of injury | Number* | Percent of injuries |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Fracture, dislocation | 1,851 | 40.5 |
| Arm | 1,580 | |
| Leg | 235 | |
| Head | 24 | |
| Trunk | 12 | |
| Abrasion, bruising, inflammation | 1,118 | 24.4 |
| Head | 426 | |
| Arm | 237 | |
| Leg | 229 | |
| Trunk | 226 | |
| Cut, laceration | 693 | 15.2 |
| Head | 591 | |
| Arm | 44 | |
| Leg | 30 | |
| Trunk | 28 | |
| Minor head injury | 361 | 7.9 |
| Sprain, strain | 353 | 7.7 |
| Leg | 172 | |
| Arm | 129 | |
| Trunk | 31 | |
| Head | 2 | |
| Dental injury | 63 | 1.4 |
| Concussion | 59 | 1.3 |
| Other | 76 | 1.6 |
| Total | 4,574 | 100.0 |

* Up to three injuries may be specified for each record. A total of 406 patients (9.5%) sustained more than one injury.

Notes

- The majority of injuries (64.9%) involved falls, and 83.5% of patients admitted to hospital reported falls.
- Among those injuries for which time of incident was available, 38.6% occurred between noon and 4 p.m., and 35.0% occurred between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- The leading locations for injuries to occur were public parks (39.6%), schools (37.0%) and residential yards (17.0%).
- Medical follow-up was required by 42.8% of injured children and youth, and 9.4% were admitted to hospital.

Compiled by Margaret Herbert, Chief, Child Injury Division.

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