

Child injury: deaths and hospitalisations



The following tables show the causes of serious injuries among children aged 0-14 years in New Zealand. The tables include only unintentional injury. Brief summaries of injury from other intents are provided below the tables. This fact sheet updates the information provided in IPRU Factsheet No 22.

DEATHS 1998 - 2002

Age Groups

Mechanism	0-4 years		5-9 years		10-14 years		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Cut/pierce	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Drowning	51	21.6	10	10.3	16	11.4	77	16.3
Fall	*	*	*	*	9	6.4	12	2.5
All burns	23	9.7	12	12.4	4	2.9	39	8.2
<i>Fire/flame</i>	19	8.1	12	12.4	4	2.9	35	7.4
<i>Hot object/scald</i>	4	1.7	*	*	*	*	4	0.8
Firearm	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Machinery	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Motor vehicle traffic	58	24.6	53	54.6	67	47.9	178	37.6
<i>Occupant</i>	35	14.8	21	21.6	41	29.3	97	20.1
<i>Pedestrian</i>	22	9.3	19	19.6	11	7.9	52	11.0
<i>Pedal cyclist</i>	*	*	13	13.4	15	10.7	28	5.9
<i>Motor cyclist</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Other & unspecified</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pedal cyclist (other)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pedestrian (other)	14	5.9	6	6.2	3	2.1	23	4.9
Transport (other)	3	1.3	11	11.3	16	11.4	30	6.3
Natural/environmental	*	*	*	*	3	2.1	3	0.6
Overexertion	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Poisoning	*	*	*	*	4	2.9	5	1.1
Struck by or against	5	2.1	*	*	*	*	8	1.7
Suffocation	74	31.4	*	*	9	6.4	84	17.8
Other specified	4	1.7	*	*	3	2.1	8	1.7
Other specified, not elsewhere classifiable	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unspecified	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Total	236	100.0	97	100.0	140	100.0	473	100.0

The data on which this table is based include all deaths with a primary diagnosis of injury where the injury was coded as 'unintentional', and excludes the following: adverse effects due to drugs and medical procedures, legal interventions and operations of war.

* Values for cells where the count was less than 3 cases have not been presented. The total includes all cases.

Deaths from other intents

In addition to the deaths from unintentional injury for which the causes are given in the table above, there were 74 further deaths from injury during the 5 year period of which:

- 25 deaths were suicidal: all were among children aged 10-14 years.
- 46 deaths were from homicide: 30 occurred in the 0-4 year old, 10 in the 5-9 year old and 6 in the 10-14 year old age groups.
- 3 deaths were from injuries of undetermined intent: all were among the 10-14 year olds.

HOSPITALISATIONS 2000 - 2004

Age Groups

Mechanism	0-4 years		5-9 years		10-14 years		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Cut/pierce	602	4.3	1069	6.3	1254	8.2	2925	6.3
Drowning	139	1.0	45	0.3	26	0.2	210	0.5
Fall	5601	39.8	10536	62.6	6940	45.4	23077	50.0
All burns	1186	8.4	211	1.3	188	1.2	1585	3.4
<i>Fire/flare</i>	67	0.5	58	0.3	86	0.6	211	0.5
<i>Hot object/scald</i>	1119	8.0	153	0.9	102	0.7	1374	3.0
Firearm	4	0.0	9	0.1	53	0.3	66	0.1
Machinery	49	0.3	44	0.3	75	0.5	168	0.4
Motor vehicle traffic	480	3.4	713	4.2	978	6.4	2171	4.7
<i>Occupant</i>	271	1.9	304	1.8	464	3.0	1039	2.2
<i>Pedestrian</i>	188	1.3	309	1.8	225	1.5	722	1.6
<i>Pedal cyclist</i>	13	0.1	72	0.4	155	1.0	240	0.5
<i>Motor cyclist</i>	5	0.0	28	0.2	131	0.9	164	0.4
<i>Other & unspecified</i>	3	0.0	*	*	3	0.0	6	0.0
Pedal cyclist (other)	256	1.8	964	5.7	1299	8.5	2519	5.5
Pedestrian (other)	228	1.6	100	0.6	57	0.4	385	0.8
Transport (other)	157	1.1	486	2.9	1275	8.3	1918	4.2
Natural/environmental	505	3.6	435	2.6	275	1.8	1215	2.6
Overexertion	46	0.3	79	0.5	360	2.4	485	1.1
Poisoning	1471	10.5	151	0.9	209	1.4	1831	4.0
Struck by or against	879	6.3	967	5.7	1465	9.6	3311	7.2
Suffocation	207	1.5	14	0.1	13	0.1	234	0.5
Other specified	1867	13.3	834	5.0	469	3.1	3170	6.9
Other specified, not elsewhere classifiable	30	0.2	28	0.2	76	0.5	134	0.3
Unspecified	356	2.5	154	0.9	264	1.7	774	1.7
Total	14063	100.0	16839	100.0	15276	100.0	46178	100.0

The data on which this table is based include all discharges from public hospitals with a primary diagnosis of injury where the injury was coded as 'unintentional', and excludes the following: readmissions for prior injury, stays of less than one day, those discharged dead, adverse effects due to drugs and medical procedures, legal interventions, and operations of war.

* Values for cells where the count was less than 3 cases have not been presented. The total includes all cases.

Hospitalisation from other intents

In addition to the unintentional injury hospitalisations given in the table above, there were 718 further hospitalisations from injury during the 5 year period of which:

- 401 were from self-inflicted injury, and almost all were among children aged 10-14 year olds.
- 249 children aged 0-4 years had been assaulted, as had 66 children aged 5-9 years and 275 aged 10-14 years.
- 68 were the result of injuries from undetermined intent: 20 of them among 0-4 year olds, 7 among 5-9 year olds and 41 among 10-14 year olds.

These tables are based on the ICD9 and ICD10 Revised Framework of E-code groupings provided by the National Centre for Injury Prevention and Control. Minor modifications have been made by the IPRU to enable the ICD9 and the ICD10 frameworks to be comparable.

Data source: New Zealand Health Information Service Mortality Collection and National Minimum Data Set.

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