Toy Injuries in U.S. Children: Know the Facts

Between 2015 and 2018, U.S. children and adolescents ages 0-19 sustained over 1 million toy-related injuries that were treated in emergency departments. Common injury diagnoses related to toy injuries are laceration, contusion/abrasion, fracture, strain/sprain, internal injury, foreign body, and other.¹

Toy Injuries by Sex

Overall, between ages 0-19, males sustain more toy related-injuries that are treated in the emergency department (ED) than females.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Percentage of Injuries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>65.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top 5 Toy Categories Associated with Nearly Two-Thirds of ED-Treated Injuries

**Males**
- Skateboard - 29.2%
- Standup Scooter, unpowered - 14.8%
- Balls, other or not specified - 6.1%
- Toy vehicles - 4%
- Building sets - 3.5%

**Females**
- Skateboard - 14.8%
- Standup Scooter, unpowered - 17.9%
- Balls, other or not specified - 8.0%
- Toy vehicles - 2.2%
- Building sets - 2.7%

Toy-related injuries differ for males and females in different age groups.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Male Percentage</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Female Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
<td>5-9</td>
<td>29.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>24.0%</td>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>21.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>20.0%</td>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For males, toy-related injuries are highest between ages 1-4 and slowly decline with age.

For females, toy-related injuries are highest between ages 1-4 and rapidly decline with age.

Skateboards are related to approximately 1 in 3 toy-related ED injuries for males.

Scooters are related to approximately 1 in 5 toy-related ED injuries for females.

Source and More Information

**Source:** 2015-2018 NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

For resources on preventing toy-based injuries, please visit:

Children’s Safety Network [https://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org/](https://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org/)

Safe Kids Worldwide [https://www.safekids.org/safetytips/field_risks/toy-safety](https://www.safekids.org/safetytips/field_risks/toy-safety)


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