



# OHIO

## Special Emphasis Report: Infant and Early Childhood Injury, 2011

### Injury is a Leading Cause of Death in Children

Injuries are a major public health problem across the United States and in Ohio. They are the leading cause of death and disability for Ohio children aged 1 to 5 and a leading cause of death for infants.

In 2011, 162 Ohio children ages 0 to 5 years died as a result of injury, or more than one child every two days. As tragic as they are, deaths are only the tip of the iceberg. For every injury death to an Ohio child in this age range, there were 10 injury-related hospital stays, and 665 injuries treated and released from an emergency department (ED) in 2011. These numbers do not include those treated at home or in a physician's office.

Injuries are not accidents! Most child injuries follow predictable patterns and can fortunately be prevented using evidence-based strategies. Prevention strategies using multiple approaches such as education and training as well as policy, systems, engineering or environmental change are most effective.

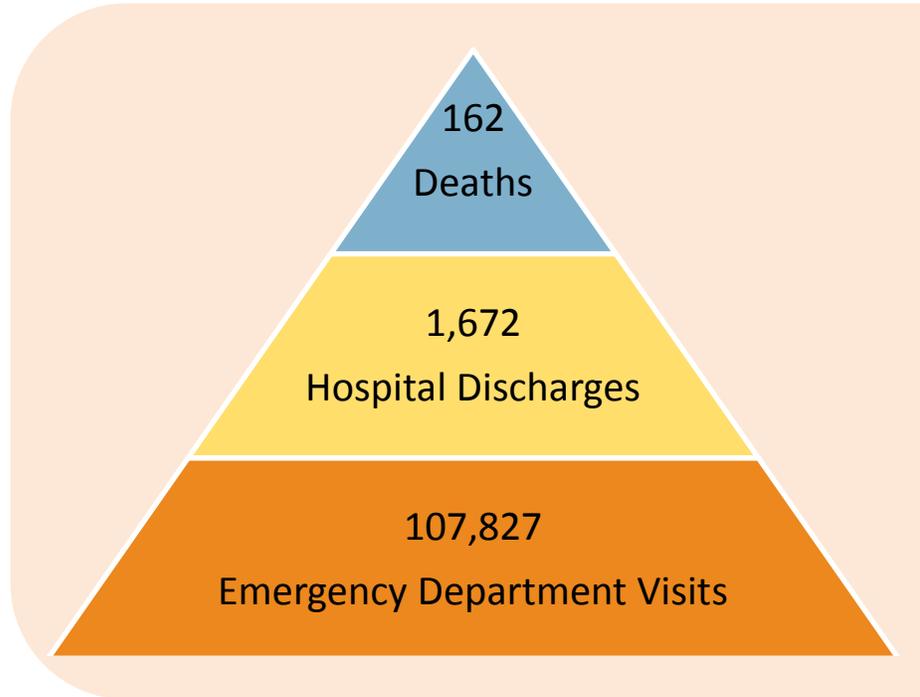


Figure 1: Annual Injuries among Children Ages 0-5 Years, Ohio, 2011

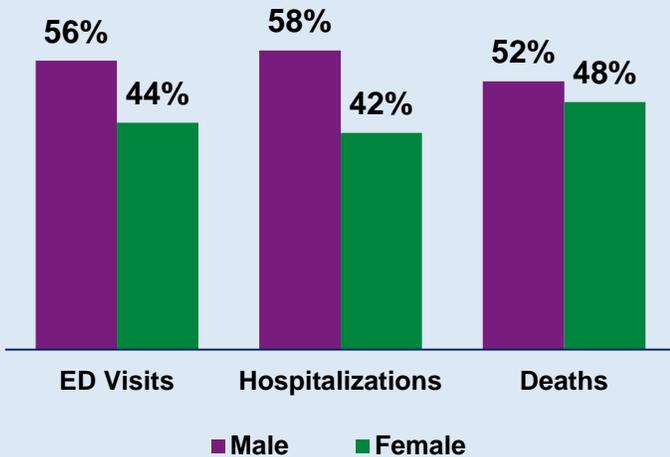


Figure 2: Percent of Injury Deaths, Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits among Children Ages 0-5 Years, by Sex, Ohio, 2011

### Childhood Injury by Sex

**Male children are more likely to experience fatal and nonfatal injuries than female children.**

- 52% of injury deaths occurred among males.
- 58% of injury hospitalizations occurred among males.
- 56% of injury ED visits occurred among males.



This document was produced in conjunction with CDC's Core Violence and Injury Prevention Program under Cooperative Agreement 11-1101.



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### Injury Deaths in Infants

The leading causes of injury death among infants were unintentional suffocation in bed (48%), homicide (14%), other unintentional suffocation (15%), and motor vehicle traffic (2%).

- All other unintentional causes\* contributed to 20% of injury deaths
- There were no deaths of undetermined intent among injury deaths in infants.

*\*Other unintentional causes include fire/burns, natural causes, and other specified causes.*

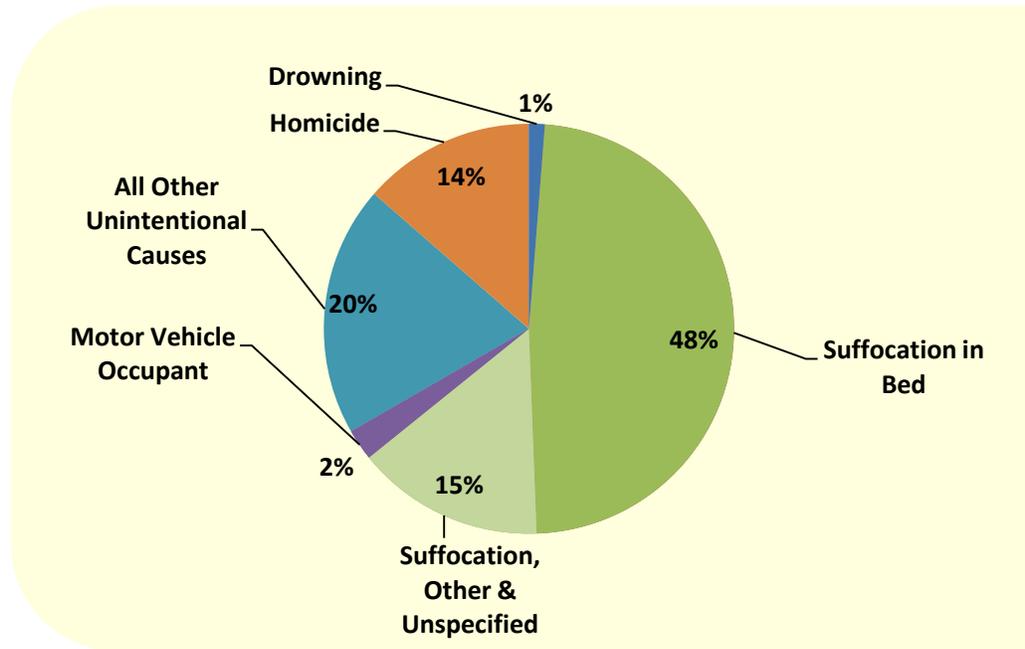


Figure 3: Injury Deaths among Infants Less than 1 Year, Ohio, 2011

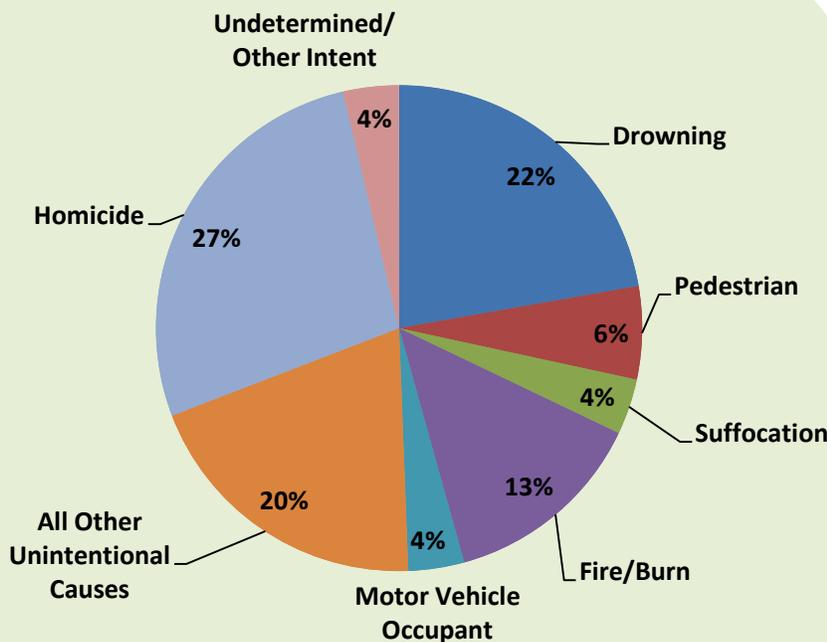


Figure 4: Injury Deaths in Children Ages 1 – 5 Years, Ohio, 2011

### Injury Deaths in Young Children

The leading causes of injury death among young children were homicides (27%), unintentional drowning (22%), transportation (10%), and fire/burns (13%).

- All other unintentional causes\* contributed to 20% of injury deaths.
- Deaths of undetermined intent led to 4% of injury deaths.

*\*Other unintentional causes include falls, poisoning, struck by/against, and natural causes.*



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### Injury-Related Hospitalizations

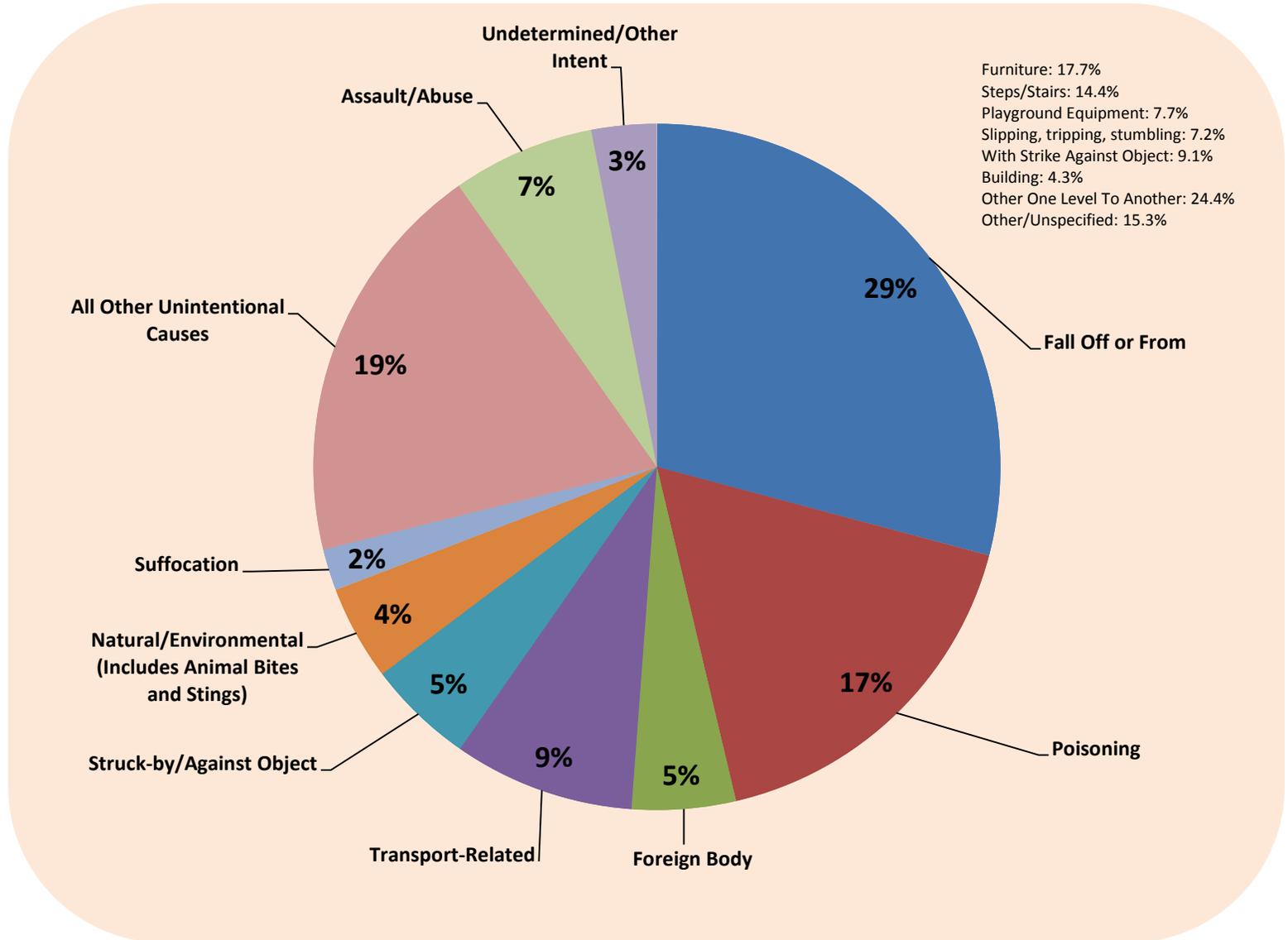


Figure 5: Injury-Related Hospital Discharges among Children Ages 0 – 5 Years, Ohio, 2011

1,672 hospitalizations resulted from injuries among infants and children 1-5 years of age in 2011.

- The leading causes of injury hospitalizations among infants were falls (29%), poisoning (17%), and transport (9%).
- A combination of other unintentional causes\* accounted for 19% of hospitalizations.
- Approximately one-half of hospitalizations did not have an external cause of injury recorded.

\*Other unintentional causes include drowning, cuts/pierces, and fire/burns.

\*\*E-codes = External cause of injury



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### Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits

- There were 8,806 injury-related ED visits among infants less than 1 year old and 99,021 among children ages 1-5 years. Combined, that is the equivalent of 12 children aged 5 years and younger receiving ED treatment for an injury every hour in Ohio.
- The leading causes of injury related ED visits were similar among infants and children. The leading causes of injury were unintentional falls (40%), being struck by or against (17%), natural environment (8%), and transportation related injuries (3%).
- A combination of other unintentional causes was associated with 19% of ED visit injuries. These causes included overexertion, being caught between two objects, and other specified\*.
- Approximately one-fifth of ED visits did not have an external cause of injury code (E-codes), thus limiting the ability to identify the type of injury involved.

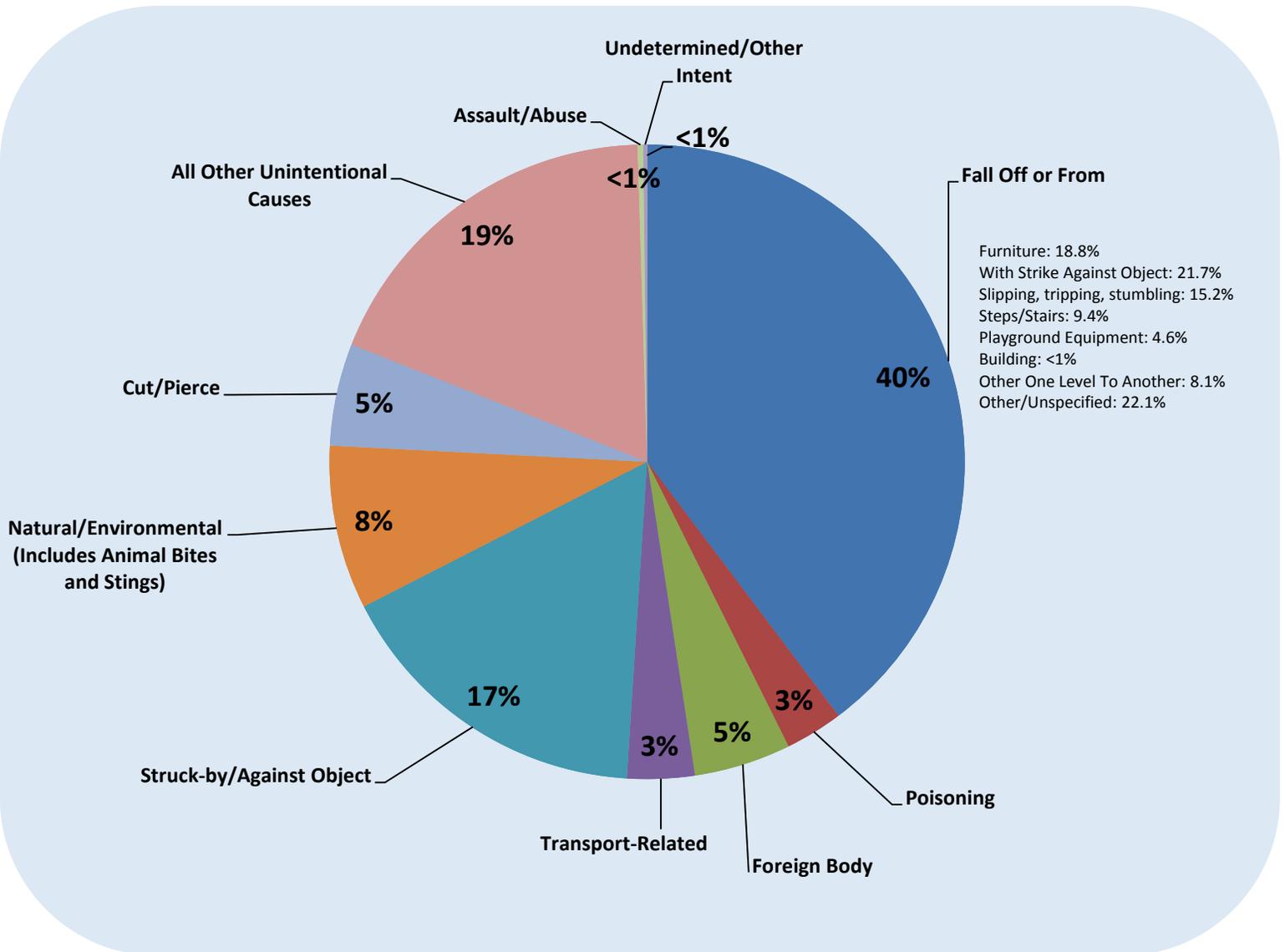


Figure 6: Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits among Children Ages 0 – 5 Years, Ohio, 2011



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## Special Emphasis Report: Infant and Early Childhood Injury, 2011

**Table 1: Injury-Related Hospital Discharges and Emergency Department (ED) Visits among Children Ages 0 -5 Years, by Age Group, Ohio, 2011**

	Infants less than 1 Year		Children Ages 1-5 Years	
	Hospital Discharges	ED Visits	Hospital Discharges	ED Visits
<b>Unintentional Injuries</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>5,587</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>66,286</b>
Cut/pierce	0	178	8	3,806
Drowning/submersion	8	5	17	38
Falls ( <i>off/from</i> ):	30	2,988	160	30,415
Furniture	5	1,205	24	5,718
Steps/stairs	9	309	25	2,845
With strike against object	9	362	18	6,606
Slipping/tripping/stumbling	4	172	15	4,618
Playground equipment	0	9	16	1,388
Building	1	<5	9	54
Other fall from one level to another	1	470	29	2,464
Other/unspecified	1	459	24	6,722
Fire/Burn	31	229	60	1,571
Foreign Body	8	235	30	3,527
Natural and Environmental	6	303	28	6,084
Excessive heat	0	<5	0	10
Dog bites	1	61	11	1,606
Other bites/stings/animal injury	4	235	13	4,447
All other natural/environmental	1	5	<5	21
Poisoning	35	172	111	2,080
Struck-by/against object	6	766	32	11,830
Suffocation	5	43	9	153
Transport-related	10	83	57	2,549
Motor vehicle (MV)-occupant	8	74	24	1,069
Bicycle/tricycle (MV & non-MV)	0	<5	8	891
Pedestrian (MV & non-MV)	2	<5	17	138
Other transport	0	6	8	425
All other unintentional causes		585	17	4,233
<b>Assault/Abuse</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>198</b>
<b>Undetermined/Other Intent</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>126</b>
<b>Missing External Cause of Injury</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>3,167</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>32,091</b>
<b>Total Injury-Related Cases</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>8,806</b>	<b>1285</b>	<b>99,021</b>



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### OHIO Child Injury Prevention Activities

The Ohio Department of Health’s Violence and Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) is engaged in state-level activities to address child injury in Ohio.

#### Prevention:

**Child Passenger Safety (CPS)** - The VIPP promotes CPS in Ohio by coordinating the Ohio Buckles Buckeyes program. With a coordinator in each of Ohio’s 88 counties, eligible low income families receive training, child safety seats and support to ensure children ride safely on every trip.

**Local Injury Prevention Grants** - The VIPP also provides grant funding to support child injury prevention programs focused on traumatic brain injury prevention.



**Surveillance:** The VIPP conducts statewide surveillance through death certificate, inpatient hospitalization, and ED visit data.

**Partnerships:** The VIPP coordinates the Ohio Injury Prevention Partnership’s (OIPP) Child Injury Action Group (CIAG). The CIAG is a multi-disciplinary statewide coalition of organizations concerned with the prevention of injury to Ohio children and youth. The CIAG has identified and is addressing priority areas including: teen driving safety, bicycle and wheeled sports helmets, infant safe sleep, sports-related traumatic brain injury, and child passenger safety.

**Accomplishments/Successes:** New return-to-play sports-related concussion legislation became effective in April 2013. This legislation protects young athletes by ensuring that: 1) parents, coaches and referees have information and training on the signs/symptoms of concussions, 2) athletes are removed from play if they are suspected of experiencing any of the signs of a concussion and 3) athletes shall be evaluated by an appropriate, licensed health care professionals prior to returning to practice or competition. CIAG members supported key components of this legislation through the development of a policy brief and meetings with decision-makers.

### Ohio Help Me Grow Program

The Help Me Grow Program is Ohio’s birth to age 3 system that provides trans-disciplinary and family-centered services for expectant parents, newborns, infants, toddlers, and their families. The program includes both Early Intervention and Home Visiting, with the goal to:

- Link families with needed services to enhance their infant or toddler’s health, development, and safety;
- Teach parenting education around child development, appropriate discipline, home environment safety and readiness for kindergarten; and
- Connect with families as early in pregnancy and infancy as possible to have the greatest impact possible on the development of the parent’s skills and the child’s development.

Professional development is provided to ensure that professionals who work with children and families have evidence-based and up-to-date information. The Ohio Department of Health, Bureau for Children with Developmental and Special Health Needs administers the program in collaboration with all 88 counties throughout the state.

Notes: Data are provided by the Ohio Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics (death data) and the Ohio Hospital Association (hospital and ED data). All injuries are considered unintentional unless specified otherwise. Reference to any commercial entity or product or service on this page should not be construed as an endorsement by the Government of the company or its products or services.

#### OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

<http://www.odh.ohio.gov/sitecore/content/HealthyOhio/default/vipp/injury.aspx>

Released October, 2013