

LEADING CAUSES – PEDESTRIAN-RELATED INJURY

Ohio Data

- Approximately 117 Ohio children aged 1 to 15 are admitted as hospital inpatients for pedestrian-related injuries¹, and thousands more are treated in emergency departments.
- An average of 20 Ohio children lose their lives each year in pedestrian-related incidents.
- Black children are at higher risk for pedestrian-related injury death than white children in Ohio.
- Nationwide, pedestrian-related deaths among children increase 16 percent above the monthly average during the summer months.²

Sources:

¹*Children's Safety Network Economics and Data Analysis Resource Center, based on 2003 incidence*

²*Safe Kids US Summer Safety Ranking Report*

Pedestrian Safety for Parents and Caregivers:

For Young Children

- Do not allow children under 10 to cross the street alone.
- Supervise young children around traffic at all times. Hold the hand of a young child when crossing the street.
- Avoid making your driveway a “playground.” If you do allow children in this area, make sure that it’s only when there are no vehicles present.
- Separate the driveway from the roadway with a physical barrier to prevent any cars from entering.
- Teach children not to play in, around, or under vehicles – ever.
- Instruct children to look left, right and left again when crossing a street and to continue looking as they cross. Role model these behaviors for your child.
- Teach your child to never run or dart into a street without looking (for example, if chasing a ball)

For School-Aged Children

- Teach children proper pedestrian behavior, such as crossing the street at a corner, using traffic signals or crosswalks whenever possible. Explain to your child while you show them the safe way to cross.
- Walk with your child and explain any potential hazards along the way.
- Teach children to walk on the sidewalk when available and to walk facing traffic when a sidewalk is not available.
- Dress children in reflective materials and instruct them to carry a flashlight in low-light situations, or in rainy or foggy weather.

- Don't let children play in driveways, streets, parking lots or unfenced yards adjacent to busy streets.

For More Information on Pedestrian Injuries

- **Safe Kids USA** http://www.usa.safekids.org/tier2_rl.cfm?folder_id=175
- **Safe Kids USA Walk this Way Program** <http://www.usa.safekids.org/wtw/>
- **Children's Safety Network**
<http://www.childrenssafetynetwork.org/topics/showtopic.asp?pkTopicID=31>
- **National Center for Safe Routes to School** <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>
- **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration – Pedestrian**
<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/menuitem.dfedd570f698cabbbf30811060008a0c/>
- **Pedestrian and Bicycling Information Center** <http://www.bicyclinginfo.org/>