



# Kansas

## Special Emphasis Report: Infant and Early Childhood Injury, 2013

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

Although many injuries and injury deaths can be prevented, injuries are the leading cause of death for those younger than 45 years in the United States and Kansas.

In 2013, among Kansas children aged 5 years and younger: 34 died, 356 were admitted to the hospital for at least 24 hours (hospital discharge, HD) and 22,467 visited the emergency department (ED) for an injury (Figure 1). The number of children who were injured and received treatment in physician offices or at home is unknown.

Figure 1: Injuries among Children Aged 0-5 Years, Kansas, 2013

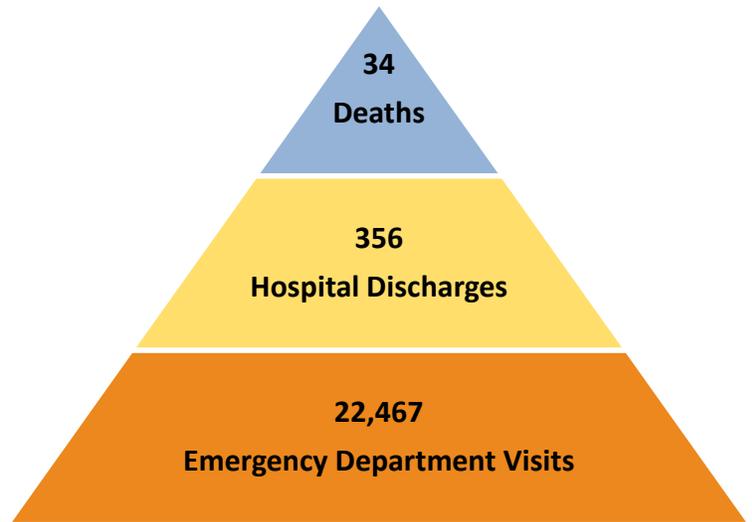
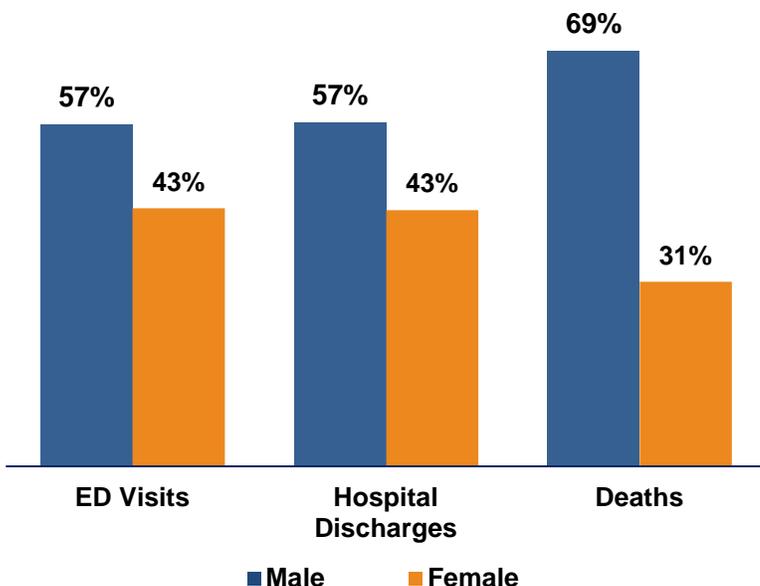


Figure 2: Percent of Injury Deaths, Hospital Discharges and Emergency Department Visits among Children Aged 0-5 Years, by Sex, Kansas, 2013



### Childhood Injury by Sex

In Kansas, fatal and non-fatal injuries are more common among boys than girls (Figure 2). In 2013, among Kansas children aged 5 years and younger:

- Boys accounted for 57% of all injury-related emergency department visits and hospital discharges.
- Boys accounted for 69% of all injury deaths





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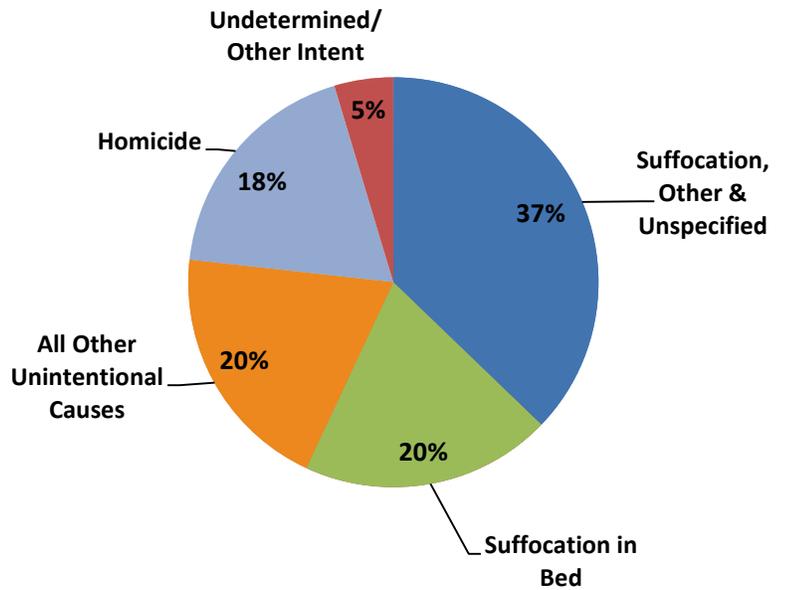
## Special Emphasis Report: Infant and Early Childhood Injury, 2013

### Injury Deaths in Infants

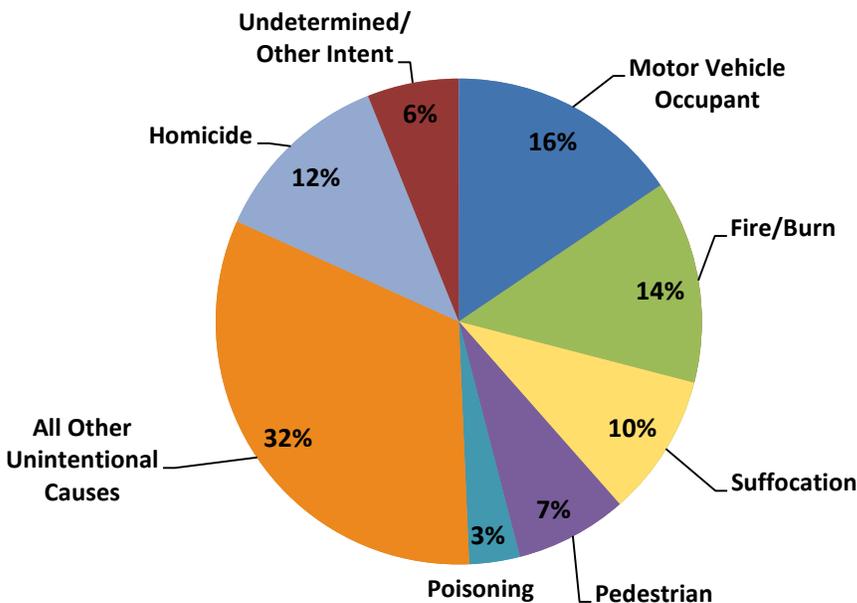
From 2009 to 2013, suffocation comprised 57 percent of all injury deaths in Kansans younger than 1 year old and nearly 74.2 percent of all unintentional injury deaths among the same age group (Figure 3).

Most suffocation injuries in children are coded without specificity. Nearly two-thirds of all suffocation deaths in those younger than 1 year old had “Other/Unspecified” as the cause of suffocation.

**Figure 3: Injury Deaths among Infants Less than 1 Year, Kansas, 2009-2013**



**Figure 4: Injury Deaths in Children Aged 1 – 5 Years, Kansas, 2009-2013**



### Injury Deaths in Young Children

Unintentional transport-related injury was the leading cause of injury death for those aged 1 to 5 years in Kansas from 2009 to 2013 (Figure 4). The second leading cause of injury death among those aged 1 to 5 years during this time period was unintentional fire/burn.

Two-thirds of transport-related injury deaths among Kansas children aged 1 to 5 years occurred when the child was an occupant of a vehicle in a traffic collision.

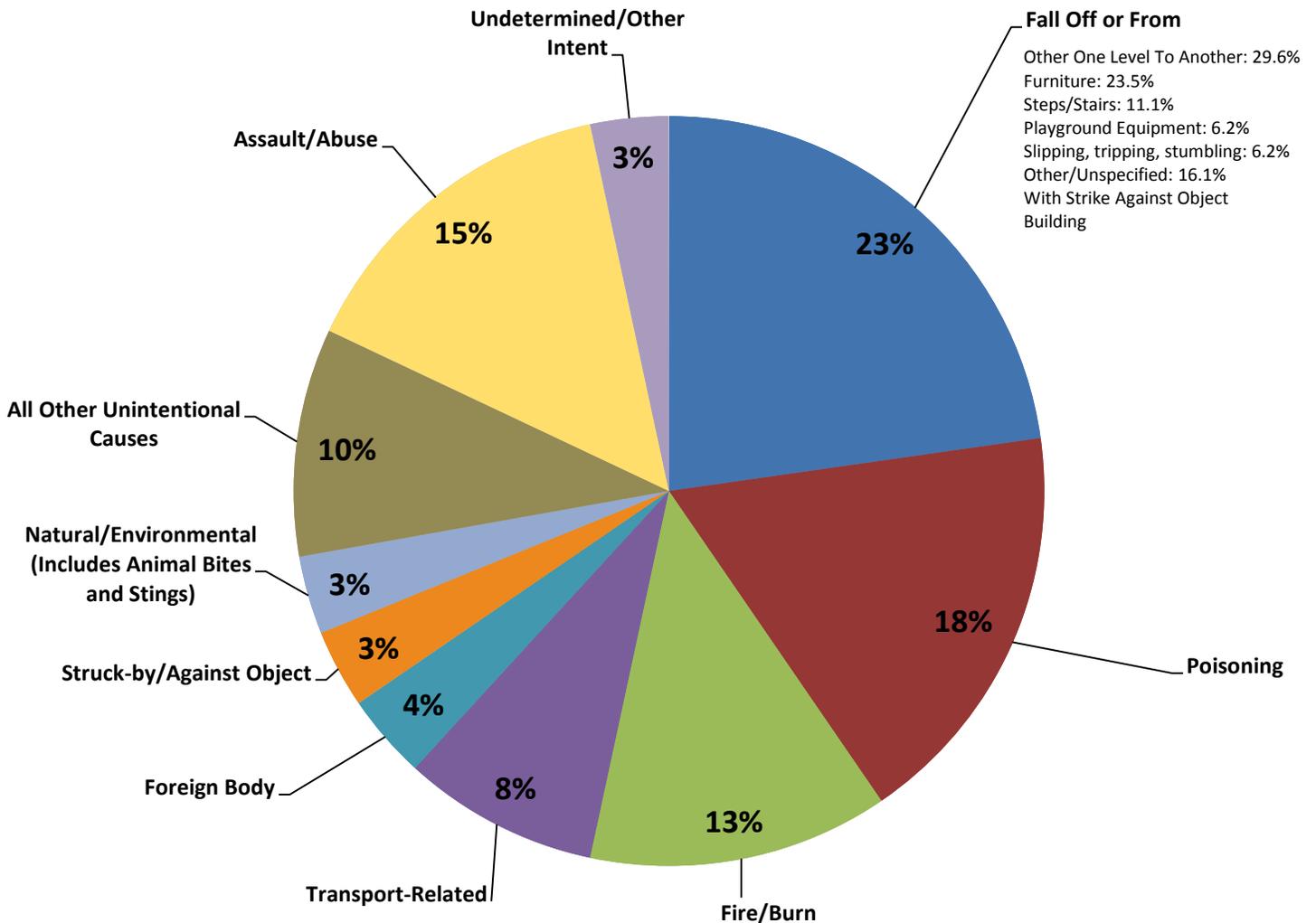


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### Injury-Related Hospital Discharges

**Figure 5: Injury-Related Hospital Discharges among Children Aged 0 – 5 Years, Kansas, 2013**



- In 2013, the leading cause of injury hospital discharges (HDs) among Kansans aged 5 years and younger was unintentional falls.
  - The leading cause of unintentional falls HDs was falling from one level to another.
  - A large proportion of falls-related HDs are non-specific. In 2013, 16.1 percent of fall related HDs were coded as “other/unspecified” while 29.6 percent were coded as “other one level to another.”
- The second leading cause of injury HDs among those aged 5 years and younger was unintentional poisoning.

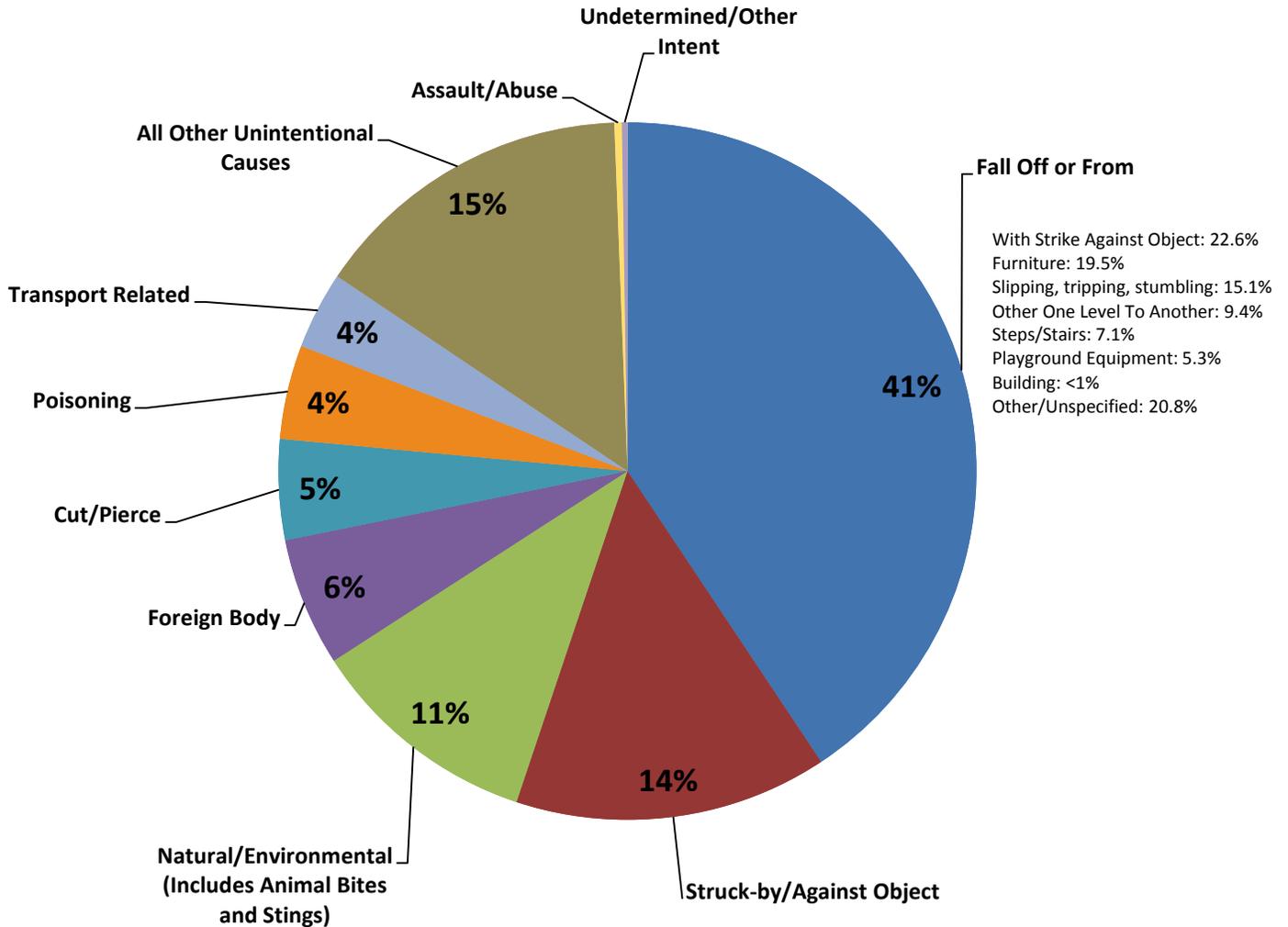


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### Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits

**Figure 6: Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits among Children Aged 0 - 5 Years, Kansas, 2013**



- In 2013, the leading cause of injury emergency department visits (EDVs) among Kansans aged 5 years and younger was unintentional falls.
  - The leading cause of unintentional falls EDVs was due to injuries from falling and striking against an object.
  - A large proportion of falls-related EDVs are non-specific. In 2013, 20.8 percent of fall related EDVs were coded as “other/unspecified” while 9.4 percent were coded as “other one level to another.”
- The second leading cause of injury EDVs among those aged 5 years and younger was struck-by/against object.



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**Table 1. Injury-Related Hospital Discharges and Emergency Department (ED) Visits Among Children Aged 0-5 Years by Age Group, Kansas 2013**

	Infants less than 1 Year		Children Aged 1-5 Years	
	Hospital Discharges	ED Visits	Hospital Discharges	ED Visits
<b>Unintentional Injuries</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1,953</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>19,323</b>
Cut/pierce	.	45	.	952
Drowning/submersion	.	.	8	15
Falls ( <i>off/from</i> ):	25	971	56	7,720
Furniture	6	408	13	1,289
Steps/stairs	.	84	5	536
With strike against object	.	125	.	1,839
Slipping/tripping/stumbling	.	49	5	1,262
Playground equipment	.	5	5	453
Building	.	.	.	17
Other fall from one level to another	12	150	12	668
Other/unspecified	.	150	11	1,656
Fire/Burn	7	77	39	476
Foreign Body	.	100	10	1,173
Natural and Environmental	.	112	10	2,180
Excessive heat	.	.	.	.
Dog bites	.	19	.	372
Other bites/stings/animal injury	.	86	5	1,799
All other natural/environmental	.	5	.	8
Poisoning	.	115	61	815
Struck-by/against object	.	213	11	2,881
Suffocation	.	21	.	72
Transport-related	.	65	28	700
Motor vehicle (MV)-occupant	.	61	8	310
Bicycle/tricycle (MV & non-MV)	.	.	.	184
Pedestrian (MV & non-MV)	.	.	12	60
Other transport	.	.	.	146
All other unintentional causes	9	239	9	2,323
<b>Assault/Abuse</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Undetermined/Other Intent</b>	<b>.</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>.</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>.</b>	<b>967</b>
<b>Total Injury-Related Cases</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>2,064</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>20,403</b>

Note: Counts are suppressed (.) if less than 5.



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### Kansas Child Injury Prevention Activities

The mission of the Kansas Injury Prevention and Control Program is to increase awareness and action to reduce unintentional and intentional injuries. A statewide needs assessment was conducted in 2012 highlighting the most prominent unintentional injury childhood risk areas including, but not limited to, motor vehicle crashes, falls and poisoning. Additionally, each year Safe Kids Kansas approves a Public Policy Platform and Priorities document to be distributed to advocates and legislators.



**The Kansas Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program** seeks to contribute to the development of a comprehensive, high quality early childhood system that promotes maternal, infant and early childhood health, safety and development and strong parent-child relationships through:

- Delivering a coordinated, integrated system of evidence-based home visiting programs with high model fidelity and quality to families with pregnant women and children in at-risk communities.
- Effectively engaging and retaining underserved, hard-to reach populations in home visiting services.
- Utilizing a coordinated, integrated system to determine outcomes and quality of home visitation programs.

#### Prevention Strategies

The Kansas MIECHV Program has increased the number of families with pregnant women and children (0-5 years) served by Early Head Start, Healthy Families America and Parents as Teachers evidence-based home visiting programs in two identified at-risk areas: Wyandotte County (urban Kansas City, Kansas) and three counties in rural southeast Kansas. Also in Wyandotte County, a promising approach serving pregnant and postpartum women affected by alcohol or other drugs, the Team for Infants Endangered by Substance Abuse (TIES) Program, has been implemented.

Data Sources: Death: 2009-2013 Kansas Vital Statistics, Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE. HD Data\*: 2013 Kansas Hospital Discharge Database, Kansas Hospital Association\* ED Data\*: 2013 Kansas Hospital Emergency Department Database, Kansas Hospital Association. EDV data is for 2013 fiscal year, not calendar year. Federal and specialty hospitals in Kansas do not report their discharges and emergency department visits to these databases. Not all nonfederal, short stay community or general hospitals in Kansas report their emergency department visits or hospital discharge data to Kansas Hospital Association; therefore, these databases do not include 100% of emergency department visits and hospital discharges. 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.