



United States
Consumer Product Safety Commission

Toy-Related Deaths and Injuries Calendar Year 2021

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*This report was prepared by the CPSC staff.
It has not been reviewed or approved by,
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the Commission.*

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Executive Summary

In this report, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) staff presents the latest available statistics on deaths and emergency department (ED)-treated injuries associated with toys. For toy-related deaths and injuries, it is important to note that although a toy was associated with many of the incidents, the toy was not necessarily the cause of the death or injury. Additionally, due to delays in death certificate reporting, fatality information is not yet complete, especially for 2020 and 2021.

This report provides updated summary information on toy-related fatalities for the years 2019 and 2020, along with detailed information on known toy-related fatalities for 2021. CPSC staff bases fatality counts on reports obtained from the CPSC database known as the Consumer Product Safety Risk Management System (CPSRMS). In addition, staff presents in this report the estimated ED-treated injuries associated with toys for the 2021 calendar year and the injury estimates from 2017 to 2021, based on the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS). In Appendix A, staff presents historical, estimated toy-related, ED-treated injuries from 2014 to 2021, along with the coefficient of variations for the injury estimates. Appendix B lists the NEISS product codes used to generate this report.

Reported Toy-Related Fatalities in Calendar Year 2021

- CPSC staff received reports of two toy-related deaths that occurred in calendar year 2021 among children 14 years of age or younger.
- The fatalities involved choking on a small part of a toy and suffocating on a stuffed toy in an unsafe sleep environment.

ED-Treated Toy-Related Injuries in Calendar Year 2021¹

- An estimated 206,400 toy-related injuries were treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments in 2021, and males accounted for 58 percent of the injuries.
- Of the estimated 206,400 toy-related injuries, 74 percent were sustained by children 14 years of age or younger; 69 percent were sustained by children 12 years of age or younger; and 37 percent were sustained by children 4 years of age or younger.²
- Thirty-eight percent of the estimated ED-treated injuries were classified as lacerations or contusions/abrasions. Forty-six percent of the estimated injuries were to the head and face area, the most commonly affected areas of the body.

¹ The percentages are calculated from the unrounded injury estimates.

² All toys intended for use by children 12 years of age and under must be third party tested and certified in a [Children's Product Certificate](#) as compliant with the federal toy safety standard enacted by Congress, and to other applicable requirements as well. Additional age breaks are provided in this report to describe hazards to older and younger children, as were provided in prior reports.

- Ninety-three percent of the ED-treated, toy-related injury victims were treated and released.
- Non-motorized scooters were associated with the largest number of estimated toy-related injuries among the specifically identified toys for all ages; children 14 years of age or younger; children 12 years of age or younger; and children 4 years of age or younger (21 percent, 24 percent, 22 percent, and 8 percent, respectively).

ED-Treated Toy-Related Injuries from 2014 to 2021

- Staff observed a statistically significant decreasing trend in the estimated toy-related injuries for children 14 years of age or younger and children 12 years of age or younger from 2014 to 2021.

Toy-Related Deaths³

Table 1 summarizes fatalities of children 14 years of age or younger that were associated with a toy and that occurred from 2019 to 2021, as reported to CPSC staff. The reported death totals for each year and age groups are listed at the top of the table, with each year's reported deaths detailed by the type of toy, and a parenthetical description of the hazard in the rows that follow. Table 1 also lists toy types that are associated with more than one death that occurred from 2019 to 2021, to highlight the toys (and associated hazards). The information for other types of toys associated with only one fatality across the 3 years is summarized in the final row of the table. The Directorate for Health Sciences (HS) provided final adjudication on the scope of toy-related deaths. HS staff considered fatalities to be in scope of this report if a toy was present, and based on statements by investigators, police, family members, or medical examiners, the toy may have played a contributing role in the death. Fatalities that occurred outside of the United States are excluded from this report.

Due to delays in death certificate reporting, fatality information is not yet complete, especially for 2020 and 2021. At the time of data extraction for this report, death certificate reporting was estimated to be at least 93 percent complete for years 2019 and earlier.⁴ The data presented in this report for 2019 and 2020 have been updated since the previous annual report to include six new incident reports CPSC staff received— two fatalities that occurred in 2019, and four fatalities that occurred in 2020. Additionally, one fatality from 2019, and two fatalities from 2020 were excluded, due to updated information establishing that the suspected toy was either not present or did not play a contributing role in the fatality. Thus, the data differ from the reported fatality tabulations detailed in the previous report for the calendar year 2020.⁵ The six newly reported fatalities from prior years included blunt force trauma after falling from a nonmotorized scooter and impalement trauma from a toy doll stroller in 2019, and complications from drowning after reaching for a toy and falling into a pool, choking on a marble, cervical compression after being wedged between the lid and the side of a toy box, and positional asphyxia due to a stuffed toy covering the child's head in 2020. The children ranged in age from 7 months to 11 years.

³ These fatalities do not represent a sample of known probability of selection.

⁴ Staff measures the reporting percent as the number of months for each state, where at least one death certificate was received, divided by 600 (50 states multiplied by 12 months).

⁵ [Qin, A. "Toy-Related Deaths and Injuries, Calendar Year 2020," CPSC, July 2021.](#)

Table 1: Reported Toy-Related Deaths Among Children 14 Years of Age or Younger, 2019–2021

Type of Toy (Hazard)	2019 ⁶		2020 ⁷		2021	
	Children 12 Years of Age or Younger*	Children 13 and 14 Years of Age	Children 12 Years of Age or Younger*	Children 13 and 14 Years of Age	Children 12 Years of Age or Younger*	Children 13 and 14 Years of Age
TOTAL	17		11		2	
Sub Total	16	1	11	0	2	0
Balls, other (airway obstruction or ingestion)	5	0	0	0	0	0
Nonmotorized scooters (motor vehicle involvement or fall)	4	1	0	0	0	0
Balloons/balloon strings (asphyxia/suffocation or ingestion)	0	0	3	0	0	0
Stuffed toys (positional asphyxia)	1	0	1	0	1	0
Toy chest (suffocation or cervical compression)	1	0	1	0	0	0
Other toys with a single reported fatality (airway obstruction, asphyxia, drowning, or impaling trauma)	5	0	6	0	1	0

Source: CPSRMS and NEISS from 1/1/2019 to 12/31/2021; CPSC. Data were extracted in May 2022.

* Toy-related deaths among children 12 years of age or younger are presented separately to be consistent with the age definition of a “children’s product” in the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA), 15 U.S.C. § 2052 (a)(2).

⁶ Two new toy-related deaths were reported to CPSC, and one death was excluded, due to updated information that occurred in the 2019 calendar year, increasing the total number of reported deaths to 17 (from the 16 presented in the previous report) in 2019.

⁷ Four new toy-related deaths were reported to CPSC, and two deaths were excluded, due to updated information that occurred in the 2020 calendar year, increasing the number of reported deaths to 11 (from the 9 presented in the previous report) in 2020.

Table 2 details the fatalities associated with toys for children 14 years of age or younger in 2021 that were reported to CPSC. The toy types and associated hazards involved in these reported fatalities are presented in descending order of frequency. No fatalities were reported for nonmotorized scooters.

Table 2: Reported Toy-Related Deaths Among Children 14 Years of Age or Younger, 2021

Type of Toy (Hazard)	Children 12 Years of Age or Younger*	Children 13 and 14 Years of Age
TOTAL	2	
Sub Total	2	0
Egg-shaped plastic toy (airway obstruction)	1	0
Stuffed toy (positional asphyxia)	1	0

Source: CPSRMS and NEISS from 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021; CPSC. Data were extracted in May 2022.

* Toy-related deaths among children 12 years of age or younger are presented separately to be consistent with the age definition of a “children’s product” in the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA), 15 U.S.C. § 2052 (a)(2).

Of the two toy-related fatalities in 2021, one victim was a 17-month-old male, and the second victim was an 8-month-old female. The scenario-specific details of these incidents are presented below.

Egg-Shaped Plastic Toy

A 17-month-old male swallowed an egg-shaped plastic toy, which was part of a toy playset, that was lodged in his throat. The caregiver was unable to remove the toy object. The medical examiner reported the cause of death was asphyxia caused by suffocation due to a foreign body (plastic toy) obstruction to the posterior oropharynx.

Stuffed Toy

An 8-month-old female was sleeping in a broken twin bed with her 13-year-old brother. At some point she appeared to have rolled or fallen off the bed onto a stuffed animal, clothing, and blankets in the 12-inch gap between the wall and the bed. The medical examiner’s report indicated the cause of death was positional asphyxia, and the manner of death was accidental.

Estimated Toy-Related Injuries⁸

In 2021, an estimated 206,400 toy-related injuries for all ages were treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments, and males accounted for 58 percent of the injuries. Most of the victims (93 percent) were treated and released from the hospital. Five percent of the victims were admitted to the hospital or transferred to another hospital. The remaining 2 percent were held for observation, left without being seen by a doctor, or had the relevant information missing.

Table 3 presents the estimated toy-related, ED-treated injuries in 2021, for different age groups. Of the estimated 206,400 toy-related injuries, 74 percent were sustained by children 14 years of age or younger; 69 percent were sustained by children 12 years of age or younger; and 37 percent were sustained by children 4 years of age or younger.

Table 3: Toy-Related ED-Treated Injury Estimates for Different Age Groups, 2021

Age Groups	All Ages	14 years of Age or Younger	12 Years of Age or Younger*	4 Years of Age or Younger
Injury Estimates	206,400	152,800	143,200	76,900
Injuries per 100,000 People	62	255	279	404

Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100. Population estimate for 2021 is from [Monthly Postcensal Resident Population July 2021, U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Release Date: 2022](#).

* Toy-related injury estimates among children 12 years of age or younger are presented separately to be consistent with the age definition of a “children’s product” in the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA), 15 U.S.C. § 2052 (a)(2).

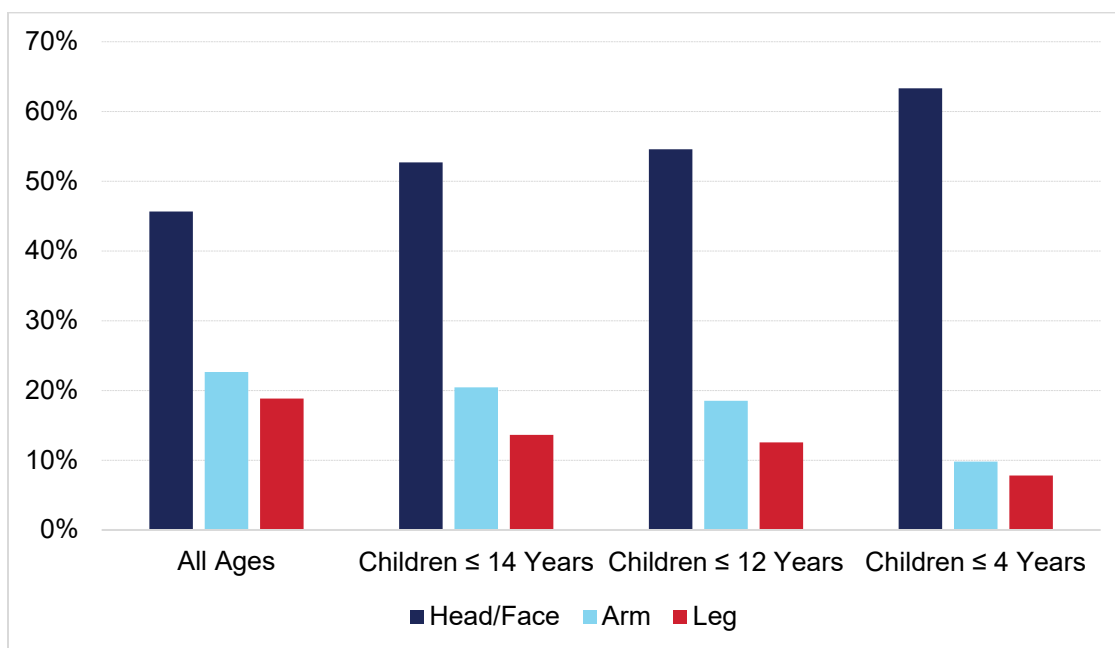
Figure 1 presents the distribution of the 2021 annual estimated toy-related ED-treated injuries by the specific parts of the body most frequently injured for different age groups.^{9,10} As shown in Figure 1, the head/face region was the part of the body associated with the largest number of estimated toy-related injuries in 2021 for all four age groups specified, followed by arms and then legs.

⁸ The source of these data is NEISS, which is based on a statistical sample of hospital ED-treated injuries. For a description of which cases are included in NEISS, how they are coded, and an alphabetical listing of products with current product codes, please see NEISS Coding Manual at: https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/January-2022-CPSC-Only-NT-NEISS-Coding-Manual.pdf?VersionId=KSUolSeeOpWoGAXtq0Zb_EVaHSiOdZFe

⁹ In October 2018, CPSC upgraded the NEISS system. As a result of this upgrade, an emergency-department visit is allowed to contain up to two codes for the body part injured and the diagnoses. In 2021, about 14 percent of the toy-related injury cases in NEISS had two codes filled in for body part injured or diagnosis.

¹⁰ If either of the two codes listed a specific body part, staff classified that body part as being injured in the incident for the data analysis purpose.

Figure 1: Distribution of Toy-Related Injury Estimates by Body Regions Injured, 2021



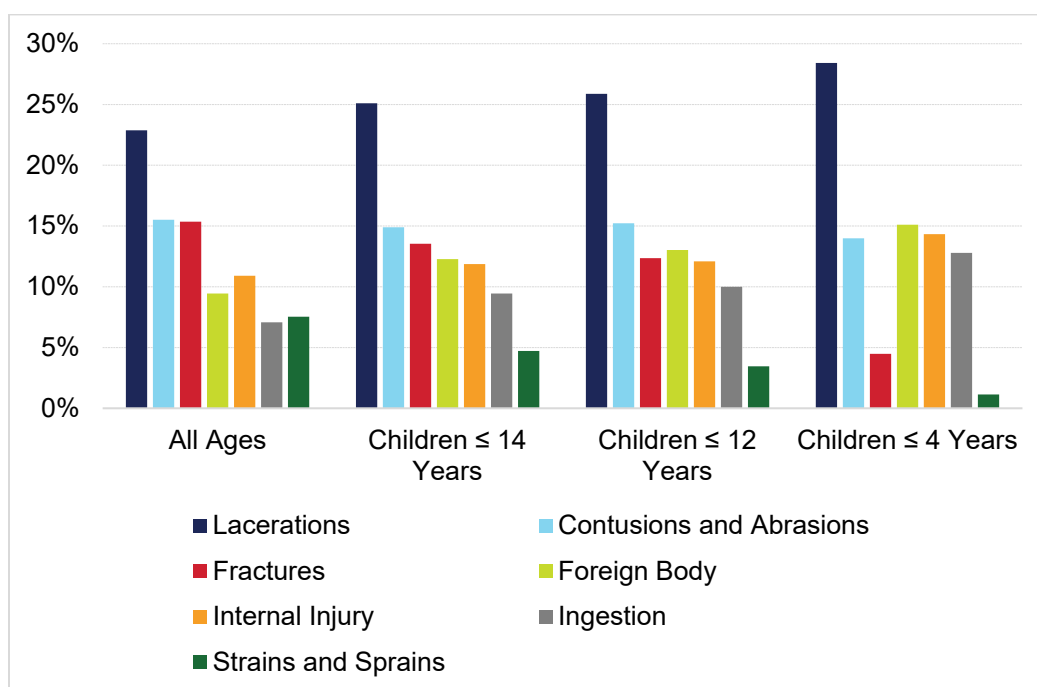
Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

±Head/Face regions include NEISS codes for head, eyelid, eye area, nose, forehead, eyeball, mouth, and ear. Arm includes upper arm, elbow, lower arm, shoulder, wrist, hand, and finger. Leg includes upper leg, knee, lower leg, ankle, foot, and toe.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of the annual estimated toy-related ED-treated injuries by the type of injuries diagnosed most frequently for the different age groups.¹¹ For all four age groups, lacerations was the diagnosis associated with the largest number of estimated toy-related injuries in 2021. Contusions/abrasions and fractures ranked second and third for all ages and children 14 years of age or younger. For children 12 years of age or younger, contusions/abrasions and foreign body ranked second and third. For children 4 years of age or younger, foreign body and internal injury ranked second and third.

¹¹ If either of the two codes lists a specific diagnosis (type of injury), staff classifies that diagnosis as being the type of injury for the data analysis purpose.

Figure 2: Distribution of Toy-Related Injury Estimates by Type of Injuries, 2021



Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Table 4 presents the toy categories that were associated with the largest number of injuries in 2021 for different age groups. Nonmotorized scooters was the specifically identified toy category that accounted for the most injuries for all age groups.

Table 4: Toy Categories Associated with the Largest Number of Estimated ED-Treated Injuries for Different Age Groups, 2021

Toy Category	Estimated Injuries (% of Total Estimates [‡])			
	All Ages	14 Years of Age or Younger	12 Years of Age or Younger	4 Years of Age or Younger
Toys, Not Specified	44,100 (21)	28,000 (18)	27,800 (19)	21,000 (27)
Nonmotorized Scooters	44,000 (21)	37,100 (24)	31,500 (22)	6,200 (8)
Toy Balls	18,900 (9)	12,800 (8)	11,900 (8)	4,800 (6)
Toy Vehicles	10,800 (5)	7,600 (5)	7,400 (5)	5,500 (7)
Building Sets	10,700 (5)	10,000 (7)	9,900 (7)	5,900 (8)

Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100.

[‡] Percentages are calculated from the unrounded injury estimates and then rounded to the nearest integer.

In 2020, a NEISS special study was initiated that further investigated all injuries coded as 5022 (Scooters, Powered) and 5024 (Scooters, Unspecified). See Appendix B for details on the special study. Based on the results from this study, staff was able to allocate a proportion of all injuries that were either miscoded as powered scooters or coded as unspecified-if-powered scooters to nonmotorized scooters. Hence, the estimates for nonmotorized scooters in 2021 are based on the code for nonmotorized scooters as well as a proportion of the miscoded/unspecified scooters, as informed by the results of the special study. Nonmotorized scooters continued to be the category of toys associated with the most injuries. Table 5 displays the annual estimated ED-treated injuries associated with nonmotorized scooters and the percentages of injury estimates for different age groups from 2017 to 2021. The estimates for 2020 have been updated since the publication of the previous report. Eight cases, from the 2020 special study, were determined to have been nonmotorized scooters rather than motorized scooters as originally coded. However, the revision could not be made in a timely manner before the annual report was published. Table 5 also shows that the proportions of the estimated injuries related to this product code have remained steady for all four age groups, and staff found no statistically significant linear trend between 2017 and 2021.¹²

Table 5: Nonmotorized Scooter-Related ED-Treated Injury Estimates for Different Age Groups, 2017–2021

Calendar Year	Estimated Injuries (% of Total Estimates [‡]) Associated with “Nonmotorized Scooter”			
	All Ages	14 Years of Age or Younger	12 Years of Age or Younger	4 Years of Age or Younger
2017	48,700 (19)	40,300 (22)	36,800 (21)	6,100 (7)
2018	39,500 (17)	31,700 (19)	28,800 (18)	4,900 (6)
2019	45,400 (20)	35,600 (22)	32,800 (21)	4,700 (6)
2020*	42,400 (21)	37,000 (25)	34,700 (24)	5,600 (7)
2021	44,000 (21)	37,100 (24)	31,500 (22)	6,200 (8)

Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100.

[‡] Percentages are calculated from the unrounded injury estimates and then rounded to the nearest integer.

* All estimates in this row were revised since the previous report that was published in 2021.

Toys that are identified, but cannot be placed under already established toy product codes are likely to be coded under the product code “Toys, Not Elsewhere Classified.” Table 6 displays the estimated ED-treated injuries associated with this product code and the percentages of injury estimates for different age groups from 2017 to 2021. Table 6 shows that the proportions of the estimated injuries related to this product code have remained steady for all four age groups, and staff found no statistically significant linear trend between 2017 and 2021.¹³

¹² The lowest p-value for the age groups was 0.25. For methodology on trend analysis, see T. Schroeder, “Trend Analysis of NEISS Data,” CPSC, 2000.

¹³ The lowest p-value for the age groups was 0.49.

Table 6: ED-Treated Injury Estimates Associated with “Toys, Not Elsewhere Classified” for Different Age Groups, 2017–2021

Calendar Year	Estimated Injuries (% of Total Estimates [‡]) Associated with “Toys, Not Elsewhere Classified”			
	All Ages	14 Years of Age or Younger	12 Years of Age or Younger	4 Years of Age or Younger
2017	9,900 (4)	8,300 (4)	7,900 (5)	4,200 (5)
2018	7,600 (3)	6,400 (4)	6,200 (4)	2,700 (3)
2019	6,100 (3)	4,600 (3)	4,400 (3)	2,100 (3)
2020	7,000 (3)	5,900 (4)	5,800 (4)	3,200 (4)
2021	8,400 (4)	7,300 (5)	7,200 (5)	4,500 (6)

Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100.

[‡] Percentages are calculated from the unrounded injury estimates and then rounded to the nearest integer.

The product code, “Toys, Not Specified,” was reinstated as an available product code in NEISS in 2010, to classify injuries that were associated with a toy that was not identified specifically in the NEISS injury narrative. Table 7 presents the annual estimated ED-treated injuries associated with this product code and the percentages of injury estimates for different age groups from 2017 to 2021. Staff found a statistically significant decreasing trend in the injury estimates for all groups of ages except for the 4 years of age or younger group.¹⁴

Table 7: ED-Treated Injury Estimates Associated with “Toys, Not Specified” for Different Age Groups, 2017–2021

Calendar Year	Estimated Injuries (% of Total Estimates [‡]) Associated with “Toys, Not Specified”			
	All Ages	14 Years of Age or Younger	12 Years of Age or Younger	4 Years of Age or Younger
2017	59,000 (23)	37,200 (20)	36,700 (21)	26,900 (30)
2018	56,800 (25)	36,200 (22)	35,800 (23)	27,000 (32)
2019	52,300 (23)	32,600 (20)	31,900 (21)	23,600 (30)
2020	50,200 (25)	33,100 (22)	32,900 (23)	24,200 (31)
2021	44,100 (21)	28,000 (18)	27,800 (19)	21,000 (27)

Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100.

[‡] Percentages are calculated from the unrounded injury estimates and then rounded to the nearest integer.

¹⁴ The p-value for the 4 years of age or younger group was 0.09. The p-values for the all ages group, 14 years of age or younger group, and 12 years of age or younger group were 0.02, 0.03, and 0.03, respectively.

Appendix A

Estimated Number of Toy-Related Injuries from 2014 through 2021

Table 8, Figure 3, and Figure 4 display the annual ED-treated injury estimates and rates associated with toys from 2014 through 2021. Staff found a statistically significant decreasing trend in the injury estimates for all groups of ages except for the all ages and 4 years of age or younger groups.¹⁵

Table 8: Toy-Related ED-Treated Injury Estimates for Different Age Groups, 2014–2021

Calendar Year	All Ages			14 Years of Age or Younger			12 Years of Age or Younger			4 Years of Age or Younger		
	Injury Estimate	CV*	Injuries per 100,000 People	Injury Estimate	CV*	Injuries per 100,000 People	Injury Estimate	CV*	Injuries per 100,000 People	Injury Estimate	CV*	Injuries per 100,000 People
2014	240,900	0.0839	76	179,700	0.0959	294	170,300	0.0965	323	84,000	0.1124	423
2015	244,400	0.0861	76	181,600	0.0985	298	173,200	0.1010	328	88,400	0.1171	444
2016	240,000	0.0945	74	174,100	0.1128	286	166,300	0.1152	315	85,200	0.1299	427
2017	251,700	0.0921	77	184,000	0.1098	302	174,300	0.1109	331	89,800	0.1314	452
2018	226,100	0.1069	69	166,200	0.1355	273	158,800	0.1343	302	83,800	0.1407	423
2019	224,200	0.1181	68	162,700	0.1454	269	154,700	0.1458	296	78,700	0.1519	402
2020 ^s	198,700	0.1179	60	149,800	0.1368	248	145,200	0.1379	280	78,800	0.1484	408
2021	206,400	0.1133	62	152,800	0.1375	255	143,200	0.1411	279	76,900	0.1627	404

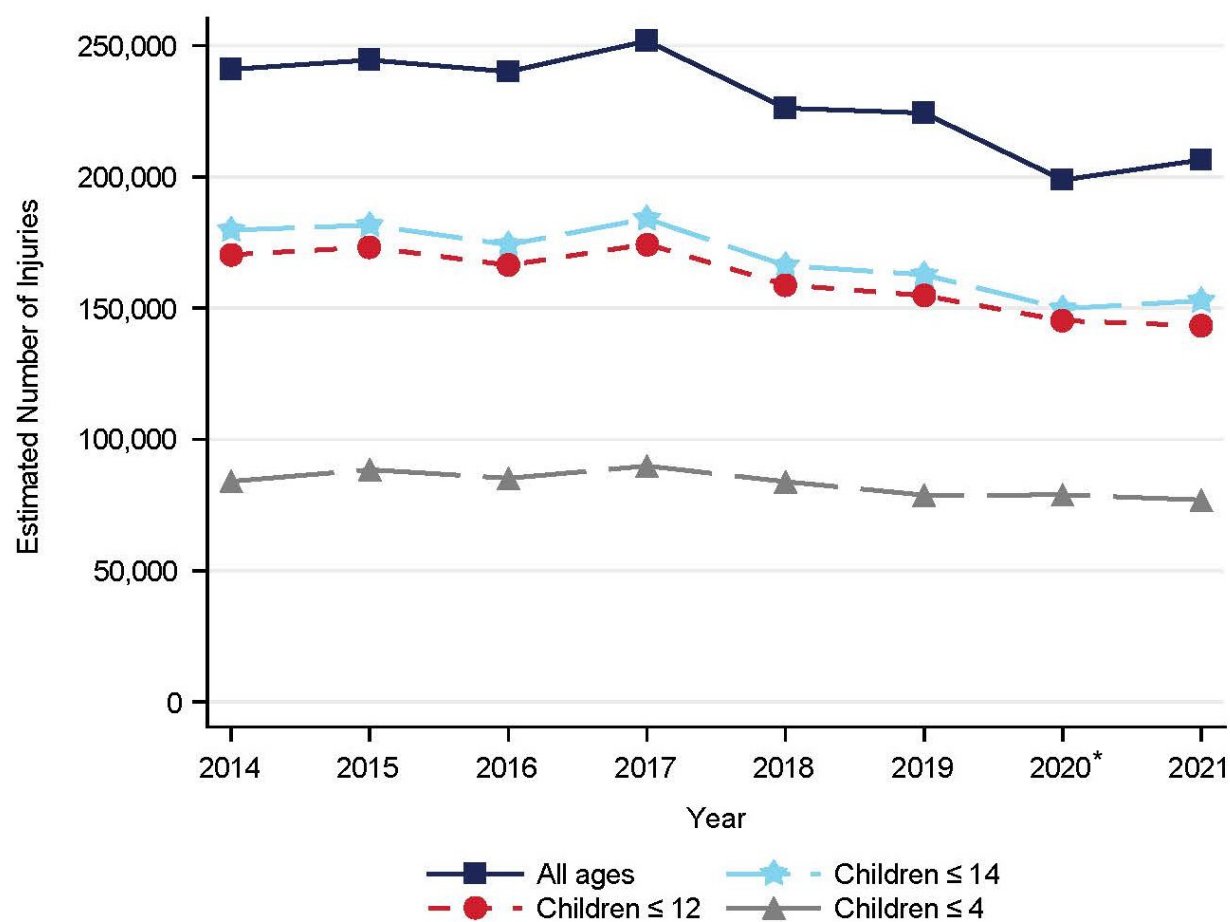
Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Estimates are rounded to the nearest 100. Population estimates for 2014 to 2020 are from [Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Single Year of Age and Sex: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2020, U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: June 2021](#). Population estimate for 2021 is from [Monthly Postcensal Resident Population July 2021, U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division. Release Date: 2022](#).

*Coefficient of variation (CV) is a measure of the dispersion of the data as a ratio of the standard deviation to the injury estimate. The higher the CV, the larger the dispersion is. The population estimates are assumed to be constant, and therefore the CVs for the estimated injuries per 100,000 people are equivalent to the CVs for the injury estimates.

^s Injury estimates in this row were revised since the previous report that was published in 2021.

¹⁵ The p-values for all ages and 4 years of age or younger groups were 0.06 and 0.38, respectively. The p-values for the 14 years of age or younger group and 12 years of age or younger group were 0.02 and 0.01, respectively.

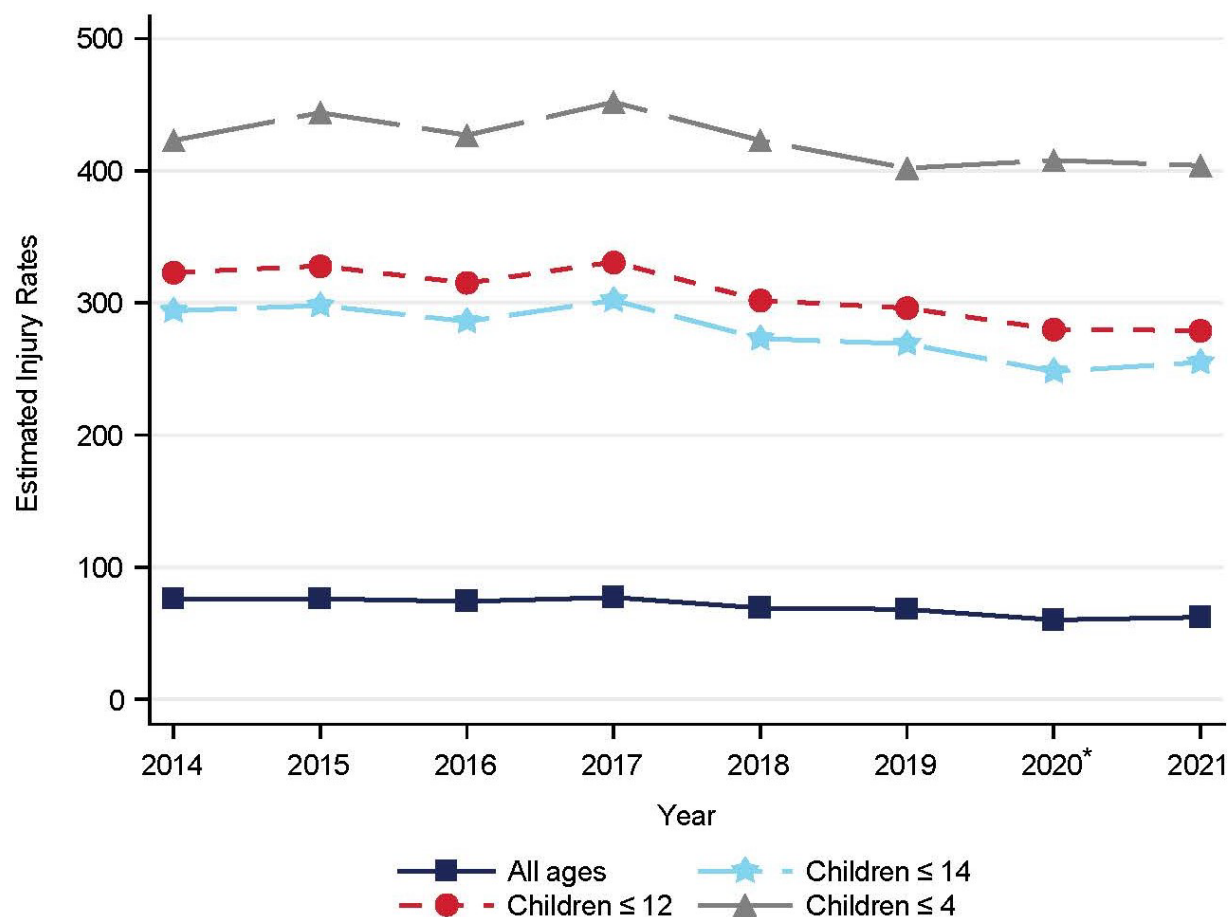
Figure 3: Toy-Related ED-Treated Injury Estimates for Different Age Groups, 2014–2021



Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

* All 2020 estimates were revised since the previous report that was published in 2021.

Figure 4: Toy-Related ED-Treated Injury Rate (per 100,000 People) for Different Age Groups, 2014–2021



Source: NEISS, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

* All 2020 estimates were revised since the previous report that was published in 2021.

Appendix B

NEISS Product Codes for Toys

Product Code	Toy Type
1301	Tricycles (Children's)
1309	Kites or Kite String
1310	Pogo Sticks
1314	Rocketry Sets
1319	Metal or Plastic Molding Sets
1322	Children's Play Tents, Play Tunnels, or Other Enclosures
1325	Inflatable Toys (Excluding Balls and Balloons)
1326	Blocks, Stacking Toys, or Pull Toys
1327	Non-Wheeled Riding Toys, Unpowered
1328	Wagons (Children's)
1329	Scooters, Unpowered (pre-2020)
1330	Powered Riding Toys
1338	Toy Bows or Arrows
1342	Costumes or Masks
1344	Toy Musical Instruments
1345	Building Sets
1346	Clacker Balls
1347	Balloons (Toy)
1349	Stilts
1350	Squeeze or Squeaker Toys
1352	Slingshots or Sling-Propelled Toys
1353	Toy Boxes or Chests
1354	Marbles
1362	Wood-burning Kits
1365	Water Toys (Excluding Squeeze/Squeaker Toys and Inner Tubes or Similar Floating Equipment)
1376	Molding Compounds
1381	Toys, Not Elsewhere Classified
1389	Other Toy Weapons (Non-projectile)
1390	Toy Guns, Not Specified
1392	Toy Sports Equipment
1393	Chemistry Sets or Science Kits
1394	Dolls, Plush Toys, and Action Figures
1395	Toys, Not Specified
1398	Wheeled Riding Toys, Unpowered (Excluding Bicycles and Tricycles)
1399	Toy Guns with Projectiles
1550	Infant and Toddler Play Centers (Excluding Jumpers, Bouncers, and Exercisers)
5001	Other Toy Weapons (Projectile)

Product Code	Toy Type
5005	Riding Toys (Excluding Bicycles and Tricycles), Not Specified
5006	Other Toy Guns
5007	Toy Weapons, Not Specified
5010	Crayons Or Chalk (Excluding Billiard or Pool Chalk)
5013	Toy Make-Up Kits or Cosmetics (Excluding Mirrors)
5015	Toy Caps, Cap Toys, or Cap Guns
5016	Balls, Other or Not Specified
5017	Flying Discs and Boomerangs
5018	Doll Houses and Other Play Scenes
5019	Games or Game Parts (Excluding Marbles and Computer Games)
5020	Pretend Electronics, Tools, Housewares, and Appliances
5021	Toy Vehicles (Excluding Riding Toys)
5023	Scooters, Unpowered (2020 and later)
5024	Scooters, Unspecified (2020 and later)

NEISS 2020 Special Study

Prior to 2020, the NEISS product code 1329 (Scooters, Unpowered) was used to capture injuries related to unpowered (i.e., nonmotorized) riding scooters as well as unknown-if-powered scooters. While it was understood and accepted that some proportion of the injuries associated with this code was not unpowered riding scooters, historically, it had been used to identify the unpowered riding scooter toys in the annual Toy reports.

In 2020, two new NEISS product codes, 5023 (Scooters, Unpowered) and 5024 (Scooters, Unspecified), were implemented by the Division of Data Systems in the Directorate for Epidemiology (EPDS) to replace product code 1329. This allows staff to distinguish between the known unpowered scooters and unknown-if-powered scooters. During the same time, EPDS also launched a special study to follow up on all NEISS injuries that were related to product code 5022 (Scooters, Powered) and 5024 (Scooters, Unspecified). While the purpose of the special study was to gain more in-depth knowledge about injuries related to powered or e-scooters, the study also identified the proportion of injuries that were actually related to powered scooters, unpowered scooters, and other types of scooters. The study continued in 2021. Based on these results, for both the 2021 report as well as this report, EPA staff was able to proportionally allocate the entire set of injuries under code 5024 (Scooters Unspecified) to unpowered/nonmotorized riding scooter toys for this analysis. In addition, the 2021 special study also identified any miscoded injury cases (such as an injury case originally coded under 5022 (Scooters, Powered) that was found to be an unpowered scooter during the follow-up interview with the patient). As such, the estimated injuries related to nonmotorized scooter toys in this annual report for 2021 are based on both the product code 5023 for unpowered scooters as well as a proportion of the unspecified scooters and the miscoded powered scooters, as informed by the results of the special study.