



**UNITED STATES
CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20207**

Memorandum

Date: July 24, 2003

TO : The File

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SUBJECT : Nursery Product-Related Injuries and Deaths to Children under Age Five

This memorandum provides estimates for CY 2002 nursery product-related injuries¹, as well as information on deaths associated with nursery products that occurred during the three-year period of 1998-2000.

Nursery Product-Related Injury Estimate for CY 2002

As shown in Table 1, there were an estimated 67,000² children under age five treated in U.S. hospital emergency rooms in 2002 for injuries associated with nursery products. There is no significant difference between this figure and the previous two years. In fact, since 1998 there has not been a significant rise or fall in injuries related to nursery products for children under five.

The leading cause of all nursery product-related injuries reported through NEISS for 2002 was falls.

**Table 1: Estimated Injuries to Children under Age 5 Associated with Nursery Products
CY 1998-2002**

Calendar Year	Estimated Injuries
1998	71,000
1999	65,400
2000	69,100
2001	69,500
2002	67,000

Source: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS), U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

¹ The source of the injury estimates is the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS), a statistically valid injury surveillance system. NEISS injury data are gathered from emergency departments of hospitals selected as a probability sample of all the U.S. hospitals with emergency departments. The surveillance data gathered from the sample hospitals enable the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to make timely national estimates of the number of injuries associated with specific consumer products.

² This estimate has been adjusted to exclude diaper rash and other out of scope cases from the diaper code.

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Deaths Associated with Nursery Products for 1998 to 2000³

The Commission's data files contained 155 deaths (or an annual average of 52 deaths) associated with nursery products that occurred from 1998 through 2000.⁴ About thirty-nine-percent (60 total or 20 annually) of the deaths reported involved cribs. Playpens and play yards, and baby bath seats or rings had the second highest number of deaths reported each with 18 or 6 annually. Infant carriers and car seats had the third largest number of reported deaths with 16 or about 5 annually.

Summary

Table 2 provides a summary of nursery product-related estimated injuries for CY 2002 along with the total and average annual deaths for 1998 through 2000.

Table 2: Nursery Product-Related Injuries and Deaths to Children under Age Five by Product⁵

PRODUCT CATEGORY	ESTIMATED INJURIES CY 2002	TOTAL DEATHS 1998-2000	AVERAGE ANNUAL DEATHS 1998-2000
TOTAL	67,000	155	51.7
Infant Carriers and Car Seats (Excludes Motor Vehicle Incidents)	15,490	16	5.3
Strollers and Carriages	11,160	4	1.3
Cribs	10,400	60	20.0
High Chairs	7,590	7	2.3
Baby Walkers and Jumpers	4,560	0	0.0
Changing Tables	2,640	1	0.3
Baby Bouncer Seats	2,550	1	0.3
Baby Gates and Barriers	2,080	0	0.0
Portable Baby Swings	1,570	6	2.0
Playpens and Play Yards	1,060	18	6.0
Baby Bath Seats	—⁶	18	6.0
Other	8,350	24	8.0

Source: National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) for the CY 2002 injury estimates; and In-depth Investigation File, Injury and Potential Injury Incident File, Death Certificate File and NEISS for 1998 to 2000 for reported deaths, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

³ Although other databases are used in the death count, death certificate data collection is complete only through 2000. Therefore, death counts for later years were not included.

⁴ These deaths do not constitute a statistical sample of known probability and do not include all nursery product-related deaths that occurred during the 1998 to 2000 period. They do, however, provide a minimum figure for deaths associated with nursery products during that time.

⁵ The injury estimates do not add up to total due to rounding and since two or more nursery products are sometimes associated with a single injury. In addition, the average annual deaths do not add up to total due to rounding.

⁶ The national estimate of injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms for baby bath seats and bath rings was an extremely small number based on a sample count of only 7 incidents collected through NEISS. Therefore, a national estimate is not presented here.