

Childhood Injury Report

**An analysis of Stark County Hospital
emergency room visits for children
14 and under**

**Trend Report
2003-2006**



REPORT PREPARED BY:

Safe Kids Stark County
Data & Research Committee
&

Stark County Health Department
Administration & Support Services Division



Funded by the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and administered by the Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Health Promotion & Risk Reduction, Injury Prevention Program. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the Authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of CDC.

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Committee & Report Information

Data & Research Committee Members

<i>Safe Kids Coordinator:</i> Amanda Kelly Stark County Health Department	<i>Committee Chair:</i> Lisa Tavallali Aultman Hospital
<i>Members:</i> Mike Abrams Stark County Bicycle Club Beth Canfield-Simbro Mount Union College Kay Conley Stark County Health Department Joyce Himebaugh Affinity Medical Center - Doctors Campus Adam Jaworski Student, Mount Union College	Danette Lund Early Childhood Resource Center Sheree Nuske Aultman Hospital Karen Schanz Stark County Health Department Carolyn Schooley Mercy Medical Center Debbie Sharkey Paul & Carol David YMCA Laurie Weaver North Lawrence Fire Department

The Safe Kids Data and Research Committee includes: child safety advocates, health educators, trauma coordinators, and data analysts. The Stark County Health Department is the lead agency for Safe Kids Stark County. This department has an injury prevention grant and child and family health services grant, which enables them to conduct child safety and injury prevention programs. Safe Kids Worldwide and Safe Kids USA are the parent organizations.

Report Information

This trend report includes e-code (etiology) data collected from **Affinity Medical Center (Doctors Campus and Massillon Campus), Alliance Community Hospital, Aultman Hospital, and Mercy Medical Center** from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2006. "E-codes permit the classification of environmental events, circumstances and conditions as the cause of the injury, poisoning, and other adverse effects. The use of E-codes together with the code identifying the injury or condition, provides additional information of a particular concern to industrial medicine, insurance carriers, national safety programs and public health agencies. External causes of injury and poisonings codes (E-codes) are intended to provide data for injury research and evaluation for injury prevention strategies. E-codes capture how the injury or poisoning happened (cause), the intent (unintentional or accidental or intentional, such as suicide or assault), and the place where the event occurred. * E-codes are never to be reported as a principal diagnosis." The hospitals were asked to provide their e-code data for children ages 14 and under during the time frame. Date of treatment, patient's age, sex, zip code and the e-code were reported for combined analysis. This report includes information from the 2003-2006 individual reports.

If you have questions regarding the data collection or analysis process, if you would like to learn more about the Safe Kids Coalition or have comments or suggestions, please contact Safe Kids Stark County at 330-493-9904 x 282. Additional copies of this report are available at www.starkhealth.org/safekids.

Value to the Community

In 2002, the Stark County Health Department began researching a method to collect county wide data regarding childhood injuries. For the 2002 pilot report, three out of the five local hospitals agreed to provide the department with their injury data (E-codes) for analysis. Data collection for all five hospitals began by the health department for the 2003-2006 reports. In 2004, a data & research committee was formed, as a part of Safe Kids Stark County, to analyze this data. In 2005, the Stark County Health Department was awarded an Injury Prevention Grant from the Ohio Department of Health to help with this initiative.

Once the data was analyzed, the committee published an annual report of the findings. The committee has published reports for 2002-2006. Data collection will continue and an annual report will be published each year for the previous year's data. The reports are being distributed to community leaders and agencies for heightened awareness. Recommendations are being made to Safe Kids Stark County board regarding the need for additional injury prevention programming. The data will be used to develop these new programs.

In August 2007, Safe Kids Stark County, in conjunction with the Stark County Health Department, hosted a Childhood Injury Prevention Seminar at Walsh University.

Approximately 50 nurses, physicians, EMS providers and child safety advocates attended the seminar and were provided a resource kit with injury prevention materials. Two well known speakers, Dr. Michael Macknin from the Cleveland Clinic and Dr. Ann Dietrich from Columbus Children's Hospital, presented on childhood injury prevention. Amanda Kelly, Coordinator for Safe Kids Stark County presented on local data and injury prevention programs.

Evaluations and surveys showed positive feedback from participants and interest in future events. Continuing Education was offered for physicians, nurses, EMS providers and health educators. Another seminar is being planned for 2008.

Childhood Injuries

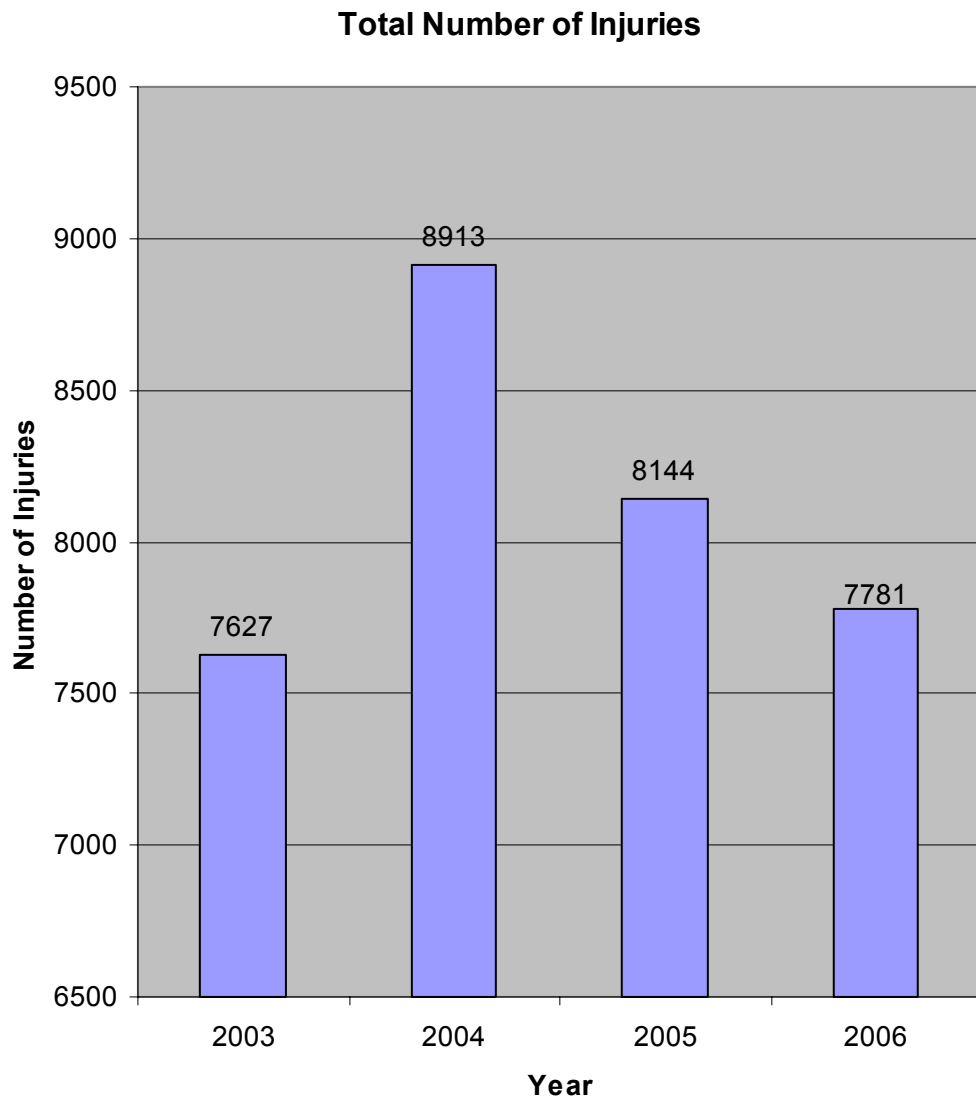
According to Safe Kids Worldwide and Safe Kids USA accidental injury kills one million children annually worldwide. Ninety-eight percent of these deaths occur in low-income countries, where injury is making significant gains on disease as the leading cause of death in young children. In the United States and most other industrialized nations, accidental injury has surpassed disease to become the number one cause of death among children ages 14 and under.

The accidental injury death rate among children ages 14 and under declined 45 percent from 1987 to 2002.

In addition, each year more than 92,000 children are permanently disabled. Each year, one out of every four children (a total of more than 14 million children ages 14 and under) sustains an injury serious enough to require medical attention.

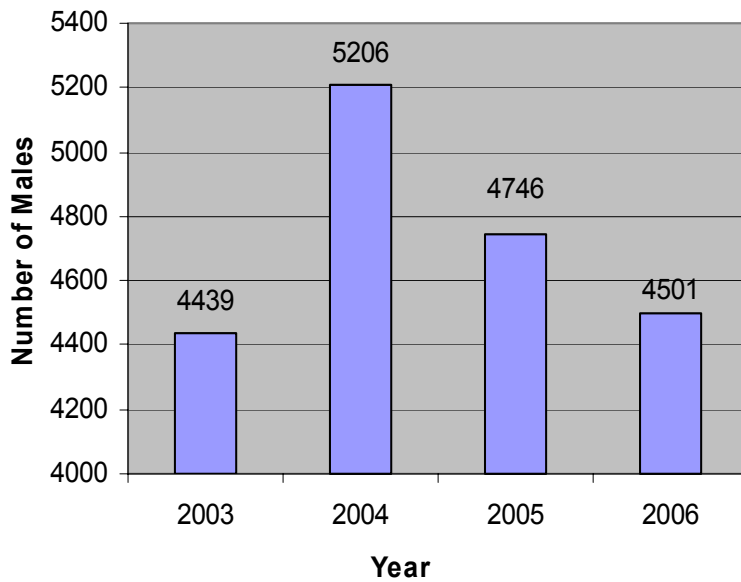
According to the Ohio Department of Public Safety, in Ohio, over 2,300 children ages 0-14 were killed during the past ten years by unintentional injuries. Although these statistics are grim, most injuries are predictable and preventable. In fact, it is estimated that 9 out of 10 injuries can be prevented.

Total Number of Patients Treated



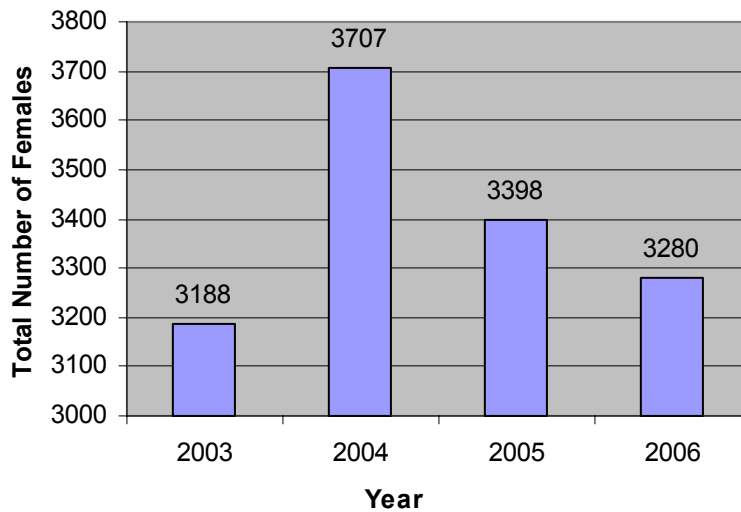
Total Number of Males & Females Treated

Total Number of Males



Year	# Males	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	4439	7627	58.2%
2004	5206	8913	58.4%
2005	4746	8144	58.3%
2006	4501	7781	57.8%

Total Number of Females



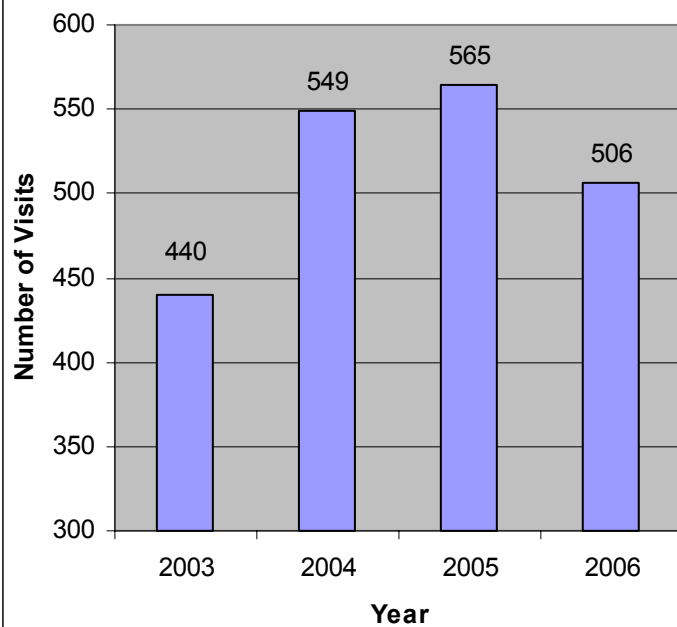
Year	# Females	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	3188	7627	41.8%
2004	3707	8913	41.6%
2005	3398	8144	41.7%
2006	3280	7781	42.2%

Number of Injuries by Month

Month	2003 Number	2004 Number	2005 Number	2006 Number	2003 %	2004 %	2005 %	2006 %
January	440	549	565	506	5.8%	6.2%	6.9%	6.5%
February	380	578	513	483	5.0%	6.5%	6.3%	6.2%
March	495	654	553	553	6.5%	7.3%	6.8%	7.1%
April	731	755	678	737	9.6%	8.5%	8.3%	9.5%
May	833	979	817	797	10.9%	11.0%	10.0%	10.2%
June	817	828	808	720	10.7%	9.3%	9.9%	9.3%
July	760	869	804	768	10.0%	9.7%	9.9%	9.9%
August	651	839	826	780	8.5%	9.4%	10.1%	10.1%
September	865	938	840	776	11.3%	10.5%	10.3%	10.0%
October	698	813	704	697	9.2%	9.1%	8.6%	9.0%
November	651	608	555	540	8.5%	6.8%	6.8%	6.9%
December	426	503	481	526	5.9%	5.6%	5.9%	5.5%

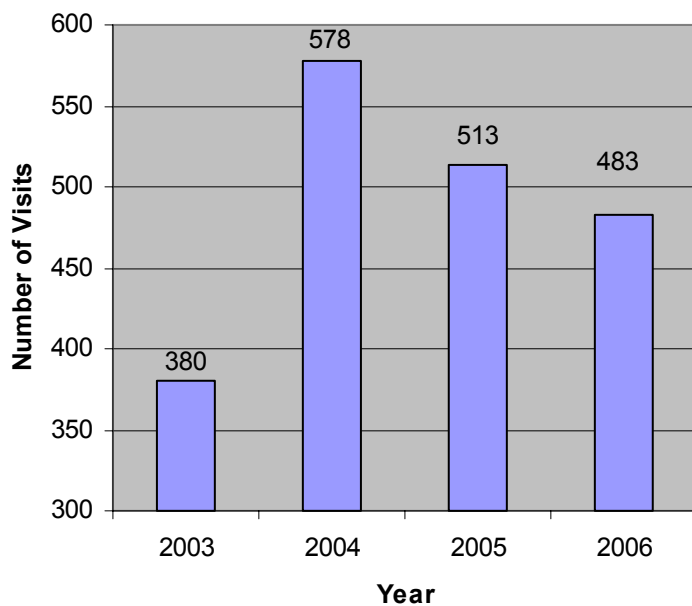
Number of Injuries by Month

Total Number of January ER Visits



Year	January ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	440	7627	5.8%
2004	549	8913	6.2%
2005	565	8144	6.9%
2006	506	7781	6.5%

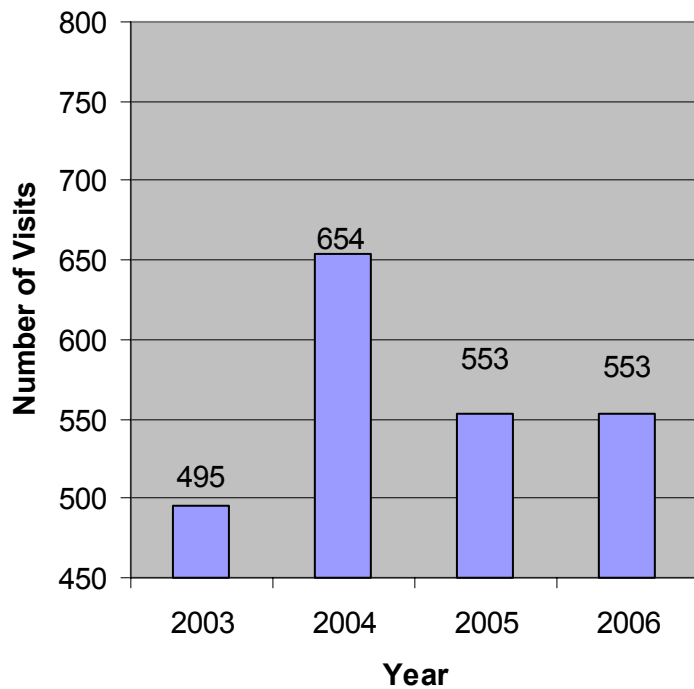
Total Number of February ER Visits



Year	February ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	380	7627	5.0%
2004	578	8913	6.5%
2005	513	8144	6.3%
2006	483	7781	6.2%

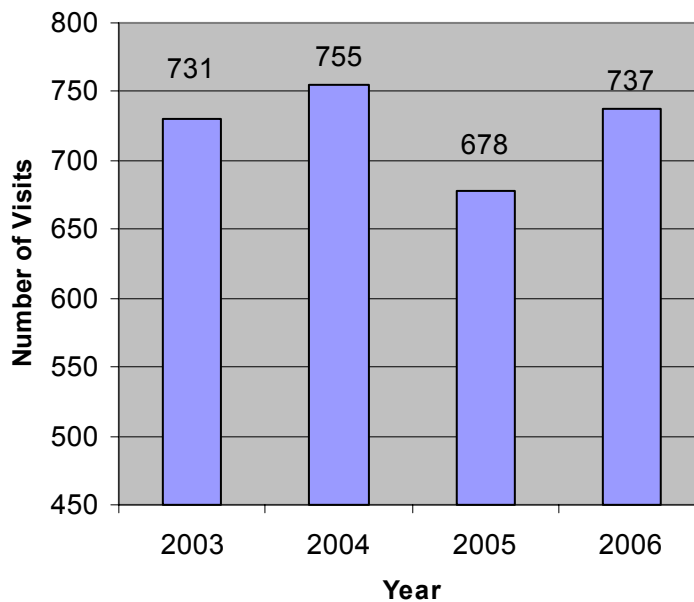
Number of Injuries by Month

Total Number of March ER Visits



Year	March ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	495	7627	6.5%
2004	654	8913	7.3%
2005	553	8144	6.8%
2006	553	7781	7.1%

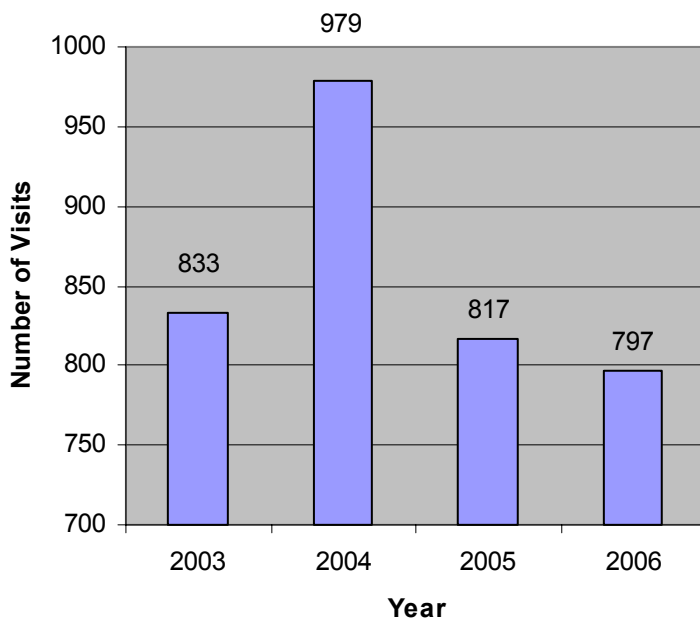
Total Number of April ER Visits



Year	April ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	731	7627	9.6%
2004	755	8913	8.5%
2005	678	8144	8.3%
2006	737	7781	9.5%

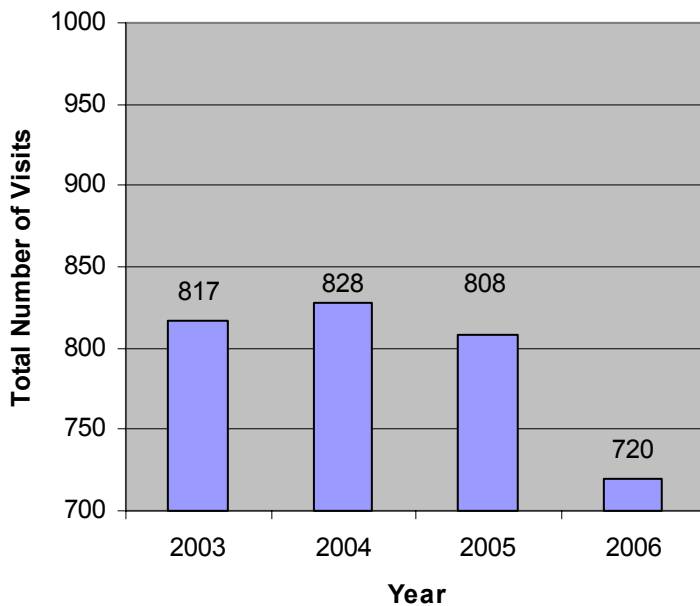
Number of Injuries by Month

Total Number of May ER Visits



Year	May ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	833	7627	10.9%
2004	979	8913	11.0%
2005	817	8144	10.0%
2006	797	7781	10.2%

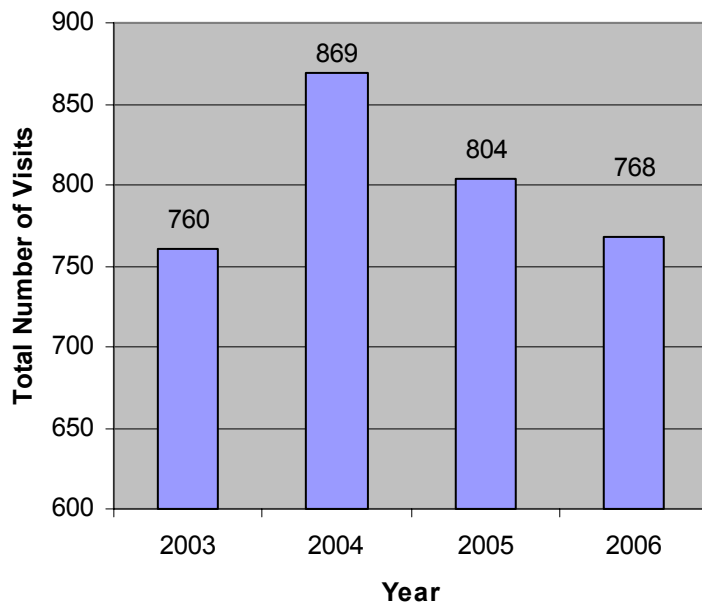
Total Number of June ER Visits



Year	June ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	817	7627	10.7%
2004	828	8913	9.3%
2005	808	8144	9.9%
2006	720	7781	9.3%

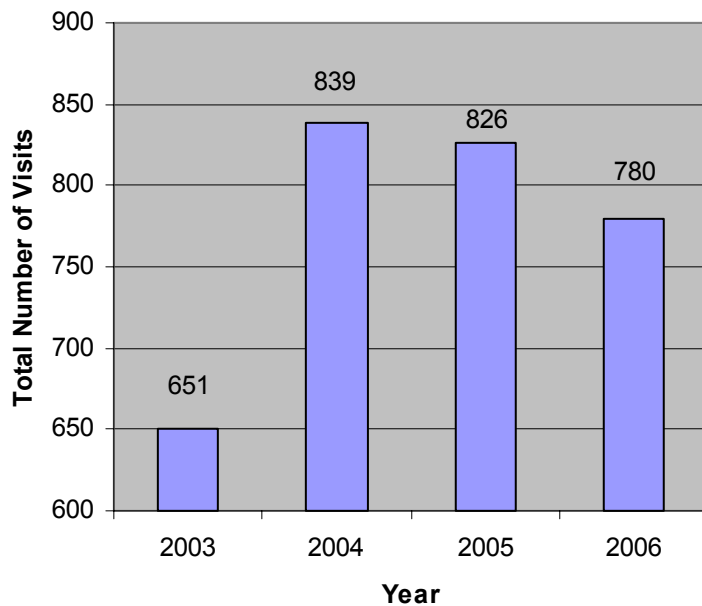
Number of Injuries by Month

Total Number of July ER Visits



Year	July ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	760	7627	10.0%
2004	869	8913	9.7%
2005	804	8144	9.9%
2006	768	7781	9.8%

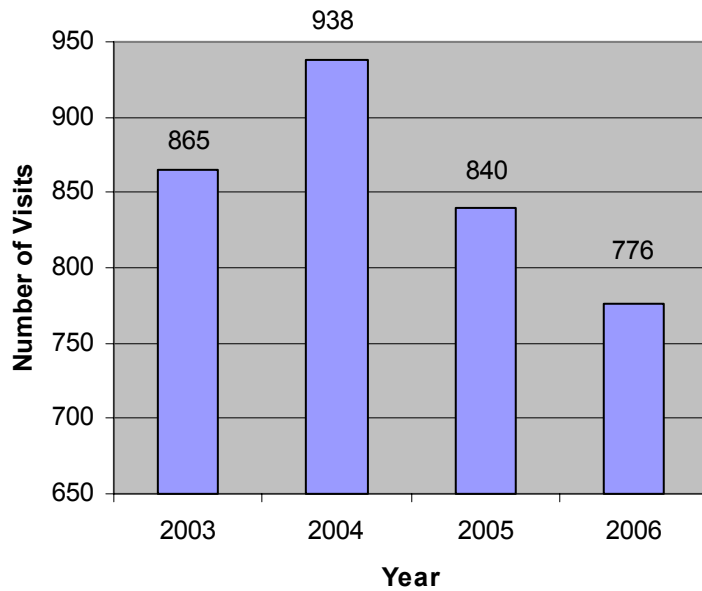
Total Number of August ER Visits



Year	August ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	651	7627	8.5%
2004	839	8913	9.4%
2005	826	8144	10.1%
2006	780	7781	10.0%

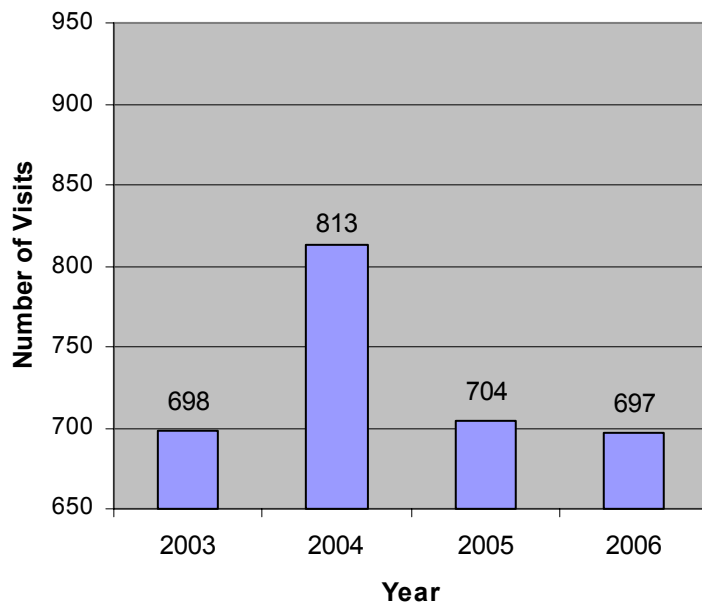
Number of Injuries by Month

Total Number of September ER Visits



Year	September ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	865	7627	11.3%
2004	938	8913	10.5%
2005	840	8144	10.3%
2006	776	7781	10.0%

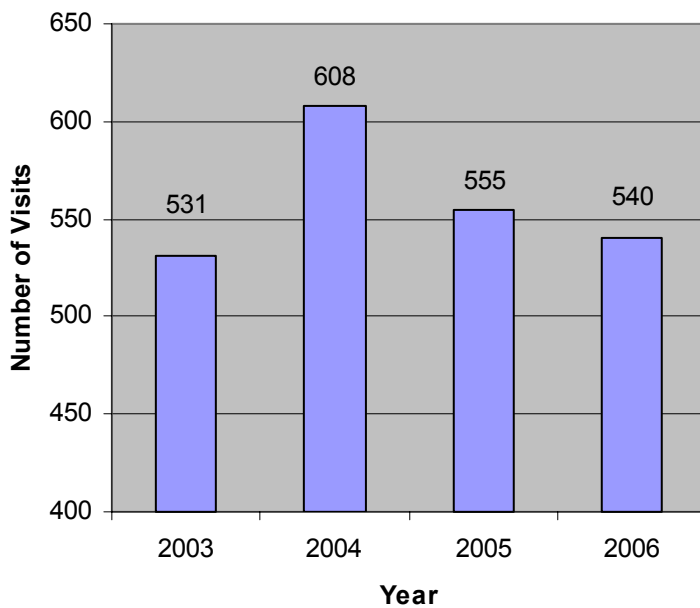
Total Number of October ER Visits



Year	October ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	698	7627	9.2%
2004	813	8913	9.1%
2005	704	8144	8.6%
2006	697	7781	9.0%

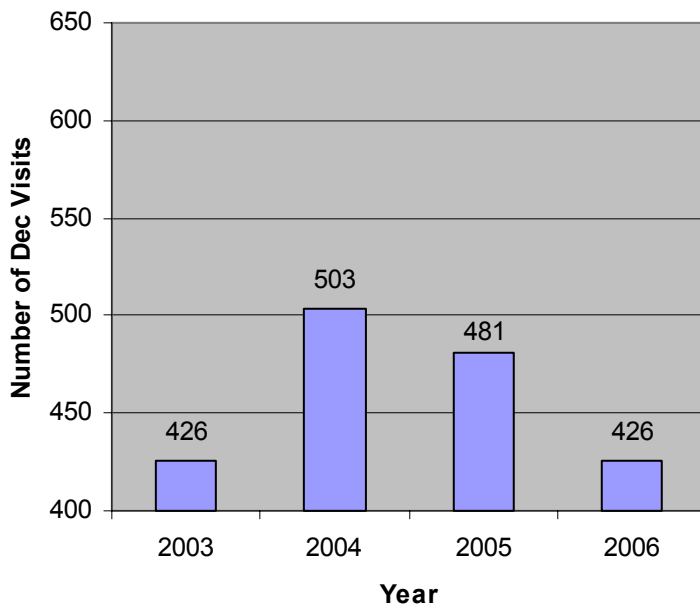
Number of Injuries by Month

Total Number of November ER Visits



Year	November ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	531	7627	7.0%
2004	608	8913	6.8%
2005	555	8144	6.8%
2006	540	7781	6.9%

Total Number of December ER Visits



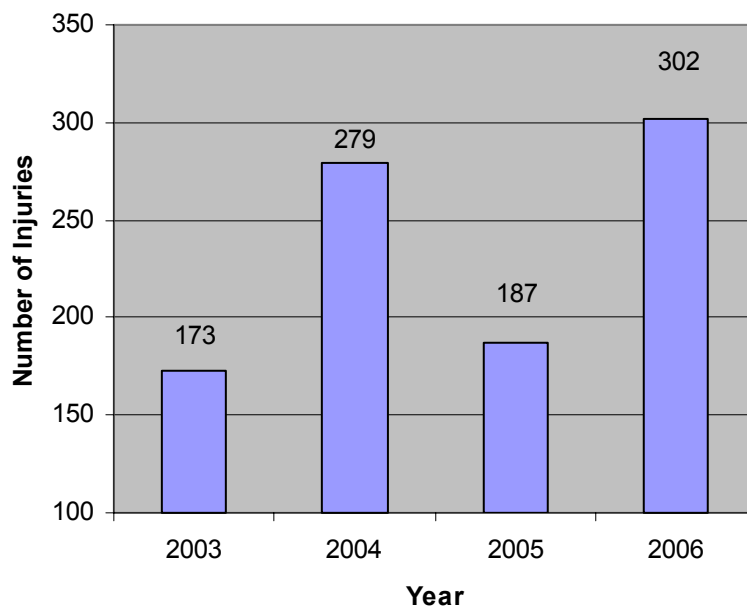
Year	December ER Visits	Total Number of Visits	% Injuries for the Year
2003	426	7627	5.9%
2004	503	8913	5.6%
2005	481	8144	5.9%
2006	426	7781	5.5%

Number of Injuries by Age

Age	2003 Number	2004 Number	2005 Number	2006 Number	2003 Percentage	2004 Percentage	2005 Percentage	2006 Percentage
0	173	279	187	302	2.3%	3.1%	2.3%	3.9%
1	656	770	683	655	8.6%	8.6%	8.4%	8.4%
2	636	710	723	687	8.3%	8.0%	8.9%	8.8%
3	578	649	563	613	7.6%	7.3%	6.9%	7.9%
4	479	555	512	478	6.3%	6.2%	6.3%	6.1%
5	452	564	478	444	5.9%	6.3%	5.9%	5.7%
6	443	484	527	443	5.8%	5.4%	6.5%	5.7%
7	403	439	427	406	5.3%	4.9%	5.2%	5.2%
8	382	511	410	424	5.0%	5.7%	5.0%	5.4%
9	482	529	497	447	6.3%	5.9%	6.1%	5.7%
10	526	607	493	495	6.9%	6.8%	6.1%	6.4%
11	547	663	616	514	7.2%	7.4%	7.6%	6.6%
12	593	688	709	601	7.8%	7.7%	8.7%	7.7%
13	619	756	657	679	8.1%	8.5%	8.1%	8.7%
14	658	709	662	599	8.6%	8.0%	8.1%	7.7%

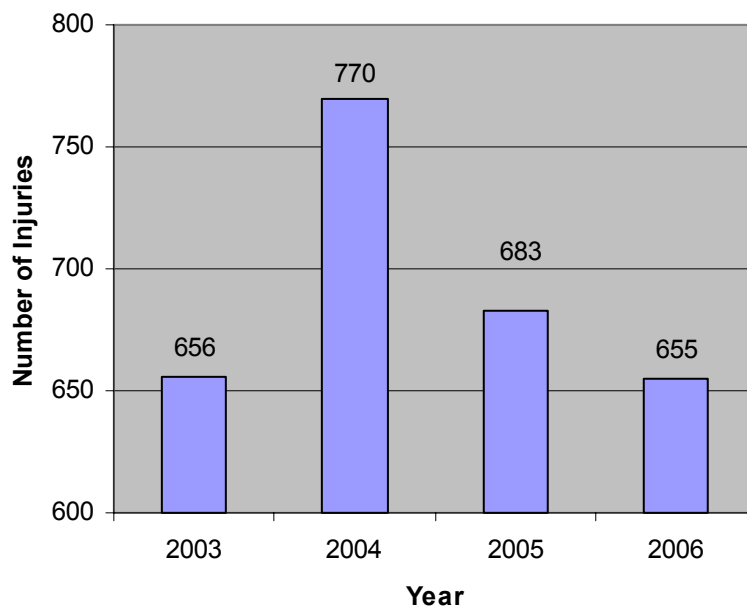
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 0



Year	# Children Age 0 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	173	7627	2.3%
2004	279	8913	3.1%
2005	187	8144	2.3%
2006	302	7781	3.9%

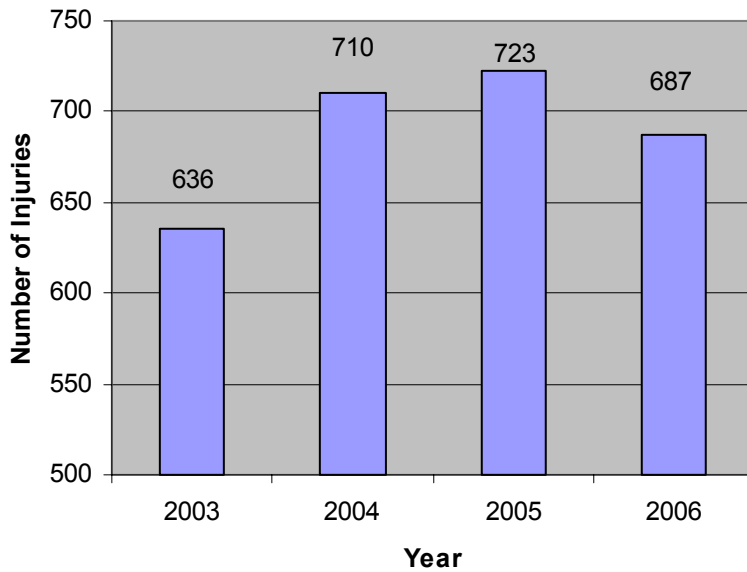
Age 1



Year	# Children Age 1 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	656	7627	8.6%
2004	770	8913	8.6%
2005	683	8144	8.4%
2006	655	7781	8.4%

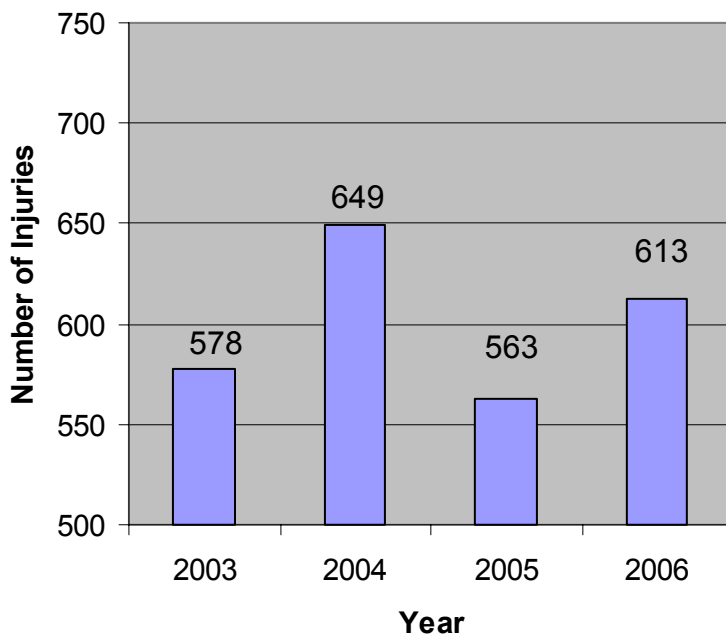
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 2



Year	# Children Age 2 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	636	7627	8.3%
2004	710	8913	8.0%
2005	723	8144	8.9%
2006	687	7781	8.8%

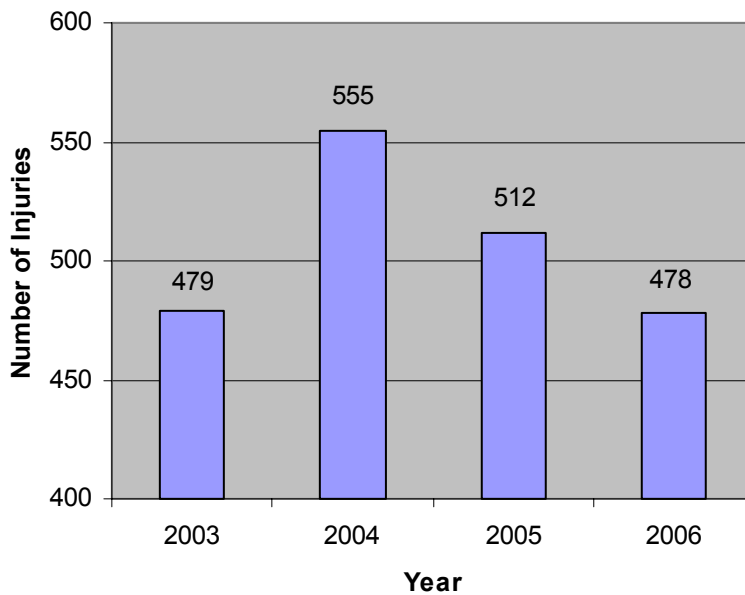
Age 3



Year	# Children Age 3 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	578	7627	7.6%
2004	649	8913	7.3%
2005	563	8144	6.9%
2006	613	7781	7.9%

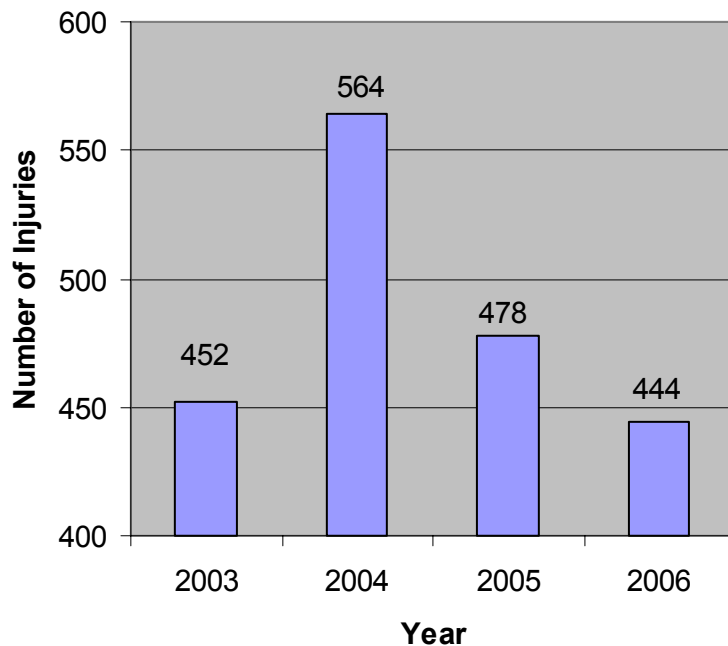
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 4



Year	# Children Age 4 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	479	7627	6.3%
2004	555	8913	6.2%
2005	512	8144	6.3%
2006	478	7781	6.1%

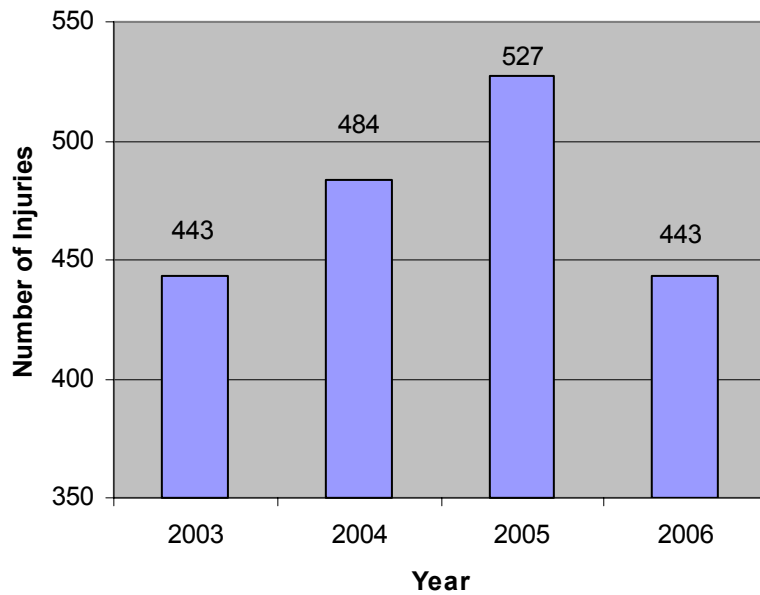
Age 5



Year	# Children Age 5 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	452	7627	5.9%
2004	564	8913	6.3%
2005	478	8144	5.9%
2006	444	7781	5.7%

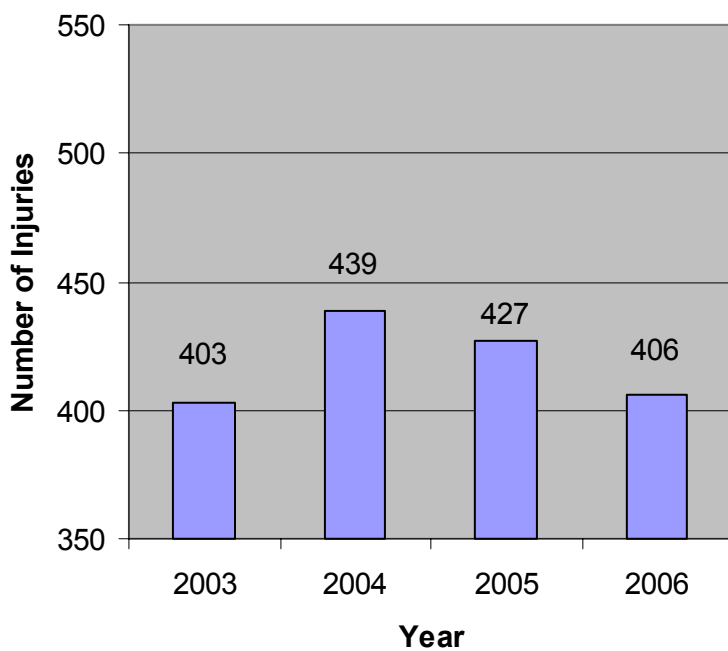
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 6



Year	# Children Age 6 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	443	7627	5.8%
2004	484	8913	5.4%
2005	527	8144	6.5%
2006	443	7781	5.7%

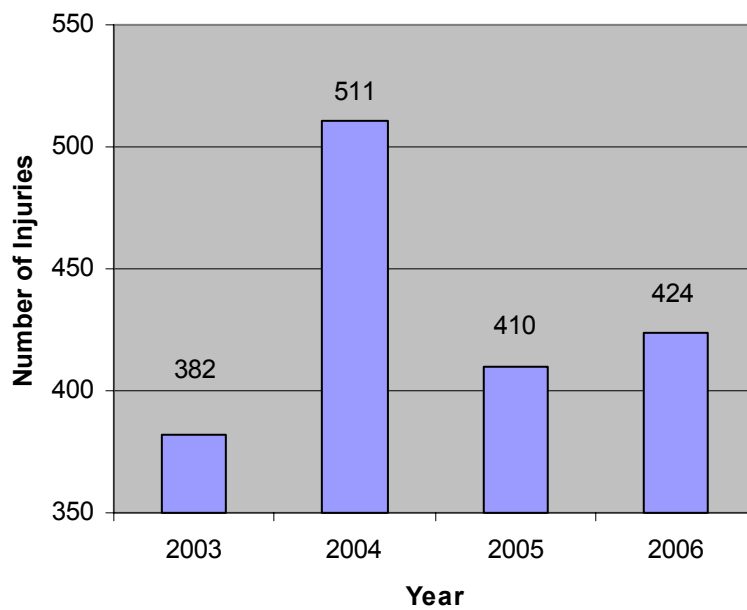
Age 7



Year	# Children Age 7 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	403	7627	5.3%
2004	439	8913	4.9%
2005	427	8144	5.2%
2006	406	7781	5.2%

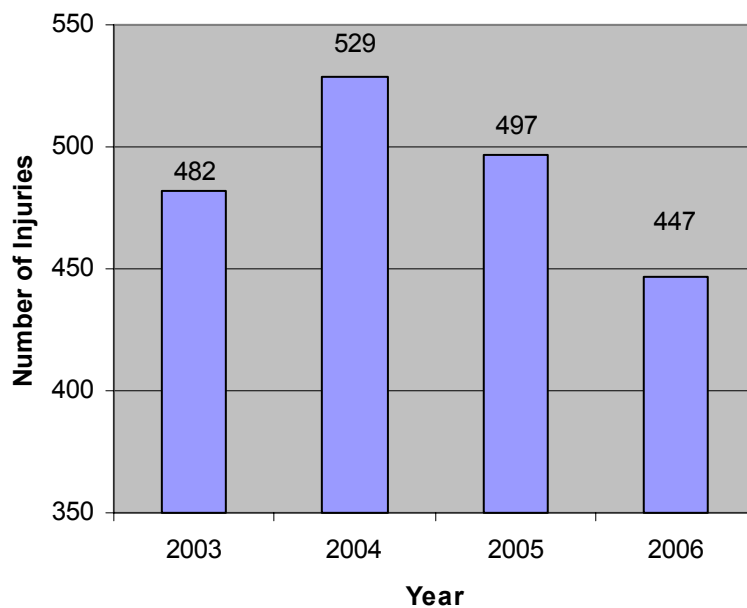
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 8



Year	# Children Age 8 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	382	7627	5.0%
2004	511	8913	5.7%
2005	410	8144	5.0%
2006	424	7781	5.4%

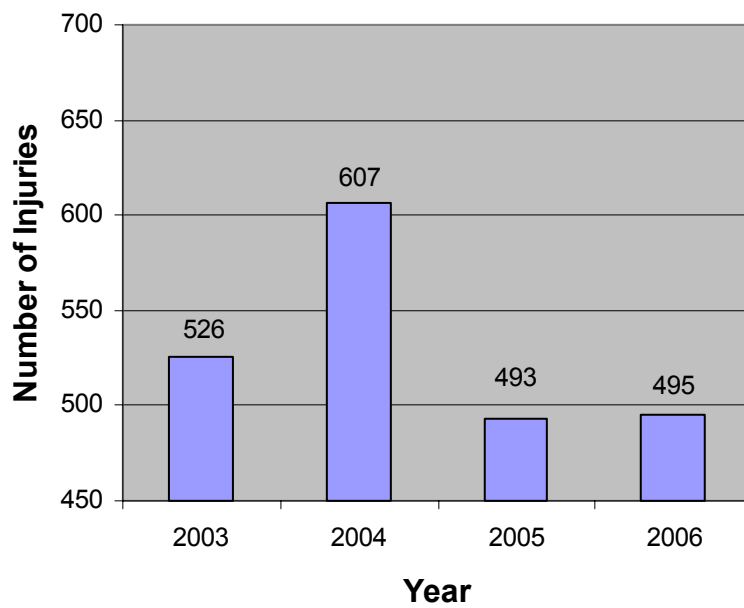
Age 9



Year	# Children Age 9 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	482	7627	6.3%
2004	529	8913	5.9%
2005	497	8144	6.1%
2006	447	7781	5.7%

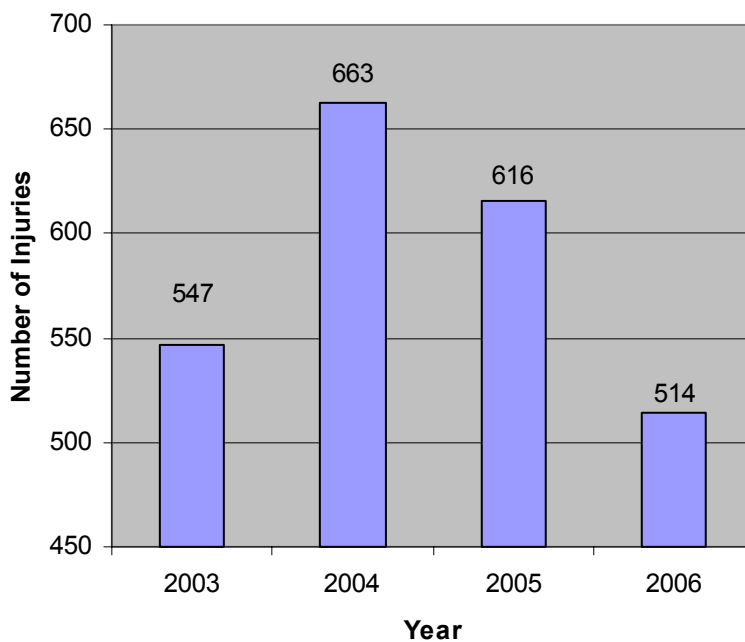
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 10



Year	# Children Age 10 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	526	7627	6.9%
2004	607	8913	6.8%
2005	493	8144	6.1%
2006	495	7781	6.4%

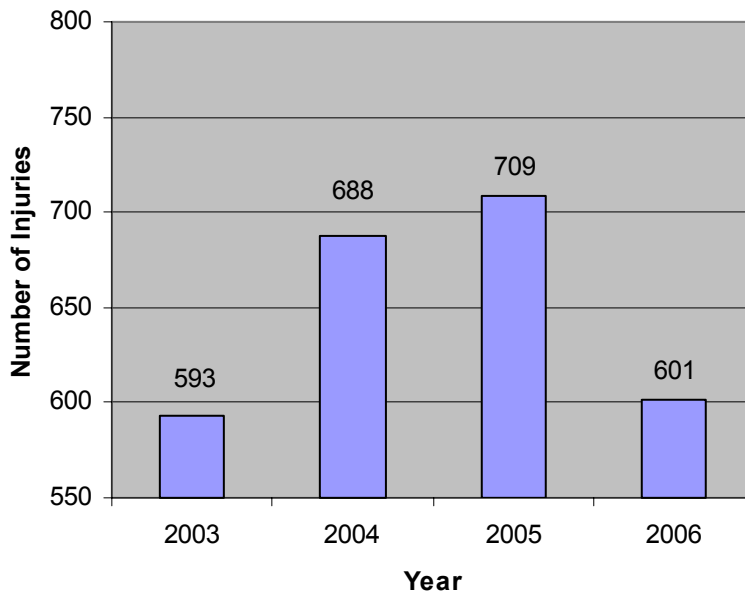
Age 11



Year	# Children Age 11 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	547	7627	7.2%
2004	663	8913	7.4%
2005	616	8144	7.6%
2006	514	7781	6.6%

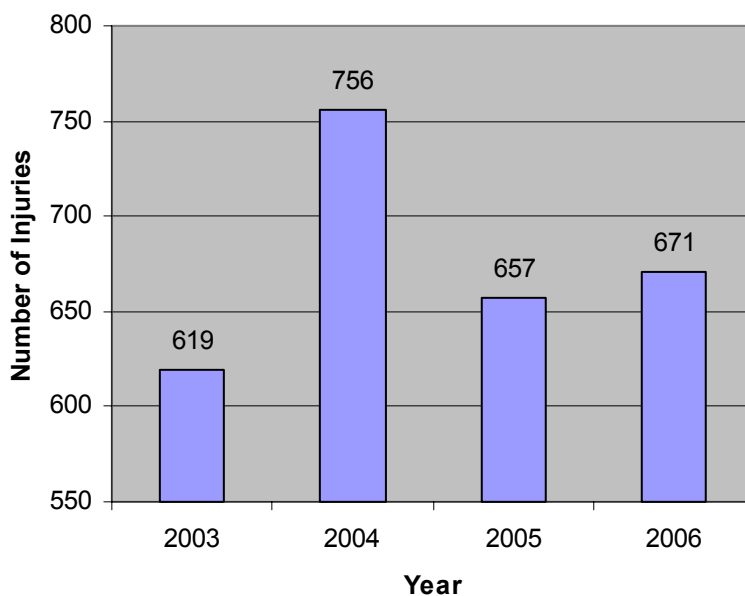
Number of Injuries by Age

Age 12



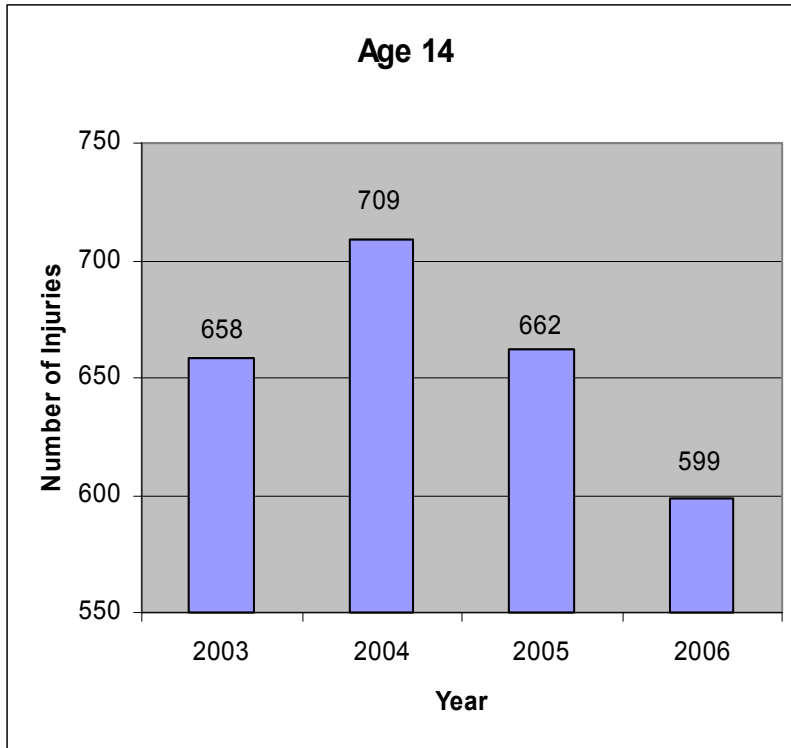
Year	# Children Age 12 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	593	7627	7.8%
2004	688	8913	7.7%
2005	709	8144	8.7%
2006	601	7781	7.7%

Age 13



Year	# Children Age 13 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	619	7627	8.1%
2004	756	8913	8.5%
2005	657	8144	8.1%
2006	673	7781	8.7%

Number of Injuries by Age



Year	# Children Age 14 Treated	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	658	7627	8.6%
2004	709	8913	8.0%
2005	662	8144	8.1%
2006	599	7781	7.7%

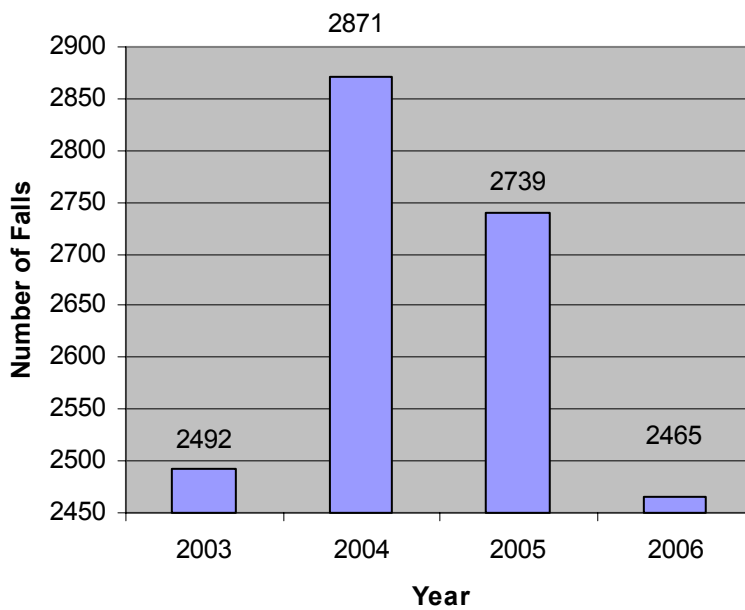
E-Code Information

There are over 1,200 potential e-codes used in hospital emergency rooms. For the purposes of this report, the committee assigned each e-code to a particular heading. E-codes with no statistical significance were not included in these headings. Some e-codes will have multiple subheadings. They will be described in the following pages.

A	Motor Vehicle	L	Choking/Suffocation
B	Wheeled Sports	M	Foreign Body (Not Choking)
C	Water Related	N	Struck By/Striking Object/Sports
D	Generic Accident	O	Machinery
E	Poisoning	P	Cutting/Knives
F	Medical Procedures	Q	Fire Arms
G	Falls	R	Suicide
H	Fire Related	S	Burns (Not Fire Related)
I	Weather	T	Human Bites
J	Abuse, Assault, Neglect	U	Overexertion & Strenuous Movement
K	Animal Related		

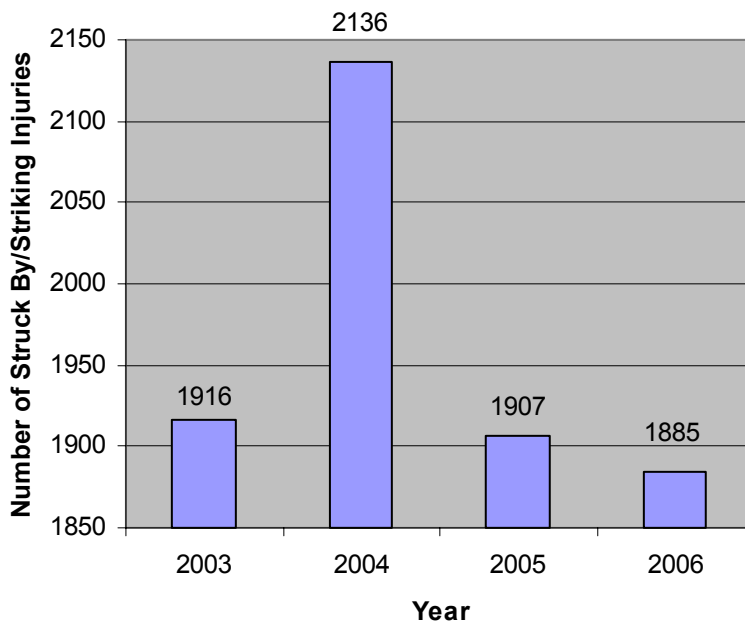
Number of Injuries by Type

Number of Falls



Year	Number of Falls	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	2492	7627	32.7%
2004	2871	8913	32.2%
2005	2739	8144	33.6%
2006	2465	7781	31.7%

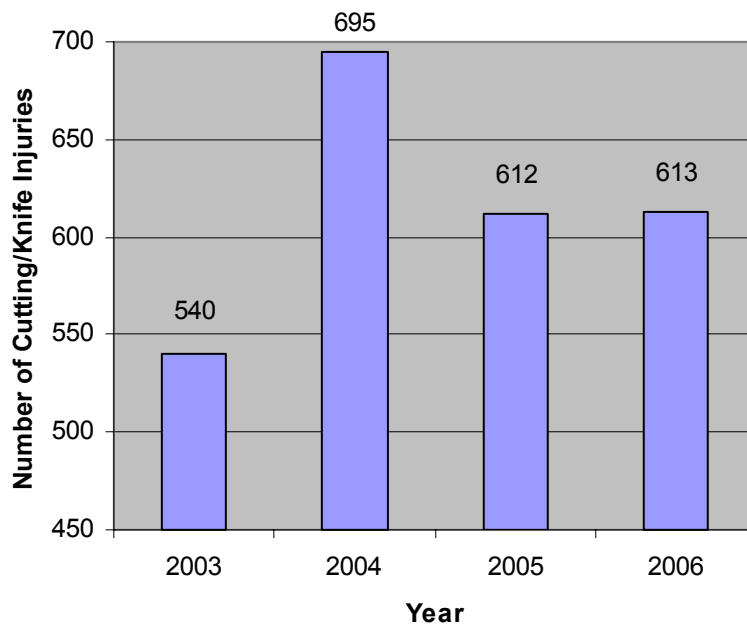
Number of Struck By/Striking Injuries



Year	Number of Struck By/Striking	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	1916	7627	25.1%
2004	2136	8913	24.0%
2005	1907	8144	23.4%
2006	1885	7781	24.2%

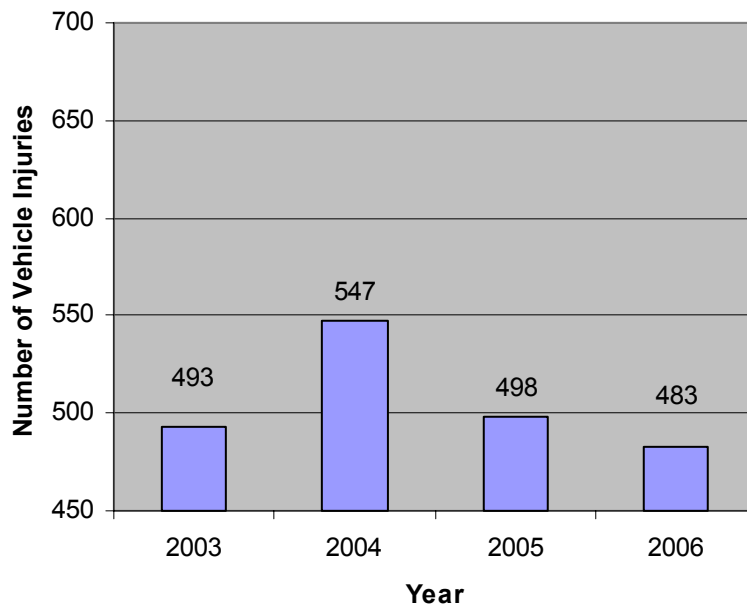
Number of Injuries by Type

Number of Cutting/Knife Injuries



Year	Number of Cutting/Knife Visits	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	540	7627	7.1%
2004	695	8913	7.8%
2005	612	8144	7.5%
2006	613	7781	7.9%

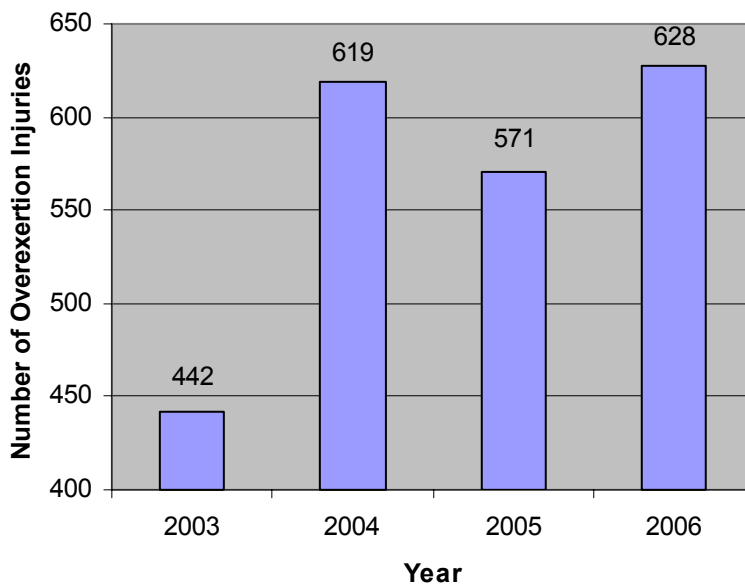
Number of Motor Vehicle Injuries



Year	Number of Motor Vehicle Injuries	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	493	7627	6.5%
2004	547	8913	6.1%
2005	498	8144	6.1%
2006	483	7781	6.2%

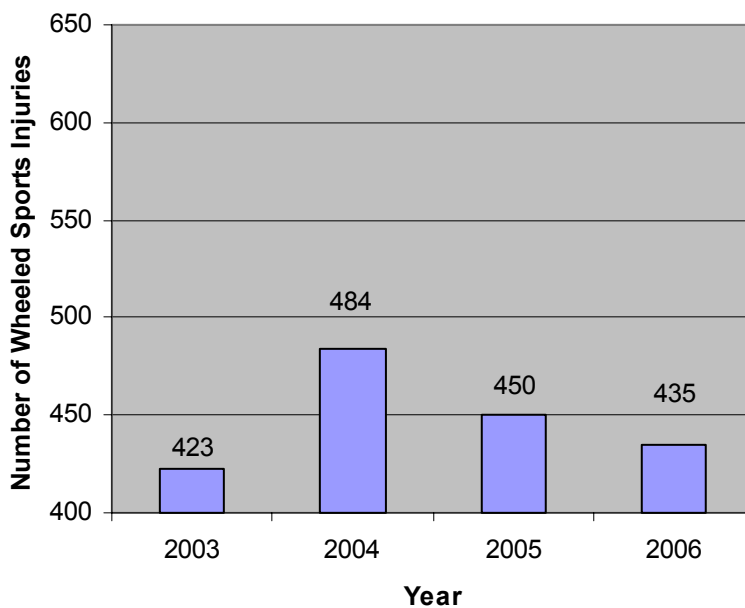
Number of Injuries by Type

Number of Overexertion Injuries



Year	Number of Over-exertion Visits	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	442	7627	5.8%
2004	619	8913	6.9%
2005	571	8144	7.0%
2006	628	7781	8.1%

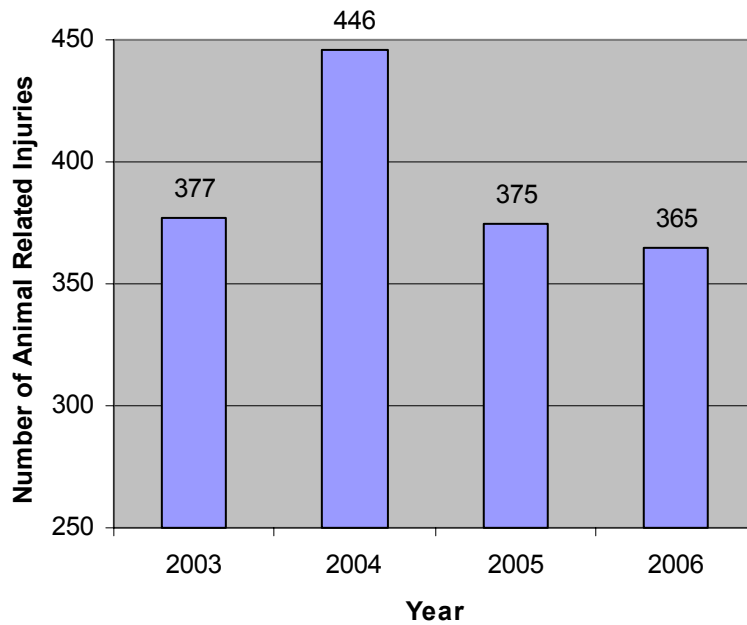
Number of Wheeled Sports Injuries



Year	Number of Wheeled Sports	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	423	7627	5.5%
2004	484	8913	5.4%
2005	450	8144	5.5%
2006	435	7781	5.6%

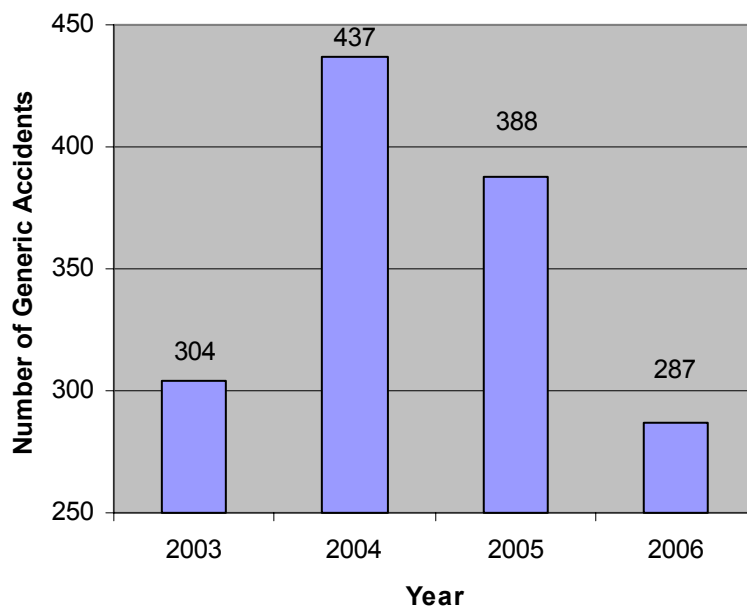
Number of Injuries by Type

Number of Animal Related Injuries



Year	Number of Animal Related Visits	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	377	7627	4.9%
2004	446	8913	5.0%
2005	375	8144	4.6%
2006	365	7781	4.7%

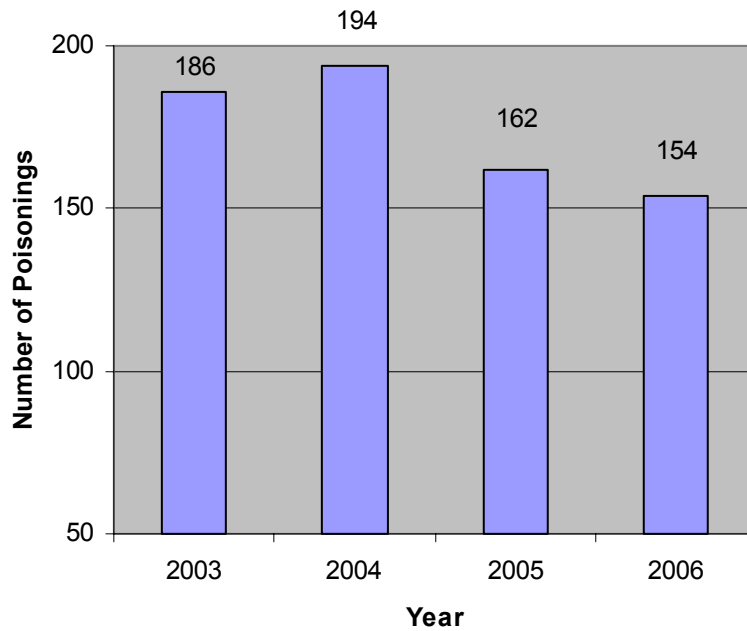
Number of Generic Accidents



Year	Number of Generic Accidents	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	304	7627	4.0%
2004	437	8913	5.0%
2005	388	8144	4.8%
2006	287	7781	3.7%

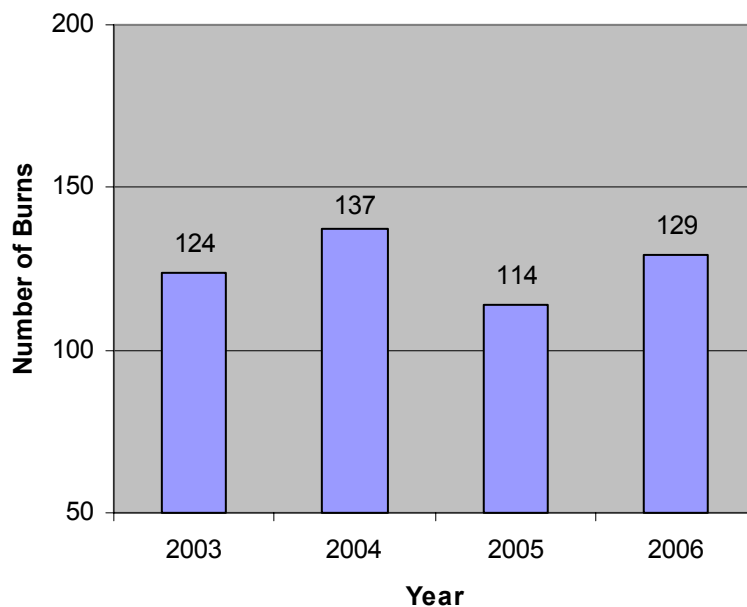
Number of Injuries by Type

Number of Poisonings



Year	Number of Poisonings	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	186	7627	2.4%
2004	194	8913	2.2%
2005	162	8144	2.0%
2006	154	7781	2.0%

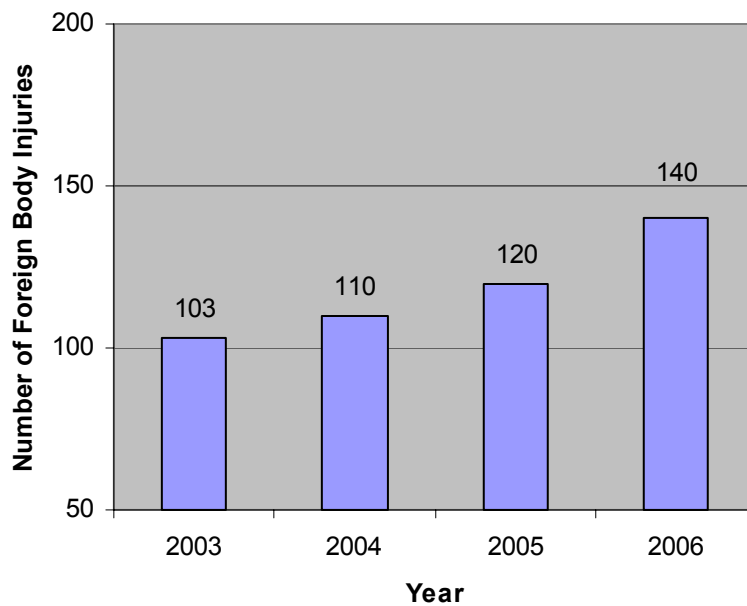
Number of Burns



Year	Number of Burns	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	124	7627	1.6%
2004	137	8913	1.5%
2005	114	8144	1.4%
2006	129	7781	1.7%

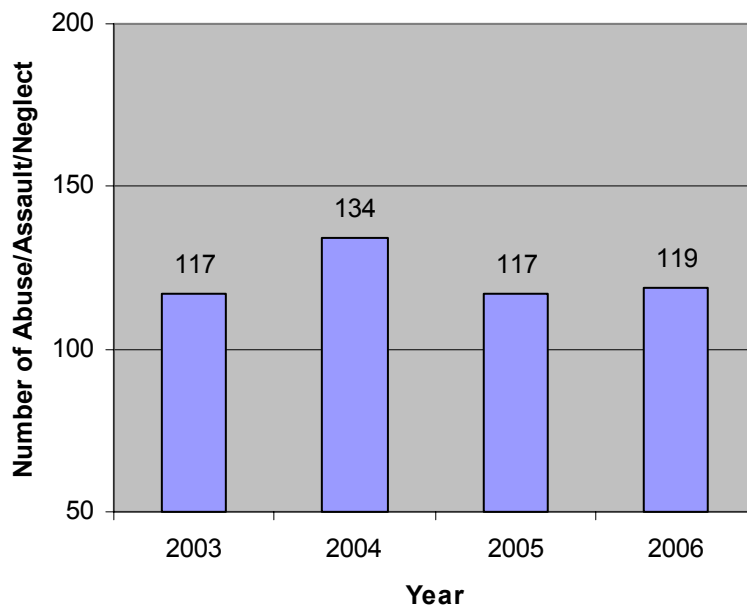
Number of Injuries by Type

Number of Foreign Body Injuries



Year	Number of Foreign Body Visits	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	103	7627	1.4%
2004	110	8913	1.2%
2005	120	8144	1.5%
2006	140	7781	1.8%

Number of Abuse/Assault/Neglect



Year	Number of Abuse/Assault/Neglect Visits	Total Number of Injuries	% Injuries for the Year
2003	117	7627	1.5%
2004	134	8913	1.5%
2005	117	8144	1.4%
2006	119	7781	1.5%

Zip Code Information

For each child treated, the zip code reported is where the child lives, not necessarily where the injury occurred.

For the purposes of this report, the following areas are identified to each zip code:

44601	Alliance City, Lexington Twp, Marlboro Twp, Washington Twp
44608	Beach City, Brewster, Sugarcreek Twp, Wilmot
44613	Brewster, Sugarcreek Twp, Wilmot
44614	Canal Fulton, Jackson Twp, Lawrence Twp
44626	East Sparta, Pike Twp.
44630	PO Boxes, Greentown, Lake Twp
44632	Hartville, Lake Twp
44641	Louisville City, Hartville, Nimishillen Twp, Osnaburg Twp, Plain Twp
44643	East Sparta, Magnolia, Sandy Twp
44646	Jackson Twp, Lawrence Twp, Massillon City, Perry Twp, Tuscarawas Twp
44647	Lawrence Twp, Massillon City, Tuscarawas Twp
44648	PO Boxes, Massillon City, Perry Twp
44650	PO Boxes, Maximo, Washington Twp
44652	PO Boxes, Middlebranch, Plain Twp
44657	Minerva, Paris Twp
44662	Bethlehem Twp, Brewster, Navarre, Perry Twp, Sugarcreek Twp, Tuscarawas Twp, Wilmot
44666	Lawrence Twp, North Lawrence, Tuscarawas Twp
44669	Minerva, Paris, Washington Twp
44670	Minerva, Paris Twp, Robertsville
44685	Lake Twp, Uniontown
44688	Sandy Twp, Waynesburg
44689	Sugarcreek Twp, Wilmot
44701	PO Boxes, Canton City
44702	Canton City
44703	Canton City
44704	Canton City, Canton Twp
44705	Canton City, Plain Twp
44706	Canton City, Canton Twp, East Sparta, Perry Twp
44707	Canton City, Canton Twp, North Industry, Waco
44708	Canton City, Canton Twp, Hills & Dales Village, Jackson Twp, Perry Twp, Plain Twp
44709	Canton City, North Canton, Plain Twp
44710	Canton City, Canton Twp, Perry Twp
44714	Canton City, Plain Twp
44718	Canton City, Jackson Twp, Plain Twp
44720	Greentown, Hartville, Jackson Twp, Lake Twp, North Canton, Plain Twp
44721	Hartville, North Canton, Plain Twp
44730	Canton Twp, East Canton, Osnaburg Twp
44735	PO Boxes, Canton City

**Insert County Map
With Zips**

Zip Code Rate Comparison

Zip Code	2004 Rate per 100,000	2005 Rate per 100,000	2006 Rate per 100,000
44601	193.7	196.5	179.7
44608	93.6	71.2	56.2
44613	96.5	104.3	90.6
44614	52.5	54.0	59.0
44626	147.9	117.6	102.5
44630	NA	NA	NA
44632	19.9	22.7	23.1
44641	97.2	84.9	84.9
44643	104.1	86.0	72.4
44646	128.3	113.7	108.8
44647	132.9	123.3	105.0
44648	NA	NA	NA
44650	NA	NA	NA
44652	NA	NA	NA
44657	114.0	113.6	118.8
44662	99.7	97.0	76.4
44666	91.3	103.9	74.0
44669	108.6	121.4	131.0
44670	344.8	275.9	103.4

Zip Code	2004 Rate per 100,000	2005 Rate per 100,000	2006 Rate per 100,000
44685	9.9	10.7	9.8
44688	97.4	91.0	115.4
44689	55.8	37.2	27.9
44701	NA	NA	NA
44702	148.1	101.9	157.4
44703	141.2	121.0	125.2
44704	134.4	113.0	116.0
44705	146.2	121.4	119.1
44706	143.9	134.6	127.8
44707	157.3	149.1	138.2
44708	99.8	94.9	98.6
44709	86.6	79.9	65.4
44710	166.8	138.4	142.4
44714	117.5	99.8	89.5
44718	49.5	37.2	38.5
44720	40.1	31.5	32.8
44721	52.0	54.7	42.4
44730	129.8	93.4	111.6
44735	NA	NA	NA

Zip Code Comparison

Zip Code	2004 Number of Injuries	2005 Number of Injuries	2006 Number of Injuries
44601	1445	1466	1341
44608	50	38	30
44613	49	53	46
44614	137	141	154
44626	88	70	61
44630	2	2	5
44632	43	49	50
44641	404	353	353
44643	69	57	48
44646	1211	1073	1027
44647	444	412	354
44648	2	5	1
44650	2	1	3
44652	2	1	2
44657	242	241	252
44662	184	179	141
44666	58	66	47
44669	34	38	41
44670	10	8	3

Zip Code	2004 Number of Injuries	2005 Number of Injuries	2006 Number of Injuries
44685	53	57	52
44688	76	71	90
44689	12	8	6
44701	13	7	8
44702	16	11	17
44703	363	311	322
44704	178	148	152
44705	766	636	624
44706	575	538	511
44707	420	398	369
44708	464	441	458
44709	274	253	207
44710	329	273	281
44714	193	164	147
44718	113	85	88
44720	300	235	245
44721	135	142	110
44730	157	113	135
44735	2	0	0

Significant Findings & Recommendations

- Overexertion, burns, and foreign body injuries increased in 2006. Prevention efforts should target these injury types.
- The Alliance area has a considerably higher number of childhood injuries than surrounding areas. Perhaps distribution of the fact sheets could begin in this geographic area.
- Most injuries occur in May, August, and September. Committee question: Is that because there are more sports-related injuries in those months? Is that because of increased outdoor activities, less parental guidance, etc?
- Very young and older children are most likely to suffer from injuries.
- Overexertion injuries have increased over past four years
- Overall, the total number of injuries has decreased since 2004. Committee question: Are the Safe Kids efforts making an impact?
- Even though the total number of injuries change each year, the percentage of male and female injuries are about the same every year.
- In the 44670 zip code, there is a significant decrease in the number of injuries from 2004 to 2006 (almost 1/3 as much)! Committee question: Is the population aging? Insurance changes and therefore, is care being given at a different hospital outside of our community? Are education efforts improving, resulting in fewer accidents/injuries?
- In the 44608 zip code there is also a decrease in total number of from 2004 to 2006 (almost half as many).
- Not a lot has changed in terms of the gender or age distribution of childhood injuries.
- A slight increase is noted in the percent of total accidents that occurred in January, February, and March.

Current Safe Kids Injury Prevention Programs

Safe Kids Stark County was established in 1992 to reduce unintentional injuries and death among children 14 and under in Stark County. The 90 member coalition is comprised of child safety advocates who support this mission. The Coalition conducts safety events throughout the county year round. Members of the Coalition also conduct their own safety programs in their communities.

Program Highlights

Child Passenger Safety/Car Seat Safety

- Car Seat Distribution Program: Safe Kids provides low-cost seats to families on the WIC (Women, Infant and Children's) Food Supplement Program through the local health departments. The group has given out over 1,750 car seats to families.
- Child Safety Seat Inspections: The coalition offers free car seat check-ups in the community throughout the year. Over 35 members have been certified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) as Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians. The coalition has hosted over 100 inspections and checked over 3,000 seats.
- Fitting Stations: The Coalition has organized weekly car seat fitting stations at 4 locations. These check-ups are free to the public.

Fire Safety

- Hector the Missing Smoke Detector: The annual educational program has been implemented in 5 elementary schools, resulting in the distribution of over 1,500 batteries and educational materials.
- Instilling Positive Fire Safety Reaction: In 2002, the coalition produced a fire safety video that teaches adults and children how to escape a burning building. This video has been disseminated to all county fire departments, and is being used in other counties across the state.

Bike Safety

- Use Your Head, Wear A Helmet: Helmets are sold at cost to the community. Helmets and educational materials are distributed at community events. The Coalition also offers free helmets to the county Hospital Emergency Departments for children treated with a head injury or wheel related incident.
- In bicycling safety classes, bicycles are considered vehicles, like cars, not toys. Children are taught age appropriate bicycle driving information to prevent injury. The importance of helmet use is emphasized.

Pedestrian Safety

- Safe Kids Walk This Way: In 2001, the coalition began to participate in the international program. Eight elementary schools were selected to have educational assemblies and a safety walk during the month of October since 2001. Following these programs, the Coalition reviews the data from the walkability surveys and attempts to make safety changes surrounding the schools.

Safe Kids Day

- Each year, a free interactive safety fair is held in a selected community. This event is in conjunction with National Safe Kids Week. Children have the opportunity to participate in safety activities (provided by community organizations) and receive educational resources.

Other Areas

- The Coalition is a clearinghouse for other injury risk areas. Information is provided at health fairs and community events. Parents, caregivers and community members are able to call and request information from the Coalition and partner agencies.

Safe Kids Stark County
c/o Stark County Health Department
3951 Convenience Circle NW
Canton, Ohio 44718
330-493-9904 x 282
www.starkhealth.org/safekids