



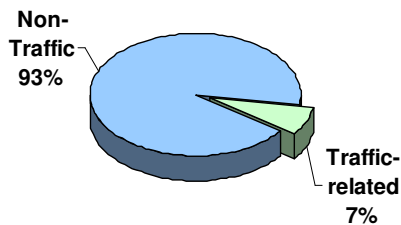
The Children's Trust

May 2007

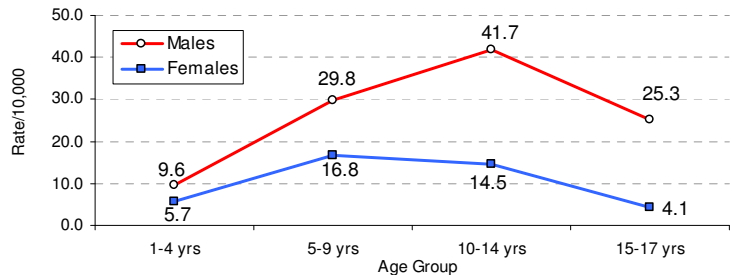
Hospitalizations and Emergency Dept. Visits Due to Pedal Cycle Injuries, Children Aged 0-17 Years, 2005

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY INJURY FACTS

Injuries from riding pedal cycles were the seventh leading cause of medically-treated injury to Miami-Dade County children aged 0-17 years during 2005. The vast majority of pedal cycle injuries were emergency department visits (1,070), 56 children required hospitalization and there was one death involving a pedal cycle.

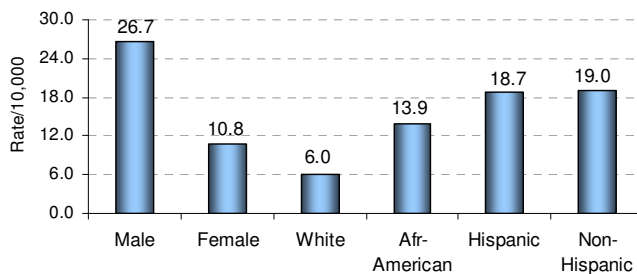


Pedal Cycle Injury Rates by Age Group & Gender
ED Visits, Hospitalizations and Fatalities,
Miami-Dade Co., 2005



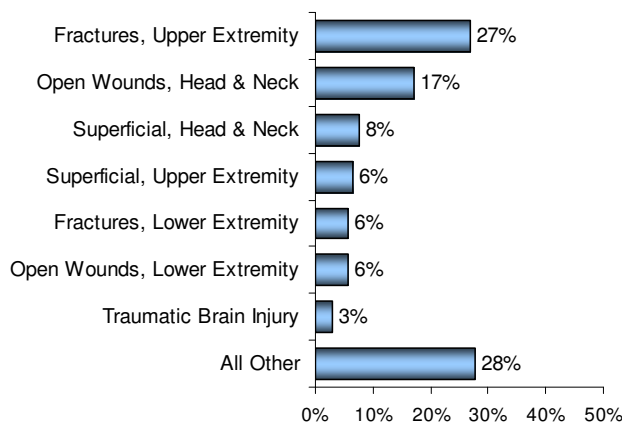
- Only 7% of the medically-treated pedal cycle injuries were traffic-related. Most involved a collision or fall that didn't involve a vehicle.
- Males aged 10-14 years had the highest rate of medically-treated pedal cycle injuries, while the rate for females peaked in the 5-9 year age group. The incidence of pedal cycle injuries was highest between the ages of 11-13 years.

Nonfatal Pedal Cycle Injury Rate by Gender, Race and Ethnicity.
Residents Aged 0-17 Yrs
Miami-Dade Co., 2005



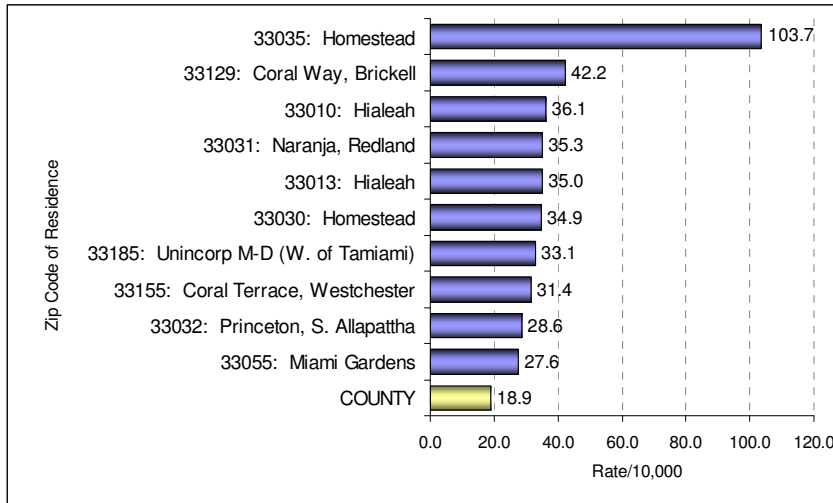
- The injury rate for males was 2.5 times higher than female children while African-American children had an injury rate more than twice that of White children. There was no difference in rates between Hispanic and Non-Hispanic children

Primary Diagnoses for Injuries From Bicycles
Residents Aged 0-17 Years
Miami-Dade Co., 2005



- Upper extremity fractures and open wounds to the head or neck were the most common types of injuries involving pedal cycles.
- Overall, nearly 3 of 10 children suffered an injury to the head with 3% suffering a traumatic brain injury, 8% of injuries were superficial injuries such as contusions and 17% were open wounds. There was no information regarding bicycle helmet use.

Residence of Children Injured by Pedal Cycles



- Hialeah (33010 and 33013) was the area of the county that experienced the highest rate of child pedal cycle injury based on both the high injury rates and the number of incidents that occurred in these zip codes (37 and 23 injuries respectively).
- The zip codes of 33035, 33129 and 33031, although having 3 of the 4 highest injury rates, are based on low numbers of injuries (8, 7 and 5 injuries respectively) and these rates are very unstable.

Reducing the Risk of Pedal Cycle Injury



These safety tips can help reduce the risk of injury from pedal cycles:

Wear a helmet!

- Not only is it the law, but helmets save lives and decrease head injuries in a crash.
- Get a helmet with your child's first tricycle or bicycle or if riding with an adult.
- Buy the helmet when you buy the bike!
- Kids are more likely to wear a helmet if parents do.
- The right helmet fits straight on the head and does not move around when buckled

Ride Safely

- Pick a bike that is the right size for your child now, not one they will grow into.
- Ride during the day - not at dusk or night when it is hard to be seen.
- Young children should stay on sidewalks until they can judge traffic and obey traffic rules.

Child Passengers

- Children less than one year of age should not ride as passengers.
- Only an experienced adult should take a child on a bicycle. Be aware of an altered center of gravity, and longer brake time when carrying a child as a passenger.
- A rear-mounted seat must have a high back and secure shoulder harness to support a sleeping child.
- Adults riding with children should stick to parks, bike paths and quiet streets, and ride slowly.

Produced by the Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance System

Data Sources: Hospital Discharge & Emergency Department Data

Agency for Health Care Administration

PHONE (IFCK): 305-804-7212 (MDCHD): 305-470-5649

E-MAIL: sdearwater@med.miami.edu

<http://dadehealth.org/injury/INJURYintro.asp>

