

Kids and Wheeled Sports Safety

Every hour, nearly 50 children visit emergency departments with an injury related to **bikes, scooters, skates or skateboards.**



Serious head injuries (concussions, internal injuries and fractures) made up 11% of ED visits across the four wheeled sports.

19% of hospital admissions for **scooter injuries** to children in 2015 were because of a **head injury.**

Fractures to the **shoulder, arm, elbow, wrist or hand** were the most frequent diagnoses for hospital admissions.



Almost 40% of parents of children ages 5-14 years indicated that their **child did not always wear a helmet** when participating in one of the four wheeled sports.



Among parents who say they **always wear a helmet** when riding a bike, 86% say their child also does. However, among parents who say they **never wear a helmet**, only 38% say their child always does.

Always



86%



Never



38%



Reasons why parents report their **children do not always wear a helmet:**

47% Parents think area is safe/View child as experienced/Don't see helmets as necessary.



Why no helmet?

27% Child finds helmet uncomfortable.

24% Other kids don't wear one.

22% Child thinks helmets aren't cool.



Top Tips to Keep Kids Safe on Wheels

- All riders should wear a properly-fitted helmet. It is the best way to prevent head injuries and death.
- Ensuring correct fit of a helmet can increase comfort and use.
- Knee pads and elbow pads are recommended for scooters, skaters and skateboarders. Wrist guards are also recommended for skaters and skateboarders.

**SAFE
KIDS**
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