



Injuries at Home: Children's Hospital Admissions in Alberta

INJURY PREVENTION CENTRE

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INJURIES AT HOME: CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS IN ALBERTA

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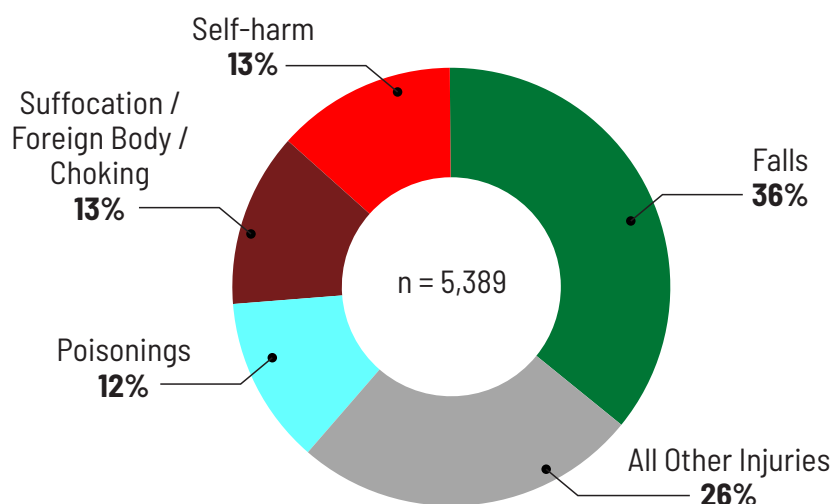
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What is considered an 'at home' injury?

This report discusses injuries to children and youth that have occurred in a home environment as defined by the ICD-10-CA code U98.0 (Place of occurrence: home) which includes:

- Apartment Boarding-house
- Caravan [trailer] park, residential Farmhouse
- Home premises House (residential)
- Noninstitutional place of residence; Private:
 - driveway to home
 - garage
 - garden to home
 - yard to home
- Swimming-pool in private house or garden

Leading Cause of At-home Injury Hospital Admissions, Alberta, 2011–2020



In Alberta, between 2011 and 2020, there were 5,389 hospital admissions documented for children 0–14 years of age being injured at home. This equates to 539 home injury hospital admissions each year.

Falls were the leading cause of at-home injury hospital admissions of children, accounting for 36% of admissions over the 10 years (n=1,938).

This was followed by self-harm injuries accounting for 13% with 716 admissions.

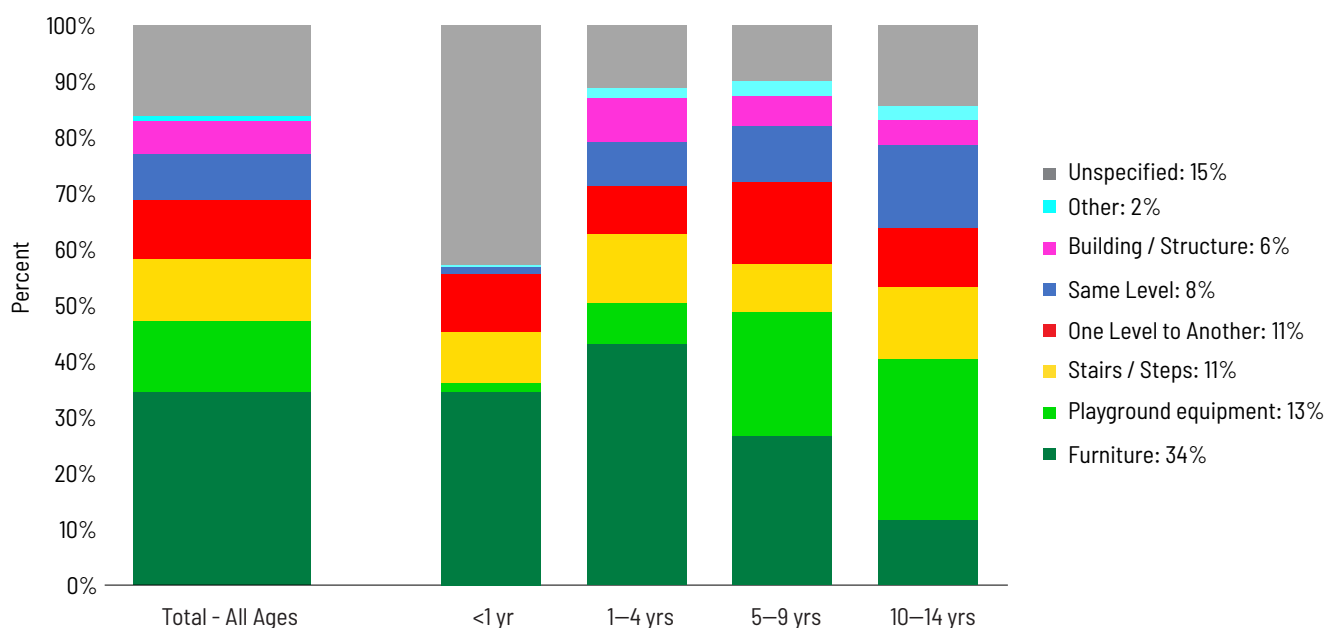
Admissions due to suffocation / foreign body / choking accounting for 13%, with 693 hospital admissions between 2011 and 2020.

Poisonings (unintentional and undetermined) was the fourth leading cause, accounting for 12% with 667 admissions.

All other injury admissions accounted for 26%, with 1,375 admissions over the 10 years.

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At-home Fall Injury Hospital Admissions, Alberta, 2011-2020



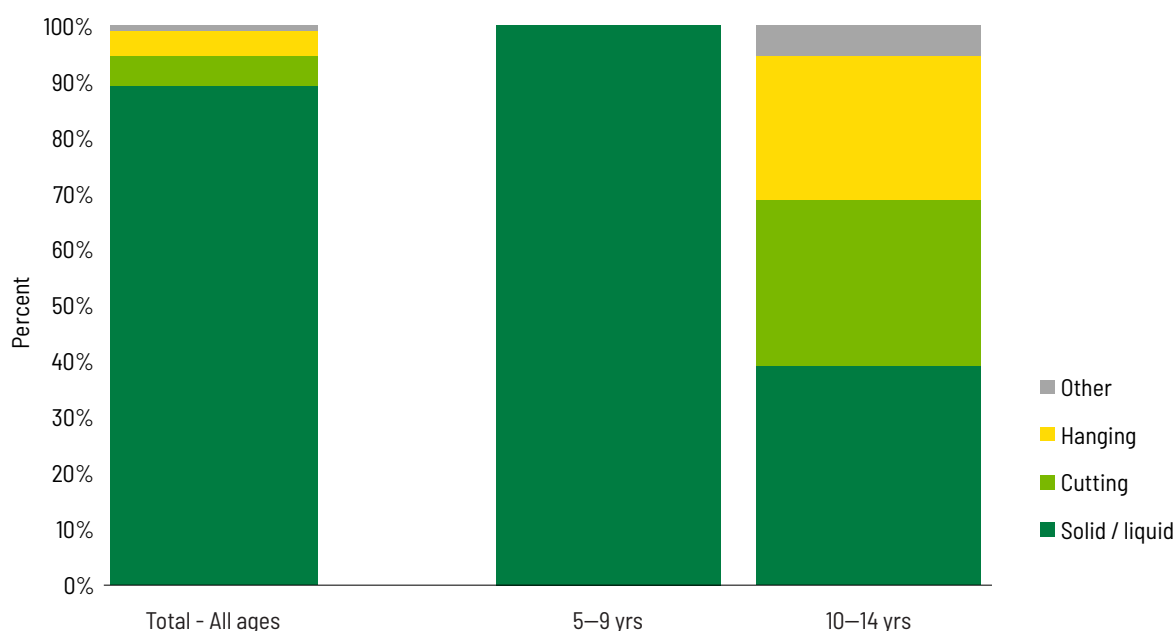
Falls Hospital Admissions, Overview, Alberta, 2011-2020

- In total, there were 1,938 falls at home that resulted in a hospital admission
- Falls from furniture accounted for 34% of admissions (n=668)
- Falls from playground equipment at home accounted for 13% of admissions (n=246)
- Falls on stairs / steps and falling from one level to another accounted for 11% of admissions (n= 213 and 207, respectively)
- Falling on the same level accounted for 8% of admissions (n=160)
- Falling from a building / structure accounted for 6% of admissions (n=113)
- Other falls accounted for 2% of admissions (n=28)
- Unspecified falls accounted for 15% of admissions (n=293)

Falls by Age Group, Alberta, 2011-2020

- Falls from furniture was the leading cause for all age groups, except those 10 to 14 years of age, for whom the leading cause was falls from playground equipment at home.
 - less than 1 year of age falls from furniture accounted for 34% of fall-related admissions
 - 43% for those 1 to 4 years of age
 - 27% for children 5 to 9 years of age
- Falls from playground equipment at home accounted for 29% of fall-related hospital admissions for those 10 to 14 years of age.

Self-Harm Injury Hospital Admissions, Alberta, 2011-2020



Self-Harm Hospital Admissions, Overview, Alberta, 2011-2020

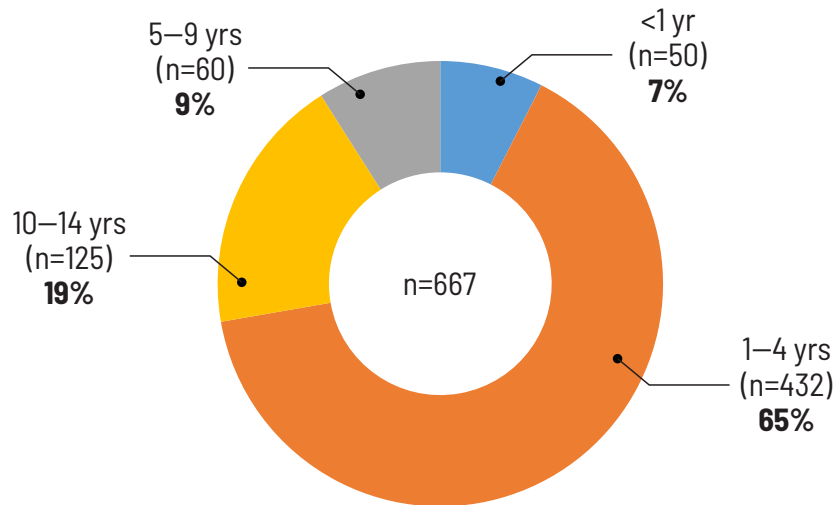
- In total there were 716 self-harm injuries at home that resulted in a hospital admission.
- The vast majority (89%) of the self-harm hospital admissions involved ingestion of solid / liquid (often medications) (n=638).
- Self-harm from cutting or hanging each accounted for 5% with 38 and 33 admissions respectively.
- All other self-harm accounted for 1% with 7 hospital admissions.

Self-Harm by Age Group, Alberta, 2011-2020

- There were no self-harm admissions for children less than 5 years of age.
- 100% of the those 5 to 9 years of age admitted to hospital due to self-harm involved ingestion of solid / liquid (often medications), with 2 admissions.
- 89% of the self-harm admissions of children 10 to 14 years involved ingestion of solid / liquid (often medications), with 638 admissions.
- Self-harm by cutting or hanging each accounted 5%, with 38 and 33 hospital admissions respectively.

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Poisoning (unintentional and undetermined) Injury Hospital Admissions by Age Groups, Alberta, 2011-2020



In total, there were 667 poisonings (unintentional and undetermined) which occurred at home.

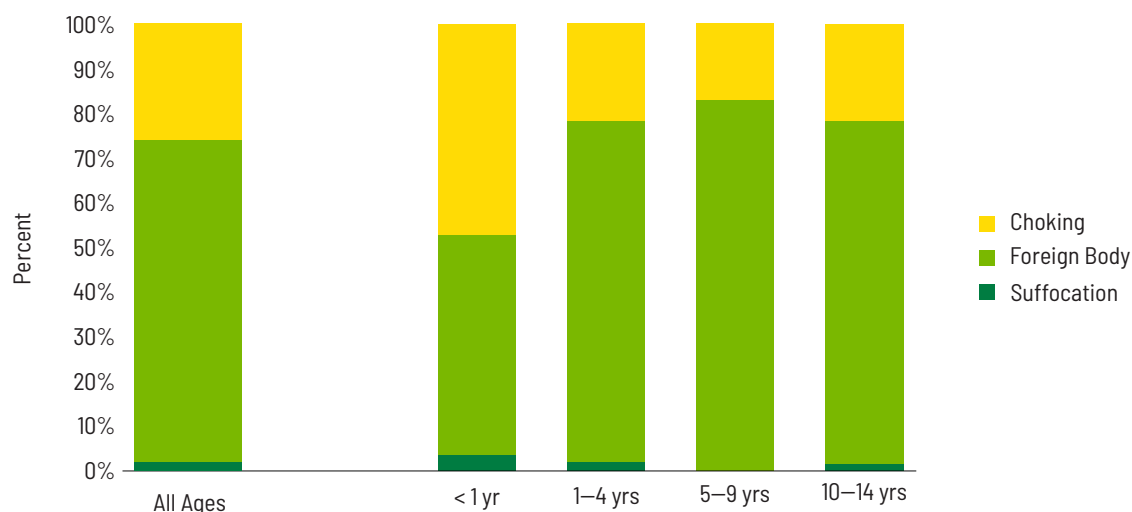
Infants less than 1 year of age accounted for 7% of the poisonings, with 50 hospital admissions over the 10 year period.

The vast majority of the poisonings (65%) at home occurred to children 1 to 4 years of age, with 432 admissions.

Another 9% of the poisonings at home occurred to children 5 to 9 years of age.

Children 10 to 14 year of age accounted for 19% of the poisoning admissions (n=125).

Suffocation / Foreign Body / Choking Injury Hospital Admissions by Age Groups, Alberta, 2011-2020



Definitions:

Suffocation includes: strangulation due to bed line, mother's body or pillow, other accidental hanging / strangulation, threats to breathing due to cave-in, falling earth and other substance, confined to or trapped in a low oxygen environment, suffocation by plastic bag, asphyxiation not otherwise specified, suffocation not otherwise specified.

Foreign Body includes: foreign body entering into or through eye or natural orifice.

Choking includes: inhalation of gastric contents, inhalation and ingestion of food / object causing obstruction of respiratory tract.

Suffocation / Foreign Body / Choking Hospital Admissions, Overview, Alberta, 2011-2020

- In total, there were 693 suffocation / foreign body / choking injuries at home that resulted in a hospital admission
- The vast majority (72%) of the hospital admissions were the result of a foreign body (n=499)
- 26% of admissions were the result of choking on food or object (n=180)
- 2% of admissions were the result of suffocation (n=14)

Suffocation / Foreign Body / Choking Hospital Admissions by Age Group, Alberta, 2011-2020

- 49% of infants less than 1 year of age were admitted due to foreign body obstruction; 47% due to choking
- 76% of children 1 to 4 years of age were admitted due to foreign body obstruction; 22% were admitted due to choking
- 83% of those 5 to 9 years of age were admitted due to foreign body obstruction; 17% were admitted due to choking
- 77% of the youth aged 10 to 14 were admitted due to a foreign body obstruction; 26% were admitted due to choking

If you would like additional information about this topic or other types of injuries, please visit <http://injurypreventioncentre.ca> or contact us via phone at **780.492.6019** or email ipc@ualberta.ca



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