



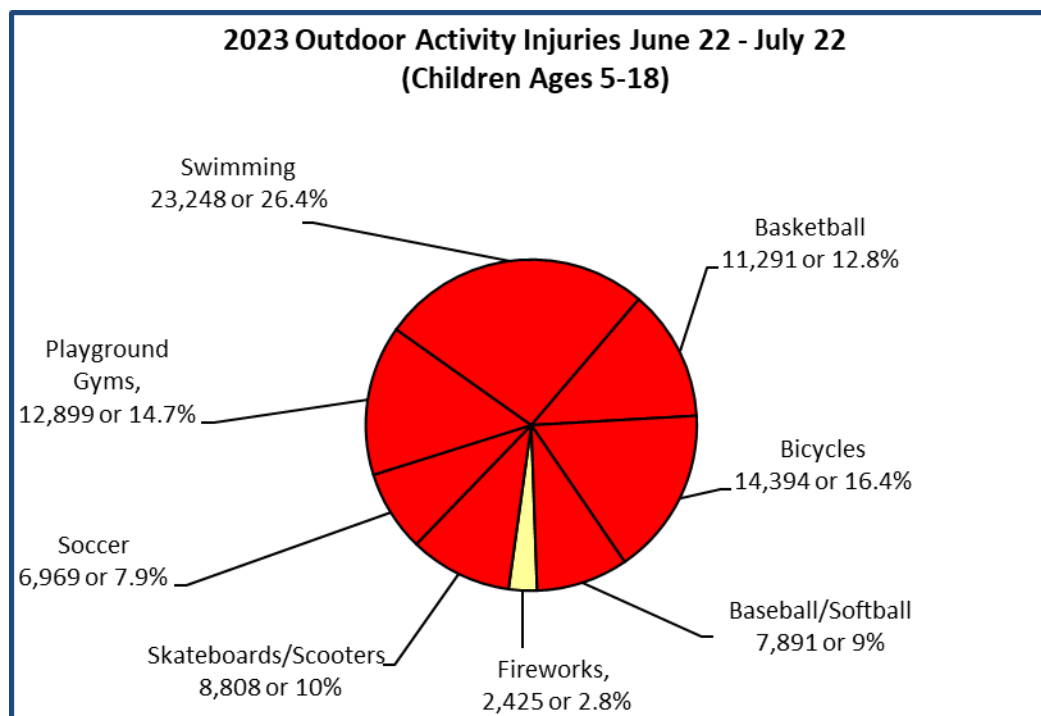
## Injuries to Children – The Facts

Children between the ages of 5 and 18 are by nature adventurous & experimental; thus much more likely to take risks. Because of this, children in this age group require close adult supervision – particularly when engaging in outdoor activities where they may be at risk for injury. While each year some interest groups use the Independence Day holiday to single out fireworks for their injury potential for children – at times urging outright prohibition -- the statistical facts speak otherwise.

Fireworks-related injuries are actually among the **lowest** when compared to other summertime outdoor activities. Data collected through the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) indicates the extent to which children in this age group incur injuries as a result of product-related outdoor activities. Just how do fireworks-related injuries compare to other summertime outdoor activities – particularly around the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday period?

While nearly 70% of the total annual fireworks related injuries for children in this age bracket occur in the period between mid-June and mid-July, according to data from NEISS, they account for less than 3% of those attributed to other common pastimes enjoyed during the Independence Day season<sup>1</sup>.

The fireworks industry is committed to providing the safest products available. Through efforts such as the APA’s Safety & Education Foundation it has demonstrated its commitment to educating the public on the proper ways to safely enjoy the American tradition of celebrating with backyard fireworks. As with all outdoor activities, vigilant adult supervision is the key to avoiding injury and unnecessary trips to the doctor. When safety rules and common sense are observed, families can safely enjoy backyard fireworks activities this 4<sup>th</sup> of July.



<sup>1</sup> 2023 NEISS Estimates; CPSC National Injury Information Clearinghouse