



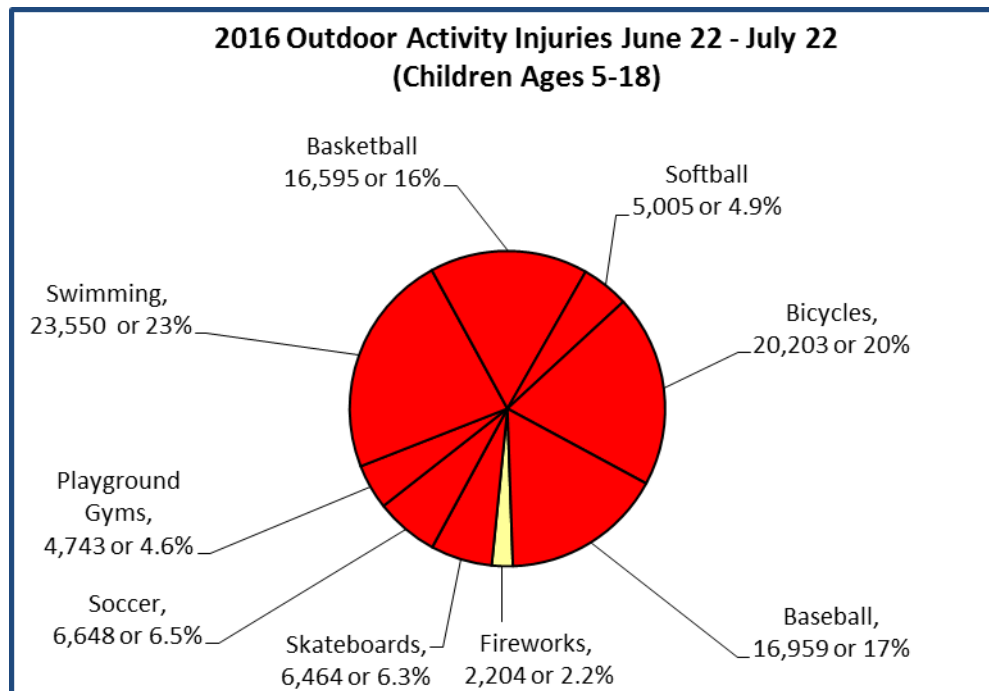
## Injuries to Children – The Facts

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 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 time period?

While over two thirds of the total annual fireworks related injuries for children in this age bracket occur in the period between mid-June and mid-July, a study released in 2010 by the American Academy of Pediatrics noted that they remain less than 4% 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 as well as 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> Pediatrics, “Epidemiology of Pediatric Holiday-Related Injuries Presenting to US Emergency Departments” April 5, 2010

<sup>2</sup> 2016 NEISS Estimates; CPSC National Injury Information Clearinghouse