



TOTS Brief

The Oklahoma Toddler Survey

What is TOTS?

TOTS stands for The Oklahoma Toddler Survey and is a two year follow-back survey to the Oklahoma PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) survey. TOTS was developed in 1994 to provide a glimpse into the health of Oklahoma's toddler population on key topics such as insurance, childcare, safety, illness and injury as well as family structure and demographics.

Mothers with live infants who respond to the PRAMS

survey are sent a TOTS survey the month their child turns two years of age. Like PRAMS, TOTS is a mixed-mode surveillance system. Two mail surveys are sent in an effort to gain participation followed by telephone surveillance for non-respondents. The response rate for 2004-2006 data was 71.3%. Data were weighted to represent the two-year-olds' birth cohort for a given year.

TOTS data are used to inform policy and practice.

Data are available for agencies and programs for grant applications, training purposes and Maternal and Child Health Block Grant (Title V) priority setting and monitoring.

Please contact Alicia Lincoln, PRAMS/TOTS Projects Manager, at the Oklahoma State Department of Health for more information about TOTS at 405-271-6761 or alicial@health.ok.gov

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In Oklahoma:

- 13.5% of toddlers have had a serious injury requiring medical attention in the past 12 months.
- The most common cause of injury was a fall (49%).
- The second most common injury was a cut (19%).
- No significant differences were found between maternal demographic groups (race, education, marital status) and prevalence of toddler injury.

Injuries Requiring Medical Attention

Unintentional childhood injuries contribute to more childhood morbidity and mortality than any other cause.¹

Nationally, unintentional falls were the number one reason for emergency room visits due to nonfatal injuries for children 1-4 (and for all children under 14 years of age).¹ Currently,

Oklahoma ranks 15th worst in the nation for unintentional injury deaths to children under 15.¹

The TOTS survey asks mothers "During the past 12 months, was your two year old injured seriously enough that he/she got medical advice or treatment?" For Oklahoma's toddler population more

than one in ten (13.5%) mothers answered affirmatively in 2004-2006.

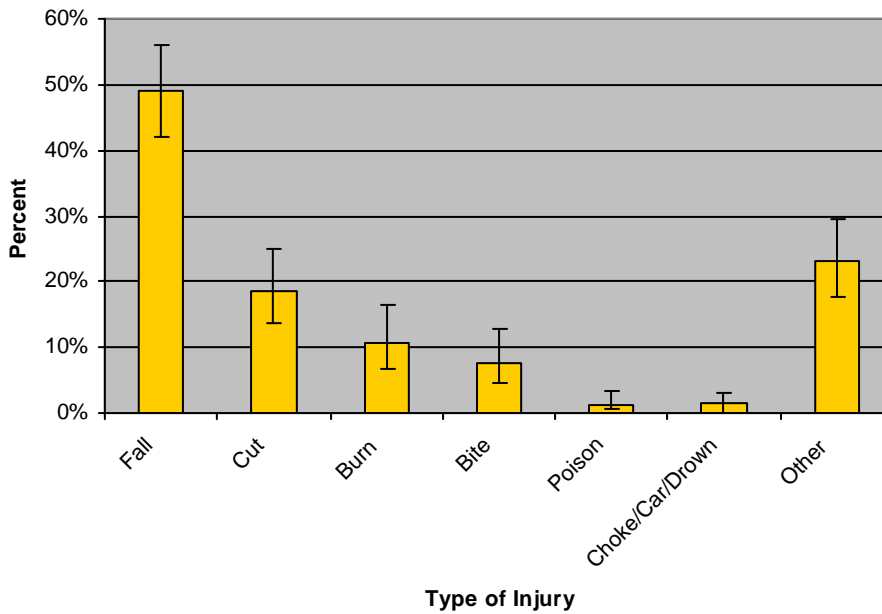
Of those injured, approximately half were due to a fall (49%). The remaining half were injured by cuts (19%); bites (8%); burns (11%); poison (1.5%); and other (23%). Choking, drowning, and motor vehicle accidents combined ...

(Continued on other side)



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Figure 1: Types of Injuries Requiring Medical Attention for Oklahoma's Toddlers: TOTS 2004-2006



Acknowledgements

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Forty-nine percent of all injuries to toddlers in Oklahoma were associated with falls.

Injuries, Continued...

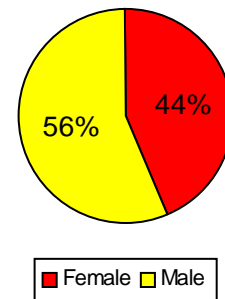
...were responsible for 1.5% of all serious injuries to Oklahoma toddlers (See Figure 1). Examples of injuries in the "other" category included broken bones, jammed fingers, swallowed objects, and dental and eye injuries, among others.

Boys were more likely than girls to have a serious injury requiring medical attention or advice (15.1% vs. 11.7%). Of those toddlers with injuries, 56% were male (See Figure 2).

When comparing maternal demographics to determine if certain characteristics of mothers were more likely to indicate risk of injury, no differences were found for race, education, and marital status.

Toddler health insurance status also did not appear to mitigate the risk of injury requiring medical attention; toddlers with injuries were as likely to have insurance as toddlers without injuries (91.6% vs. 90.6%).

Figure 2: Injuries for Males Vs. Females; TOTS 2004-2006



Reference

1. Morton, S., Spicer, R, Korn, A, Thomas, S, Jones, P. *Safe Kids U.S. Summer Safety Ranking Report* (Washington, DC: Safe Kids Worldwide, May 2007).