

Mechanical forces – crushing, cutting, piercing, jamming injuries from objects

Summary

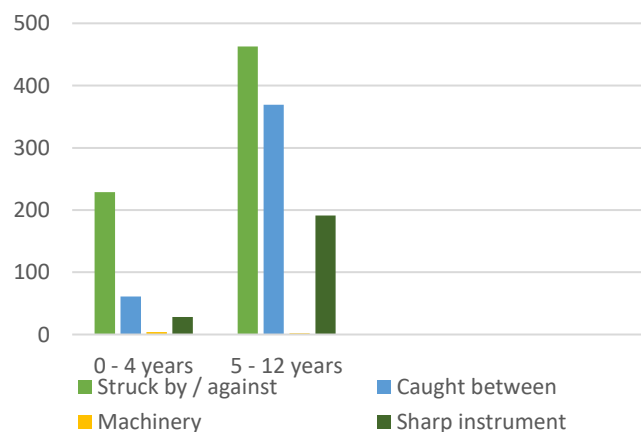
- This is the 2nd leading cause of injury in children.
- 1 730 children were treated for mechanical force injuries.
- Children under 5 years have the highest rate of mechanical force injury and are especially prone to being caught, crushed, jammed, or pinched between objects.
- Older children more often injured from glass or being struck against or by objects



We can help prevent mechanical force injuries in children by:

- Using safety glass in homes in furniture, windows and doors
- Securing TVs and other furniture to the wall
- Installing stops on drawers to keep them from being pulled all the way out
- Rearranging household items by storing heavy objects on lower shelves or in lower drawers. Avoid placing items where kids might be tempted to climb up or reach for them
- Home visitation programmes to support parents to create a safer home environment.
- Spotting and removing sharp and pointed objects at home and play areas.

Leading cause of injury by age group



Children 5 to 12 years were injured 1.5 times more than younger children

Nearly 50% of injuries in under 4 years were caused by being struck by an object, pinched or jammed between objects

Contact with sharp instruments and objects were 5 times higher in children 5 years and older, than the younger group