

Traumatic Brain Injury IN KIDS AND TEENS Can Impact School Performance

More kids suffer TBI than ever before.

Half a million children get medical treatment for TBI each year.

U.S. emergency departments treat over **170,000** sports and recreation-related **TBIs**, including **concussions**, in children and teens, each year.

70%

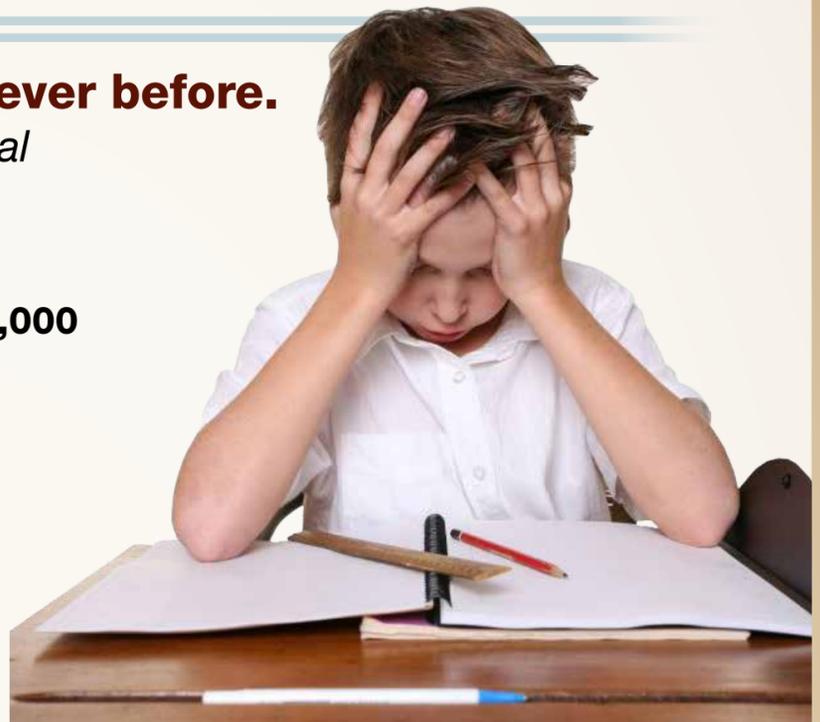
Children between **10 and 19 years old** account for **70%** of these visits.

60%

These visits have **increased by 60%** during the last decade.

Certain youth activities account for most TBI events in children and teens.

- Overall, the activities associated with the greatest number of TBI-related **emergency visits** included bicycling, football, playground activities, basketball, and soccer.
- Young children up to age 9 hurt themselves most often **on the playground** or when bicycling.
- Most injuries for boys ages 10–19 happen while playing **football** or **bicycling**; for girls the same ages, playing **soccer** or **basketball** or **bicycling**.



How TBI can impact a child:

- > problems reading
- > struggles with school work and **poor grades**
- > tinnitus
- > hearing loss
- > balance problems
- > attention and **memory problems**
- > increased time to process information
- > **trouble learning** new things
- > need for special help in school
- > problems talking with friends or doing favorite activities
- > **trouble focusing** on tasks and staying organized



Are there warning signs parents can look for? YES.

If TBI has occurred, your child may:

- appear **dazed** or stunned
- **seem confused** about what he or she is supposed to do in the game
- **forget** instructions
- be unsure about the game, score, or opponent
- have balance issue
- answer questions slowly
- **lose consciousness** (even brief loss of consciousness is a cause for concern)
- shows mood, behavior, or **personality changes**
- be unable to recall events that occurred before or after the hit or fall

Stop your child's play and seek medical attention if you are concerned. Prompt diagnosis and proper treatment is critical. More information is available on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website at <http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/youth>.



Also, your school's speech-language pathologist can help. In addition, you can find certified speech-language pathologists and audiologists through the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association at www.asha.org/findpro