

Facts about Brain Injuries

Brain Injuries, or **Acquired Brain Injuries (ABIs)**, cause damage to the brain, and occur after birth from cerebral vascular events (strokes), lack of oxygen to the brain, etc. These include **Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs)**, which are caused by external sources which jolt the head or body, or penetrate the skull, causing an alteration in brain function. **Concussion is a form of TBI!**



In New York State, **more than 500 people** sustain a brain injury each day.³ **Prevalence is estimated to be 50% higher than reported.**⁴

At Greatest Risk of TBI⁵

Children 0–4

Teens 15–19

Adults 65 & Older



Every 10 seconds a person sustains a brain injury (BI) in the U.S. which can result in lifelong disability, especially if not properly treated.⁶

Top Sports/Recreation Causes of TBI in U.S.⁷

Cycling	85,400
Football	47,000
Baseball/Softball	38,400
Basketball	35,000
Water Sports	29,000
Soccer	24,200
Skateboard/Scooters	23,000
Winter Sports	17,000
Horse Riding	14,500
Gymnastics /Cheerleading	10,200
Golf	10,000

Leading Causes of TBI in NYS²

Falls

Struck By/Against

Vehicular Crashes

Assaults



Department of Health

References

1. National Institutes of Health (NIH), www.ninds.nih.gov/disorders/tbi/tbi.htm and <https://stroke.nih.gov/materials/needtoknow.htm> ; *Centers for Disease Control and Injury Prevention*, www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/basics.html; Brain Injury Association of America, www.biausa.org/FAQRetrieve.aspx?ID=43913
2. New York State Department of Health, *Incidence of TBI Data from Hospital Emergency Department and Inpatient Hospitalizations in New York State, Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS)*, www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/traumatic_brain_injury/
3. Incidence of TBI and Stroke Data from *Hospital Emergency Department and Inpatient Hospitalizations in New York State, Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS)*, www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury_prevention/docs/tbi_byyear.pdf; www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/hospital/h5.htm; and www.health.ny.gov/statistics/chac/mortality/d13.htm
4. American Association of Neurological Surgeons, www.aans.org/patient%20information/conditions%20and%20treatments/sports-related%20head%20injury.aspx The report notes, "Reported incidence is known to be significantly underreported (up to 50%, McCrea *Clin J Sports Med* 13:13-17, 2004) and do not reflect those that are treated by family doctors or other para-medical professionals (Faul et al., 2010)"
5. *CDC Report to Congress, January 2016*: www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/pdf/tbi_report_to_congress_epi_and_rehab-a.pdf; and New York State Department of Health, www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/traumatic_brain_injury/risk.htm
6. The US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Injury Prevention estimates 2.5 million reported traumatic brain injuries in the U.S. annually: *CDC Report to Congress, January 2016*, https://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/pdf/tbi_report_to_congress_epi_and_rehab-a.pdf, p.19; plus another 800,000 victims of stroke: National Institutes of Health, https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/documents/factbook/2012/chapter4#4_5; and CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/stroke/facts.htm> These statistics, divided by the 86,400 seconds in a day, gives an average of 1 person sustaining a brain injury about every 10 seconds.
7. American Association of Neurological Surgeons, www.aans.org/patient%20information/conditions%20and%20treatments/sports-related%20head%20injury.aspx; United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, <https://www.cpsc.gov/Research--Statistics/Sports--Recreation>