

safekids
Aotearoa

TŪMATAKAHUKI

Policy Watch



August 2021

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Kia ora koutou, Bula Vinaka, Kia Orana, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Malo ni, Fakalofa Atu

On behalf of the Safekids Aotearoa team, we hope that this newsletter finds you and your whānau well this Spring.

Safekids Tūmatakahuki: Policy Watch covers the latest news, research and policy development relevant to our work. It highlights issues that influence unintentional child injuries which directly or indirectly impact child, youth and whānau wellbeing. We send out our updates as a monthly newsletter which you can subscribe to [here](#).

The Meaning Behind the Name

Tūmatakahuki is a vertical stake (rod) that passes down the middle of all well-made traditional tukutuku panels. Tukutuku panelling is a traditional Māori art form that is part of the traditional wall construction used inside Whare tīpuna (meeting houses). The stake is fixed to the face of the

panel's horizontal rods by a special stitch. The stitch is considered to have a decorative function, however, its purpose is fundamental to the structural integrity of the **tukutuku** panel by securing the horizontal rods in place.

The purpose behind an important piece that binds the structure of the **tukutuku** panel enables the different aka (vines) to be weaved through each rod. In this way, the **tūmatakahuki** ensures the structure is solid, safe and integral. We hope that this newsletter is stake that solidifies and strengthens our unintentional injury network. It aims to protect our young tamariki from preventable harm.



Ngā tūmatakahuki o Safekids Aotearoa

Whānau stories

We love helping to tell the stories of people in our community.

You can watch some of our whānau stories on our [Facebook page](#) or on [our website](#).

Keep an eye out for more of our stories coming to a screen near you soon.

If you want to get involved and tell your story or have people in your lives who have interesting stories to tell, get in touch with us at safekidsaotearoa@adhb.govt.nz.

COVID-19

With Aotearoa currently at alert level 2 and Auckland at alert level 4 it means most of us are staying home and keeping to our bubbles. We all still need to be vigilant and keep track of where we have been and where we are going. Symptoms of COVID-19 include **fever, a new or worsening cough, runny nose, loss of smell or taste, sore throat and shortness of breath.**

If you experience any of the symptoms aforementioned please get tested stay home and call Healthline on **0800 358 5453** or your doctor if you are still feeling unwell, especially if you have the symptoms noted above. Healthline is free and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also refer to the [official COVID-19 website](#) for more information.

Let's do it for our community, for our families and ourselves.

#ProtectOurWhakapapa



Child and Whānau-Centred Policy

The societal cost of unintentional childhood injuries in Aotearoa

Key Points

- Approximately 66 children (0–14 years) die from unintentional injuries each year, and unintentional injury is the leading cause of death in 1- to 14-year-olds. Tamariki Māori are 3.4 times more likely to die from unintentional injuries than European children.
- An additional 7,700 hospitalisations occur as a result of these injuries every year.
- 257,000 children experienced unintentional injury in 2014, resulting in direct and indirect costs of almost \$400 million.
- It's about the seriousness of injury, not just the basic injury rate. Children living with the highest levels of socioeconomic deprivation had the highest rate of hospital admission following injury. This is particularly the case for tamariki Māori.
- The proportional loss in discretionary income arising from an injury was higher for Māori and Pacific compared to non-Māori and non-Pacific households. So the household impact of managing a childhood injury is greatest for Māori and Pacific households with low incomes."

Summary

The researchers used information from ACC claims and hospitalisation events to look at the rate and impact of unintended injuries for children aged 0 to 14. They estimated the cost of health care to treat injuries, and the costs in productivity loss caused by managing unintended injuries for children. They found that the overall cost of unintended childhood injury in Aotearoa was nearly \$400 million every year.

Māori children, and those in low-income households, tended to have more serious injuries, with higher rates of hospitalisation for each injury sustained. The impact of an injury, for example in taking time off work to attend health care appointments, is disproportionately higher for Māori, Pacific and low-income families.

You will need to pay to read the full report [here](#).

He pūrongo whakahaumarū huarahi mō ngā iwi Māori - Summary of the Māori road safety outcomes report

The Road to Zero 2030 strategy calls out that more work is needed to understand the relatively high levels of road trauma for Māori. Waka Kotahi are working with the Road to Zero partners to commence this work and will be partnering with Māori to co-design activities that reduce road trauma and support Māori. This work is being undertaken over three phases, each building on the last.

This report summarises the findings of an in-depth research piece, conducted by Waka Kotahi, that provides strong grounding for future work.

The literature, research and data review used in the report indicated that Māori are over-represented in death and serious injuries (DSIs) from road crashes.

You can read the full report [here](#).

The impact of respiratory disease in New Zealand: 2020 update

Chronic and serious respiratory illnesses continue to make a substantial contribution to New Zealand's health burden. Respiratory diagnoses accounted for 1 in 10 of all 2019 overnight hospitalisations in New Zealand.

While inequalities have generally reduced since the previous report, they continue to be unacceptably high.

All indicators showed inequalities in health by ethnic group. Pacific peoples and Māori shared the highest respiratory health burden. Pacific hospitalisation rates were consistently highest across all indicators except for asthma and COPD, where Māori rates were higher. Māori had highest mortality rates for total respiratory disease, asthma and COPD; bronchiectasis and childhood pneumonia mortality rates were highest in Pacific peoples. Asian peoples' rates, however, were generally the same as or lower than the non-Māori, non-Pacific, non-Asian (non-MPA) comparison group.

You can read the full report [here](#).

Upcoming events and conferences



Te Wiki o te Reo Māori 2021

For more info [click here](#)

Pacific Language weeks

For more info [click here](#)

If you have an event that you would like us to share email it to safekidsaotearoa@adhb.govt.nz.

Submissions & Bills to add your voice to

[Fair Trading Amendment Bill](#)

This bill amends the Fair Trading Act 1986 to introduce new protections against unfair practices by prohibiting unconscionable conduct in trade and by extending the Act's existing protections against unfair contract terms in standard form consumer contracts to also apply to small trade contracts. This bill also strengthens the ability of consumers to require uninvited direct sellers to leave or not enter their property.

Status: Royal Assent

[Hazardous Substances and New Organisms \(Hazardous Substances Assessments\) Amendment Bill](#)

This bill amends the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 to improve the assessment

and reassessment of hazardous substances.

Status: Select Committee

[Social Security \(Subsequent Child Policy Removal\) Amendment Bill](#)

This bill proposes to remove the subsequent child policy from the Social Security Act 2018 and Social Security Regulations 2018. The amendment removes the current penalty that kicks in for parents having an additional child while on a benefit.

Status: Second Reading

[Sunscreen \(Product Safety Standard\) Bill](#)

This bill requires the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to recommend the setting of mandatory regulation under section 29 of the Fair Trading Act 1986 prescribing a product safety standard for sunscreen products.

Status: Select Committee

Product recalls

The following products have been recalled in the month (click on the title for full details):

[nood cosy home LED Light](#)

The button batteries in the product may be easily accessible. If young children gain access to a button battery and ingest it, they may suffer internal burns, which can result in serious injuries or death.

[Marin Bicycles - various](#)

The bottom bracket axle can snap. If the axle snaps, the rider could lose control of the bicycle and have an accident. The sharp edges where it snaps could also cause cuts.

[D&D Technologies - SureClose® READYFIT 180° Hinge-Closer Kits](#)

The closers may not fully self-close a gate as expected. If a gate remains unclosed it won't prevent unintended access as designed.

If a young child accesses the pool or spa area unsupervised, the situation could lead to drowning.



News from across the whenua

[Tamariki Māori more likely to die of unintentional injury - study](#)

Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death in children in New Zealand, and tamariki Māori are 3.4 times more likely to die from accidents than Pākehā children.

[Māori increasingly over-represented in road-crash deaths and injury](#)

Māori are over-represented in death and serious injuries as a result of road crashes and a new report from the Transport Agency suggests the rate is increasing.

[Nearly 30 children have died in state care in New Zealand since 2017](#)

Nearly 30 children have died in state care since Oranga Tamariki's inception and an expert says the organisation has failed to deliver on its promises.

[Apple AirTags hit with child safety warning in Australia](#)

Australia's Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) is telling parents to keep Apple's AirTags away from children because of safety concerns.

[Educating all South Canterbury Health Board staff on te ao Māori](#)

South Canterbury District Health Board (SCDHB) staff are on a cultural education journey to improve their understanding of te ao Māori-centred practice and values, to enhance cultural safety and develop equity of health services.

[Taking care of you and your whānau when injury happens](#)

A life-changing injury can happen anywhere, any time.

[Returning to school poses a risk for children with respiratory illness - report](#)

A new report on New Zealand's respiratory health shows that huge inequity persists for Māori and Pasifika and returning to school can pose a risk for children with respiratory issues.

[New study aimed at getting the best start for Pasifika children](#)

A group of Pacific experts across a range of disciplines focused on children's health and development are motivated to find appropriate strategies to combat the inequities and failings for Pacific children and their families.

