



Children's Issues Technical Group

Newsletter 01 [Dec 2016]



**Human Factors and
Ergonomics Society**

Welcome to the Children's Issues Technical Group

Child-related issues in HFE focuses on the emerging development of a child in the context of product use in varied settings and environments such as home, school, vehicle, and recreation. The topic of children inevitably includes caretakers, which too is a main focus, particularly with respect to their physical and cognitive tasks. Some main topics of interest and research of the TG include injury prevention, communication methods, and satisfaction and comfort of children and their caregivers. Researchers, practitioners, manufacturers, policy makers, caretakers, and HFE students participate in information exchange.

Designing for children requires consideration of changing development and maturational processes while considering individual differences and cultural/ethnic differences.

Children mature at different rates and reach different levels at different stages.

Young children are particularly vulnerable in many ways, including the potential for injury from bad product design. Applying HFE principles, methods and research could be used to improve product designs that reduce injuries. Other important areas of interest are caretakers (parents, day care providers), educators (teachers, those

who maintain environments for children such as children's museums or amusement areas) and designers (of children's toys, car seats, or playgrounds).

Mental and physical workload, environmental interactions and tasks, up-to-date knowledge on how to nurture physical, social, motivational, and behavioral growth are some of the relevant issues. Basic data on anthropometrics and strength capabilities at different ages and among different cultures are needed.

MEMBERSHIP

The CITG consists of individuals who work in various areas pertaining to children's issues. The CITG seeks to foster the exchange of information among members and to promote the development and application of human factors data and principles to improve children's HFE. Although most CITG members are also members of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society, CITG membership may be obtained separately as well.

**Additional information on the CITG can be
obtained by contacting HFES.**

NEWS

Disparities in Child Passenger Safety

This CSN infographic focuses on the disparities in child passenger deaths and offers prevention strategies. Download a print version at <https://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/sites/childrensafetynetwork.org/files/CPS%20Disparities.pdf>

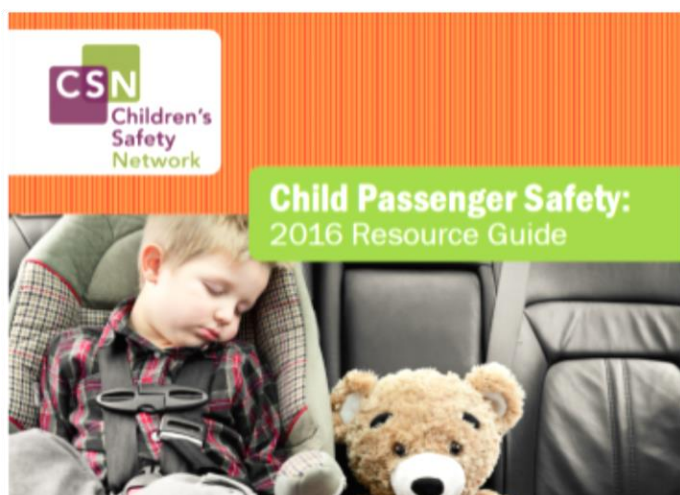
Source: *Childrens Safety Network, 2016*

Child Passenger Safety: 2016 Resource Guide

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death among children ages one through 14 (CDC, 2016). In 2013, an average of three children were killed and 470 were injured every day in motor vehicle crashes in the U.S. (NHTSA, 2015). Child passenger safety requires consistent use of correctly installed safety seats, booster seats, or seat belts that are appropriate for a child's size and age. Child safety seats, when used correctly, can reduce fatalities by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers (NHTSA, 2013).

Download Child Passenger Safety: 2016 Resource Guide from CSN Website <https://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/sites/childrensafetynetwork.org/files/ChildPassengerSafetyResourceGuide2016.pdf>

Source: *Childrens Safety Network, 2016*



The Facts On Childhood Drowning

Every year in the US, 3,572 people die from drowning. Nine hundred and forty-five of them are children. Children

account for one out of four drowning deaths. This infographic from the Children's Safety Network covers the demographics of drownings, locations of drownings, near drowning, and prevention. Swim safely this summer!

Download a print version of the infographic at https://www.childrensafetynetwork.org/sites/childrensafetynetwork.org/files/The%20Facts%20on%20Childhood%20Drowning%20-%20CSN%20Infographic_0.pdf

Source: *Childrens Safety Network, 2016*

HFES 2017



The Children's Issues TG welcomes you for the 2017 HFES Conference to be held in Austin, TX October 9-13. The TG received proposals relating to HF/E issues affecting children up to 18 years of age including the following topics:

- ✓ Child development
- ✓ Child safety
- ✓ Hazards/safety in environments where children live, play, and visit (i.e., home, school, vehicle, recreational, on-line)
- ✓ Injury prevention
- ✓ Children's motivation, behavior, physical and cognitive abilities and limitations
- ✓ Product design and usability
- ✓ Caregiver behavior including child supervision practices, caregiver workload, and decision-making

If you have any questions, please email Carol Pollack-Nelson, Ph.D., Program Chair, at pollacknel@comcast.net