

Keeping Kids Safe Around Medicine

Medicine Use Increasing

1980

1.4 billion prescriptions filled



2014

4 billion prescriptions filled



125 prescriptions filled every second

\$5.5 billion in over-the-counter sales



\$30.8 billion in over-the-counter sales



\$84 million in OTC sales every day

More Grandparents Living with Children

The number of children living in a household where a grandparent was the head of the household **more than doubled** between 1980 – 2014.

1980



2.2 million

2014



4.8 million

Today, **67% of grandparents** live with or within 50 miles of at least one grandchild.



Whose Medicine Are Kids Getting Into?

2014 emergency room visits; of the 26 percent of cases where details were reported.



48% grandparent's



38% parent's



7% sibling's

Where Are Kids Finding Medicine?

2014 emergency room visits; of the 17 percent of cases where details were reported.



23% pillbox



23% ground



19% purse or diaper bag



18% counter



8% reachable cabinet or refrigerator

What Products Are Kids Getting into?



pain/fever remedies



vitamins



allergy medicine



diaper rash products



eye drops



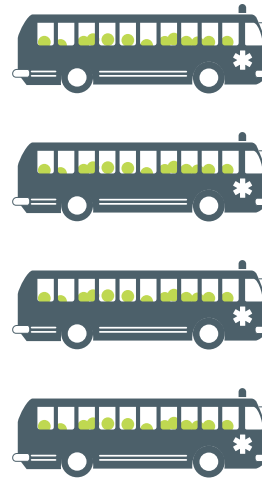
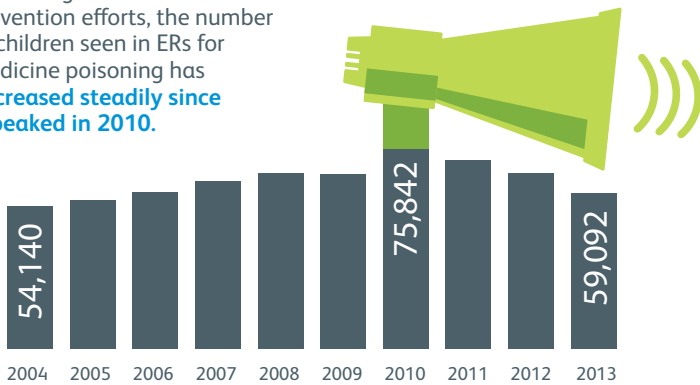
laxatives



vapor rubs with camphor

Children at Risk

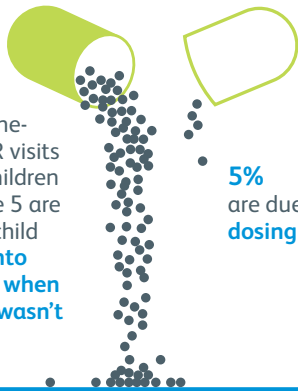
Coinciding with increased prevention efforts, the number of children seen in ERs for medicine poisoning has **decreased steadily since it peaked in 2010.**



AND YET, each year more than **59,000 young children are seen at emergency rooms** because they got into medicine.

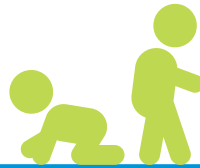
That's about **four busloads of kids** arriving at the ER each day.

95% of medicine-related ER visits among children under age 5 are due to a child **getting into medicine when an adult wasn't looking.**



5% are due to **dosing errors.**

1 and 2 year olds make up the majority (7 out of 10) of ER visits for medicine poisoning.



Almost every minute of every day there is a call to a poison control center because a young child got into medicine.

What Families Can Do to Protect Kids



Look around the places where kids find medicine and move all medicine up and away and out of sight.



Remember to check for all products that may cause harm, even those you might not think about as medicine.



Use the dosing device that comes with the medicine.



Write clear instructions for other people who give your child medicine.



Save the Poison Help line in your phone: **1-800-222-1222.**

For more medicine safety tips, visit www.safekids.org

**SAFE
KIDS**
WORLDWIDE™