



## U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

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Includes recalls from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

# CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY REVIEW

FALL 1999  
VOL. 4, NO. 2

## CO Poisoning

According to the latest data compiled by staff of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), heating systems continue to be one of the major causes of non-fire, non-motor vehicle carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.<sup>1</sup>

An estimated 217 people died as a result of this kind of CO poisoning during 1996, the most recent year with complete death certificate data. Of these deaths, heating systems were involved in 163 fatalities, or about 75% of all consumer product-related CO poisoning deaths (*Figure 1*).

Other consumer products reported to have been involved in CO poisoning deaths were charcoal grills (19), gas ranges and ovens (15), gas water heaters (8), and camp cooking stoves and lanterns (3).

Two-thirds of these deaths occurred in homes, including mobile homes and garages. The remaining incidents occurred in locations such as sport or recreational areas, streets or highways, and other remote areas, where the victims were spending the night in automobiles or trucks and/or camping.

### CO Injuries

In 1998, an estimated 7,700 people were treated in U. S. hospital emergency rooms for suspected non-fire, non-motor vehicle CO poisoning. Heating systems, primarily furnaces and heaters, contributed to an estimated 3,700 poisonings. The types of heating systems associated with these injuries included natural gas or liquid propane gas heating appliances (400), kerosene or oil heating systems (100), coal or wood heating systems (400), other fuel-powered heating systems (700), and unspecified fuel type heating systems (2,100). Other products reported as being involved in a CO poisoning incident included gas ranges and ovens, grills, portable generators and pumps, fuel-powered tools, and gas water heaters.

Each of the CO poisoning hazard scenarios reflects either product malfunctions resulting in high CO emissions and/or some failure to adequately remove the CO from the living or recreational environment.

### CO Poisoning Prevention

CO is a colorless, odorless, and poisonous gas that results from the incomplete combustion of fuels such as natural or liquid propane gas, oil, wood, coal, and other fuels. Many victims with CO poisoning have symptoms that are similar to colds and flu.

To prevent CO poisoning incidents, consumers need to make sure their appliances are properly installed, maintained, and used. A qualified professional should inspect all fuel-burning appliances each year. In addition, consumers

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should install a CO alarm, near all sleeping areas, that meets requirements of the most recent Underwriters Laboratories (UL) standard 2034 or the International Approval Services (IAS) standard.

— *Kimberly Ault, Ph.D., Directorate for Epidemiology*

**Reference**

1CPSC. Non-fire carbon monoxide deaths and injuries associated with the use of consumer products: annual estimates. Washington DC: June 1999.

**For More Information**

For a complete copy of this report, please visit CPSC's website at: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).

**Estimated Non-Fire Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Deaths by Consumer Product, 1992-1996**

Consumer Product	Average %	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96
HEATING SYSTEMS	74%	139	152	177	159	163
Unspecified Gas Heating	16%	24	44	59	26	22
LP Gas Heating	20%	43	27	35	51	54
Natural Gas Heating	10%	22	14	24	31	19
Coal/Wood Heating	3%	9	7	6	6	7
Kerosene/Oil Heating	4%	6	10	9	5	15
Heating Systems, Not Specified	20%	35	50	44	40	47
CHARCOAL GRILLS	10%	27	27	15	14	19
GAS WATER HEATERS	3%	6	11	7	5	8
CAMP STOVES, LANTERNS	5%	17	10	12	15	3
GAS RANGES/OVENS	4%	13	6	9	5	15
OTHER APPLIANCES	3%	9	7	3	3	8
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>217</b>

**Vent Pipes Recall**

In addition to having their fuel-burning appliances professionally checked, consumers also should have the vent pipes on their heating systems inspected. The high-temperature plastic vent (HTPV) pipes could crack or separate at the joints and leak carbon monoxide (CO).

In 1998, virtually the entire furnace and boiler industry, together with the manufacturers of HTPV pipes, joined with CPSC to announce a vent pipe corrective action program. The program's purpose is to replace, free of charge, an estimated 250,000 HTPV pipe systems attached to gas or propane furnaces or boilers in consumers' homes.

Consumers can check the vent pipes attached to their natural gas or propane furnaces or boilers to determine if they are part of this recall. The HTPV pipes can be identified as follows: they are plastic; they are colored gray or black; and they have the names "Plexvent<sup>®</sup>," "Plexvent<sup>®</sup>II" or "Ultravent<sup>®</sup>" stamped on the vent pipe or printed on stickers

placed on pieces used to connect the vent pipes together.

Consumers should also check the location of these vent pipes. For furnaces, only HTPV systems that have vent pipes that go through the sidewalls of structures (horizontal systems) are subject to this program. For boilers, all HTPV systems are subject to this program. Other plastic vent pipes, such as white PVC or CPVC, are not involved in this program.

After checking the vent pipes, consumers should call the Corrective Action Program toll-free at 800-758-3688, between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. ET, seven days a week, to verify that their appliance venting systems are subject to this program.

Consumers with eligible systems will receive new, professionally installed venting systems free of charge. Consumers who already have replaced their HTPV pipe systems may be eligible for reimbursement for some or all of the replacement costs.

# NEISS Data Highlights — 1998

CPSC's National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) collects current injury data associated with 15,000 categories of consumer products from U.S. hospital emergency departments across the country. Consisting of a national probability sample of hospitals of differing sizes and locations, NEISS provides national estimates of the number and types of consumer product-related injuries.

The 1998 NEISS estimates have been produced from an updated sample of 101 hospitals, including children's hospitals. Information from NEISS is available to the public through CPSC's National Injury Information Clearinghouse (phone: 301-504-0424). For information about NEISS, contact: Dr. Susan Ahmed (phone: 301-504-0470/ e-mail: saahmed@cpsc.gov).

Product Groupings	Estimated Number of Injuries*	CV*	Number of Injuries*	Estimated Rate of Product-Related Injuries* per 100,000 Population and <i>Estimated Number of Injuries*</i> (listed in <i>italic</i> ) in the United States and Territories that were treated in Hospital Emergency Departments									
				Age						Sex		Disposition	
				All Ages	00-04	05-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Male	Female	Treated & Rel.	Hosp. & DOA
<b>Child Nursery Equipment</b>													
All Nursery Equipment	84,908	.06	2,762	31.4	374.3	11.4	4.7	4.6	3.6	33.9	29.0	30.2	1.1
					<i>70992</i>	<i>4452</i>	<i>1761</i>	<i>6457</i>	<i>1246</i>	<i>44829</i>	<i>40079</i>	<i>81639</i>	<i>3097</i>
<b>Toys</b>													
All Toys	147,994	.06	4,139	54.8	363.8	124.9	23.9	13.1	7.9	68.8	41.4	53.7	1.0
					<i>69001</i>	<i>48924</i>	<i>8875</i>	<i>18409</i>	<i>2719</i>	<i>90800</i>	<i>57194</i>	<i>145059</i>	<i>2628</i>
<b>Sports &amp; Recreational Equipment</b>													
ATV's, Mopeds, Minibikes, etc.	145,258	.07	3,060	53.7	13.2	114.3	133.1	33.5	4.0	88.4	20.6	49.1	4.5
					<i>2503</i>	<i>44755</i>	<i>49523</i>	<i>47087</i>	<i>1389</i>	<i>116691</i>	<i>28415</i>	<i>132677</i>	<i>12275</i>
Amusement Attractions (incl. Rides)	19,211	.13	423	7.1	13.7	18.5	9.6	3.9	1.1	6.4	7.8	7.0	0.1
					<i>2590</i>	<i>7230</i>	<i>3570</i>	<i>5454</i>	<i>368</i>	<i>8403</i>	<i>10808</i>	<i>19049</i>	<i>162</i>
Barbecue Grills, Stoves, Equipment	17,769	.09	463	6.6	21.1	5.7	6.8	6.0	1.9	8.0	5.2	6.3	0.3
					<i>4006</i>	<i>2213</i>	<i>2530</i>	<i>8382</i>	<i>638</i>	<i>10546</i>	<i>7223</i>	<i>17036</i>	<i>733</i>
Baseball, Softball	312,821	.06	7,382	115.7	45.3	297.3	220.4	74.5	2.8	163.8	69.8	114.0	1.6
					<i>8586</i>	<i>116433</i>	<i>82005</i>	<i>104644</i>	<i>948</i>	<i>216236</i>	<i>96566</i>	<i>308181</i>	<i>4305</i>
Basketball	631,186	.06	15,966	233.5	18.9	508.0	787.5	96.0	2.1	390.9	83.1	230.9	2.3
					<i>3590</i>	<i>198934</i>	<i>293042</i>	<i>134869</i>	<i>732</i>	<i>516154</i>	<i>114844</i>	<i>624112</i>	<i>6301</i>
Beach, Picnic, Camping Equipment	16,949	.09	388	6.3	12.3	9.2	3.2	6.0	3.9	6.9	5.7	6.0	0.2
					<i>2336</i>	<i>3620</i>	<i>1195</i>	<i>8387</i>	<i>1326</i>	<i>9059</i>	<i>7890</i>	<i>16191</i>	<i>673</i>
Bicycles & Accessories	597,284	.05	15,784	221.0	217.9	819.7	248.0	93.1	33.9	324.7	121.5	210.7	9.8
					<i>41324</i>	<i>321004</i>	<i>92296</i>	<i>130855</i>	<i>11646</i>	<i>428752</i>	<i>167985</i>	<i>569585</i>	<i>26556</i>
Exercise, Exercise Equipment	215,831	.10	5,622	79.8	51.9	84.1	151.5	74.2	36.1	95.2	65.1	76.7	2.9
					<i>9847</i>	<i>32944</i>	<i>56367</i>	<i>104247</i>	<i>12427</i>	<i>125722</i>	<i>90025</i>	<i>207450</i>	<i>7872</i>
Football	355,247	.05	9,217	131.4	5.0	407.8	411.8	29.0	1.2	254.0	14.1	128.4	2.9
					<i>945</i>	<i>159724</i>	<i>153228</i>	<i>40743</i>	<i>400</i>	<i>335426</i>	<i>19547</i>	<i>347125</i>	<i>7908</i>
Hockey	78,570	.21	1,581	29.1	6.5	74.8	74.8	14.0	1.0	51.0	8.1	28.7	0.3
					<i>1239</i>	<i>29282</i>	<i>27842</i>	<i>19711</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>67278</i>	<i>11140</i>	<i>77646</i>	<i>904</i>
Horseback Riding	64,692	.11	1,354	23.9	5.1	33.4	26.6	28.1	3.7	18.1	29.5	21.1	2.7
					<i>964</i>	<i>13097</i>	<i>9891</i>	<i>39469</i>	<i>1271</i>	<i>23897</i>	<i>40795</i>	<i>57155</i>	<i>7191</i>
In-line Skating	110,783	.10	2,747	41.0	4.2	172.8	55.6	15.1	1.1	45.4	36.7	39.6	1.3
					<i>791</i>	<i>67668</i>	<i>20682</i>	<i>21262</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>60014</i>	<i>50703</i>	<i>107147</i>	<i>3635</i>
Lacrosse, Rugby, Misc. Ball Games	79,333	.09	1,987	29.3	15.1	103.4	57.0	10.0	2.2	40.7	18.5	28.6	0.6
					<i>2857</i>	<i>40479</i>	<i>21210</i>	<i>14006</i>	<i>761</i>	<i>53701</i>	<i>25632</i>	<i>77331</i>	<i>1667</i>

\* See page 7 for explanation.

## NEISS Data Highlights — Calendar Year 1998 cont.

Product Groupings	Estimated Number of Injuries*	CV*	Number of Injuries*	Estimated Rate of Product-Related Injuries* per 100,000 Population and <i>Estimated Number of Injuries*</i> (listed in <i>italic</i> ) in the United States and Territories that were treated in Hospital Emergency Departments									
				Age						Sex		Disposition	
				All Ages	00-04	05-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Male	Female	Treated & Rel.	Hosp. & DOA
Nonpowder Guns, BB'S, Pellets	23,500	.07	608	8.7	4.5	33.3	14.8	2.6	1.1	15.2	2.5	8.1	0.6
					859	13032	5512	3708	388	20097	3403	21882	1518
Playground Equipment	248,372	.05	7,580	91.9	346.8	426.0	16.4	6.3	2.3	101.0	83.1	88.2	3.5
					65776	166852	6116	8852	777	133358	114947	238389	9370
Racquet Sports	31,649	.13	738	11.7	1.1	12.9	18.0	11.1	12.0	15.2	8.3	11.2	0.5
					217	5051	6709	15558	4114	20118	11531	30369	1280
Skateboards	54,532	.13	1,222	20.2	7.9	70.6	57.9	2.7	0.1	36.4	4.6	19.5	0.6
					1500	27637	21555	3802	19	48115	6416	52723	1640
Skating (excl. In-line)	114,902	.08	2,874	42.5	14.0	166.1	47.0	20.1	4.3	34.5	50.1	41.4	1.1
					2657	65045	17481	28226	1493	45590	69312	111790	3046
Snowskiing, Snowboarding	—	—	2,157	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Soccer	169,734	.10	4,271	62.8	4.1	198.0	171.3	19.4	1.3	81.9	44.6	61.5	1.3
					785	77543	63742	27226	438	108082	61652	166186	3444
Swimming, Pools, Equipment	137,089	.13	3,204	50.7	71.9	146.1	63.3	27.2	12.5	57.5	44.2	48.4	2.3
					13632	57201	23556	38264	4284	75889	61134	130709	6105
Toboggans, Sleds, Snow Discs, etc.	16,381	.14	358	6.1	5.0	22.5	8.4	2.5	0.0	7.3	4.9	5.9	0.2
					955	8817	3143	3466	0	9667	6714	15820	561
Track & Field Activities, Equipment	15,560	.13	376	5.8	0.0	16.3	22.8	0.5	0.0	5.5	6.0	5.7	0.1
					6	6372	8501	681	0	7261	8300	15352	209
Trampolines	95,239	.09	2,424	35.2	48.1	169.2	35.7	4.6	0.4	37.1	33.5	33.8	1.4
					9119	66278	13289	6420	134	48964	46275	91473	3767
Volleyball	66,191	.07	1,452	24.5	0.4	42.6	75.8	15.0	0.5	20.8	28.0	24.3	0.2
					79	16698	28219	21014	180	27494	38697	65739	452
Water Skiing, Tubing, Surfing	28,761	.24	528	10.6	0.1	7.4	25.5	11.6	0.2	16.8	4.8	10.2	0.4
					25	2905	9476	16299	57	22182	6579	27495	1191
<b>Home Comm'n &amp; Entertainment</b>													
Sound Recording Equipment	41,976	.07	1,026	15.5	38.8	16.0	18.1	10.4	20.2	15.8	15.2	14.5	1.0
					7358	6276	6751	14656	6936	20909	21067	39163	2729
Television Sets & Stands	44,750	.05	1,187	16.6	78.6	17.9	10.9	10.1	13.4	18.8	14.4	16.0	0.6
					14905	7024	4055	14150	4614	24790	19960	43137	1532
<b>Personal Use Items</b>													
Cigarettes, Lighters, Fuel	17,015	.08	444	6.3	27.8	7.9	8.3	3.4	2.3	7.6	5.1	5.6	0.7
					5267	3110	3071	4784	784	10032	6983	15071	1821
Clothing	152,276	.07	3,582	56.3	46.4	74.2	63.4	46.0	76.0	51.5	60.8	52.8	3.4
					8806	29051	23580	64616	26139	68055	84018	142673	9249
Drug Poisonings to Children under 5	50,246	.10	1,654	18.6	264.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	19.5	17.7	16.3	2.2
					50246	0	0	0	0	25721	24525	44006	5948
Grooming Devices	26,900	.08	772	10.0	54.9	8.8	8.1	5.9	5.1	6.9	12.8	9.8	0.2
					10421	3446	3026	8239	1768	9162	17738	26372	489

\* See page 7 for explanation.

## NEISS Data Highlights — Calendar Year 1998 cont.

Product Groupings	Estimated Number of Injuries*	CV*	Number of Injuries*	Estimated Rate of Product-Related Injuries* per 100,000 Population and <i>Estimated Number of Injuries*</i> (listed in <i>italic</i> ) in the United States and Territories that were treated in Hospital Emergency Departments									
				Age						Sex		Disposition	
				All Ages	00-04	05-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Male	Female	Treated & Rel.	Hosp. & DOA
Protection Devices	11,245	.15	280	4.2	6.9	3.9	5.5	4.3	0.5	6.1	2.3	4.1	0.0
					<i>1309</i>	<i>1510</i>	<i>2055</i>	<i>6107</i>	<i>179</i>	<i>8045</i>	<i>3200</i>	<i>11142</i>	<i>19</i>
Razors, Shavers, Razor Blades	38,238	.09	914	14.1	13.0	10.1	24.6	13.9	8.8	18.7	9.8	13.9	0.2
					<i>2468</i>	<i>3967</i>	<i>9144</i>	<i>19564</i>	<i>3011</i>	<i>24691</i>	<i>13547</i>	<i>37570</i>	<i>462</i>
<b>Household Containers</b>													
Cans, Other Containers	255,695	.05	6,270	94.6	186.2	97.4	103.1	88.4	56.8	92.0	97.1	92.1	2.3
					<i>35313</i>	<i>38153</i>	<i>38362</i>	<i>124205</i>	<i>19540</i>	<i>121444</i>	<i>134251</i>	<i>249016</i>	<i>6194</i>
Glass Bottles, Jars	44,449	.09	1,126	16.4	23.7	22.1	32.3	12.3	5.8	20.4	12.7	16.1	0.3
					<i>4488</i>	<i>8661</i>	<i>12024</i>	<i>17282</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>26944</i>	<i>17504</i>	<i>43602</i>	<i>771</i>
<b>Yard &amp; Garden Equipment</b>													
Chain Saws	33,158	.08	663	12.3	0.5	1.9	11.1	17.6	10.1	23.9	1.1	11.7	0.5
					<i>92</i>	<i>728</i>	<i>4116</i>	<i>24733</i>	<i>3489</i>	<i>31587</i>	<i>1553</i>	<i>31702</i>	<i>1457</i>
Hand Garden Tools	31,156	.08	682	11.5	10.3	17.1	7.9	11.9	8.4	15.2	8.0	11.1	0.4
					<i>1959</i>	<i>6696</i>	<i>2937</i>	<i>16688</i>	<i>2876</i>	<i>20104</i>	<i>11033</i>	<i>30031</i>	<i>1125</i>
Hatchets, Axes	10,411	.11	205	3.9	1.5	5.3	4.8	4.1	1.2	7.0	0.8	3.8	0.1
					<i>286</i>	<i>2085</i>	<i>1789</i>	<i>5739</i>	<i>428</i>	<i>9264</i>	<i>1147</i>	<i>10212</i>	<i>199</i>
Lawn & Garden Equipment	59,392	.08	1,320	22.0	18.1	18.5	12.9	22.1	37.3	27.6	16.6	20.9	1.0
					<i>3439</i>	<i>7263</i>	<i>4810</i>	<i>31049</i>	<i>12831</i>	<i>36478</i>	<i>22914</i>	<i>56624</i>	<i>2693</i>
Lawn Mowers	76,421	.08	1,624	28.3	13.7	9.8	21.2	35.5	35.4	43.0	14.1	26.3	1.9
					<i>2592</i>	<i>3827</i>	<i>7876</i>	<i>49947</i>	<i>12179</i>	<i>56810</i>	<i>19526</i>	<i>71150</i>	<i>5195</i>
Other Power Lawn Equipment	16,492	.11	330	6.1	2.8	1.7	5.0	7.2	9.6	11.0	1.4	5.6	0.5
					<i>538</i>	<i>667</i>	<i>1877</i>	<i>10070</i>	<i>3302</i>	<i>14506</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>15250</i>	<i>1241</i>
Trimmers, Small Power Garden Tools	12,452	.11	254	4.6	0.4	1.6	3.6	5.9	6.0	6.4	2.9	4.4	0.2
					<i>72</i>	<i>633</i>	<i>1352</i>	<i>8338</i>	<i>2056</i>	<i>8442</i>	<i>4009</i>	<i>12025</i>	<i>426</i>
<b>Home Workshop Equipment</b>													
Hoists, Lifts, Jacks, etc.	13,914	.10	312	5.1	0.7	1.8	6.3	6.5	4.7	8.9	1.6	4.9	0.2
					<i>125</i>	<i>699</i>	<i>2332</i>	<i>9158</i>	<i>1600</i>	<i>11687</i>	<i>2227</i>	<i>13206</i>	<i>623</i>
Power Home Tools (excl. Saws)	36,136	.08	694	13.4	0.8	3.5	14.4	18.2	10.6	25.2	2.0	13.0	0.4
					<i>143</i>	<i>1370</i>	<i>5361</i>	<i>25609</i>	<i>3654</i>	<i>33263</i>	<i>2798</i>	<i>35047</i>	<i>1089</i>
Power Home Workshop Saws	91,771	.06	1,970	34.0	2.2	7.1	22.8	44.5	50.8	66.1	3.2	31.9	1.9
					<i>409</i>	<i>2781</i>	<i>8480</i>	<i>62542</i>	<i>17475</i>	<i>87285</i>	<i>4468</i>	<i>86348</i>	<i>5264</i>
Welding, Soldering, Cutting Tools	17,959	.11	378	6.6	1.6	0.9	12.4	8.8	0.9	13.3	0.3	6.5	0.1
					<i>297</i>	<i>369</i>	<i>4616</i>	<i>12361</i>	<i>315</i>	<i>17548</i>	<i>411</i>	<i>17682</i>	<i>276</i>
Wires, Cords, Not Specified	15,858	.09	349	5.9	2.8	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.7	7.3	4.4	5.7	0.1
					<i>540</i>	<i>2399</i>	<i>2149</i>	<i>8471</i>	<i>2299</i>	<i>9693</i>	<i>6146</i>	<i>15392</i>	<i>344</i>
Workshop Manual Tools	113,675	.06	2,444	42.1	18.3	22.3	50.7	54.0	18.8	75.0	10.6	41.4	0.6
					<i>3470</i>	<i>8723</i>	<i>18881</i>	<i>75946</i>	<i>6468</i>	<i>99023</i>	<i>14633</i>	<i>111803</i>	<i>1702</i>
<b>Home Maintenance</b>													
Cleaning Agents (excl. Soaps)	33,823	.08	887	12.5	72.9	7.0	8.9	8.8	4.6	12.3	12.8	11.9	0.5
					<i>13818</i>	<i>2745</i>	<i>3324</i>	<i>12354</i>	<i>1582</i>	<i>16176</i>	<i>17647</i>	<i>32290</i>	<i>1434</i>

\* See page 7 for explanation.

## NEISS Data Highlights — Calendar Year 1998 cont.

Product Groupings	Estimated Number of Injuries*	CV*	Number of Injuries*	Estimated Rate of Product-Related Injuries* per 100,000 Population and <i>Estimated Number of Injuries*</i> (listed in <i>italic</i> ) in the United States and Territories that were treated in Hospital Emergency Departments									
				Age						Sex		Disposition	
				All Ages	00-04	05-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Male	Female	Treated & Rel.	Hosp. & DOA
Cleaning Equip., Non-caustic Deterg.	29,927	.07	723	11.1	17.8	15.3	7.4	10.7	8.0	12.6	9.6	10.6	0.5
					<i>3369</i>	<i>6008</i>	<i>2770</i>	<i>15011</i>	<i>2769</i>	<i>16702</i>	<i>13225</i>	<i>28561</i>	<i>1366</i>
Paints, Solvents, Lubricants	16,478	.10	409	6.1	10.7	5.1	6.0	6.2	4.1	7.8	4.5	5.7	0.4
					<i>2039</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2235</i>	<i>8750</i>	<i>1416</i>	<i>10294</i>	<i>6184</i>	<i>15333</i>	<i>1061</i>
<b>General Household Appliances</b>													
Cooking Ranges, Ovens, etc.	45,824	.05	1,236	17.0	59.9	13.6	12.3	13.9	14.7	14.2	19.6	16.2	0.8
					<i>11353</i>	<i>5320</i>	<i>4562</i>	<i>19497</i>	<i>5073</i>	<i>18712</i>	<i>27112</i>	<i>43675</i>	<i>2093</i>
Irons, Clothes Steamers (not Toys)	17,397	.10	637	6.4	52.2	5.9	3.9	2.5	0.7	6.3	6.6	6.3	0.1
					<i>9892</i>	<i>2328</i>	<i>1459</i>	<i>3473</i>	<i>245</i>	<i>8290</i>	<i>9107</i>	<i>17064</i>	<i>326</i>
Refrigerators, Freezers	35,552	.08	787	13.2	14.2	11.7	10.7	14.4	11.6	15.4	11.0	12.5	0.7
					<i>2692</i>	<i>4592</i>	<i>3994</i>	<i>20289</i>	<i>3985</i>	<i>20347</i>	<i>15205</i>	<i>33688</i>	<i>1845</i>
Small Kitchen Appliances	40,912	.06	886	15.1	16.0	7.4	18.1	17.1	12.2	13.9	16.4	14.8	0.3
					<i>3044</i>	<i>2911</i>	<i>6725</i>	<i>24052</i>	<i>4181</i>	<i>18305</i>	<i>22607</i>	<i>39880</i>	<i>853</i>
Washers, Dryers	18,365	.08	406	6.8	10.5	3.5	4.6	8.2	5.1	6.1	7.4	6.6	0.2
					<i>2000</i>	<i>1364</i>	<i>1715</i>	<i>11535</i>	<i>1752</i>	<i>8110</i>	<i>10255</i>	<i>17896</i>	<i>469</i>
<b>Heating, Cooling, Vent. Equip.</b>													
Air Conditioners	13,211	.11	325	4.9	4.1	5.1	4.6	5.6	2.5	6.8	3.0	4.7	0.2
					<i>772</i>	<i>1981</i>	<i>1730</i>	<i>7856</i>	<i>872</i>	<i>9012</i>	<i>4199</i>	<i>12786</i>	<i>425</i>
Chimneys, Fireplaces	19,636	.12	574	7.3	62.4	6.8	2.1	2.2	3.5	9.3	5.3	7.1	0.1
					<i>11828</i>	<i>2679</i>	<i>775</i>	<i>3073</i>	<i>1198</i>	<i>12342</i>	<i>7294</i>	<i>19273</i>	<i>313</i>
Fans (excl. Stove Exhaust Fans)	18,120	.09	461	6.7	12.8	5.9	6.3	5.9	8.1	7.7	5.8	6.5	0.2
					<i>2418</i>	<i>2329</i>	<i>2360</i>	<i>8242</i>	<i>2770</i>	<i>10114</i>	<i>8005</i>	<i>17667</i>	<i>452</i>
Heating & Plumbing Pipes	37,897	.06	979	14.0	26.7	22.1	12.3	12.1	7.4	20.4	7.9	13.6	0.4
					<i>5058</i>	<i>8669</i>	<i>4576</i>	<i>17050</i>	<i>2543</i>	<i>26940</i>	<i>10957</i>	<i>36818</i>	<i>1002</i>
Heating Stoves, Space Heaters	21,594	.11	514	8.0	44.5	9.2	4.5	4.4	4.9	8.9	7.1	7.7	0.2
					<i>8445</i>	<i>3616</i>	<i>1690</i>	<i>6144</i>	<i>1699</i>	<i>11725</i>	<i>9869</i>	<i>20763</i>	<i>671</i>
Radiators	11,793	.26	390	4.4	28.2	6.7	2.4	1.6	2.1	5.9	2.8	4.3	0.1
					<i>5349</i>	<i>2613</i>	<i>891</i>	<i>2213</i>	<i>727</i>	<i>7854</i>	<i>3919</i>	<i>11646</i>	<i>147</i>
<b>Home Furnishings &amp; Fixtures</b>													
Bathroom Structures & Fixtures	253,545	.05	6,144	93.8	202.6	72.5	61.4	68.5	196.3	83.8	103.4	85.7	8.0
					<i>38425</i>	<i>28400</i>	<i>22859</i>	<i>96255</i>	<i>67512</i>	<i>110652</i>	<i>142894</i>	<i>231582</i>	<i>21731</i>
Beds, Mattresses, Pillows	456,559	.05	12,388	168.9	755.9	215.7	69.1	59.2	347.4	163.8	173.8	155.5	13.1
					<i>143358</i>	<i>84474</i>	<i>25729</i>	<i>83263</i>	<i>119515</i>	<i>216260</i>	<i>240242</i>	<i>420225</i>	<i>35298</i>
Carpets, Rugs	117,588	.07	2,877	43.5	109.9	24.7	16.8	26.1	128.2	30.3	56.1	38.6	4.8
					<i>20840</i>	<i>9682</i>	<i>6267</i>	<i>36696</i>	<i>44103</i>	<i>39965</i>	<i>77623</i>	<i>104253</i>	<i>13026</i>
Chairs, Sofas, Sofa Beds	415,007	.04	10,895	153.5	659.5	153.8	70.9	80.8	260.8	139.5	166.7	143.6	9.8
					<i>125082</i>	<i>60231</i>	<i>26382</i>	<i>113517</i>	<i>89709</i>	<i>184249</i>	<i>230532</i>	<i>388256</i>	<i>26399</i>
Desks, Cabinets, Shelves, Racks	241,479	.05	6,243	89.3	321.6	120.6	61.3	56.7	89.5	90.1	88.6	87.5	1.7
					<i>60991</i>	<i>47244</i>	<i>22803</i>	<i>79637</i>	<i>30786</i>	<i>118969</i>	<i>122511</i>	<i>236598</i>	<i>4467</i>
Electric Fixt., Lamps, Equip.	54,789	.05	1,411	20.3	48.0	23.2	22.2	15.6	18.5	23.3	17.3	19.4	0.8
					<i>9095</i>	<i>9073</i>	<i>8266</i>	<i>21975</i>	<i>6380</i>	<i>30815</i>	<i>23974</i>	<i>52534</i>	<i>2086</i>

\* See page 7 for explanation.

## NEISS Data Highlights — Calendar Year 1998 cont.

Product Groupings	Estimated Number of Injuries*	CV*	Number of Injuries*	Estimated Rate of Product-Related Injuries* per 100,000 Population and <i>Estimated Number of Injuries*</i> (listed in <i>italic</i> ) in the United States and Territories that were treated in Hospital Emergency Departments									
				Age					Sex		Disposition		
				All Ages	00-04	05-14	15-24	25-64	65+	Male	Female	Treated & Rel.	Hosp. & DOA
Holiday, Party Supplies	11,082	.08	270	4.1	15.6	2.4	1.6	4.0	2.6	4.2	4.0	3.9	0.2
					<i>2959</i>	<i>957</i>	<i>600</i>	<i>5667</i>	<i>899</i>	<i>5549</i>	<i>5533</i>	<i>10542</i>	<i>540</i>
Ladders, Stools	174,631	.06	3,899	64.6	33.1	19.7	32.3	81.4	98.9	96.8	33.9	57.8	6.7
					<i>6281</i>	<i>7731</i>	<i>12020</i>	<i>114374</i>	<i>34028</i>	<i>127757</i>	<i>46875</i>	<i>156342</i>	<i>18130</i>
Mirrors, Mirror Glass	22,367	.06	629	8.3	14.7	11.6	16.6	6.0	1.3	9.3	7.3	8.2	0.1
					<i>2785</i>	<i>4551</i>	<i>6161</i>	<i>8431</i>	<i>439</i>	<i>12285</i>	<i>10081</i>	<i>22121</i>	<i>246</i>
Misc. Household Covers, Fabrics	17,207	.07	392	6.4	8.9	4.4	4.3	5.7	12.0	3.8	8.8	5.8	0.5
					<i>1689</i>	<i>1713</i>	<i>1602</i>	<i>8070</i>	<i>4133</i>	<i>4980</i>	<i>12227</i>	<i>15747</i>	<i>1460</i>
Other Misc. Furniture & Accessories	70,541	.07	1,633	26.1	33.7	12.6	21.2	32.3	17.0	27.5	24.8	25.7	0.3
					<i>6400</i>	<i>4931</i>	<i>7872</i>	<i>45413</i>	<i>5840</i>	<i>36255</i>	<i>34286</i>	<i>69581</i>	<i>878</i>
Tables, not elsewhere classified	316,733	.05	8,648	117.2	720.2	140.5	56.3	46.7	112.0	131.7	103.3	113.4	3.4
					<i>136594</i>	<i>55036</i>	<i>20933</i>	<i>65646</i>	<i>38525</i>	<i>173839</i>	<i>142752</i>	<i>306615</i>	<i>9285</i>
<b>Home Structures &amp; Const. Mat.</b>													
Cabinet/Door Hardware	18,262	.09	468	6.8	18.9	7.9	4.5	5.0	8.5	6.9	6.6	6.6	0.2
					<i>3587</i>	<i>3080</i>	<i>1686</i>	<i>7002</i>	<i>2907</i>	<i>9162</i>	<i>9100</i>	<i>17844</i>	<i>412</i>
Fences	124,202	.06	3,326	45.9	44.6	116.6	62.2	29.6	15.4	66.3	26.5	44.4	1.5
					<i>8465</i>	<i>45674</i>	<i>23151</i>	<i>41609</i>	<i>5284</i>	<i>87520</i>	<i>36615</i>	<i>120107</i>	<i>3936</i>
Glass Doors, Windows, Panels	185,071	.06	4,637	68.5	99.7	100.3	130.5	48.2	30.5	85.0	52.7	65.7	2.7
					<i>18914</i>	<i>39286</i>	<i>48577</i>	<i>67732</i>	<i>10479</i>	<i>112267</i>	<i>72805</i>	<i>177671</i>	<i>7166</i>
Handrails, Railings, Banisters	39,136	.07	1,132	14.5	27.9	26.4	13.9	9.7	13.5	17.4	11.6	14.1	0.4
					<i>5293</i>	<i>10344</i>	<i>5157</i>	<i>13601</i>	<i>4655</i>	<i>23008</i>	<i>16061</i>	<i>38002</i>	<i>1052</i>
Non-glass Doors, Panels	358,297	.08	9,655	132.6	409.2	223.3	129.1	76.4	109.5	131.0	134.1	129.5	2.7
					<i>77614</i>	<i>87455</i>	<i>48059</i>	<i>107392</i>	<i>37673</i>	<i>172924</i>	<i>185355</i>	<i>350151</i>	<i>7417</i>
Outside Attached Struct. & Mat.	23,242	.09	520	8.6	6.7	6.9	7.9	9.7	7.7	14.1	3.3	7.7	0.8
					<i>1275</i>	<i>2685</i>	<i>2954</i>	<i>13681</i>	<i>2647</i>	<i>18592</i>	<i>4582</i>	<i>20877</i>	<i>2280</i>
Stairs, Ramps, Landings, Floors	1,975,074	.06	48,310	730.7	1401.9	552.4	567.8	518.7	1604.8	565.0	888.7	658.1	71.8
					<i>265883</i>	<i>216336</i>	<i>211302</i>	<i>729071</i>	<i>552081</i>	<i>746025</i>	<i>1228628</i>	<i>1778870</i>	<i>194067</i>
Window, Door Sills, Frames	59,292	.08	1,498	21.9	84.7	25.1	17.4	11.8	30.2	21.1	22.8	21.1	0.8
					<i>16071</i>	<i>9814</i>	<i>6478</i>	<i>16545</i>	<i>10384</i>	<i>27811</i>	<i>31482</i>	<i>57153</i>	<i>2045</i>
<b>Miscellaneous Products</b>													
Dollies, Carts	45,286	.06	1,254	16.8	118.6	14.7	6.0	7.1	14.0	15.5	18.0	16.2	0.5
					<i>22503</i>	<i>5774</i>	<i>2216</i>	<i>9993</i>	<i>4799</i>	<i>20443</i>	<i>24843</i>	<i>43860</i>	<i>1313</i>
Elevators, Other Lifts	16,747	.13	470	6.2	9.9	3.7	4.5	5.0	13.6	5.1	7.2	5.9	0.3
					<i>1871</i>	<i>1455</i>	<i>1676</i>	<i>7063</i>	<i>4682</i>	<i>6772</i>	<i>9976</i>	<i>16048</i>	<i>700</i>
Gasoline, Diesel Fuels	15,067	.10	351	5.6	11.9	5.6	7.9	5.1	1.5	9.4	1.9	4.8	0.8
					<i>2258</i>	<i>2187</i>	<i>2942</i>	<i>7159</i>	<i>521</i>	<i>12427</i>	<i>2639</i>	<i>12839</i>	<i>2227</i>

\* **Estimated Number of Injuries:** Because NEISS is a probability sample, each injury case has a statistical weight. These are national estimates of the number of persons treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments with consumer product-related injuries and are derived by summing the statistical weights for the appropriate injury cases. The data system allows for reporting of up to two products for each person's injury, so a person's injury may be counted in two product groups.

\* **CV (Coefficient of Variation):** The CV, the standard error of the estimate divided by the estimate, is a measure of sampling variability (errors that occur by chance because observations are made only on a population sample). Injury estimates are not published for product groupings where the CV exceeds .33.

\* **Number of Injuries:** This is the actual number of injury cases collected from the hospitals sampled. Since injury cases have different statistical weights, these "raw" numbers should not be used for comparative purposes.

\* **Estimated Rate:** Estimated injury rates are calculated using the July 1, 1998 census figures for the U.S. resident population.



# MECAP NEWS

Medical Examiners and Coroners Alert Project and Emergency Physicians Reporting System

The MECAP-EPRS Project is designed to collect timely information on deaths and injuries involving consumer products. Please contact us whenever you encounter a death or situation that you believe should be considered during a safety evaluation of a product.

To report a case or ask for information about MECAP, please call our toll-free number, 1-800-638-8095, or our toll-free fax number, 1-800-809-0924, or send a message via Internet to [AMCDONAL@CPSC.GOV](mailto:AMCDONAL@CPSC.GOV).

*During the months of July, August, and September 1999, 884 cases were reported to CPSC. Included here are samples of cases to illustrate the type and nature of the reported incidents.*

## ASPHYXIATIONS/ SUFFOCATIONS

A female, 24 weeks, was strapped in an infant swing to fall asleep. The child slid down in the seat and was found with the strap around her neck. The cause of death was ligature hanging.

(Jeffrey Jentzen, M.D., Medical Examiner, Milwaukee County, Milwaukee, WI)

A female, 7, died as a result of being trapped under a garage door at home. A neighbor found the victim with her feet sticking out from under the door. The cause of death was traumatic asphyxiation.

(Chris McNeil for Ira Kanfer, M.D., Medical Examiner, Farmington, CT)

\*A male, 7 months, became trapped between the mattress and the bottom slats of his crib. His mother found him face down under the mattress with his hands and legs dangling out of the crib's slats. The cause of death was asphyxia.

(Mark Malcolm, Coroner, Little Rock, AR)

A male, 3, choked on a suction cup-tipped toy dart that he had placed in his mouth. This caused obstruction in his upper respiratory area. The cause of death was anoxic encephalopathy.

(Aruna Singhania, M.D., Medical Examiner, Orange County, Santa Ana, CA)

## POISONINGS

A female, 66, attempted to unclog her kitchen sink and mixed two drain cleaners together creating toxic fumes. The fumes incapacitated her and she was hospitalized until her death. The cause of death was chlorine inhalation.

(Paul O. Vasallo, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Brevard County, Rockledge, FL)

A male, 14, was found by his mother lying on the bathroom floor. The victim intentionally inhaled air freshener which caused the absorption of all oxygen in his lungs and cardiac arrest.

(Robert Nelms, M.D., Medical Examiner, Monroe County, Marathon, FL)

A male, 43, was working on a gas-powered lawnmower in an enclosed shed at his home. He was found unconscious inside the shed, overcome by exhaust fumes. He was hospitalized and later died. The cause of death was carbon monoxide intoxication.

(Mo Lupio for Jaqueline Martin, M.D., Medical Examiner and Mary Jumbelic, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Onondaga County, Syracuse, NY)



## DROWNING

A female, 2, was found submerged in the jacuzzi end of an in-ground pool. A sliding door and screen to the pool were unintentionally left open. The victim wandered out of the house, took off her clothes, and went into the pool. The cause of death was drowning.

(Ron Flud, M.P.A., Coroner, Clark County, Las Vegas, NV)

A male, 4, was found face down in an above-ground pool, which was surrounded by a stockade fence. The gate on the fence was closed but unlocked. The cause of death was drowning.

(Tom Cloyd for Tom Terry, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Racine County, Racine, WI)

## FIRES

\*A male, 32, female, 22, and a male, 1, died in a house fire when a kerosene heater was placed too close to a couch, causing a fire. The cause of death was CO poisoning.

(Nancy Moore for John Butts, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Chapel Hill, NC)

\*A male, 10, and his brother, 8, both died in a house fire caused by an electrical malfunction in a clothes dryer. The cause of death was smoke inhalation.

(David R. Schomburg for Kari Reiber, M.D., Medical Examiner, New York City, NY)

\*A female, 2 months, died in a trailer fire. The family was using a portable space heater to heat the trailer because the original heating source was nonfunctional. The space heater ignited nearby combustible materials. A smoke alarm was not present. The cause of death was burns.

(R.F. Clark, M.D., Medical Examiner, Hampton County, Norfolk, VA)

\*A male, 38, female, 39, female, 12, female, 10, and male, 5, died in a house fire caused by a malfunction of an electric clothes dryer.

(Jeffrey Jentzen, M.D., Medical Examiner, Milwaukee County, Milwaukee, WI)

## MISCELLANEOUS

\*A female, 3, was playing on a couch with other siblings near an open window in a third-floor apartment. The victim leaned on the window screen. The screen gave way, and the victim fell to the ground below. The cause of death was closed head injury.

(Ron Flud, M.P.A., Coroner, Clark County, Las Vegas, NV)

A male, 11, fell from his bike and hit his head on the ground. The victim was not wearing a helmet. He was found by a neighbor, brought home, and then transported to the hospital. He was hospitalized and died a month later. The cause of death was head injury.

(Ellis Abrams for John Thogmartin, M.D., Medical Examiner, Palm Beach County, West Palm Beach, FL)

A female, 44, was in-line skating with her husband when she fell. She was not wearing a helmet. The victim was taken to the hospital where she later died. The cause of death was craniocerebral injuries.

(Jacqueline M. Dobbins for Rexene Worrell, M.D., Medical Examiner and Edmund R. Donoghue, M.D., Chief Medical Examiner, Cook County, Chicago, IL)

A male, 7, fell off a bicycle causing the bicycle's handle bars to jab into his abdomen. The child returned home complaining of abdominal pain, vomited several times, later collapsed, and became unresponsive. He was taken to the hospital and resuscitated, but he later died. The cause of death was chest and abdominal trauma, perforated viscus.

(Thomas Young, M.D., Medical Examiner, Jackson County, MO)

— *Suzanne Newman, Directorate for Epidemiology*

\*Indicates cases selected for CPSC follow-up investigations. Cases reported but not selected for follow-up also are important to CPSC. Every MECAP report is included in CPSC's injury data base and will be used to assess the hazards associated with consumer products.



## CPSC Recalls

*The following product recalls were conducted by firms in cooperation with CPSC. For more information about recalls, visit CPSC's website at [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov).*

**Product:** About 21,000 **Diamond 80 downflow mid-efficiency furnaces** by York International Corp. The furnaces were sold under the brand names York, Fraser-Johnston, Luxaire and Moncrief. Recalled furnaces have model numbers P2DP, PBKD and XEDO2 and serial numbers beginning "EECM" or "EGEM." The model number and serial number are on a label inside the furnace cabinet. York dealers sold these furnaces nationwide from May 1994 through July 1996 for about \$680. York began this recall in late 1997, but only about 9,000 of these furnaces have been repaired to date.

**Problem:** Because of inadequate gluing, the insulation surrounding the heat exchanger can separate from the cabinet wall of the furnace and fall onto the heat exchanger. Surrounding combustible material and drywall could catch on fire with the potential to cause burn injuries and death. York and CPSC are aware of 11 incidents involving this furnace, including five fires resulting in \$74,000 in property damage.

**What to do:** Contact local York dealer immediately to schedule a free repair visit. For more information, call York at 1-877-874-7378 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or at its website [www.york.com](http://www.york.com). To reinforce the seriousness of the situation and promote increased participation, York is offering its distributors a \$25 bounty for each furnace they locate.

**Product:** About 45,000 **portable heaters** by Holmes Products Corp. These "wide-angle," portable heaters, made in 1998, are about 12" high in the shape of a half circle with two knobs on top and "Holmes" on the front of the heater. A date code that includes the number 98 is on the back, right-hand corner just above the box with the Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) logo. "MODEL:HFH-297" and "MADE IN CHINA" and "Holmes" are also in the UL box. Mass merchandise stores sold these heaters from September 1998 through July 1999 for about \$27.

**Problem:** The thermostats in some of the heaters are improperly positioned, which can cause them to overheat, posing a fire hazard. There have been 11 reports of these units overheating and catching fire; six incidents resulted in minor property damage. No injuries have been reported.

**What to do:** Stop using these heaters and contact Holmes for a refund at 1-800-227-8936 anytime. Consumers can also access Holmes' website at [www.holmesproducts.com](http://www.holmesproducts.com).

**Product:** Up to 1 million "Star" brand **fire sprinklers** by Mealane Corp. The recalled sprinklers are dry-type models D-1, RD-1, RE-1, E-1 and ME-1 made from 1961 through 1976. The name "Star" is on each sprinkler, along with the model number and date of manufacture. The former Star Sprinkler Co. sold its assets and changed its name in June 1976 and became known as Mealane Corp. With dry-type sprinklers, portions of the pipe do not have water in them until the sprinkler

activates. These sprinklers have been installed nationwide, primarily in nursing homes and may also be in hospitals, schools, resorts, stores, office buildings, warehouses, and supermarkets. **Problem:** These sprinklers could fail in a fire, exposing the public to bodily injury or death. 67% of sprinklers that were removed from locations across the country and submitted for testing to independent testing laboratories failed to activate as they should. CPSC has one report of a Star sprinkler allegedly not functioning in a bedroom fire in a nursing home.

**What to do:** Property owners should determine if their facilities contain these sprinklers. If so, call the Star Sprinkler Recall Hotline at 1-800-866-7807 or go to the website at [www.star-recall.com](http://www.star-recall.com) to participate in the recall.

**Product:** About 202,000 **Pooh Poppin'Piano toys** by Tiger Electronics, Ltd. The recalled toys have serial numbers starting with "WT" or "CO15D" printed on a small label inside the battery compartment and on the bottom of the retail package. The toy is mostly lime green with eight characters from the "Winnie the Pooh" series that move up and down when the piano keys are pressed. Toy and discount department stores sold these toys nationwide from August 1997 through August 1999 for about \$20.

**Problem:** The green "leafy" top section of the carrot-shaped microphone attached to the piano can break off, posing a choking hazard to young children. Tiger has received three reports of the top breaking off; there are no reports of injuries.

**What to do:** Take the toy away from children immediately and contact Tiger for instructions on returning the toy for a free replacement. Call Tiger toll-free at 1-888-748-2860 anytime or go to the website at [www.tigertoys.com/recall.htm](http://www.tigertoys.com/recall.htm).

**Product:** About 100,000 **activity trays and bath sets** with suction cups by Graco Children's Products, Inc. The recalled activity trays and bath sets are Graco® and Children On The Go® brand Stroller Snack and Activity Trays, Bathtime Activity Trays, and Bathtime Toy Netting products with suction cups. The trays each have four toys that are removable and interchangeable with other Mix 'N Move™ toys that are purchased separately. "Graco" or "Children On the Go" is on the underside of each tray or the back of the clam and fish on the Bathtime Toy Netting product. Discount, department, and juvenile product stores nationwide, including Toys "R" Us and Sears, sold these activity trays and bath sets from January 1998 until August 1999 for about \$10 to \$15.

**Problem:** The suction cups can detach, presenting a choking hazard to young children. Graco has received four reports of children starting to choke, including one that required use of the Heimlich maneuver.

**What to do:** Stop using these products immediately and call Graco for a free repair kit at 1-800-446-1366 anytime or at the company's website.

— Marc Schoem and Terri Rogers, Office of Compliance



## NHTSA Recalls

*The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is the government agency responsible for improving safety on our nation's highways. As part of its efforts to achieve this goal, NHTSA is authorized to order manufacturers to recall and repair vehicles or items of motor vehicle equipment (including air bags, tires, and child safety seats).*

*The following safety recall campaigns are being conducted in cooperation with NHTSA. For more information about NHTSA recall activities, you can access NHTSA on the Internet at [www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov) or by calling the NHTSA Auto Safety Hotline at 1-888-DASH-2-DOT (1-888-327-4236).*

### American Honda Motor Company

Honda is recalling **96,617 1996-1999 Acura 3.5RL vehicles** manufactured from December 14, 1995 through June 29, 1999; and **1996-1998 Acura 3.2TL vehicles** manufactured from April 10, 1995 through April 16, 1998. A transmission case bolt can loosen and fall out allowing the transmission to disengage from the differential. The vehicle could then lose power to the drive wheels without warning. Also, shifting the transmission into the Park position would not lock the wheels, and such a parked vehicle could move unexpectedly if the parking brake is not set. Dealers will install a redesigned bolt. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Honda at 1-800-999-1009. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-227]

### DaimlerChrysler Corporation

DaimlerChrysler is recalling **550,000 1993-1995 Chrysler Concorde, LHS, Dodge Intrepid and Eagle Vision** model vehicles manufactured from June 1992 through October 1994. The lower control arm attaching brackets can crack due to fatigue and separate from the engine cradle. If this occurs, the transmission half-shaft could pull out of the transaxle and result in loss of power. Dealers will reinforce the engine cradle at the point where the lower control arm attaches to it. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact DaimlerChrysler at 1-800-992-1997. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-215/DaimlerChrysler Recall No. 837]

DaimlerChrysler is also recalling **622,000 1996 Chrysler Town & Country, Dodge Caravan/Grand Caravan, and Plymouth Voyager/Grand Voyager model mini vans** manufactured from January 1995 through July 1996. Fuel can leak from the fuel tank at the interface of the fuel pump module attachment. If a fuel leak occurs in the presence of an ignition source, a fire could occur. Dealers will replace the fuel pump module attaching nut with a nut that includes tighter design tolerances and new sealing O-ring. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact DaimlerChrysler at 1-800-992-1997. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-216/DaimlerChrysler Recall No. 845]

### Ford Motor Company

Ford will recall **153,000 1998 Contour and Mercury Mystique** vehicles because the accelerator cable may have a burr on or near the end of the cable sleeve interior. This burr could fray the core wire resulting in the accelerator not returning to idle when the accelerator pedal is released. The cables could stick, bind, or cause high engine RPM's. Dealers will install a revised accelerator cable. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Ford at 1-800-392-3673. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-194/Ford Recall No. 99S19]

Ford is also recalling **280,000 1998 Contour and Mercury Mystique** vehicles manufactured from January 2, 1997 through August 24, 1998. The air bag sensor wiring pigtail insulation can become brittle and crack over time due to accumulation of water in the pigtail's protective convolute in combination with high underhood temperatures related to the routing of the wiring pigtail near the radiator. This can result in environmental stress cracking of the insulation. In some cases, the air bag warning light can illuminate and the air bag supplemental restraint system disabled. Dealers will install air bag sensors with revised wiring insulation. In addition, vehicles which have the air bag warning light illuminated will have a new air bag diagnostic monitor installed. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Ford at 1-800-392-3673. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-243/Ford Recall No. 99S23]

### General Motors Corporation

GM is recalling **168,035 1999 Buick Century and Regal** vehicles manufactured from March 1998 through April 1999. Some of these vehicles with the key in the "on" position, exhibit a condition in which the antilock brake system (ABS) motor shorts to its case and grounds through a flexible brake fluid pipe. This short can cause extreme heating of the flexible brake pipe where it can melt a nearby flexible plastic fuel hose, which could result in an underhood fire. Dealers will install a ground cable from the electronic brake control module (EBCM) to the engine compartment body rail. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Buick at 1-800-521-7300. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-170/GM Recall No. 99033]

### Volvo Cars of North America, Inc.

Volvo is recalling **124,381 1998 Model 70** vehicles manufactured from January 1997 through August 1998. The frontal passenger air bag may be overly sensitive to certain electrostatic discharge. This could possibly cause the remote possibility of an inadvertent deployment. Dealers will install an additional ground wire in the passenger side to assure sufficient grounding. Owners who do not receive the free remedy within a reasonable time should contact Volvo at 1-800-458-1552. [NHTSA Recall No. 99V-236/Volvo Recall No. 96]

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*Consumer Product Safety Review* is published quarterly by the U.S.  
Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, DC 20207.

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