



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20207

**Adult Bed-Related Fatalities of Children Under 2 Years of Age**  
**January 1, 1999 - December 31, 2001**

**QUICK FACTS**

- The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has reports of 180 deaths of children under 2 who were placed in adult beds, during the time period of January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2001. This is a minimum number since death reporting is not complete for 2000 and 2001.
- Most of the deaths (98%) involved children 1 year of age or under, and children 3 months or under accounted for over half of the deaths (59%).
- Most of the deaths (98%) were due to suffocation or some other form of asphyxia.
- Of this number, 122 deaths involved an entrapment, a fall, or a situation in which the bedding or the position of the child was related to the death.
  - Thirty-eight children died when they became entrapped between the bed and the wall, the bed and another object, or the entrapment involved headboards, footboards or bedframes. There were an additional five fatalities associated with a child found between the bed and wall without an entrapment reported.
  - Fifteen children died who were found face down (prone) on the bed. It is unknown whether bedding (such as, pillows, blankets, etc.) was involved in these incidents.
  - Thirteen children died due to bedding-related incidents, most involving pillows or blankets.
  - Twelve children died when they fell from adult beds. Nine of the deaths were due to suffocation (for example, a fall into a pile of clothing or onto a plastic bag). The three remaining fall-related deaths were due to drowning in a 5-gallon bucket, hemorrhage from landing on a beverage glass that broke, and possible head injuries from landing on the floor on a pillow.
  - There were 39 additional deaths involving asphyxia, but no additional details surrounding these deaths were available.
- Fifty-eight deaths were due to overlay of a child by another individual who was in bed with the child.

