



Instructor Fact Sheets Teacher Resource

Project L.I.F.T/ *Mock THIS!*

Connecting the TBI Family to a Lifetime of Hope and Opportunity.

FACTS ABOUT TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI)

- Of the 1.4 million individuals who sustain a TBI each year in the United States: (www.biaf.org, 2007)
50,000 die;
235,000 are hospitalized; and
1.1 million are treated and released from an emergency department
80,000 to 90,000 experience the onset of long-term or lifelong disability (CDC, 2006).

TBI can cause a wide range of functional changes affecting thinking, language, learning, emotions, behavior, and/or sensation. It can also cause epilepsy and increase the risk for conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and other brain disorders that become more prevalent with age (www.biaf.org, 2007).

- A traumatic brain injury may permanently alter a person's career or vocational aspirations and may also have profound effects on social and family relationships (CDC, 2006).

Adolescents also are vulnerable to alcohol-induced brain damage, which could contribute to poor performance at school or work (NIH, 2003).

- Traumatic brain injury is a leading cause of death and lifelong disability among children and young adults in the United States (CDC, 2006).

About 75% of TBIs that occur each year are concussions or other forms of mild TBI (CDC, 2006).

- TBI can cause a wide range of functional changes affecting thinking, sensation, language, or emotions:
Thinking (i.e., memory and reasoning);
Sensation (i.e., touch, taste, and smell);
Language (i.e., communication, expression, and understanding); and
Emotion (i.e., depression, anxiety, personality changes, aggression, acting out, and social inappropriateness (CDC, 2006).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that at least 5.3 million Americans currently have a long-term or lifelong need for help to perform (ADL) activities of daily living as a result of a TBI. (www.biaf.org, 2007).

- The leading causes of TBI are: 1. Falls (28%); 2. Motor vehicle-traffic crashes (20%)(www.biaf.org, 2007).

African Americans have the highest death rate from TBI (www.biaf.org, 2007).

- According to one study, about 40% of those hospitalized with a TBI had at least one unmet need for services one year after their injury (www.biaf.org, 2007).

The CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control estimates that 5.3 million U.S. citizens (2 percent of the population) are living with disability as a result of a traumatic brain injury (CDC, 2006).

- Research to date indicates that the disabilities most often associated with TBI include cognitive, emotional, and--to a lesser extent--sensory and motor impairments (CDC, 2006).

TBI often results in the impairment of cognitive function which may result in the loss of communication skills and memory, inability to organize tasks and solve problems, and decreased attention to detail (CDC, 2006).

- TBI may also cause emotional instability--especially impulsiveness--and changes in the ability to see, smell, and hear (CDC, 2006).

Direct medical costs and indirect costs such as lost productivity of TBI totaled an estimated \$60 billion in the United States in 2000 (CDC, 2006).

FACTS ABOUT ALCOHOL

Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes kill someone every 31 minutes and non-fatally injures someone every two minutes (NHTSA, 2006).

- Two out of five deaths among U.S. teens are the result of a motor vehicle crash (CDC 2004).

In 2002, the motor vehicle death rate for male occupants age 16 to 19 was nearly twice that of their female counterparts (23 per 100,000 compared with 12 per 100,000) (CDC, 2004).

- In a national survey conducted in 2003, 30% of teens reported that within the previous month, they had ridden with a driver who had been drinking alcohol. One in eight reported having driven after drinking alcohol within the same one-month period (CDC, 2004).

In 2003, among teen drivers who were killed in motor vehicle crashes after drinking and driving, 74% were unrestrained (NHTSA, 2004b).

- In 2005, 16% of drivers ages 16 to 20 who died in motor vehicle crashes had been drinking alcohol (NHTSA, 2006).

Almost 20% of 8th-graders, and 41% of 10th-graders have been drunk at least once ([www.alcoholfreechildren](http://www.alcoholfreechildren.com) , 2007).

- Approximately 30 percent of 12th graders engage in heavy episodic drinking, now popularly termed “binge” drinking—that is, having at least five or more drinks on one occasion (NIH, 2003).

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among youth ages 15 to 20 (NIH, 2003).

- Evidence suggests that the most reliable predictor of a youth’s drinking behavior is the drinking behavior of his or her friends (NIH, 2003).

More than half of the 414 child passengers ages 14 and younger who died in alcohol-related crashes during 2005 were riding with the drinking driver (NHTSA, 2006).

- In 2002, the estimated economic cost of police-reported crashes (both fatal and nonfatal) involving drivers ages 15 to 20 was \$40.8 billion (NHTSA, 2003).

Teens are more likely than older drivers to speed, run red lights, make illegal turns, ride with an intoxicated driver, and drive after using alcohol or drugs (Jonah, 1987).

- Compared with other age groups, teens have the *lowest* rate of seat belt use. In 2003, 18% of high school students reported they rarely or never wear seat belts when riding with someone else (CDC, 2004).