User Guidebook for Locating Student Injury Data in the Indicator Based Information System (IBIS-PH)

Learn to:

» Access Student Injury Data
» Build a Query
» Understand Types of Data
» Practice What You Learn
» Find Additional Resources
What is IBIS?

The Indicator-Based Information System (IBIS) is a powerful resource that allows users to find important information about Utahns’ health. IBIS includes data on many health topics, including data on student injuries as reported through the Student Injury Reporting System (SIRS).

The SIRS is a voluntary resource available to school administrators for reporting injuries that happen at school. While all Utah school districts and more than 800 Utah schools have participated in the SIRS over the 30 years of its existence, because the system is voluntary, the number of injuries may be underreported. It is up to each school/district how they want to use the SIRS. Some school staff only report the injuries that meet the Utah Department of Health Violence & Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) criteria (discussed later), while others enter in every injury that happens. The result you get from your query is based on what has been reported by the schools which participate in the SIRS. If an injury report is not entered, the data is not available. Additionally, you will find data is only available since 2012. Data collected before 2012 was paper-based and has not yet been digitized.

What’s Next?

**Accessing Student Data**
First, we'll guide you to the right location to access student injury data and avoid any confusion along the way.

**Building a Query**
We'll show you how to search the IBIS database and narrow your query to get the results you want.

**Digging Deeper**
We'll show you where to find additional resources and increase your skills using IBIS to find useful data.
Accessing the Student Injury Data Page

To access student injury data, you’ll be using the Student Injury Query System. This isn’t as complicated as it sounds, it’s just a matter of going to the right page on the IBIS website. The easiest way to access the student injury data is to visit [https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisphview/query/selection/studentinj/StudentInjSelection.html](https://ibis.health.utah.gov/ibisphview/query/selection/studentinj/StudentInjSelection.html)

Using the link above will take you to the correct page, however, you probably don’t want to pull up this guide every time you need to access student injury data. So, either bookmark that page in your browser or follow the step-by-step instructions below.

**Step 1**
Open your web browser and navigate to the IBIS homepage.
[ibis.health.utah.gov](http://ibis.health.utah.gov)

**Step 2**
Click on the “Advanced Users” tab up at the top. This will open a new menu.

**Step 3**
Click on “Data Queries.”
Step 4
Scroll down to the bottom and click "Student Injury."

Step 5
Click the "Counts" option to start your query.

That’s it, you should now be on the query builder page for student injury reporting. If you did it correctly, the page should look like the image below.

You can now build a query from this module by going through each step to narrow your query. When finished, click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the page to get the information you are seeking.
Building a Student Injury Query

Once you’ve reached the query builder page, it is time to select the parameters of your query. This isn’t complicated, you just select the parameters you want to use from several categories shown below.

Understanding Data Types

The Utah Department of Health considers a student injury reportable when an injury is severe enough to cause the student to miss half a day of school or more OR warrants any sort of medical attention/treatment. This includes injuries that occur during school, before or after school, or during any school-sponsored activity.

If you want to look at all of the student injury data, whether or not it meets the Utah Department of Health criteria, select the “All district data” option.
Data from a given time period covers the time from July of the first year to June of the second year. For example, the selection “2012-2013” includes data from July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

"All grades" includes grades K-12, preschools, and special schools (including alternative high schools, some preschool programs, transitional programs, etc. These are based on what each individual district deems to be a “special school”).

You can query injuries specific to males or females, or you can look at both sexes at the same time.

These options are the same options the SIRS users can select on the injury reporting form. The “other” option refers to injuries that did not fit in any of the provided categories. Selecting “all natures” is an option for more general queries.
Contributing Factors

This is referring to what caused the injury. For the weapon option, the intent of the injury must be taken into consideration and is only selected for intentional injuries caused by a weapon. For a more general query, “all contributing factors” can also be selected.

Period

Period means the part of the school day during which the injury occurred. Remember, student injuries can occur before or after school while students are traveling to or from school and during any school-sponsored activities.

Location

This is referring to the physical location of where the injury occurred on school property. If an injury did not occur on the student’s school property (i.e. field trip, another school for an athletic event, etc.) the “other” option would have been selected.

Surface

This is referring to the ground or flooring surface where the injury happened. District risk management staff look at this to determine if certain flooring surfaces cause more severe injuries. Even if the flooring surface did not contribute to the injury, the flooring surface is still entered on the injury form.
**Activity**

The activity variable is referring to the student’s body mechanics at the time of the injury. There are many options here, including some specific sports. Not all sports are included (like tennis for example) because the injury counts are low for those activities. The “other” option is used for these activities.

**Days Absent**

If a student missed more school, the injury was possibly more severe/needed more recovery time. You can select “All” if it doesn’t matter how many days were missed for your query.

**Actions Taken**

These are the actions the school took in response to the student’s injury. Of note, if the student is checked by the school nurse or seen by an EMT on staff it counts as medical attention and the report would meet reporting criteria.

**School Type**

This option allows you to narrow your search to the type of school where an injury occurred. It is important to note; however, that grade included in a school type are not always the same. For example, not all elementary schools in Utah are K-6.
Displaying Data

Click the question icon to see definitions of each type of data display option. Select the display data options and click “Submit” at the bottom of the page to display your results. A selection is not required here.

Practice

Let’s do an example query. I want to know how many concussions were reported for the last five years in the 5th grade from students playing on the playground. Since students can sometimes play on the playground at various points during the day, I’m not going to limit the query to a certain time period. I’m also not going to limit the activity, as multiple activities could be done on the playground. I want to see how the reported concussions compare across sex, so I’ll display the query by sex. Here’s how this query would look:

Step 1: Select data type

Select data type
- All district data
- Reportable injury criteria
- Does not meet UDH reportable injury criteria

Step 2: Select year

Select from list of years
- 2012-2013
- 2013-2014
- 2014-2015
- 2015-2016
- 2016-2017
- 2017-2018

Step 3: Select grade
(5th Grade)

Select school grade
- 2nd Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 5th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade

Step 4: Select sex

Would you like to include only males or only females in the results? Default includes both sexes.
- Both Male and Female
- Male
- Female
Step 5: Select injury

Select nature of the injuries

- All
- Abrasion/Scrape
- Bump/Brisk/Contusion
- Burn/ScaI
- Concussion (possible)
- Cut/Incision

Step 6: Select contributing factor(s)

Select contributing factor(s)

- All contributing factor(s)
- Animal bite
- Collision with object or person
- Compression/Pinch
- Contact with equipment (shop, P.E., sharp object)
- Contact with fire, hot liquid or hot object

Step 7: Select period

Select period

- All period
- After School
- Assembly
- Athletic event/competition
- Athletic practice/session
- Before School

Step 8: Select location

Select location

- Corridor/Hall (excluding stairs)
- Doorway
- Gymnasium
- Lab (Home Ec., Chem., etc.)
- Lunchroom/Kitchen
- Playground/Playfield

Step 9: Select Surface

Select surface

- All surface
- Blacktop
- Carpet
- Concrete
- Dirt
- Gravel

Step 10: Select activity

Select activity

- All activity
- Basketball/Softball
- Basketball
- Bicycling
- Classroom activity
- Climbing

Step 11: Select days absent

Select days absent

- All
- No absences or Less than 1/2 day
- 1/2 day
- 1 day
- 1 1/2 - 2 days
- 2 1/2 - 3 days
After hitting "Submit", this is what you see:

From this query, we see that 220 concussions were reported and that 170 of those concussions were among male 5th grade students.

**Resources**

- General information on IBIS-PH, training materials, etc. can be found at [https://ibis.health.utah.gov](https://ibis.health.utah.gov).