

# Keep away from horses

This statistical report on injury rates in various sports was prepared by a group of students for a school newsletter.

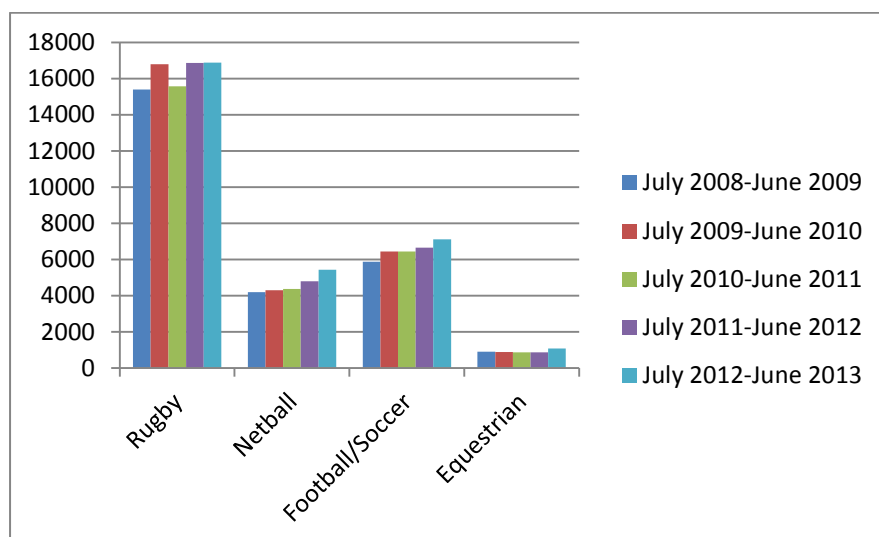
Evaluate the validity of their conclusions.



# Keep Away from Horses

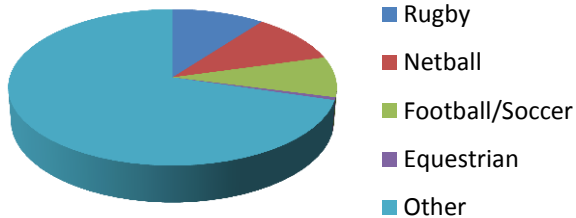
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Rugby may be the Nation's game, but it has a reputation as the most dangerous of school sports. Of the three main sports played in secondary schools in New Zealand, rugby, netball and football/soccer, it is rugby that has the highest injury rate. Around 60% of 15-19 year old rugby players registered injuries with ACC in the July 2012 to June 2013 period. But rugby is no way near as dangerous as equestrian activities. These accounted for over \$450,000 worth of ACC claims for 15-19 year olds in the same period. Those claims were made by the 69% of equestrian competitors who were injured, while taking part in this sport. The rate of horse-riding injuries is shockingly high when compared with the 30% of soccer players and less than 20% of netballers of the same age category who were injured while playing their sport. However, the injury rate is on the rise for both netball and soccer, whereas the number of injury claims per year for rugby remains relatively steady. The number of new sports related injury claims made by young people in New Zealand between the ages of 15 and 19, are shown below.



Of the 277,571 secondary schools that play a school sport in 2013, there were 28,947 students playing rugby and a similar number play netball. Although only 23,354 play football/soccer, there were around 1500 more injuries in soccer than netball. However, nothing compares to the equestrian injury rate. Each year, seven in ten riders can expect to be injured while eventing.

## Sports Competitors at Secondary School, 2013



So, if you are wondering which sport to sign up for: with rugby, expect to be injured and out of netball and soccer, it's much safer to choose netball. But to be really safe, keep away from horses!

Sources:

<http://www.acc.co.nz/for-individuals/injury-statistics/index.htm#>

<http://www.nzsssc.org.nz/>

Raw Data:

	July 2008-June 2009	July 2009-June 2010	July 2010-June 2011	July 2011-June 2012	July 2012-June 2013
Rugby	15395	16783	15566	16861	16870
Netball	4193	4300	4376	4805	5426
Football/Soccer	5874	6446	6435	6652	7111
Equestrian	907	896	876	879	1083
	Sports Players at Secondary School, 2013				
Rugby	28794				
Netball	28947				
Football/Soccer	23354				
Equestrian	1569				
Other	196476				