

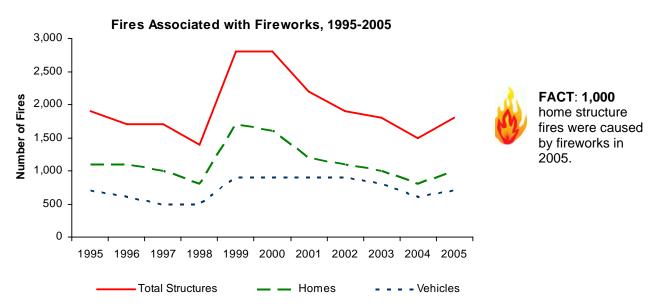


Fireworks

Size of the Fireworks Problem

On Independence Day in a typical year, more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for half of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.

- In 2005, fireworks caused an estimated 1,800 total structure fires and 700 vehicle fires reported to fire departments.
- These 2,500 fires resulted in an estimated 60 civilian injuries and \$39 million in direct property damage. There were no reported civilian deaths.

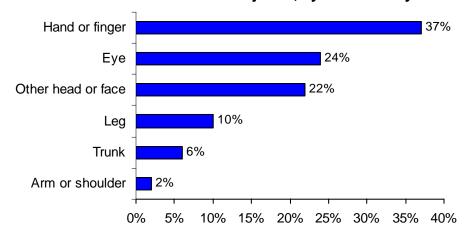


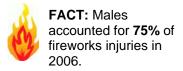
Characteristics of Fireworks Injuries

In 2006, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated **9,200** people for fireworks related injuries.

 49% of 2006 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and 46% were to the head.

2006 Fireworks-Related Injuries, by Part of Body





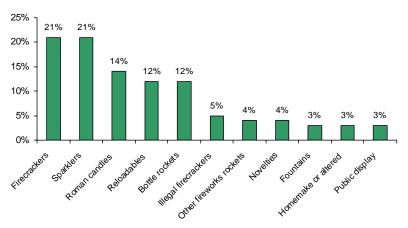
Characteristics of Fireworks Injuries Continued

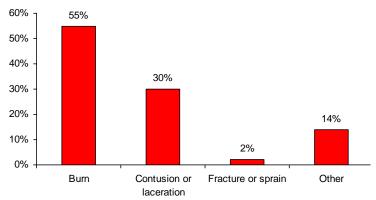
- 55% of the 2006 fireworks injuries were burns, while 30% were contusions and lacerations.
- One-third of the people injured by fireworks were under the age of 15.
- The risk of fireworks injury was two-and-a-half times as high for children ages 10-14 as for the general population.
- Sparklers, fountains, and novelties alone accounted for 28% of the emergency room fireworks injuries in 2006.



2006 Fireworks-Related Injuries by Type of Fireworks

2006 Fireworks Related Injuries by Type of Injury





Risk of Private Fireworks Use



FACT: 90% of the fireworks injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms involved fireworks that Federal regulations permit consumers to use.

The risk of fire death relative to time used shows fireworks as the riskiest consumer product.

- The risk that someone will die from fire when fireworks are being used is higher relative to exposure time than the risk of fire death when a cigarette is being smoked.
- The risks with fireworks are not limited to displays, public or private. Risks also exist wherever fireworks are manufactured, transported, or stored.
- "Safe and sane" fireworks are neither. Fireworks and sparklers are designed to explode or throw off showers of hot sparks. Temperatures may exceed 1200°F.



FACT: The following five states have banned access by the public to all fireworks: Delaware, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island.

NFPA encourages people to enjoy public displays of fireworks that comply with NFPA 1123. NFPA is strongly opposed to any consumer use of fireworks.

Source: *Fireworks*, John R. Hall, Jr., NFPA, Quincy, MA. May 2008 Liberal use of NFPA fact sheets is allowable with attribution.