



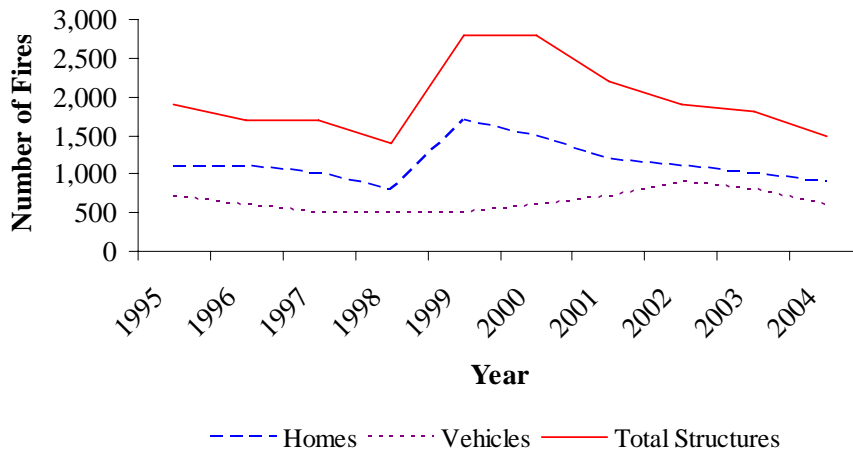
Fireworks

Size of the Fireworks Problem

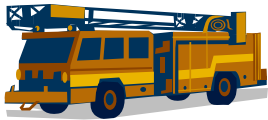
On Independence Day in a typical year, more U.S. fires are reported than on any other day, and fireworks account for half of those fires, more than any other cause of fires.

- In 2004, fireworks caused an estimated **1,500** total structure fires and **600** vehicle fires reported to fire departments.
- These 2,200 fires resulted in an estimated **20** civilian injuries and **\$21 million** in direct property damage. There were no reported civilian deaths.

Fires Associated with Fireworks: 1995-2004



FACT: 900 home structure fires were caused by fireworks in 2004.

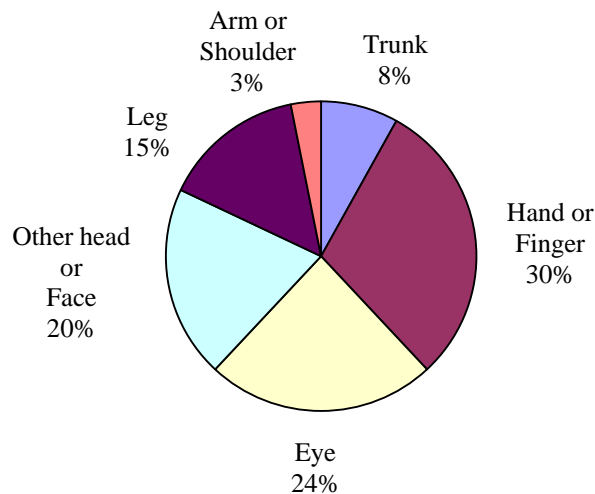


Characteristics of Fireworks Injuries

In 2005, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated **10,800** people for fireworks related injuries.

- **48%** of 2005 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the extremities and **44%** were to the head.

2005 Fireworks-Related Injuries by Part of Body



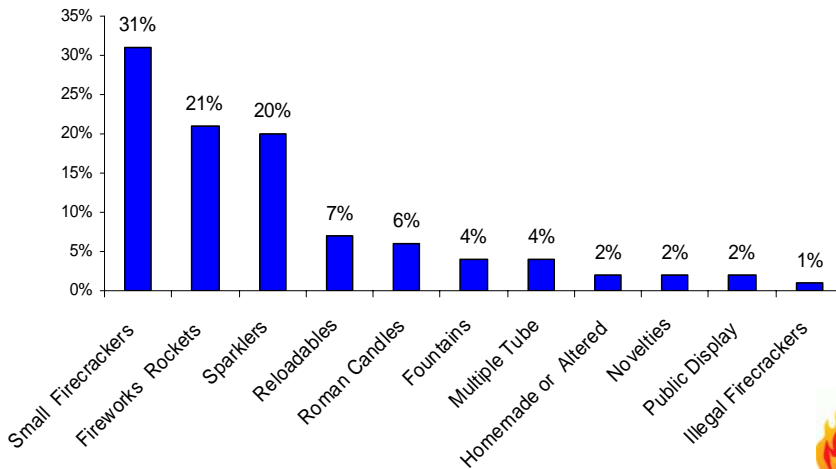
FACT: Males accounted for **69%** of fireworks injuries in 2005.

Characteristics of Fireworks Injuries Continued

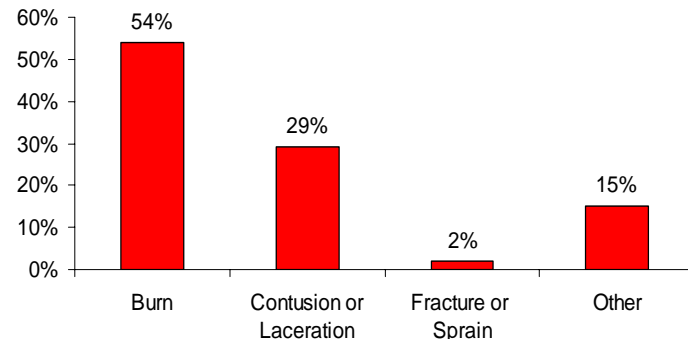
- **54%** of the 2005 fireworks injuries were burns, while **29%** were contusions and lacerations.
- **Nearly half** the people injured by fireworks were under the age of 15.
- The risk of fireworks injury was **nearly three times** as high for children ages 10-14 as for the general population.
- Sparklers, fountains, and novelties alone accounted for **26%** of the emergency room fireworks injuries in 2005.



2005 Fireworks-Related Injuries by Type of Fireworks



2005 Fireworks Related Injuries by Type of Injury



FACT: 95% of the fireworks injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms involved fireworks that Federal regulations permit consumers to use.

Risk of Private Fireworks 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*, by John R. Hall, Jr., National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA 02169

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