



PREVENTION MATTERS

THE CENTER FOR INJURY PREVENTION AND POLICY

Fireworks Safety Fact Sheet

FIREWORKS SAFETY QUIZ

- Where do most fireworks injuries occur?**
 - Street or Other Public Place
 - Family or Private Party
 - Large Public Display
- Which type of firework causes the most accidents?**
 - Sparklers and Firecrackers
 - Bottle Rockets
 - Roman Candles
- Are fireworks explosives?**
 - Yes
 - No
- How hot can a sparkler get when it's burning?**
 - 500° Fahrenheit
 - 1000° Fahrenheit
 - 1800° Fahrenheit
- What speed can firework rockets reach?**
 - Up to 40 mph
 - Up to 80 mph
 - Up to 150 mph
- Which part of the body is most likely to be injured in a fireworks accident?**
 - Hand/Arms
 - Legs
 - Head
 - Chest
- Statistically, which gender is most likely to get injured from fireworks?**
 - Men
 - Women
 - Both are equally likely to be injured
- Do most fireworks injuries happen around the 4th of July?**
 - Yes
 - No

ANSWERS ON REVERSE SIDE



Fireworks celebrations are an American tradition. Whether you are ringing in the new year or celebrating our country's independence, you should remember that along with the star-spangled celebrations come certain dangers. **In 2017, 12,900 people were injured in the U.S. in fireworks-related incidents** (U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission).



Fireworks Injuries

Burns are the most common injury, but devastating injuries to the hands and fingers can also occur. Some injuries are so severe they can result in amputation.

Sparklers can burn at up to 1800° Fahrenheit

- That is as hot as a blow torch and hot enough to melt some metals!
- This temperature can cause burns, eye injury and even blindness

In 2017:

- 31% of firework related injuries were to the hands and fingers
- 22% were to the head, face and ears
- 14% were to the eyes
- 6% were to the arms

Fireworks and Property Damage

It is estimated that fireworks start about 18,000 fires per year affecting buildings, cars and surrounding trees. These fires result in a wide range of injuries and cause an average of \$43 million in property damage every year.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- National Council on Fireworks Safety: fireworkssafety.org/safety-tips
- Fireworks Safety for Children: safekids.org/Fireworks

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:

The Center for Injury Prevention and Policy, visit umm.edu/CIPP
STC Prevention Matters, visit umm.edu/PreventionMatters

Fireworks Tips



- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks
- Never light fireworks in your hand
- Never throw fireworks or point them at anyone
- Never try to pick up a firework that did not ignite
- Do not allow young children to play with fireworks
- A responsible adult should supervise all firework activities
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks
- Do not carry fireworks in your pockets
- Light one firework at a time and then move away from the area
- Soak any used fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them away

Don't Mix Alcohol and/or Drugs with Fireworks

Alcohol and drugs don't mix with explosives. Never use fireworks when you are under the influence of either.

Tips for Safety When Attending a Public Fireworks Display



- Observe safety barriers and listen to ushers
- Stay at least 500 feet from the launch site
- Do not pick up any fireworks debris after the show. They can still be hot and may even explode.

Fireworks and Pet Safety



- Don't bring your pets to a fireworks display; the loud noise and bright lights can be very upsetting to them
- Never shoot off fireworks near pets
- Keep your pets inside so they cannot hear the loud noises
- Be sure that your pet has an ID tag in case they get scared and run away during fireworks

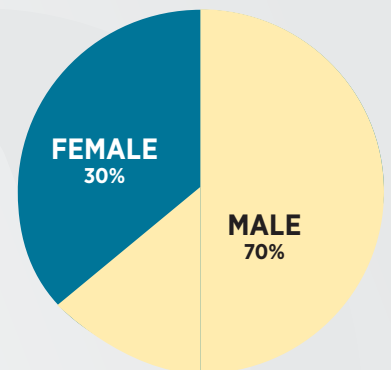


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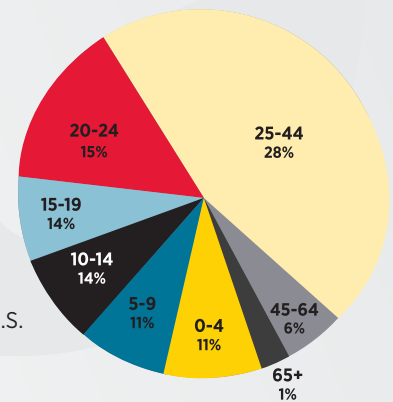
ESTIMATED INJURIES

BY GENDER



PERCENTAGE OF INJURIES

BY AGE GROUP



Both Graphs are from 2017 Fireworks Annual Report (U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission)

Quiz Answers:



- **Q1. B is the correct answer.** As many as two-thirds of fireworks-related injuries occur on private property.
- **Q2. A is the correct answer.** Sparklers and firecrackers are the most frequent cause of injuries.
- **Q3. A is the correct answer.** Fireworks are considered to be explosives under Federal explosives laws and regulations.
- **Q4. C is the correct answer.** A sparkler can reach temperatures as high as 1800° Fahrenheit when it is burning.
- **Q5. B is the correct answer.** It can reach speeds of up to 80 mph.
- **Q6. A is the correct answer.** 31% of the injuries involved hands and fingers; burns were the most common type of injuries.
- **Q7. A is the correct answer.** Of the injuries reported in 2017, 70% were males and 30% were female.
- **Q8. A is the correct answer.** 67% of all firework related injuries happened around the Fourth of July Holiday.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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