

Indiana Burn Fact Sheet

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| <p style="text-align: center;">Burns Defined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the International Society for Burn Injuries, a burn occurs when some or all of the different layers of cells in the skin are destroyed by a hot liquid (scald), a hot solid (contact burns) or a flame (flame burns). • Skin injuries due to ultraviolet radiation, radioactivity, electricity or chemicals, as well as respiratory damage resulting from smoke inhalation, are also considered to be burns. • Includes injury from fire and flames and from hot objects and substances. Examples include smoke inhalation, structural fires, clothing ignition, burns caused by hot liquids and steam, caustics and corrosives. | <p style="text-align: center;">Indiana Burn Facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 2003 and 2006, fire/burn-related injuries were the 5th leading cause of death for Indiana residents, claiming 369 lives with an age-adjusted rate of 1.47 per 100,000 population. Based on hospital discharge data for the four-year period, fire/burn-related injuries accounted for approximately 2.2% of all inpatient hospitalizations and 1.8% all outpatient/ED visits. • The total charges during 2003 to 2006 for inpatient hospitalizations and outpatient/ED visits were \$71 million. These charges do not account for lost productivity, property damage, higher insurance premiums/other financial costs to individuals, their families, their communities, and society as a whole. |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Causes of Burns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residential fires accounted for 76% of fire-related injuries and 79% of fire-related deaths in 2002 (CDC, 2004). Cooking is the primary cause for residential fires. • Scalds are a frequent cause of burn injuries in children; most occur in the home as a result of hot food & beverage preparation or from hot water in sinks, bathtubs, & showers. Scalds can also occur from the result of steam or hot grease exposure. • Smoking: In 2004, there were 92 burn-related deaths in Indiana caused by smoking. • 2009 firework-related injuries reported to ISDH: Half (58/116) involved children & adolescents (18 years of age & under), who represent 25% of Indiana's population (2007 Census data). | <p style="text-align: center;">Indiana Burn Facts...:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths from fires and burns are the fifth most common cause of unintentional injury deaths in the United States and the third leading cause of fatal home injury. • Groups at risk for residential fires & those at greatest risk of sustaining fire-related injuries are adults age 65 years and older and children ages five years and younger; African Americans, American Indian/Alaska Natives; rural dwellers; persons living in substandard housing or manufactured homes. • The CDC also has data showing that most residential fires occur in the winter months, and that approximately half of fire deaths occur in homes without smoke alarms. |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Burn Prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising or enclosing cooking areas • Electrification to reduce dependence on candles and kerosene • Safe stove design • Improved house construction | <p style="text-align: center;">Burn Prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation and maintenance of smoke alarms and sprinkler systems • Education about prevention and first-aid management of burns • Water temperature regulation • Flame retardant fabrics |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Prevention Works:</p> <p>For every \$1 spent on a smoke alarm \$69 in fire related costs and \$21 in direct medical costs are saved (Source: Safe Kids)</p> | <p>Data Sources: Injuries in Indiana, 2003-2006, ISDH Injury Prevention Program; Centers for Disease Control Injury Center; Indiana State Department of Health 2009 Firework-Related Injury Report, Jodi Hackworth, MPH; Journal of Burn Care and Rehabilitation; Fireproof Children & BIC Corporation: play safe! be safe! Program; Safe Kids; Riley Hospital for Children Community Education and Child Advocacy; Teach VIP ; Advanced Curriculum Module 4; U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission</p> |