

FAST FACTS

Fire and Burn Injuries Among Children in 2020



This Fast Facts includes data on fatal and nonfatal unintentional fire and burn injuries among children ages 0–19 years in the U.S.

Magnitude of Fire and Burn Injuries Among Children Ages 0–19^{1,2}

Fatal injuries in 2020

228

Hospitalizations in 2020

9,361

ER treated & released in 2020

61,526

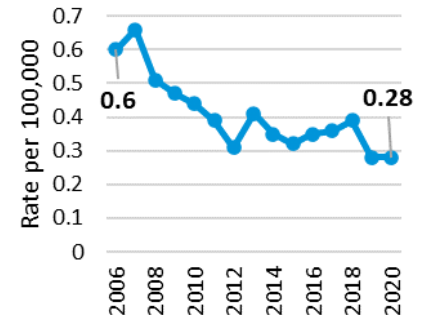
In 2020, fire and burn injuries among children resulted in:

4 fatal injuries per week

180 hospitalizations per week

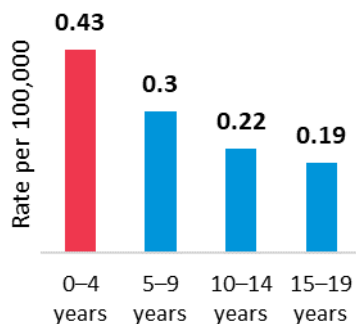
1,183 ER treated & released per week

The rate of fatal fire and burn injury among children decreased by 53 percent between 2006 and 2020.



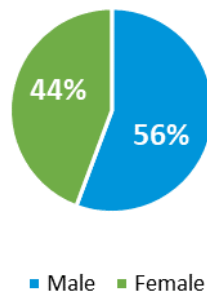
Fatal Injuries by Age, 2020¹

The rate of fatal fire and burn injury was highest among 0 to 4-year-olds.



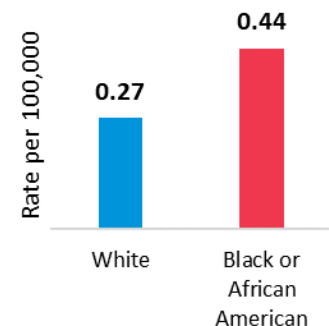
Fatal Injuries by Sex, 2020¹

Males made up a slightly larger proportion of fatal fire and burn injuries among children than females.



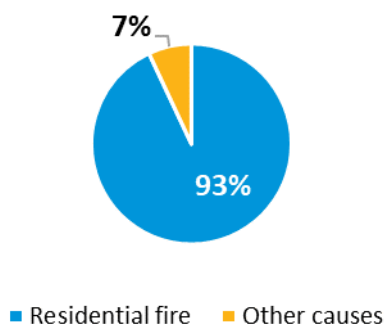
Fatal Injuries by Race, 2020¹

The rate of fatal fire and burn injury was higher among Black/African American children compared to White.



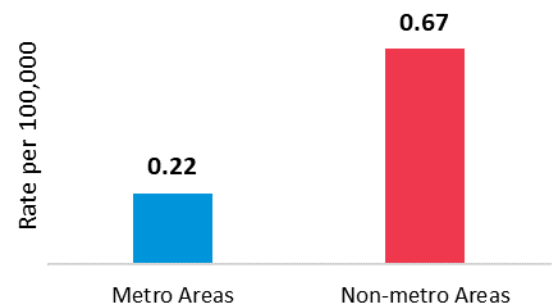
Fatal Injuries Due to Residential Fires, 2020¹

More than 9 in 10 fatal fire and burn injuries among children were the result of residential fires.



Fatal Injuries by Geographical Area, 2020¹

The rate of fatal fire and burn injury was 3 times higher among children living in non-metro areas compared to metro areas.



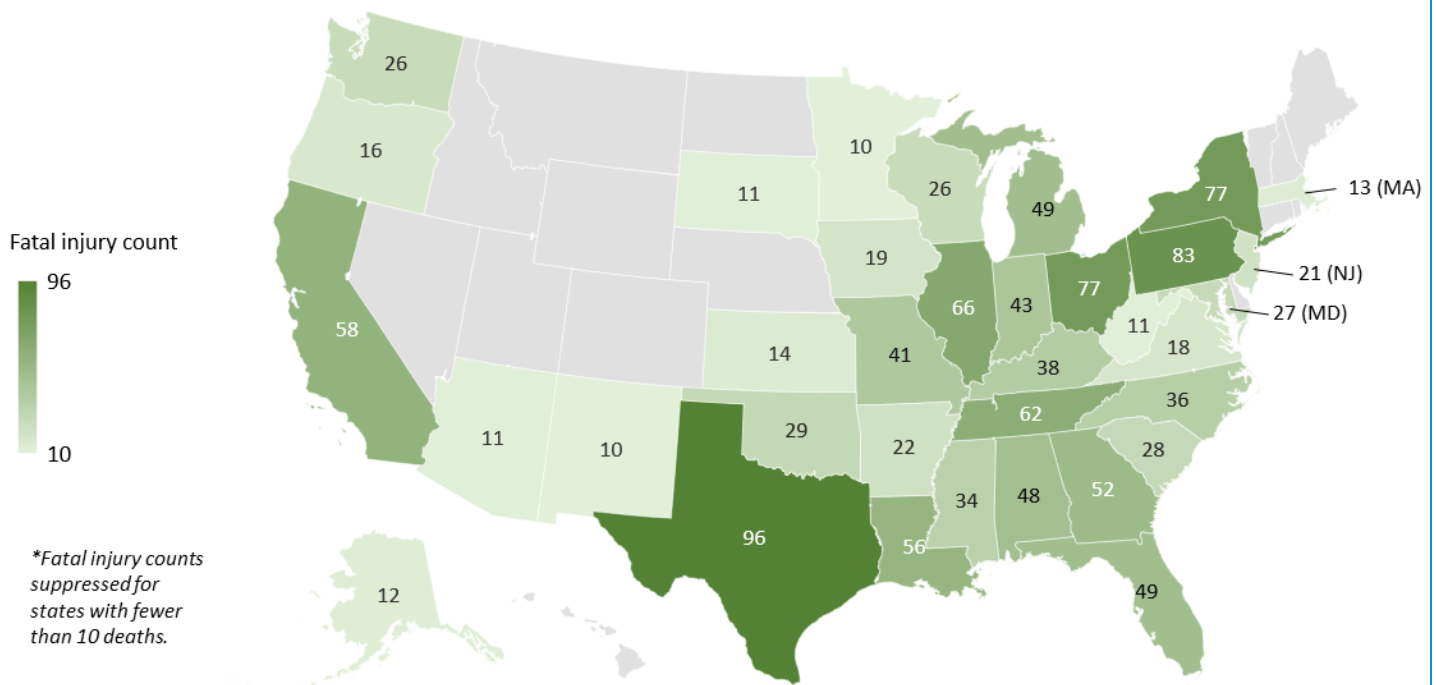
Cost of Fire and Burn Injuries, 2020³

The economic costs of fatal and nonfatal fire and burn injuries among children was estimated to be \$6.29 billion in 2020, with fatal injuries accounting for 64 percent of total costs.

Cost	Fatal	Nonfatal		Combined (row)
		ER Treated and Re-leased	Hospitalization	
Medical	\$1.76 million	\$300.83 million	\$639.74 million	\$942.32 million
Work Loss	--	\$93.76 million	\$86.6 million	\$180.36 million
Quality of Life Loss	--	\$476.54 million	\$698.14 million	\$1.17 billion
Value of Statistical Life	\$3.99 billion	--	--	\$3.99 billion
Combined (column)	\$4 billion	\$871.13 million	\$1.42 billion	\$6.30 billion

Number of Fatal Fire and Burn Injuries by State, 2016–2020*¹

The number of fatal fire and burn injuries among children between 2016 and 2020 was highest in Texas, Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio .



Notes and References

¹Data on fatal injuries retrieved from the CDC Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research (WONDER) system.

²Data on nonfatal injuries were retrieved from the CDC Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS).

³Cost of injury data were calculated using 2020 data within the WISQARS Cost of Injury Data application and includes unintentional injuries that were serious enough to require an ED visit. Total combined costs are likely underestimated, as WISQARS cost estimates do not include ED treatment costs for injured children who were hospitalized. Beginning in year 2019, fatal economic costs are substantially higher than those reported in previous years due to the inclusion of value of statistical life costs, which are approximately 10 times higher than the previously-reported values for foregone employment compensation.