



## Fireworks

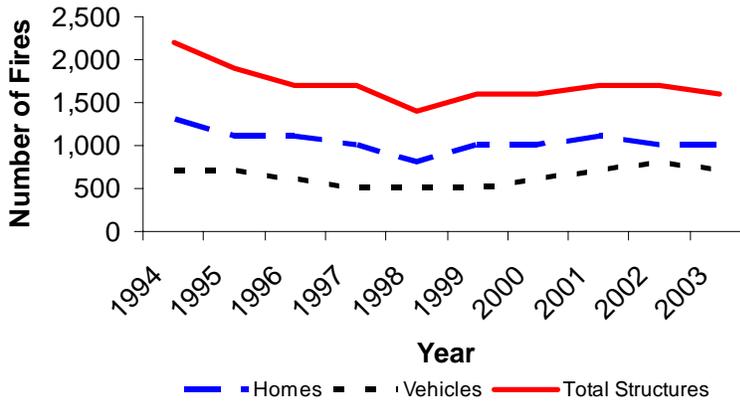
### Size of the Fireworks Problem

On Independence Day in a typical year, fireworks are the **leading** cause of reported fire, accounting for more outdoor fires in the U.S. than all other causes of outdoor fires combined.

- In 2003, fireworks caused an estimated **1,600** total structure fires and **700** vehicle fires reported to fire departments.
- These fires resulted in an estimated **5** civilian deaths, **60** civilian injuries, and **\$58 million** in direct property damage.\*



Fires Associated with Fireworks: 1994-2003



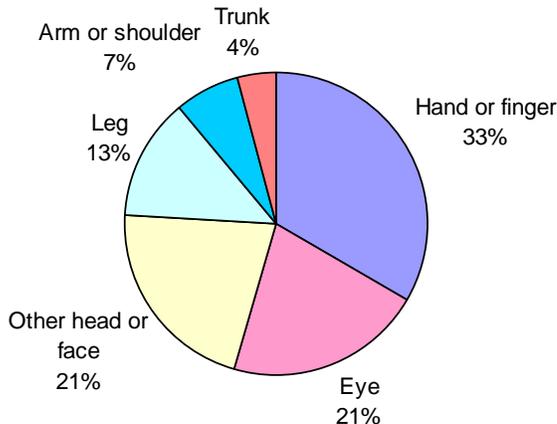
**FACT: 1,000** home structure fires were caused by fireworks in 2003.

### Characteristics of Fireworks Injuries

In 2004, U.S. hospital emergency rooms treated an estimated **9,600** people for fireworks related injuries.

- **42%** of 2004 emergency room fireworks-related injuries were to the head and **53%** were to the extremities.

2004 Fireworks-Related Injuries by Part of Body Injured



**FACT: Males** accounted for **75%** of fireworks injuries in 2004.



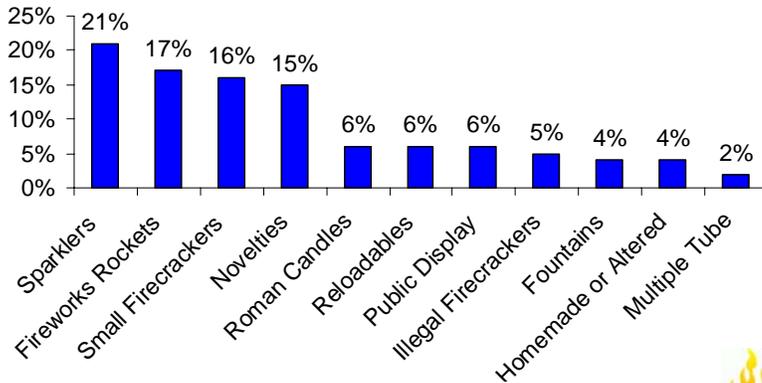
\* These numbers do not include the tragic events of the Station nightclub fire, where **100** people lost their lives to a fire started by the indoor use of pyrotechnics.

## Characteristics of Fireworks Injuries Continued

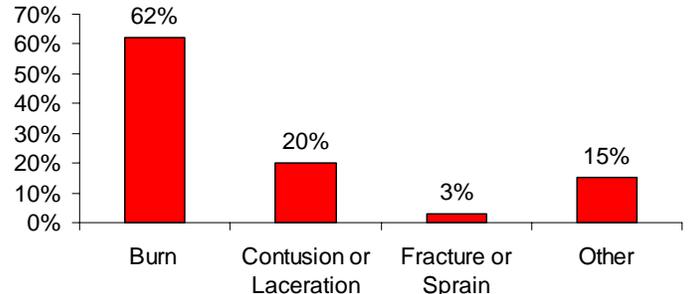
- **62%** of the 2004 fireworks injuries were burns, while **20%** were contusions and lacerations.
- **More than half** the people injured by fireworks were under the age of 20.
- The risk of fireworks injury was **twice** as high for children under five and youth 5-19 than for the general population.
- Sparklers, fountains, and novelties alone accounted for **40%** of the emergency room fireworks injuries in 2004.



2004 Fireworks-Related Injuries by Type of Fireworks



2004 Fireworks Related Injuries by Type of Injury



**FACT:** 85% 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 **3 to 4 times higher** than the risk of fire death from a lit cigarette.
- 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 the public displays of fireworks, and is strongly opposed to any consumer use of fireworks.***