

Injury Prevention: Fire and Burns



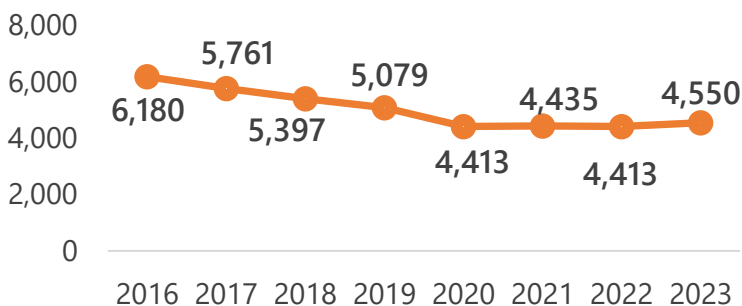
Fires can have a devastating impact on our lives—causing burns (scald or flames), carbon monoxide poisoning, and even death. Increasing awareness about fire safety is the first step to keeping you and your loved ones safe!

More than **40,200** Kentucky resident **emergency department (ED) visits**¹ from 2016–2023 were due to **fire and burn injuries**.

An average of **79 deaths**² per year from 2016–2023 were due to fire and burn injuries.

Males accounted for **58%** of deaths and **54%** of ED visits due to fire and burn injuries.

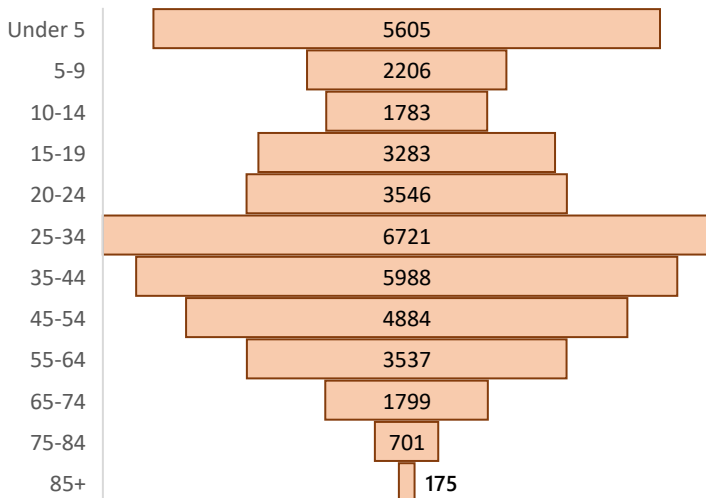
Kentucky Resident Fire and Burn Injury-Related ED Visits¹, 2016–2023*



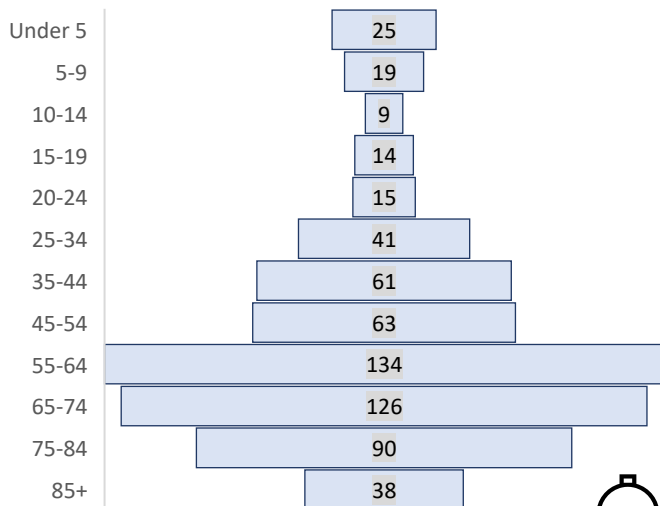
*The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that started in 2020 should be considered when interpreting data and trend analyses.

Kentucky Resident Fire and Burn Injuries and Deaths by Age Group, 2016–2023

ED Visits¹



Deaths²

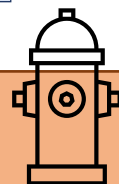


ED Visits by Age Group:

- ❑ 32% were 19 years old or younger
- ❑ 17% were age 25–34
- ❑ 15% were age 35–44
- ❑ 14% were under age five

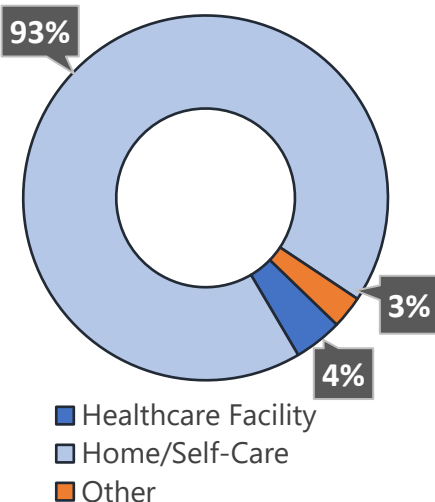
Deaths by Age Group:

- ❑ 21% were age 55–64
- ❑ 20% were age 65–74
- ❑ 14% were age 75–84
- ❑ 11% were 19 years old and younger



¹ED visit counts represent encounters of care and could be greater than the number of individual patients treated in Kentucky. Data source: Kentucky Outpatient Services Database, Office of Data and Analytics. ²Data Source: Kentucky Death Certificate Database, Office of Vital Statistics, Cabinet for Health and Family Services. Produced October 2024. Data are provisional and subject to change. Images: flaticon.com

Kentucky Resident Fire and Burn Injury-Related ED Visits by Discharge Status, 2016–2023



Details of Fire and Burn ED Visit Injuries

Injury Type:

- 91% were treated for burns
- 9% were due to smoke/carbon monoxide inhalation

Injury Source:

- 29% smoke or fire
- 71% hot object or substance

Injury Detail:

- 34% hot fluids, water, steam, and other fluids
- 25% bed, sofa or furniture fire
- 9% hot household appliances
- 7% corrosive substances
- 5% hot tap water
- 5% nonstructural fire



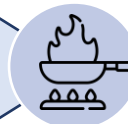
About 72% of fire and burn injuries treated in the ED **occurred at private residences and homes.**

Safety Tips



Install and maintain smoke alarms in your home. Place a smoke alarm on every floor and near all sleeping areas. Test your smoke alarms monthly, and make sure everyone can hear the smoke alarm.

Use safe cooking practices. Never leave food unattended on the stove and keep pot and pan handles turned toward the back of the stove.



If your clothing catches fire, **stop** where you are, **drop** to the ground and cover your face, and **roll** back and forth until the flames are out.

Keep children at least three feet away from heat sources (ovens, heaters, stoves, grills, etc.).



Make a **fire escape plan** for you and your family! Have more than one way to get out of each room in your home. **Talk** about, **review**, and **practice** the plan with everyone in your household.



Additional Resources

- Kentucky State Fire Marshal: Visit <http://ksfm.ky.gov/> or call 1-800-573-0382.
- Fire prevention and safety education programs: Visit the U.S. Fire Administration at <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/>.
- Resources on fire risks, safety, and escape plans: Visit the National Fire Protection Association at <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education>.

