



## OSFM 2019 Seasonal Fireworks Injury Report

The OSFM Fire Prevention Division requested hospitals and emergency treatment centers in Illinois to provide information about injuries associated with fireworks during the period from June 23 through July 20. During this seasonal reporting period, 56 hospitals and facilities reported a total of 126 injuries. There was one fatality reported during the 2019 reporting period. Comparatively, 44 hospitals reported 134 injuries during the same seasonal period in 2018. The decrease in reported injuries is more likely related to a decrease in the number of facilities reporting as there is no requirement for healthcare providers to report fireworks injuries and the level of response varies from year to year.

Healthcare facilities reported 126 persons having been injured by fireworks during the 2019 seasonal reporting period. Approximately half of all injured persons suffered multiple injuries. Of those injured, 90 are male. Almost half of all injuries (48%) occurred to persons over 22 years of age. Children under 6 years of age and 7-10 years old accounted for 22% of all injuries.

The reported injuries were related to a wide variety of fireworks with "Sparklers" and "Unknown Type" listed as the most frequent type of fireworks or pyrotechnic effect involved in injury (19%). This was followed by Mortars (17%), with Firecrackers (12%), Bottle Rockets and Smoke/Cherry bombs (8%) and Salutes and Roman Candles at 7%. The balance of injuries reported were associated with various other effects including rockets and homemade devices. (The sale and use of Roman Candles, Firecrackers and salute devices are prohibited in Illinois.)

More than 40% of all injuries (including amputation/dismemberment) affected hands and fingers. Second degree burns were the leading type of injury at 26%. Injuries to the head/face (17%), abrasions (15%), fingers (11%), Arms (10%), Legs and Eye (9%) injuries were reported.

The OSFM Fire Prevention Division greatly appreciates the participation of all hospitals and reporting facilities who submit data. While the reporting of injuries during the designated seasonal reporting period of June 23 to July 20 is specifically requested, hospitals and treating facilities are encouraged to report fireworks related injuries throughout the year. While a few reports were received in paper format, the majority of these were received electronically via:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/PyrotechnicHospitalFireworksSurvey.pdf>

## 2019 Illinois Fireworks Injuries



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Type of Fireworks	Injuries	Percent
Cones, Fountains Handheld	0	0.00%
Firecrackers/Lady Finger	16	11.51%
Jumping/Crazy Jack	0	0.00%
M-80/M-60/M-100/Silver Salute	10	7.19%
Missile Rocket	2	1.44%
Mortar	23	16.55%
Other Fireworks	0	0.00%
Roman Candles/Shots/Balls	10	7.19%
Sky/Bottle Rockets	11	7.91%
Smoke/Cherry Bomb	11	7.91%
Sparklers Wire/Wood Core	26	18.71%
Fireworks Display	0	0.00%
Homemade	4	2.88%
Unknown	26	18.71%
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Type of Injuries	Table of Type of Injuries Number of Injuries	Percent
Abrasions	28	14.81%
Burns 1st Degree	22	11.64%
Burns 2nd Degree	49	25.93%
Burns 3rd Degree	5	2.65%
Dismemberment/Amputation	12	6.35%
Fatality	1	0.53%
Fracture	7	3.70%
Hearing Loss	5	2.65%
Lacerations	27	14.29%
Loss of Sight	6	3.17%
Other	26	13.76%
Unknown	1	0.53%
<b>Total</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Gender	Number of Injuries	Percent
Female	34	26.98%
Male	90	71.43%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	2	1.59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



# OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

JB Pritzker, Governor  
Matt Perez, State Fire Marshal

Age	Number of Injuries	Percent
0-6	15	11.90%
7-10	15	11.90%
11-16	12	9.52%
17-21	16	12.70%
22 & Over	60	47.62%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	8	6.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Body Parts	Table of Type of Injuries	
	Number of Injuries	Percent
Arms	18	9.78%
Ears	5	2.72%
Eyes	16	8.70%
Feet	7	3.80%
Fingers	20	10.87%
Hands	56	30.43%
Head/Face	31	16.85%
Legs	17	9.24%
Neck	4	2.17%
Torso	10	5.43%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	0	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

	Number of Injuries	Percent
Hospitalized Less than 24 Hours	11	8.73%
Hospitalized More than 24 Hours	22	17.46%
Treated and Released	93	73.81%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	0	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

3 Facilities reported no injuries.

\*Data is based on surveys received from 56 participating hospitals and emergency facilities.