

## OSFM 2024 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 in 2024.

During the July seasonal reporting period, 45 hospitals and facilities reported a total of 156 injuries. There was one fatality reported during the 2024 reporting period. Comparatively, 34 hospitals reported 108 injuries during the same period in 2023. There is no requirement for healthcare providers to report fireworks injuries and we appreciate their efforts.

Healthcare facilities reported 98 persons having been injured by fireworks during the 2024 seasonal reporting period. Approximately 50% of all injured persons suffered multiple injuries. Of those injured, 76 are male and 19 are female. Over half of all injuries (51%) occurred to persons over 22 years of age. Children's injuries in the 11-16 age group increased (17) from the previous year of 6. Children's injuries in the 0-6 age group also increased (13) from the previous year of 2.

The reported injuries were related to a wide variety of fireworks with "Mortars" (36%) listed as the most frequent type of fireworks or pyrotechnic effect involved in injury. This was followed by Roman Candles (12%), Bottle Rockets (8%) and Sparklers (8%). The type of injuries reported were associated with various other effects including Salutes (7%), Smoke Bombs (6%) and Firecrackers (6%). The sale and use of Roman Candles, Firecrackers and Salute devices are prohibited in Illinois.

Over half of all injuries affected hands (29%), head/face (14%) and legs (13%). Second degree burns were the leading type of injury at 23% followed by first degree burns (18%). Lacerations accounted for 17% of the injuries and abrasions at 15%. Loss of sight increased to 11% from 6% in 2023.

The OSFM Fire Prevention Division greatly appreciates the participation of all hospitals and reporting facilities who submit data. While most injuries occur during the seasonal July reporting, hospitals and treating facilities are encouraged to report fireworks related injuries throughout the year. While a few reports were received in paper format, 87% of these were received electronically via: chrome-

<https://sfm.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/sfm/sfmdocuments/documents/pyrotechnichospitalfireworkssurvey.pdf>

## Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal

### 2024 Illinois Fireworks Injuries

Type of Fireworks	Number of Fireworks Causing Injuries	Percent
Cones, Fountains Handheld	4	4%
Firecrackers/Lady Finger	6	6%
Jumping/Crazy Jack	2	2%
M-80/M-60/M-100/Silver Salute	7	7%
Missile Rocket	-	-
Mortar	36	36%
Other Fireworks	1	1%
Roman Candles/Shots/Balls	13	12%
Sky/Bottle Rockets	8	8%
Smoke/Cherry Bomb	7	6%
Sparklers Wire/Wood Core	8	8%
Unknown	10	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>100%</b>

Type of Injuries	Table of Type of Injuries Number of Injuries	Percent
Abrasions	24	15%
Burns 1st Degree	27	18%
Burns 2nd Degree	35	23%
Burns 3rd Degree	1	.50%
Dismemberment/Amputation	8	5%
Fatality	1	.50%
Fracture	6	3%
Hearing Loss	3	1%
Lacerations	25	17%
Loss of Sight	17	11%
Other	9	6%
Unknown	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>100%</b>

Gender	Number of Injuries	Percent
Female	19	19%
Male	76	78%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	3	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>

Age	Number of Injuries	Percent
0-6	13	13%
7-10	2	2%
11-16	17	18%
17-21	16	16%
22 & Over	50	51%
Unknown	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>

<b>Body Parts</b>	<b>Table of Type of Injuries Number of Injuries</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Arms	15	11%
Ears	-	-
Eyes	13	10%
Feet	2	1%
Fingers	11	8%
Hands	41	29%
Head/Face	21	14%
Legs	20	13%
Back	-	-
Neck	3	2%
Torso	17	12%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Number of Injuries</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Hospitalized Less than 24 Hours	6	6%
Hospitalized More than 24 Hours	3	3%
Transferred	18	19%
Treated and Released	63	64%
Unknown ( <i>did not specify</i> )	8	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>

	<b>Injury caused by:</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Public Display	5	5%
Homemade	7	7%
Bought at stand	28	29%
Unknown	58	59%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>