

OSFM 2025 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 2025.

During the July seasonal reporting period, 44 hospitals and facilities reported a total of 152 injuries. There were no fatalities reported during the 2025 reporting period. Comparatively, 45 hospitals reported 156 injuries during the same period in 2024. There is no requirement for healthcare providers to report fireworks injuries and we appreciate their efforts.

Healthcare facilities reported 101 persons having been injured by fireworks during the 2025 seasonal reporting period. Approximately 50% of all injured persons suffered multiple injuries. Of those injured, 66 are male, 31 are female, and 4 were not identified. Half of all injuries (50%) occurred to persons over 22 years of age. Children's injuries in the 7-10 age group increased (6) from the previous year of 2. All other age ranges remained consistent.

The reported injuries were related to a wide variety of fireworks with "Mortars" (35%) listed as the most frequent type of fireworks or pyrotechnic effect involved in injury. This was followed by Roman Candles (14%), Sparklers (10%) and Bottle Rockets (7%). The type of injuries reported were associated with various other effects including Salutes (4%) and Firecrackers (4%). The sale and use of Roman Candles, Firecrackers, Bottle Rockets, and Salute devices are prohibited in Illinois.

Nearly half of all injuries affected hands (20%), fingers (15%), and head/face (13%). Second degree burns were the leading type of injury at 23% followed by lacerations (18%). First degree burns accounted for 13% of the injuries and abrasions at 9%. Loss of sight decreased to 5% from 11% in 2024.

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, over 90% of these were received electronically via:

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

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal

2025 Illinois Fireworks Injuries

Type of Fireworks	Number of Fireworks Causing Injuries	Percent
Cones, Fountains Handheld	3	3%
Firecrackers/Lady Finger	4	4%
Jumping/Crazy Jack	1	1%
M-80/M-60/M-100/Silver Salute	4	4%
Missile Rocket	1	1%
Mortar	37	35%
Roman Candles/Shots/Balls	15	14%
Sky/Bottle Rockets	7	7%
Smoke/Cherry Bomb	2	2%
Sparklers Wire/Wood Core	11	10%
Unknown	20	19%
Total	105	100%

Type of Injuries	Table of Type of Injuries Number of Injuries	Percent
Abrasions	13	9%
Burns 1st Degree	20	13%
Burns 2nd Degree	35	23%
Burns 3rd Degree	4	3%
Dismemberment/Amputation	12	8%
Fatality	0	0%
Fracture	10	7%
Hearing Loss	5	3%
Lacerations	26	17%
Loss of Sight	8	5%
Other	19	13%
Total	152	100%

Gender	Number of Injuries	Percent
Female	31	31%
Male	66	65%
Unknown (<i>did not specify</i>)	4	4%
Total	101	100%

Age	Number of Injuries	Percent
0-6	10	10%
7-10	6	6%
11-16	16	16%
17-21	18	18%
22 & Over	50	50%
Unknown	1	1%
Total	101	100%

Body Parts	Table of Type of Injuries Number of Injuries	Percent
Arms	19	12%
Ears	6	4%
Eyes	14	8%
Feet	7	4%
Fingers	24	15%
Hands	33	20%
Head/Face	22	13%
Legs	20	12%
Neck	2	1%
Torso	18	11%
Unknown <i>(did not specify)</i>	-	-
Total	165	100%

	Number of Injuries	Percent
Hospitalized Less than 24 Hours	5	5%
Hospitalized More than 24 Hours	12	12%
Transferred	12	12%
Treated and Released	52	51%
Unknown <i>(did not specify)</i>	20	20%
Total	101	100%

	Injury caused by:	Percent
Public Display	3	3%
Homemade	2	2%
Bought at IL stand	20	20%
Bought at Out-of-state stand	15	15%
Unknown	61	60%
Total	101	100%