

- The U.S. has one of the highest fire death rates in the industrialized world. For 1998, the U.S. fire death rate was 14.9 deaths per million population.
- Between 1994 and 1998, an average of 4,400 Americans lost their lives and another 25,100 were injured annually as the result of fire.
- Fire is the third leading cause of accidental death in the home; at least 80 percent of all fire deaths occur in residences.
- Among children ages 4 and under hospitalized for burn-related injuries, it is estimated that 65 percent are treated for scald burns and 20 percent for contact burns.
- In 2001, 532 children ages 14 and under died due to unintentional fire- and burn-related injury.
- Fires resulting from children's play are the leading cause of residential fire-related death and injury among children ages 9 and under.
- Children ages 4 and under and children with disabilities are at the greatest risk of burn-related death and injury. These children are especially at risk from scald and contact burns.
- *Fires in 1-2 family dwellings most often start in the:*
  - Kitchen 23.5%
  - Bedroom 12.7%
  - Living Room 7.9%
  - Chimney 7.1%
  - Laundry Area 4.7%
- *Apartment fires most often start in the:*
  - Kitchen 46.1%
  - Bedroom 12.3%
  - Living Room 6.2%
  - Laundry Area 3.3%
  - Bathroom 2.4%
- 80 percent of all fatalities occur in the home. Of those, approximately 85 percent occur in single-family homes and duplexes.
- Senior citizens age 70 and over and children under the age of 5 have the greatest risk of fire death.
- A working smoke alarm dramatically increases a person's chance of surviving a fire.
- It is estimated that over 40 percent of residential fires and three-fifths of residential fatalities occur in homes with no smoke alarms.