



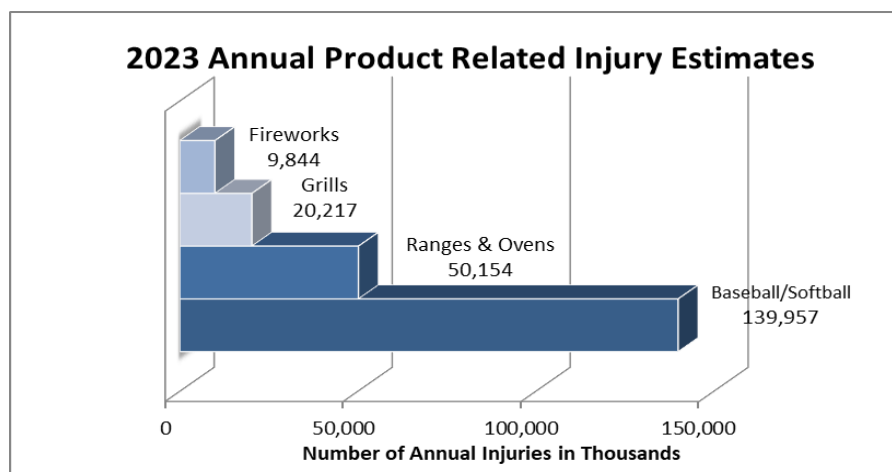
Independence Day Fireworks! As American as Baseball, Hot Dogs, & Apple Pie Fireworks Related Injuries in Perspective

July 4th is when Americans show our patriotism and celebrate all things American. Please remember that most common consumer products carry some inherent risk of injury; however, despite the anti-fireworks messages advocated by some special interest groups, fireworks are not the leading cause of consumer product related injuries in the United States. Other seasonal activities such as playing baseball/softball resulted in nearly 140,000 estimated injuries each year, according to the CPSC.

According to data compiled by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) National Injury Information Clearinghouse (NEISS), over 12,700,000 million Americans sustained consumer product related injuries requiring emergency room treatment in 2023. Estimates for that same year show that approximately 9,800 Americans were injured in fireworks-related incidents. Fireworks, therefore, were involved in only a fraction of the injuries requiring emergency treatment – less than 0.1% of all injuries. That means that more than 99.9% of injuries in this country are associated with something **other than fireworks**.

Serious misuse of fireworks devices, as well as the use of illegal explosives, account for a large proportion of these fireworks-related injuries. To counter misuse, the fireworks industry has stepped up efforts to inform the public of the dangers of illegal explosives and the need to observe all safety precautions when using legal backyard fireworks. The APA's Safety & Education Foundation works with other safety organizations to educate Americans on how to Celebrate Safely on Independence Day and throughout the year with legal consumer fireworks.

So, as you show your patriotism this Independence Day, whether that means playing a game of ball, enjoying a grilled hot dog, partaking in a slice of freshly baked pie or celebrating with backyard fireworks -- remember that the consumer products necessary to experience these American traditions must be always used wisely and with care.



Data Source: NEISS All Injury Program Operated by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Source: American Pyrotechnics Association