

# Hospitalizations & ED Visits for Burn Injuries Children Aged 0-17 Years, 2005-2009

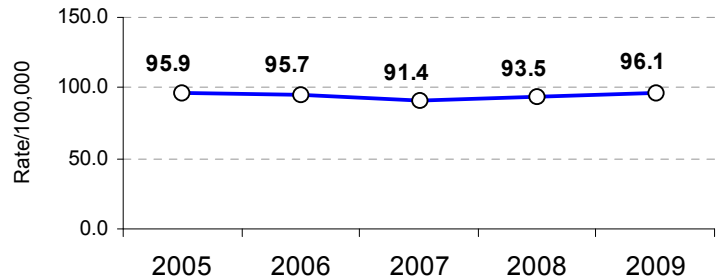


Burns are among the most painful injuries to young children. They often require the need for long rehabilitation and the possibility of physical scarring. Most young children suffer scald burns from hot liquids or steam.

Between 2005-2009, there were 161 hospitalizations and 2,660 emergency department (ED) visits for burns to Miami-Dade County children aged 0-17 years. No burn-related deaths occurred to children during these five years.

- The child injury rate due to burns has not changed between the years 2005-2009.
- Nonfatal burns occurred most frequently on the weekend (32% of cases) and during the evening hours of 6pm-9pm (24% of cases).

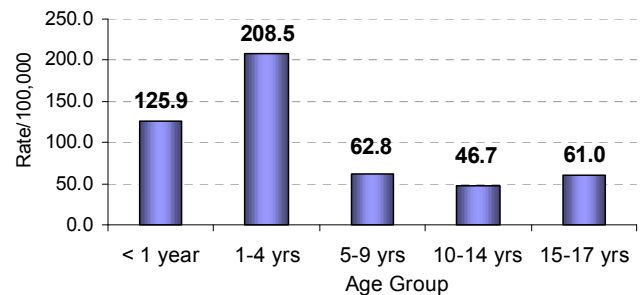
**Burn Injury Rate, Residents Aged 0-17  
Miami-Dade Co., 2005-09**



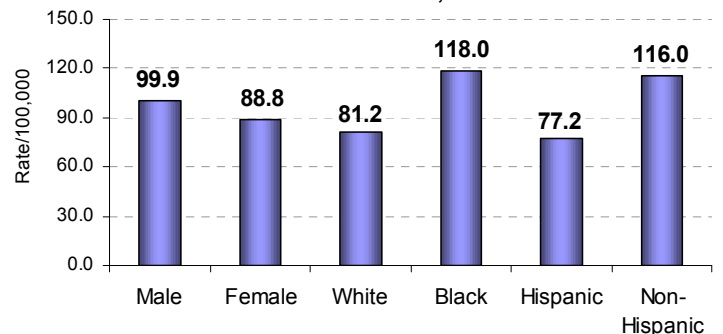
## Who is At Risk?

- Children aged 1-4 accounted for 50% of medically-treated burn injuries and had a rate more than 3-times greater than children aged 5-17. Children less than 2 years old were treated for 33% of the burn injuries.
- Males had a slightly higher burn rate than females.
- The rate of burn injuries for white children was 31% lower than the rate for black children.
- Non-Hispanic children had higher rates for burns than Hispanic children.

**Burn Rate by Age Group  
Deaths, Hospitalizations and ED Visits  
Miami-Dade Co, 2005-09**



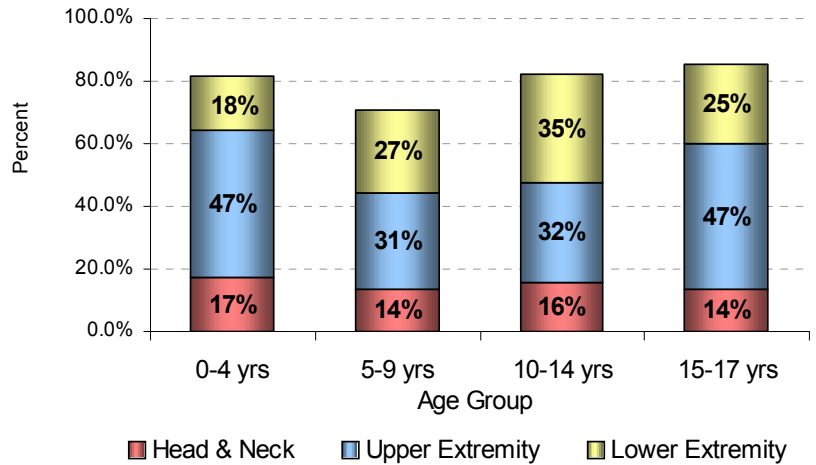
**Burn Rate Rate by Gender, Race, Ethnicity  
Hospitalized and ED Visits  
Miami-Dade Co, 2005-09**



### Body Region Injured by Burn Injuries

- Overall, 42% of patients suffered burns to the upper extremities followed by lower extremities (22%), head or face (16%) and torso (16%).
- Wounds to the hand, wrist or fingers were the most common site of child burn injuries (29%), more than 3-times greater than the second highest site, the forearm (8%).
- 23% of hospitalized burns were 3rd degree burns, with 7% involving between 10-40% of the body surface area.
- Nearly 1/2 of burn injuries didn't specify what agent caused the burn and were classified as unspecified. Among the 1,501 injuries that documented what caused the burn, 69% were due to boiling/scalding liquid or steam, 16% to hot tap water and 15% due to caustic or corrosive substances.

**Percentage of Nonfatal Burn Injuries by Primary Body Region Injured & Age Group**

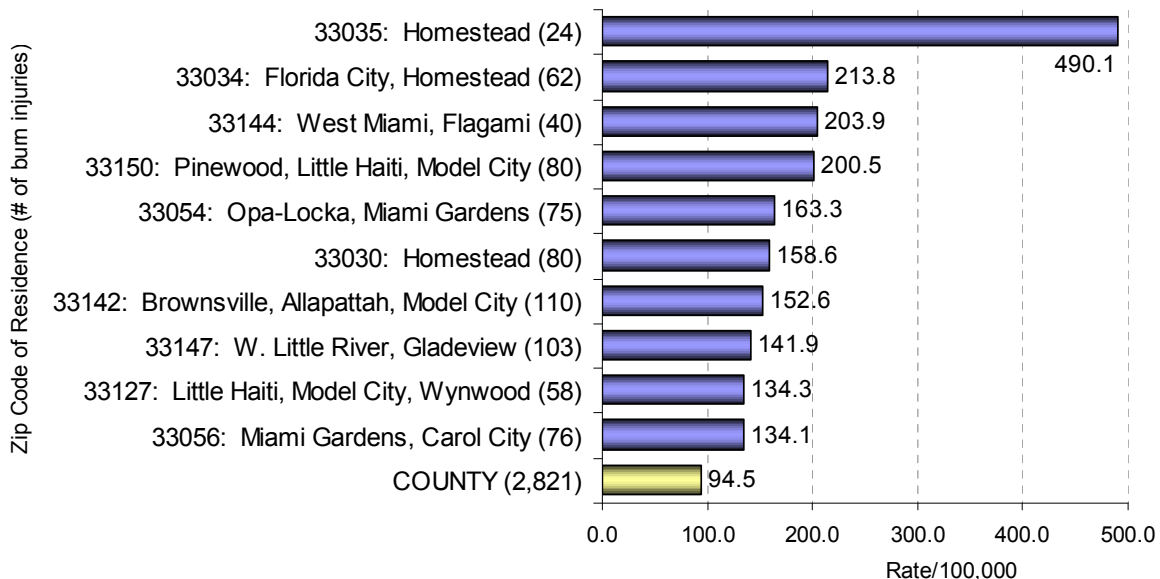


### Residence of Children Injured by Burns

Three regions of the county experienced the highest rates of child burn injuries among zip codes that had least 20 medically-treated burns between 2005-2009:

- The Homestead-Florida City area (33035, 33034, 33030)
- The adjacent zip codes of 33150, 33142, 33147 and 33127 which include among its communities Liberty City, Little Haiti, Allapattah and West Little River.
- The Miami Gardens-Opa-Locka area (33054, 33056)

**Hospitalizations & Emergency Dept. Visits Due to Burns  
Injury Rate for Residents Aged 0-17 by Zip Code of Residence  
Miami-Dade Co., FL 2005-2009**



## Reducing the Risk of Burns

### Kitchen Concerns

- Enforce a "kid-free" zone 3 feet around the oven or stove when cooking. Use a playpen or high chair to keep kids in a safe place. Never leave a child alone in the kitchen when food is cooking.
- Use back burners if possible. When using front burners, turn pot handles towards the back of the stove. Never let them stick out where a child could grab them.
- Do not handle, eat or drink hot items while holding children.
- Never leave hot liquids, like a cup of coffee, where children can reach them. A child can get burned from hot liquids by pulling on hanging tablecloths. Consider replacing tablecloths with placemats.
- Test microwaved food for heat and steam before giving it to your child. (Never warm a bottle in the microwave. It can heat unevenly and burn your child.)

### Hot Water

- Make sure your hot water temperature is set for no more than 120° F (49° C).
- When using tap water, always turn on the cold water first, then add hot. Turn off the hot water first.
- Test the temperature of bath water with your forearm or wrist before placing your child in the water.
- If using a vaporizer, use a cool-mist. Hot water vaporizers can cause steam burns or spill on your child.
- Never leave children alone in the bathroom for any reason. They are at risk for burns.

### Produced by the Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance System

Data Sources: Death Certificates, Office of Vital Statistics, FL Dept. of Health  
Medical Examiner Records, Miami County Medical Examiner Dept.  
Hospital Discharge & ED Data, Agency for Health Care Administration  
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