



Burn Injury Related Hospitalizations and ED Visits Children Aged 0 – 17 Years Miami-Dade County 2010 - 2012

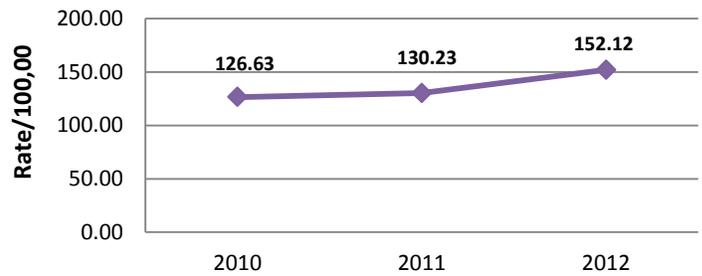


Burns are among the most painful injuries to young children. They often require the need for long rehabilitation and the possibility of physical scarring. Most young children suffer scald burns from hot liquids or steam.

Between 2010 & 2012, there were 173 hospitalizations and 2,073 emergency department (ED) visits for burns to Miami-Dade County children aged 0-17 years. One burn-related death occurred to a child during this time period.

- The child injury rate due to burns has increased 20% between 2010 & 2012.
- Nonfatal burns occurred most frequently on the weekend (32% of cases) and during the evening hours of 6pm–9pm (26% of cases).

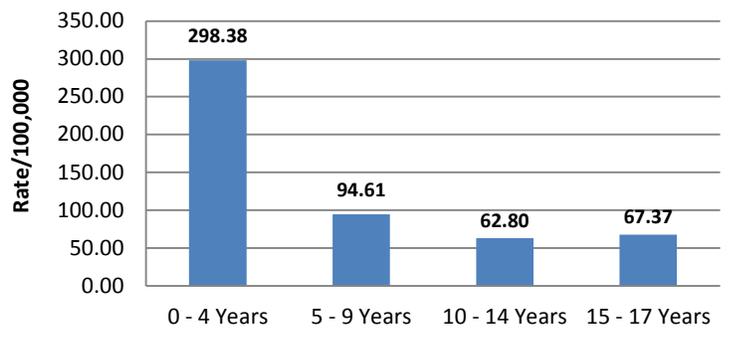
**Burn Injury Rate
Children Aged 0 - 17 Years
Miami-Dade County, 2010 - 2012**

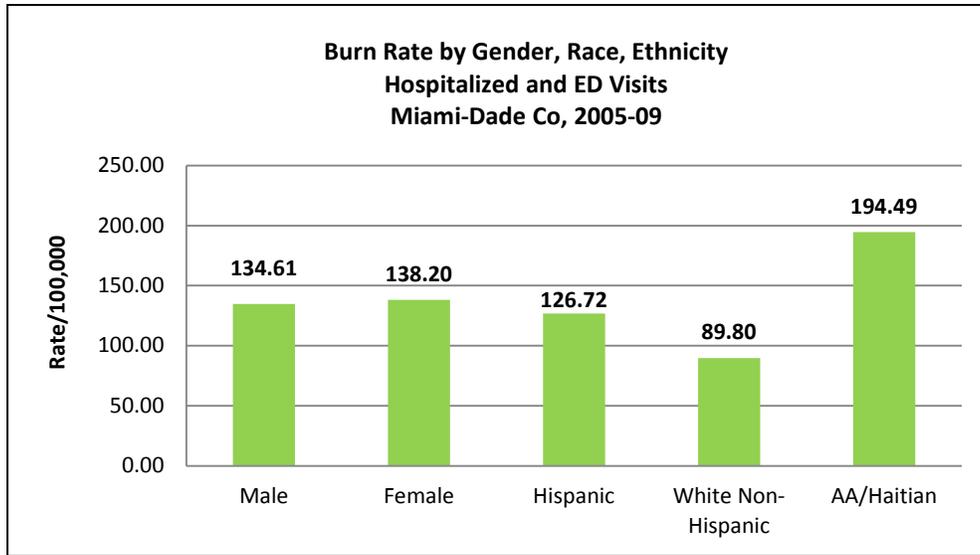


Who is at Risk?

- Children aged 0-4 years accounted for 60% of burn injuries and had a rate nearly four times greater than children aged 5-17.
- There was little difference in burn rates among males and females.
- The rate of burn injuries for African American/Haitian children was 53% higher than the rate for Hispanic children.
- White Non-Hispanic children had lower burn rates than Hispanic children.

**Burn Rate by Age Group
Miami-Dade County, 2010 - 2012**

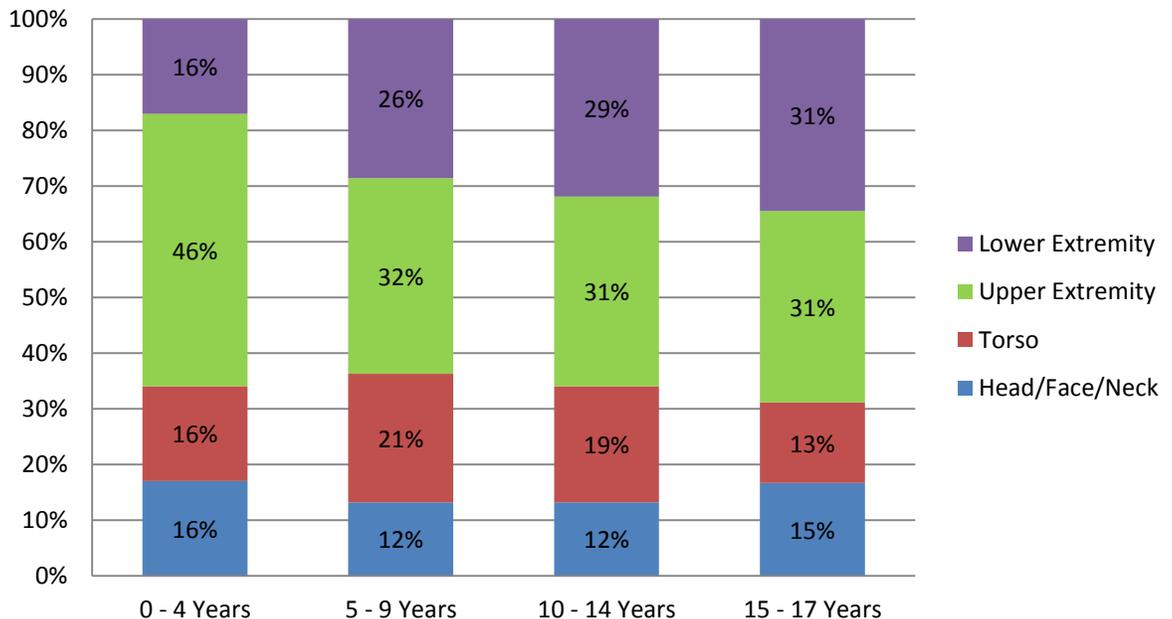




Body Region Injured From Burn Injuries

- Overall, 41% of patients suffered burns to the upper extremities followed by lower extremities (20%), torso (17%), and head or face (14%).
- Wounds to the hand, wrist or fingers were the most common site of child burn injuries (27%), more than 3-times greater than the second highest site, the forearm (8%).
- Approximately 45% of burn injuries didn't specify what agent caused the burn and were classified as unspecified. Among the 1,251 injuries that documented what caused the burn, 55% were due to boiling/scalding liquid or steam, 18% to hot tap water, 16% to fire/flames, and 10% due to caustic or corrosive substances.

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



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, and 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.