

# **Tracking Work-Related Burns in Michigan**

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## **Summary statistics**

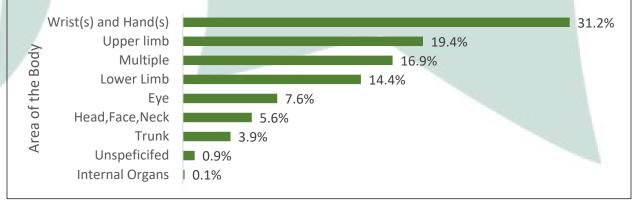
\* 2023 preliminary data as of 6/25/2024

Occupational burns are a preventable cause of work-related injuries. There were 1,482 work-related burns in Michigan in the year 2022. Males accounted for 68.4% of workrelated burns with a rate of 40.1 burns per 100,000 male workers. The rate of workrelated burns was 1.8 times as high for Black/African American versus White workers and 1.2 times as high for non-Hispanic versus Hispanic workers. The age of individuals with a work-related burn ranged from 15 to 82 years, with an average of 35.2 years and a median of 33 years.



There are many common burn hazards present in most restaurants. Workers are exposed to hot oil, deep fryers, steam, stoves, and grills which can lead to burn injuries.

## Work-Related Burn by affected area of the body, Michigan 2022



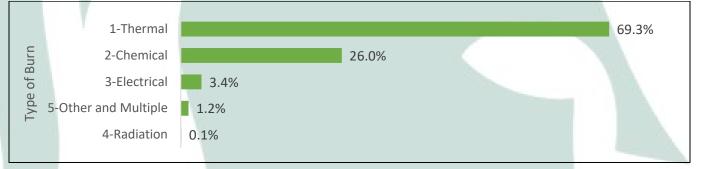
#### Background

In September 2010, The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services promulgated rules requiring health facilities and health providers to report traumatic injuries when requested by the Department. Occupational burns are an important injury that may occur at a workplace. Michigan's hospitals, Workers' Compensation Agency, and the state's sole Poison Control Center are the sources for occupational burns. The Occupational and Environmental Medicine Division at Michigan State University prepares periodic reports on work-related burns, available at <u>www.oem.msu.edu</u>.

#### 2022 results

- There were 1,482 work-related burns among workers in Michigan.
- Thermal exposures caused the highest percentage of burns (69.3%), followed by chemical exposures (26.0%), and electrical exposures (3.4%), and radiation (0.1%).
- There were 323 workers diagnosed with first-degree burns, 657 with second-degree burns, 65 with third degree burns. There were 176 cases with an unknown burn-degree.
- The most common affected parts of the body injured were wrists and hands (463 burns), followed by upper limbs (286 burns), multiple specified sites (251 burns), lower limbs (213 burns) eyes (113 burns), head face and neck (83 burns), trunk (57 Burns) and other or unspecified (14 burns).
- The most common type of medical encounter was an emergency department visit (1095 cases), followed by 143 other cases (e.g., outpatient, wound clinic) and unspecified visits, and then followed by inpatient hospitalizations (81 cases).
- Among cases identified by medical records, Workers' Compensation paid lost work time and medical costs for 7.7% of cases and medical cost for 40.2% of cases.

### Work-Related Burn Type, Michigan 2022



#### **Work Related Burn Narratives**

- A man in his early 40s was cleaning jet engine parts that were soaked with alkaline corrosive fluid. Even though the man wore protective equipment, he suffered 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns in multiple areas of his body when the hose came undone.
- A female in her early 20's suffered 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns from a backsplash of burning oil while using a fire extinguisher to put out an oil fire in a fast-food restaurant.
- A man in his late 50's sustained a second degree burn to a foot when a coworker dropped a pot of boiling water on his foot while working in a brewery.

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