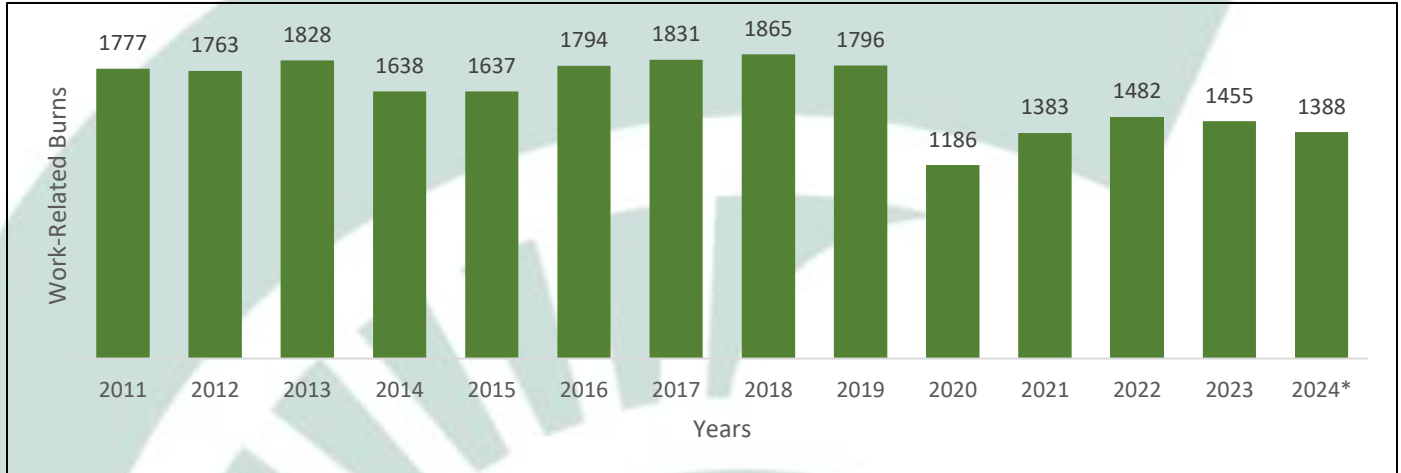


Tracking Work-Related Burns in Michigan

www.oem.msu.edu

Summary Statistics

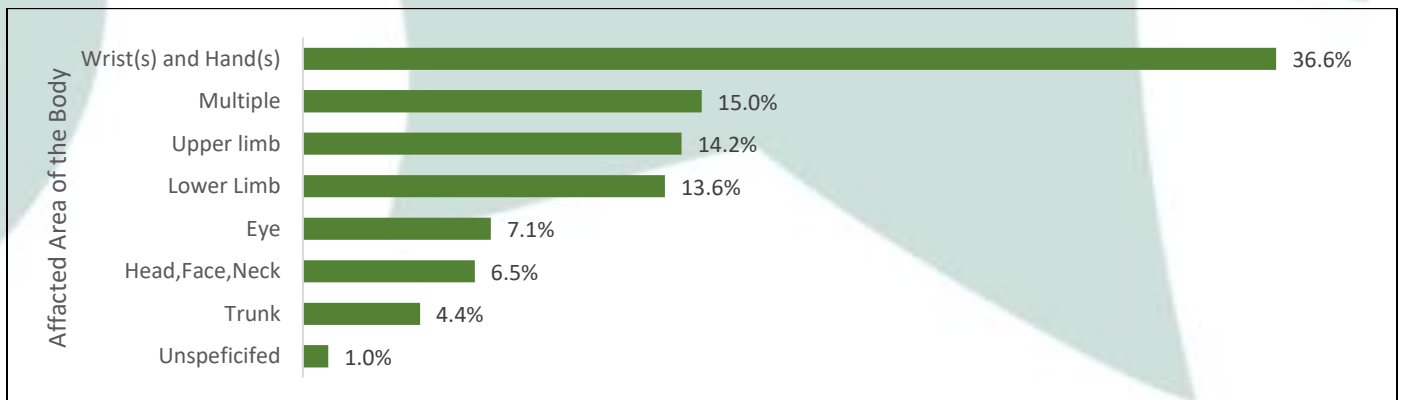


* 2024 preliminary data as of 1/24/2025

Occupational burns are a preventable cause of work-related injury. There were 1,455 work-related burns in Michigan in the year 2023. Males accounted for 65.8% of work-related burns with a rate of 46.3 burns per 100,000 male workers. The rate of work-related burns was 50% higher for Black/African American than White workers and 90% higher for Hispanic workers than non-Hispanic workers. The age of individuals with a work-related burn ranged from 14 to 77 years, with an average of 34.8 years and a median of 32 years.



There are many common burn hazards present in restaurants; hot oil, deep fryers, steam, stoves, and grills.

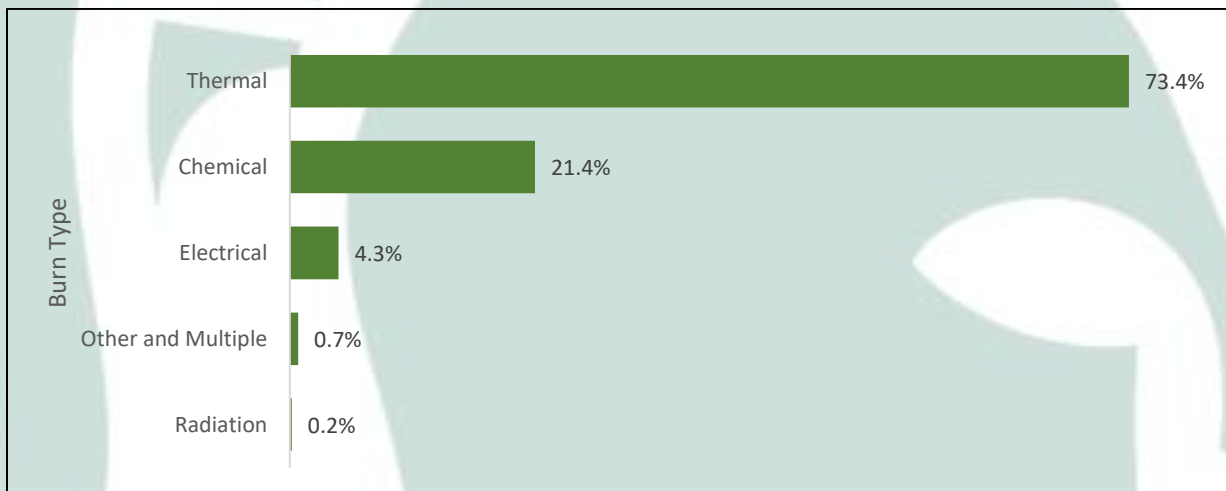


Background

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 www.oem.msu.edu.

2023 results

- There were 1,455 work-related burns among workers in Michigan.
- Thermal exposures caused the highest percentage of burns (73.4%), followed by chemical exposures (21.4%), electrical exposures (4.3%), and radiation (0.2%).
- There were 364 workers diagnosed with first-degree burns, 666 with second-degree burns, and 61 with third degree burns. For 299 workers the burn-degree was unknown.
- The most common affected parts of the body injured were wrists and hands (532 burns), multiple specified sites (218 burns), upper limbs (207 burns), lower limbs (198 burns), eyes (104 burns), head face and neck (94 burns), trunk (64 burns), and other or unspecified (38 burns).
- The most common type of medical encounter was an emergency department visit (1259 burns), followed by other (e.g., outpatient, wound clinic) and unspecified visits (149 burns), and then inpatient hospitalizations (47 burns).
- Among cases identified by medical records, Workers' Compensation paid lost work time and medical costs for 9.1% of cases and medical cost for 38.0% of cases.



Work Related Burn Narratives

- A man in his late 50s suffered chemical burns in a food manufacturer after a faulty valve on a stainless-steel tank sprayed cleaning chemicals. It took the individual 10 minutes to reach a decontamination shower and by then he suffered second degree burns over his lower extremities.
- A man in his 20s suffered second degree burns from hot grease when in the process of disposing the grease it splashed on the right side of his face.
- A man in his late 60s sustained a second degree burn to his hands when he was sprayed with hot water while cutting into a hot water pipe system.

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