



As American as Baseball, Hot Dogs, & Apple Pie

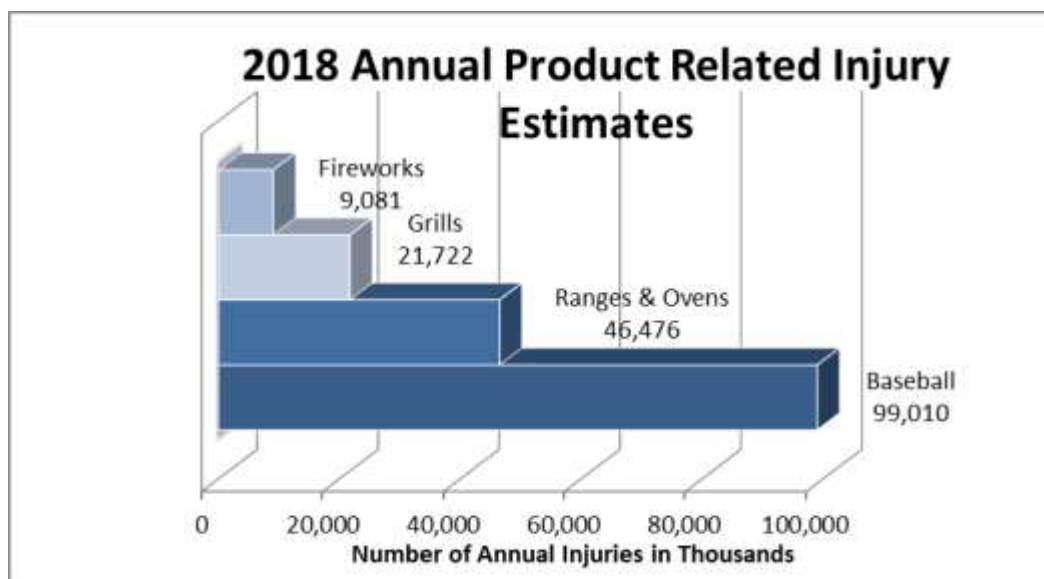
Fireworks Related Injuries in Perspective

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 items such as baseball equipment result in over 99,000 estimated injuries each year, according to the CPSC.

Over 32 million Americans sustained non-fatal injuries according to data compiled by the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that for that same year, approximately 9,100 Americans were injured in fireworks-related incidents. Fireworks, therefore, are involved in only a fraction of the injuries – just 0.06% of all injuries. That means that 99.96% 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. In an effort to counter misuse, the fireworks industry has stepped up its efforts to inform and educate the public on the dangers of illegal explosives and the need to observe all safety precautions when using backyard 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.



References: Office of Statistics, National Center for Injury Prevention Control

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

Source: American Pyrotechnics Association