

## Public Health Statistics

- Residential fires account for 66 percent of fire-related injuries and 82 percent of fire-related deaths.
- In 1999, 81 percent of all United States civilian fire deaths occurred in homes.
- In 1999, approximately 400,000 residential fires in the United States killed nearly 3,000 people and injured more than 16,000.
- Smoke alarms cut the chances of dying in a house fire by 40-50%.
- Older adults, children younger than five, African Americans, Native Americans and people in substandard housing or mobile homes are at highest risk for fire-related deaths.
- Among children between the ages of one and nine years, fire and burn-related injuries are the third leading cause of injury death.
- One in four homes with smoke detectors have nonworking alarms.
- Preventing fire-related injuries costs far less than treating them: \$1 spent on smoke alarms saves \$69.



## References

1. [www.cdc.gov/safeuse/fire/firesafe.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/safeuse/fire/firesafe.htm)
2. [www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/spotlite/Natfire.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/spotlite/Natfire.htm)
3. [www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/firetip.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/firetip.htm)

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Information materials in alternative formats will be made available upon request.

ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH



Injury Prevention Division

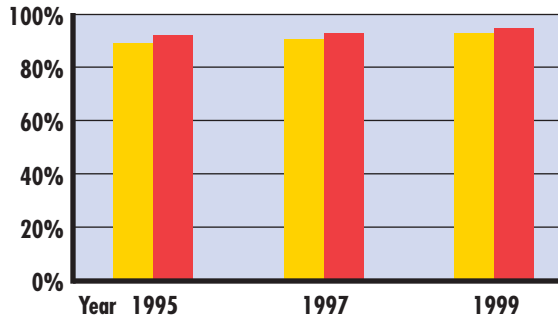
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# FIRE SAFETY

Alabama Department of Public Health

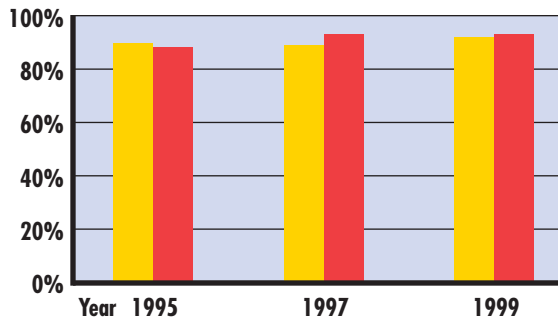
Injury Prevention Division

**Do you have a smoke detector in your home? Response: Yes**



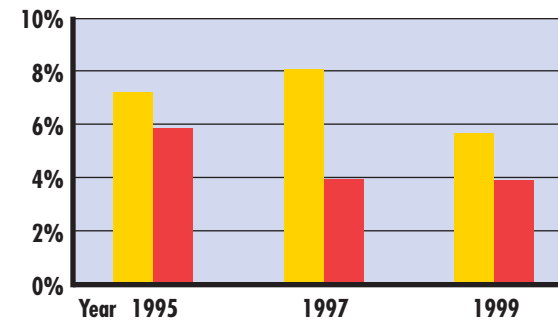
\* Percentages are weighted to population characteristics

**Do you have a smoke detector in your home? Response: Yes**



\* Percentages are weighted to population characteristics

**Do you have a smoke detector in your home? Response: No**



\* Percentages are weighted to population characteristics

**Residential Fire Prevention Tips**



**1. Install and maintain a smoke alarm on each floor and outside each bedroom.**

- Use smoke alarms with a lithium-powered battery that lasts up to 10 years.
- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- After 10 years replace entire smoke alarm.



**2. Make a family escape plan and practice it every six months.**

- Get out as fast as possible and go to the designated place.
- Do not stop to gather belongings.
- Do not go back into a burning house or apartment.
- Call the fire department from a neighbor's house.
- If there is smoke in the room, stay low or crawl to the exit.
- If you cannot escape, put wet towels or fabric around doors to block off smoke, crawl to a window and open it. Yell out of the window for help and wave a sheet or cloth for attention. If there is a phone, call for help.



**3. Prevent a fire from starting in your home.**

- Never leave food cooking unattended.
- Do not smoke in bed and never leave burning cigarettes unattended.
- Keep matches and lighters away from children. Never leave candles unattended.
- Never leave young children alone in a home.
- Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything that can burn.



**4. Teach children to stop, drop and roll.**

- **STOP** where you are.
- **DROP** to the ground.
- **ROLL** over and over with your hands covering your face.