

### Pre-school age

The most common type of burn injury for pre-school age children are flame injuries sustained by flames from matches, cigarette lighters, trash fires, and fires in barbeque pits and fireplaces. Scalding burns are the second most frequent type of burn injury in this age group. Generally the injury is from hot water in the kitchen and bath tub. Bath tub scalds are preventable and generally result from lack of supervision or child abuse.

### Early-school age

In this age group the difference in burn injury patterns emerges between male and female children. Males tend to sustain flame burns due to increased risk behaviors such as fire play. Female children continue to sustain scald injuries from kitchen or bathroom environments.

### Adolescent age

The injury pattern reflects greater incidents in male children due to risk taking behavior and occupational hazards. Male children may participate in activities that involve combustible products, such as gasoline or other accelerants. Fireworks are another type of product that may cause burn injuries. Males are more likely to get injured by electrocution from climbing utility poles or coming into contact with electrical sources during work or recreation. Females may be burned by thermal sources during exposure around the home, camping or being adjacent to or participating in risk taking behavior with peers.