

## Fire Injury and Death

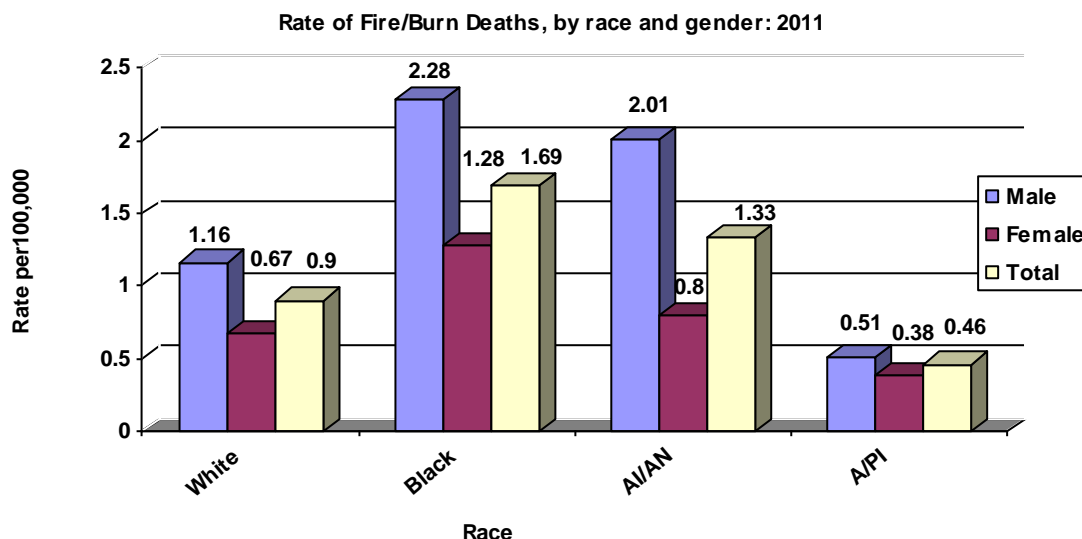
- On average in the United States in 2010, someone died in a fire every 169 minutes, and someone was injured every 30 minutes.<sup>1</sup>
- About 85% of all U.S. fire deaths in 2009 occurred in homes.<sup>1</sup>
- Smoking is the leading cause of fire-related deaths.<sup>1</sup>
- Cooking is the primary cause of residential fires.<sup>1</sup>

### Cost

- Fire and burn injuries represent 1% of the incidence of injuries and 2% of the total costs of injuries, or \$7.5 billion each year.<sup>1</sup>
  - Males account for \$4.8 billion (64%) of the total costs of fire/burn injuries.
  - Females account for \$2.7 billion (36%) of the total costs of fire/burn injuries.

### Groups at Risk

- Children below the age of four and adults above the age of 65 years are at increased risk for fire-related injuries and deaths.<sup>1</sup>
- Men have higher rates of both fire-related injuries and deaths.<sup>2</sup>
  - The age-adjusted rate for fire deaths for men was 1.24, while the rate for women was 0.72.
  - The age-adjusted rate for fire injuries was 148.88 for men and 134.4 for women.
- African Americans and Native Americans/Alaska Natives have significantly higher rates of fire-related deaths than other racial or ethnic groups.<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Fire and Burn Injuries Fact Sheet*. Home and Recreation Safety. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/HomeandRecreationalSafety/Fire-Prevention/fires-factsheet.html>

<sup>2</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *WISQARS*. 2011. Injury Prevention & Control. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>