

# Fire and Burn Injuries

## Why Is This Important?

Fire and burn injuries are the third leading cause of injury hospitalizations among children under 5 years old. They account for over 1,300 emergency department visits and over 100 hospitalizations each year in Saskatchewan. Fire and burn injuries account for \$17 million each year in total costs in Saskatchewan.

Fire and burn injuries include exposure to fire, smoke, hot liquids and surfaces. The most common type of fire and burn injury in the Saskatoon Health Region is contact with hot tap water and other hot liquids (based on Region analysis).

Research has shown that poverty is linked to burns in young children. The risk of being burned is higher among poorer children.

See [here](#) for information on health equity.

## What Is Being Done?

Information from Parachute Canada on preventing [burns](#)

## To Learn More:

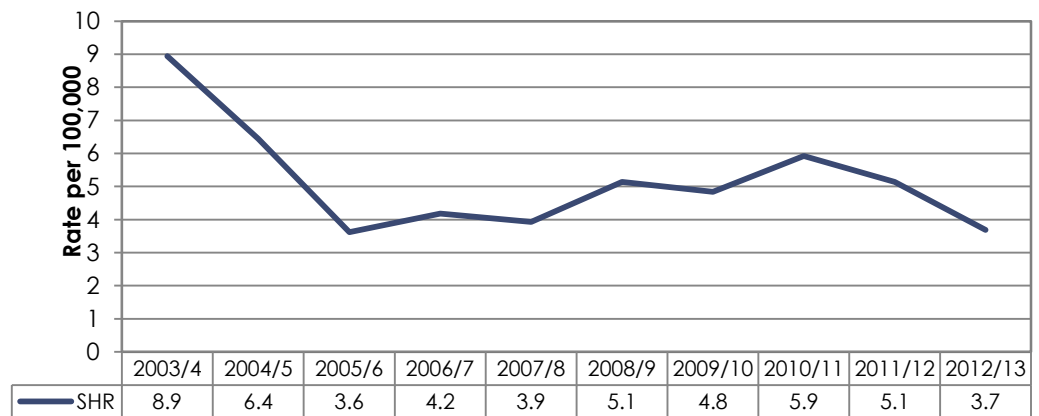
Chief Medical Health Officer's [Call to Action](#)

## Highlights

**Fire and burn injury hospitalization rates are highest among those under 5 years old.**

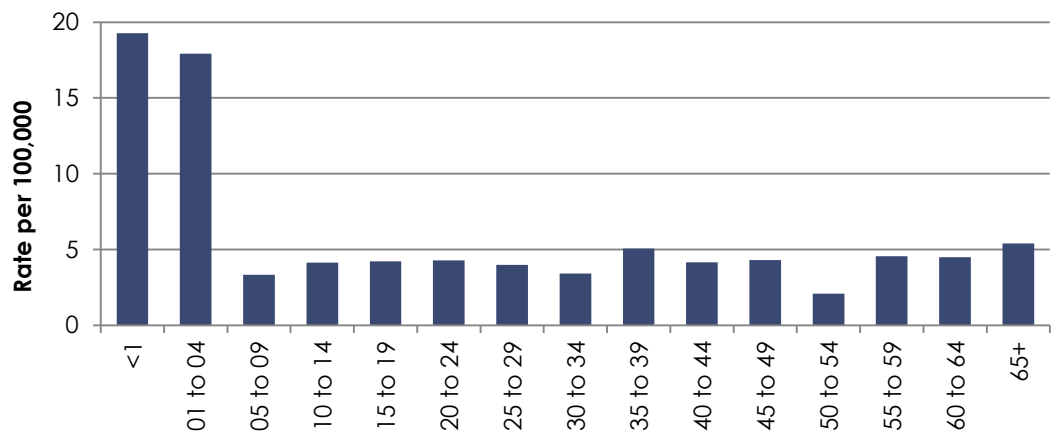
- There were 13 hospitalizations for fire and burns in 2012/13 in Saskatoon Health Region for a rate of 3.7 per 100,000. Injury hospitalization rates due to fire and burns have come down nearly 60% since 2003/04 (Figure 1).
- The highest rates of fire and burn hospitalizations were seen in children under 5 years old. Eighty percent of fire and burn hospitalizations for this age group were caused by hot liquids, tap water and other fluids (Figure 2).
- Fire and burn injury hospitalization rates vary by sub-group. Click [here](#) to see rates by geographic area and socio-economic status.

**Figure 1: Age Sex Standardized Fire- and Burn-Related Injury Hospitalization Rates, Saskatoon Health Region, 2003/04 to 2012/13**



Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Health

**Figure 2: Fire- and Burn-Related Injury Hospitalization Rates, Age Group, Saskatoon Health Region, 2003/04 to 2012/13 Combined**



Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Health