

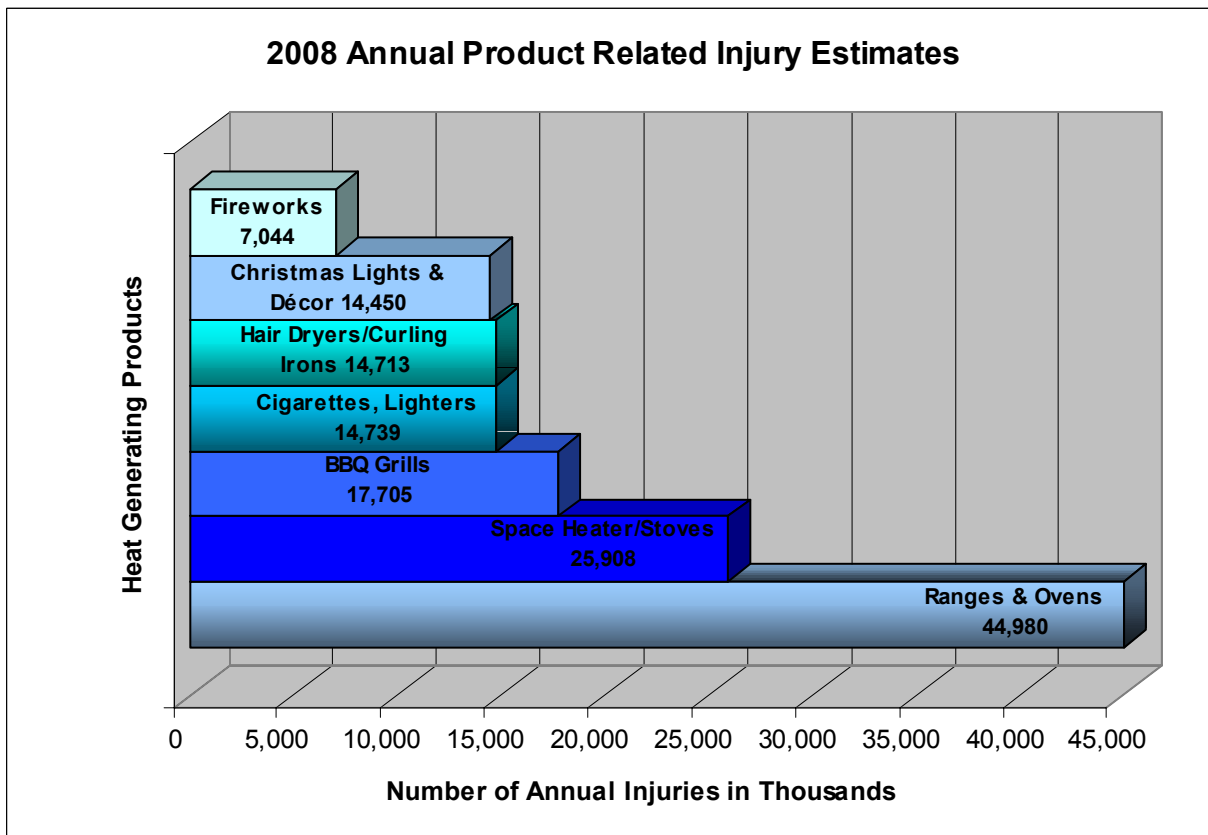


## Fireworks Related Injuries in Perspective

In 2008, approximately 30 million Americans sustained non-fatal injuries according to data compiled by the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Of these injuries, motor vehicles, firearms, and falls account for over 60% of this total. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) estimates that approximately 10,000 Americans, on average, have been injured annually in fireworks-related incidents over the past decade. Fireworks, therefore, are involved in only a fraction of the injuries – just 0.02% of all injuries. That means that 99.98% 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 injuries. In an effort to counter this growing trend, 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. However, it is important to note that the use of most common consumer products carry some inherent risk of injury.

Despite the anti-fireworks messages advocated by some special interest groups, fireworks **are not** the leading cause of fire-rated injuries in the United States. Other seasonal items that we use such as Christmas tree lights and decorations result in approximately 14,000 estimated injuries each year, according to the CPSC. And, the 2008 CPSC report on product-related injuries lists numerous other heat-producing products with higher injury estimates than fireworks.



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