

## 1997 Heat Related Fatalities

Heat deaths rose significantly from 36 in 1996 to 81 in 1997. But this increase still was low compared to the disastrous heat wave of 1995 causing 1,021 fatalities. Hardest hit were northern Illinois, where 16 died between June 21-30, and eastern Pennsylvania, where five died between June 21-26. In July, extreme heat killed 33 people and resulted in 310 injuries in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Washington, D.C. A heat wave in August in the same area killed 4 and injured 125. Of those who died, 68 (84%) were in a permanent home, many without even an electric fan. The elderly are the most susceptible to the dangers of high heat. Fifty-three (65%) of the fatalities were 60+ years old.

### 1997 HEAT RELATED FATALITIES BY STATE AND LOCATION

<u>STATE</u>	<u>BF</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>GF</u>	<u>MH</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>OU</u>	<u>PH</u>	<u>VE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
CA	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	5
DC	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
FL	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
IL	0	0	0	0	1	1	21	3	26
MD	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
MO	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
NC	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
PA	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	36
TX	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
WI	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	0	3	7	68	3	81
<b>PERCENT</b>	0	0	0	0	4	9	84	4	101*

(\* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

### 1997 HEAT RELATED FATALITIES BY AGE AND GENDER

	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
0 TO 9	0	0	0	0	0
10 TO 19	0	0	0	0	0
20 TO 29	0	2	0	2	2
30 TO 39	6	5	0	11	14
40 TO 49	0	4	0	4	5
50 TO 59	3	7	0	10	12
60 TO 69	7	10	0	17	21
70 TO 79	7	7	0	14	17
80 TO 89	11	6	0	17	21
90 TO --	2	3	0	5	6
UNKNOWN	0	1	0	1	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	36	45	0	81	99*
<b>PERCENT</b>	44	56	0	100	

(\* Due to rounding total does not equal 100%)

#### LEGEND

**BF** - Ball Field  
**CA** - Camping  
**GF** - Golf  
**MH** - Mobile Home  
**OT** - Other/Unknown  
**OU** - Outside Open  
**PH** - Permanent Home  
**VE** - Vehicle