



Burn Surge and Disaster Program for North Carolina and the Southeast



www.ncburndisaster.org

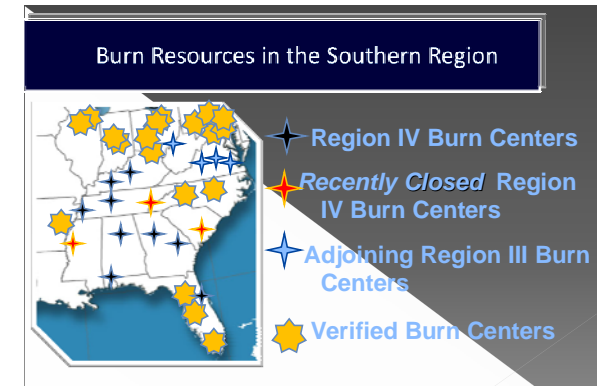
Overview:

North Carolina has witnessed several significant burn disasters over the past 20 years. From the Hamlet Fire at Imperial Foods which killed 25 and left 54 injured, to the Pope Air Force/Fort Bragg aircraft collision and explosion on the tarmac which killed 24 and injured more than 100, the 1990's witnessed significant events.

Yet in January of 2003, an explosion at the West Pharmaceutical Plant in Kinston killed or injured 44 and in 2006 only the timing of a tremendous explosion, (shortly after midnight) at the Environmental Quality Industrial Services facility in Apex produced significant evacuations (17,000) but not significant morbidity and mortality.

The June 2009, ConAgra Plant Explosion and the Mountaire Farms Plant Explosion just a week later again remind us the potential remains in the foreseeable future for these types of disasters.

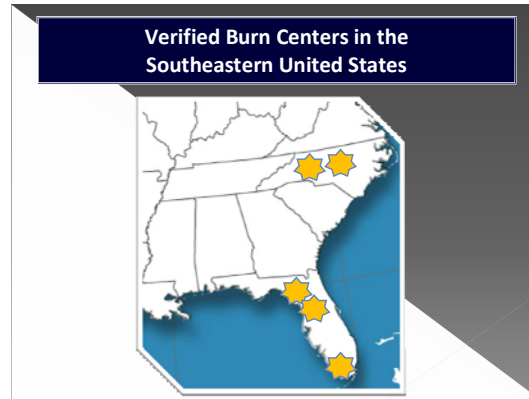
Preparedness for burn disasters and critical burn care is the focus of the North Carolina Burn Surge and Disaster Program. Our work includes developing the education and planning processes for burn care at all levels in our state.



FEMA Region IV States	Population ¹	Burn Beds ^{2,3}	Ratio ⁴
Alabama	4,661,900	52 ²	89,651
North Carolina	9,222,414	29³	318,014
South Carolina	4,479,800	Closed 2004	NA
Kentucky	4,269,245	13 ²	328,403
Georgia	9,685,744	82 ²	118,118
Mississippi	2,938,618	Closed 2005	NA
Florida	18,328,340	78 ²	234,978
Tennessee	6,214,888	43 ³	144,532
Total	59,800,949	297	201,350
❖ ¹ Population as estimated by the US Census Bureau for 2008 www.census.gov			
❖ ² Burn beds as reported to the ABA and published 6/09 http://www.ameriburn.org/BCRD6-17-09.pdf			
❖ ³ Burn beds confirmed in a follow up call to verify data with burn center directors 6/09 (UNC)			
❖ ⁴ Ratio, number of citizens per licensed burn bed for the state			

Key Points:

- ➔ Burn admissions have risen significantly in the past three years.
- ➔ Most Trauma Centers **do not admit** burn patients, only Trauma Centers that also have Burn Centers admit seriously injured burn patients such as the University of North Carolina Hospitals and the Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.
- ➔ According to the **NC Office of EMS**, there are **35,000** credentialed emergency medical service personnel in North Carolina, of which there are **6019 Paramedics, 2804 Intermediates and 20,000 EMT's**.
- ➔ According to the **NC Board of Nursing**, there are **68,000 Licensed Registered Nurses** with **4848** working in **Emergency Medicine** and **6636** working in **Critical Care**.
- ➔ According to the **NC Medical Board**, there are **29,606 licensed physicians** practicing in North Carolina and **1,527** who primarily work in **Emergency Medicine**.
- ➔ **Less than 1%** have comprehensive burn care training (Advanced Burn Life Support; ABLS).
- ➔ We are currently working with the NC Office of EMS, through a US DHHS **ASPR grant**, to develop a Statewide Disaster Program, to include a comprehensive assessment of burn care training for both prehospital and hospital emergency personnel.
- ➔ The work will also produce **clinical care guidelines in burn care for all hospitals and EMS agencies in the state**.
- ➔ Advanced Burn Life Support classes will be coordinated through the Regional Advisory Committees (RAC). For ABLS Schedules, refer to your local RAC or the website: www.ncburndisaster.org.
- ➔ For more info on ABLS please refer to <http://www.ameriburn.org/ablscoursedescriptions.php>.



Burn Center Verification

According to the **American Burn Association (ABA)** (www.ameriburn.org) there are approximately 1800 burn beds across the nation and they generally operate at 95% capacity.

According to the **ABA, there are 14 Burn Centers in the Southeast US. Of these 14, only 5** operate based upon and verified by the guidelines of the American Burn Association. The North Carolina Jaycee Burn Center at UNC Healthcare and the Burn Center at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center operates as a verified burn center. (The remaining three are located in Florida).

The Burn Centers at UNC Healthcare and Wake Forest are committed to providing burn care that is seldom equaled anywhere in the nation.

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