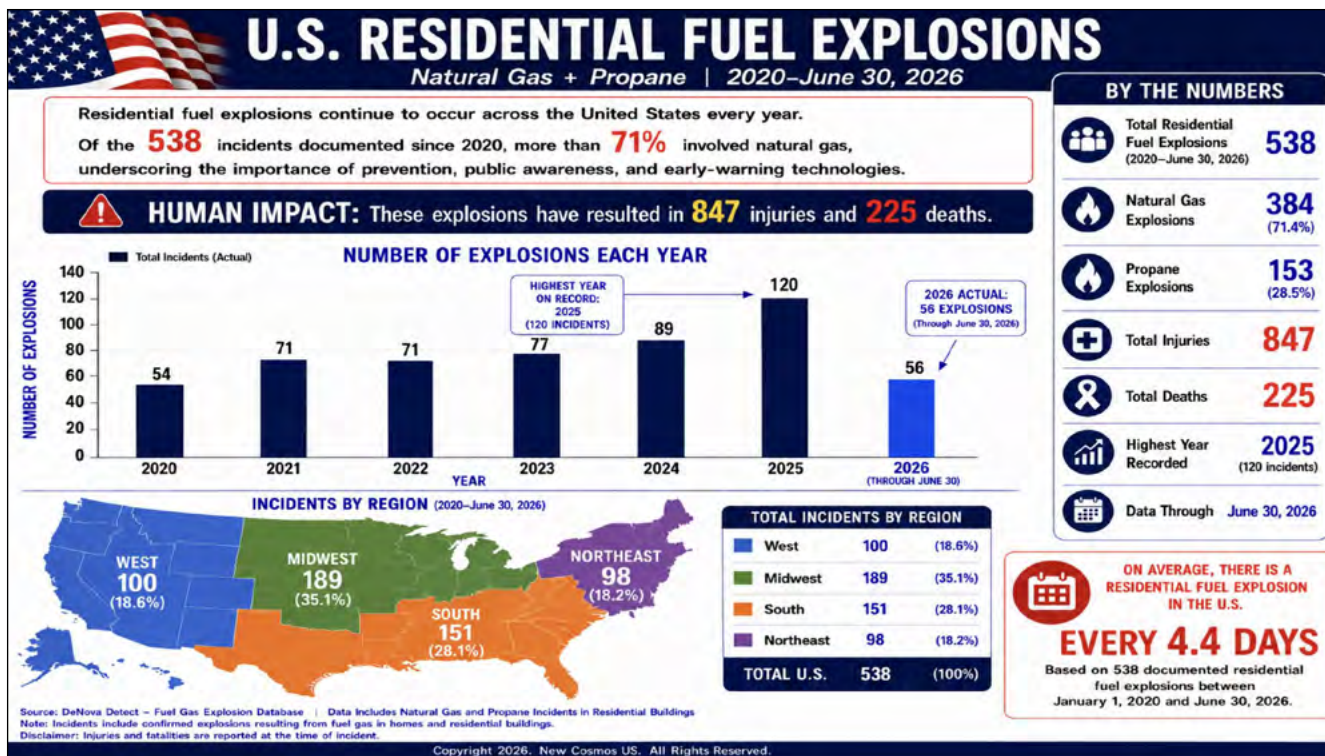


Through June 30, our database has documented **538 residential fuel explosions** across the United States since 2020, resulting in **847 injuries and 225 fatalities**. More than **71% of these incidents involved natural gas**, underscoring the importance of continued public education, prevention efforts, and early-warning technologies. On average, a residential fuel explosion occurs somewhere in America **every 4.4 days**.

This month's newsletter examines these incidents in greater detail and highlights the lessons they offer for homeowners, emergency responders, policymakers, and communities across the country.



## Ohio Neighborhood Devastated After Utility Strike Triggers Natural Gas Explosion

### Three Homes Destroyed After Gas Line Strike in Ohio

Residents of a quiet Twinsburg Township neighborhood were forced to flee their homes after contractors performing underground utility work struck a natural gas line, leading to one of the most significant residential explosions of the year.

Emergency crews quickly issued a shelter-in-place order after the gas leak was discovered and instructed residents to avoid creating sparks, starting vehicles, or operating electrical devices. Despite those precautions, an explosion occurred before the leak could be secured.

The blast destroyed three homes, damaged more than 30 additional residences, displaced at least 15 families, and injured two people. Remarkably, no lives were lost.

The incident serves as an important reminder that natural gas emergencies can escalate rapidly, even when first responders are already on scene. It also reinforces the critical importance of safe excavation practices, locating underground utilities before digging, and immediately evacuating an area whenever a gas leak is suspected.



Credit: WKYC, Tyler Carey, Sia Nyorkor, Lynna Lai

For homeowners, this event is another example of why every household should know the signs of a gas leak, leave immediately if one is suspected, and call 911 and the gas utility from a safe location.

#### Read more

WKYC: <https://www.wkyc.com/article/news/local/summit-county/twinsburg-township-residents-shelter-in-place-gas-leak-emergency/95-f66cca6f-3a78-431e-8f19-a056cea282bd>

## Illinois Explosion Leads to Large-Scale Neighborhood Evacuation

Following a residential explosion in Dixon, Illinois, emergency officials ordered the evacuation of more than 100 homes after elevated gas readings were detected throughout the surrounding neighborhood.

Approximately 300 to 400 residents were forced from their homes while utility crews worked to identify and secure the source of the leak. One resident suffered serious injuries in the initial explosion.

The incident illustrates that the impact of a residential gas emergency often extends well beyond the home where the explosion occurs. Gas migration through underground infrastructure can create hazards for entire neighborhoods, requiring large-scale evacuations and prolonged emergency response operations.

As Illinois lawmakers continue discussions surrounding residential natural gas safety, events like Dixon highlight the importance of public education, emergency preparedness, and technologies that can provide earlier warning when combustible gas is present inside a home.



Credit: NBC Chicago, Alex Dvorak

### Read more

NBC Chicago: <https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/local/hundreds-evacuated-from-illinois-community-due-to-gas-emergency-following-home-explosion/3951944/>

## Anchorage Explosion Shows Investigations Often Continue Long After the Blast

Firefighters in Anchorage responded to what officials described as a “very large explosion” involving a residence during an overnight response to multiple structure fires.

Investigators continue working to determine the cause of the explosion.

Although many residential explosions are eventually linked to natural gas, propane, fuel vapor, or other combustible materials, the cause is often unknown in the immediate aftermath. That uncertainty underscores why emergency officials consistently advise residents to report gas odors immediately, evacuate without delay, and never attempt to locate the source of a suspected leak themselves.

Every investigation provides valuable lessons that help improve public safety and emergency response practices nationwide.



Overnight Saturday into Sunday, the Anchorage Fire Department responded to five structure fires.(KTUU)

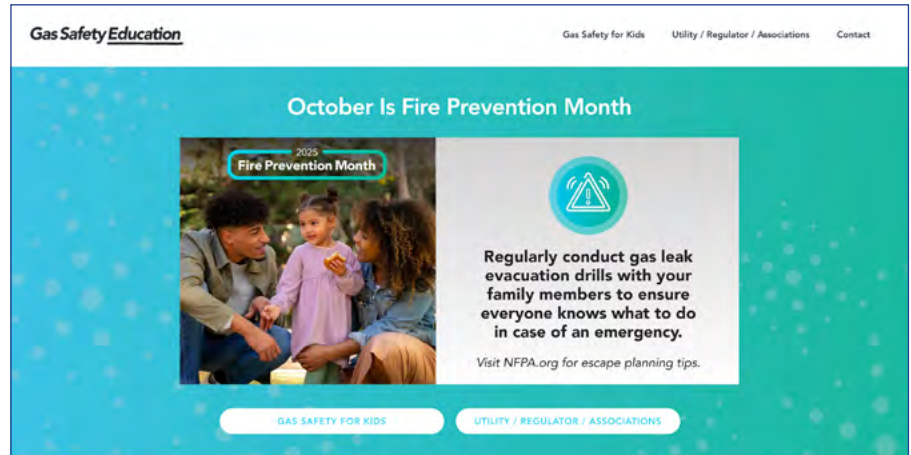
### Read more

Alaska's News Source: <https://www.alaskasnewsresource.com/2026/06/29/very-large-explosion-afd-fights-five-structure-fires-overnight-including-home-explosion/>

## New Educational Resource from DeNova Detect

We are encouraged to share that DeNova Detect has launched a new set of resources to advance natural gas safety:

[www.gassafetyeducation.com](http://www.gassafetyeducation.com)



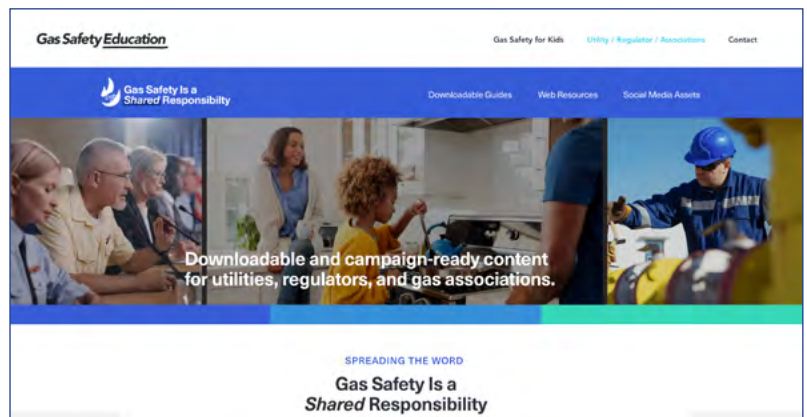
## Children's Gas Safety Education Website:

Interactive tools designed to teach kids how to recognize warning signs and act quickly.

[www.gassafetyeducation.com/gas-safety-for-kids](http://www.gassafetyeducation.com/gas-safety-for-kids)

**Utility Partner Resources:** Materials that empower gas companies to educate customers and communities more effectively.

[www.gassafetyeducation.com/utility-regulator-associations](http://www.gassafetyeducation.com/utility-regulator-associations)



While many people recognize the "rotten egg" odor as a sign of a gas leak, society still has a long way to go in understanding the danger of ignoring it – and the life-saving importance of evacuating the premises immediately.

## Join Us in Action

Every community deserves protection. Support our work, spread the word about natural gas alarms, and encourage schools, landlords, and utilities to take action now. Together, we can prevent the next disaster.

Visit us at [www.preventnaturalgasdisasters.com](http://www.preventnaturalgasdisasters.com)