

U.S. Hotel/Motel Pool Area Carbon Monoxide Incidents (1-6-2021)

* Deaths and injuries in pool areas

State	City	Date of incident	Name of facility	# of deaths	# of injured	# of child victims (18 and under)	Source of CO	Incident details/notes
MI	Lansing	9/18/1990	Ramada Inn		3	1 injured	pool heater	motel workers found two of the victims unconscious in the pool area; faulty pool heater vent stack leaked carbon monoxide through louvers in a door adjoining the pool
WI	Stevens Point	11/8/1991	Comfort Suites		72		pool heater	victims reported feeling nauseous and dizzy after spending time in the pool area; CO leaked from improperly installed ventilation system, CO levels at 450ppm
MT	Somers	3/15/1997	Ramada Inn		8		pool heater	victims were in hot tub and began having headaches, nausea and weakness, one lost consciousness in hot tub and another went to call 911; CO found leaking from rusted out section of exhaust pipe, "fans designed to ventilate and expel humidity from the pool room then pulled in the deadly gas through the vents in the door separating the hot tub area from the boiler room"
IA	Mason City	1/11/1999	Comfort Inn		19	9 injured	pool heater	fire dept notified around 9pm when two children became ill and were diagnosed with CO poisoning at the hospital; multiple families ill with headaches and vomiting; fire dept evacuated hotel, measured CO levels at 668ppm in pool area; victim described event, "it was chaos"; CO found to be leaking from "faulty exhaust system"
IN	Merrillville	8/11/2000	Holiday Inn Express		24	15 injured	pool heater	children (ages 9-18) at a pool party became ill - two transported to hospital after collapsing about 9pm - but symptoms not connected to CO poisoning until hotel staff also became ill several hours later - front desk employee collapsed while working; first responders arrived and evacuated hotel via the fire alarm at 7:30am; CO readings in pool were over 1000 ppm; "When asked if the Holiday Inn would be installing carbon monoxide alarms (manager) said he would leave that to the experts, 'Whatever those experts tell us is the absolute right thing to do, this Holiday Inn is committed to doing the right thing...according to Holiday Inn, the state and local municipalities, we have everything required by code. Carbon monoxide detectors are not required"; subsequent lawsuit complaint stated "purpose of our request for punitive damages is to compel this chain, and every other hotel operator in Indiana, to install carbon monoxide detectors in all hotels before deaths or injuries occur."
IA	Davenport	12/15/2000	Days Inn		4		furnace	Fire Dept called to hotel around 8:30pm, detected "high levels" of CO in pool area and "entranceway"; 4 people taken to hospital for treatment
KS	Salina	9/16/2003	Holiday Inn Express		4	2 injured	pool heater	Family had been in pool for 15 minutes and all began feeling ill - all got out, boy passed out and fell in pool, father collapsed; fire dept responded and found CO levels of 1600ppm in pool room and faulty vent for pool heater; hotel installed CO alarms following incident
NE	Lincoln	12/30/2004	Holiday Inn Express		6		pool heater	10 y/o girls sick at pool party in afternoon, taken to hospital; hotel evacuated; prior incident on 12/25 family of 4 sick in pool area with vomiting and headaches, complained to hotel staff and were told "their sickness likely was caused by going between the hot tub and the swimming pool"; following incident hotel installed CO detectors in the pool area
NM	Ruidoso Downs	7/27/2005	AmerHost Inn & Suites		4	2 injured	pool heater	family taken by ambulance to the hospital where they were diagnosed with CO poisoning; CO leaked "from a poorly constructed or repaired exhaust venting system related to the Motel's pool heating equipment"
PA	State College	8/7/2007	Residence Inn by Marriott		6			police and emergency personnel called to hotel for report of "high levels of carbon monoxide in the pool area"; hotel evacuated and six people taken to the hospital
PA	Upper Merion	9/3/2007	MainStay Suites		4	3 injured	heater	3 children - ages 6, 5, and 3 - and a maintenance worker became dizzy in the pool area of the hotel, children were taken to emergency room where they were diagnosed with CO poisoning; diagnosing physician called the hotel to inform them to check for "carbon monoxide issues"; Fire Dept found high levels of CO in hotel and evacuated it; "found the heater was leaking gas" as well as a "faulty chimney"
IA	Fort Dodge	1/31/2009	Travel Inn		5	5 injured	furnace	five children became "lethargic and dizzy" in pool and were taken to the hospital; Fire Dept responded and found levels of CO "more than 14 times high than the safe level"
NC	Huntersville	3/23/2009	Country Inn & Suites		2			teenagers became ill - one lost consciousness - in pool area while attending a pool party
MD	Laurel	4/30/2011	Sleep Inn		11	5 injured	pool heater	Fire Dept called to hotel for reports of five children complaining of headaches and nausea; discovered high levels of CO and evacuated hotel
IL	Bourbonnais	11/12/2011	Holiday Inn Express & Suites		9	5 injured	pool heater	victims experienced nausea, headaches and dizziness while at pool, children lost consciousness; Fire Dept arrived and determined high levels, exceeding 300ppm, of CO in swimming pool area
WI	Green Bay	12/30/2011	Hilton Garden Inn		16	5 injured	pool heater	911 called for 2 children who were sick in pool area around 9pm; when rescuers arrived, found "four small children and other victims suffering symptoms that included headache, nausea and vomiting"; more guests came forward complaining of similar symptoms; "reports show that ambulances transported a 17-year-old girl"; fire officials found CO levels at 800ppm near pool and 957ppm in adjacent equipment room, along with high levels in a workout room, a stairway and several restrooms; "The fire department also directed hotel employees to check out other guests throughout the 123-room hotel. Two staff members then took a list and proceeded to do a room-by-room search"; WI law required CO detectors at this time -- possible issue of hotel not being in compliance

