

Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs); Preventing Electrocutation Since 1973

SINCE THE FIRST INTRODUCTION OF GFCIs IN HOMES, THERE HAS BEEN AN:

- 83% drop in electrocutations
- 95% drop in electrocutations caused by consumer products.

THE CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION ESTIMATES THAT:

- 47% of current electrocutations could be prevented with proper GFCI protection.
- 50% of American homes were built before the introduction of GFCIs.
- There are potentially 43 million American homes without GFCI protection.

MAJOR GFCI CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE:

- 1973: GFCIs required for outdoor receptacles.
- 1975: GFCIs required for bathroom receptacles.
- 1978: GFCIs required in garage wall receptacles.
- 1987: GFCIs required within 6 feet of kitchen sink.
- 1987: GFCIs required in basement.
- 1990: GFCIs required in crawl spaces.
- 1993: GFCIs required in wet bar sinks.
- 1996: GFCIs required for all outdoor receptacles, including balconies
- 1996: GFCIs required for all kitchen receptacles serving countertops.
- 1999: GFCIs required for all electrically heated floors.

Year	Estimated Number of GFCI Protected Homes	Total Electrocutations	Consumer Products Electrocutations
1975	11,016,180	1,224	562
1980	18,533,802	1,095	431
1985	26,528,288	810	340
1990	34,991,380	670	270
1995	42,149,672	560	230
2000	50,117,736	400	150
2005	58,588,986	394	90
2010	66,188,356	280	50
2015	69,952,000	202	30

Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) 11/1/2017

Source: David Manney, L&S Electric / 11-15-16 –Plant Engineering