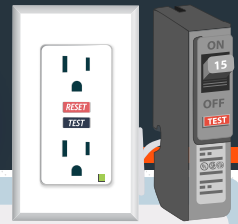


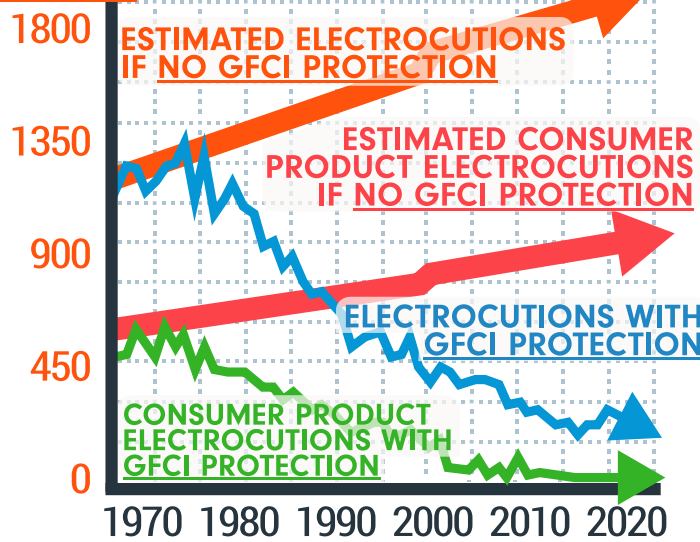
# GROUND FAULT CIRCUIT INTERRUPTERS (GFCI) PREVENT AGAINST ELECTROCUTION

What if GFCIs did not exist?



**Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI)** were first introduced in the bathrooms of homes as required by the **1975 edition of the National Electrical Code**. Prior to 1975, only outdoor receptacles and receptacles near swimming pools required GFCI protection. Since then, **GFCI requirements grew** as in-home electricity use and the amount of potential contact with water and electricity in homes increased.

## DEATHS



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

In the ten years between 1971 and 1980, there was an estimated average of **1,101 electrocutions** in the United States, including **491 consumer product electrocutions** every year. As GFCI requirements expanded, the number of electrocutions **dropped significantly**. Between 2011 and 2022, there was an estimated average of **246 electrocutions** a year, including **41 consumer product electrocutions**.

## REQUIRED GFCI LOCATIONS

- 1971** — Outdoor Receptacles
- 1975** — Bathrooms
- 1978** — Garages
- 1981** — Spas and Hot Tubs
- 1987** — Residential Kitchens
- 1987** — Unfinished Basements
- 1990** — Crawlspace
- 1993** — All Sinks
- 2005** — Laundry / Utility Rooms
- 2017** — Commercial Kitchens
- 2020** — Outdoor Hardwired Outlets

## GFCI FACTS

**80%**

80% drop in electrocutions since the introduction of GFCI protection in bathrooms in 1975

**93%**

93% drop in consumer product electrocutions between 1975 and 2020



The median American home was built in 1978, GFCIs are now required in **six additional locations** in homes

## WHAT IF GFCI PROTECTION WAS NOT REQUIRED?

**603%**

There would be an estimated\* **603% increase** in electrocutions

**1118%**

There would be an estimated\* **1,118% increase** in consumer product electrocutions

According to the **U.S. Energy Information Administration**, residential U.S. energy usage has increased from 0.7 trillion kilowatt-hours in 1978 to 1.5 trillion kilowatt-hours in 2020, an **increase of 114%**

\* Methodology: Average electrocution rate prior to GFCI protection (0.54 deaths per 100,000 population) x yearly population of USA. Consumer product electrocution rate prior to GFCI protection was 0.25 deaths per 100,000

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