



U.S. Home Structure Fires

U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 373,900 home structure¹ fires per year during 2005-2009. These fires caused an annual average of

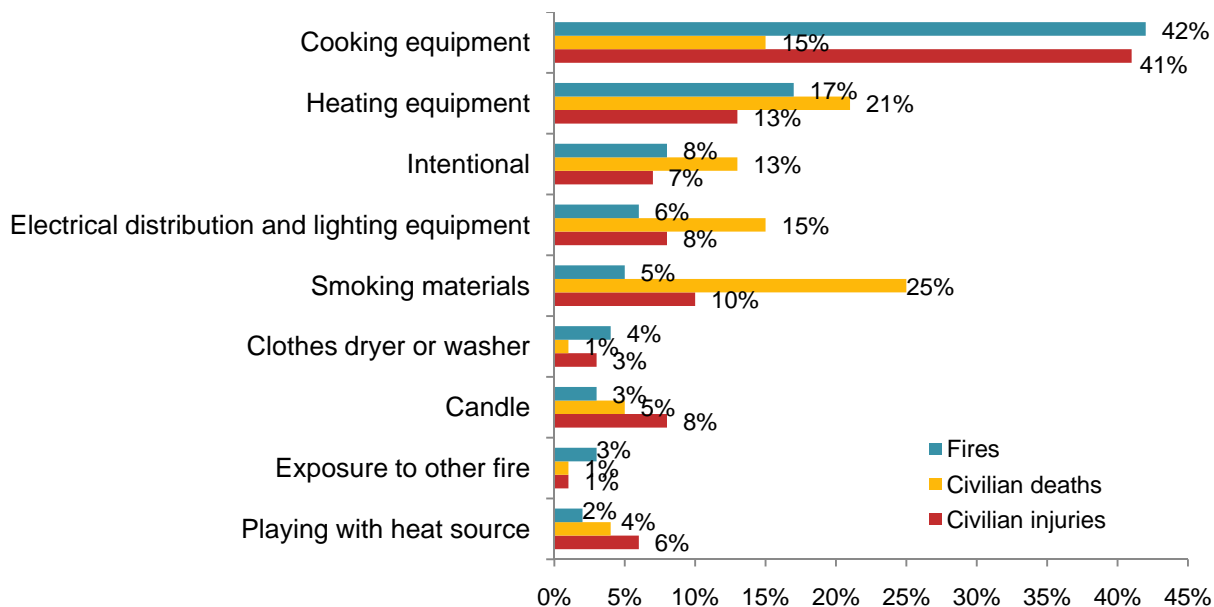
- 2,650 civilian fire deaths,
 - 12,890 civilian fire injuries, and
 - \$7.1 billion in direct damage.
- 92% of all structure fire deaths resulted from home fires.
 - On average, seven people died in U.S. home fires every day.

Causes and Circumstances of Home Fires

Details from the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Incident Reporting System show that in 2005-2009:

- Cooking equipment was the leading cause of home structure fires and home fire injuries.
- Smoking was the leading cause of civilian home fire deaths. Heating equipment was the second most common cause of home fire fatalities.

Leading Causes of Home Structure Fires: 2005-2009



Almost all homes have at least one smoke alarm, but almost two-thirds of reported home fire deaths in 2005-2009 resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms

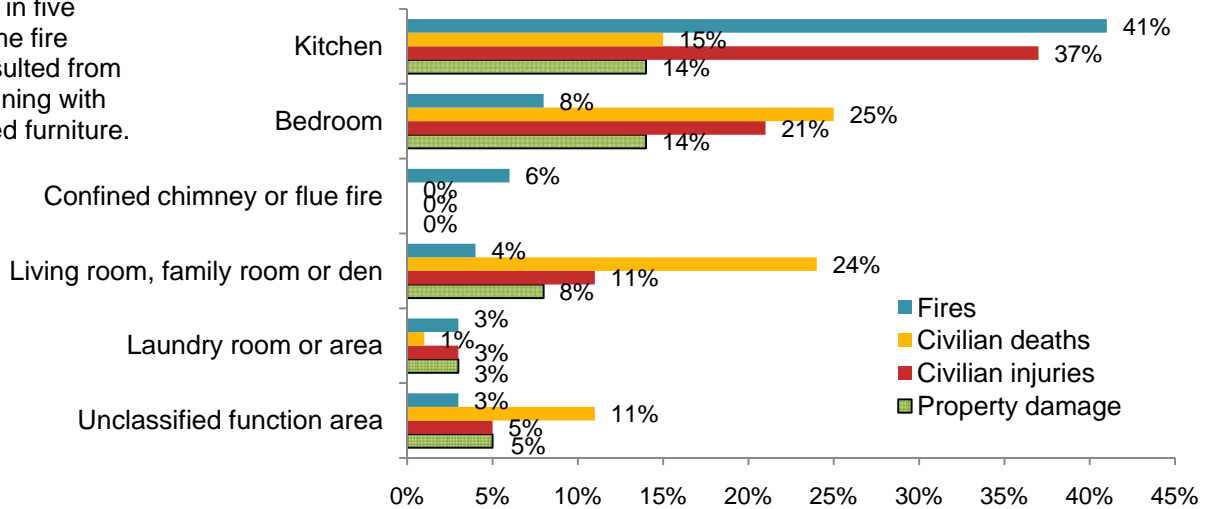
¹Homes include one- or two-family homes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, and rowhouses, regardless of ownership. In general, any fire that occurs in or in a structure is considered a structure fire, even if the fire was limited to contents and the building itself was not damaged.

Kitchens were the leading area of fire origin.

- Two of every five (41%) reported home structure fires started in the kitchen. These fires caused more than one-third (37%) of civilian home fire injuries.
 - 15% of home fire deaths also resulted from kitchen fires.
- 8% of reported home fires started in the bedroom. These fires caused one-quarter (25%) of home fire deaths and one in five (21%) of home fire injuries.
- 4% of home fires started in the living room, family room, or den. These fires caused one-quarter (24%) of home fire deaths and 11% of the home fire injuries.
- Fires confined to chimneys or flues accounted for 6% of all reported home fires. These fires caused very few casualties.

Leading Areas of Origin in Home Structure Fires: 2005-2009

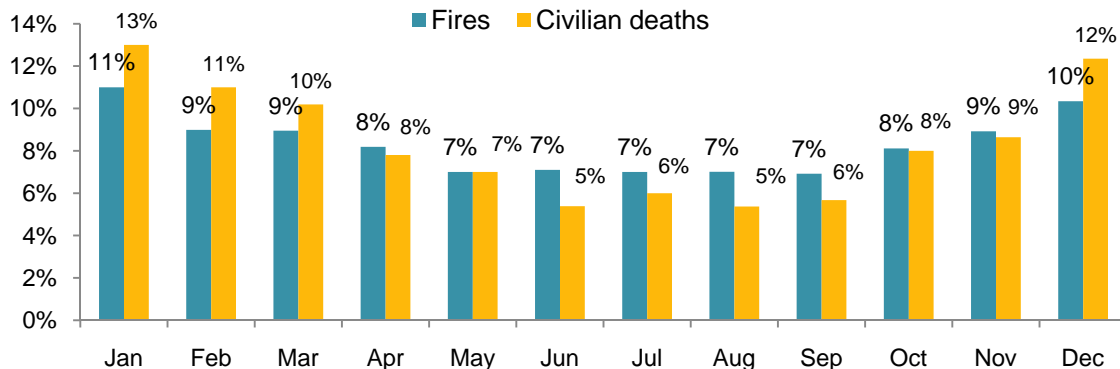
Fact: One in five (19%) home fire deaths resulted from fires beginning with upholstered furniture.



Home fires and home fire deaths peak in the cooler months. Patterns for time of day are different for fires than for deaths.

- Home structure fires peaked around the dinner hours between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m.
- Only one in five (20%) reported home structure fires occurred between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. These fires caused half of all home fire deaths.

Home Structure Fires by Month: 2005-2009



Source: *U.S. Home Structure Fires*, Marty Ahrens, NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA, May 2011 (REV)