

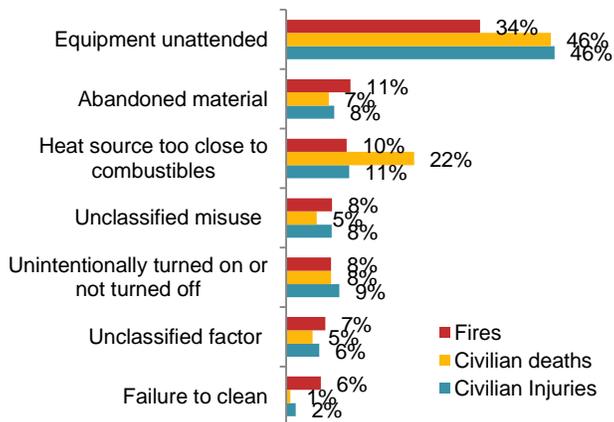


HOME FIRES INVOLVING COOKING EQUIPMENT FACT SHEET

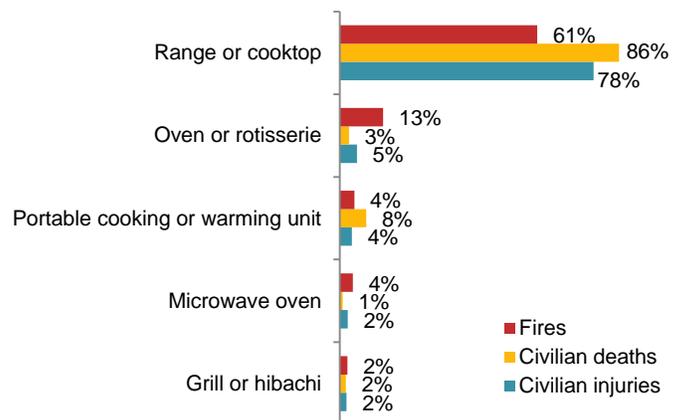
In 2009-2013, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 162,400 home¹ structure fires that involved cooking equipment per year. These fires caused an average of 430 civilian fire deaths, 5,400 civilian fire injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage.

- Cooking equipment is the leading cause of home structure fires and associated civilian injuries and was the third leading cause of home fire deaths during this period.
- Cooking equipment was involved in
 - Almost half (45%) of all reported home fires,
 - One of every six (17%) home fire deaths,
 - Two of every five (42%) of reported home fire injuries, and
 - Sixteen percent of the direct property damage resulting from home fires.
- Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in these fires and fire deaths.
- Clothing was the item first ignited in less than 1% of these fires, but these incidents accounted for 18% of the cooking fire deaths.
- More than half (54%) of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves.
- Households that use electric ranges have a higher risk of fires and associated losses than those using gas ranges.
- Ranges or cooktops, with or without ovens, accounted for the majority (61%) of home cooking fire incidents and even larger shares of civilian deaths (86%).
- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by Christmas Day and Christmas Eve.
- In a 1999 study of range fires by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 83% of frying fires began in the first 15 minutes of cooking.

Home Cooking Equipment Fires by Factor Contributing to Ignition: 2009-2013



Home Cooking Equipment Fires by Equipment Involved in Ignition: 2009-2013



[See NFPA's Cooking Safety Tips.](#)

¹Homes include one- or two-family homes, and apartments or other multi-family housing.

Source: [Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment](#), Marty Ahrens, November 2015