



Natural Gas and LP-Gas Structure Fires in Properties Other Than Homes

U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated annual average of **680 non-home structure fires** in which **natural gas** was the type of material first ignited and **620** in which material ignited was **LP-gas** in non-home properties during 2000-2004. These fires caused annual averages of :



	Civilian Deaths	Civilian Injuries	Direct Property Damage (in Millions)
Natural Gas	7	36	\$37
LP-Gas	7	63	\$26

Estimates are derived from the U.S. Fire Administration national Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) Version 5.0 and NFPA's annual fire department experience survey.

In 2000-2004, for both types of gases, the **leading**

- Area of origin was the **kitchen** or cooking area.
- Heat source was **spark, ember, or flame** from operating equipment.
- Equipment involved was **fixed or portable space heater**.

Smoking materials, i.e. lighted tobacco products, started fires that resulted in **40%** of civilian fire injuries in LP-gas incidents and **35%** of civilian fire injuries in natural gas incidents.

LP-gas non-home structure fires involving wiring, switches, or outlets resulted in **50%** of civilian fire deaths.

73% of direct property damage in **natural gas** non-home structure fires resulted from fires involving fixed or portable space heaters.