NFPA produces dozens of widely-used reports every year on the overall fire problem, firefighter fatalities and injuries, major fire causes, fire protection systems, and many other topics. NFPA is playing a major role in the growing importance of data analytics in fire and life safety and helping shape the impact that new technology is having in fire prevention and protection today.

As the research affiliate of NFPA, the Fire Protection Research Foundation is an independent nonprofit whose mission is to plan, manage, and communicate research in support of the NFPA. The Foundation was established in 1982 in response to a growing need for research that better informs NFPA’s expanding body of codes and standards. To ensure the research remains independent, the Foundation was formed as a separate 501(c) (3) organization.

Since then, the Foundation has facilitated major research programs (both domestic and international in scope) that address industry challenges in multiple areas, including detection and signaling, hazardous materials, electrical safety, fire suppression, storage of commodities, and firefighter protective clothing and equipment, among other issues. Each project is guided by a technical panel that provides its expertise with input from the research community, the fire service, NFPA technical committees, and other stakeholders. Findings from the Foundation’s critically applied research have been used by NFPA’s technical committee members and others to support the organization’s fire and life safety codes and standards. The Foundation is currently focusing significant effort on two emerging concepts in fire protection: smart firefighting and resiliency.

Policymakers play a critical role in reducing the risk of fire, electrical, and other life safety hazards for citizens. Actions like enacting and enforcing building codes and carrying out fire inspections are examples of government efforts that contribute to the reduction in fires and associated losses. Moving forward, changing infrastructure, new technology, evolving risks, and competing priorities will all put pressure on maintaining strong fire and life safety protection measures. The Fire & Life Safety Policy Institute helps policymakers understand and navigate these issues through analysis and recommended policy approaches to protect citizens.

Learn More
NFPA has many resources available on a wide range of topics. Reach out to us to learn more.
Contact NFPA’s Washington office: 202-898-0222
Visit us: 50 F Street, NW, Suite 625
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