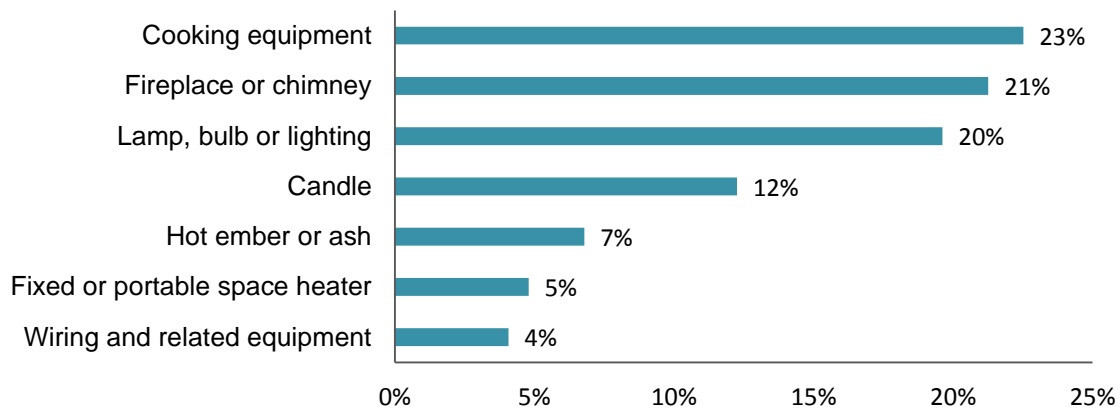




HOME STRUCTURE FIRES IN WHICH ANIMALS CONTRIBUTED TO THE FIRE'S START

During the five year period of 2009-2013, local fire departments responded to an average of 700 home structure fires per year in which animals, including pets and wild animals, contributed to the fire's start. These fires caused an average of 15 civilian injuries and \$13.7 million in direct property damage per year. No deaths were reported.

**Leading Causal Factors in Home Fires
in which Animals Contributed to the Fire's Start
2009-2013**



The graph shows that animals were involved in many different types of situations.

- Pets may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment, lamps, candles or space heaters.
- Birds, rodents or other animals may build nests in chimneys, in or on top of equipment.
- Animals may chew on cords or wiring.

Safety tips

- Keep pets away from cooking equipment.
- Be sure candles and lamps are not in the path of an animal (or its tail).
- Watch for signs of nest building on top of outside lights, chimneys, dryer vents, etc. and remove them promptly.
- As always, watch for signs of damaged wiring. Have any electrical problems checked out by a professional.