



FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

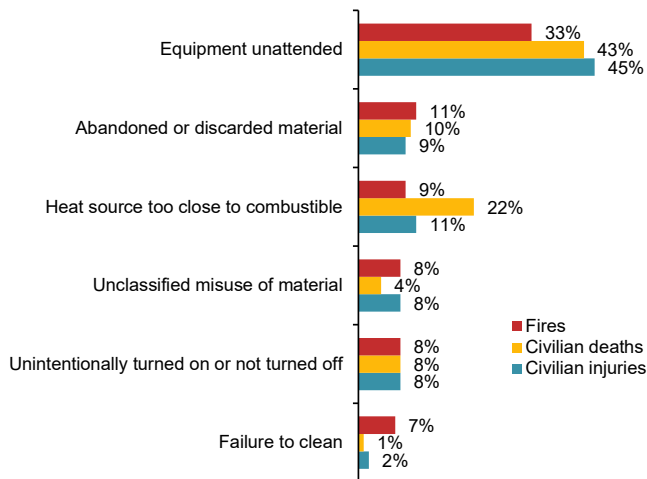
Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment

In 2011-2015, United States fire departments responded to an average of 170,200 home* structure fires that involved cooking equipment per year. These fires caused an average of 510 civilian fire deaths, 5,470 civilian fire injuries, and \$1.2 billion in direct property damage per year.

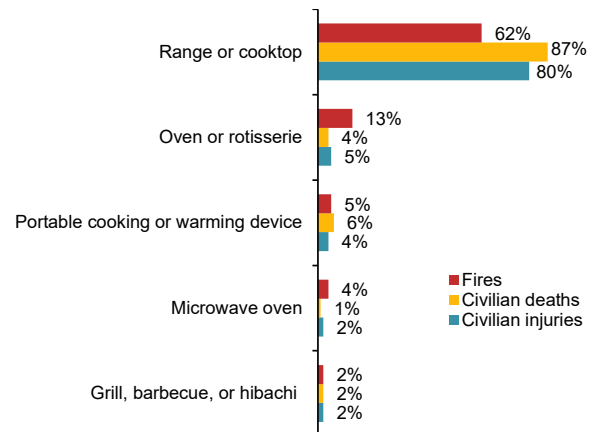
United States fire departments responded to an average of 466 home cooking fires per day in 2011-2015.

- Cooking equipment was the leading cause of home structure fires and civilian fire injuries and the second leading cause of home fire deaths.
- Cooking equipment was involved in
 - ▶ almost half (47%) of all reported home fires,
 - ▶ one of every five (20%) home fire deaths,
 - ▶ almost half (45%) of reported home fire injuries, and
 - ▶ 17% of the direct property damage resulting from home fires.
- Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in these fires and in fire casualties.
- 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 (55%) 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 (62%) of home cooking fire incidents and an even larger share of civilian deaths (87%) and injuries (80%).
- In 2015, Thanksgiving was the peak day for home cooking fires, followed by the day before Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, Easter, and Christmas Eve.
- In a 1999 study of range fires by the United States 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 2011-2015



Home Cooking Equipment Structure Fires by Equipment Involved in Ignition 2011-2015



To protect yourself and your loved ones from these fires, see [NFPA's Cooking Safety Tips](#).

Source: **NFPA Research:** www.nfpa.org/research
Contact information: 617-984-7450 or research@nfpa.org

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



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