

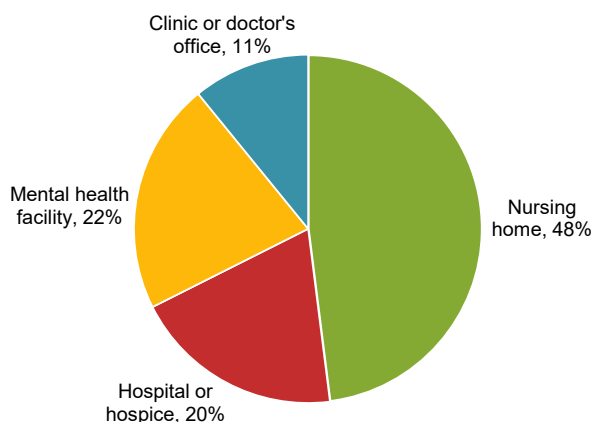


FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

U.S. Structure Fires in Health Care Properties

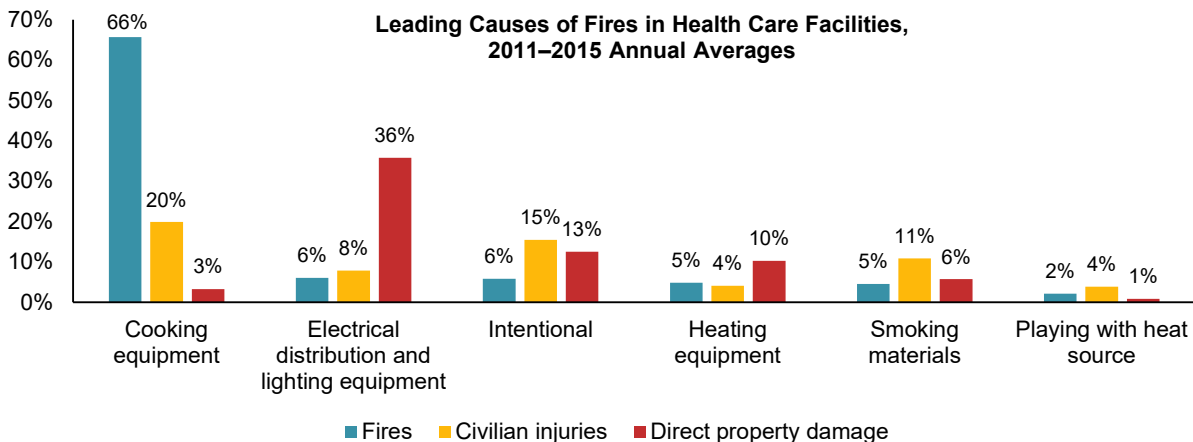
U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 5,750 structure fires in health care properties per year in 2011–2015. These fires caused annual averages of two civilian deaths, 157 civilian injuries, and \$50.4 million in direct property damage.

Structure Fires in Health Care Properties by Occupancy Type: 2011–2015



- ▶ Most fires in these properties were small. Fire spread beyond the room of origin in only 4% of health care fires.
- ▶ Fires in nursing homes accounted for a disproportionately higher share of civilian injuries, but a smaller share of direct property damage, relative to other health care facilities.
- ▶ The leading causes and circumstances of fires in health care facilities showed some variation by specific health care occupancy.

Cooking equipment was the leading cause of fires in all health care properties (66%). However, these fires accounted for just 3% of direct property damage, an indication that most are confined fires. Fires involving electrical distribution and lighting equipment and those with an intentional cause each accounted for 6% of fires, while heating equipment and smoking materials each accounted for 5% of the total. Fires caused by electrical distribution and lighting equipment accounted for 36% of direct property damage. Playing with a heat source caused 2% of fires.



Source: NFPA Research: www.nfpa.org/research
Contact information: 617-984-7451 or research@nfpa.org



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

This information is provided to help advance fire safety. It does not represent the official position of the NFPA or its Technical Committees. The NFPA disclaims liability for any personal injury, property, or other damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of this information.