



Quick Facts on Fires and Falls in the Home



MULTIGENERATIONAL HOUSEHOLDS are becoming more common. This living arrangement allows families of different generations to come together to face many challenges — raising children, caring for aging parents, and managing housing costs, job loss, and single parenting.

- There are about 4.2 million multigenerational households in the United States with children under 18, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This represents three percent of all U.S. households.¹
- 65% of multigenerational homes include the head of household with a child and grandchild.
- 34% of multigenerational households include the head of household with a parent and child.

Fires²

- There are roughly 360,000 home fires every year.
- Home fires kill roughly 2,500 people per year. In addition, nearly 13,000 fire injuries are reported each year.
- Seven people die in home fires every day.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates that three of every five home fire deaths result from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
- Smoke alarms should be replaced after 10 years. They don't last forever.

Falls³

- Unintentional falls are the leading cause of non-fatal injuries treated in hospital emergency departments for most age groups.
- More than 6 million adults age 25 and older and more than 1.5 million children under age 10 are treated in hospital emergency departments for unintentional fall injuries.
- Falls are the most common hazard leading to unintentional death for adults 65 and older, accounting for more than 20,000 deaths in a recent year.
- Many fall injuries to adults 65 and older are linked to stairs, ramps, landings or floors.



¹U.S. Census Multigenerational Households 2009-2011 <https://www.census.gov/prod/2012pubs/acsbr11-03.pdf>. Accessed August 5, 2016.

²NFPA Home Structure Fires, September 2015. NFPA data includes intentional fires. <http://www.nfpa.org/news-and-research/fire-statistics-and-reports/fire-statistics/fires-by-property-type/residential/home-structure-fires>. Accessed August 12, 2016.

³CDC Injury Prevention & Control: Data & Statistics (WISQARS™). <https://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars>. Accessed August 12, 2016.

— Fire Safety for Multigenerational Families Living Together —