



Major causes of fire

Leading causes of structure fires in homes 2002-2005 annual averages

"Homes" are defined as dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes (mobile homes), apartments, rowhouses, townhouses, and condominiums.

Major cause	Fires	Civilian deaths	Civilian injuries	Direct property damage (in millions)*
Cooking equipment fire	142,900 (38%)	430 (15%)	4,600 (34%)	\$757 (13%)
<i>Cooking equipment in non-confined fire</i>	35,900 (10%)	420 (15%)	3,140 (23%)	\$728 (12%)
<i>Confined cooking fire</i>	107,000 (28%)	10 (0%)	1,460 (11%)	\$29 (0%)
Heating equipment fire	70,700 (19%)	690 (24%)	1,680 (13%)	\$1,061 (18%)
<i>Heating equipment in non-confined fire</i>	30,600 (8%)	690 (24%)	1,570 (12%)	\$1,041 (18%)
<i>Confined chimney or flue fire</i>	24,600 (7%)	0 (0%)	30 (0%)	\$15 (0%)
<i>Confined fuel burner or boiler fire</i>	15,500 (4%)	0 (0%)	90 (1%)	\$5 (0%)
Electrical distribution or lighting equipment	20,800 (6%)	330 (11%)	810 (6%)	\$697 (12%)
Intentional	18,300 (5%)	330 (11%)	960 (7%)	\$524 (9%)
Candle	15,800 (4%)	160 (6%)	1,480 (11%)	\$488 (8%)
Clothes dryer or washer	13,900 (4%)	30 (1%)	80 (1%)	\$319 (6%)
Smoking materials	13,300 (4%)	680 (24%)	1,220 (9%)	\$396 (7%)
Exposure	13,200 (3%)	20 (1%)	90 (1%)	\$332 (6%)
Playing with heat source	7,100 (2%)	140 (5%)	860 (6%)	\$220 (4%)
Confined or contained trash or rubbish fire	14,700 (4%)	0 (0%)	60 (0%)	\$3 (0%)

* Previously published estimates of candle fires were higher because the total number of homes was based on incidents reported in both versions of NFIRS.