At a Glance

Heating Fires in Residential Buildings (2017-2019)

Each year, from 2017 to 2019, an estimated average of

34,200

heating fires in residential buildings

were reported to fire departments in the United States.

These fires caused an estimated annual average of:

165 deaths

600 injuries

$367 million in property loss

Heating was the second leading cause of all residential building fires, following cooking.

Residential building heating fires peaked in the early evening hours from 5 to 9 p.m., with the highest peak from 6 to 8 p.m.

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Residential building heating fire incidence peaked in January at 20% and declined to the lowest point during the months of June, July and August.

77%

Confined fires, specifically those fires confined to chimneys, flues or fuel burners, accounted for 77% of residential building heating fires.

27%

The heat source was too close to combustibles in 27% of the nonconfined residential building heating fires.

TEST

Smoke alarms were present in 56% of nonconfined heating fires in occupied residential buildings.

The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA's) topical reports are designed to explore facets of the U.S. fire problem as depicted through data collected in the USFA's National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) from incidents reported by local response agencies. Each topical report briefly addresses the nature of the specific fire or fire-related topic, highlights important findings from the data, and may suggest other resources to consider for further information.

To read the full report, **visit usfa.fema.gov.**

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