



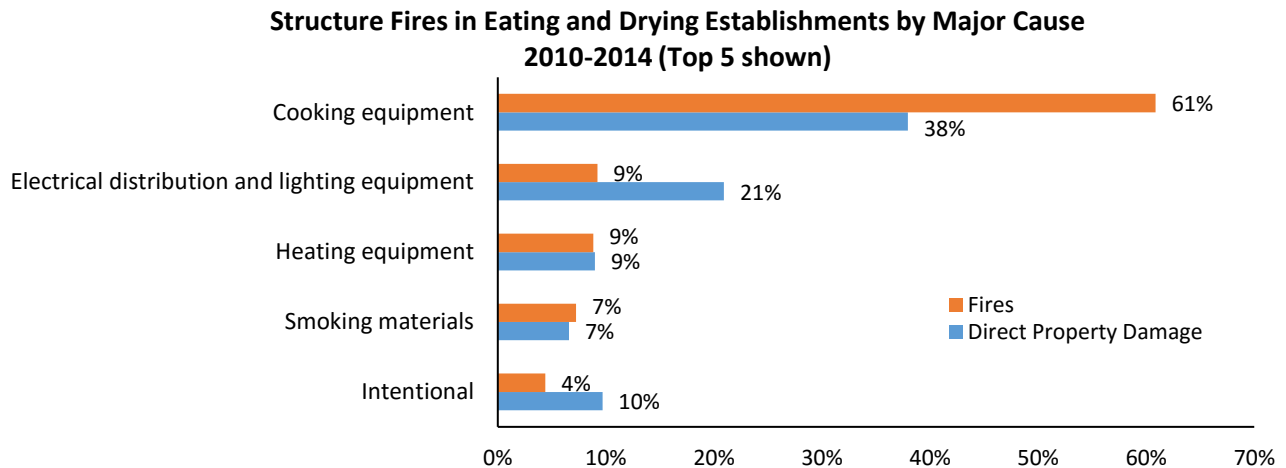
RESEARCH

Structure Fires in Eating and Drinking Establishments Fact Sheet

During 2010-2014, an estimated average of 7,410 structure fires in eating and drinking establishments were reported to U.S. fire departments each year. These fires resulted in associated annual losses of:

- Three civilian deaths
- 110 civilian injuries
- \$165 million in property damage

Cooking equipment was the leading cause of fires in these properties, accounting for three out of five fires (61%) and 38% of direct property damage. Electrical distribution and lighting equipment was responsible for 9% of fires, but 21% of direct property damage, while heating equipment was responsible for 9% of fires and 9% of direct property damage. Smoking materials caused 7% of fires and 7% of direct property damage. Four percent of fires had an intentional cause, but these fires caused 10% of direct property damage.



- Deep fryers were involved in one of five fires (21%) and ranges or cooktops were involved in 14% of fires.
- Two-thirds (68%) of fires in eating and drinking establishments were small and did not spread beyond the object of origin.
- Cooking materials were the item first ignited in 43% of the fires in eating and drinking establishments.
- Failure to clean was a factor in 22% of the fires in these properties.

Source: *Structure Fires in Eating and Drinking Establishments*, Richard Campbell

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