



Prison and Jail Fires

During 2003-2007, municipal fire departments responded to an estimated average of **590 structure fires** in prisons and jail, annually. These fires resulted in an estimate annual average of

- 37 civilian fire injuries
- \$2.0 million in direct property damage

No civilian fire deaths in these properties were reported to NFIRS during this period.

- Since 1980, structure fires in prisons and jails have fallen 88%.
- January, February, and March were the peak months for reported prison and jail structure fires in 2003-2007
- Kitchens or cooking areas were the leading area of origin for structure fires in prisons and jails.
- Seventeen percent of the prison and jail structure fires reported during 2003-2007 started in bedrooms or cells and 11% originated in laundry rooms.
- One of every 4 structure fires in prisons and jails was intentional.
- When fires were not confined to cooking equipment or contained to trash or rubbish, mattresses and bedding materials were the leading items first ignited.

