



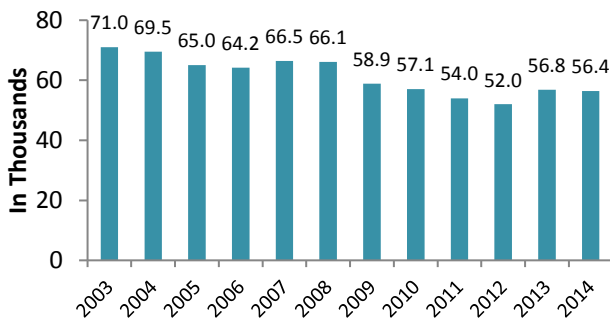
NFPA's Latest Estimates of *Home Heating Fires - 2014*

Heating equipment was involved in an estimated 56,400 home structure fires that were reported to U.S. fire departments in 2014. These fires caused:

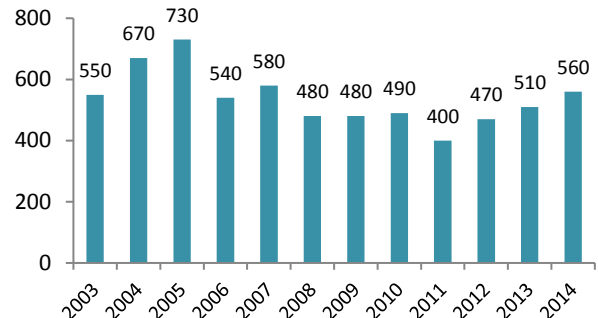
- 560 deaths,
- 1,600 injuries and
- \$1.3 billion in direct property damage.

Heating equipment was involved in one of every six (16%) reported home fires, one of every five (21%) home fire deaths, 14% of home fire injuries, and 20% of the direct property damage from home fires.

Home Heating Fires, by Year



Home Heating Fires Deaths, by Year



More about Home Heating Fires

NFPA's 2016 report, [Home Fires Involving Heating Equipment](#), provides more details. Because of normal fluctuation from year to year, NFPA uses five-year annual averages in its detailed analyses.

Key findings

Heating equipment was the leading cause of reported home fires in the 1980s and has generally ranked second since then. In 2009-2013, it was also the second leading cause of home fire deaths and injuries.

- Fireplaces, chimneys or chimney connectors were involved in one-third (32%) of reported home heating fires in 2009-2013. Failure to clean was a factor in two-thirds 68% of such incidents.

A sticky combustible substance, creosote, is created when wood does not burn completely. It can build-up inside the chimney and catch fire. Chimneys and vents need to be cleaned and inspected by a qualified professional at least once a year.

- Portable or fixed space heaters, including wood stoves, were involved in two out of five home heating fires and five of every six (84%) home heating deaths. In one of every five (21%) of these fires and three of every five (59%) space heater fire deaths, the heater was too close to something that could catch fire.

All heaters need space. Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from heating equipment.