

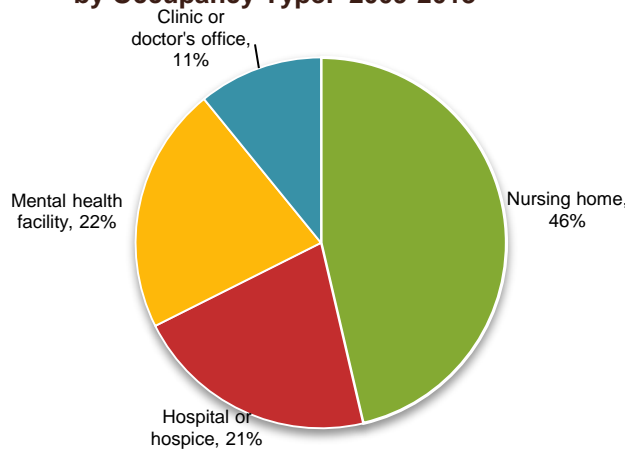


RESEARCH

U.S. STRUCTURE FIRES IN HEALTH CARE PROPERTIES FACT SHEET

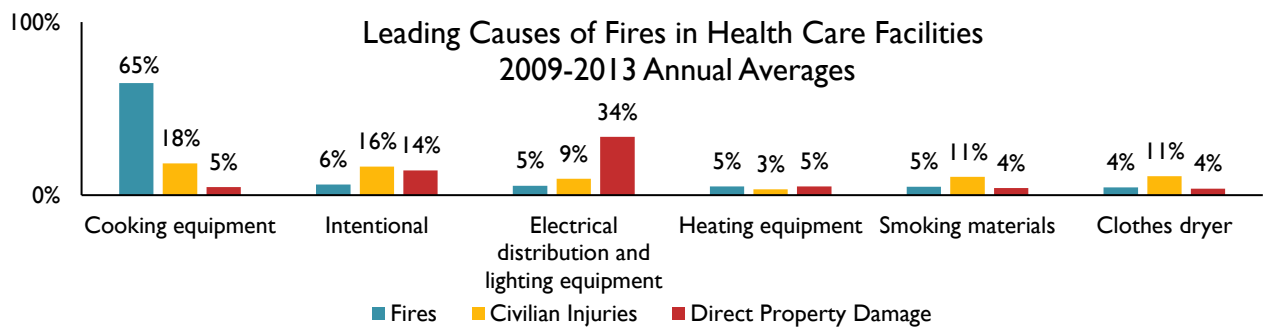
U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 5,650 structure fires in health care properties per year in 2009-2013. These fires caused annual averages of four civilian deaths, 160 civilian injuries, and \$44.9 million in direct property damage.

Structure Fires in Health Care Properties, by Occupancy Type: 2009-2013



- Most fires in these properties are small. Fire spread beyond the room of origin in only 4% of health care fires.
- Fires in nursing homes accounted for a disproportionately higher share of civilian deaths and injuries, but a smaller share of direct property damage, relative to other health care facilities.
- The leading causes and circumstances of fires in health care facilities showed some variation by specific health care occupancy.

Cooking equipment was the leading cause of fires in all health care properties (65% of fires). However, these fires accounted for just 5% of direct property damage, an indication that most are confined fires. Fires that were intentionally set accounted for 6% of fires, while electrical distribution and lighting equipment, heating equipment and smoking materials each accounted for 5% of the total. Fires caused by electrical distribution and lighting equipment accounted for just over one-third (34%) of direct property damage. Clothes dryers caused 4% of fires.



Source: NFPA, Fire Analysis & research Division, www.nfpa.org
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