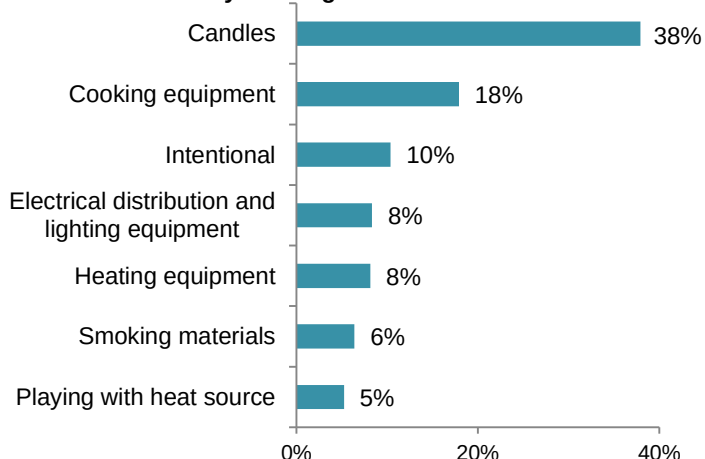




HOME STRUCTURE FIRES THAT BEGAN WITH DECORATIONS FACT SHEET

U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 860 home¹ structure fires per year that began with decorations, excluding Christmas trees, in 2009-2013. These fires caused an annual average of one civilian fire death, 41 civilian fire injuries and \$13.4 million in direct property damage.

**Home Structure Fires that Began with Decorations
by Leading Causes: 2009-2013**



Candles started 38% of home decoration structure fires.

Cooking equipment was involved in 18%.

Ten percent of decoration fires were intentional.

The decoration was too close to a heat source such as a candle or equipment in nearly half (45%) of the fires.

One-fifth (20%) of the decoration fires started in the kitchen. One out of six (17%) started in the living room, family room or den.

Things are a little different in December.

One-fifth (20%) of the home decoration fires occurred December.

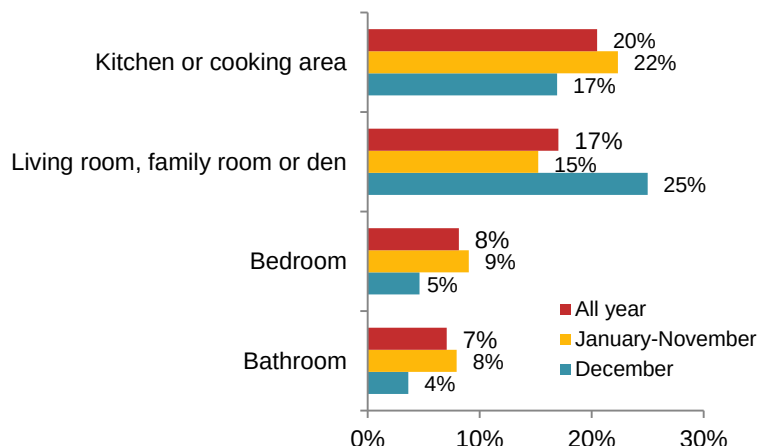
Half (51%) of the December home decoration fires were started by candles, compared to one-third (35%) in January to November.

In December, one-quarter (25%) home decoration structure fires started in the living room, family room or den, compared to 15% the rest of the year.

Falls are a risk with Christmas decorations.

Roughly 7,100 emergency room visits were caused by falls or trips involving Christmas decorations in November and December 2014.²

**Home Structure Fires that Began with Decorations
by Area of Origin: 2009-2013**



¹The term "home" includes one- or two-family homes and apartments or other multi-family housing.

²The [Consumer Product Safety Commission's National Electronic Injury System](#) was queried in October 2015 to obtain estimates of injuries associated with product codes 1701, 1711, 1712, 1729, and 1736.