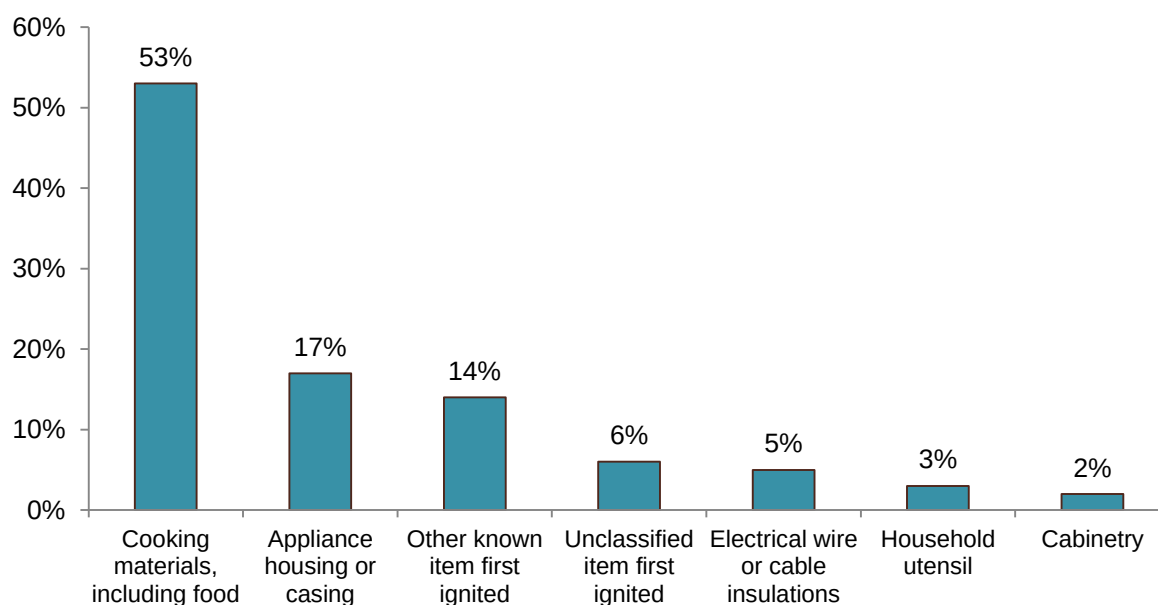


Home Fires Involving Microwave Ovens Fact Sheet

During 2007-2011, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 7,100 home¹ structure fires per year in which a microwave oven was involved in ignition. These fires caused an average of fewer than 10 civilian deaths, 150 civilian injuries, and \$31 million in direct property damage per year.

- Three out of five (61%) microwaves ovens were stationary and 39% were portable. Nearly all (95%) of these fires began in the kitchen.
- One in every six (17%) microwave oven home structure fires cited appliance housing or casing as the item first ignited.
- Microwave ovens involve more emergency room scald burn injuries than any other cooking device.
- Two of every five (41%) microwave oven injuries seen at emergency rooms in 2012 were scalds.
- Children under five face a disproportionate risk of scalds from incidents involving microwave ovens.

Home Fires Involving Microwave Ovens, by Item First Ignited, 2007-2011



¹ Homes include one- or two family homes (including manufactured housing) and apartments or other multi-family housing..