

Bureau Of Fire Investigation

Investigative Management and Reporting System

Summary of Fire Causes

For the period 01/01/2008 through 12/31/2008

Printed on Mar. 26, 2009



Fire Category: Appliance

Cause of Fire	Count
Clothes Dryer - Natural Gas	44
Other Appliance	44
Stove - Natural Gas	37
Clothes Dryer	27
Refrigeration Compressor	10
Stove - Microwave	9
Clothes Dryer - Electric	4
Coffee Pot	4
Washer/Dryer	3
Stove - Electric	2
Clothes Washer	1
Dishwasher	1
Stove - Wood	1
Appliance Total:	187

Fire Category: Cooking Carelessness

Cause of Fire	Count
Stove/Cooking - Stove	128
Stove/Cooking - Other	38
Stove/Cooking - Fryer	9
Stove/Cooking - Electric	7
Barbecue - Wood/Charcoal	6
Stove/Cooking - Toaster Oven	4
Barbecue - Propane	3
Cooking Carelessness Total:	195

Fire Category: Electrical

Cause of Fire	Count
Electrical Wiring	422
Extension Cord	175
Other - Electrical	62
Lighting Fixture	54
Appliance Cord	49
Power Strip	40

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Fire Category: Electrical

Cause of Fire	Count
Vehicle Wiring	35
Hard Wire Outlet	31
Feeder Cable	20
Fuse/Circuit Breaker Panel	12
Service	9
Transformer	8
Arc Welding	6
Ballast	4
Surge Suppressor	3
Holiday Lighting	1
Electrical Total:	931

Fire Category: Electronic Devices

Cause of Fire	Count
Computer Component(s)	8
Radio/Stereo	6
TV	6
Other Audio Visual Equipment	1
Electronic Devices Total:	21

Fire Category: Heaters

Cause of Fire	Count
Portable Heater - Electric	31
Permanent Heater - Oil	23
Permanent Heater - Gas	15
Heaters - Other	7
Permanent Heater	4
Permanent Heater - Electric	2
Portable Heater - Kerosene	2
Portable Heater	1
Portable Heater - Natural Gas	1
Heaters Total:	86

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Fire Category: Hot Objects

Cause of Fire	Count
Other - Hot Objects	58
Heat or Sparks from Friction	32
Heat from Light Bulb	31
Chimney/Flues	21
Incense	19
Heat From Molten Metal / Slag	14
Permanent Heater - Steam Radiator (Pyrolysis)	9
Heat from an Iron	7
Hot Embers	3
Hot Objects Total:	194

Fire Category: Ignitable

Cause of Fire	Count
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Gasoline	18
Ignitable Liquid-Polyurethane/Varnish/PaintThinner	15
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Natural Gas	7
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Pesticide Fogger	6
Other - Ignitable Liquid/Gas	5
Other - Liquid	5
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Fuel Oil	3
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Propane	2
Ignitable Total:	61

Fire Category: Incendiary

Cause of Fire	Count
Incendiary - Combustible Material	1378
Incendiary	664
Incendiary - Ignitable Liquid	192
Incendiary - Fireworks	29
Incendiary - Reckless Use of Open Flame	16
Incendiary - Attempted Arson	9
Incendiary - Torch - Illegal Use of	7
Incendiary - Combustible Gas	3
Incendiary - Attempted Suicide	2

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Fire Category: Incendiary

Cause of Fire	Count
Incendiary - Self Immolation	2
Incendiary - Explosives	2
Incendiary Total:	2304

Fire Category: Motors

Cause of Fire	Count
Other Motor	27
Motors - Fan	12
Motors - Compressors	4
Motors - Elevator	4
Motors - Subway	1
Motors Total:	48

Fire Category: Natural Sources

Cause of Fire	Count
Spontaneous Combustion	28
Lightning	6
Solar Rays	2
Natural Sources	1
Natural Sources Total:	37

Fire Category: Open Flame

Cause of Fire	Count
Candle	192
Torch - Legal Use of	66
Child Playing w/Matches/Lighter	52
Matches/Lighter	36
Other - Open Flame	29
Cooking Fire Extending to Clothing or Combustibles	17
Child Playing w/ Other Open Flame	11
Fireplace	8
Open Flame Total:	411

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Fire Category: Smoking

Cause of Fire	Count
Smoking (Cigarette/Cigar)	585
Smoking Total:	585

Fire Category: Other

Cause of Fire	Count
Not Ascertained	48
Other	25
Exothermic Chemical Reaction	13
Rekindle	3
Under Investigation	3
Other Total:	92

Grand Total:	5152
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