
Bureau Of Fire Investigation

Investigative Management and Reporting System

Summary of Fire Causes

For the period 01/01/2009 through 12/31/2009

Printed on Mar. 9, 2010



Fire Category: Appliance

Cause of Fire	Count
Clothes Dryer - Natural Gas	35
Stove - Natural Gas	32
Clothes Dryer	28
Other Appliance	23
Clothes Dryer - Electric	7
Refrigeration Compressor	6
Stove - Electric	5
Microwave	3
Dishwasher	3
Coffee Pot	1
Washer/Dryer Combo	1
Appliance Total:	144

Fire Category: Cooking Carelessness

Cause of Fire	Count
Food on the Stove	90
Cooking Fire Extending to Clothing or Combustibles	45
Stove/Cooking - Stove	33
Stove/Cooking - Other	28
Stove/Cooking - Fryer	15
Stove/Cooking - Electric	14
Rangehood Fire - Ductwork	10
Barbecue - Propane	4
Barbecue - Wood/Charcoal	3
Stove/Cooking - Toaster Oven	2
Cooking Carelessness Total:	244

Fire Category: Electrical

Cause of Fire	Count
Electrical Wiring	416
Extension Cord	168
Other - Electrical	80
Appliance Cord	41
Lighting Fixture	33

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Fire Category: Electrical

Cause of Fire	Count
Power Strip	30
Hard Wire Outlet	25
Vehicle Wiring	19
Feeder Cable	15
Fuse/Circuit Breaker Panel	11
Transformer	7
Ballast	5
Service	5
Arc Welding	1
Holiday Lighting	1
Surge Suppressor	1
Electrical Total:	858

Fire Category: Electronic Devices

Cause of Fire	Count
TV	5
Computer Component(s)	5
Other Audio Visual Equipment	4
Cable/Satellite Equipment	2
Amplifiers	1
Radio/Stereo	1
Electronic Devices Total:	18

Fire Category: Heaters

Cause of Fire	Count
Permanent Heater - Oil	23
Portable Heater - Electric	23
Permanent Heater - Gas	13
Portable Heater	5
Permanent Heater - Electric	5
Heaters - Other	4
Permanent Heater	4
Heaters Total:	77

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Fire Category: Hot Objects

Cause of Fire	Count
Other - Hot Objects	47
Heat from Light Bulb	34
Incense	24
Heat or Sparks from Friction	21
Heat From Molten Metal / Slag	12
Chimney/Flues	9
Hot Embers	8
Heat from an Iron	8
Permanent Heater - Steam Radiator (Pyrolysis)	4
Hot Objects Total:	167

Fire Category: Ignitable

Cause of Fire	Count
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Natural Gas	16
Ignitable Liquid-Polyurethane/Varnish/PaintThinner	14
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Gasoline	13
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Pesticide Fogger	7
Other - Ignitable Liquid/Gas	6
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Lighter Fluid	4
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Fuel Oil	3
Other - Gas	2
Other - Liquid	2
Ignitable Liquids/Gases - Propane	1
Ignitable Total:	68

Fire Category: Incendiary

Cause of Fire	Count
Incendiary - Combustible Material	1342
Incendiary	493
Incendiary - Ignitable Liquid	200
Incendiary - Fireworks	17
Incendiary - Torch - Illegal Use of	15
Incendiary - Attempted Arson	7
Incendiary - Suicide	6

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Cause of Fire	Count
Incendiary - Combustible Gas	4
Incendiary - Reckless Use of Open Flame	3
Incendiary - Explosives	2
Incendiary - Self Immolation	1
Incendiary Total:	2090

Fire Category: Motors

Cause of Fire	Count
Other Motor	21
Motors - Fan	10
Motors - Fossil Fuel Powered	4
Motors - Electric	3
Motors - Elevator	3
Motors - Compressors	3
Motors - Subway	1
Motors Total:	45

Fire Category: Natural Sources

Cause of Fire	Count
Spontaneous Combustion	21
Lightning	3
Sewer Gas	1
Natural Sources Total:	25

Fire Category: Open Flame

Cause of Fire	Count
Candle	189
Torch - Legal Use of	47
Child Playing w/Matches/Lighter	40
Other - Open Flame	30
Matches/Lighter	25
Child Playing w/ Other Open Flame	10

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Fire Category: Open Flame

Cause of Fire	Count
Fireplace	4
Aerosol Can	3
Open Flame Total:	348

Fire Category: Smoking

Cause of Fire	Count
Smoking (Cigarette/Cigar)	556
Smoking Total:	556

Fire Category: Other

Cause of Fire	Count
Not Ascertained	43
Other	30
Exothermic Chemical Reaction	12
Rekindle	4
Under Investigation	1
Other Total:	90

Grand Total: 4730
