

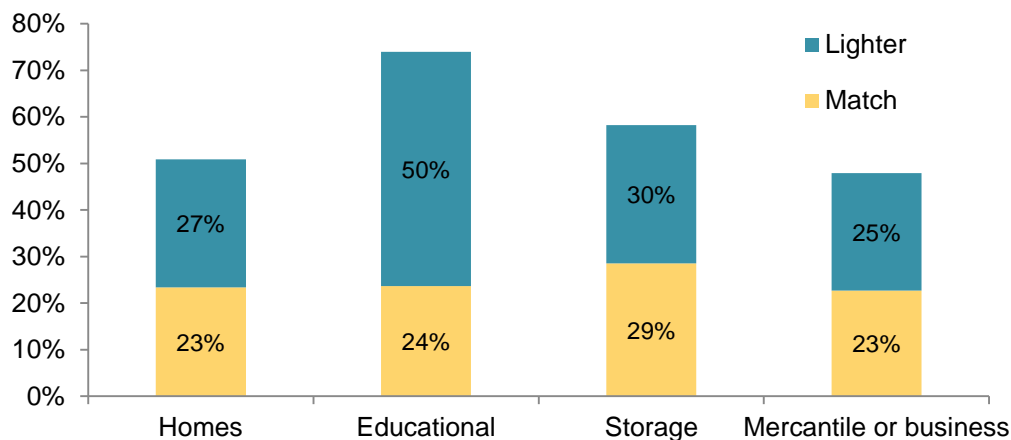


Intentional Fires Fact Sheet

During 2007-2011, an estimated 282,600 intentional fires were reported to U.S. fire departments each year, with associated annual losses of 420 civilian deaths, 1,360 civilian injuries, and \$1.3 billion in direct property damage: These fires included:

- 211,500 outside or unclassified fires
- 50,800 structure fires
- 20,400 vehicle fires

Percent of Intentional Structure Fires Started by Matches or Lighters 2007-2011 By Property Use



- Despite representing 18% of all intentional fires, intentional structure fires account for 92% of civilian deaths
- Intentionally set home structure fires are more likely to be set in the afternoon and evening hours, between 3 p.m. and midnight
- Three-fifths (60%) of outside or unclassified intentional fires began with a match or lighter

IDENTIFYING INTENTIONAL FIRES

What is an “intentional” fire?

The fire statistics in this analyses use detailed data from the U.S. Fire Administration’s National Fire Incident Reporting Systems (NFIRS). The definition of “intentional” in NFIRS 5.0 specifically includes “deliberate misuse of heat source or a fire of an incendiary nature.”

Additional resources, including a free downloadable presentation on preventing arson can be found at www.nfpa.org/arson

Source: *Intentional Fires*, Richard Campbell, April 2014
NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169, www.nfpa.org
Fire Analysis & Research Division, osds@nfpa.org