

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 3.166.2008

Estimated number of structure fires and intentionally set structure fires, and resulting civilian fire deaths and value of property damage

United States, 2002-2008

	Structure fires, total			Intentionally set structure fires		
	Estimated number of fires	Estimated number of civilian fire deaths	Estimated value of property (in thousands)	Estimated number of fires	Estimated number of civilian fire deaths	Estimated value of property (in thousands)
2002	519,000	2,775	\$8,742,000	44,500	350	\$919,000
2003	519,300	3,385	8,678,000	37,500	305	692,000
2004	526,000	3,305	8,314,000	36,500	320	714,000
2005	511,000	3,105	9,193,000	31,500	315	664,000
2006	524,000	2,705	9,636,000	31,000	305	755,000
2007	530,500	3,000	10,638,000	32,500	295	733,000
2008	515,000	2,900	12,361,000	30,500	315	866,000

Note: These data are weighted estimates from an annual survey of fire departments conducted by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). All U.S. fire departments that protect communities of 100,000 population or more are included in the sample. For departments that protect communities of less than 100,000 population, the sample is stratified by community size. The number of fire departments responding varies from year to year; a total of 2,846 departments responded to the 2008 survey. Readers are advised to consult the Source for more detailed information on methodology and weighting procedures.

"Civilians" include anyone other than a firefighter. "Property damage" includes all forms of direct loss to contents, structure, vehicles, machinery, etc., but does not include indirect losses, such as interruption of business or temporary shelter provisions. (Source, p. 35.)

Source: Michael J. Karter, Jr., *Fire Loss in the United States During 2002*, pp. 3, 8, 15; *2003*, pp. 6, 9, 15; *2004*, pp. 6, 8, 15; *2005, Abridged Report*, pp. 3, 7, 13; *2006*, pp. 3, 8, 15; *2007*, pp. 3, 9, 15; *2008*, pp. 3, 9, 15 (Quincy, MA: National Fire Protection Association). Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted with permission from NFPA, Fire Analysis and Research Division, Quincy, MA 02169.