

# Residential Building Fire Injury Causes

Fire Estimate Summaries present basic data on the size and status of the fire problem in the United States as depicted through data collected in the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA's) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). Each Fire Estimate Summary addresses the size of the specific fire or fire-related issue and highlights important trends in the data.

Note: Fire Estimate Summaries are based on the USFA's national estimates methodology. The USFA is committed to providing the best and most current information on the United States' fire problem and, as a result, continually examines its data and methodology. Because of this commitment, changes to data collection strategies and estimate methodologies occur, causing estimates to change slightly over time. Previous estimates on specific issues (or similar issues) may have been a result of different methodologies or data definitions used and may not be directly comparable to current estimates.

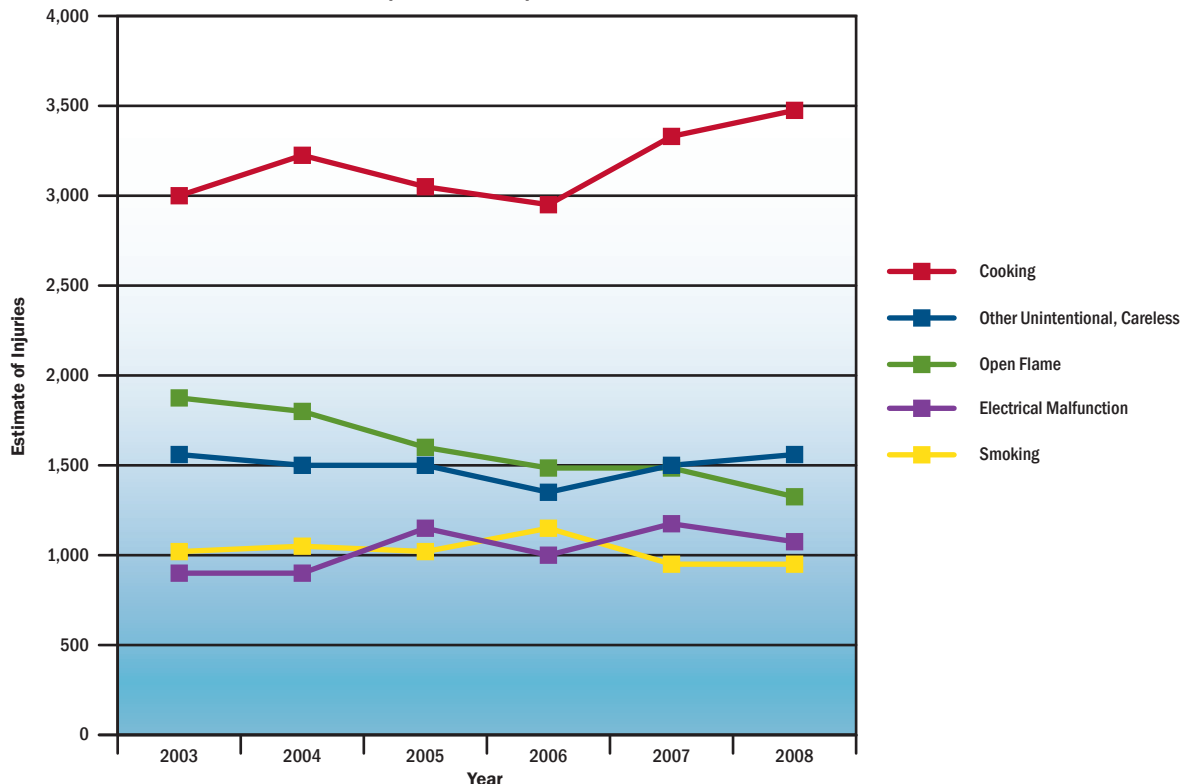
National estimates for the three leading causes of residential building fire injuries for 2008, the most recent year data are available, are:

1. Cooking: 3,475 injuries
2. Other Unintentional, Careless: 1,550 injuries
3. Open Flame: 1,325 injuries

Overall trends in the leading fire injury causes for the 6-year period of 2003 to 2008 show:

- Cooking as the leading cause of residential building fire injuries for the 6-year period.
- A 12% increase in residential cooking fire injuries.
- A 1% decrease in residential other unintentional, careless fire injuries.
- A 29% decrease in fire injuries caused by open flame.

Leading Causes of Residential Building Fire Injuries  
(2003-2008)



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