



Intentional Fires

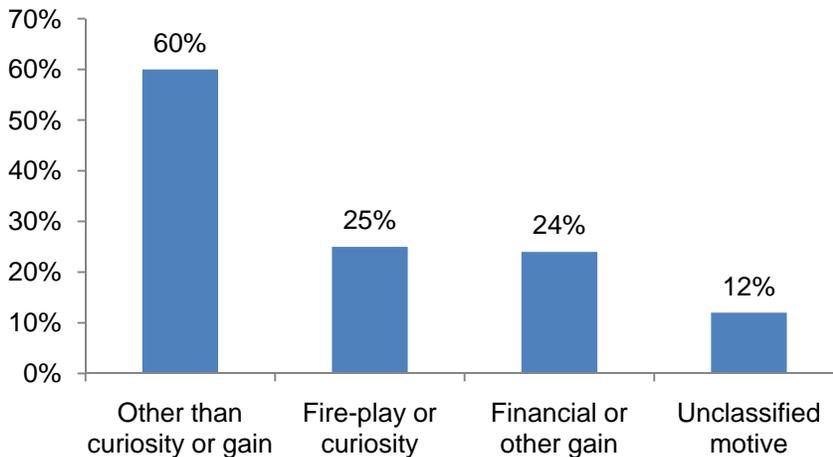
Fact Sheet



Fire departments responded to an estimated **53,600** intentional structure fires annually during 2003-2007. These fires resulted in:

- 387 civilian deaths
- 1,141 civilian injuries
- \$922 million in direct property damage

2005-2007 Intentional Fires by Major Motive Group
 (Multiple motives are possible for a case.)



Although three of every four intentional fires are started outside, most deaths, injuries and property loss in intentional fires resulted from structure fires.

In 2007, three firefighters died and 6,100 firefighters were injured, while on duty, at the scene or responding to intentional fires.

**An "intentional" fire is a fire that threatens harm and includes deliberate misuse of heat source or a fire of an incendiary nature.*

Half (54%) of all intentional structure fires are started in the home. These fires resulted in:

- 86% of the civilian deaths
- 82% of the civilian injuries
- 62% of the direct property damage

from intentional structure fires.

8% of fires in homes were intentionally started in 2003-2007

The bedroom is the leading area of origin for intentional home structure fires.

The bathroom is the leading area of origin for intentional fires in public properties such as stores, offices, and schools.

Small towns have a smaller intentional share of structure fires than large cities and rural areas.

According to FBI Statistics, in 2008:

- 18% of arson offenses were cleared by arrest or exceptional means
- 47% of arrestees were under the age of 18
- 3% of arrestees were under the age of 10