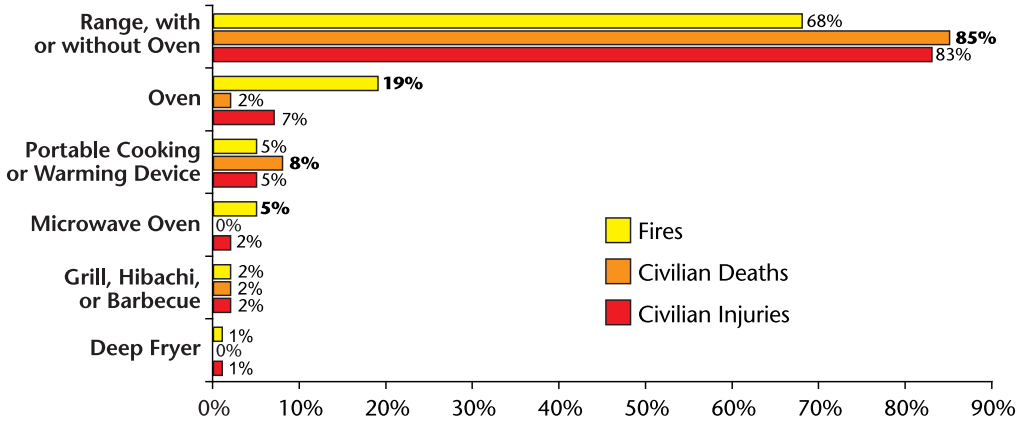
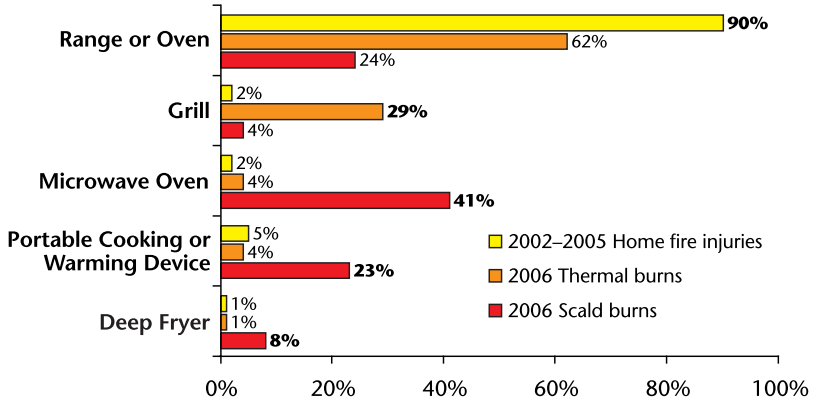
Cooking Fires Facts & Figures

- In 2005, fire departments responded to 146,400 home structure fires that involved cooking equipment. These fires caused 480 civilian fire deaths, 4,690 civilian fire injuries and $876 million in direct property damage.
- Cooking fires are the leading cause of home structure fires and associated civilian injuries.
- Ranges accounted for the largest share (67%) of home cooking fire incidents in 2005. Ovens accounted for 19%.
- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.
- In 2002–2005, unattended cooking equipment was the leading factor contributing to home cooking fires (38%), deaths (45%), injuries (46%) and direct property damage (37%).
- 12% of the fires occurred when something that could catch fire was too close to the equipment.
- Three-fifths (59%) of reported home cooking fire injuries occurred when victims tried to fight the fire themselves.
- In a 1999 study of range fires by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, 83% of frying fires began in the first 15 minutes of cooking.

Home Cooking Equipment Fires by Equipment Involved, 2005



Reported Fire Injuries and Emergency Room Treated Burns Involving Cooking Equipment



Source: Home Fires Involving Cooking Equipment, by John R. Hall, Jr., February 2008.