



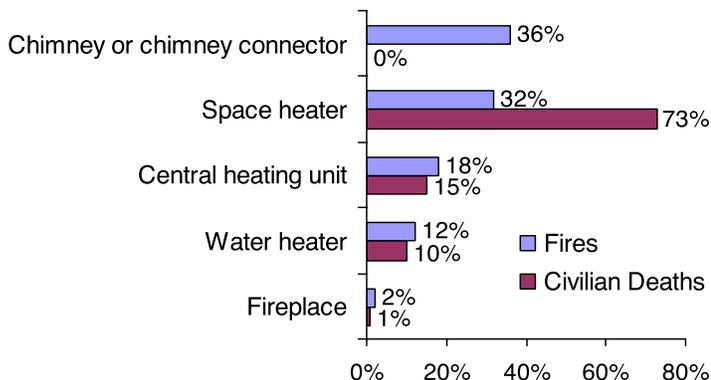
# Fast Facts You Should Know About Home Heating Fires

- In 2005, U.S. fire departments responded to 62,200 home<sup>1</sup> structure fires that involved heating equipment. These fires caused:
  - 670 civilian fire deaths
  - 1,550 civilian fire injuries
  - \$909 million in direct property damage
- Nearly half (44%) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February in 2002–2005.
- Heating equipment fires accounted for 16% of all reported home fires in 2005 (second behind cooking) and 22% of home fire deaths.
- Space heaters, excluding fireplaces, chimneys, and chimney connectors, were involved in one-third (32%) of the home heating fires but three-fourths (73%) of the deaths in 2005.
- In 2002–2005, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires (27%) and deaths (53%) is heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding. This excludes fires reported as confined fires.
- Chimneys and chimney connectors accounted for the largest share (36%) of home heating fire incidents in 2005. Failure to clean accounted for two thirds (64 %) of the confined chimney and chimney connector fires in 2002–2005.



<sup>1</sup>Homes are dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, rowhouses and condominiums.

**U.S. Home Heating Fires by Equipment Involved: 2005**



**Leading Factors in Space Heater Fires 2002–2005**

