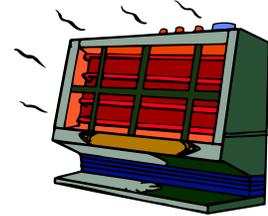




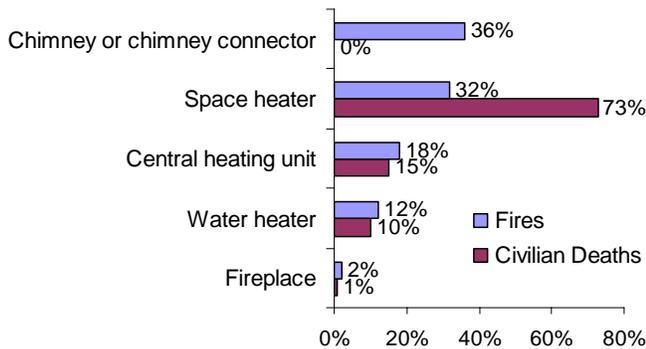
## U.S. Home Heating Equipment Fires

In 2005, U.S. fire departments responded to **62,200** home<sup>1</sup> structure fires that involved heating equipment in 2005. These fires caused

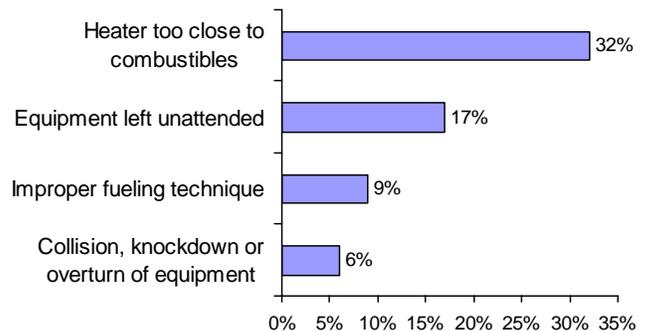


- 670 civilian fire deaths
  - 1,550 civilian fire injuries
  - \$909 million in direct property damage
- Heating equipment fires accounted for 16% of all reported home fires in 2005 (second behind cooking) and 22% of home fire deaths.
  - In 2002-2005, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires (27%) and deaths (53%) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding. These statistics exclude fires that were confined to a chimney, flue, fuel burner, or boiler.
  - Nearly half (44%) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February in 2002-2005.
  - The peak time of home heating fires is between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

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



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



- 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.
- Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third (32%) of the home heating fires and three-fourths (73%) of home heating fire deaths in 2005.
- One-third of space heater fires started when the heater was too close to something that could catch fire. Improper fueling was a particular problem for kerosene heaters.

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