National Fire Protection Association

Fire Analysis & Research

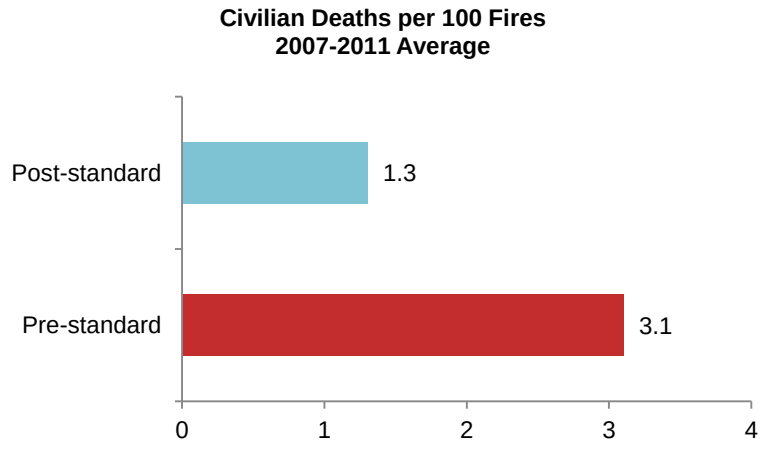
Manufactured Home Fires Fact Sheet

In 2007-2011, 11,400 structure fires per year were reported in manufactured homes, with associated losses of:

- 206 civilian deaths,
- 434 civilian injuries, and
- $179 million in direct damage per year.

Because of changes in the way fires are reported since 1999, the manufactured home share of certain minor fires cannot be identified, which means estimated fires and associated injuries are probably under-estimated. Estimates of associated deaths and direct property damage are essentially unaffected.

Compared to pre-HUD-standard manufactured homes (built before 1976), post-standard homes had a 57% lower rates of civilian deaths per 100 fires in 2007-2011.



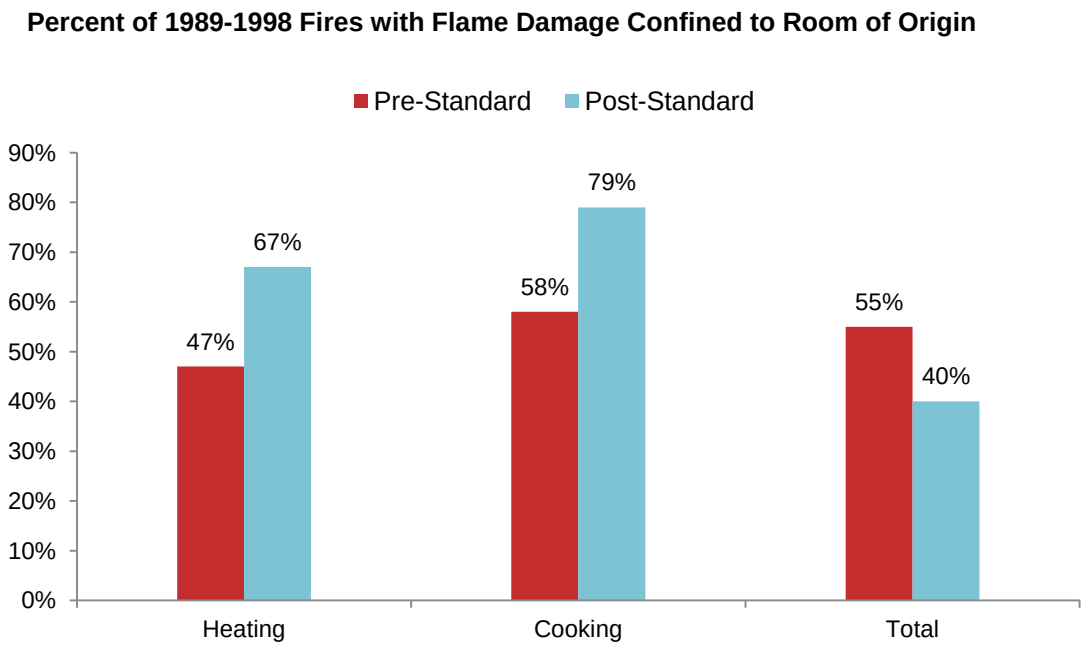
Manufactured homes (all ages combined) had roughly the same fire death rate per 100,000 occupied housing units as other one- or two-family homes in 2007-2011.

If all pre-standard manufactured homes were removed from the inventory of occupied units, it is estimated that the manufactured home fire death rate would be considerably lower than the rate in other one- or two-family homes.

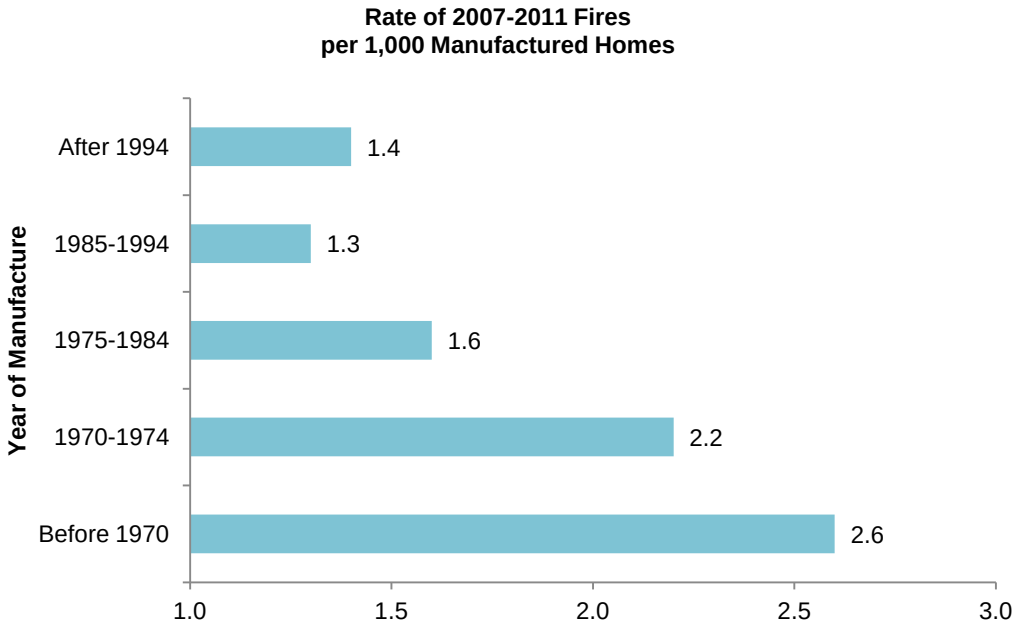
In 1989-1998, post-standard manufactured homes with smoke alarms had a 31% lower death rate per 100 fires than post-standard manufactured homes with no smoke alarms.

According to the *American Housing Survey*, in 2011, occupied manufactured homes were less likely to have working smoke alarms (91.8% vs. 94.6%) than all occupied housing units including multi-family. In the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's 2004-2005 study of unreported fires, manufactured homes were less likely (91% vs. 97-98%) to have smoke alarms than either detached single-family homes, townhouses or row homes, or multi-family housing.

Post-standard manufactured home fires are more likely to have flame damage confined to room of origin, especially if the fires are started by heating or cooking equipment.



Fires per 1,000 occupied manufactured homes dropped sharply when the HUD standards were introduced but have not declined since then.



Source: *Manufactured Home Fires,* John R. Hall, Jr. September 2013
NFPA, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169, www.nfpa.org
Fire Analysis & Research Division, osds@nfpa.org