



Fires at U.S. Service Stations

U. S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of **5,020** fires at service stations per year during 2004-2008. These fires caused annual averages of

- 2 civilian deaths
- 48 civilian fire injuries
- \$20 million in direct property damage

Fires in service stations fell 46% from 7,860 in 1980 to 4,280 in 2008.

Fires in Service Stations by Type of Incident, 2004-2008

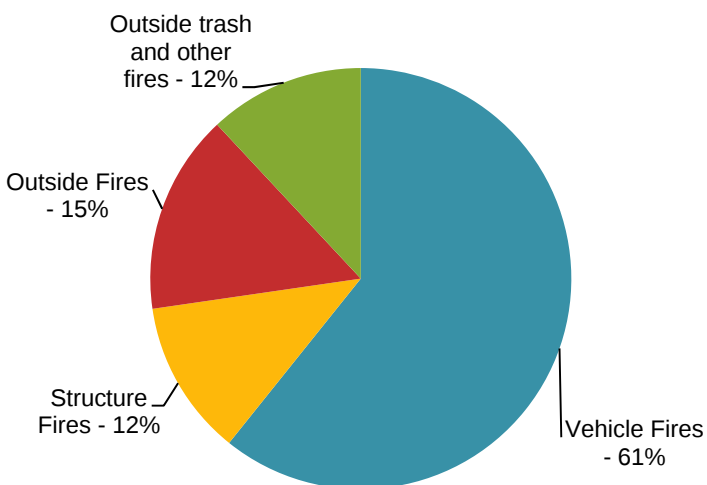
Facts:

Structure fires accounted for 12% of total incidents but 59% of the direct property damage.

In structure fires, heating equipment was the leading cause, followed by electrical distribution and lighting equipment.

The most common type of material first ignited in vehicle fires was gasoline.

Smoking materials provided the heat of ignition in 21% of outdoor and unclassified fires.



Special Considerations in These Properties

- Motorists should discharge static electricity by touching a metal part of their car door before fueling their vehicles.
- Most civilian injuries at service station fires occur in vehicle fires.
- The primary NFPA code addressing fire safety issues for service stations and motor fuel dispensing is NFPA 30A *Code for Motor Fuel Dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages*.