



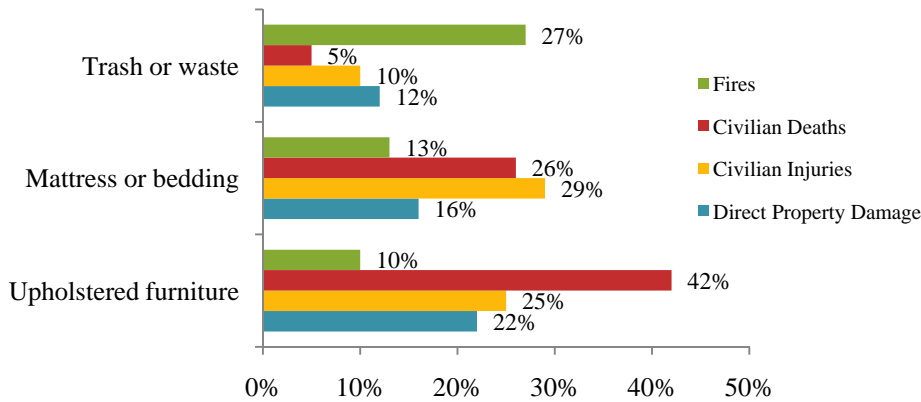
Smoking-Material Fire Problem


U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 114,800 smoking-material fires in 2008. These fires caused:


- 680 civilian deaths
- 1,520 civilian injuries, and
- \$737 million in direct property damage.

These estimates are derived from the U.S. Fire Administration National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) Version 5.0 and NFPA's annual fire department experience survey.

Smoking-Material Fires in Homes by Leading Item First Ignited in 2004-2008 (Including Fires Reported as Confined)



 **FACT:** Roughly equal shares of deaths resulting from smoking-material fires were in fires that started in bedrooms (36%) as in living rooms, family rooms and dens (33%).

 **FACT:** The risk of dying in a home structure fire caused by smoking materials rises with age.

In recent years, Canada and all 50 U.S. states, have required that all cigarettes sold must be “fire safe,” that is, have sharply reduced ignition strength or ability to start fires. The laws were effective in eight states when 2008 began and became effective during 2008 in ten other states. When these laws are fully implemented, it is currently projected that smoking-material structure fire deaths will be down by 56-77% from 2003, the last year before any state implemented the law. See www.firesafecigarettes.org for more details.

Trend in Civilian Deaths in U.S. Smoking Material Home Fires

