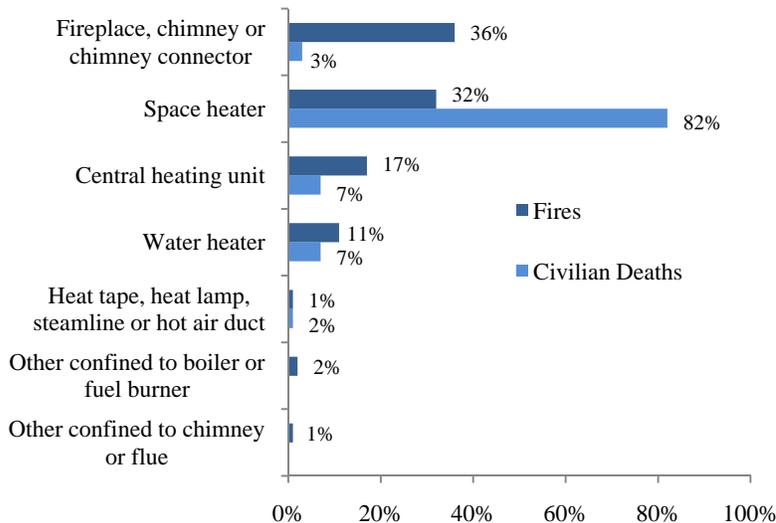


U.S. Home Heating Equipment Fires

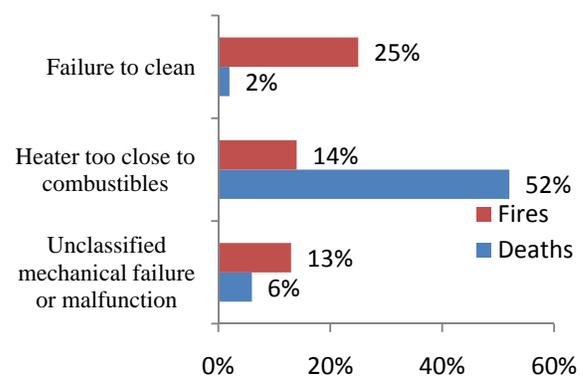
In 2008, U.S. fire departments responded to **66,100** home¹ structure fires that involved heating equipment. These fires caused

- 480 civilian fire deaths
 - 1,660 civilian fire injuries
 - \$1.1 billion in direct property damage
- Heating equipment fires accounted for 17% of all reported home fires in 2008 (second behind cooking) and 17% of home fire deaths.
 - In 2004-2008, the leading factor contributing to home heating fires (25%) was failure to clean, principally creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.
 - The leading factor contributing to ignition for home heating fire deaths (52%) was heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding.
 - Half (49%) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February in 2004-2008.
 - Home heating fires peak during 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and associated deaths peak during 2:00 to 4:00 a.m.

**U.S. Home Heating Fires
by Equipment Involved: 2004-2008**



**Leading Factors in Home Heating Fires
2004-2008**



- Creosote is estimated to be involved in 15,200 home heating fires per year, or 23% of total home heating fires in 2004-2008.
- Creosote fires are estimated to involve 4 civilian deaths, 17 civilian injuries, and \$33 million in direct property damage per year.

¹Homes are dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, rowhouses and condominiums.