



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Housing Fire Safety

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Fires in Dormitory Type Properties

During 2017-2021 in the United States:

- There were an estimated average of 3,379 structure fires in dormitory type properties, including fraternity and sorority houses.
- There was an average of 2 civilian deaths a year, 23 civilian injuries a year, and \$12 million in direct property damage.
- Approximately 3 out of 4 fires began in a cooking area.

Since 2000 in the U.S., 92 fatal fires have occurred on campus, in Greek housing, or in off-campus housing, killing 132 people

Sources: National Fire Prevention Association, www.nfpa.org; Center for Campus Fire Safety, www.campusfiresafety.org



National Fire Protection Association Statistics

Figure 2. Structure Fires in Dormitory-Type Properties by Year: 2012-2021 Annual Averages

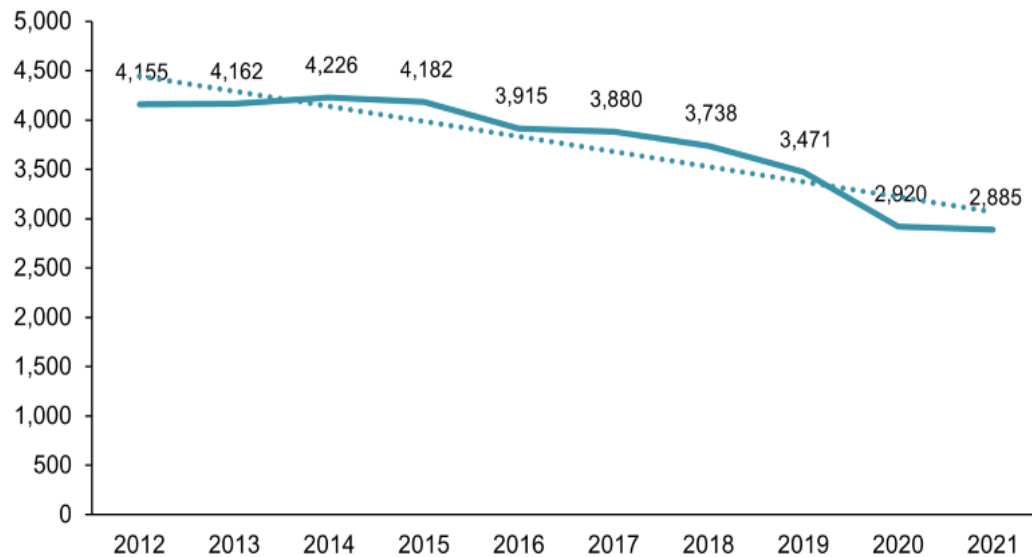
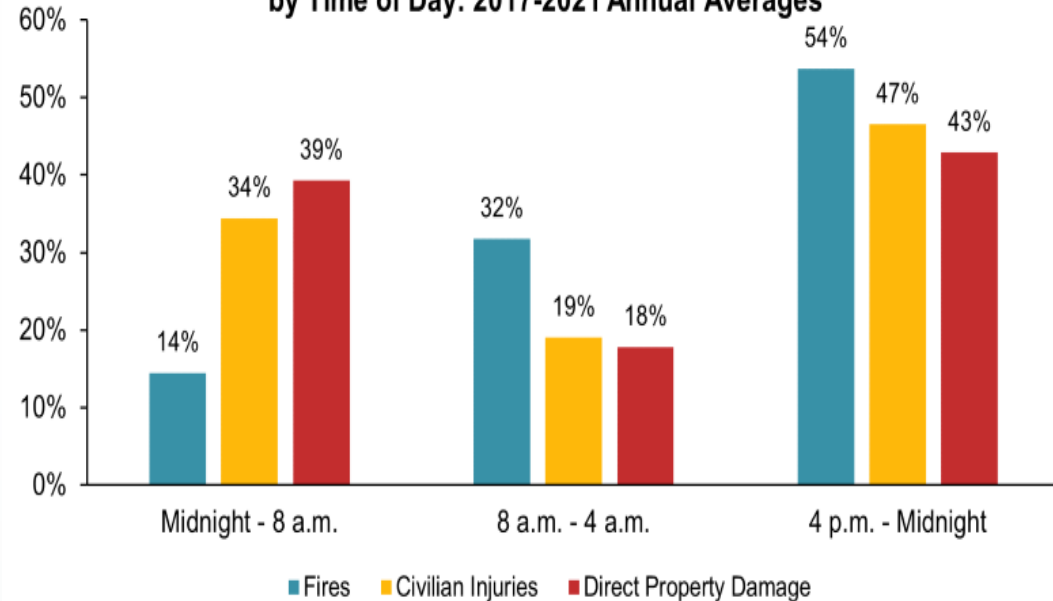


Figure 4. Structure Fires in Dormitory-Type Properties by Time of Day: 2017-2021 Annual Averages



NFPA Statistics

Figure 6. Structure Fires in Dormitory-Type Properties by Leading Cause: 2017-2021 Annual Averages

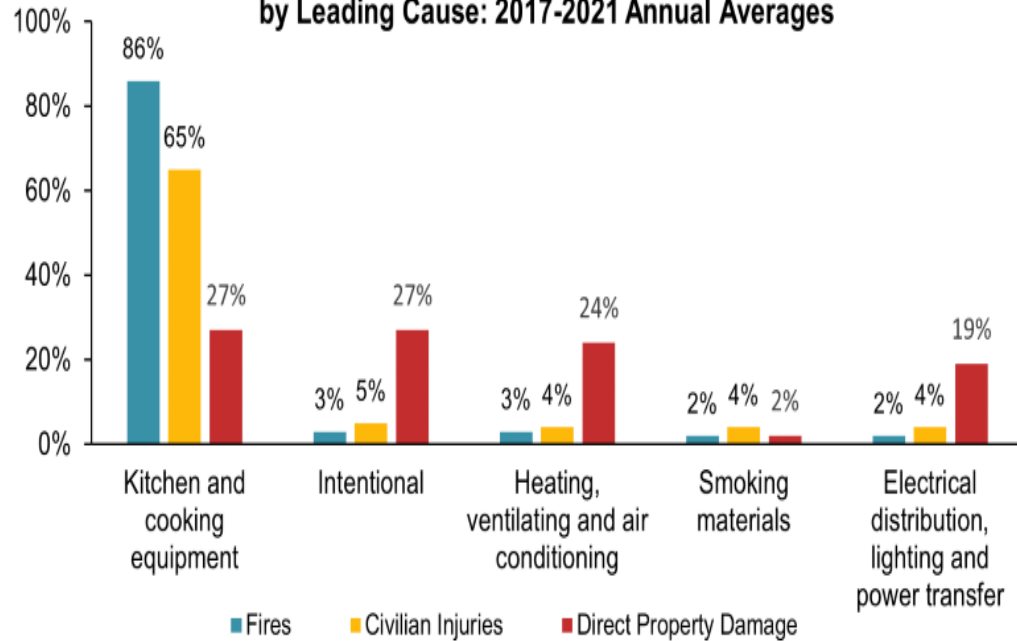
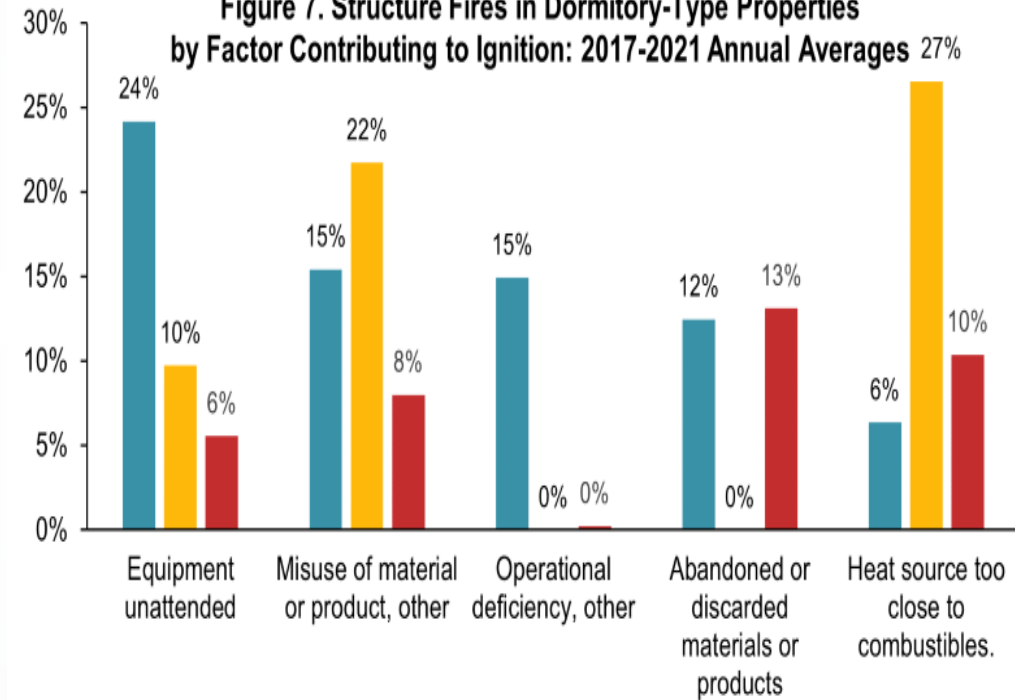


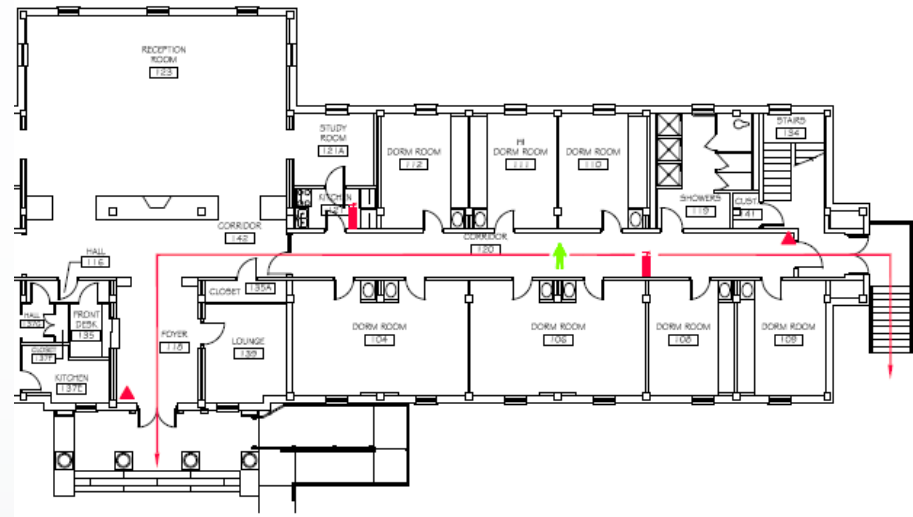
Figure 7. Structure Fires in Dormitory-Type Properties by Factor Contributing to Ignition: 2017-2021 Annual Averages



Housing Fire Safety: Fire Drills

Each residence hall must conduct at least two fire drills per semester.

- Drills can be either announced or unannounced.
- Any time the fire alarm sounds, all occupants must evacuate the building immediately and proceed to the assembly point.
- If a student does not evacuate the building, disciplinary action will be taken.



Fire Alarm Systems & Equipment

There are smoke detectors in each room/apartment, in the corridors, and in other common areas.



Housing Fire Safety Policy

- Avoid using flammable room decorations.
- Smoking is prohibited, except in private vehicles.
- To avoid overloading circuits, never use multiple plugs or extension cords.
- Electrical wiring is not allowed under rugs or carpets, or around doors or window casements.
- Never use items with frayed or broken wires.
- Lighted candles, lighted incense, electric air fresheners, and candle warmers are prohibited in housing facilities.



Housing Fire Safety Policy, Continued

- Use of live Christmas trees is prohibited.
- Gasoline, oil-based paint, or oily rags should not be stored in the building.
- Nothing is to be attached to the ceiling, nor may the ceiling be defaced in any way.

*University policy prohibits giving false alarms, discharging fire extinguishers, removing exit signs, propping fire doors open, and tampering with smoke alarms within the residence halls or on campus. Violators are subject to immediate dismissal from University housing.



Prohibited Appliances

The following appliances may not be used in the resident's room:

- Sun or halogen lamps
- Open-faced electrical (hot plate) or heating appliances
- Air conditioners
- Outside antennas
- Electrical room deodorizers
- Electric candle warmers
- Any items which may cause electrical breakers to trip.

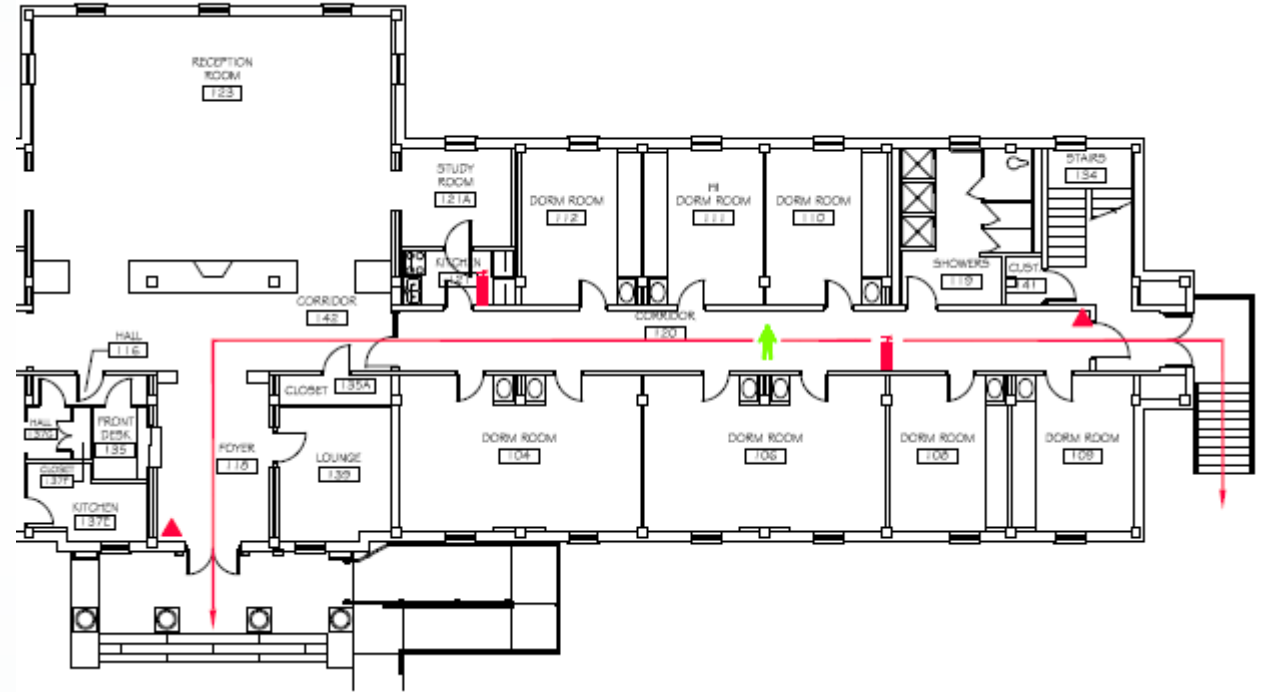


Safety Do's

Do keep fire doors closed.

In your building, know the location of:

1. The nearest exit.
2. A secondary route of escape.
3. The location of fire extinguishers.
4. The location of fire alarm pull stations.
5. Your designated assembly area.



Emergency Procedures

Centennial Hall



FIRE EVACUATE

- Activate nearest fire alarm
- Proceed to nearest exit
- Use stairs, not elevators
- Assist persons with disabilities / special needs
- Meet at designated assembly areas
- Stay away from buildings entrances
- Account for individuals
- Re-enter area ONLY when directed by authorities



SEVERE WEATHER SEEK SHELTER

- Close all doors, including main corridors
- Move to lowest interior space of building, such as hallways, basements, and restrooms away from windows and glass
- Crouch near floor or under heavy, well supported objects and cover back of head
- If outdoors and there is no time to move to an interior space, lie flat in nearest depression, ditch, or ravine, and cover back of your head



MEDICAL EMERGENCY CALL FOR HELP

- Call first responders
 - 423-439-4480 from a cell phone
 - 911 from a landline phone
- Administer first aid / CPR / automated external defibrillator as appropriate
- Direct first responders to incident location
- Re-enter area only when directed by authorities
- Visit the ETSU Safety website for AED and CPR instructional videos



POWER OUTAGE

- For prolonged outage, go to www.etsu.edu for an ETSU advisory, or listen to FM 89.5 for information
- Help co-workers move from dark locations
- Unplug personal computers
- Take valuables if instructed to leave
- Secure hazardous materials or equipment before leaving



HOSTILE INTRUDER RUN, HIDE, FIGHT

- Get away, alert others, and call first responders
- If you can't run, barricade yourself and remain quiet
- Fight like your life depends on it as a last resort



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASE

- Evacuate
- Leave spill area immediately
- Remove personnel from danger of spill
- Alert other building occupants
- Confine
- Block area to unnecessary personnel
- Use doors to contain vapors
- Shutdown ventilation systems
- Use hood to exhaust vapors
- Notify Public Safety
- 423-439-4480 from a cell phone
- 911 from a landline phone

Designated Assembly Areas



BE PREPARED

- Download the ETSU App
- Text ETSU to 237233 to receive emergency text messages
- In an emergency dial:
911 from a landline phone
423-439-4480 from a cell phone



**EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT**

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY
www.etsu.edu/safety/



Safety Don'ts

Never:

1. Leave food cooking on a stove unattended.
2. Smoke in bed. (On campus, smoking is only allowed in your personal vehicle.)
3. Burn candles or incense sticks.
4. Block open a fire door.
5. Ignore a fire alarm.



What Do I Do in the Event of a Fire?

- If the fire is small, attempt to extinguish it.
- If the fire is large, leave the building immediately. Close the doors behind you.
- As you leave, pull the manual pull station.
- Call ETSU Public Safety (439-4480) or 911.
- If smoke is encountered during egress, crawl instead of walking upright: The air is cooler and less toxic near the floor.
- Never use an elevator.
- If smoke is in the stairwell, choose another route.
- If clothes catch fire: Stop, drop, and roll.



How Fires Are Classified

- **Class A:** Ordinary combustibles such as wood, paper, cloth, rubber, and some plastics.
- **Class B:** Flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, paint, paint thinner, and diesel.
- **Class C:** Energized electrical equipment, appliances, switches, and panel boxes.
- **Class D:** Certain combustible metals such as magnesium, titanium, potassium, lithium, and sodium.
- **Class K:** Cooking oils and fats.



Fire Extinguisher Training



Fire Extinguisher Training



Fire Extinguisher (Dry Chemical)



- Dry powder extinguishing agent (Non-Toxic).
- Emits as a very fine powder.
- Good on A, B, and C fuels, so it's versatile.
- Indoor and outdoor use.
- Economical.
- Discharge range: 5 to 20 feet.
- Discharge time: 8 to 25 seconds.
- Check the gauge for proper charge.

Fire Extinguishers (CO₂)



- Carbon dioxide agent: inert gas.
- Liquid under high pressure, emits as a vapor.
- Good for class B and C fires.
- Indoor use only.
- Found in labs as well as electrical and mechanical rooms.
- The agent leaves no residue.
- Non-conductive and mostly non-reactive.
- No gauge on this extinguisher.

Source: [Carbon Dioxide Fire Extinguisher - 5 lb S-16883 - Uline](#)



Fire Extinguisher (Kitchen)



- Used to put out fires involving cooking oil and fats.
- Made of wet chemicals.
- Discharges chemical to create soapy reaction that smothers fire.

Source: [Class K Fire Extinguisher - 6 L S-15617 - Uline](#)



Where Can I Find a Fire Extinguisher?

- In fire extinguisher cabinets in the corridors of residential facilities.
- In the corridors of academic and office buildings.
- In or immediately outside all laboratories where chemicals are stored and used.
- In or immediately outside mechanical spaces where motorized or other equipment is present which might reasonably cause a fire.



Fire Extinguisher Use

- Only attempt to put out a fire if you're comfortable and confident in your ability and if the fire is confined to a small area and is not quickly spreading.
- Be sure to have an unobstructed escape route to which the fire will not spread.
- Don't place yourself in a position where the fire can block your egress.
- Fire can move quickly!
- Beware of turning your back to a fire!



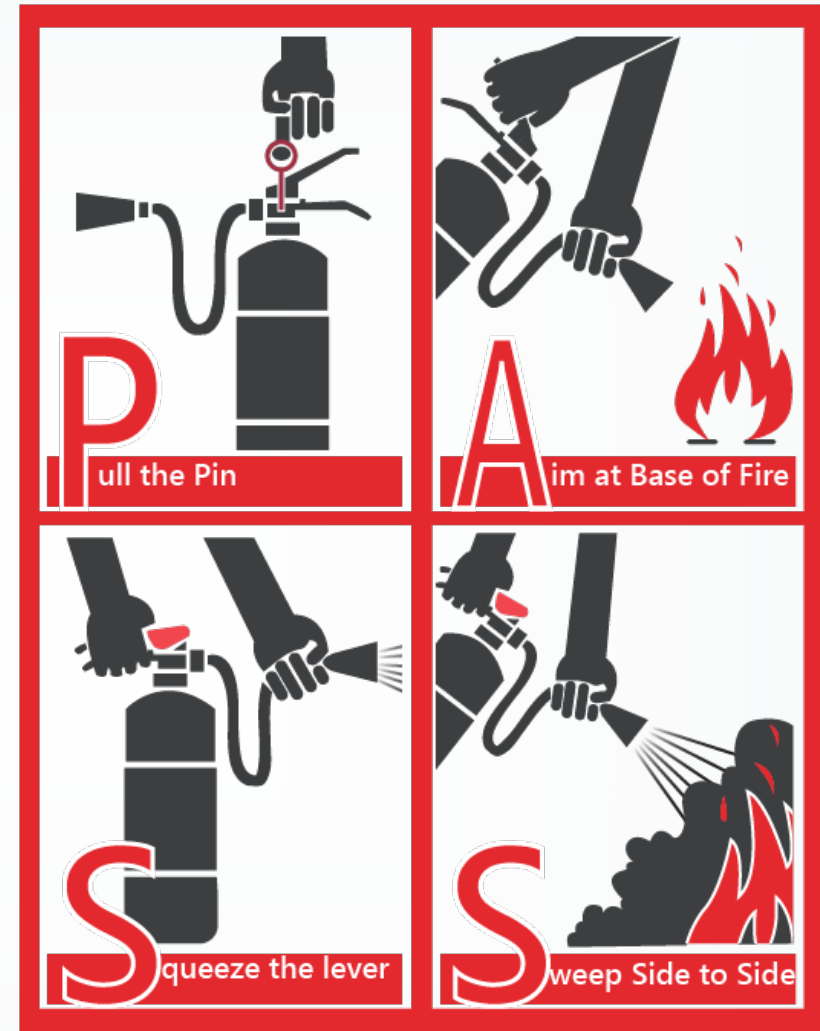
**You are not expected to be firefighters!
Do not take unnecessary risks!**



Remember!

P.A.S.S.

- Pull the pin
- Aim the nozzle
- Squeeze the trigger
- Sweep the hose or nozzle back and forth- **at the base of the fire**



Source: <https://www.clipartmax.com/max/m2H7G6K9A0m2H7i8/>



Thank you for your time. Any questions?



Source: etsu.edu

