SECOND

ANNUAL REPORT

Idaho Fire Statistics

January 1, 1983 - December 31, 1983

W. K. "Bill" Wallis
State Fire Marshal

Wayne L. Soward
Director

Department of Insurance

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
State of Idaho

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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

by
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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Part I

State Fire Marshal

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

HISTORY:

After many attempts to implement the office of State Fire Marshal by state insurance directors, the insurance industry, and the fire service, it finally became a reality when on March 22, 1982, Governor John Evans signed HB 487 into law. This bill provided the Fire Marshal with funding from the insurance industry and placed the office in the Department of Insurance under the direction of Director Trent M. Woods. The bill also provided guidelines as to its function. The bill adopted the Uniform Fire Code statewide and made all fire chiefs assistants to the State Fire Marshal.

This latest attempt to set up the office of Fire Marshal got started when State Representative Larry Harris from Boise attended the National Legislative Conference on Arson in Dallas, Texas. He went there at the request of Representative Tom Stivers of Twin Falls. After he returned he called a meeting at the Statehouse with several fire officials in the immediate vicinity, along with several representatives of the Legislature, to discuss the arson and fire problems in this state. It was the consensus of this group that in order to combat the growing arson and fire problem, the fire service needed a central authority to identify the arson and fire problems throughout the state and take measures to reduce them. Then, Representative Harris in a memo to Representative Stivers stated, "The prime officer to establish central authority would likely be the Idaho State Fire Marshal, a position authorized but unfunded, and an equally important function will be a comprehensive state arson reference information service."

With input from the fire service, the insurance industry, and the Legislative Committee, HB 487 was drafted and after many amendments it passed both houses of the Legislature. There were many people involved in the passage of this bill; both government and industry worked hand-in-hand in its promotion as they fully recognized something had to be done to lessen or stop the growing fire losses in our state.

It is interesting to note that Idaho was one of only two states without a Fire Marshal, but the concern over the office goes back many years.

A report from the State Insurance Commissioner C. D. Goaslind, dated January 1, 1909, states: "I believe that the present fire waste in this country is entirely unnecessary and that to reduce some of it is essential, first, that the public should be brought to understand that property once destroyed by fire is gone forever and is not, nor cannot be replaced by the distribution of insurance. Second, that the states should adopt and enforce a building code which requires an improved type of safe construction. Third, that the various cities should adopt an ordinance governing construction and improvements of buildings and as regards the question of explosives and inflammables, regulating the storing of refuse, waste, etc. and to provide for the enforcement of such ordinance. Fourth, that the states establish and support the office of Fire Marshal and confer on the Fire Marshal by law the right to examine the cause and origin of all fires, and in the event of arson or where crime has been committed, submit the facts to the grand jury or proper indicting body."

Again in January of 1921, State Director of Insurance, Howard J. Brace, in his report states: "We believe by creating a State Fire Marshal's Department much can be accomplished towards the reduction of fire waste in Idaho. This recommendation has been made in many previous reports of the Insurance Commissioner of this state and the need for legislation along this line is more pronounced today than ever before."

Again, on June 3, 1946, Edward B. McMonigle, Director of Insurance, stated: "Most all our western states now have a State Fire Marshal's Office under the director supervision of the Insurance Department and in those states an effective fire prevention program is carried on."

After 73 years when it was first requested, the office of the State Fire Marshal is now a reality!!

NARRATIVE:

My first full year as State Fire Marshal has been a real learning experience. The job has taken me to every area of the state to meet with fire departments, city councils, fire district commissioners, sheriffs, city police, county and city planners, school district boards, and many other people who have some specific problems relating to fire prevention matters. I have also met with and have addressed many groups from industry explaining what my role is and how it relates to their particular function. All told, I have been met with a very positive reaction from all of the different factions that I deal with concerning their fire prevention and protection matters. From these various meetings, I have observed some progress in the areas of fire prevention, arson control, fire suppression, administration, and cooperation between agencies.

The most positive reaction of all has come from local fire jurisdictions who now have state authority to fulfill their duties. In the past our fire departments have been hampered by special interests within their communities compromising fire prevention and protection practices. Fire officials have told me now that they have a State Fire Marshal to back them up, their jobs are much easier.

My office duties are mostly filled with fire code interpretations which I feel is of the utmost importance because it provides uniformity of enforcement throughout the state. Other office duties consist of supervising my staff, coordinating with professional groups on fire code matters, collecting and analysing fire data, planning, promulgating regulations, working with various state and federal agencies, and numerous other items. Together with the travel and meetings plus the office duties I have found my time very much occupied.

We still have a long way to go in order to lower the loss of life and property to fire in our state. I feel confident, however, that we have made progress and will continue to do so in the future.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

In my first annual report I stated four goals that I thought could be achieved with the resources I have at hand. Those were: (1) regulatory functions; (2) arson investigations; (3) fire data collection and analysis; and (4) public education. I will state one at a time what has been accomplished in these categories:

1. Regulatory Functions.

   The 1982 edition of the Uniform Fire Code has been adopted as a statewide

minimum, fire-safety standard. The enforcement of this standard has been delegated to local authorities with support from my office. Our support consists of training fire officials through a fire code course and then certifying them with an examination. Other support measures include technical expertise, planning, and inspections when necessary. Fire Prevention is accomplished with what we like to call a three-legged stool, being fire inspection, code enforcement, and public education. With the program I have outlined, I feel two legs of the stool will be and are in place in some areas of the state.

2. Arson Investigations.

One of the objectives has been accomplished in this category, that being an arson reporting form. With this reporting format we feel we can provide information on who is starting fires, what method they are using to start fires, and inspire a better investigative effort for arson.

A second objective is to develop better training for fire investigators. This will be a very difficult task because of all the different entities involved, namely; fire, police, insurance, and prosecution personnel. What we will attempt to do is to identify the roles each of these entities play in an investigation and then design courses for each.

We will be working in cooperation with the police officers' standards and training, the Bureau of Investigative Services, State Fire Service Training, and the Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association to accomplish this objective.

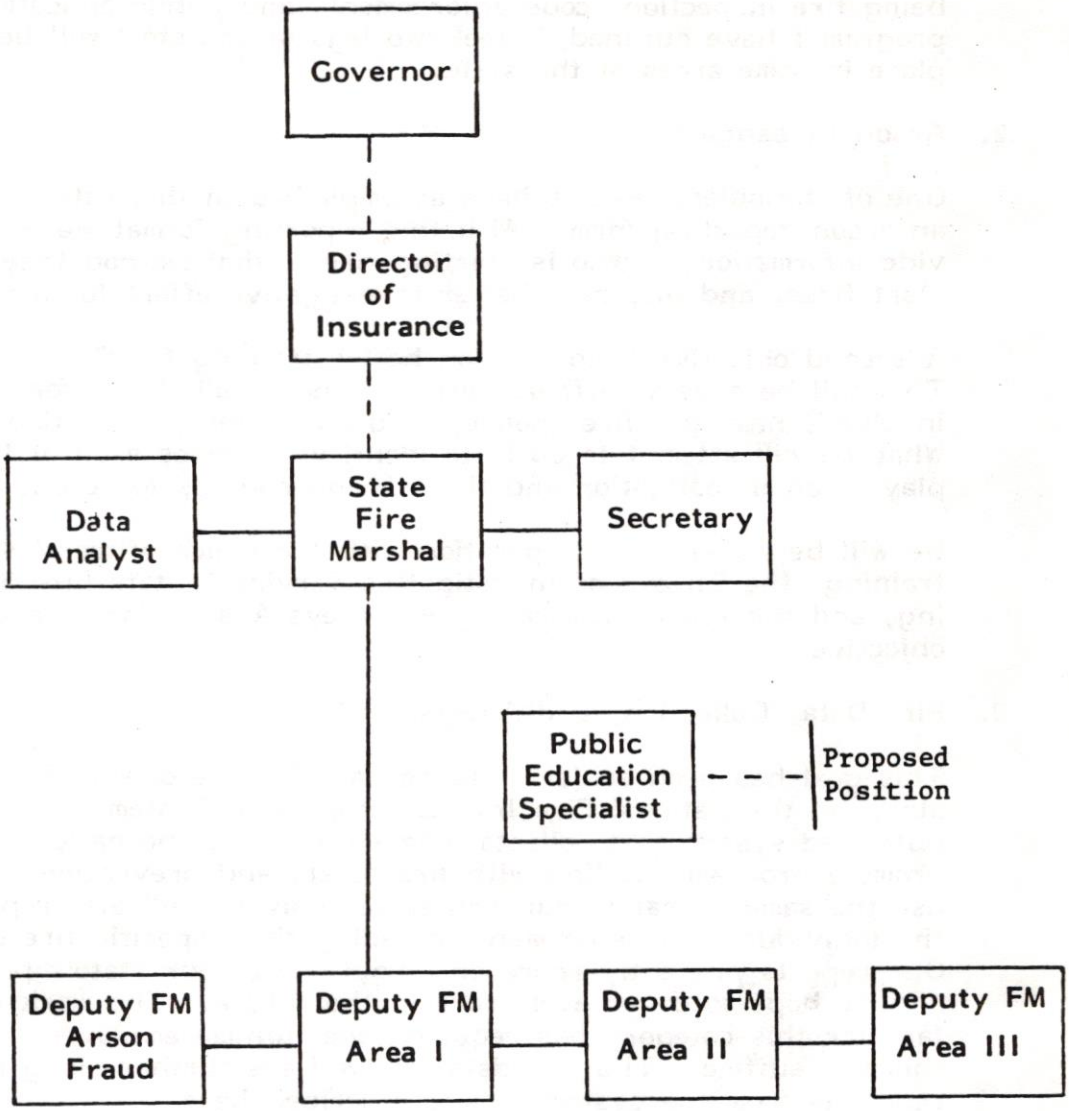
3. Fire Data, Collection, and Analysis.

This goal has been achieved as we have become one of the reporting states to the National Fire Incident Reporting System. This is a computerized system that collects data from across the nation in order to promote programs dealing with fire safety and prevention. We will use the same format in our own state, only we will also report back to the individual fire departments detailing their specific fire problems. Our reports presently represent about 70% of our state's population, and we hope to cover even more in the future. The work load, thus far, for this category has required one fulltime employee. We hope this will suffice. The fire data you will see further along in this report is from the system I have described here.

4. Public Education.

Nothing, thus far, has been accomplished in this category other than planning for our future role. Our fire data shows that public education should be our primary goal. Most fires in Idaho are found to be in the single family dwelling. These fires are mostly caused by people doing careless things. There is only one way to combat this problem and that is through education. People must be convinced that it is worthwhile to modify those aspects of their personal behavior which contribute to fires. In order to deliver a statewide fire-safety public education program, I will need the cooperation of many state and local agencies, news media, and public service groups. I also will need another employee who is skilled in developing and delivering educational programs. This program would not only provide a good fire-safety

message but would provide visibility for our other goals and the state in general.



At this writing four positions are now in place, that of the State Fire Marshal, secretary, data analyst, and Deputy Fire Marshal in charge of arson and insurance fraud. The areas I, II, and III Deputy Fire Marshal positions have been approved but will not be operative until the fall of 1984. I have proposed one more position in the above organizational chart, that of public education specialist. The reason for this proposed position is included in the narrative portion of this report.

I believe a staff of this size would suffice for Idaho for the foreseeable future and would serve to accomplish most of the goals we have set for ourselves.

RECAP OF ACTIVITY REPORTS FOR 1983

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Fire Inspections	27
Arson Investigations	10
Business Meetings	102
Public Relations Appearances	31
Schools - Seminars Attended	11
Fire Code Interpretations	404
Letters Written	4,967
Long Distance Calls	570
Fire Losses Reported/Insurance	$ 12, 822,399

RECAP OF INVESTIGATION REPORTS FOR 1983

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL - ARSON/FRAUD INVESTIGATOR

Phone Calls	407
Cases Received	20
Cases Closed	15
Cases Pending as of 12-31-83	19
Fraud Recoveries	$291,305
Arson Recoveries	$ 40,000

Part II

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Department of Insurance
700 West State Street
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A REPORT AND ANALYSIS OF FIRES IN IDAHO

(1 Year)

January 1, 1983 - December 31, 1983

This report is based on data gathered from the Idaho State Fire Incident Reporting System which is now administered by the State Fire Marshal. There are currently 55 fire departments out of 225 that are now reporting within this system. The 55 fire departments represent approximately 65% of the state's population and are located in every geographical area throughout the state. Therefore, the data shown in this report will closely identify the fire problems statewide and within different localities as well.

ALL CALLS

Our reporting fire departments responded to 7,975 calls total. Of these calls, 4,377 were fires; mutual aid was given or received between fire departments 178 times; overpressure ruptures 28 times, hazardous conditions were present and abated 829 times; service calls 358 times; and intent 1,139 times; false alarms 983 times.

Complete fire losses in all categories totalled $10,339,358.

The total of all calls does not take into consideration rescue or ambulance calls. Most of our fire departments are doing this work too. I would estimate that if these calls were considered, the total all calls would be at least three (3) times 7,975 or 23,925.

ALL FIRES

Total: 4,377 fires

I. By type of action taken:

	No.	%
Extinguishment	3,133	71.57
Rescue Only	9	.20
Investigation Only	901	20.58
Remove Hazard	50	1.14
Standby	238	5.43
Salvage	8	.18
Other	31	.69
Unknown	7	.15

Of the total 4,377 fires, there were 1,883 structure fires; 198 outside fires with value; 673 vehicle fires, 1,212 brush/grass fires; 394 refuse fires; 4 explosions; 4 spill fires; and 9 not classified.

ANALYSIS: Extinguishing equipment from fire department, vehicles had to be used 71.57% of the time. This indicates that most fires are beyond the general public's capability to control them. The rest of the total indicates that the public relies upon their fire departments to investigate and abate hazards.

II. By Month:

	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Outside/Rest of Fires	Total
JAN.	220 - 11.68%	45 - 6.68%	40 - 2.19%	305 - 6.96%
FEB.	206 - 10.93%	52 - 7.72%	41 - 2.25%	299 - 6.83%
MAR.	188 - 9.98%	40 - 5.94%	68 - 3.73%	296 - 6.76%
APR.	151 - 8.01%	47 - 6.98%	106 - 5.82%	304 - 6.94%
MAY	109 - 5.78%	63 - 9.36%	93 - 5.10%	265 - 6.05%
JUNE	103 - 5.46%	72 - 10.69%	318 - 17.46%	493 - 11.26%
JULY	96 - 5.09%	68 - 10.10%	499 - 27.40%	663 - 15.14%
AUG.	71 - 3.77%	55 - 8.17%	256 - 14.05%	382 - 8.72%
SEPT.	105 - 5.57%	55 - 8.17%	220 - 12.08%	380 - 8.68%
OCT.	127 - 6.74%	59 - 8.76%	116 - 6.37%	302 - 6.89%
NOV.	182 - 9.66%	53 - 7.87%	44 - 2.41%	279 - 6.37%
DEC.	325 - 17.25%	64 - 9.50%	20 - 1.09%	409 - 9.34%
	1,883	673	1,821	4,377

ANALYSIS: The winter months are the highest totals in the structure fire category; January, February, November and December are 49.52% of the total. Heating systems are the biggest cause of this mostly brought

on by the high use of solid fueled appliances. Vehicle fires show a slight increase in the spring/summer months although December is fairly high. You could attribute this to high vehicle use during these periods. Outside fires are very high in the spring/summer months. Most of these are brush/grass fires and, of course, are very dry at this time. Also, this is the time of year that people are clearing brush/grass.

III. By day of Week:

	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Outside/Rest of Fires	Total
SUNDAY	274 - 14.55%	59 - 8.76%	231 - 12.68%	564 - 12.86%
MONDAY	241 - 12.79%	95 - 14.11%	296 - 16.25%	632 - 14.43%
TUESDAY	263 - 13.96%	104 - 15.45%	245 - 13.45%	612 - 13.98%
WEDNESDAY	269 - 14.28%	103 - 15.30%	251 - 13.78%	623 - 14.23%
THURSDAY	247 - 13.11%	102 - 15.15%	261 - 14.33%	610 - 13.93%
FRIDAY	273 - 14.49%	119 - 17.68%	271 - 14.88%	663 - 15.14%
SATURDAY	316 - 16.78%	91 - 13.52%	266 - 14.60%	673 - 15.37%
	1,883	673	1,821	4,377

ANALYSIS: There is hardly any difference between one day of the week or another in the frequency of fires in the total column. There does, however, seem to be less vehicle fires on Sunday. This could mean most people are home on this day and not using a vehicle. There is no day that is significantly low enough to reduce fire protection.

IV. By time of Alarm:

Hours	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Outside/Rest of Fires	Total
0000-0400	173 - 9.18%	61 - 9.06%	101 - 5.55%	335 - 7.65%
0401-0800	173 - 9.18%	51 - 7.57%	52 - 2.86%	276 - 6.30%
0801-1200	291 - 15.45%	129 - 19.16%	167 - 9.17%	587 - 13.41%
1201-1600	364 - 19.33%	155 - 23.03%	597 - 32.78%	1,116 - 25.49%
1601-2000	530 - 28.14%	167 - 24.81%	548 - 30.09%	1,245 - 28.44%
2001-2400	347 - 18.42%	110 - 16.34%	350 - 19.22%	807 - 18.43%
Unknown	5 - .26%	-----	6 - .33%	-----
	1,883	673	1,821	4,377

ANALYSIS: The hours of most frequency are from 8:00 A.M. to midnight. 85.77% of the total is in this time frame. I would suspect the reason for this is the time when people are most active. We know from past experience that people cause the most fires. The unknown category can be explained as reporting errors.

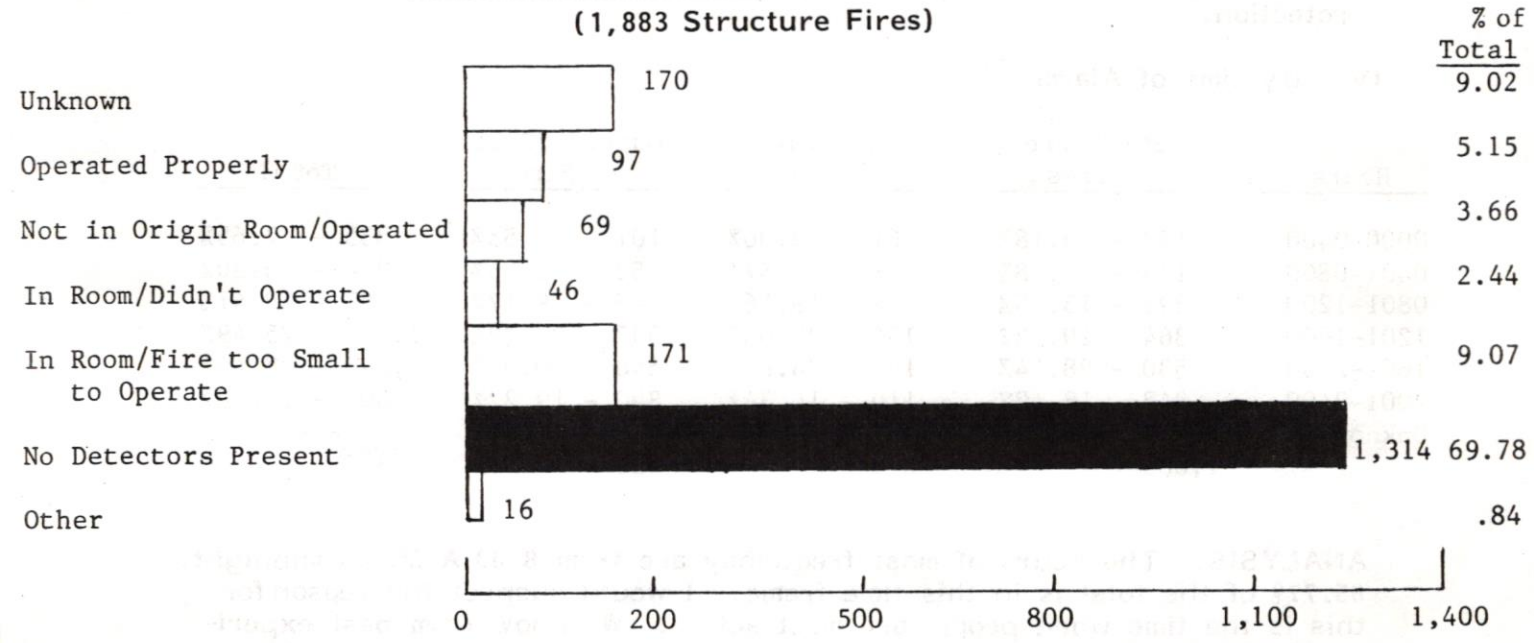
V. By dollar loss classification:

Dollars	Structure Fires	Vehicle Fires	Outside/Rest of Fires	Total
1- 99	120 - 6.37%	80 - 11.88%	59 - 3.24%	259 - 5.91%
100- 999	362 - 19.22%	320 - 47.54%	121 - 6.64%	803 - 18.34%
1,000- 9,999	366 - 19.43%	131 - 19.46%	44 - 2.42%	541 - 12.36%
10,000- 24,999	109 - 5.78%	17 - 2.52%	7 - .38%	133 - 3.03%
25,000- 49,999	52 - 2.76%	6 - .89%	-----	60 - 1.37%
50,000-249,999	26 - 1.38%	1 - .14%	-----	27 - .61%
250,000-999,999	6 - .31%	-----	-----	6 - .13%
No Loss	799 - 42.43%	107 - 15.89%	1,530 - 84.02%	2,436 - 55.65%
Unknown	43 - 2.28%	11 - 1.63%	58 - 3.19%	112 - 2.55%
	1,883	673	1,821	4,377

ANALYSIS: This category only proves the value of fire protection services. The biggest percentages in all categories are in the "No Loss - $10,000" loss bracket and the "No Loss" column. Fire control works most of the time as only partial losses are indicated for the most part. It is interesting to note that 87.50% of the total structure fire category is in the "No Loss to $10,000" bracket. Fire departments do save a lot of money when you consider what this classification would look like if fire services were non-existent.

SMOKE & HEAT DETECTOR PERFORMANCE

(1,883 Structure Fires)

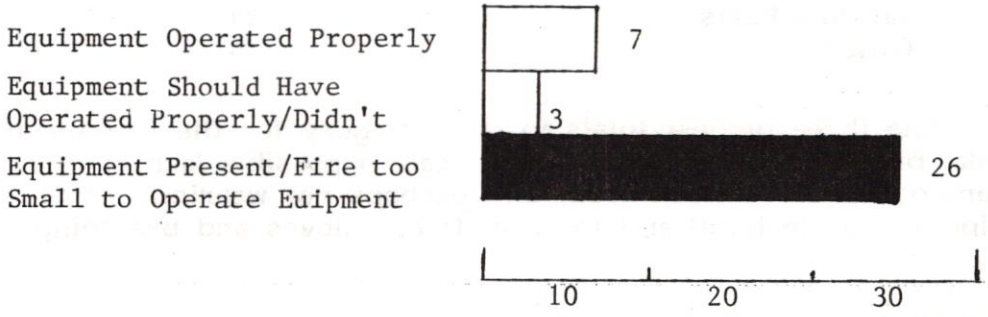


ANALYSIS: Of the detectors that are installed, we had a fair success rate: Known installations 383 versus only 46 known failures; 88% success. What is a startling statistic is there are still many properties with no

alarms present. Even residential properties recorded 1,012 fires without detectors out of 1,519 fires, or 66.62% residences without detectors. Detectors for homes are now affordable and we must make more people aware of their life saving potential. I would also suspect that the detectors that have been reported to have failed are doing so because of a lack of maintenance. Programs need to be initiated to educate our public as to detector maintenance.

FIRE SPRINKLER PERFORMANCE
(1,883 Fires)

Known fires with sprinklers installed in buildings = 36 Fires.



ANALYSIS: It is startling to see that our success rate with sprinkler systems is far below the national average: 57.1% state versus 96% national. The only reason for this is a lack of inspection and maintenance.

CASUALTY SUMMARY

There were 150 Fire casualties reported. 65 were fire personnel, 1 other emergency personnel, and 84 were civilians. Of this total, 10 deaths resulted in the civilian category.

Blackfoot Fire Department	2
Cascade City Fire Department	1
Cascade Rural Fire Department	1
Jerome Fire Department	1
Lewiston Fire Department	1
Nampa Fire Protection District	1
North Fremont Fire Protection District	1
Pocatello Fire Department	1
Weiser Fire Department	1
Total Deaths:	10

Total Casualties BY:

		Fire Service	Civilian	Total
1. Sex:	Male	65	58	123
	Female		27	27
				150

2. Part of Body Injured:

Head, neck	8	3	11
Body, trunk, back	12	8	20
Arm	3	11	14
Leg	4	1	5
Hand	12	6	18
Foot	2	1	3
Internal	14	29	43
Multiple Parts	6	21	27
Other	4	4	8

ANALYSIS: The three highest totals in this category for the fire service: Body, trunk, back; Hand; and Internal indicate a possible lack of physical conditioning, as in the back area, and perhaps not wearing proper safety equipment, as in Hand and Internal (i.e., gloves and breathing apparatus).

3. Nature of Injury:

	Fire Service	Civilian	Total
Burns & smoke	3	14	17
Burns only	12	25	37
Smoke only	14	21	35
Wound, bleeding	10	7	17
Dislocation, fracture	2	9	11
Complaint of pain	5	1	6
Shock	0	1	1
Strain, sprain	15	0	15
Other	4	5	9

ANALYSIS: This category for the fire service only helps indicate what was stated in analyzing the previous category. On the civilian side, burns along with smoke inhalation are in the highest numbers. This is hardly surprising as it would be a normal result of being caught in a fire situation.

4. Activity at time of injury:

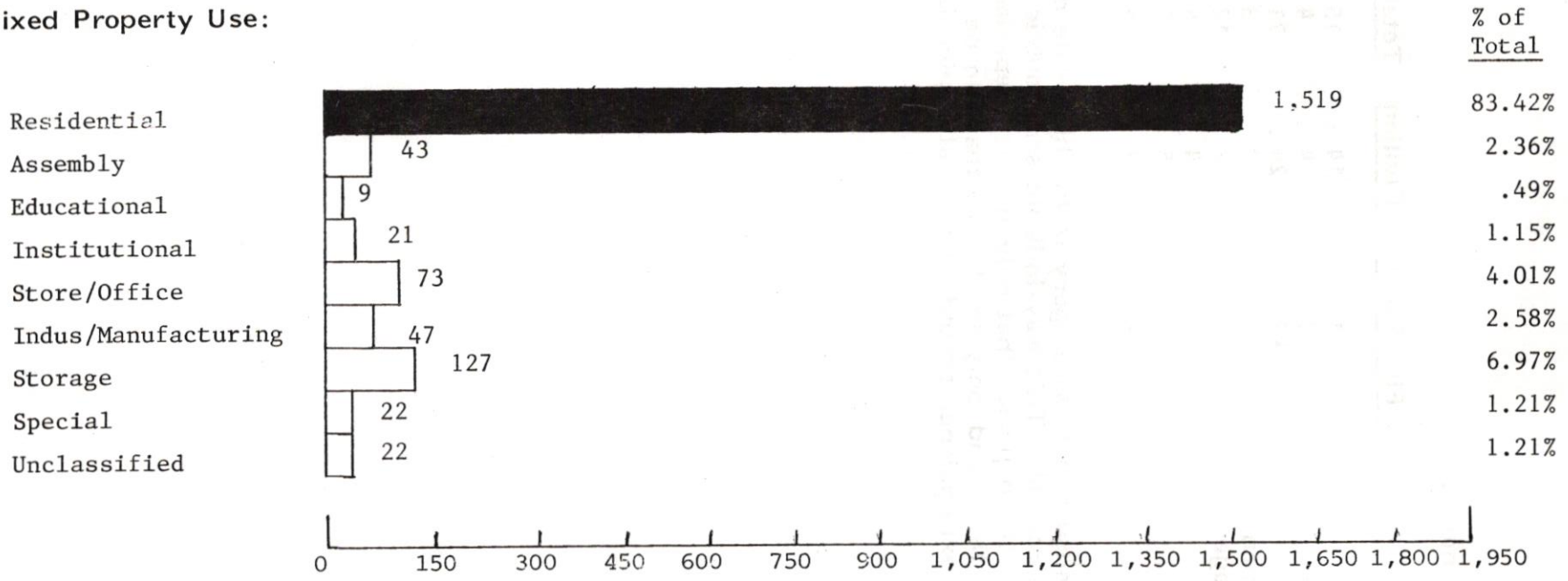
	Fire Service	Civilian	Total
Escaping	1	14	15
Rescue attempt	0	4	4
Fire control	47	24	71
Response/return	3	0	3
Cleanup/salvage	10	2	12
Sleeping	0	4	4
Unable to act	1	5	5
Other	2	3	4

ANALYSIS: What is most unusual in this category is the high rate of injury of civilians doing fire control. This may indicate some public education being done to alert the populace that only the fire department is equipped to handle larger fires, and only small fires that can be handled with a portable fire extinguisher should even be attempted by civilians.

STRUCTURE FIRES

(1,883 Fires)

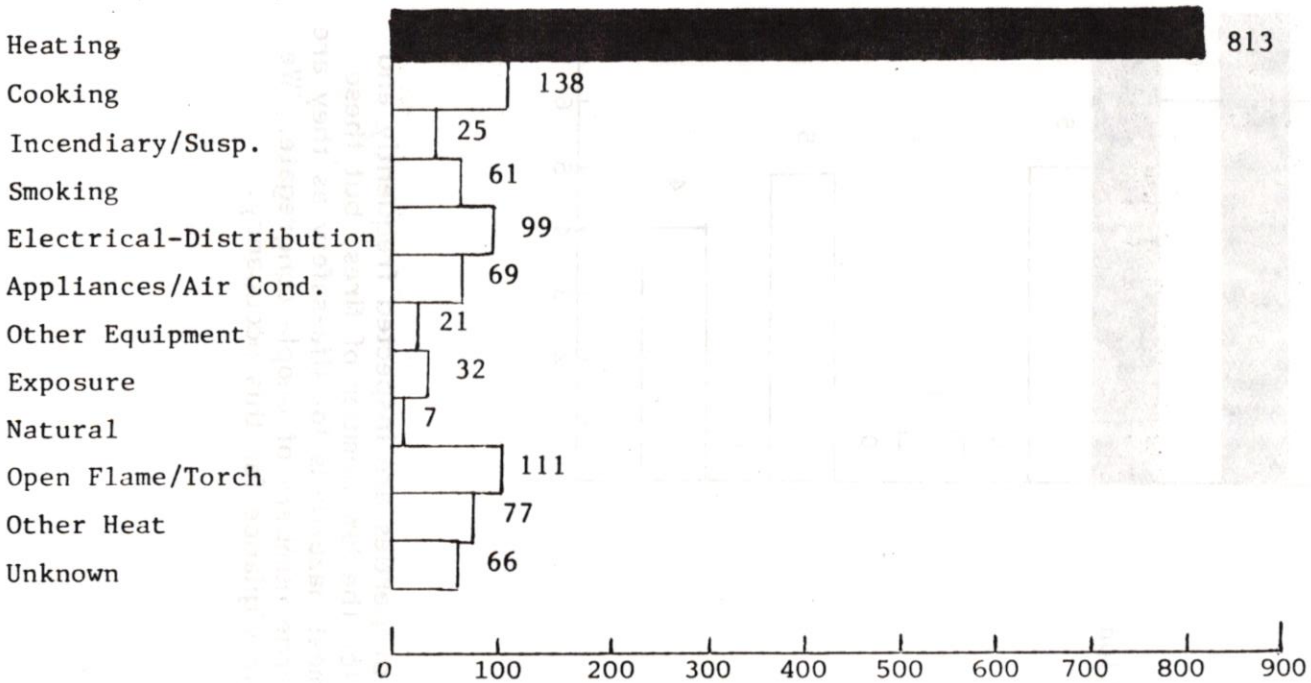
I. By Fixed Property Use:



ANALYSIS: Residential properties are by far the biggest fire problem in our state. Since we cannot inspect most of these properties for fire hazards (one and two family dwellings and farms of more than five acres are exempt under Idaho Law), we can only try to educate these people through a public education process to try to change their unsafe behavior. All other properties listed are generally inspected for hazards, although some fire departments are not yet doing fire inspections. This category proves the worth of fire inspection.

STRUCTURE FIRES

II. Residential Fire Causes (1,519 Fires)

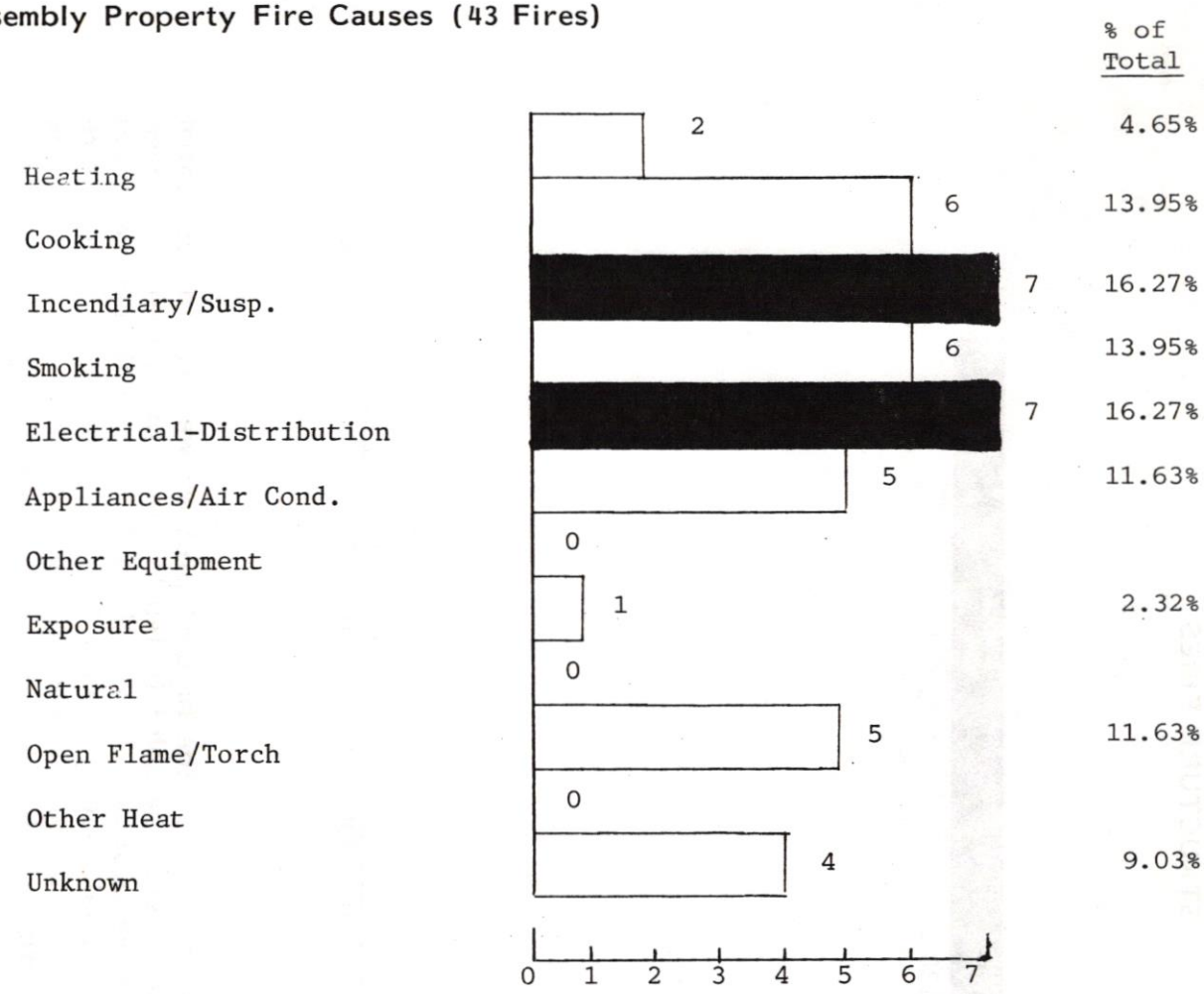


	% of Total
Heating	53.52%
Cooking	9.08%
Incendiary/Susp.	1.65%
Smoking	4.01%
Electrical-Distribution	6.51%
Appliances/Air Cond.	4.54%
Other Equipment	1.38%
Exposure	2.11%
Natural	.46%
Open Flame/Torch	7.34%
Other Heat	5.07%
Unknown	4.34%

ANALYSIS: Heating systems are by far the biggest problem we have in residential properties. The main reason is still the solid fueled heating stoves that have been installed in recent years. If we subtract chimney fires (673) and fires from stoves (88), 673 + 88 = 761 from the total heating column (813),we would only have 52 fires from heating. Instead of heating being the leading cause it would rank 8th on the list. Much more public education needs to be done on the heating stove problem.

STRUCTURE FIRES

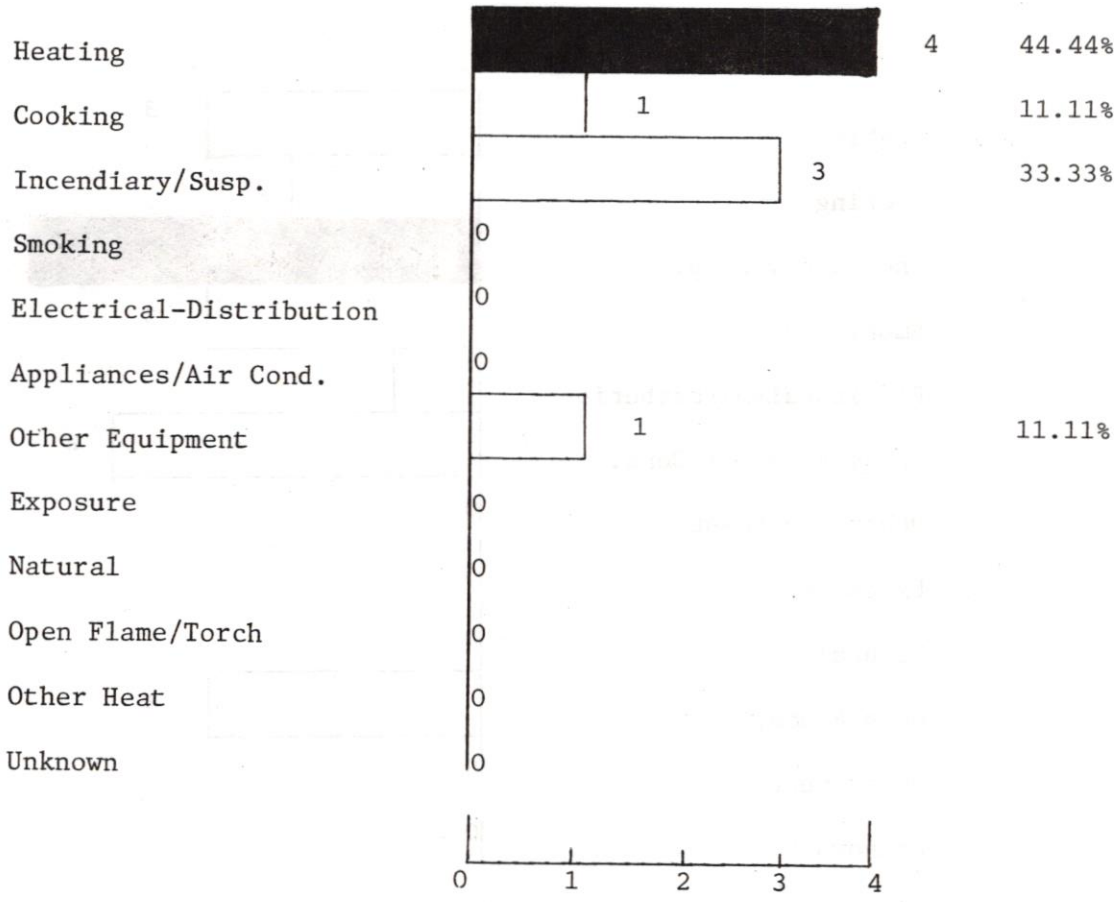
III. Assembly Property Fire Causes (43 Fires)



ANALYSIS: These properties are inspected frequently and that would account for the low number of fires, but these properties are the most hazardous for life-safety as they are the ones in which large numbers of people congregate. We must never relax our vigilance for this occupancy.

STRUCTURE FIRES

IV. Educational Property Fire Causes (9 Fires)

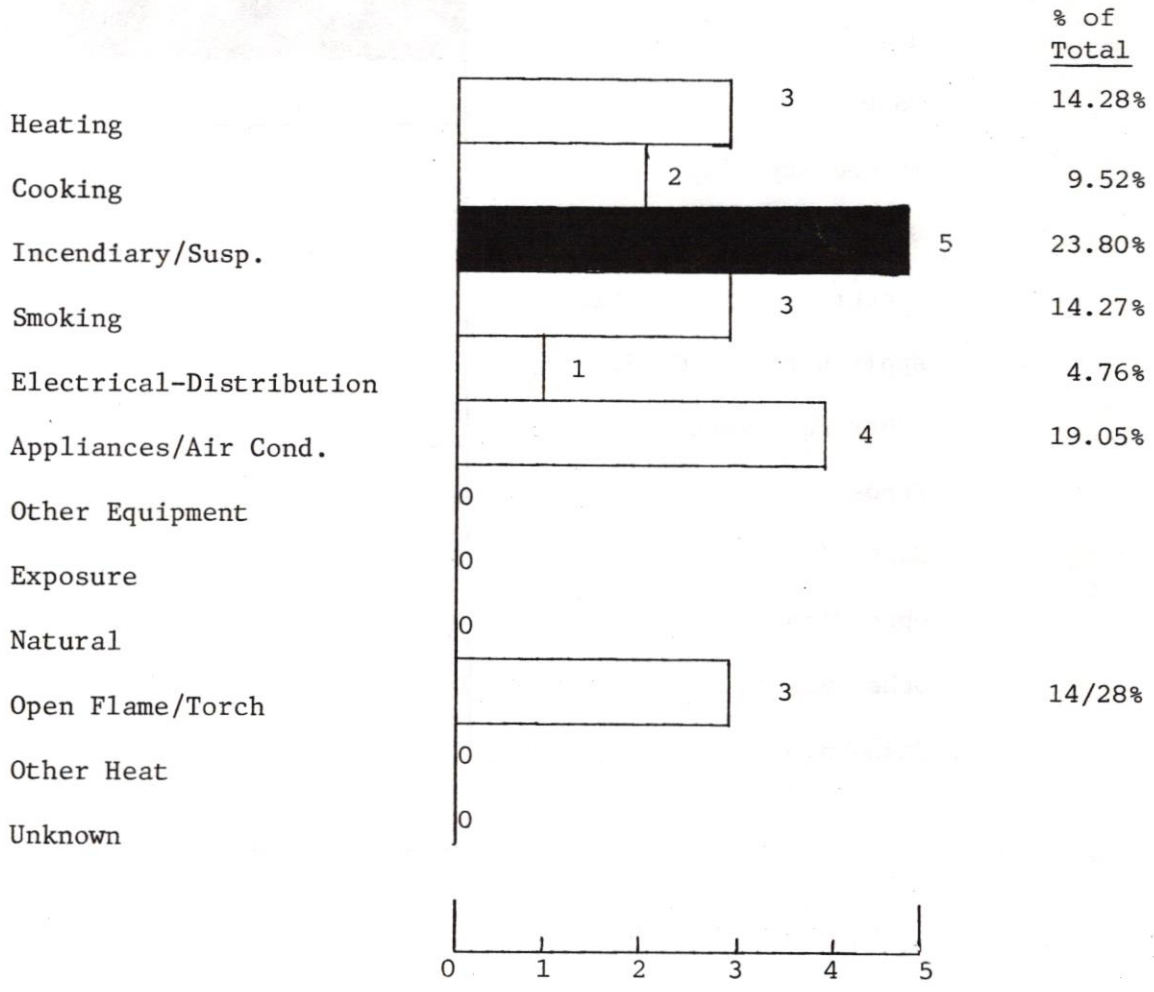


	% of Total
Heating	44.44%
Cooking	11.11%
Incendiary/Susp.	33.33%
Smoking	
Electrical-Distribution	
Appliances/Air Cond.	
Other Equipment	11.11%
Exposure	
Natural	
Open Flame/Torch	
Other Heat	
Unknown	

ANALYSIS: Heating leads in this property type, but not very many fires in this occupancy are recorded. These properties are inspected frequently and generally have custodial staffs that carry out good maintenance procedures. The best thing to say here would be to continue the good work.

STRUCTURE FIRES

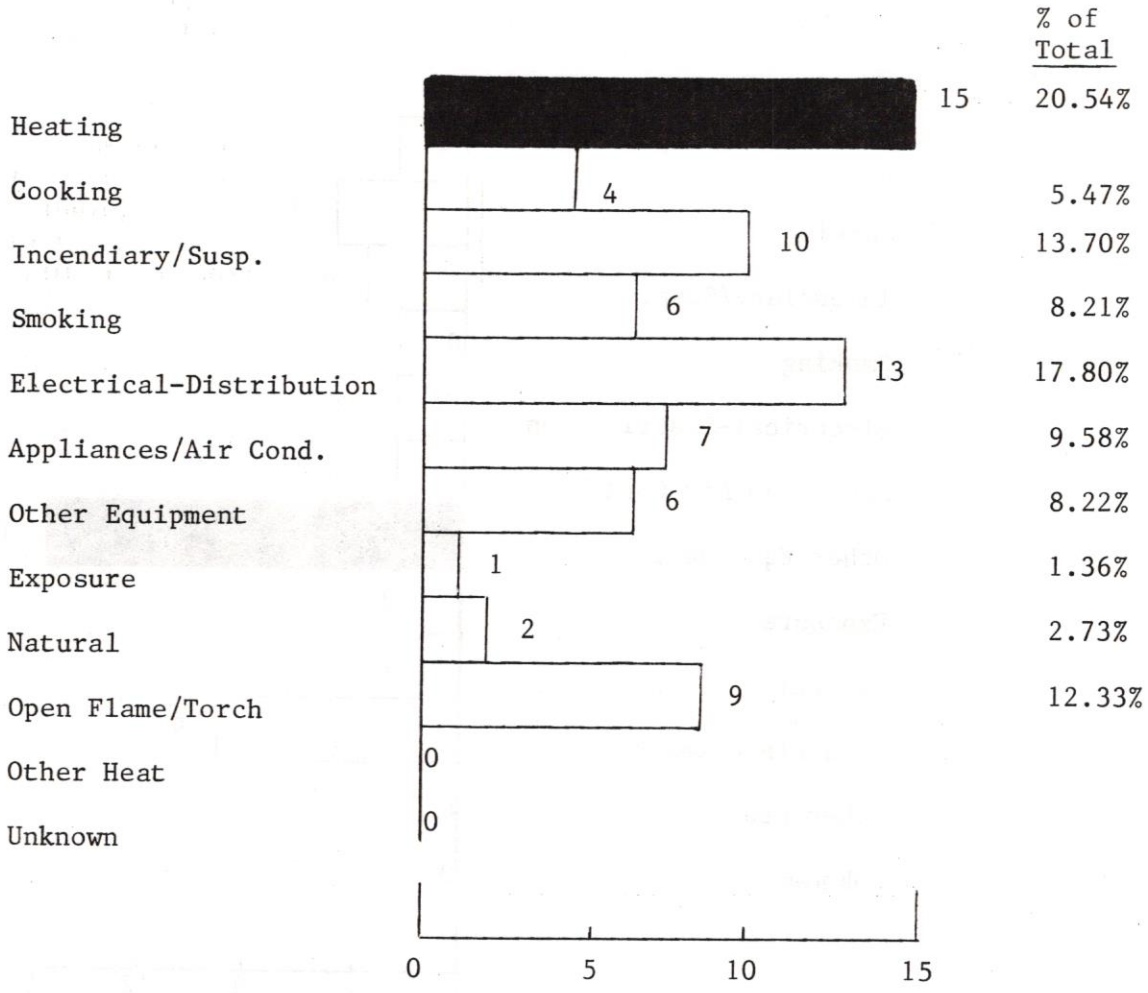
V. Institutional Property Fire Causes (21 Fires)



ANALYSIS: These properties show a good fire record generally because they are inspected frequently for hazards and are generally staffed around-the-clock. Hospitals, nursing homes, etc., make up this category. The life-safety potential of this occupancy makes it crucial that a good effort from the fire department continue.

STRUCTURE FIRES

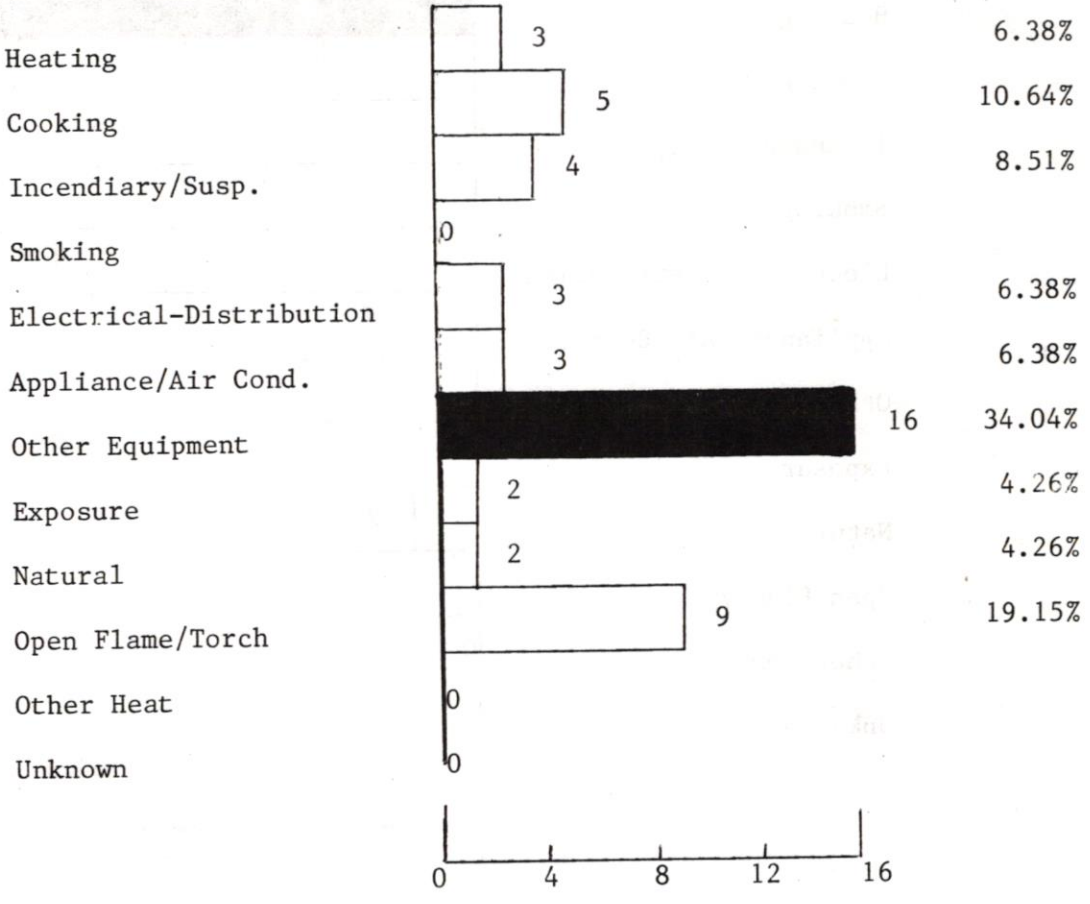
VI. Store/Office Property Fire Causes (73 Fires)



ANALYSIS: Heating is a high cause in this property type. I would suspect some wood burning stoves are finding their way into this property.

STRUCTURE FIRES

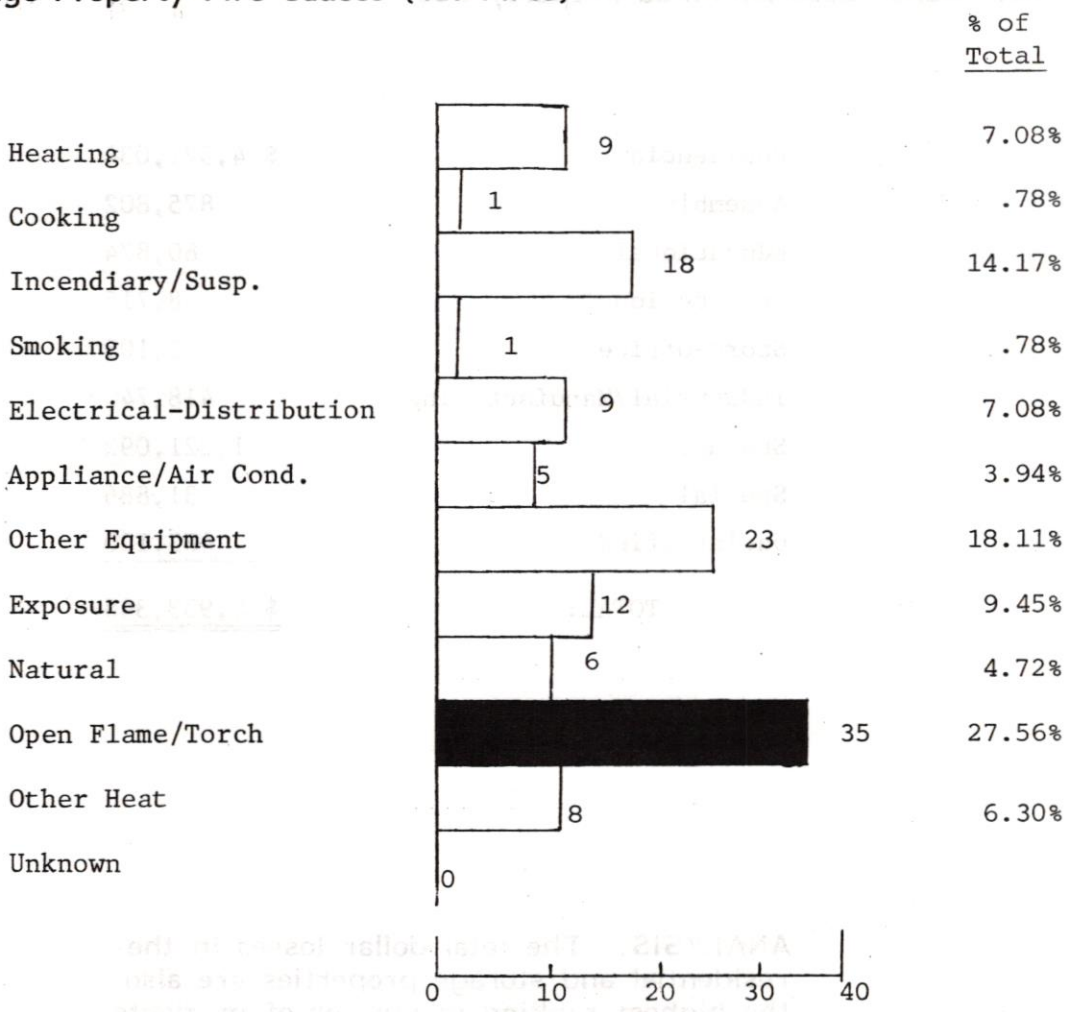
VII. Industrial Manufacturing Property Fire Cause (47 Fires)



ANALYSIS: Of major concern in these properties is the special equipment within them. This equipment makes up 34.04% of the total. Special equipment would consist of manufacturing, assembly, packaging, etc. equipment.

STRUCTURE FIRES

VIII. Storage Property Fire Causes (127 Fires)



ANALYSIS, These properties, barns, warehouses, etc. are very susceptible to fire and must be inspected frequently. The highest category is open flame/torch which would account for burning weeds around these properties. Also, equipment within the properties is a high category as well. These properties need more attention from the fire service.

STRUCTURE FIRES

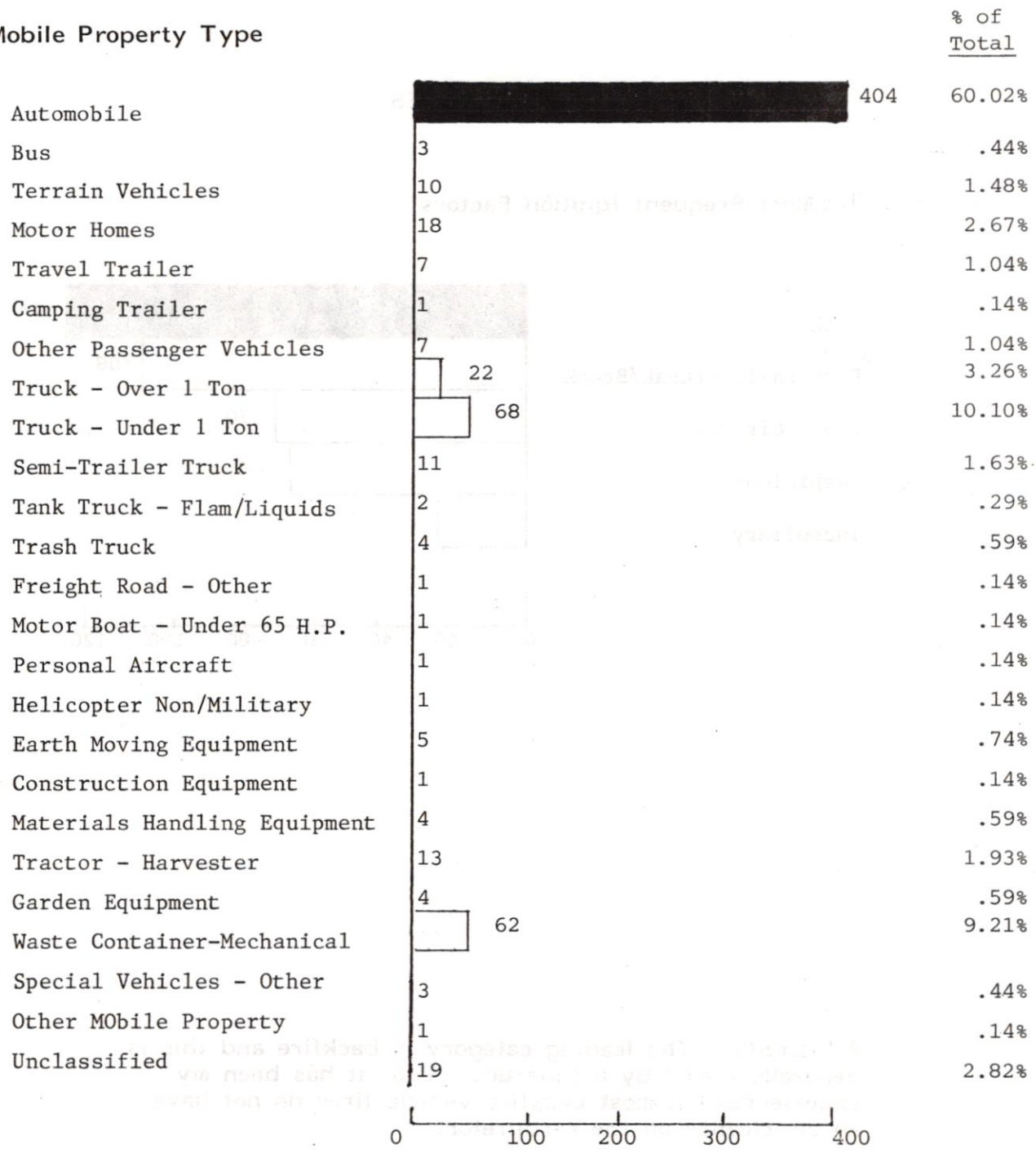
IX. Dollar Loss by Fixed Property Use

Residential	$ 4,921,034
Assembly	875,802
Educational	80,874
Institutional	8,715
Store-Office	892,105
Industrial/Manufacturing	418,740
Storage	1,221,092
Special	31,886
Unclassified	483,100
TOTAL:	$ 8,933,348

ANALYSIS: The total dollar losses in the residential and storage properties are also the highest ranking in number of incidents. These two properties need some more work.

VEHICLE FIRES

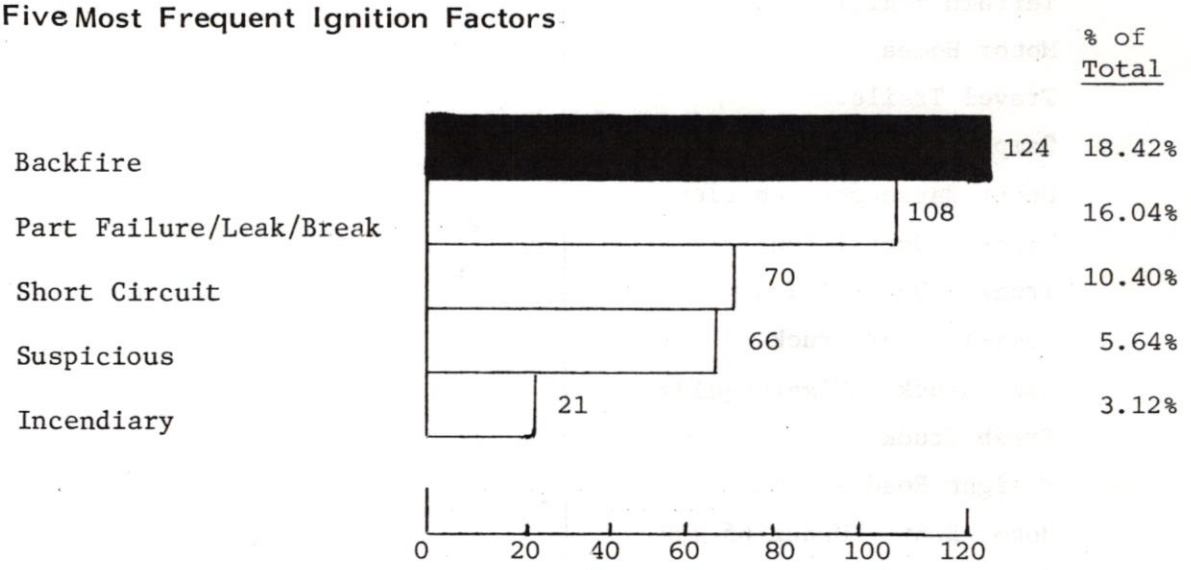
I. By Mobile Property Type



ANALYSIS: The automobile is by far the highest total, but also there are more in use than the other categories. The total picture showing tanker trucks, helicopter, aircraft, construction equipment would point out that fire departments should be prepared for flammable liquid fires; also freight trucks that could have hazardous materials loaded on them.

VEHICLE FIRES

II. By Five Most Frequent Ignition Factors



ANALYSIS: The leading category is backfire and this is generally cured by a tune-up. Also, it has been my experience that most backfire vehicle fires do not have an air cleaner on the carburetor.

This is one area we could work on. Many of the fire causes are from wrecks and just plain worn out equipment.

VEHICLE FIRES

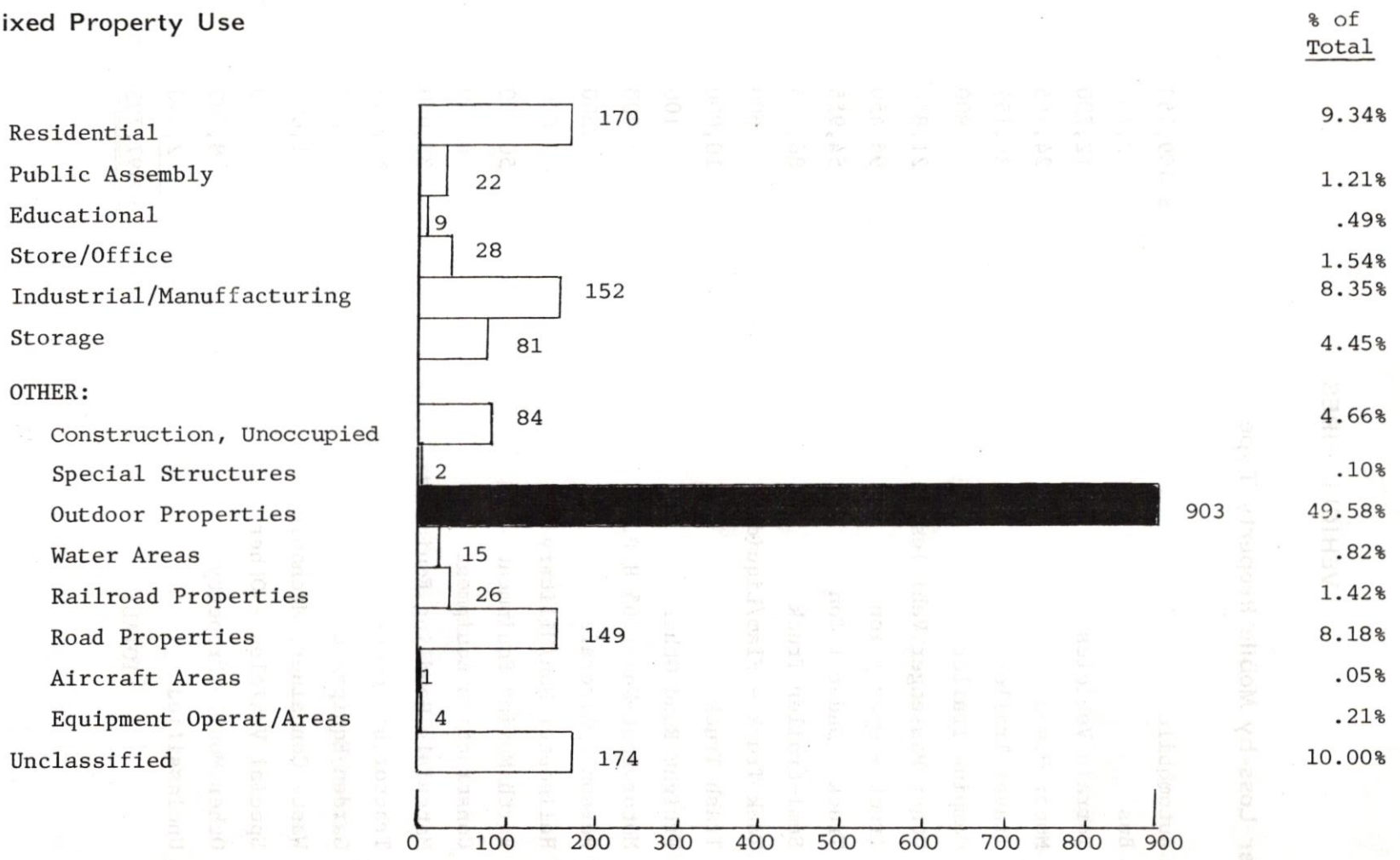
III. Dollar Loss by Mobile Property Type

Automobile	$ 469,453
Bus	2,100
Terrain Vehicles	12,700
Motor Homes	24,365
Travel Trailer	30,157
Camping Trailer	800
Other Passenger Vehicles	21,850
Truck - Over 1 Ton	95,450
Truck - Under 1 Ton	54,955
Semi-trailer Truck	86,825
Tank Truck - Flam/Liquids	600
Trash Truck	10,000
Freight Road Other	100
Motor Boat-Under 65 H.P.	200
Personal Aircraft	1,500
Helicopter Non/Military	3,000
Earth Moving Equipment	50,900
Construction Equipment	4,000
Materials Handling Equipment	35,050
Tractor,Harvester	80,350
Garden Equipment	800
Waste Container, Mechanical	1,600
Special Vehicles - Other	600
Other Mobile Property	8,000
Unclassified	2,440
TOTAL:	$ 997,795

OUTSIDE FIRES

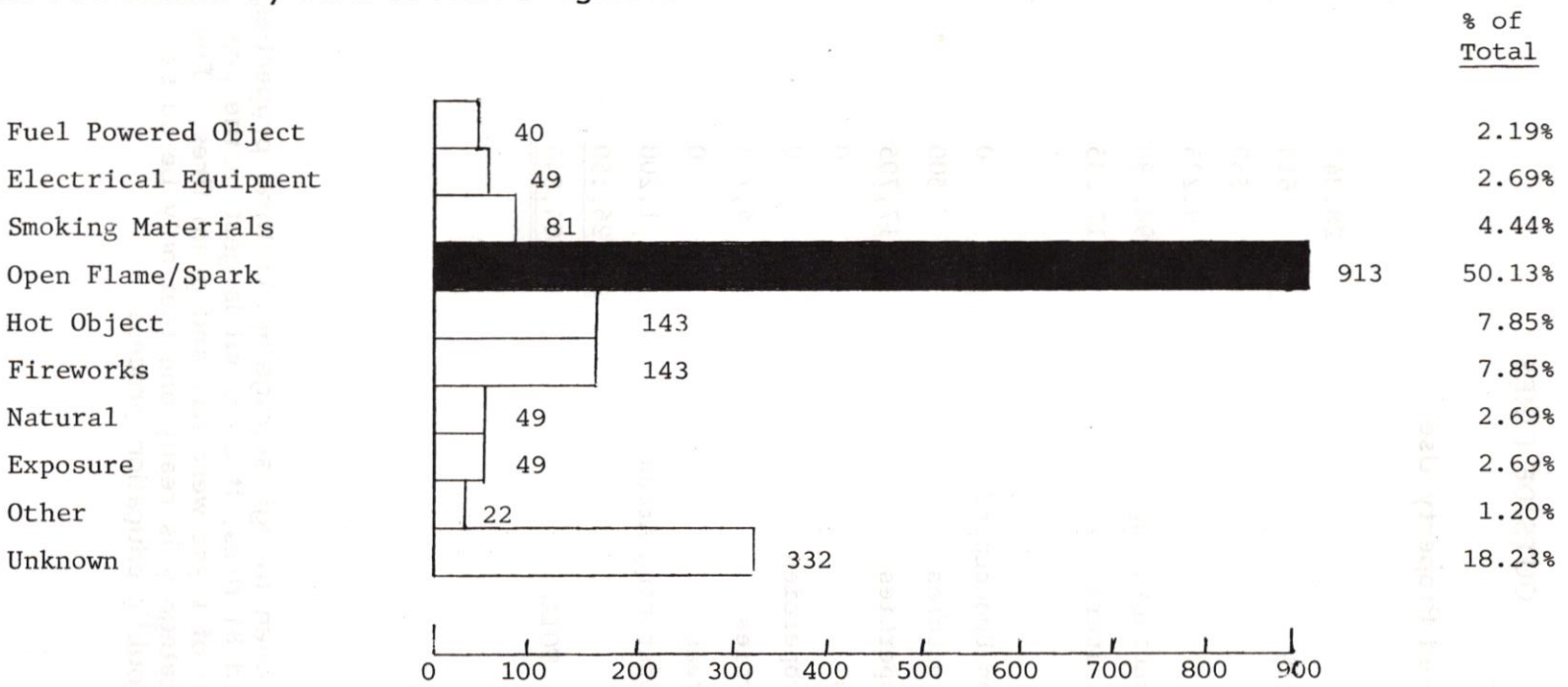
(1,821 Fires)

I. By Fixed Property Use



OUTSIDE FIRES

II. Outside Fire Causes By Form of Heat of Ignition



ANALYSIS: This data shows that 50.13% of the outside fires are deliberately caused by people burning weeds and brush. In other words, controlled burning that gets out of control, probably by windy conditions or unattended burning. Burning permits would be in order here. Fireworks also show up fairly strong here.

OUTSIDE FIRES

III. Dollar Loss by Fixed Property Use

Residential	28,342
Public Assembly	615
Educational	550
Store/Office	9,225
Industrial/Manufacturing	98,390
Storage/Agriculture	117,035
OTHER:	
Construction/Unoccupied	0
Special Structures	500
Outdoor Properties	17,705
Water Areas	0
Railroad Properties	0
Road Properties	4,728
Aircraft Areas	0
Equipment Operating Areas	1,200
Unclassified	26,550
TOTAL:	304,840

ANALYSIS: Even though storage/agricultural properties only numbered 81 fires, it came out largest in the loss column. Most of these were hay and grain fires. The outside fire category is really one that only be curbed through the public education process.

NFIRS ARSON REPORT 1

SUMMARY OF INCENDIARY AND SUSPICIOUS FIRES

By Time of Day, Day of Week, and Fixed Property Use
By State *** 01/01/83 - 12/31/83

	Incendiary		Suspicious		Total		Dollar	Injuries		Fatalities		Unknown
	Fires	%	Fires	%	Fires	%	Loss	Civ.	FF	Civ.	FF	Fires
TIME OF DAY:												
0001-0400	24	10.9	62	19.3	86	15.8	$ 176,334	1	1			45
0401-0800	12	5.4	19	5.9	31	5.7	606,900					23
0801-1200	20	9.0	35	10.9	55	10.1	116,199		3			37
1201-1600	49	22.2	58	18.0	107	19.7	50,265	2	1			121
1601-2000	64	29.0	80	24.8	144	26.5	195,080	1	5			109
2001-2400	51	23.1	68	21.1	119	21.9	711,950		7			82
Unknown	1	.5			1	.2	12,000					1
TOTAL:	221	100.0	322	100.0	543	100.0	$1,868,728	4	17			418
DAY OF WEEK:												
Sunday	29	13.1	37	11.5	66	12.2	$ 159,335					60
Monday	26	11.8	35	10.9	61	11.2	130,033		4			61
Tuesday	45	20.4	41	12.7	86	15.8	612,126	1	3			57
Wednesday	29	13.1	44	13.7	73	13.4	192,994		3			53
Thursday	27	12.2	63	19.6	90	16.6	95,732	1				56
Friday	34	15.4	45	14.0	79	14.5	555,965		7			55
Saturday	31	14.0	57	17.7	88	16.2	122,543	2				76
TOTAL:	221	100.0	322	100.0	543	100.0	$1,868,728	4	17			418
LOSSES & CASUALTIES:												
Dollar Loss	$ 411,483		$1,457,245		$1,868,728		$1,868,728					$1,898,016
Fire Service Non-Fatality	5		12						17			5
Fire Service Fatality												
Civilian Non-Fatality	2		2					4				13
Civilian Fatality												6
TOTAL:	7		14					4	17			24
FIXED PROPERTY USE:												
10-Public Asembly Unc.			1	.3	1	.2						
11-Amusmt/Rec,Fixed Use	1	.5	1	.3	2	.4	6,000					1
12-Amusmt/Rec/Variable Use	2	.9	1	.3	3	.6	2,635					2

FIXED PROPERTY USE (Cont.):	Incendiary Fires	Incendiary %	Suspicious Fires	Suspicious %	Total Fires	Total %	Dollar Loss	Injuries Civ.	Injuries FF	Fatalities Civ.	Fatalities FF	Unknown Fires
13-Churches/Funeral	1	.5	3	.9	4	.7	1,258					
14-Clubs	1	.5			1	.2	1,800					
15-Libraries/Mus/Court Rm.	1	.5			1	.2	50					
16-Eating/Drinking Places	4	1.8	2	.6	6	1.1	445,075					3
18-Theaters/Studios	1	.5			1	.2						1
21-Schools/Nonresidential	3	1.4	3	.9	6	1.1	80,200					3
24-Colleges/University			1	.3	1	.2						
31-Care of Aged	2	.9			2	.4	465					
33-Care/Handicapped/Sick												1
34-Care/Phys. Restrained	2	.9			2	.4	325	2				
36-Care/Mentally Hndicpd	1	.5			1	.2	300					
41-Dwellings/1-2 Family	52	23.5	54	16.8	106	19.5	498,300		6			45
42-Apts/Tenmts/Flats	8	3.6	5	1.6	13	2.4	38,261	1				5
44-Hotl/Motl/Inns/Ldgs			4	1.2	4	.7	37,199					1
46-Dormitories	1	.5	3	.9	4	.7	100					1
49-Other Residential Occ.	1	.5			1	.2						1
51-Food/Beverage Sales	2	.9			2	.4	500					1
54-Specialty Shops												2
55-Rec/Hob/Home Repair			2	.6	2	.4						2
56-Professnl Suppl/Sale			1	.3	1	.2	4,500					
57-Motor Veh/Boat Sales	1	.5	4	1.2	5	.9	53,500					2
58-General Item Stores	1	.5	1	.3	2	.4	100					
59-Offices	3	1.4	2	.6	5	.9	36,000		3			2
64-Utilities			2	.6	2	.4						2
65-Agriculture	2	.9	2	.6	4	.7	175					6
66-Forestry/Hunt/Fish	3	1.4			3	.6						1
75-Wood/Furntr/Papr/Prnt	3	1.4	2	.6	5	.9	40,390					5
76-Chem/Plastic/Petro												1
77-Metal/Metal Products			1	.3	1	.2	5,000					1
79-Other Manufacturing	1	.5	1	.3	2	.4						
80-Storage Unclassified			5	1.6	5	.9	11,550					4
81-Agriculture Prod Strg	2	.9	8	2.5	10	1.8	54,980					8
82-Textile Storage			1	.3	1	.2	100					
83-Prcesd Food/Tbac Strg.												1
85-Wood/Papr Prod Strg	1	.5	3	.9	4	.7						1
86-Chem/Plastic Prod Stg												1
87-Metal/Product Strg	2	.9	1	.3	3	.6	400					
88-Vehicle Storage	1	.5	5	1.6	6	1.1	8,597					4

FIXED PROPERTY USE (Cont.):	Incendiary Fires	%	Suspicious Fires	%	Total Fires	%	Dollar Loss	Injuries Civ.	Injuries FF	Fatalities Civ.	Fatalities FF	Unknown Fires
89-General Item Storage			2	.6	2	.4	13,500	1				
90-Special Prop Unclass			1	.3	1	.2						1
91-Constrn/Unocc Propty	9	4.1	11	3.4	20	3.7	10,000					19
92-Special Structures	2	.9	1	.3	3	.6	6,800		1			
93-Outdoor Properties	69	31.2	105	32.6	174	32.0	1,250		1			135
94-Water Areas	2	.9	3	.9	5	.9						2
95-Railroad Properties			3	.9	3	.6						8
96-Road Property	11	5.0	37	11.5	48	8.8	17,283					44
97-Aircraft Areas												1
98-Equip Operating Area			2	.6	2	.4	1,000					
Unclassified	24	10.9	36	11.2	60	11.0	490,135		6			85
Invalid	1	.5	2	.6	3	.6	1,000					15
TOTAL:	221	100.0	322	100.0	543	100.0	$1,868,728	4	17			418

Unknown: Fires which cannot be categorized because of information recorded in equipment involved, Form of heat ignition, type of material ignited, and ignition factor.

SUMMARY:

Over all, our fire statistics are not too bad in Idaho. In fact, there has been an improvement in dollar loss over last year for structures. However, there is room for much improvement, especially in residential properties. It is apparent by these statistics that a good public education program must be started as soon as possible. This is the only means we have to combat the residential fire problem. In the 1985-86 fiscal year, I plan to ask the Legislature for one more position to start the public educational fire safety program. I believe this to be crucial for Idaho.

It is also quite evident that properties that are normally inspected for fire hazards have a much lower incident rate. We do have a program in place to train local fire officials to perform fire inspections.

Statewide, our record has improved from last year. I hope some of the programs that have been initiated from the state have had some effect on this. I, at least, would like to think so.

As a footnote, we have received a report that a large fire loss took place in Ketchum, Idaho in 1983. A large shopping center burned and a loss was reported to the National Fire Protection Association of $2,500,000. Ketchum Fire Department was not reporting to my office at the time of this loss. Therefore, our actual known loss for 1983 is $12,839,358.

A statewide fire loss could be computed for the areas that are not represented on our reporting system through a per capita loss figure. This would add another $4,490,500 of estimated loss for those areas or a combined total of $17,329,858.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Wallis

Bill Wallis
State Fire Marshal

BW:pr