# FIRE IN IDAHO

1991

#### **TENTH ANNUAL REPORT**

**State Fire Marshal Division Idaho Department of Insurance** 

Lee Bright State Fire Marshal





500 South 10th Street • Boise, Idaho 83720 FAX (208) 334-4398 • Phone (208) 334-4370

LEE BRIGHT State Fire Marshal

May 16, 1992

#### Dear Reader:

Once again, I have the honor of presenting the annual report of the Idaho State Fire Marshal's Office. This report profiles the fire experience in the state of Idaho for 1991. The statistics contained herein reflect the number of incidents responded to and reported by the fire departments participating in the Idaho Fire Incident Reporting System (IFIRS). Also included in this report is the activity and progress of the various divisions of this office.



As we look back on 1991, three statistics will stand out. A 62% increase in fire deaths, a 25% increase in property loss and the number of incidents involving children playing with matches. The most tragic of these, of course, is the increase in fire deaths. We can tie in the increase in fatalities to the increase in "children playing". Children playing resulted in 377 fires, 4 fatalities, 6 injuries, and \$1,020,044 in property loss.

Of all the measures that can and must be taken to reduce these tragic figures, perhaps none is more important than educating people about fire. They must be made aware of fire's toll and its threat to them personally. They must know how to minimize the risk of fire in their daily surroundings. They must know how to cope with fire quickly and effectively, once it has started. Public education concerning fire has been cited as the single activity with the greatest potential for reducing losses.

We have applied our time and effort toward all areas of fire safety except, to a large extent, the human factor. We tend to forget that humans occupy buildings and it is human ignorance and carelessness that starts fires. If it is our responsibility to save lives and property, then this issue will have to be resolved before we are successful. Fire safety education should and must become a meaningful, worthwhile year-round project.

Sincerely,

Lee Bright

Idaho State Fire Marshal

Lu Bright

1,523	RESIDENTIAL (Single family dwellings, apartments, mobile homes, hotels, motels, etc.)
165	PUBLIC AND MERCANTILE (Stores, restaurants, institutions, churches, public facilities, education)
313	INDUSTRIAL, MANUFACTURING, OTHER BUILDINGS (Basic industry, manufacturing storage, residential garages, vacant buildings, unknown)
810	MOBILE PROPERTY (Automobile, trucks, trains, buses, boats)
2,649	OUTSIDE AND OTHER (Dumpsters, trash, wildland, grass, trees)
5,462	TOTAL FIRES

TOTAL DOLLAR LOSS

\$22,301,865

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Presented by the Idaho State Fire Marshal

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#### Fire in Idaho 1991

#### PART I - FIRE STATISTICS

This report is a statistical analysis of fires occurring in Idaho. Without the help of the reporting fire departments, this report would not be possible.



#### **Fire Summaries**

Idaho Fire Incident Summary	
County Summarization	
Detector vs. Sprinkler Performance	
Outside Fire Calls.	9
Hazardous Materials	

#### **IDAHO FIRE INCIDENT SUMMARY**

Situation Found Category	Incidents
Building Fires Vehicle Fires All Other Fires Total Fires	2,003 810 2,649 5,462
Overpressure Ruptures	88
Rescue Calls	2,416
Hazardous Conditions	1,243
Service Calls	691
Good Intent Calls	2,207
False/Malicious Calls	1,902
All Other Calls	29
Total Incidents Reported	14,038
Times Mutual Aid Given Times Mutual Aid Recvd	1,052 676
Total Fire Dollar Loss	\$ 22,301,865
Civilian Fire Injuries Civilian Fire Deaths	84 21
Fire Service Injuries Fire Service Deaths	57 0

## SUMMARIZATION OF REPORTED FIRES, DEATHS AND INJURIES, AND ESTIMATED DOLLAR LOSS BY DEPARTMENT

	Total <u>Fires</u>	Total <u>Injuries</u>	Total <u>Deaths</u>	Dollar <u>Loss</u>
ADA COUNTY Boise FD Cole-Collister FPD Whitney FD Kuna FD Meridian City FD Meridian Rural FD Star FD Eagle FD	642 140 136 44 28 54 26 72	18 2 4 4 0 3 0 2	3 0 0 0 0 0 0	2,682,403 231,900 842,785 107,455 296,150 259,400 29,200 150,644
ADAMS COUNTY	No D	epartments R	eporting	
BANNOCK COUNTY Pocatello FD	215	5	0	682,008
BEAR LAKE COUNTY Paris FD Dingle FD Ovid FD Georgetown FD Pegram FD Geneva FD Fish Haven FD St. Charles FD Bennington FD	5 2 4 1 0 0 2 2 5	3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	80,000 100 1,700 100 0 3,000 15,200 200
BENEWAH COUNTY Plummer Gateway FD St. Maries City FD St. Maries Rural	31 20 18	0 0 0	0 0 0	27,300 67,200 52,200
BINGHAM	No D	epartments R	eporting	
BLAINE COUNTY Ketchum FD Hailey FD Sun Valley FD *Wood River FD	40 30 5 25	2 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	53,995 521,650 37,010 109,150
BOISE COUNTY Garden Valley FD Robie Creek FD	12 2	0	0 0	121,500 200

## SUMMARIZATION OF REPORTED FIRES, DEATHS AND INJURIES, AND ESTIMATED DOLLAR LOSS BY DEPARTMENT

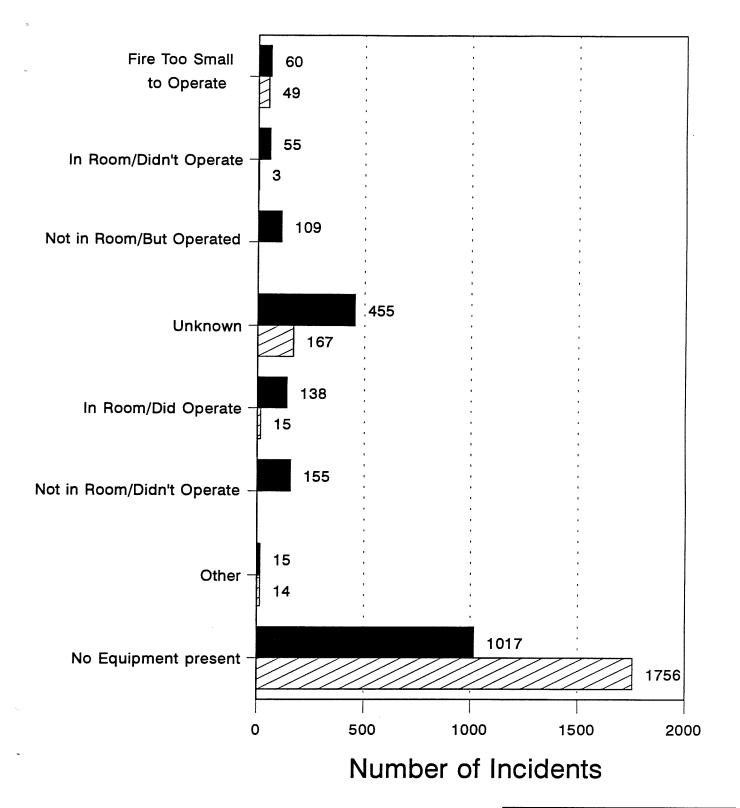
	Total <u>Fires</u>	Total <u>Injuries</u>	Total <u>Deaths</u>	Dollar <u>Loss</u>
LEMHI COUNTY	No D	epartments R	eporting	
LEWIS COUNTY	No D	epartments R	eporting	
LINCOLN COUNTY Shoshone FD Wood River FD #1	4 3	0	0	6,000 2,300
MADISON COUNTY Rexburg FD Rexburg/Madison FPD	47 40	0 0	0	68,555 110,800
MINIDOKA COUNTY Rupert FD West End FPD Northside/Rupert Heyburn FPD East End FPD	24 32 7 39 27	0 0 0 0 0	0 1 0 0	9,605 140,000 2,500 92,450 27,400
NEZ PERCE COUNTY Lewiston FD	181	7	1	806,170
ONEIDA COUNTY	No De	epartments R	eporting	
OWYHEE COUNTY	No D	epartments R	eporting	
PAYETTE COUNTY Payette FD Fruitland FD New Plymouth FD Payette Rural New Plymouth Rural New Plymouth VFD Sand Hollow FD	45 13 13 53 45 4 6	2 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	66,950 166,695 0 221,050 0 0
POWER COUNTY	No D	epartments R	eporting	
SHOSHONE COUNTY Kellogg FD Wallace FD Shoshone FPD #2 Shoshone County FPD #1	39 14 73 36	5 1 1 0	0 0 0 0	88,255 17,040 85,500 89,625
TETON COUNTY Driggs FD Teton County FPD	10 23	0	0 2	18,000 85,550

### SUMMARIZATION OF REPORTED FIRES, DEATHS AND INJURIES, AND ESTIMATED DOLLAR LOSS BY DEPARTMENT

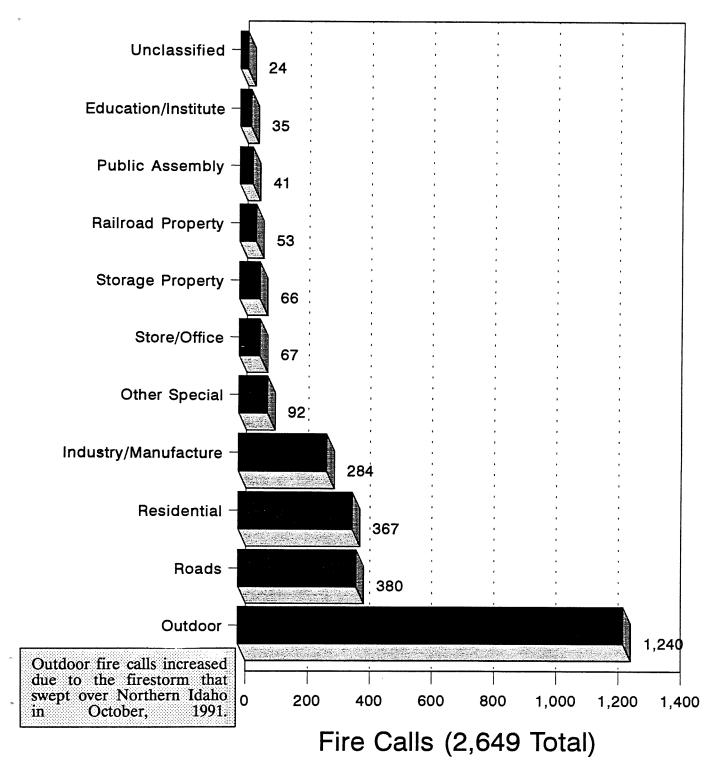
	Total	Total	Total	Dollar
	<u>Fires</u>	<u>Injuries</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Loss</u>
TWIN FALLS COUNTY Twin Falls FD Buhl FD Kimberly FD Hansen FD Filer FD Kimberly FPD Buhl Rural FD Filer Rural	148 29 26 8 5 40 23 19	2 0 0 1 0 0 1 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	440,700 40,400 50,565 293,600 0 182,300 55,700
VALLEY COUNTY *McCall FD Cascade FD Cascade Rural *McCall Rural **Valley Cty Unprotected	5 23 18 2 1	1 0 1 0	0 0 0 0 1	0 4,500 34,950 0 116,000
WASHINGTON COUNTY Weiser FD Weiser Rural FD GRAND TOTALS	36	2	1	131,700
	66	0	0	283,185
	5,462	141	21	\$22,301,865

<sup>\*</sup>Reflects partial year reporting \*\*Injury in unprotected area

# Detector/Sprinkler Performance



# Outside Fire Calls (By Property Type)



#### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CALLS

By definition, hazardous materials incidents include any and all responses where a substance which is capable of causing harm to living organisms and/or the environment is involved.

Fire departments reported 39 incidents involving hazardous material spills in Idaho for 1991. Forty-eight percent occurred on road property. Only ten of the incidents resulted in fire, with the following ignition factors: 6-unknown, 1-child playing, 1-part failure/leak/break, 1-other electrical failure, and 1-collision overturn.

TYPE OF ACTION TAK	EN:	RESPONSE ACTIONS TA (First Action Taken at the	
Remove Hazard Standby Investigate Extinguishment Rescue Only EQUIPMENT INVOLVE	54% 21% 18% 5% 2% ED:	Identification Remove Hazard Establish Safe Area Smoke/Toxic Gas Rmv Rescue/Rmv from Harm Investigate Othr Action not Class	41% 28% 8% 5% 5% 5%
Road Trans Veh No Equipment Flammable Liq Equip Separate Pump, Comp	45% 18% 14% 6%	Standby Firewatch  DOT HAZARD CLASS:	3%
Service, Maint Waste Recovery Equip Equip Inv Undeter Construction Vehicle Railroad Vehicle Elect.Dist.Equip	5% 3% 3% 2% 2% 2%	Flammable Liquids Corrosives Gasses Flammable Solids Oxidizers/Org Perox Dot Haz Class Undet	69% 13% 9% 3% 3% 3%
AREA OF RELEASE:  On or near Highway Fuel Tank/Line Lawn/Field/Open Area Multi Areas of Rel Swimming Pool Product Storage Room Shipping/Rec/Loading Garage Veh Storage Service Facility Switchgear/Transfmr Service/Equip Area All Others	36% 17% 10% 8% 3% 3% 3% 3% 3% 3% 3%	TYPE OF SITUATION:  Spill/Leak No Ignt Chemical Emergency Structure Fire Outside Struct Fire Outside Spill/Leak Unknown/Other	61% 26% 3% 3% 3% 4%

#### Fire Department Responses

Type of Action taken by Firefighters	. 12	2
Fires by Day of Week	13	3
All Fire Calls by Month		

## TYPE OF ACTION TAKEN BY FIREFIGHTERS UPON ARRIVAL AT THE EMERGENCY SCENE

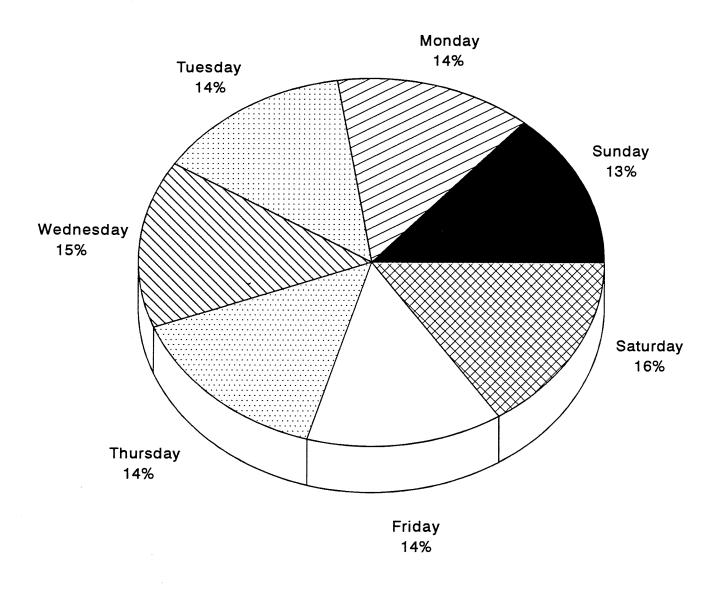
Extinguishment	4,149
Investigation Only	1,044
Remove Hazard	104
Standby	100
Salvage	13
Unknown	14
Other	28
Rescue Only	10
Total Calls	5,462

#### FIREFIGHTER STATISTICS PER FIRE

Total Man Hours	116,741
Average Man Hours Per Fire	7
Average Number of Personnel	8
Average Response Time	6 minutes

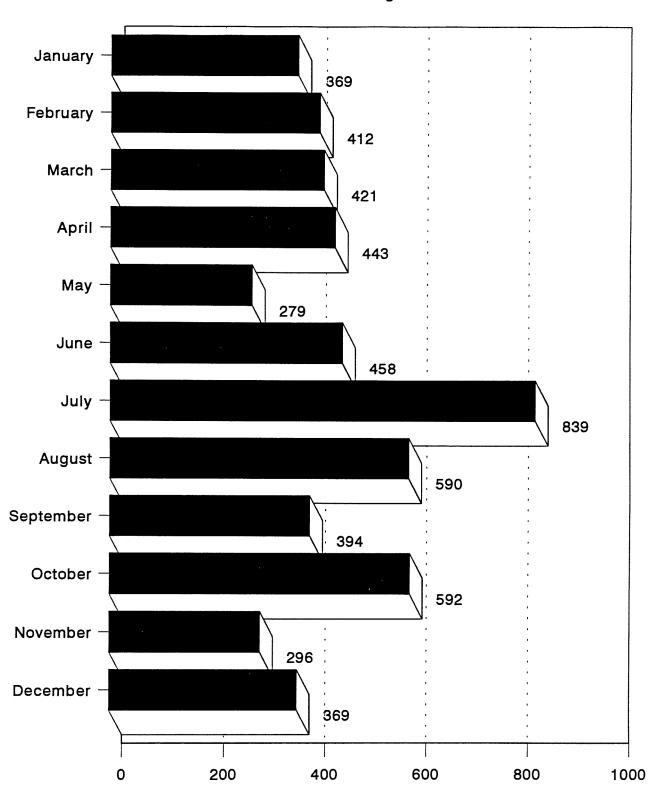
EVERY DAY IN IDAHO, FIRE DEPARTMENTS REPORT AN AVERAGE OF 41 CALLS, 14 OF WHICH ARE FIRES, FOR A DOLLAR LOSS OF \$61,101

# Fires by Day of Week



This category varies little from year to year.

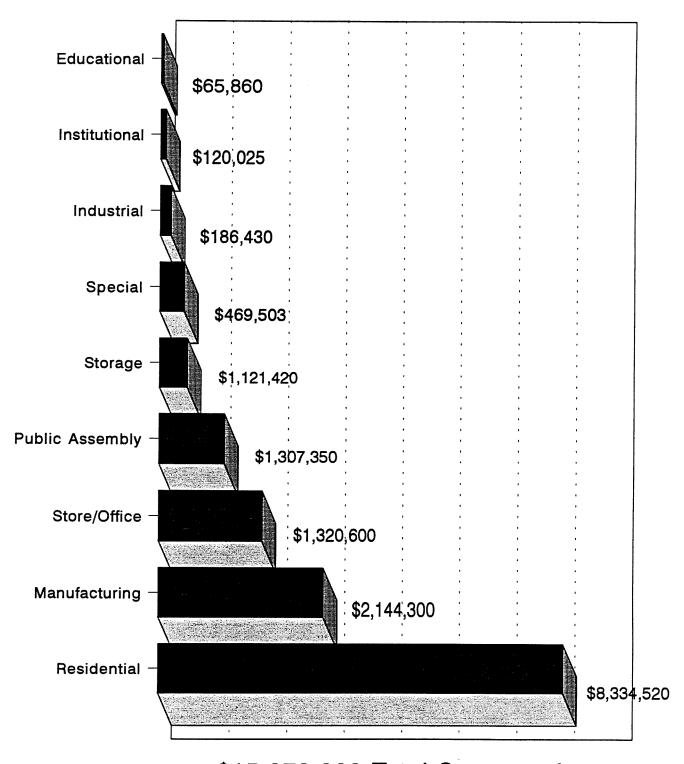
# All Fire Calls by Month



#### Fire Losses

Structure Loss	.16
Hostile Fires by Complex	
Alarm Time vs. Fire Loss	
Outside Losses	

# Structure Loss (By Property Type)



\$15,070,008 Total Structure Loss

#### **HOSTILE FIRES BY COMPLEX**

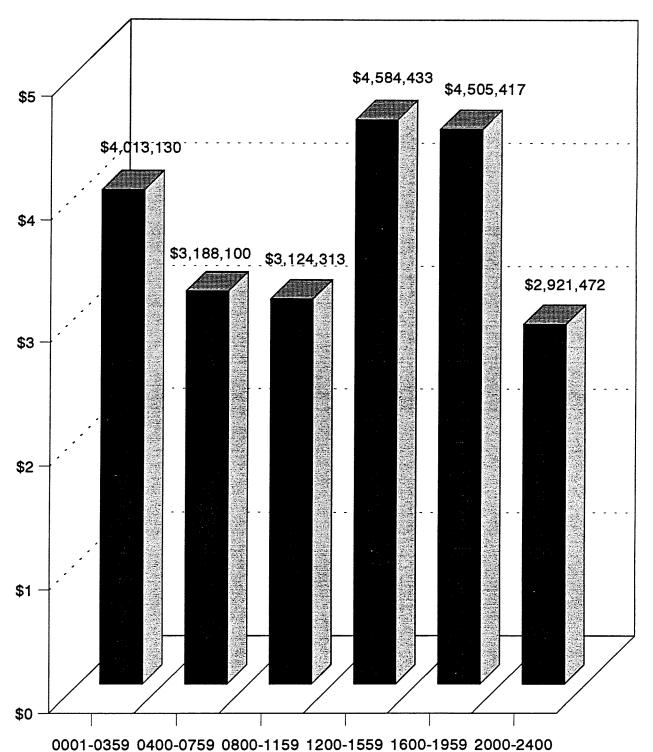
	<u>FIRES</u>	<u>INJURY</u>	<u>DEATH</u>	\$ LOSS
Apartment Complex	125	8	0	761,064
Dwelling (one/two family)	1,805	66	13	7,282,569
Educational Complex	63	4	0	1,177,710
Farm Complex	473	5	1	1,495,610
Industrial Plnt/Mfg Cmpl	103	17	0	2,483,330
Mobile Home Park Complex	59	2	0	77,699
No Complex	1500	22	4	2,248,909
Office Complex	42	1	0	49,045
Other	117	2	0	2,539,085
Railroad Transport Complex	55	0	0	197,600
Road Complex	645	4	1	680,810
Shopping Complex	109	4	0	181,767
Warehouse/Stge Complex	66	4	0	823,425

## LOSSES ON ALL HOSTILE FIRES WITH SOME INCENDIARY/SUSPICIOUS IGNITION FACTOR

Incendiary	\$1,139,607
Suspicious	\$556,550
Totals	\$1,696,157

## Alarm Time vs. Fire Loss

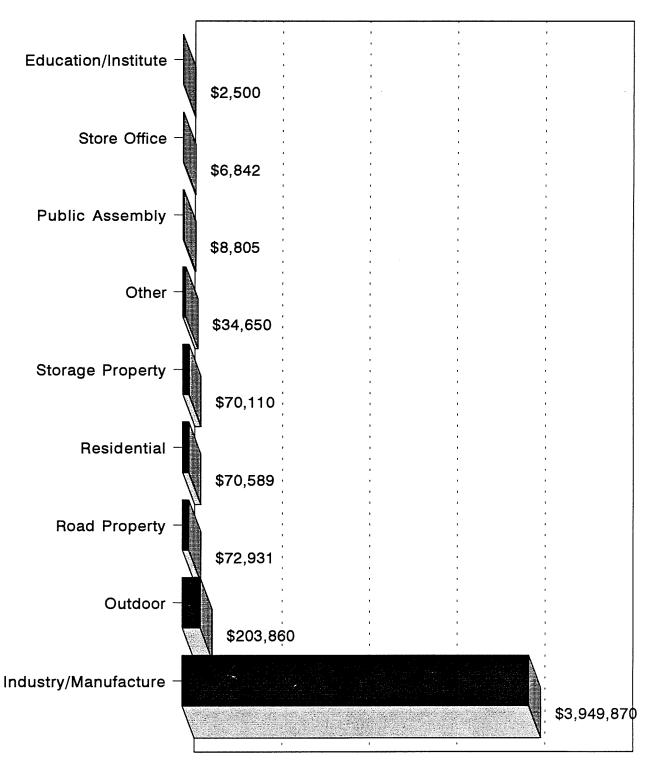




01 0000 0400 0700 0000 1100 1200 1000 1000 200

Hours (Military Time)

# Outside Fire Losses (By Property Type)



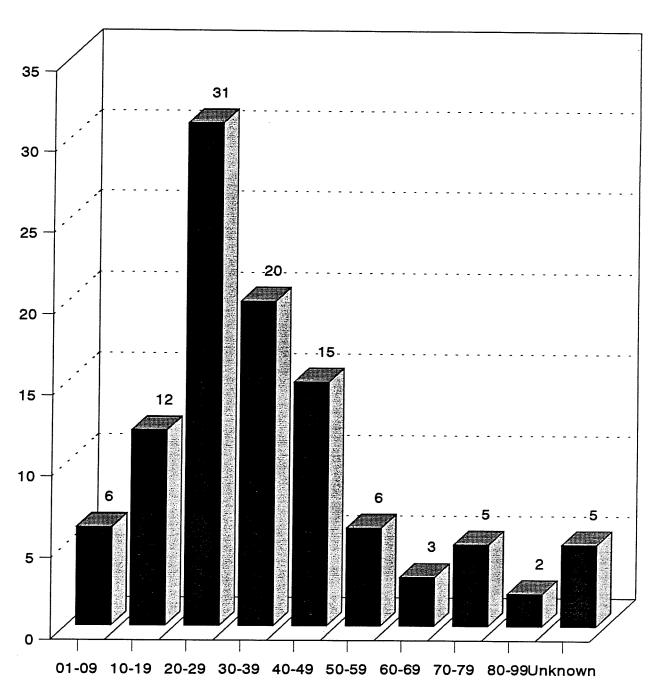
#### Casualties

Fire Casualties	21
Civilian Casualties	
Firefighter Injuries	

# 1991 FIRE CASUALTIES (Injuries and Fatalities)

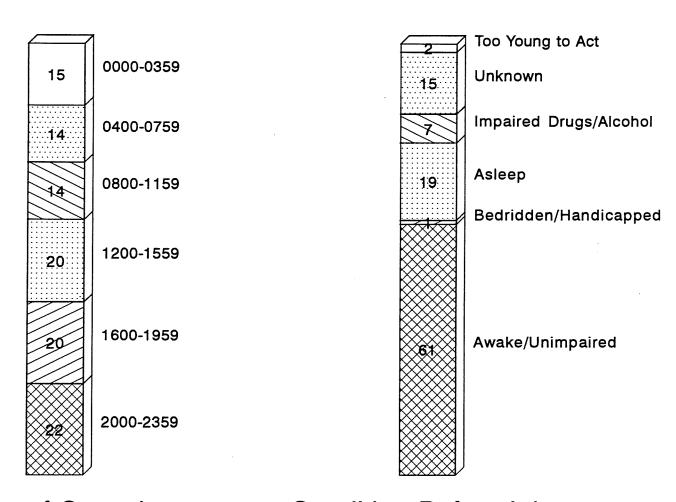
FIREFIGHTER CASUALTIES		CIVILIAN FIRE CASUALTIES			
SEX:	Male Female	53 4	SEX:	Male Female	74 31
PART OF BODY INJURED		PART O	PART OF BODY INJURED		
	ea t	12 11 10 9 7 6 2	Multi-Pa Internal Hand Head/N Leg Unknow Body, Ta Arm Foot	leck	42 31 7 7 5 5 4 3 1
Minor Moderate	•	31 22	NATUR	E OF INJURY	
Severe/L	e Life Threat RY APPARENT SYMI	4	Burns & Smoke (Burns O	Only Only	32 28 29
Other Burn: Th Sprain/S Asphyxia Cut/Lace	train	21 11 8 6	Strain/S	Bleeding	6 5 5
Pain Only	erations y s/Fainting	8 6 5 3 3	Escaping	Jnknown g	34 32 12 9
Hospital Not Tran	T TAKEN TO  sported Office/Clinic	38 18 1	Unable Rescue	se/Return	9 6 5 3 1
FIREFIG	SHTER ACTIVITY		CAUSE	OF INJURY	
Extinguis Suppressi Other Ac Driving/I Misc. Inc Rescue	shing Fire ion Support ctivity Riding . Scene	33 13 3 4 3 1	Caught/ Other Rubbed	to fire product Trapped by/Contact with pped Into	75 11 10 5 4
SEVERIT	ΓY OF INJURY		SEVERI	TY OF INJURY	
Injury Death		57 0	Injury Death		84 21

# Civilian Casualties (Injuries & Fatalities)



Casualty Ages

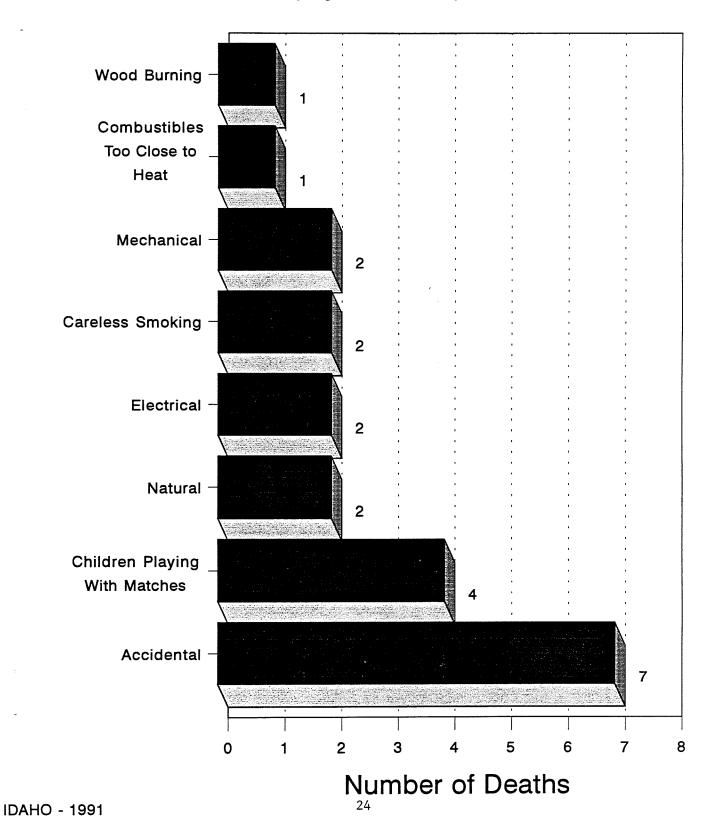
## Civilian Casualties



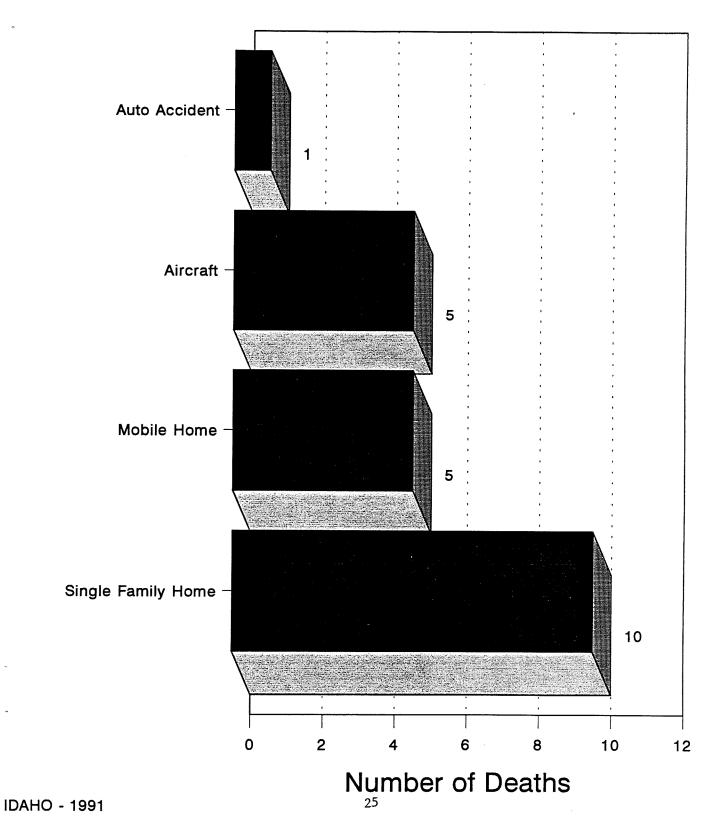
Time of Casualty

**Condition Before Injury** 

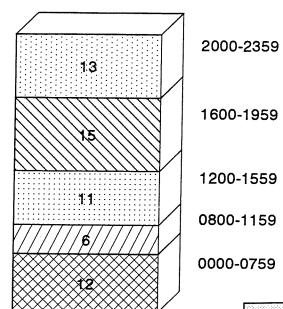
# Civilian Deaths (By Cause)



# Civilian Deaths (By Property Type)

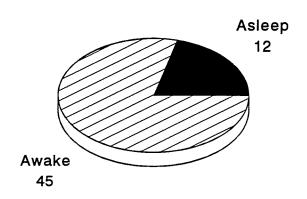


## Firefighter Injuries

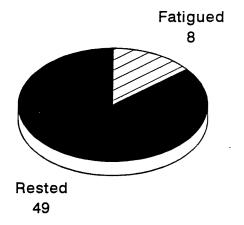


Time of Casualty

Idaho has only had one firefighter death since record keeping began in 1982.



Status Before Alarm



**Physical Condition** 

#### **Fire Causes**

Hostile Fires by Ignition/Heat Factor	28
Residential Fires.	29-30
Woodstove Fires	
Fire Causes by Property Use	
Child Playing	39
Child Playing	40

#### **HOSTILE FIRES BY IGNITION FACTOR**

Top Fifteen

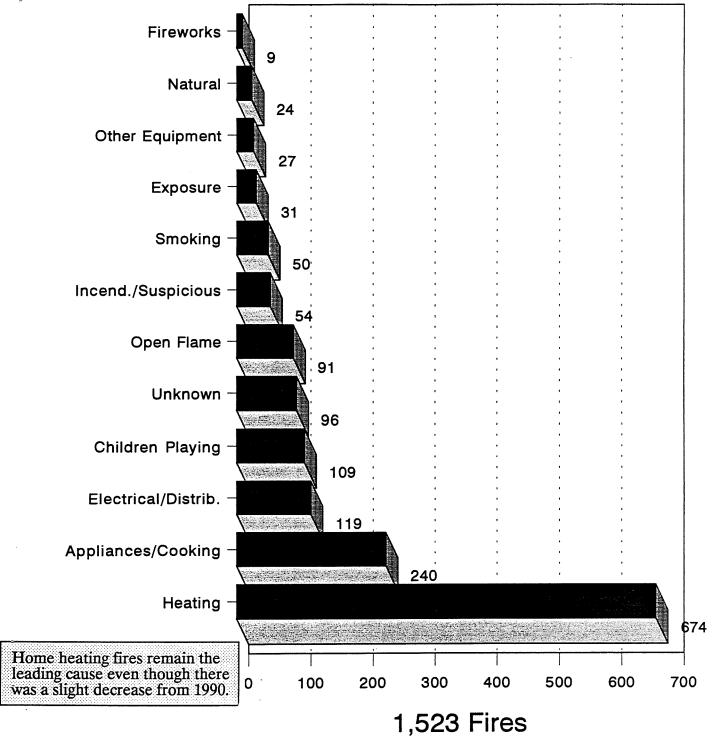
	<b>FIRES</b>	<u>INJURY</u>	<u>DEATH</u>
Lack of Maintenance/Worn Out	616	1	1
Inadequate Control of Open Fire	570	5	0
Short Circuit/Ground Fault	395	9	0
Abandoned Discarded Material	383	9	2
Children Play with or Child Playing	377	6	4
Suspicious	288	5	0
Part Failure/Leak/Break	217	4	1
Incendiary	151	5	0
Backfire	149	2	0
Other Electrical	140	2	0
Rekindled from a Previous Fire	123	1	0
Natural	117	4	2
Combustible too close to Heat	112	8	1
Property too close to	110	4	0
Unattended	105	6	0

#### **HOSTILE FIRES BY FORM OF IGNITION HEAT**

Top Ten

	<u>FIRES</u>	<u>INJURY</u>	<u>DEATH</u>
Heat from Solid Fueled Equipment	634	9	1
Match	524	17	1
Open Fire	504	5	1
Short Circuit Unspecified	232	6	0
Properly Oper Elec Equipment	191	16	1
Cigarette/Cigar	187	6	4
Fireworks	157	1	0
Hot Ember/Ash	146	3	0
Fire Spread (Exposure)	134	4	2
Backfire from Engine	127	2	0

# Residential Fires (Leading Fire Causes)

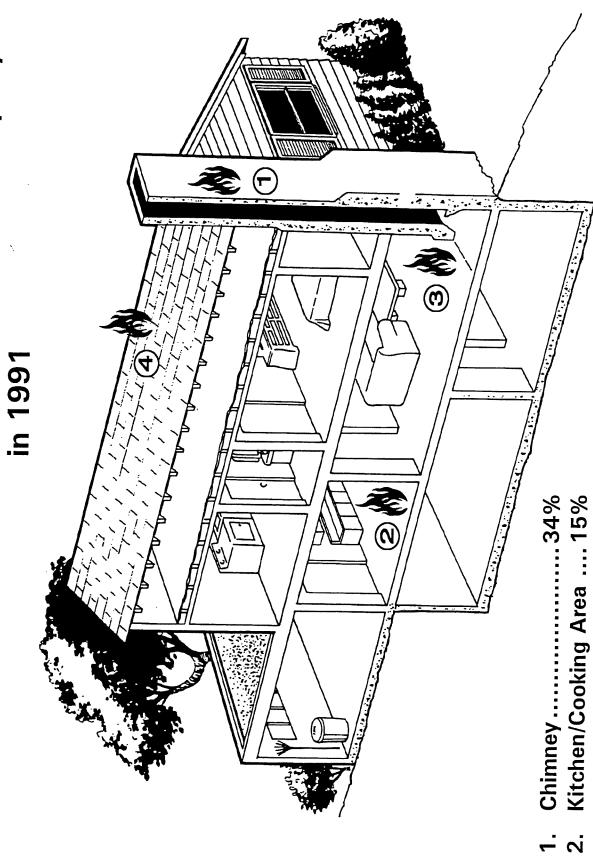


10%

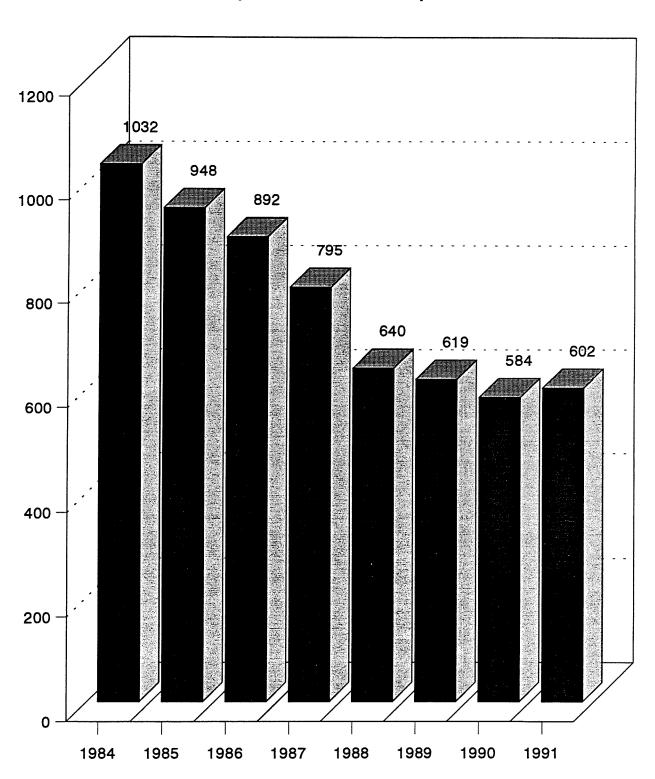
Ceiling Roof Assembly....

Lounge Area ......

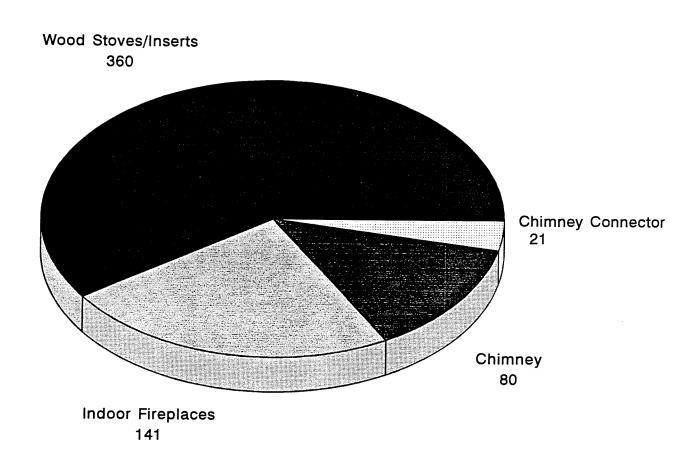
# Leading Areas of Fire Origin in Residential Property



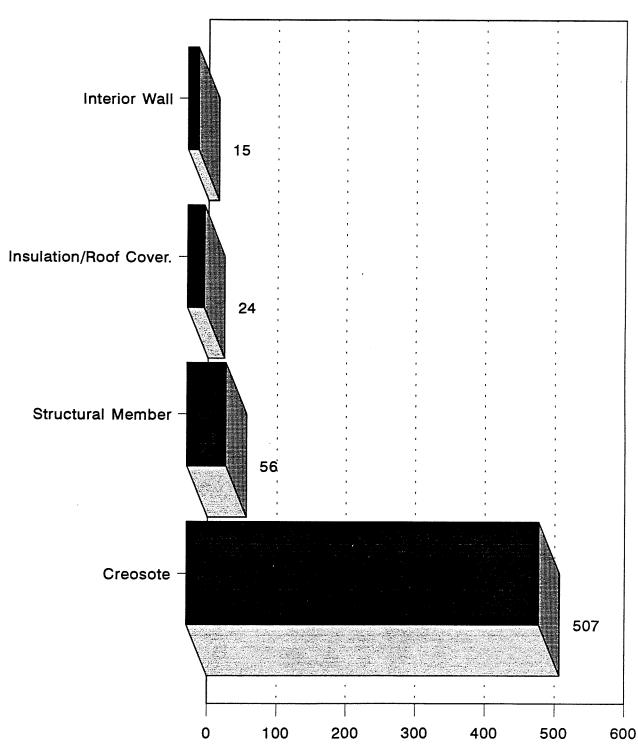
# Wood Stove Fires (Residential)

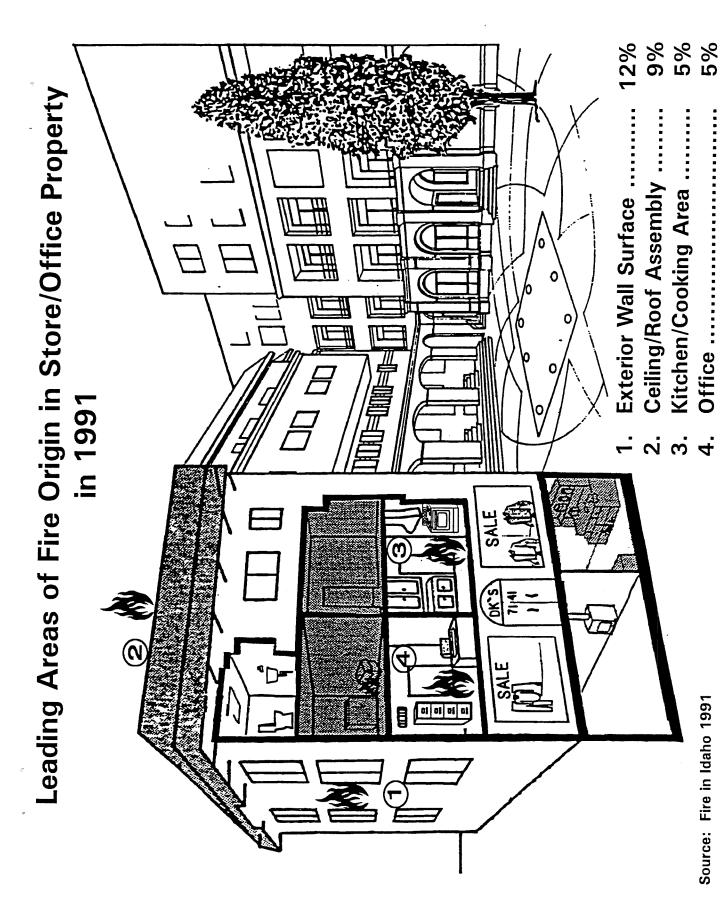


# Wood Stove Fires Equipment Involved

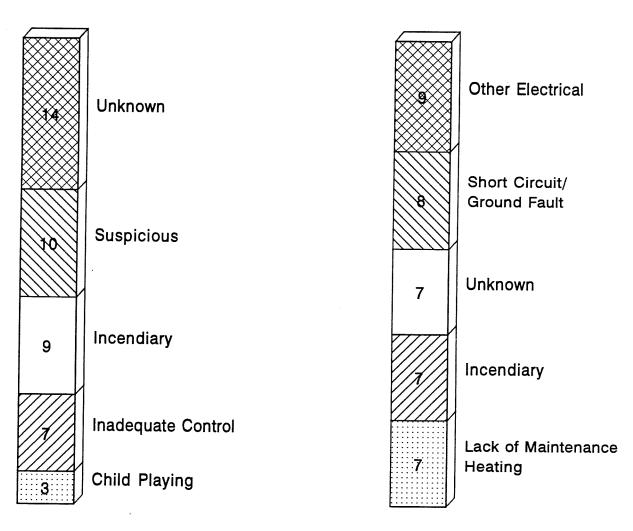


## Wood Stove Fires Material First Ignited





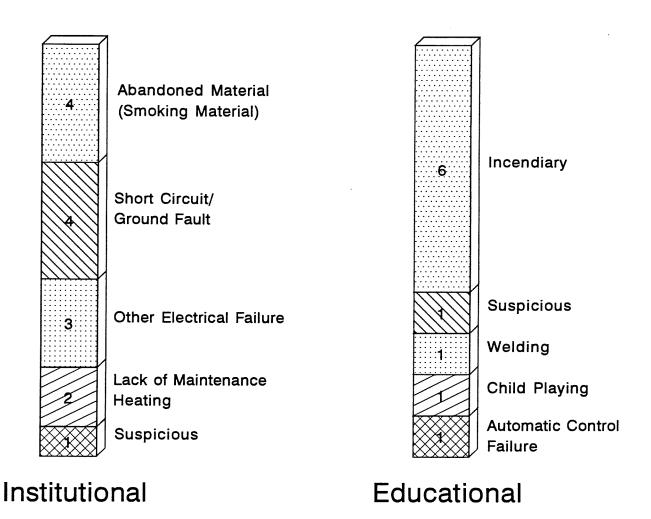
# Fire Causes by Property Use (Top 5 Causes)



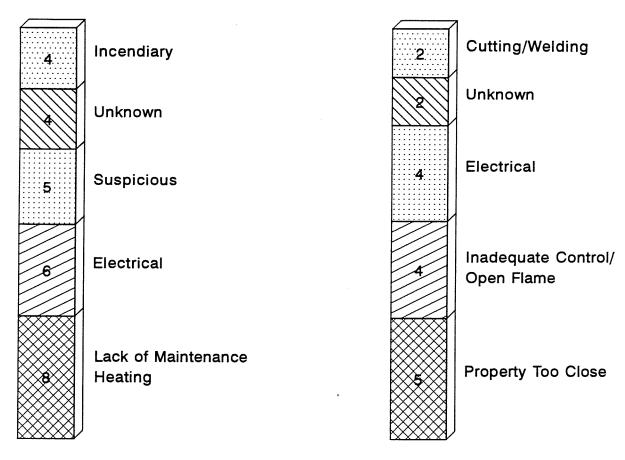
**Special Properties** 

Store/Office

# Fire Causes by Property Type (Top 5 Causes)



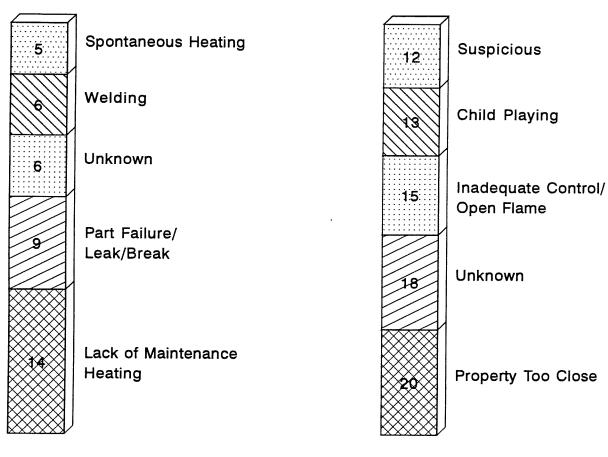
# Fire Causes by Property Use (Top 5 Causes)



**Public Assembly** 

**Basic Industry** 

# Fire Causes by Property Use (Top 5 Causes)



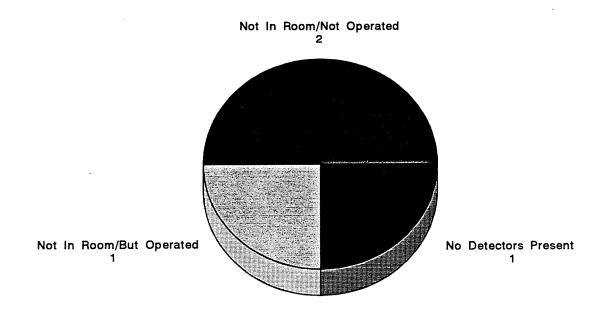
Manufacturing

Storage

#### **CHILD PLAYING**



Juveniles playing with matches or lighters resulted in 377 fires which were the direct result of 4 civilian deaths (all under 16 years old) and 1 fire service and 5 civilian injuries. Losses were estimated at over a million dollars. Of these, 109 were started in or near the home. The dollar loss was accelerated by a manufacturing firm fire in Post Falls.



Detector Performance Which Resulted In Child Playing Fire Deaths

#### **MOTOR VEHICLE FIRES**

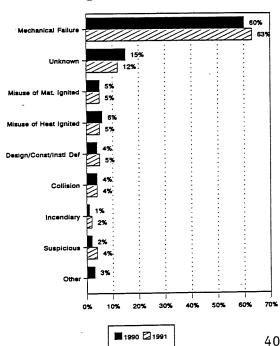
Motor vehicle fires include all mobile property types which are designed to be movable, either under their own power or towed. This classification encompasses automobiles, trucks, rail vehicles, freight vehicles, water vehicles, air transport vehicles, heavy equipment (cranes, bulldozers, etc.), and special vehicles (power garden equipment and mechanical trash containers). During 1991, motor vehicle fires accounted for 14% of all fires reported. The 810 reported fires resulted in 8 injuries (4) automobile, (3) trucks, (1) railway with 6 fatalities (1) passenger road vehicle and (5) air transportation vehicles.

#### Some Types of Mobile Property Involved in Fires

Automobile	607
Truck under 1 ton	45
Unknown	26
Truck over 1 ton	25
Tractor Harvester	16
Motor Home	12
Semi-trailer Truck	11
Air Transport	7
Travel Trailer	6
RR Freight Car	4
Motor Craft	3

#### MOTOR VEHICLE FIRE CAUSES

#### Ignition Factor



Nearly 63% of reported vehicle fires were caused by mechanical problems. The second leading cause in vehicle fires is listed as unknown 12%. The third and fourth leading causes were due to human error with Misuse of Material Ignited 5% and Misuse of Heat of Ignition 5%.

The cooperation of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has resulted in several motor vehicle recalls for safety-related defects.

#### Fire in Idaho 1991

## **PART II - PARTICIPANTS**

#### **Participants**

Re	porting	De	partments	bv	County	7	42	2-	4	.4
**		$\sim$	Pur trirorito	$\boldsymbol{\sigma}$	Country	***************************************	- 4	_	•	

#### REPORTING FIRE DEPARTMENTS

A special thanks to the following fire departments who throughout the year sent their fire incident reports to the State Fire Marshal's Office. This report would not be possible without their help.

ADA COUN	TTY	BONNER COUNTY								
01101-09-77 01236-37 01239-40 01246 01313 01334	Boise City F. D. Cole-Collister F.P.D. Whitney Fire P.D. Kuna Fire Prot. Dist Meridian City Meridian F. P. D.	17201 17303 17333 17337 17341	Sandpoint F.D. Priest River City Northside F. P.D. West Pend Oreille F.P.D. Sagle Fire Dist.							
01342 01344	Star Fire P.D. Eagle Fire P.D.	BONNEVILLE COUNTY								
BANNOCK	_	19101-04 19135-37	Idaho Falls F.D. Bonneville F.P.D.							
05101-04	Pocatello City FD	BOUNDAR	Y COUNTY							
BEAR LAKI	E COUNTY	21301 Bonne	ers Ferry F.D.							
07334 07335	Paris Fire Department Dingle Fire Dept.	CANYON C	OUNTY							
07336 07337 07338	Ovid F.D. Georgetown F.D. Pegram F.D.	27101 27134 27211	Nampa F.D. Nampa Fire P.D. Caldwell City F.D.							
07339 07341 07342 07343	Geneva F.D. Fish Haven F.D. St. Charles F.D. Bennington F.D.	27246 Caldwell Rural F.D. 27307 Wilder City F.D. 27309 Notus City F.D. 27336 Middleton Fire P.D.								
BENEWAH	-	27344	Melba Rural Fire P.D.							
09302	Plummer-Gateway F.D.	CARIBOU COUNTY								
09325 09366	St. Maries City FD St. Maries Rural	29301 29305	Soda Springs F.D. Caribou County F.D.							
BLAINE CO	UNTY	CASSIA CO	UNTY							
13203 13301 13306 13334	Ketchum F.D. Hailey City F.D. Sun Valley F.D. Wood River Fire P.D.	31201 Burley City F.D. 31236 N Cassia Rural F.P.D. 31334 Declo Fire Prot. Dist. 31342 Albion Fire Prot. Dist								
BOISE COU	NTY	CLEARWAT	TER COUNTY							
15311 15313	Garden Valley F.D. Robie Creek F.D.	35303	Orofino City F.D.							

CUSTER CO	DUNTY	LINCOLN							
37301 37302 37334	Sawtooth Valley Rural Challis City F.D. N. Custer Fire P.D.	63301 63333	Shoshone City F.D. Wood River F.D. #1						
ELMORE CO		MADISON COUNTY							
ELMORE C	JUNII	65202	Rexburg Cty						
39301 39303	Mountain Home F.D. Glenns Ferry F.D.	65234 Rexburg/Madison F							
39334 39336	Mountain Home F.P.D. King Hill/Glenns Ferry	MINIDOKA COUNTY							
	F.P.D.	67301 67334	Rupert City F.D. West End Fire P.D.						
FRANKLIN	COUNTY	67335 67336	Northside/Rupert Heyburn Fire P.D.						
41301	Preston City F.D.	67337	East End Fire P.D.						
GOODING (	COUNTY	NEZ PERCE	E						
47301 47333	Gooding City F.D. Gooding Fire P.D.	69201-04	Lewiston City F.D.						
	•	ONEIDA CO	OUNTY						
IDAHO COU	JNTY	71301	Malad Vol. F.D.						
49310 49350	Cottonwood City F.D. Riggins City/Rural F.D.	PAYETTE COUNTY							
JEROME CO	DUNTY	75301	Payette City F.D.						
52201	Jaroma City E.D.	75302 75303	Fruitland F.D.						
53201 53309	Jerome City F.D. Hazelton Fire Dept.	75303 75334	New Plymouth F.D. Payette Rural F.D.						
53333	Jerome Rural	7533 <del>4</del> 75336	New Plymouth Rural						
53353	Eden/First Segregation	75338	New Plymouth V.F.D.						
55555	Edon, I hist begregation	75340	Sand Hollow F.D.						
<b>KOOTENAI</b>	COUNTY								
		SHOSHONE	COUNTY						
55201-02	Coeur d'Alene City F.D.	<b>5000</b> 4	Z II C' ED						
55234	Kootenai County F.D. #1	79201	Kellogg City F.D.						
55340	Post Falls Fire P.D.	79203	Wallace Fire Dept.						
55342	Hayden Lake F.D.	79234	Shoshone Fire P.D. #2						
55344	Rathdrum Rural F.P.D.	79236	Shoshone Cty F.P.D. #1						
55346	Hauser Lake Fire P.D.	TETON COL	TATOTY Z						
55352	Athol Fire P.D.	TETON COU	JIN I Y						
LATAH COU	JNTY	81301 81334	Driggs City F.D. Teton County F.P.D.						
57301 57334	Moscow City F.D. Moscow Rural F.D.	01004	Toton County 1.1.D.						

#### TWIN FALLS COUNTY

83101-03	Twin Falls F.D.
83207	Buhl F.D.
83305	Kimberly City F.D.
83309	Hansen F.D.
83311	Filer Fire/Rescue
83334	Kimberly F.P.D.
83336	Buhl Rural F.D.
83338	Filer Fire/Rural

#### VALLEY COUNTY

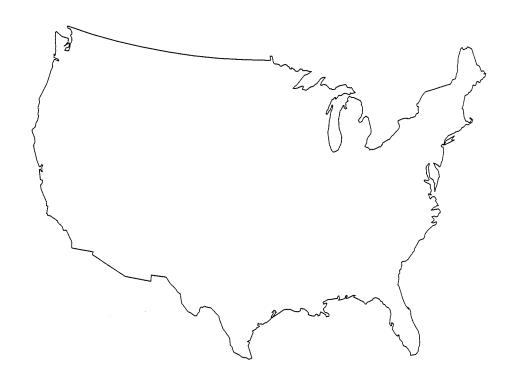
85301	McCall City
85302	Cascade City F.D.
85334	Cascade Rural F.P.D.
85339	McCall Rural

#### **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

87301	Weiser City F.D.
87334	Weiser Rural F.D.

#### Fire in Idaho 1991

## PART III - NATIONAL FIRE FACTS



#### 1990 National Fire Facts

1990 NFIRS Data All Fires	46
Deaths Per 1,000 Fires	
Injuries Per 1,000 Fires	
Dollar Loss Per Fire.	

# 1990 NFIRS DATA - ALL FIRES

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0 = Nonreporting State

OVERALL RATE: 2.7

OVERALL RATE: 31.4

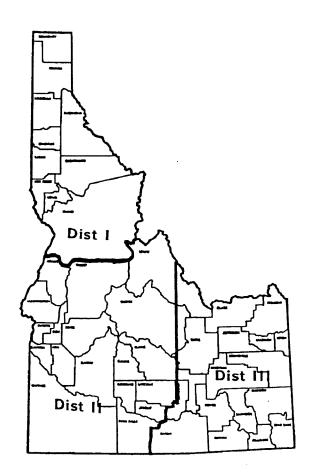
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OVERALL RATE: \$4,532.

#### Fire in Idaho 1991

# PART IV - STATE FIRE MARSHAL ACTIVITY REPORT

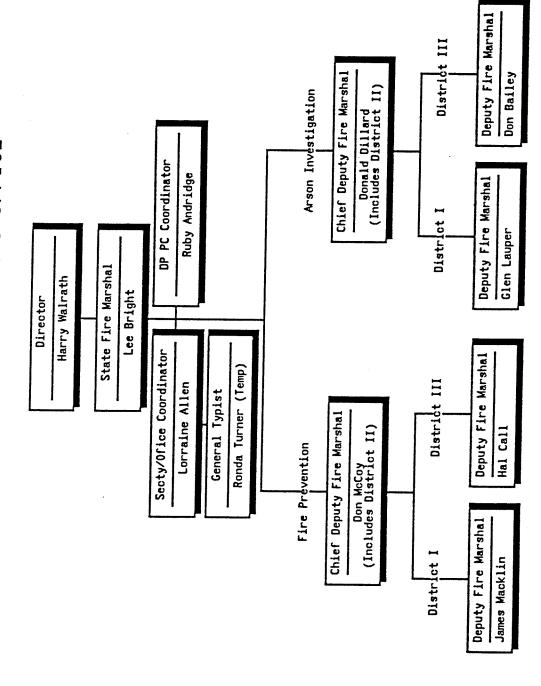
This section is made up of annual reports from the Fire Marshal and employees from the three districts of the Fire Marshal's Office.



#### State Fire Marshal Activity Report

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Prevention Section	53-55
Investigation/Fraud Section	56-59
Administrative Support Services	
Idaho Fire Incident Reporting System (IFIRS)	61

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE



#### STATE APPOINTED BOARDS

#### STATE FIRE MARSHAL ADVISORY BOARD

Dale Costa, Kellogg/Shoshone Fire Prot. Dist. #2
Cary Campbell, Chubbuck Fire Dept.
Phil Clough, Twin Falls Fire Dept.
Bill Cowin, St. Maries City/Rural F.D.
Ken Robinson, Moscow Fire Dept.
Bill Squires, Whitney Fire P.D.
Jim Auclaire, Jerome Fire Dept.
Richard Wolf, Pocatello Fire Dept.
Richard Hahn, Idaho Falls Fire Dept.
Tom Johnson, Ketchum Fire Dept.
Thayne Taylor, Rupert Fire Dept.
Claire Harkins, Fire Service Training
Jeannine Benson, Assoc. of Idaho Cities

This Board includes the Board of Directors of the Idaho Fire Chiefs Association.

## UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION BOARD

John Hiler, Hiler Bros. Company, Chairman Mark Jensen, Lakeview Chevron Clint Wilson, Petrol Services Dave Mabe, Idaho Petroleum Council Paul Jehn, Division of Environmental Quality

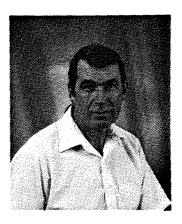
This Board was appointed by the Governor to enforce Regulation No. 63 to regulate persons for hire to perform services for underground storage tank projects. The regulation was enacted to assure that underground storage tank systems were being serviced in a manner which will protect the public health and welfare and the land and waters within the state of Idaho.

#### FIRE PREVENTION SECTION

	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Fire Inspections	184	251	265
Fire/Arson Investigations	18	30	28
Fire Code Interpretations	277	290	317
Business Meetings	192	306	324
Assistance	197	298	317
Official Contacts	284	390	418
Public Appearances	19	17	27
Training Courses	51	46	46
Schools/Seminars Attended	28	44	30
UST Inspections	76	84	60
Plans Review (State Owned & Sch	ools) *	*	39

<sup>\*</sup>Not Applicable

## DISTRICT I - FIRE PREVENTION - LEWISTON, IDAHO JIM MACKLIN, DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL



DISTRICT ACTIVITY: District I has again been involved in many different projects. The major activity has been assisting local authorities with problem solving processes to gain code compliance. Underground storage tank removal and installation projects are continuing at a steady pace.

TRAINING GIVEN: Uniform Fire Code: Three Classes were given and three are scheduled for the 1991 code. There seems to be a great deal of interest in the '91 code because of the numerous changes and additions.

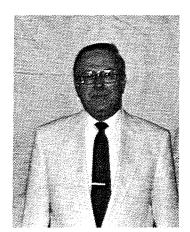
Fire and Arson Detection: Glenn Lauper and I taught two classes on the basic Fire and Arson Detection program. Between the two of us, we passed along a lot of information in a short time.

TRAINING RECEIVED: I attended an arson seminar sponsored by the Washington Chapter of IAAI and the seminar held at Post Falls, both were very informative.

PLANS REVIEW: I have been active with construction plans reviews of state owned buildings and proposed school construction plans. The major problems are water supplies.

OBJECTIVE: To continue being available to respond to the local authorities' needs and give them the best information and help available.

#### DISTRICT II - FIRE PREVENTION - BOISE, IDAHO DON MCCOY, CHIEF DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL



DISTRICT ACTIVITY: The end of the year at the State Fire Marshal's Office is always a busy time and this year is no exception. This brought about the adoption of the 1991 Uniform Fire Code and the result is rewriting the Code class and the certification exam, as well as, the process of learning the ins and outs of a new code.

PLANS REVIEW: 1991 was a very interesting year and I believe a real turning point for the office. We now are reviewing the new building, additions and remodel plans of all State buildings in conjunction with the Department of Labor and Industrial

Services. This office is also assisting local fire departments with plans reviews for school projects.

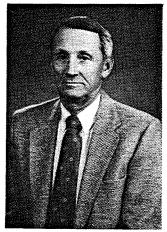
TRAINING GIVEN: In District II this year, the fire service was again engaged in increasing their knowledge. I taught three Fire Code classes and two Basic Inspections classes. The recertification tests were written again and mailed out. Many have since

been returned and I continue to see excellent progress as all certified inspectors improve their ability to use the code.

This year many calls have been received from fire departments, architects, and building officials regarding code requirements. As our profession grows, the questions continue to become more complicated and take longer to answer.

OBJECTIVE: I am looking forward to the year of 1992 with great expectations for the fire service and fire prevention in general. Thank you all for putting up with me for another year and I promise you my total devotion when I am called upon to serve you in the upcoming year. Without your enthusiasm and dedication, all would be for naught.

## DISTRICT III - FIRE PREVENTION - POCATELLO, IDAHO HAL CALL, DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL



DISTRICT ACTIVITY: The past year, 1991, has been an interesting year with many different activities and problems in which I have participated. The challenges seem to get more complex as the cities and fire chiefs find themselves faced with less money and resources to do a more demanding and complex job.

With the ever changing requirements in the chemical industry, the building industry, etc., I find that I am being called upon more frequently to render opinions and to provide code guidance.

PLANS REVIEW: This past year has seen a great change in being more involved in State building construction. I have reviewed a number of plans on these buildings and have seen much good come from this. Buildings that previously would have had little or no fire protection will now have sprinkler systems, thus giving the local fire authority some means of dealing with a serious fire problem.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS: In eastern Idaho we are still experiencing serious underground/aboveground fuel storage system problems. Aboveground tanks are showing up in places not allowed by code. Most are exceeding allowable size. Some underground storage systems are being removed from the ground and attempts are made to place them in aboveground configurations in direct violation of existing codes. Much of this is being done on farms.

TRAINING: This past year has seen involvement in teaching and certifying firefighters in the Uniform Fire Code as well as teaching inspection classes. Much time is spent in answering and interpreting code questions for fire officials, mayors, county commissioners and individuals.

OBJECTIVE: I hope to continue to foster cooperation between the cities, fire officials and the State Fire Marshal's Office and to be a ready resource to any and all. It has been a distinct privilege and pleasure to serve.

## ARSON/FRAUD INVESTIGATION SECTION

Arson fires investigated	30
Accidental fires	64
Suspicious fires	8
All others	2
Total Investigations	104
Total Estimated \$ loss	\$5,783,600

#### DISTRICT I - ARSON/FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS - COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO GLENN LAUPER, DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL

DISTRICT ACTIVITY: I have continued my quest to contact and visit with as many fire departments and law enforcement agencies as often as I can to promote the "Arson Task Force" concept.

I have made significant progress in relocating used firefighting equipment and personal protective gear for small rural volunteer fire departments with the help of many of the larger fire departments in Region I and the Department of Lands.

The Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team saw its beginning in North Idaho this year. This team is comprised of mental health professionals, fire, EMS, and police department peers. I have enjoyed working with these people and have been notable impressed by



with these people and have been notably impressed by their sense of commitment to this project.

I continue to assist Deputy Jim Macklin in fire prevention, inspections, code enforcement. This dual role seems to be working agreeably for this region. I continue to witness eminent cooperation between law enforcement and fire service in performing arson investigations.

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\$1,607,600

TRAINING: I participated in the Washington State IAAI seminar and was able to pass the test for certified fire investigator. I look forward to assisting the Idaho State Chapter of the IAAI in implementing this testing procedure.

ARSON TASK FORCE: The North Idaho Task Force continues to respond and assist this office at times when I'm not available. I deeply appreciate all of the members of the Task Force who dedicate and volunteer their time.

## DISTRICT II - ARSON/FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS - BOISE, IDAHO DONALD D. DILLARD, CHIEF DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Since 1991 has been our biggest year for the number of arson and fire investigations completed, it has also been most rewarding in the number of prosecutions.

OBJECTIVE: Though our main objective is arson investigation and prosecution, we have also had success in bringing additional charges of insurance fraud and other related activities against those prosecuted.

#### **DISTRICT ACTIVITY:**

Estimated total \$ loss

Total cases worked	47
Arson	14
Accidental	
SuspiciousFatal fires	4
Fatal fires	2
Number of arrests from investigations	.3
Number of court actions pending	.3



Our District Deputies and the various Arson Task Force teams continue to do an excellent job in the area of arson investigation and investigative training. All are to be commended.

......\$3,568,100

#### DISTRICT III - ARSON/FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS - POCATELLO, IDAHO DON BAILEY, DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES: This involved assisting city, county and federal fire service and law enforcement agencies with investigations in thirteen counties in Eastern Idaho. Fires were in dwellings, mobile homes, commercial structures, vehicle fires and other out buildings.

Total cases worked       22         Arson       6         Accidental       14         Suspicious       1
Other
Number of arrests from investigations12
Number of convictions5
Number of court actions pending8
Estimated total \$ loss\$607,900



ARSON TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES: Minidoka/Cassia Task Force continues to be the most active; Idaho Falls/Bonneville County Task Force continues to up-grade training and Bingham County Task Force has requested assistance with reorganization.

TRAINING PROVIDED: A class in fire/arson investigation was provided to Southeast Idaho Claims Adjustors Association. A Certified Fire Investigators orientation was provided at the Fire Prevention Seminar held in Idaho Falls. The sixteen hour basic N.F.A. Fire/Arson Detection class was presented to the Inkom and Challis Fire Departments (which included fire department members from Stanley, Salmon and Northfork) and Challis Police Department.

OTHER ACTIVITIES: Coordination of the Certified Fire Investigator's Program between the International Office of the I.A.A.I. and the Idaho Chapter. Continue the on-going interaction with insurance claims representatives and attorneys related to fire investigations.

TRAINING RECEIVED: Attended the International Association of Arson Investigator's Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana and the Idaho Fire/Arson Investigator's Conference in Post Falls, Idaho.

OBJECTIVES: Continue to assist local, county, state, and federal agencies with the investigation of suspicious fires, promote the arson task force concept and provide fire/arson investigation training.

#### IDAHO FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

#### RUBY ANDRIDGE, D.P. PERSONAL COMPUTER COORDINATOR



TRAINING RECEIVED: Attended the National Fire Incident Council (NFIC) regional training session in Baltimore, Maryland and the annual meeting in San Jose, California.

CLASSES GIVEN: Training sessions on IFIRS Coding were given to Albion, Blackfoot, Buhl, Burley, Grangeville, Hazelton, Kamiah, Kimberly, McCall, Oakley, Plummer, Pocatello, Rupert, Tensed, and Worley.

Training on the NFIRS Software was given to Coeur d'Alene, McCall, Meridian, Mountain

Home, and Osburn fire departments.

PARTICIPATION: There are 113 fire departments in Idaho on IFIRS. This represents 80% of Idaho's protected population but only 67% of the total population. The number of computerized departments reporting by diskette has steadly increased to a total of 33 combined departments.

OBJECTIVE: To increase the number of fire departments participating in the reporting system and to continue to be available to assist the fire service with their reporting needs.

I hope that this report has helped acquaint you with the fire problems in Idaho as well as the services the State Fire Marshal Division provides. We look forward to working with the fire service and other agencies. I encourage your feedback regarding this report and any concerns regarding fire in Idaho.