

January - December 2015

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

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During 2015, there were 48 fires that resulted in 62 deaths in 16 of the 23 Maryland counties and Baltimore City. Those totals represent a 3 percent decrease over the 64 deaths reported during that time in 2014, as well as an almost 13 percent decrease over the number of fatal fires (55) reported in that year.

<u>ALLEGANY COUNTY</u> - In 2015, Allegany County reported one fatal residential fire that claimed the life of a 73 year old female who succumbed to her injuries after being hospitalized following the incident. The fire was determined to have been the result of malfunctioning electric extension cords. The smoke alarm status in the home was reported as present and activated.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY - Anne Arundel County reported in 2015, four fatal fires resulting in 12 deaths representing a staggering increase compared to two deaths in two fires for reporting year 2014, and four deaths in four fires during 2013. Two of the fires resulted in multiple-deaths with one fire claiming the lives of six victims. The first multi-fatal fire occurred in a 16,386 square foot home which did not have an installed sprinkler system. The ATF National Response Team, OSFM and multiple outside jurisdictions assisted with the investigation resulting in the determination that electrical failure ignited ordinary combustibles, including the 15' aged cut Christmas tree, rapidly spreading fire throughout the structure trapping the victims inside. Combustibles too close to a heating source was the culprit of the second multifatal residential fire which claimed the lives of a 39 year old mother, her 17 year old son, and a 45 year old male who was attempting to rescue the victims, but became trapped. Smoke alarms were only present in the newly renovated area of the residence. Careless smoking with use of home oxygen may have been the cause of an undetermined single family dwelling fire which resulted in the demise of a 73 year old female. Smoke alarms were located in the residence, but it is unknown if they activated. One female adult age 44 years and one 11 year old boy perished in a undetermined dwelling fire that started in the living room. It was unknown whether the home was equipped with working smoke alarms.

BALTIMORE COUNTY - Baltimore County reported five deaths in four fires during 2015, an increase from the three fire deaths reported during that time in 2014, and the three fire deaths in 2013. One of the reported fires involved a residential double-fatal fire with the victims reported as an 87 year old male and a 57 year old female. The fire investigation revealed the cause as a faulty power strip located behind the bed of one of the victims. An undetermined single family dwelling fire complicated by hoarding conditions claimed the life of a 74 year old female who was found on the stairway leading to the second and third floors of the structure. A 59 year old male was burned beyond recognition in an undetermined vehicle fire. The victim was found in the driver's seat of his car which was parked in a poorly lit parking lot. A residential dwelling fire that started in the floor of a bedroom was determined to have been intentionally set by a 58 year old female who succumbed to her injuries. The investigation revealed that the victim had committed suicide by fire.

BALTIMORE CITY - The 18 deaths in sixteen fatal fires reported in Baltimore City represent no change in comparison to the 18 fire deaths reported in 2014, and a 14 percent decrease compared to the 21 fire deaths reported in 2013. A kitchen fire determined to have been caused by unattended cooking claimed the life of a 3 year old girl. The father safely evacuated the victim's 8 month old twin sisters and attempted to return for the toddler, but smoke and fire had overcome the home making the rescue impossible. A kerosene heater too close to combustibles sparked a fire that resulted in the death of a 2 year old boy; however, the father, a 3 year old and 5 year old were able to escape the blaze. At the time of the fire, there were no working utilities and no working smoke alarms in the home. A 66 year old male perished in an undetermined residential fire where conditions of hoarding were found.

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BALTIMORE CITY - (Continued) - Careless smoking was to blame for the demise of a 58 year old male who succumbed to his injuries despite escaping and being found alive in the front of his residence when emergency personnel arrived on the fire scene. A residential fire that originated in the rear of a first floor room claimed the life of a 55 year old female, and the cause remains undetermined. A 67 year old female succumbed to her injuries several days following a fire rescue from her residence. The fire was determined to have been caused by the failure of a multi-plug electrical device. Careless smoking claimed the life of a 65 year old female who accidentally caught her clothing on fire while smoking inside her residence. A fire that originated in the basement and was caused by an electrical fault resulted in the death of a 63 year old male. Smoke alarms were present, but activation was unknown. An undetermined fire that originated in the victim's bedroom is to blame for the death of a 42 year old female. Apparently, the fire reignited after initially being extinguished by the victim's father. Upon discovering that the fire rekindled, the father re-entered the home to make a second futile attempt to extinguish the blaze. At that point, the victim apparently slipped back into the dwelling unbeknownst to the father. Firefighters found the lifeless victim in the basement of the home after the blaze was brought under control. An apartment fire, determined to have been caused by the occupant's careless smoking while on home oxygen, claimed the life of the 77 year old female. Neighbors who were alerted by the sound of the smoke alarms in the home escorted the victim outside, and assisted her in extinguishing the flames on her clothing. The victim was subsequently transferred to a medical burn center where she succumbed to her injuries. A 4 year old female girl died from injuries received from a fire inside her apartment that was determined to have been caused by unattended cooking. The victim's siblings were rescued and transported to an area hospital, and later discharged. An undetermined double-fatal fire resulted in the deaths of a 61 year old female and a 65 year old male. Home oxygen equipment was found on the first floor where the fire originated and may have been a factor in the fire. An intentionally set fire in the first floor stairwell of an apartment complex claimed the life of 51 year old female who became trapped on the third floor despite the activation of smoke alarms. Evidence of accelerants was found in the area of the fire origin. A 60 year old male succumbed to his injuries after catching his clothes on fire subsequent to coming too close to burners on the kitchen stove. A double-fatal dwelling fire that was determined to have been caused by unattended candles resulted in the death of a 46 year old female and her 9 year old daughter. Smoke alarms were located in the home, but activation was not verified. Careless Smoking was determined to have been the cause of a group residential dwelling fire that claimed the life of a 41 year old female. After finding the victim and the recliner she was sitting in ablaze, the victim's boyfriend unsuccessfully attempted to extinguish the fire.

<u>CALVERT COUNTY</u> - Two fire deaths were reported in Calvert County for January through December 2015, compared to one death in 2014, and three deaths in 2013 for the same reporting period. An undetermined residential fire originated in the basement prompting the 68 year old female victim to call 911, but she unable to escape the fire. The victim succumbed to her injuries despite the efforts of two offduty firefighters who successfully removed the victim from the home and immediately initiated CPR. A 3 year old girl died shortly after sustaining injuries caused by an accidental explosion and fire that occurred on her family's boat.

<u>CAROLINE COUNTY</u> - There were no fire deaths reported in Caroline County during the entire year of 2015, 2014 or 2013.

<u>CARROLL COUNTY</u> - In 2015, there were no fire deaths reported in the county. There were reportedly four deaths in four fires during 2014, and two deaths in two fires for the same period in 2013.

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<u>CECIL COUNTY</u> - During 2015, Cecil County reported one vehicle fire death of a 27 year old female. The victim was involved in a single vehicle crash after running off the roadway and striking a tree. Witnesses on the scene attempted to rescue the entrapped victim, but fire ignited in the engine compartment and quickly spread to the passenger area of the vehicle. During the same period in 2014, three fire deaths were reported, and one fire death in 2013.

CHARLES COUNTY - Three fires and four deaths were reported by Charles County for January through December 2015 which is an increase compared to one death reported for 2014, and one death reported in 2013. Careless smoking was the cause of a residential fire that claimed the life of a 64 year old male victim who was on home oxygen therapy. A 60 year old male succumbed to his injuries sustained in an undetermined residential fire that originated in the master bedroom. A double-fatal fire caused by an overloaded extension cord resulted in the death of a 68 year old female and a 6 year old boy. Four other occupants escaped the home without injury after awakening to the sound of the operating smoke alarm. One firefighter received a non-life threatening back injury and was treated at a local hospital.

<u>DORCHESTER COUNTY</u> - Dorchester County reported no fire deaths in 2015 or 2014, compared to one fire death in 2013.

FREDERICK COUNTY - In 2015, Frederick County reported one double-fatal apartment fire resulting in the loss of a 74 year old female occupant from the first floor, and a 43 year old female occupant from the second floor. The fire was determined to have been caused by an extension cord failure in the first floor apartment. The extension cord became entangled in the rocking mechanism of a recliner and ignited the underside of the chair spreading to nearby combustibles. The husband of the victim from the first floor apartment was rescued and survived the fire.

GARRETT COUNTY - Garrett County reported no fire deaths in 2015 and 2014, and one fire death in 2013.

HARFORD COUNTY - Harford County reported in 2015, two fire deaths in two fires which claimed the lives of an 11 year old female and a 73 year old male. The first fire was an undetermined fire which erupted in the rear bedroom subflooring of a recreational travel vehicle with the cause most likely related to some type of electrical event. The second incident was the result of suicide by fire. During the twelve months of 2014 and 2013, there were no reported fire deaths in the county.

KENT COUNTY - During 2015, Kent County reported one residential fire death most likely caused by careless smoking which claimed the life of a 62 year old female. There we no smoke alarms present in the home at the time of the fire. The one reported death in 2015 was a decrease compared to the two deaths reported in 2014, but an increase in comparison to no deaths reported in 2013.

HOWARD COUNTY - Howard County reported no fire deaths for the entire reporting year of 2015 compared to three fire deaths in 2014, and one fire death in 2013.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY - Two vehicle fire deaths resulting from two unrelated vehicle crashes in Montgomery County during 2015 claimed the lives of two males aged 20 years old and 21 years old. The two reported deaths in 2015 was an increase compared to the report of no deaths in 2014, but a decrease compared to the four reported deaths in 2013.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY - Six fires each claimed the lives of six people in Prince George's County during the entire year of 2015. This was a small increase compared to the twelve months of 2014 where there were five reported deaths in five fires, but a decrease for the same time in 2013 with 15 deaths and 11 fires reported. (Continued on Next Page)

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PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY - (Continued) Careless smoking claimed the life of an 80 year old female who succumbed to burn injuries after catching her clothing and furniture on fire while smoking. A second careless smoking incident resulted in an 83 year old male sustaining second and third degree burns after accidentally catching his clothes on fire. The victim succumbed to his injuries the following day. A 19 year old male lost his life in a motor vehicle fire after becoming trapped in the vehicle subsequent to a crash. Witnesses of the crash reported that the vehicle was forced off the highway by a hit-and-run driver. An undetermined vehicle fire caused the demise of a 70 year old male with onset dementia who drove his vehicle onto a golf course resulting in the vehicle becoming stuck on the soft grounds and igniting. The victim was found outside the driver's side door of the totally burned vehicle. A 75 year old male was found at a gas station severely burned from the waist up. The victim was transported to a medical facility where he succumbed to his injuries. The incident was determined to have been caused by self-immolization. A undetermined 20' pop-up camper fire claimed the life of a 44 year old male. The victim's remains were discovered inside the camper after the fire had been extinguished.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY - One fire death was reported in Queen Anne's County for the 2015 reporting year compared to one fire death in 2014, and no fire deaths in 2013 for the same period. Improperly discarded cigarettes was the cause of a residential fire which claimed the life of a 73 year old female who was found in the kitchen area of the home. The caregiver attempted to evacuate the victim from the fire, but the rescue was hampered by the victim's handicap.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY - St. Mary's Country reported no fire deaths in 2015 compared to one fire death in 2014 and 2013.

SOMERSET COUNTY - In 2015, Somerset County reported one fire death which was no change compared to the one fire death reported in 2014, but an increase compared to no fire deaths reported in 2013. A kitchen fire resulted in the loss of a 61 year old male victim, and the fire remains undetermined.

<u>**TALBOT COUNTY**</u> - During the reporting years 2015 and 2014, Talbot County reported no fire deaths compared to one fire death in 2013.

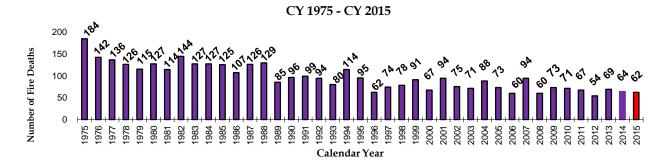
<u>WASHINGTON COUNTY</u> - Washington County reported in 2015, one undetermined residential fire that resulted in the demise of an 86 year old female. The undetermined fire started in the first floor sitting room, and may have been the result of careless smoking. In 2014, the county reported two fire deaths in one fire, and in 2013 reported one double-fatal fire.

<u>WICOMICO COUNTY</u> - During the twelve months of 2015, Wicomico County reported one fire death involving a 59 year old male who sustained severe burn injuries after intentionally igniting a back yard shed. The victim was transported to a medical burn unit where he succumbed to his injuries. In 2014, there were five deaths in three fires, and in 2013 during the same period, one fire death was reported for the county.

<u>WORCESTER COUNTY</u> - In 2015, Worcester County reported one double-fatal dwelling fire that claimed the lives of two male victims, ages 27 and 29. The cause of the fire was determined to have resulted from unattended cooking, and no smoke alarms were found in the home at the time of the incident. In 2014, Worcester County reported no fire deaths and in 2013, a double-fatal fire was reported.

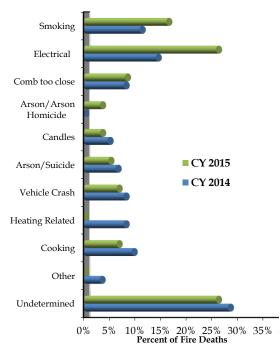
Following is a summary of the fire deaths reported to the State Fire Marshal during 2015. Also included are summary tables of fire deaths for reporting years prior to 2015. The number of fire deaths in Maryland, by county, for the five-year period 2011 through 2015 are listed on page 16.

The fire deaths reported in Maryland during 2015 represent a slight decrease over the previous year. The 62 deaths in 48 fires in 2015 represent a 3 percent decrease over the 64 deaths in 55 fires in 2014, and a 10 percent decrease over the 69 deaths in 58 fires in 2013.



In recent years, the number of fire fatalities reported to the State Fire Marshal's Office have continued to decline with fire deaths averaging 63 a year from 2011 through 2015. Fire deaths in the State have remained below 100 each year for the past 21 years, (1995 to 2015) as illustrated in the above graph. During that time, there has been an average of 73 fire deaths a year. Previously, from 1975 to 1994, fire fatalities in Maryland averaged 120 deaths a year.

CAUSES OF FATAL FIRES



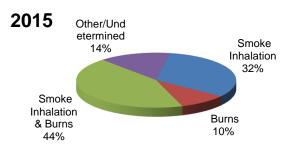
Just as in the previous year, fires attributed to electrical malfunction claimed more lives than fires resulting from other known causes. Sixteen fire victims, ranging in age from 6 to 87 years, died in eight electrical related residential fires with four of the eight fires claiming multiple lives. Those deaths accounted for just over 25 percent of the fire deaths, compared to over 14 percent of all fire deaths in 2014, and over 17 percent of all fire deaths in 2013.

Nine residential fires resulting from smoking related causes claimed nine lives with the victims ranging in age from 41 to 83 years

In 2015, combustibles too close to a heat source led to five deaths in three fires, including one triple-fatal that claimed the lives of a 17 year old male, a 39 year old female and a 45 year old male.

Four people died in three fires that were related to unattended cooking, in 2015, with ages ranging from 3 to 29 years. The causes of 16 fires in which 18 lives were lost have not been definitively determined or remain under investigation. Two separate fires that were intentionally set claimed the lives of two individuals. An unattended candle was determined to be the cause of a double-fatal that claimed the lives of a 9 year old girl and her 46 year old mother. Three lives in three fires were lost due to Suicide by fire. A boat explosion/fire resulted in the demise of a 2 year old girl.

CAUSE OF DEATH OF FIRE VICTIMS

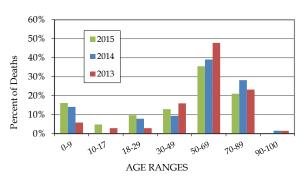


As in most previous years, the combination of smoke inhalation and burns was the cause of death reported most frequently for victims of fatal fires in 2015, claiming 27 lives.

Twenty victims of fatal fires died as the result of smoke inhalation, and six other fire victims succumbed as the result of burn injuries.

AGE OF FIRE DEATH VICTIMS

Thirteen children died in six fires during 2015. Fire victims younger than 18 years accounted for almost 21 percent of all fire deaths for the year, an increase from the nine victims who accounted for 14 percent of all fire deaths for 2014, and an increase of the six victims in 2013 who accounted for over 8 percent of the fire deaths that year.



A 2 year old boy succumbed to injuries received from a residential dwelling fire caused by a kerosene heater igniting combustibles. There were no working utilities at the time of the fire, and no smoke alarms were found. Two children and an adult male escaped the blaze. A multifatal fire in a non-sprinklered 16,386 sq. ft home claimed the lives of six victims, two adults and their four grandchildren. The cause was determined to have been an electrical failure that ignited combustibles, including a 15 foot aged cut Christmas tree. An undetermined fire in a 42' fifth wheel recreational camper claimed the life of an 11 year old girl. A 3 year old female died at the scene of a dwelling fire that was determined to have been caused by unattended cooking. A residential fire caused by unattended cooking resulted in the demise of a 4 year old girl; however, two siblings were successfully rescued. A boat explosion and fire claimed the life of a 2 year old girl who succumbed to her injuries three weeks after the incident. Victims aged 6 years and 68 years died in a residential fire caused by an overloaded extension cord. A 9 year old girl and her 46 year old mother succumbed to their injuries after being rescued from a residential fire which was caused by an unattended candle.

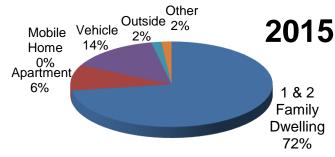
There were 14 victims in the 18 to 49 years age range in 2015, a slight increase when compared to the 11 victims in that age range in 2014, but just one less than the 13 victims in that age range reported in 2013. Victims in that age range accounted for a little over 22 percent of the total deaths in 2015, compared to 17 percent in 2014, and almost 19 percent of the deaths in 2013.

The number of fire death victims in the 50 to 69 years age range decreased in 2015, compared to 2014 and 2013. Twenty-two victims in that age range accounted for over one-third (35.5%) of the fire deaths in 2015, while 25 victims in that age range accounted for just over 39 percent of the deaths in 2014, and 33 victims in that age range accounted for almost 48 percent of the deaths in 2013.

The 13 fire death victims 70 and older represent a slight decrease over the number of deaths compared to the 19 such victims in 2014, and the 17 deaths reported in 2013. Those victims 70 years and older accounted for 21 percent of the fire deaths in 2015, compared to almost 30 percent of the fire deaths during 2014, and just over 26 percent of the fire deaths in 2013. Additionally, in 2015 there were no victims who were 90 or older compared to one victim in 2014, and one victim in 2013.

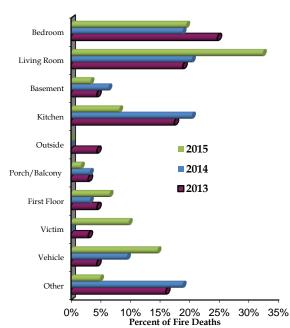
LOCATION OF FATAL FIRES

In 2015, as in other years, most fire deaths occurred in residential structures, including 45 deaths in one and two family dwellings, six victims of apartment fires, and no victims of mobile home fires. Residential fires accounted for 82 percent of the fire deaths in 2015, compared to 89 percent of the fire deaths in 2014, and 83 percent in 2013.



Nine vehicle-related fire deaths included males aged 19 years, 20 years, 21 years, 44 years, 59 years, and 70 years old; and females aged 2, 11 and 27 years old who died in separate fires. One fire fatality in the Outside category included the death of a 75 year old male caused by self-immolization. A 59 year old male perished in a shed fire that was intentionally set by the victim.

AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN



SMOKE ALARM PERFORMANCE

Twenty-one fatal residential structure fires occurred where the smoke alarms were known to function properly, but the fires still claimed the lives of 28 individuals (45 percent of total deaths in 2015). Three of those residential fires were multi-fatals with one fire claiming the lives of six victims (two adults and four children), and two fires resulting in double-fatalities.

There were no smoke alarms present in three fatal structure fires that killed five Maryland residents in 2015.

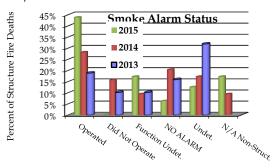
Another 11 people died in seven structure fires where the smoke alarms were present, but the operable status was undetermined. Six fires resulted in eight deaths where the presence of smoke alarms was unknown.

Twelve victims died in eight fires that originated in the bedroom during 2015, compared to 12 such victims in 2014, and 17 victims in 2013. Two of the bedroom fires were related to combustibles too close, with one fire claiming the lives of three victims. The remaining bedroom fire causes were as follows: three electrical related, with two fires resulting in double-fatals, two undetermined, and one fire was suicide related.

Twenty deaths resulted from 12 fires that started in the living room or family room area of the home in 2015, compared to 13 such deaths in ten fires in 2014, and 13 deaths in 11 fires in 2013. Victims of these fires ranged in age from 6 to 80 years. Four of the living room fires were multiple-fatals claiming the lives of 12 victims total. The multi-fatal fires included the loss of following: Electrical fire - two adults and four children, Electrical fire - two adults, Undetermined fire - one adult and one child, and Unattended candle fire - one adult and one child.

During 2015, four fires that originated in the kitchen area resulted in five deaths, compared to 13 deaths in 11 fires in 2014, and 12 deaths in seven fires in 2013 . Three of the four kitchen fires were caused by an unattended candle. One fire claimed the lives of two adult male victims, age 27 and 29, and the other two fires resulted in the deaths two girls aged 3 and 4. An undetermined kitchen fire claimed the life of a 61 year old man.

The remaining fires in the area of origin category can be summarized as follows: **Vehicle**-nine deaths/nine fires, **Victims**-Six deaths/six fires, **First Floor**-four deaths/three fires, **Porch**-one death/one fire, **Under Investigation**-one death/one fire, **Shed**-one death/one fire, **Basement**-one death in one fire, **Porch**-one death/one fire, and **Stairwell**-one death/one fire.

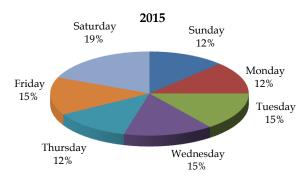


TIME OF FATAL FIRES

Consistent with most previous years, more fire deaths occurred in the late night and early morning hours than at other time of the day, and the hours between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. proved to be the most deadly eight-hour period in 2015.

The 26 fatal fires that started during those eight hours resulted in 38 deaths accounting for 61 percent of the 62 fire deaths for the year, compared to 2014 when 34 fatal fires lead to 40 deaths accounting for almost 73 percent of the 69 fire deaths that year. Seven of the nine multiple-death fires occurred during those hours in 2015.

DAY OF WEEK OF FATAL FIRES

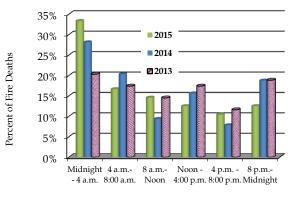


MONTH OF YEAR

The fall and winter months have often been the busiest months for fatal fires, and this proved true for 2015. More than 56 percent of the fire deaths resulted from fires that occurred in October through March when 25 fires claimed 35 lives.

April through September recorded 27 deaths in 23 fires which is more than 43 percent of the total deaths for the year.

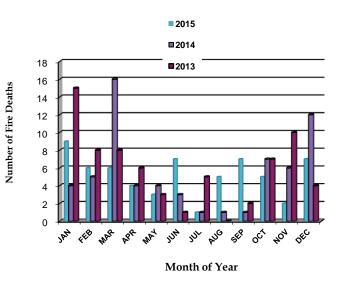
As illustrated in the adjacent graph, January was the deadliest month, with nine deaths in four fires, including one multiple-death fire that claimed the lives of two adults and four children.



Time of Day

In previous years, fatal fires have been more likely to occur over the weekend. However, the weekday (Monday - Thursday) proved to be more deadly in 2015 with 38 deaths in 26 fires compared to the weekend (Friday - Sunday) at 24 deaths in 22 fires.

Over half of the fatal fires occurred during the week day, which resulted in over 61 percent of the 62 fire deaths for the year. Thirty-eight people died from 26 fires that started on those days. Additionally, seven of the nine multiple-fatal fires in 2015 occurred during the week day.



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MULTIPLE-FATAL FIRES

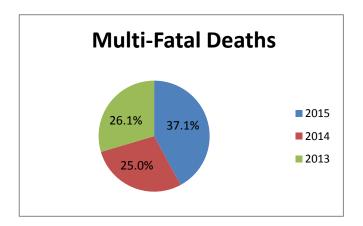
A multiple-fatal fire is an incident where a fire claims the lives of multiple victims. In comparison to previous years, 2015 showed an increase in the total number of multi-fatal fires which was nine fires or 18.8 percent of the 62 total fires for the year. During 2014, the percentage of multi-fatal fires was at 12.7 percent of the total fires for that year, and at 13.6% of the total fires for the year 2013.

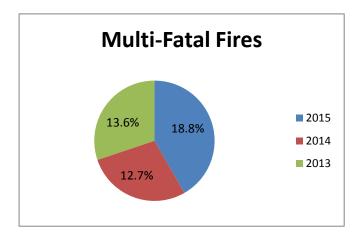
The months of September and October of 2015 proved to be the months with the most multi-fatal fires which totaled two multi-fatal fires in each. Even though only one multi-fatal fire was reported in January, it was the month that claimed the most multi-deaths in one incident claiming six lives.

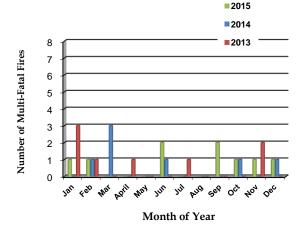
MULTIPLE DEATHS IN FATAL FIRES

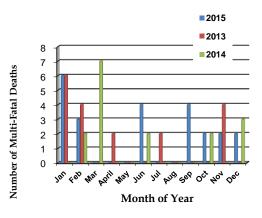
In 2015, the number of multi-deaths in fatal fires significantly increased in comparison to prior years to 23 or 37.1 percent of the 62 total deaths reported for the year. Multi-deaths in fatal fires in 2014 was recorded at 16 or 25.0 percent of the 64 total deaths and in 2013 was recorded at 18 or 21.1 percent of the 689 total deaths.

Multi-fatal fires claimed the lives of victims in 2015 as follows: January, six victims/one fire; February, three victims/one fire; June, four victims/two fires; September, four victims/two fires; October, two victims/one fire; November, two victims/one fire.



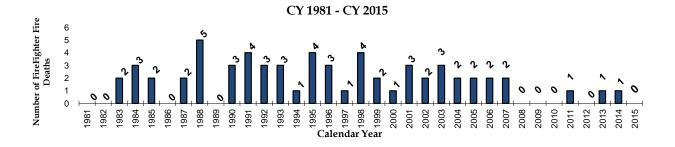




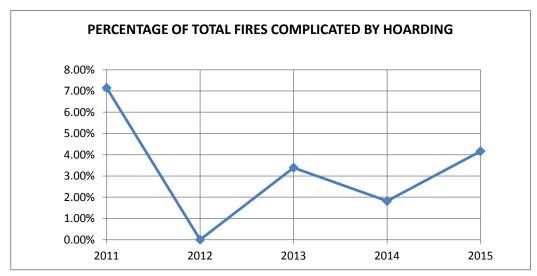


FIREFIGHTER FIRE DEATHS

The total number of Maryland firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty due to fire was reported at zero during 2015 which represents a slight decrease over the previous two years with reports of one death per year for 2014 and 2013. The Baltimore County firefighter who lost his life while battling a dwelling fire in 2013 was only 25 years old. Reports indicated that the fire scene was complicated by conditions of hoarding. In 2014, a Baltimore City Fire Safety Officer succumbed to smoke inhalation while on the job after entering a vacant home adjacent to a dwelling fire incident. The victim was 62 years old, and a 41 year veteran of the fire department.



FIRE FATALITY INCIDENTS WITH REPORTED CONDITIONS OF HOARDING



Hoarding conditions present hazards which can result in catastrophic fire related events that jeopardize the safety of all concerned including, but not limited to occupant(s) and emergency responders. The Office of the State Fire Marshal under the direction Fire Marshal Brian Geraci continues to educate the public regarding the dangers of hoarding. The following is a report summarization of fire related death incidents that were complicated by conditions of hoarding in the reporting years of 2011 through 2015.

Two victims lost their lives in two separate undetermined dwelling fires in 2015. One victim was a 74 year old female and the other victim was a 66 year old male. In 2014, a dwelling fire caused by an electrical malfunction claimed the life of a 50 year old female. During 2013, one undetermined double-fatal kitchen fire resulted in the loss of one 55 year old male occupant, and a 35 year old male firefighter. There were no conditions of hoarding reported during the 2012 reporting year. However, there were three fires resulting in four deaths in 2011, whereby conditions of hoarding were found.

Office of the State Fire Marshal FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND CY 2015

		FIRE CAUSE													EATHS	FATAL FIRES	
							E CAU	SE					Under	FIRE D	EATHS	FATAI	LFIKES
			Heating	Unattended Candle/		Arson/Ho micide		Open	Flamm.	Combust.	Veh/	Child	Invest/	Total	Percent of	Total	Percent
COUNTY	Smoking	Electrical	related	Incense	Cooking	Arson	Suicide	Flame	Liq/Vapors	too close	Plane Rel.	Play	Undet.	Deaths	Total	Fires	of Total
Allegany	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
Anne Arundel	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	12	19.4%	4	8.3%
Baltimore City	4	2	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	18	29.0%	16	33.3%
Baltimore County	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	8.1%	4	8.3%
Calvert	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	3.2%	2	4.2%
Caroline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cecil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
Charles	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	6.5%	3	6.3%
Dorchester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Frederick	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.2%	1	2.1%
Garrett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Harford	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.2%	2	4.2%
Howard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	3.2%	2	4.2%
Prince George's	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	9.7%	6	12.5%
Queen Anne's	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
St. Mary's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
Wicomico	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.6%	1	2.1%
Worcester	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3.2%	1	2.1%
TOTAL FIRE DEATHS	9	16	0	2	4	2	3	0	0	5	4	0	17	62	100%	48	100%
Column % of All Fire Death	15%	26%	0%	3%	6%	3%	5%	0%	0%	8%	6%	0%	27%				
TOTAL FATAL FIRES	14	8	1	3	1	4	4	3	0	7	2	1	10				
Column % of All Fatal Fires	29%	17%	2%	6%	2%	8%	8%	6%	0%	15%	4%	2%	21%		_		

FATAL FIRES IN MARYLAND CY 2015

		FIRE CAUSE												FATAL	FIRES	FIRE D	EATHS
COUNTY	Smoking	Electrical	Heating related	Unattended Candle/ Incense	Cooking	Arson/ Homicide	Suicide	Open Flame	Flamm. Liq/Vapors/	Combust.	Veh Plane Rel.	Child Play	Under Invest/ Undet.	Total Fires	Percent of Total	Total Deaths	Percent of Total
Allegany	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
Anne Arundel	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	8.3%	12	19.4%
Baltimore City	4	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	16	33.3%	18	29.0%
Baltimore County	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	8.3%	5	8.1%
Calvert	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	4.2%	2	3.2%
Caroline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cecil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
Charles	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	6.3%	4	6.5%
Dorchester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Frederick	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1%	2	3.2%
Garrett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Harford	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4.2%	2	3.2%
Howard	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	4.2%	2	3.2%
Prince George's	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	12.5%	6	9.7%
Queen Anne's	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
St. Mary's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Washington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
Wicomico	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1%	1	1.6%
Worcester	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.1%	2	3.2%
TOTAL FATAL FIRES	9	8	0	1	3	2	3	0	0	3	4	0	15	48	100%	62	100%
Column % of Total	19%	17%	0%	2%	6%	4%	6%	0%	0%	6%	8%	0%	31%				

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

	CY	2011	CY	2012	CY	2013	CY	2014	CY	2015
FIRE CAUSE	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total								
Smoking Related/Probable	9	13.4%	6	11.1%	15	21.7%	7	10.9%	13	21.0%
Electrical Malfunction/Probable	10	14.9%	6	11.1%	12	17.4%	9	14.1%	16	25.8%
Combustibles too close	7	10.4%	14	25.9%	8	11.6%	5	7.8%	5	8.1%
Vehicle/Plane Crash	5	7.5%	4	7.4%	2	2.9%	5	7.8%	3	4.8%
Cooking Related	3	4.5%	2	3.7%	1	1.4%	6	9.4%	4	6.5%
Heating Related	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	5	7.8%	0	0.0%
Arson/Arson Homicide	1	1.5%	2	3.7%	6	8.7%	0	0.0%	2	3.2%
Open Flame	2	3.0%	1	1.9%	3	4.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Flammable Liquid/Vapors	1	1.5%	3	5.6%	0	0.0%	2	3.1%	0	0.0%
Candles/Incense	3	4.5%	0	0.0%	3	4.3%	3	4.7%	2	3.2%
Suicide Arson	8	11.9%	2	3.7%	3	4.3%	4	6.3%	Category S	Sub-Divided
Suicide/Incendiary		Cat	egory create	ed in 2015 f	or further in	n-depth anal	ysis		1	1.6%
Suicide/Self-Immoliz.		Cat	egory create	ed in 2015 f	or further in	n-depth anal	ysis		2	3.2%
Suicide/Homicide/Arson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Child Playing	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.6%
Undetermined/Unknown	16	23.9%	14	25.9%	12	17.4%	18	28.1%	13	21.0%
TOTAL DEATHS	67	100.0%	54	100.0%	69	100.0%	64	100.0%	62	100.0%
*Heating Includes:										
Kerosene/Propane Heater	0		0		1		3		0	
Space/Bsbrd Heater	0		0		0		0		0	
Furnace	0		0		0		1		0	
Gas Fireplace	0		0		0		1		0	
Faulty Chimney/Flue	0		0		0		0		0	
DEATH CAUSE										
Smoke Inhalation & Burns	33	49.3%	29	53.7%	35	50.7%	27	42.2%	28	45.2%
Smoke Inhalation	17	25.4%	7	13.0%	16	23.2%	22	34.4%	20	35.5%
Burns	16	23.9%	13	24.1%	13	18.8%	12	18.8%	6	9.7%
Other	1	1.5%	5	9.3%	5	7.2%	3	4.7%	6	9.7%
SEX OF VICTIM										
	44	04.00/	00	55.00/	40	00.00/	40	05.00/		45.00/
Male Female	41 26	61.2% 38.8%	30 24	55.6% 44.4%	42 27	60.9% 39.1%	42 22	65.6% 34.4%	28 34	45.2% 54.8%
· Gridio		00.070		, o		301170		0 70		0
AGE OF VICTIM										
0 -9	5	7.5%	12	22.2%	4	5.8%	9	14.1%	10	16.1%
10 - 17	3	4.5%	3	5.6%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	3	4.8%
18 - 29	2	3.0%	4	7.4%	2	2.9%	5	7.8%	6	9.7%
30 - 49	15	22.4%	8	14.8%	11	15.9%	6	9.4%	8	12.9%
50 - 69	24	35.8%	14	25.9%	33	47.8%	25	39.1%	22	35.5%
70 - 89	13	19.4%	9	16.7%	16	23.2%	18	28.1%	13	21.0%
90 - 100	3	4.5%	3	5.6%	1	1.4%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%
Unknown	2	3.0%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

	CY 2	2011	CY 2012		CY 2	2013	CY 2	2014	CY 2015		
LOCATION OF FIRE	Number of Percent of Deaths Total		Number of Deaths	Percent of Total							
Home	48	71.6%	33	61.1%	43	62.3%	50	78.1%	45	72.6%	
Apartment	4	6.0%	9	16.7%		17.4%	4	6.3%		9.7%	
Mobile Home/Trailer	1	1.5%	2	3.7%	2	2.9%	3	4.7%	0	0.0%	
Outside	4	6.0%	6	11.1%	5	7.2%	3	4.7%	1	1.6%	
Vehicle/Road	10	14.9%	4	7.4%	3	4.3%	3	4.7%	9	14.5%	
Hotel/Nursing Home/Hosp.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	
Commercial/Other Structure	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	4.3%	1	1.6%	1	1.6%	
TOTAL DEATHS	67	100.0%	54	100.0%	69	100.0%	64	100.0%	62	100.0%	

AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN										
Bedroom	10	14.9%	12	22.2%	17	24.6%	12	18.8%	12	19.4%
Living/Great/Family Room	13	19.4%	11	20.4%	13	18.8%	13	20.3%	20	32.3%
Kitchen	5	7.5%	7	13.0%	12	17.4%	13	20.3%	5	8.1%
Outside/Yard	2	3.0%	4	7.4%	3	4.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Vehicle	10	14.9%	5	9.3%	3	4.3%	6	9.4%	9	14.5%
Basement/Utility Room	6	9.0%	6	11.1%	3	4.3%	4	6.3%	2	3.2%
1st Floor	5	7.5%	0	0.0%	3	4.3%	2	3.1%	4	6.5%
Porch/Balcony/Deck/Garage	0	0.0%	1	1.9%	2	2.9%	2	3.1%	1	1.6%
Shed/Out-Building	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.6%
Victim	5	7.5%	3	5.6%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	6	9.7%
Dining Room	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%	3	4.7%	0	0.0%
Laundry Room	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Bathroom	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%
Hallway/Entrance/Foyer/Stair	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	1	1.6%	1	1.6%
Other/Under Inv	9	13.4%	5	9.3%	6	8.7%	7	10.9%	1	1.6%

SMOKE ALARM STATUS	IN FIRES									
Present/Operated	19	28.4%	12	22.2%	13	18.8%	18	28.1%	28	45.2%
Present/Did Not Operate	4	6.0%	5	9.3%	5	7.2%	10	15.6%	0	0.0%
Present/Function Undetermine	0	0.0%	2	3.7%	7	10.1%	6	9.4%	11	17.7%
NO ALARM PRESENT	10	14.9%	15	27.8%	11	15.9%	13	20.3%	4	6.5%
Fire too Small/Non-Structure	14	20.9%	11	20.4%	11	15.9%	6	9.4%	11	17.7%
Undetermined	20	29.9%	9	16.7%	22	31.9%	11	17.2%	8	12.9%
TOTAL FIRE DEATHS	67	100.0%	54	100.0%	69	100.0%	64	100.0%	62	100.0%

Office of the State Fire Marshal FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

	CY 2	2011	CY 2	2012	CY 2	2013	CY 2	2014	CY 2	2015
TIME OF ALARM	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total								
0001 - 0159	8	11.9%	4	7.4%	5	7.2%	6	9.4%	11	17.7%
0200 - 0359	15	22.4%	9	16.7%	9	13.0%	12	18.8%	16	25.8%
0400 - 0559	7	10.4%	9	16.7%	9	13.0%	13	20.3%	8	12.9%
0600 - 0759	4	6.0%	2	3.7%	3	4.3%	0	0.0%	1	1.6%
0800 - 0959	8	11.9%	4	7.4%	6	8.7%	3	4.7%	3	4.8%
1000 - 1159	4	6.0%	3	5.6%	4	5.8%	3	4.7%	6	9.7%
1200 - 1359	2	3.0%	5	9.3%	9	13.0%	5	7.8%	1	1.6%
1400 - 1559	3	4.5%	1	1.9%	3	4.3%	5	7.8%	5	8.1%
1600 - 1759	5	7.5%	4	7.4%	3	4.3%	4	6.3%	2	3.2%
1800 - 1959	1	1.5%	7	13.0%	5	7.2%	1	1.6%	3	4.8%
2000 - 2159	5	7.5%	1	1.9%	1	1.4%	3	4.7%	3	4.8%
2200 - 2400	5	7.5%	5	9.3%	12	17.4%	9	14.1%	3	4.8%
TOTAL DEATHS	67	100.0%	54	100.0%	69	100.0%	64	100.0%	62	100.0%

DAY OF WEEK										
Sunday	13	19.4%	8	14.8%	14	20.3%	7	10.9%	7	11.3%
Monday	3	4.5%	8	14.8%	9	13.0%	11	17.2%	14	22.6%
Tuesday	12	17.9%	1	1.9%	8	11.6%	3	4.7%	9	14.5%
Wednesday	12	17.9%	12	22.2%	13	18.8%	7	10.9%	9	14.5%
Thursday	12	17.9%	7	13.0%	17	24.6%	12	18.8%	6	9.7%
Friday	7	10.4%	10	18.5%	4	5.8%	12	18.8%	7	11.3%
Saturday	8	11.9%	8	14.8%	4	5.8%	12	18.8%	10	16.1%

FIRE FATALITIES	BY MONT	H								
January	11	16.4%	7	13.0%	15	21.7%	4	6.3%	9	14.5%
February	3	4.5%	6	11.1%	8	11.6%	5	7.8%	6	9.7%
March	4	6.0%	5	9.3%	8	11.6%	16	25.0%	6	9.7%
April	6	9.0%	2	3.7%	6	8.7%	4	6.3%	4	6.5%
May	1	1.5%	1	1.9%	3	4.3%	4	6.3%	3	4.8%
June	3	4.5%	1	1.9%	1	1.4%	3	4.7%	7	11.3%
July	1	1.5%	4	7.4%	5	7.2%	1	1.6%	1	1.6%
August	7	10.4%	5	9.3%	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	5	8.1%
September	7	10.4%	3	5.6%	2	2.9%	1	1.6%	7	11.3%
October	1	1.5%	8	14.8%	7	10.1%	7	10.9%	5	8.1%
November	16	23.9%	6	11.1%	10	14.5%	6	9.4%	2	3.2%
December	7	10.4%	6	11.1%	4	5.8%	12	18.8%	7	11.3%

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

COUNTY	CY 2011	CY 2012	CY 2013	CY 2014	CY 2015	5-Year Average	Percent of State Total	FIRE DEATH RATE*
Allegany	5	2	1	3	1	2.4	3.8%	3.2
Anne Arundel	1	7	4	2	12	5.2	8.2%	1.0
Baltimore City	17	12	21	18	18	17.2	27.2%	2.8
Baltimore County	10	7	5	5	5	6.4	10.1%	0.8
Calvert	0	0	2	1	2	1.0	1.6%	1.1
Caroline	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0
Carroll	1	0	2	4	0	1.4	2.2%	0.8
Cecil	0	1	1	3	1	1.2	1.9%	1.2
Charles	1	0	1	0	4	1.2	1.9%	0.8
Dorchester	0	2	1	0	0	0.6	0.9%	1.8
Frederick	2	1	3	0	2	1.6	2.5%	0.6
Garrett	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	0.3%	0.7
Harford	3	3	0	0	2	1.6	2.5%	0.7
Howard	1	0	1	3	0	1.0	1.6%	0.3
Kent	0	0	0	2	1	0.6	0.9%	3.0
Montgomery	4	3	4	8	2	4.2	6.6%	0.4
Prince George's	16	10	15	5	6	10.4	16.5%	1.2
Queen Anne's	3	0	0	1	1	1.0	1.6%	2.1
St. Mary's	0	1	1	1	0	0.6	0.9%	0.6
Somerset	0	1	0	1	1	0.6	0.9%	2.3
Talbot	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	0.3%	0.5
Washington	1	3	2	2	1	1.8	2.8%	1.2
Wicomico	1	0	1	5	1	1.6	2.5%	1.6
Worcester	1	1	2	0	2	1.2	1.9%	2.3
TOTAL FIRE DEATHS	67	54	69	64	62	63	100.0%	1.09

FIRE DEATH RATE**

1.16

0.92

1.20

1.11 1.07

1.09

^{**} Rates are based on the 2010 U.S. census

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

			20	13					20	14					20	15		
	Multi-Fatal Fires	Total Fires	% Multi- Fatal Fires	Multi-Fatal Dths	Total Deaths	% Multi- Fatal Deaths	Multi-Fatal Fires	Total Fires	% Multi- Fatal Fires	Multi-Fatal Dths	Total Deaths	% Multi- Fatal Deaths	Multi-Fatal Fires	Total Fires	% Multi- Fatal Fires	Multi-Fatal Dths	Total Deaths	% Multi- Fatal Deaths
Jan	3	12	25.0%	6	15	40.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	1	4	25.0%	6	9	66.7%
Feb	1	6	16.7%	4	8	50.0%	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%	1	4	25.0%	3	6	50.0%
Mar	0	8	0.0%	0	8	0.0%	3	12	25.0%	7	16	43.8%	0	6	0.0%	0	6	0.0%
April	1	5	20.0%	2	6	33.3%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%
May	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%
Jun	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	1	2	50.0%	2	3	66.7%	2	5	40.0%	4	7	57.1%
Jul	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%
Aug	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	5	0.0%	0	5	0.0%
Sep	0	2	0.0%	0	2	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	2	5	40.0%	4	7	57.1%
Oct	0	6	0.0%	0	7	0.0%	1	6	16.7%	2	7	28.6%	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%
Nov	2	8	25.0%	4	10	40.0%	0	6	0.0%	0	6	0.0%	1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%
Dec	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	1	10	10.0%	3	12	25.0%	1	6	16.7%	2	7	28.6%
TOTAL	8	59	13.6%	18	69	26.1%	7	55	12.7%	16	64	25.0%	9	48	18.8%	23	62	37.1%