

**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**



**January - December  
2018**

**OFFICE OF THE MARYLAND STATE FIRE MARSHAL**  
**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**  
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**The fire deaths reported in Maryland during 2018 represent no increase over the previous year.** The 71 deaths in 62 fires reported in 2018 represent a zero percent death increase over the 71 deaths in 54 fires in 2017, and a 4.4 percent death increase over the 68 deaths in 56 fires in 2016.

**ALLEGANY COUNTY** - During January through December 2018, Allegany County reported one fire death compared to no fire deaths reported in 2017, and three fire deaths reported in 2016 for the same period. An 82 year old physically disabled female sustained second and third degree burn injuries resulting from the circuit failure of an electric blanket, which subsequently ignited the victim's clothing and the reclining chair she was sitting in during the incident. The victim was transported to a local burn center where she later succumbed to her injuries.

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY** - Anne Arundel County reported in the twelve month period of 2018, six fire deaths in four fires representing an increase compared to the three fire deaths resulting from two fires in 2017, and a significant increase compared to the two fire deaths in two fires reported in 2016. A triple-fatal fire in a board and care facility claimed the lives of two males, ages 44 years and 61 years old, and a 65 year old female. The cause of the fire was cited as an electrical failure located in one of the bedrooms, with smoke alarms reported as working at the time of the blaze. An 84 year old female perished in a cooking related kitchen fire, with working smoke alarms found in the home. An undetermined residential fire that started in the living room area of the home resulted in the demise of an 86 year old female who succumbed to her injuries after being transported to a local medical center. The presence of working smoke alarms during the fire were confirmed by investigators. An unconscious 52 year old male was transported to a local burn center after being extricated by rescuers from a residential dwelling fire which started in the living space of the home. The victim succumbed to his injuries a short time later, with the cause of the fire remaining undetermined.

**BALTIMORE CITY** - The 13 deaths in 11 fatal fires reported by Baltimore City for 2018 represent an almost 60 percent decrease in comparison to the 30 fire deaths reported in 2017, and a notable decrease compared to the 16 fire deaths reported in 2016 during the same period. Two unrelated double-fatal fires were reported by the City claiming the lives of two children and two adults . The first double-fatal fire started in a residential second floor bedroom, and was determined to have been caused by combustibles piled on top of an electrical extension cord. Casualties included a one year old infant and a two year old toddler who succumbed to their injuries after being transported to a local medical facility, with reports of non-working smoke alarms found at the scene by investigators. Unattended candles/incense was to blame for the second double-fatal fire in which a 55 year old male and an 81 year old female perished, with the presence of smoke alarms reported as undetermined. A smoking related fire that originated on the porch of a board and care facility resulted in the death of a 74 year old male who sustained burn injuries from the blaze. The victim was wheelchair bound at the time of the incident, and succumbed to his burn injuries several months after the fire. A dwelling fire that started in the dining room area was reportedly caused by combustibles too close to a fire source resulting in the demise of a 49 year old male. There were no working smoke alarms found in the home. An undetermined residential fire resulted in the loss of life for a 69 year old male who was found deceased by rescuers in a second floor bedroom. The porch was the point of fire origin, and working smoke alarms were found at the scene. Careless smoking resulted in the death of a 58 year old male. The basement was the initial point of fire origin as well as the location where the victim was found by firefighters, with reports of non-working smoke alarms found in the residence.

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**BALTIMORE CITY (CONTINUED)** - A 93 year old male succumbed to his injuries following being extricated by rescue personnel from his burning home. The fire was determined to have been caused by an electrical failure event occurring in the dining room area. Investigators reported that smoke alarms found at the scene may not have been working properly during the blaze. A residential cooking related kitchen fire claimed the life of a 42 year old female, with reports of non-operating smoke alarms and conditions of hoarding found at the scene. Additionally, at the time of the fire, the victim reportedly ambulated with a walker. A 37 year old female perished in a dwelling fire that originated in the bedroom after engaging in illegal drug activity. The fire investigation revealed there were no smoke alarms found in the home. A deceased 55 year old male was located by rescuers upon entry into a residential structure fire, with conditions of hoarding reported by firefighters. The cause of the fire was determined to have been smoking related complicated by the victim's use of home oxygen, and no smoke alarms were found at the scene. A fire originating in the basement of a single family dwelling resulted in the demise of a 59 year old male. No smoke alarms were found in the residence, with the cause of the fire reported as electrical failure.

**BALTIMORE COUNTY** - Baltimore County reported 12 deaths in 11 fires during the twelve months of 2018, almost mirroring the 12 fire deaths reported during that time in 2017, and a notable increase from the six fire deaths in 2016. A residential fire claimed the life of a 51 year old male and a 97 year old female. The investigation revealed the fire started on the enclosed porch of the home, with the smoke alarm status reported as undetermined. A fire that started in the bathroom of a single family dwelling was caused by an electrical failure, claiming the life of an 89 year old male who died at the scene. The presence of working smoke alarms during the blaze could not be confirmed. A 39 year old male succumbed to his injuries at a local medical center after being rescued from his burning home by firefighters. The victim's escape may have been hampered by his challenge to fully ambulate due to a previous foot amputation. A second victim sustained non-life threatening injuries with his survival being attributed to the presence of working smoke alarms in the home. Investigators determined the cause of the fire to be an electrical failure within the kitchen area of the residence. A cooking related residential fire resulted in the death of a 24 year old male who was found deceased in the living area of the home by rescuers, with reports of operating smoke alarms found on the scene. No smoke alarms were found at the scene of a residential structure fire determined to have been caused by an electrical malfunction in the computer room area of the home. A 68 year old male, who ambulated with a cane at times, lost his life in the blaze. A motel room fire caused by careless smoking resulted in the demise of a 61 year old female guest of the motel, with the presence of operating smoke alarms confirmed by investigators. An 86 year old male burn victim sustained fatal burn injuries after catching his pajamas on fire while reaching across a lit candle. A residential fire caused by an electrical failure in the joist space between the basement and first floor claimed the life of a 75 year old female who was found deceased in the home, with the presence of smoke alarms reported as undetermined. A townhouse fire determined to have been caused by careless smoking while on home oxygen resulted in the death of a 69 year old female. The victim reportedly had limited mobility due to a chronic health issue, with evidence of hoarding and non-working smoke alarms found at the scene. An apartment fire that started in the bedroom resulted in the loss of life of a 33 year old male. Investigators ruled the cause of the fire as accidental due to a floor lamp igniting combustibles and furniture after falling on a chair. An 88 year old male succumbed to his injuries after being rescued by firefighters from his burning home. The fire was discovered by the mailman who witnessed the fire while at the front of the residence. Investigators deemed the cause of the fire as smoking related, with working smoke alarms found at the scene.

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**CALVERT COUNTY** - There was one fire death reported in Calvert County during 2018, and no fire deaths reported during the years of 2017 or 2016. A residential kitchen fire determined to have been caused by an electrical failure resulted in the demise of a 70 year old male. Smoke alarms were found at the scene, but investigators could not confirm if they were in working order during the fire.

**CAROLINE COUNTY** - Caroline County reported in 2018, one fire death compared to no fire deaths in 2017, and one fire death in 2016. A 63 year old male perished in an undetermined apartment fire that started in the living room area of the residence. The working status of smoke alarms found at the scene could not be confirmed as operational during the incident.

**CARROLL COUNTY** - During the twelve months in 2018, Carroll County reported three fire deaths, compared to two fire deaths in 2017, and two fire deaths in 2016. An act of suicide claimed the life of a 40 year old female after the victim locked herself in a bedroom within the home and intentionally set the room ablaze. Rescuers responded to an apartment fire, extinguished the fire, and subsequently found a 58 year old deceased male inside the remaining structure. The status of working smoke alarms and the fire cause remains undetermined, with the probable cause cited as smoking while using home oxygen. While battling an undetermined apartment fire, firefighters located a 47 year old deceased female in a bedroom area of the structure. The fire investigation confirmed the presence of working smoke alarms during the blaze.

**CECIL COUNTY** - Between the time span of January and December 2018, Cecil County reported one fire death, compared to no fire deaths in 2017, and three fire deaths in 2016. A fire in a residential out building being utilized as living quarters claimed the life of a 53 year old male. No smoke alarms were present during the incident, and the cause of the fire was reported as undetermined by investigators.

**CHARLES COUNTY** - There were three fire deaths reported in Charles County during 2018, compared to four fire deaths in 2017, and three fire deaths in 2016 for the same time duration. A 50 year old male perished in an undetermined residential fire that started in the bedroom. The victim was discovered under the kitchen area table by firefighters following extinguishment of the blaze, and working smoke alarms were found at the scene. Suicide/self-immolation was the reported cause of death for a 36 year old male who was found deceased on a bike trail located behind a middle school. Careless smoking was the cause of a motel fire resulting in the death of an 84 year old female. Upon arrival, law enforcement attempted to rescue the victim, but entry efforts were unsuccessful due to heavy smoke and heat. Investigators confirmed the presence of working smoke alarms during the incident.

**DORCHESTER COUNTY** - January through December 2018 and 2017, Dorchester reported no fire deaths, compared to one fire death in 2016.

**FREDERICK COUNTY** - During the calendar year 2018, Frederick County reported one fire death, compared to no fire deaths in 2017, and two fire deaths reported in 2016 for the same period. A 78 year old male succumbed to his injuries following a residential basement fire that was reportedly caused by a lightning strike, with working smoke alarms found in the home.

**GARRETT COUNTY** - Garrett County reported no fire deaths in reporting year 2018 and 2017, compared to one fire death in 2016.

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**HARFORD COUNTY** - Between the reporting months, January through December 2018 and 2017, Harford County reported no fire deaths, in comparison to the same period in 2016 where there were three reported fire deaths.

**HOWARD COUNTY** - In the time period of January through December 2018, Howard County reported three fire deaths, compared to one fire death reported in 2017 and one reported in 2016. A vehicle crash and subsequent fire resulted in the demise of a 21 year old male after the victim lost control of the vehicle, hit a tree and then became entrapped as the car caught fire from the impact. A 70 year old male perished after setting himself on fire while sitting in the driver's seat of his automobile. A firefighter, age 34, lost his life while battling a residential estate fire reportedly caused by a lightning strike that initially struck the outdoor environment and spread to the crawl space area within the home. Incident reports revealed upon arrival of emergency personnel on the scene, rescue crews entered the burning structure from the first floor level encountering very high heat and smoke conditions inside, and while attempting to locate the fire, a firefighter had fallen through the first floor into the lower level area where he became trapped. Rescue efforts by the Rapid Intervention Teams were hindered by the heavy fire conditions. After the downed firefighter was found and extricated, CPR was initiated immediately, but despite resuscitation efforts, the firefighter was pronounced deceased at a local medical center.

**KENT COUNTY** - There were no fire deaths reported in Kent County during the twelve months of 2018, 2017 and 2016.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY** - Three fire deaths were reported in Montgomery County for the twelve months of 2018, compared to four fire deaths reported in 2017, and six fire deaths reported in 2016 for the same reporting period. An 80 year old male perished after falling on top of a burning brush pile in the back yard of his residence. The victim was reported as being unsteady on his feet, ambulating with a cane and recuperating from a recent surgery during the time of the incident. A double fatal residential fire claimed the lives of two adult males, age 61 and 94 years old. The fire cause remains undetermined, and the smoke alarm status was reported as present with activation unknown.

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY** - Twelve fires claimed the lives of 14 people in Prince George's County during the twelve months of 2018, which revealed an increase compared to 2017 where there were eight deaths in six fires, and an increase for the same time period in 2016 with 11 deaths in eight fires reported. A double-fatal residential fire starting in the bedroom claimed the lives of two female victims, ages 75 and 80 years old. Reports revealed that excessive storage conditions hampered the rescue efforts of firefighters. The cause of the fire and the existence of smoke alarms both remain undetermined. An additional unrelated double-fatal fire resulted in the deaths of two adults, an 87 year old male and an 83 year old female. The bedroom was the reported fire point of origin, with the smoke alarm status and fire cause reported as undetermined. An undetermined residential fire that started in the bedroom of the home resulted in the demise of an 84 year old female, with reports of no smoke alarms found at the scene. A 70 year old male succumbed to his injuries at a local medical center after being rescued from a fire in his home. The cause of the fire remains undetermined, with the presence of smoke alarms not confirmed. Residents next door to a duplex fire contacted 911 after hearing activated smoke alarms within the neighboring residence. A 50 year old deceased male was located during firefighting operations, and the cause remains undetermined at this time. A 35 year old female perished in an undetermined fire that started in the staircase of the home, with the smoke alarm status reported as undetermined.

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**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY (CONTINUED)** - An undetermined hotel fire resulted in the death of a 36 year old male. Several prescribed medications were revealed by toxicology, but the cause of death was ruled as smoke inhalation. A single vehicle crash and subsequent fire claimed the life of a 38 year old female who suffered smoke inhalation and thermal burns. A residential basement fire claimed the life of a 77 year old female. Investigators reported the fire cause as undetermined, and confirmed the presence of smoke alarms at the scene, but with questionable functionality. Firefighters responded to an undetermined dwelling fire and found an unconscious female, age 65, just inside the front door of the home, who later succumbed to her injuries at a local medical center. Apparently, the front egress contained two dead bolted doors that required a key to unlock from the inside and/or outside of both exit ways. The victim had successfully unlocked the wood framed door, but became entrapped between two doors when she could not unlock the plexiglassed, outer iron barred storm door. The fire started in the basement of the home, with non-operating smoke alarms found at the scene. A fully loaded dump truck crashed into a tree and erupted into flames resulting in the death of a 47 year old male who became entrapped in the cab of the vehicle. A 51 year old male succumbed to burn injuries sustained when flammable liquid vapors erupted, and subsequently a gas tank caught fire. The fire was caused by the victim's efforts to remove a vehicle gas tank while too close to an active burn barrel at an auto parts store.

**QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY** - During the twelve months of 2018, Queen Anne's County reported no fire deaths, compared to two fire deaths in 2017, and one fire death in 2016 during the same period.

**ST. MARY'S COUNTY** - St. Mary's County reported three fire deaths in 2018, one fire death in 2017, and no fire deaths in 2016 for the same reporting period. A double-fatal fire resulted in the demise of two toddlers, a 3 year old boy and a 2 year old girl. Four other occupants survived the blaze after being treated at local medical centers. The fire remains undetermined at this time, with the investigation revealing that non-working smoke alarms were found at the scene. Ignited flammable liquid vapors was the reported cause of a vehicle fire which resulted in the death of a 90 year old male. The investigation revealed that the victim placed a full gasoline container in the cargo area of his vehicle, returned to his vehicle after shopping, proceeded to light a cigarette, thereby igniting the fumes released from the gas container which started the fire.

**SOMERSET COUNTY** - One fire death was revealed by Somerset County in the reporting period January through December 2018, compared to one fire death in 2017, and three fire deaths revealed in 2016 for the same time frame. A vehicle crash and subsequent fire resulted in the death of a 58 year old male who was driving a box truck that swerved, crossed a median pathway, and struck several trees before bursting into flames.

**TALBOT COUNTY** - Talbot County reported two fire deaths during the reporting period January through December 2018, and no fire deaths in 2017 and 2016 for the same time period. Self-immolation resulted in the death of a 79 year old male after he succumbed to his injuries at a Maryland burn center. A 61 year old male perished in an undetermined residential fire that started in a bedroom area of the home, with reports of no smoke alarms discovered at the scene. Additionally, an 85 year old occupant sustained life threatening injuries from the incident and was transported to a burn center where she reportedly recovered from her injuries.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY** - Reporting periods January through December 2018, revealed three fire deaths in Washington County, equally comparable to three fire deaths reported in 2017, and one fire death in 2016 for the same period. A two year old female perished in a residential fire after being located by firefighters in the finished basement area of the home. At the time of the fire the child was being cared for by a babysitter whose parents owned the residence. The cause of the fire remains undetermined at this time.

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**WASHINGTON COUNTY (CONTINUED)** - An apartment fire caused by a pinched electrical cord placed under a box fan in the living area of the residence resulted in the death of a 69 year old male who succumbed to his burn injuries while being treated at a burn center. Investigators confirmed the presence of working smoke alarms at the scene. A 37 year old female was transferred to a local burn center where she succumbed to her injuries sustained in a vehicle fire. The victim's two daughters recovered from their injuries at a pediatric medical center. The victim was driving a 1991 two-door Jeep Wrangler when it caught fire. The electrical wiring harness within the vehicle was the reported cause of the blaze.

**WICOMICO COUNTY** - During the twelve months of 2018 and 2017, Wicomico County reported no fire deaths, in comparison to two fire deaths reported in 2016 for the same period.

**WORCESTER COUNTY** - The entire 2018 year revealed no fire deaths in Worcester County, along with no fire deaths in 2017 and 2016 during the same time duration.

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**THE YEAR IN REVIEW/OVERVIEW** - The twelve months of 2018 proved to be an almost equally notable period in relation to fire deaths when compared to the previous year for the same time period. Sixty-two fires resulted in 71 fire deaths compared to previous years as follows: 2017 - 71 fire deaths, 2016 - 68 fire deaths, 2015 - 64 fire deaths, and 2014 - 64 fire deaths reported. A summary recap by county of the fire deaths in 2018 can be found below. The comparison of fire death statistics by county utilizing population census data can be found on page 20 and 21 of this report.

**Prince George's County** reported the most fire deaths of the 24 reporting jurisdictions in Maryland for this annual review period, incurring 14 deaths in 12 fires. In comparison to the previous reporting year, Prince George's County ranked third highest in 2017, revealing eight deaths in six fires. Two unrelated fires of the 12 reported fires in 2018 resulted in double fatalities totaling four deaths, with one double-fatal investigation reporting conditions of hoarding at the scene. Only two of the nine residential fires reported working smoke alarms during the fire related incidents.

**Baltimore City** ranked second next to Prince George's County reporting 13 deaths in 11 fires for the entire year of 2018. In 2017, Baltimore City reported the most fire deaths of any county at 30 deaths in 19 fires, which was significantly higher in comparison to 2018. Two unrelated double-fatal fires were reported in 2018 which claimed the lives of four victims. In 2018, conditions of hoarding were reported by rescuers at two of the fires, and three fire deaths involved victim's with physical limitations. Working smoke alarms were confirmed at the scene in only one fire.

**Baltimore County** came in third after Prince George's and Baltimore City reporting 12 deaths in 11 fires for January through June 2018. Baltimore County reported ten fires resulting in 12 deaths for the previous year of 2017, placing second overall for the State at that time. In 2018, the investigations revealed the existence of operating smoke alarms were confirmed in only five fires out of the 11 total fires reported. One of the 11 fires resulted in a double-fatal, two of the fires involved conditions of hoarding, and four fire death victims presented with physical limitations during the incidents.

**Dorchester County, Garrett County, Harford County, Kent County, Queen Anne's, Wicomico County and Worcester County** reported ZERO fire deaths in 2018, totaling seven counties reporting no fire deaths. In 2017, for the same period, 12 counties reported no fire deaths, which is a decrease for 2018 when comparing the two reporting years.

The remaining counties reported fire deaths as follows: **Allegany** - one death in one fire; **Anne Arundel** - six deaths in four fires; **Calvert** - one death in one fire; **Caroline County** - one death in one fire; **Carroll County** - three deaths in three fires; **Cecil County** - one death in one fire; **Charles County** - three deaths in three fires; **Frederick County** - one death in one fire; **Howard County** - three death in three fires; **Montgomery County** - three deaths in two fires; **St. Mary's County** - three deaths in two fires; **Somerset County** - one death in one fire; **Talbot County** - two deaths in two fires and **Washington County** - three deaths in three fires.

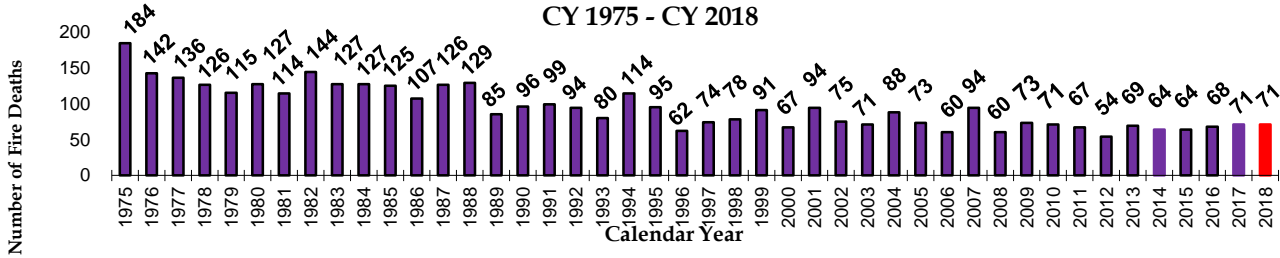
During the twelve month period of 2018, County jurisdictions reported a total of 14 deaths (20%) in 14 fires (23%) which involved victims who were physically disabled or physically limited. A summary of the physical disabilities and/or physical limitations were reported by fire investigators as follows: Ambulated with Walker/Cane - 6 Victims ; Ambulation Challenges, Foot Amputee - 1 Victim; Ambulation Challenges, Poor Eye Sight - 1 Victim; ; Health Issues, Stroke - 1 Victim - Health Issues, Home Oxygen Use - 4 Victims; and Wheelchair Bound - 1 Victim.

Following is a summary of the fire deaths reported to the Maryland State Fire Marshal during the twelve months of 2018. Also included are summary tables of fire deaths for reporting years 2014 through 2018. The number of fire deaths in Maryland, by county, for the five-year period 2014 through 2018 are listed on page 20.



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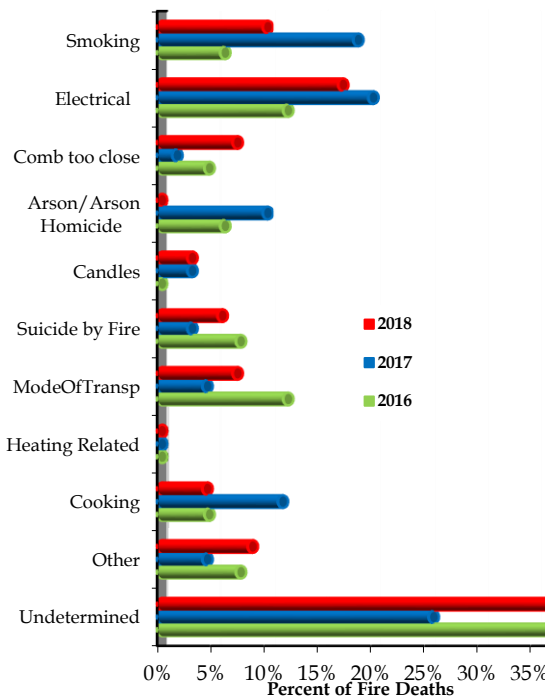
The fire deaths reported in Maryland during 2018 remain equally consistent in comparison to the previous year. The 71 deaths in 62 fires in 2018 represent a zero percent death increase over the 71 deaths in 54 fires reported in 2017, and a 4.4 percent increase over the 68 deaths in 56 fires in 2016.



In recent years, the number of fire fatalities reported to the State Fire Marshal's Office have continued to fluctuate to a small degree averaging almost 68 fire deaths per year from 2014 through 2018. Fire deaths in the State have remained below 100 each year for the past 24 years (1995 to 2018), as illustrated in the above graph. During that time, there has been an approximate average of 73 fire deaths a year. Previously, from 1975 to 1994, fire fatalities in Maryland averaged 120 deaths a year.

Just as in the previous year, fires attributed to *Electrical Failure* claimed more lives than fires resulting from other known causes. Twelve fire victims, ranging in age from 39 years to 89 years, died in ten electrical related residential fires, with one of the ten fires resulting in multi-deaths claiming a total of three lives. Those deaths accounted for nearly 17 percent of the fire deaths, compared to almost 20 percent of all fire deaths in 2017, and approximately 12 percent of all fire deaths in 2016.

### CAUSES OF FATAL FIRES



*Smoking Related* deaths rated second in the cause of fatal fires category, reported at seven deaths in seven fires for the year 2018. Victims ranged in age from 55 to 88 years.

Four residential fires resulting from *Combustibles Too Close* to fire source claimed five lives in 2018, with the victim's ages ranging from 1 to 86 years old.

In 2018, *Mode of Transportation (Vehicle)* fires led to five deaths in five fires, with victims ranging in age from 21 to 58 years. Four of the five deaths involved vehicle crashes.

During 2018, *Other* causes (causes not previously categorized) resulted in loss of life for four victims in four unrelated fires, with ages starting at 34 to 80 years old. Two fires were caused by lighting strikes, one fire death victim fell into a controlled brush pile, and one fire was the result of illegal drug activity.

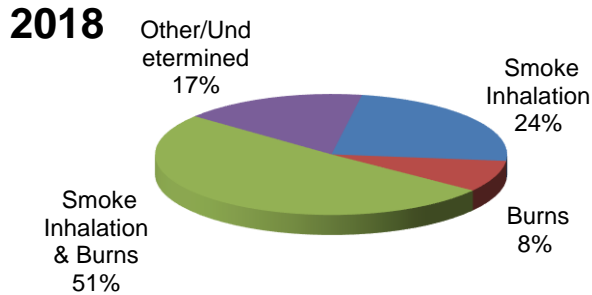
Three people died in three separate fires that were *Cooking Related* in 2018, with ages reported at 24, 42 and 84 years old.

The causes of 22 fires in which 27 lives were lost have not been determined.

The remaining fire causes were reported as follows: *Suicide by Fire* - four deaths/four fires, *Candles/Incense* - two deaths/one fire, and *Flammable Liquid/Vapors* - two deaths/two fires.

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### CAUSE OF DEATH OF FIRE VICTIMS

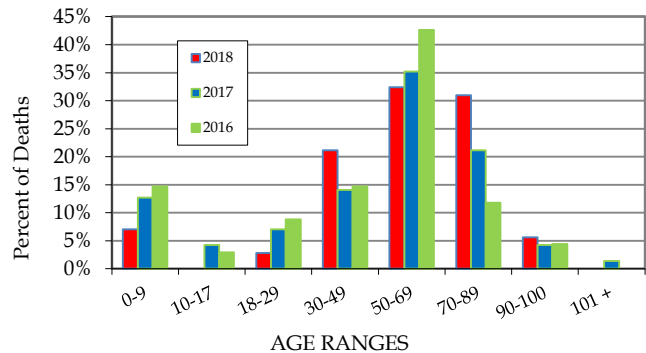


Smoke inhalation combined with thermal injuries was the cause of death reported most frequently for victims of fatal fires in 2018, claiming 36 lives.

Seventeen victims of fatal fires died as the result of smoke inhalation, and six other fire victims succumbed as the result of burn injuries. Twelve victims perished from other fire related causes of death related to, but not solely caused by smoke inhalation and/or thermal injuries.

### AGE OF FIRE DEATH VICTIMS

**Five children died in three fires during 2018.** Fire victims younger than 18 years accounted for almost 7 percent of all fire deaths for the year, a decrease from the 12 victims who accounted for nearly 17 percent of all fire deaths for 2017, and a decrease of the 12 victims in 2016 who accounted for almost 18 percent of the fire deaths that year.



A residential fire that originated in the bedroom resulted in the deaths of two toddlers, age 2 and 3, with reports of non-working smoke alarms found in the home. The fire was reportedly caused by an actively connected electrical extension cord buried under a pile of clothing. A two year old toddler perished in an undetermined residential basement fire, and no working smoke alarms were found. Two children, ages 2 and 3, lost their lives in an undetermined dwelling fire, with reports of non-operating smoking alarms found at the scene.

**There were 17 victims in the 18 to 49 years age range in 2018 , a slight increase when compared to the 15 victims in that age range in 2017, and one more than the 16 victims in that age range reported in 2016.** Victims in that age range accounted for almost 24 percent of the total deaths in 2018, compared to the over 21 percent in 2017, and nearly 24 percent of the deaths in 2016.

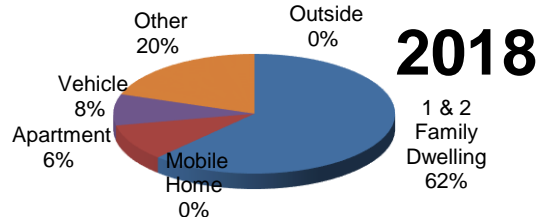
**The number of fire death victims in the 50 to 69 years age range decreased in 2018, compared to 2017 and 2016.** Twenty-three victims in that age range accounted for almost one-third (32.4 percent) of the fire deaths in 2018, while 25 victims in that age range accounted for 35.2 percent of the deaths in 2017, and 29 victims in that age range accounted for 42.6 percent of the deaths in 2016.

**The 26 fire death victims 70 and older represent a notable increase over the number of deaths compared to the 19 such victims in 2017, and the 11 deaths reported in 2016.** Those victims 70 years and older accounted for almost 37 percent of the fire deaths in 2018, compared to almost 27 percent of the fire deaths during 2017, and just over 16 percent of the fire deaths in 2016. Additionally, in 2018 there were four victims who were age 90 or older equally comparable to four victims in 2017, and three victims in 2016 for the same age range.

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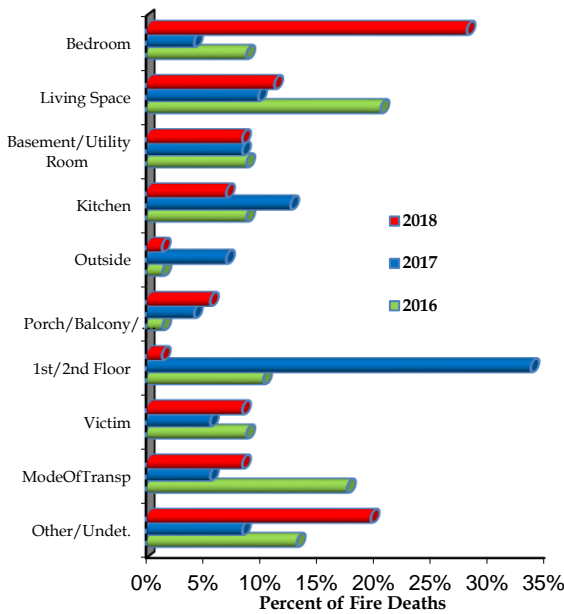
### LOCATION OF FATAL FIRES

In 2018, as in other years, most fire deaths occurred in residential structures, including 44 deaths in *One and Two Family Dwellings*, seven victims of *Apartment* fires, four victims of *Board and Care* fires, three victims of *Hotel/Motel* fires, and one victim in a *Residential Outbuilding* fire where the structure was being utilized as living quarters.



Residential fires accounted for over 83 percent of the fire deaths in 2018, compared to 84 percent of the fire deaths in 2017, and 73 percent in 2016. Six mode of transportation-related fires resulted in six deaths. Victim contained fires/burn injuries claimed the lives of six victims in six fires resulting from the following: Self-Immolation-three fires/three victims; Falling into brush pile-one fire/one death; Combustibles too Close to Fire Source-one fire/one death; Ignited Flammable Liquid Vapors-one fire/one death.

### AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN



Fifteen fires claimed the lives of 20 victims in 2018 where the fire origin was reported as the **Bedroom** of the structure, compared to three deaths in three fires in 2017. Five of the total 15 fires involved multiple-deaths claiming the lives of 11 victims. The causes of the bedroom fires were reported as follows: *Combustibles Too Close*-two fires/three victims; *Electrical Failure* - one fire/three deaths; *Other, Drug Activity*-1 fire/1 death; *Smoking Related*-2 fires/2 deaths; *Suicide*-one fire/one death; and *Undetermined*-8 fires/10 deaths.

Fires starting in the **Living Space** was the second highest area of origin reported in 2018, with eight lives lost in seven fires. The living space fire causes can be summarized as follows: *Electrical Malfunction*-two fires/two deaths; *Smoking Related*-two fires/two deaths; and *Undetermined*-three fires/four deaths.

Fires originating in the **Basement** tied for third along with **Victim** and **Mode of Transport** (Vehicles) in 2018, each claiming six victims in six fires. The causes of basement fires were reported as follows: *Electrical Failure*-two fires/two deaths; *Other, Lightning Strike*-One Fire/One Death; *Smoking Related*-one fire/one death; and *Undetermined* - two fires/two deaths.

Five fires which started in the **Kitchen** claimed the lives of five victims. The causes of the kitchen fires were reported as follows: *Cooking Related*-three fires/three deaths; and *Electrical Failure*-two fires/two deaths.

The remaining fires in the area of origin category can be summarized as follows: **1st Floor**-one fire/one death; **Bathroom**-one fire/one death; **Dining Room**- four fires/five deaths; **Hallway/Entrance/Foyer**-one fire/one death; **Other, Crawl Space**-one fire/one death; **Outside/Yard**-one fire/one death; **Porch/Balcony/Deck**-three fires/four deaths; **Staircase**-one fire/one death; **Undetermined**-four fires/five deaths, and **Victim**-six fires/six deaths.

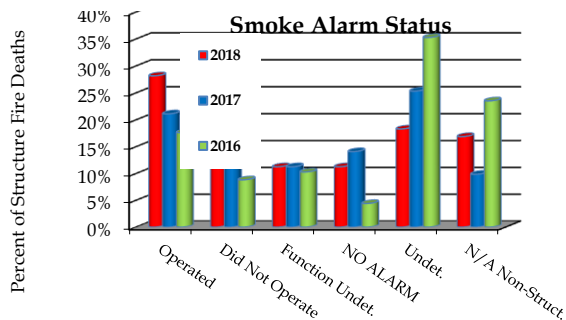
### SMOKE ALARM PERFORMANCE

Eighteen fatal residential structure fires occurred where the smoke alarms were known to function properly, but the fires still claimed the lives of 20 individuals (28.2 percent of total deaths in 2018). One of the fires that reported functioning smoke alarms resulted in multiple-deaths claiming three lives.

There were no smoke alarms present in eight fatal residential structure fires that killed eight Maryland residents (11 percent of total deaths) in 2018.

Residential dwelling fires that reported the presence of non-functioning smoke alarms accounted for 14.1 percent of the total deaths (ten deaths in eight fires).

Another seven people died in eight structure fires where the smoke alarms were present, but the operational status was undetermined. Nine fires resulted in 13 deaths where the presence of smoke alarms was unknown.



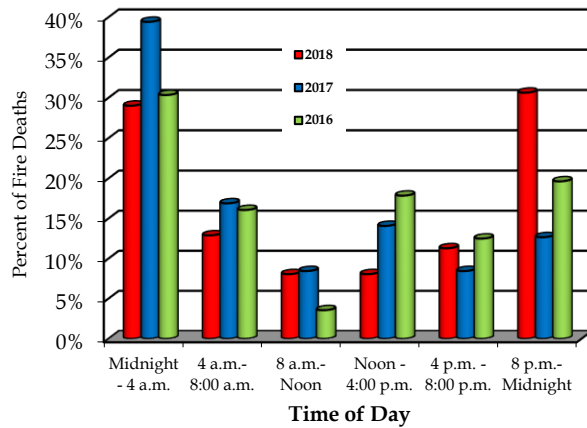
**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**

**TIME OF FATAL FIRES**

Inconsistent with most previous years, more fire deaths occurred in the early and late evening hours than at other time of the day, with the hours between 4 p.m. and 12 p.m. proving to be the most deadly eight-hour period in 2018. The 26 fatal fires that started during those eight hours resulted in 31 deaths accounting for 44 percent of the 71 fire deaths for the year. Four of the eight reported multiple-death fires occurred during those hours in 2018.

The hours between 12 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. ran a close second rating at 42 percent of the total 71 deaths or 30 deaths in 26 fires, compared to 2017 when 24 fatal fires lead to 40 deaths accounting for 56 percent of the 71 fire deaths that year.

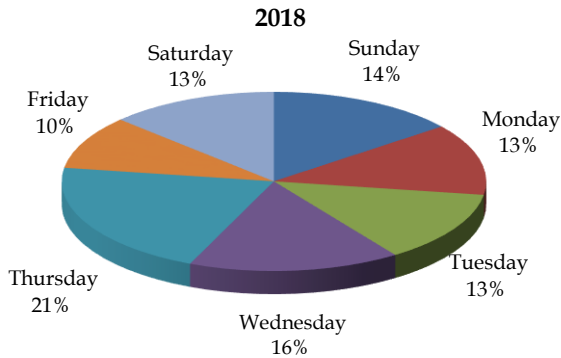
The hours between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. for 2018 (14 percent of fire deaths) ranked third with ten deaths in ten fires.



In previous years, fatal fires have been more likely to occur over the weekend which was NOT the case for 2018. A total of 44 deaths (62 percent) in 39 fires (63 percent) occurred on Monday-Thursday in the reporting year 2018. Additionally, five of the total eight multiple-fatal fires in 2018 occurred during the weekday.

Slightly over a third of the fatal fires occurred during the weekend, which resulted in 38 percent of the 71 fire deaths for the year. Twenty-seven people died from 23 fires that started on those days.

**DAY OF WEEK OF FATAL FIRES**

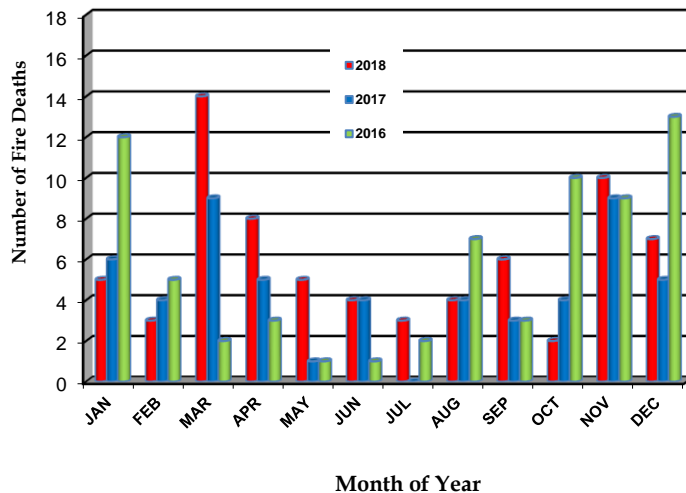


**MONTH OF YEAR**

The fall and winter months have often been the busiest months for fatal fires, and this proved true for 2018. Approximately 58 percent of the fire deaths resulted from fires that occurred in October through March when 34 fires claimed 41 lives.

April through September recorded 30 deaths in 28 fires which is equal to approximately 42 percent of the total deaths for the year.

As illustrated in the adjacent graph, March was the deadliest month, with 14 deaths in nine fires, including five multiple-death fires that claimed the lives of eight adults and two children.

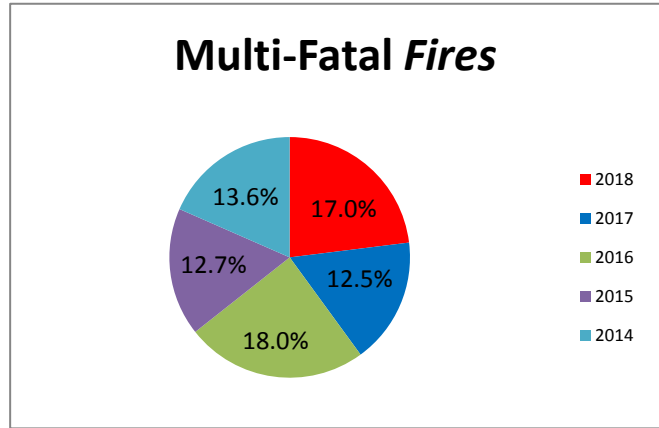


**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**

**MULTIPLE-FATAL FIRES**

A multiple-fatal fire is an incident whereby a fire claims the life of more than one individual. In comparison to previous years, 2018 showed a decrease in the total number of multi-fatal fires which was eight fires or 12.9 percent of the 62 total fires for the year. During 2017, the percentage of multi-fatal fires was at 16.7 percent of the 54 total fires for that year, and at 12.5 percent of the 56 total fires for the year 2016.

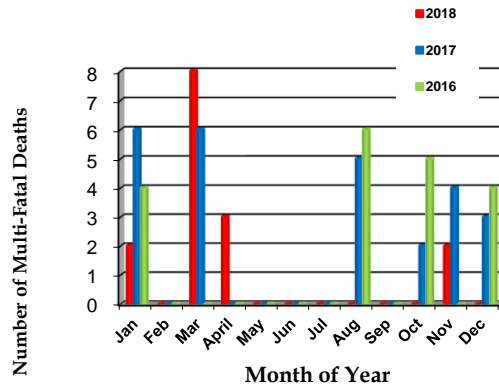
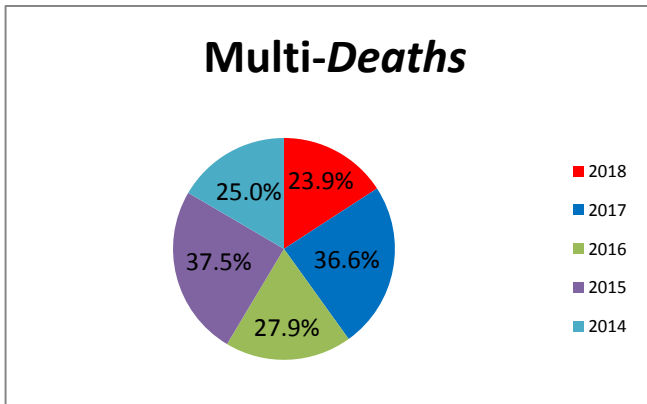
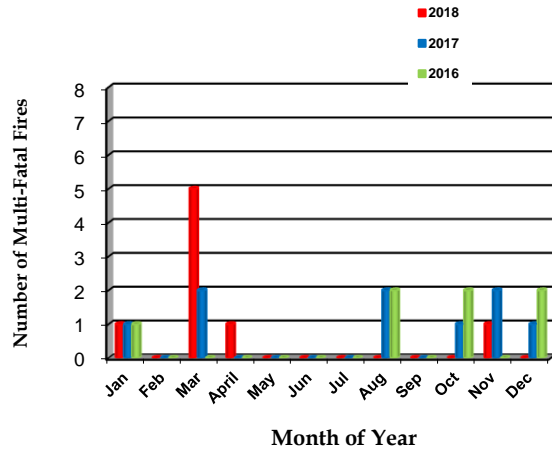
The months of January, April, and November 2018 resulted in one multi-fatal fire for each of the three months. The month of March resulted in five unrelated multi-fatal fires. There were no multi-fatal fires reported in the months of February, May, June, July August, September, October and December.



**MULTIPLE DEATHS IN FATAL FIRES**

In 2018, similar to multi-fires, the number of multi-deaths in fatal fires decreased in comparison to the prior year to 17 deaths or 23.9 percent of the 71 total deaths reported for the year. Multi-deaths in fatal fires in 2017 was recorded at 26 deaths or 36.6 percent of the 71 total deaths, and in 2016 was recorded at 19 deaths or 27.9 percent of the 68 total deaths.

Multi-fatal fires claimed the lives of victims in 2018 as follows: January, two victims/one fire; March, ten victims/five fires; April, three victims, one fire, and November, two victims/one fire.



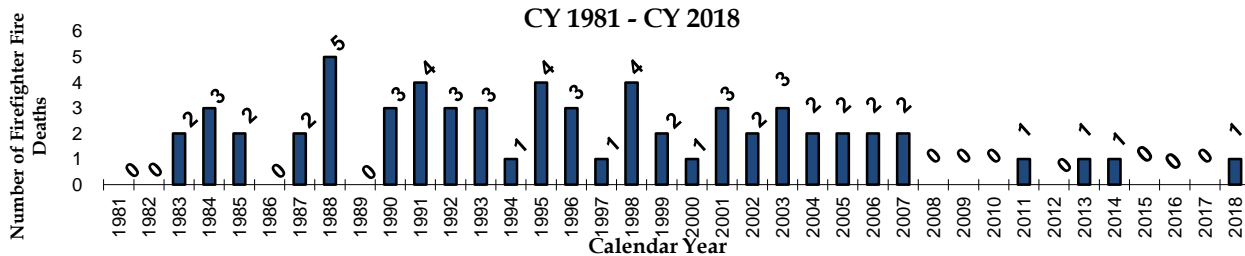


## FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

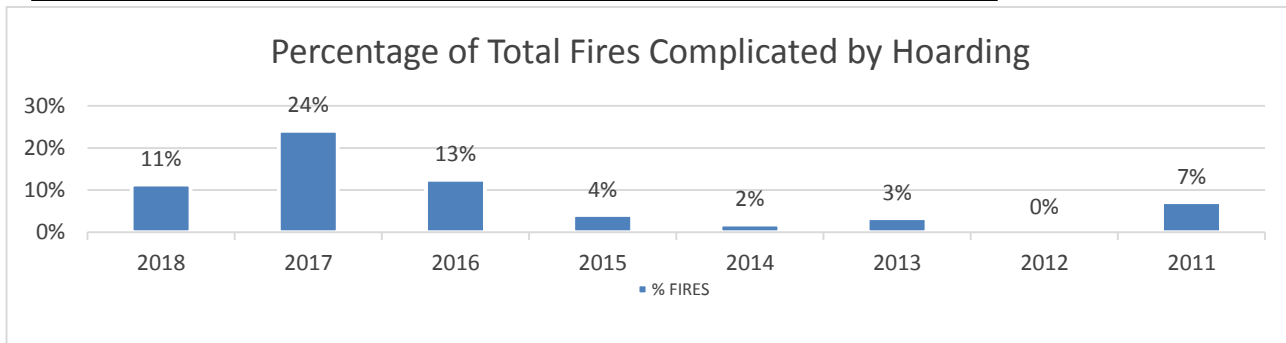
### FIREFIGHTER FIRE DEATHS

The total number of Maryland firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty due to **fire** was reported at one death during 2018, zero deaths in 2017, 2016 and 2015, and one death reported in 2014 and 2013.

On July 23, 2018 Lt. Nathan E. Flynn tragically lost his life in the line of duty due to fire while battling a residential fire in Clarksville, Howard County. Lt Flynn was a 13 year veteran with the Howard County Fire & Rescue Service before responding to his heroic last call.



### 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 of Fire Marshal Brian Geraci, continues to educate the public regarding the dangers of hoarding. Seven deaths resulted from five fires with reported hoarding conditions which is almost 11 percent of the total fires reported for the entire year, representing a decrease in comparison to the two previous years as illustrated in the above chart. The following is a report summarization of fire related deaths that were complicated by conditions of hoarding in the reporting year of 2018.

**Baltimore City** - A cooking related house fire claimed the life of a 42 year old female who was found by firefighters on the exterior of the home subsequent to extinguishing the blaze. A non-functioning 9-volt battery smoke alarm was found at the scene. A smoking related residential fire which originated in a first floor bedroom resulted in the demise of a 55 year old male, with reports of no smoke alarms found at the scene.

**Baltimore County** - An undetermined double-fatal fire that started on the enclosed front porch of the residence resulted in the death of a 51 year old male and a 97 year old female, with the presence of smoke alarms reported as undetermined. A 69 year old female perished in a dwelling fire which reportedly started in the living room of the home, with reports of non-operating smoke alarms found at the scene.

**Prince George's County** - An undetermined residential fire originating in the bedroom claimed the lives of two victims, a 75 year old male and an 80 year old female. The presence of smoke alarms during the incident could not be determined.

Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal  
**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**  
 CY 2018

COUNTY	FIRE CAUSE													FIRE DEATHS		FATAL FIRES	
	Smoking	Electrical	Heating related	Unattended Candle/ Incense	Cooking	Arson/Homicide Arson	Suicide	Open Flame	Flamm. Liq/Vapors	Combust. too close	Mode of Transp	Child Play	UnInvest /Undet/ Other	Total Deaths	Percent of Total	Total Fires	Percent of Total
Allegany	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.4%	1	1.6%
Anne Arundel	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	6	8.5%	4	6.5%
Baltimore City	3	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	2	13	18.3%	11	17.7%
Baltimore County	3	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	12	16.9%	11	17.7%
Calvert	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.4%	1	1.6%
Caroline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.4%	1	1.6%
Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	4.2%	3	4.8%
Cecil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.4%	1	1.6%
Charles	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4.2%	3	4.8%
Dorchester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Frederick	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.4%	1	1.6%
Garrett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Harford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	4.2%	3	4.8%
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	4.2%	2	3.2%
Prince George's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	11	14	19.7%	12	19.4%
Queen Anne's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
St. Mary's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	3	4.2%	2	3.2%
Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1.4%	1	1.6%
Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2.8%	2	3.2%
Washington	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	4.2%	3	4.8%
Wicomico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Worcester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL FIRE DEATHS</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>
Column % of Fire Deaths	10%	17%	0%	3%	4%	0%	6%	0%	3%	7%	7%	0%	44%		100%		
<b>TOTAL FATAL FIRES</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>62</b>		
Column % of Fatal Fires	11%	16%	0%	2%	5%	0%	6%	0%	3%	6%	8%	0%	42%		100%		

\*Fire Cause Categories include probable and possible determinations

Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal  
**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**  
CY 2018

COUNTY	FIRE CAUSE													FATAL FIRES		FIRE DEATHS	
	Smoking	Electrical	Heating related	Unattended Candle/Incense	Cooking	Arson/Homicide	Suicide	Open Flame	Flamm. Liq/Vapors/	Combust too close	Mode Transp	Child Play	UnInvest/Undet/Other	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	1.6%	1	1.4%
Anne Arundel	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	6.5%	6	8.5%
Baltimore City	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	11	17.7%	13	18.3%
Baltimore County	3	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	11	17.7%	12	16.9%
Calvert	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1.6%	1	1.4%
Caroline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.6%	1	1.4%
Carroll	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	4.8%	3	4.2%
Cecil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.6%	1	1.4%
Charles	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4.8%	3	4.2%
Dorchester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Frederick	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1.6%	1	1.4%
Garrett	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Harford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Howard	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	4.8%	3	4.2%
Kent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Montgomery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3.2%	3	4.2%
Prince George's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	9	12	19.4%	14	19.7%
Queen Anne's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
St. Mary's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	3.2%	3	4.2%
Somerset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1.6%	1	1.4%
Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3.2%	2	2.8%
Washington	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	4.8%	3	4.2%
Wicomico	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Worcester	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL FATAL FIRES</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Column % of Total</b>	11%	16%	0%	2%	5%	0%	6%	0%	3%	6%	8%	0%	42%		100%		

\*Fire Cause Categories include probable and possible determinations



Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

FIRE CAUSE	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
Smoking Related/Probable	7	10.9%	13	20.3%	4	5.9%	13	18.3%	7	9.9%
Electrical Failure	9	14.1%	16	25.0%	8	11.8%	14	19.7%	12	16.9%
Combustibles too Close	5	7.8%	5	7.8%	3	4.4%	2	2.8%	5	7.0%
Mode of Transportation	5	7.8%	3	4.7%	8	11.8%	3	4.2%	5	7.0%
Cooking Related	6	9.4%	4	6.3%	3	4.4%	8	11.3%	3	4.2%
Heating Related	5	7.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Arson/Arson Homicide	0	0.0%	4	6.3%	2	2.9%	7	9.9%	0	0.0%
Open Flame	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%
Flammable Liquid/Vapors	2	3.1%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	1	1.4%	2	2.8%
Candles/Incense	3	4.7%	2	3.1%	0	0.0%	2	2.8%	2	2.8%
Suicide Arson	4	6.3%	Category Sub-Divided		Category Sub-Divided		Category Sub-Divided		Category Sub-Divided	
Suicide/Incendiary			1	1.6%	5	7.4%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%
Suicide/Self-Immoliz.			2	3.1%	2	2.9%	1	1.4%	3	4.2%
Suicide/Homicide/Arson	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%
Child Playing	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%
Under Invest/Undetermined	18	28.1%	13	20.3%	28	41.2%	18	25.4%	27	38.0%
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
*Heating Includes:										
Kerosene/Propane Heater	1		3		0		0		0	
Space/Bsbrd Heater	0		0		0		0		0	
Furnace	0		1		0		0		0	
Gas Fireplace	0		1		0		0		0	
Faulty Chimney/Flue	0		0		0		0		0	

DEATH CAUSE	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
Smoke Inhalation & Burns	27	42.2%	28	43.8%	31	45.6%	28	39.4%	35	49.3%
Smoke Inhalation	22	34.4%	22	34.4%	19	27.9%	34	47.9%	18	25.4%
Burns	12	18.8%	7	10.9%	11	16.2%	3	4.2%	6	8.5%
Other	3	4.7%	7	10.9%	7	10.3%	6	8.5%	12	16.9%

SEX OF VICTIM	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
Male	42	65.6%	30	46.9%	41	60.3%	40	56.3%	44	62.0%
Female	22	34.4%	34	53.1%	27	39.7%	31	43.7%	27	38.0%

AGE OF VICTIM	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
0 -9	9	14.1%	10	15.6%	10	14.7%	9	12.7%	5	7.0%
10 - 17	0	0.0%	3	4.7%	2	2.9%	3	4.2%	0	0.0%
18 - 29	5	7.8%	8	12.5%	6	8.8%	5	7.0%	2	2.8%
30 - 49	6	9.4%	8	12.5%	10	14.7%	10	14.1%	15	21.1%
50 - 69	25	39.1%	22	34.4%	29	42.6%	25	35.2%	23	32.4%
70 - 89	18	28.1%	13	20.3%	8	11.8%	15	21.1%	22	31.0%
90 - 100	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	3	4.4%	3	4.2%	4	5.6%
>100	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	0	0.0%

\*Fire Cause Categories include probable and possible determinations

Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

RACE	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
African American	23	35.9%	25	39.1%	27	39.7%	37	52.1%	35	49.3%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Asian	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	2	2.9%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Caucasian	39	60.9%	37	57.8%	39	57.4%	33	46.5%	35	49.3%
Other	0	0.0%	2	3.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Not Reported/Unk	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

STRUCTURE YEAR	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
0 - 5 YEARS					0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
6 - 10 YEARS					1	1.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
11 - 15 YEARS					0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
16 -20 YEARS					0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
21 - 25 YEARS					1	1.5%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%
26 - 30 YEARS					4	5.9%	1	1.4%	2	2.8%
31 - 35 YEARS					0	0.0%	1	1.4%	3	4.2%
36 - 40 YEARS					1	1.5%	5	7.0%	3	4.2%
41 -45 YEARS					2	2.9%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%
46 - 50 YEARS					3	4.4%	2	2.8%	9	12.7%
> 50 YEARS					36	52.9%	43	60.6%	30	42.3%
Non-Structure					15	22.1%	6	8.5%	12	16.9%
Not Reported/Unk					5	7.4%	12	16.9%	10	14.1%
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>					<b>68</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal

**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**

LOCATION OF FIRE	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
Home	50	78.1%	45	70.3%	44	64.7%	52	73.2%	44	62.0%
Apartment	4	6.3%	6	9.4%	7	10.3%	6	8.5%	7	9.9%
Mobile Home/Trailer	3	4.7%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	2	2.8%	0	0.0%
Outside/Tent	3	4.7%	2	3.1%	2	2.9%	2	2.8%	0	0.0%
Vehicle/Road	3	4.7%	10	15.6%	14	20.6%	5	7.0%	6	8.5%
Hotel/Nursing Home/Hosp.	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	5.6%	7	9.9%
Commercial/Other Structure	1	1.6%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	9.9%
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
Bedroom	12	18.8%	12	18.8%	6	8.8%	3	4.2%	20	28.2%
Living Space	13	20.3%	20	31.3%	14	20.6%	7	9.9%	8	11.3%
Kitchen	13	20.3%	5	7.8%	6	8.8%	9	12.7%	5	7.0%
Outside/Yard	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.5%	5	7.0%	1	1.4%
Vehicle/Boat/Plane	6	9.4%	9	14.1%	12	17.6%	4	5.6%	6	8.5%
Basement/Utility Room	4	6.3%	2	3.1%	6	8.8%	6	8.5%	6	8.5%
1st Floor/2nd Floor/Use Undet	2	3.1%	4	6.3%	7	10.3%	24	33.8%	1	1.4%
Porch/Balcony/Deck/Garage	2	3.1%	1	1.6%	1	1.5%	3	4.2%	4	5.6%
Shed/Out-Building	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Victim	0	0.0%	8	12.5%	6	8.8%	4	5.6%	6	8.5%
Dining Room	3	4.7%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	7.0%
Laundry Room	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Bathroom	1	1.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%
Hallway/Entrance/Foyer/Stairwa	1	1.6%	1	1.6%	1	1.5%	0	0.0%	2	2.8%
Other/Under Inv/Undet.	7	10.9%	1	1.6%	8	11.8%	5	7.0%	6	8.5%

SMOKE ALARM STATUS	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
Present/Operated	18	28.1%	28	43.8%	12	17.6%	15	21.1%	20	28.2%
Present/Did Not Operate	10	15.6%	0	0.0%	6	8.8%	13	18.3%	10	14.1%
Present/Function Undetermined	6	9.4%	11	17.2%	7	10.3%	8	11.3%	8	11.3%
<b>NO ALARM PRESENT</b>	13	20.3%	4	6.3%	3	4.4%	10	14.1%	8	11.3%
Fire too Small/Non-Structure	6	9.4%	13	20.3%	16	23.5%	7	9.9%	12	16.9%
Undetermined	11	17.2%	8	12.5%	24	35.3%	18	25.4%	13	18.3%

Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

TIME OF ALARM	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
0001 - 0159	6	9.4%	11	17.2%	11	16.2%	14	19.7%	10	14.1%
0200 - 0359	12	18.8%	16	25.0%	10	14.7%	14	19.7%	10	14.1%
0400 - 0559	13	20.3%	10	15.6%	4	5.9%	10	14.1%	7	9.9%
0600 - 0759	0	0.0%	1	1.6%	7	10.3%	2	2.8%	3	4.2%
0800 - 0959	3	4.7%	3	4.7%	1	1.5%	5	7.0%	4	5.6%
1000 - 1159	3	4.7%	6	9.4%	1	1.5%	1	1.4%	1	1.4%
1200 - 1359	5	7.8%	1	1.6%	4	5.9%	3	4.2%	2	2.8%
1400 - 1559	5	7.8%	5	7.8%	7	10.3%	7	9.9%	3	4.2%
1600 - 1759	4	6.3%	2	3.1%	4	5.9%	3	4.2%	0	0.0%
1800 - 1959	1	1.6%	3	4.7%	3	4.4%	3	4.2%	8	11.3%
2000 - 2159	3	4.7%	3	4.7%	8	11.8%	1	1.4%	7	9.9%
2200 - 2400	9	14.1%	3	4.7%	8	11.8%	8	11.3%	16	22.5%
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

DAY OF WEEK	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
Sunday	7	10.9%	7	10.9%	9	13.2%	13	18.3%	9	12.7%
Monday	11	17.2%	14	21.9%	10	14.7%	7	9.9%	8	11.3%
Tuesday	3	4.7%	9	14.1%	7	10.3%	10	14.1%	9	12.7%
Wednesday	7	10.9%	9	14.1%	11	16.2%	9	12.7%	12	16.9%
Thursday	12	18.8%	6	9.4%	7	10.3%	14	19.7%	15	21.1%
Friday	12	18.8%	9	14.1%	8	11.8%	12	16.9%	7	9.9%
Saturday	12	18.8%	10	15.6%	16	23.5%	6	8.5%	11	15.5%

BY MONTH	CY 2014		CY 2015		CY 2016		CY 2017		CY 2018	
	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total	Number of Deaths	Percent of Total
January	4	6.3%	9	14.1%	12	17.6%	11	15.5%	5	7.0%
February	5	7.8%	6	9.4%	5	7.4%	4	5.6%	3	4.2%
March	16	25.0%	6	9.4%	2	2.9%	13	18.3%	14	19.7%
April	4	6.3%	4	6.3%	3	4.4%	5	7.0%	8	11.3%
May	4	6.3%	3	4.7%	1	1.5%	1	1.4%	5	7.0%
June	3	4.7%	7	10.9%	1	1.5%	4	5.6%	4	5.6%
July	1	1.6%	1	1.6%	2	2.9%	0	0.0%	3	4.2%
August	1	1.6%	5	7.8%	7	10.3%	7	9.9%	4	5.6%
September	1	1.6%	7	10.9%	3	4.4%	3	4.2%	6	8.5%
October	7	10.9%	5	7.8%	10	14.7%	5	7.0%	2	2.8%
November	6	9.4%	2	3.1%	9	13.2%	11	15.5%	10	14.1%
December	12	18.8%	9	14.1%	13	19.1%	7	9.9%	7	9.9%

Office of the State Fire Marshal

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

COUNTY	CY 2014	CY 2015	CY 2016	CY 2017	CY 2018	5-Year Average	Percent of State Total	5 YR FIRE DEATH RATE*	% of Total Deaths 2018*
Allegany	3	1	3	0	1	1.6	2.4%	2.1	1.4%
Anne Arundel	2	12	2	3	6	5.0	7.4%	0.9	8.5%
Baltimore City	18	18	16	30	13	19.0	28.1%	3.1	18.3%
Baltimore County	5	7	6	12	12	8.4	12.4%	1.0	16.9%
Calvert	1	2	0	0	1	0.8	1.2%	0.9	1.4%
Caroline	0	0	1	0	1	0.4	0.6%	1.2	1.4%
Carroll	4	0	2	2	3	2.2	3.3%	1.3	4.2%
Cecil	3	1	3	0	1	1.6	2.4%	1.6	1.4%
Charles	0	4	3	4	3	2.8	4.1%	1.9	4.2%
Dorchester	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	0.3%	0.6	0.0%
Frederick	0	2	2	0	1	1.0	1.5%	0.4	1.4%
Garrett	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	0.3%	0.7	0.0%
Harford	0	2	3	0	0	1.0	1.5%	0.4	0.0%
Howard	3	0	1	1	3	1.6	2.4%	0.6	4.2%
Kent	2	1	0	0	0	0.6	0.9%	3.0	0.0%
Montgomery	8	2	6	4	3	4.6	6.8%	0.5	4.2%
Prince George's	5	6	11	8	14	8.8	13.0%	1.0	19.7%
Queen Anne's	1	1	1	2	0	1.0	1.5%	2.1	0.0%
St. Mary's	1	0	0	1	3	1.0	1.5%	1.0	4.2%
Somerset	1	1	3	1	1	1.4	2.1%	5.3	1.4%
Talbot	0	0	0	0	2	0.4	0.6%	1.1	2.8%
Washington	2	1	1	3	3	2.0	3.0%	1.4	4.2%
Wicomico	5	1	2	0	0	1.6	2.4%	1.6	0.0%
Worcester	0	2	0	0	0	0.4	0.6%	0.8	0.0%
<b>TOTAL FIRE DEATHS</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

FIRE DEATH RATE\*\* 1.11 1.11 1.18 1.23 1.23 1.17

\*DEATH RATE: Number of civilian fire deaths per 100,000 population

\*\*Rates are based on the 2010 census estimates

Office of the State Fire Marshal

FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND

COUNTY	FATAL FIRES CY 2018	DEATHS CY 2018	FATAL FIRE RATE* 100,000	% of Total Fatal Fires 2018	DEATH RATE* 100,000	DEATH RATE* 1,000,000	% of Total Deaths 2018
Allegany	1	1	1.3	1.6%	1.3	13.3	1.4%
Anne Arundel	4	6	0.7	6.5%	1.1	11.2	8.5%
Baltimore City	11	13	1.8	17.7%	2.1	20.9	18.3%
Baltimore County	11	12	1.4	17.7%	1.5	14.9	16.9%
Calvert	1	1	1.1	1.6%	1.1	11.3	1.4%
Caroline	1	1	3.0	1.6%	3.0	30.2	1.4%
Carroll	3	3	1.8	4.8%	1.8	17.9	4.2%
Cecil	1	1	1.0	1.6%	1.0	9.9	1.4%
Charles	3	3	2.0	4.8%	2.0	20.5	4.2%
Dorchester	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Frederick	1	1	0.4	1.6%	0.4	4.3	1.4%
Garrett	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Harford	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Howard	3	3	1.0	4.8%	1.0	10.4	4.2%
Kent	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Montgomery	2	3	0.2	3.2%	0.3	3.1	4.2%
Prince George's	12	14	1.4	19.4%	1.6	16.2	19.7%
Queen Anne's	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
St. Mary's	2	3	1.9	3.2%	2.9	28.5	4.2%
Somerset	1	1	3.8	1.6%	3.8	37.8	1.4%
Talbot	2	2	5.3	3.2%	5.3	52.9	2.8%
Washington	3	3	2.0	4.8%	2.0	20.3	4.2%
Wicomico	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Worcester	0	0	0.0	0.0%	0.0	0.0	0.0%
<b>TOTAL FIRE DEATHS</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**FIRE DEATHS IN MARYLAND**

	2018						2017						2016					
	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	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%	1	6	16.7%	6	11	54.5%	1	9	11.1%	4	12	33.3%
Feb	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	5	0.0%	0	5	0.0%
Mar	5	9	55.6%	10	14	71.4%	2	9	22.2%	6	13	46.2%	0	2	0.0%	0	2	0.0%
April	1	6	16.7%	3	8	37.5%	0	5	0.0%	0	5	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%
May	0	5	0.0%	0	5	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%
Jun	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%
Jul	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	2	0.0%	0	2	0.0%
Aug	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	2	4	50.0%	5	7	71.4%	2	3	66.7%	6	7	85.7%
Sep	0	6	0.0%	0	6	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%	0	3	0.0%
Oct	0	2	0.0%	0	2	0.0%	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%	2	7	28.6%	5	10	50.0%
Nov	1	9	11.1%	2	10	20.0%	2	9	22.2%	4	11	36.4%	0	9	0.0%	0	9	0.0%
Dec	0	7	0.0%	0	7	0.0%	1	5	20.0%	3	7	42.9%	2	11	18.2%	4	13	30.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>36.6%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>27.9%</b>

	2015						2014						2013					
	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	1	4	25.0%	6	9	66.7%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	3	12	25.0%	6	15	40.0%
Feb	1	4	25.0%	3	6	50.0%	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%	1	6	16.7%	4	8	50.0%
Mar	0	6	0.0%	0	6	0.0%	3	12	25.0%	7	16	43.8%	0	8	0.0%	0	8	0.0%
April	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%	1	5	20.0%	2	6	33.3%
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	2	5	40.0%	4	7	57.1%	1	2	50.0%	2	3	66.7%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%
Jul	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%
Aug	0	5	0.0%	0	5	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Sep	2	5	40.0%	4	7	57.1%	0	1	0.0%	0	1	0.0%	0	2	0.0%	0	2	0.0%
Oct	1	4	25.0%	2	5	40.0%	1	6	16.7%	2	7	28.6%	0	6	0.0%	0	7	0.0%
Nov	1	1	100.0%	2	2	100.0%	0	6	0.0%	0	6	0.0%	2	8	25.0%	4	10	40.0%
Dec	1	8	12.5%	3	9	33.3%	1	10	10.0%	3	12	25.0%	0	4	0.0%	0	4	0.0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>25.0%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>26.1%</b>

NOTES