

West Virginia: Fires at a Glance

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008



Did you know?

- **In FY 2008, West Virginia's 447 fire departments reported:**
 - 3,777 structure fires (includes 3,024 residential)
 - 1,453 vehicle fires (passenger, RV's, off-road, heavy equipment, etc.)
 - 2,985 outdoor fires
- **Leading causes of fires:**
 - Cooking
 - Heating
 - Incendiary (arson)
 - Open flames/embers
 - Electrical distribution and appliances
- Most fires occurred during the afternoon and evening, when people tend to be at home.
- Most fires occurred between November and April, when heating appliances tend to be most in use.
- Estimated property loss: \$95,905,959
- Estimated contents loss: \$41,127,454
- Total estimated combined loss: \$137,033,413
- Smoke detectors in residential structure fires:
 - Detectors present in only 26% of residential fires
 - No detectors present in 34% of residential fires
 - Undetermined detector presence in 40% of residential fires

Information compiled through National Fire Information Reporting System by:

West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office

Public Education Division

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