

FIRES

1. Fires

Knowing the Threat of Fires

- The number of fires within the TFD's jurisdiction was 3,973 (down 232 from the previous year), which was the lowest since 1960.
- There were 86 fire deaths (up 7 from the previous year), and the proportion of elderly victims was still high.
- Most fires were caused by arson, followed by cigarettes, and gas ranges or similar devices.

Chart 1-1. Total Number of Fires and Burnt Floor Areas (2009-2018)

In fiscal 2018, the number of fires within the TFD's jurisdiction was 3,973, down 232 from the previous year. The number of fires is showing a decreasing trend. Until 2013, the number of fires was a little more than 5,000 annually, which decreased to the number that was a little more than 4,000 in 2014 and 2015, and below 4,000 in 2016. The number increased in 2017, but again it was below 4,000 in 2018, which recorded the smallest number since 1960.

The burnt floor area was 18,604 m², down 2,115 m² from the previous year, and it has been decreasing over the last 10 years.

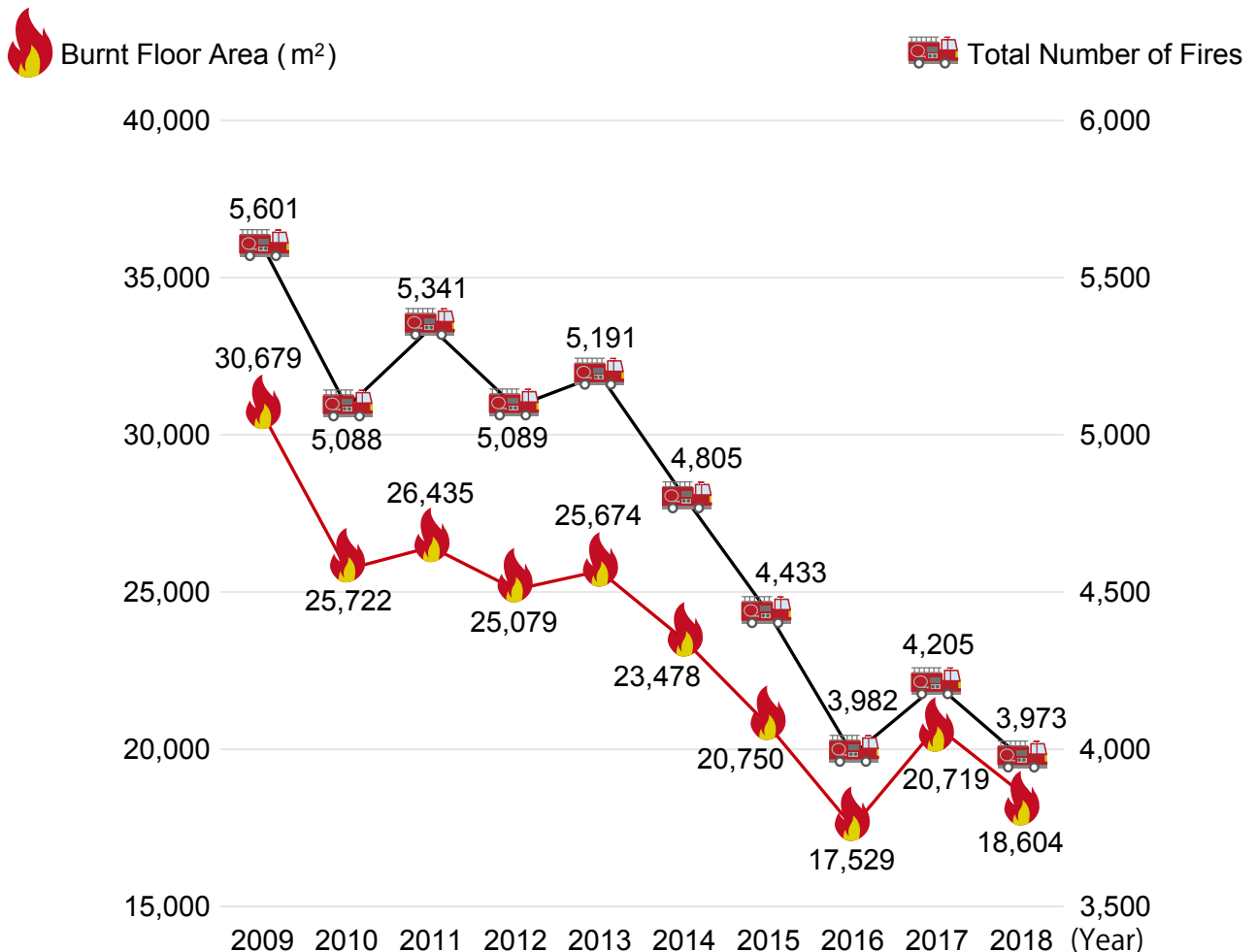


Chart 1-2. Total Number of Fire Deaths for 10 Years

The number of fire deaths was 86, an increase of seven from the previous year, which reversed the decreasing trend of the past two years.

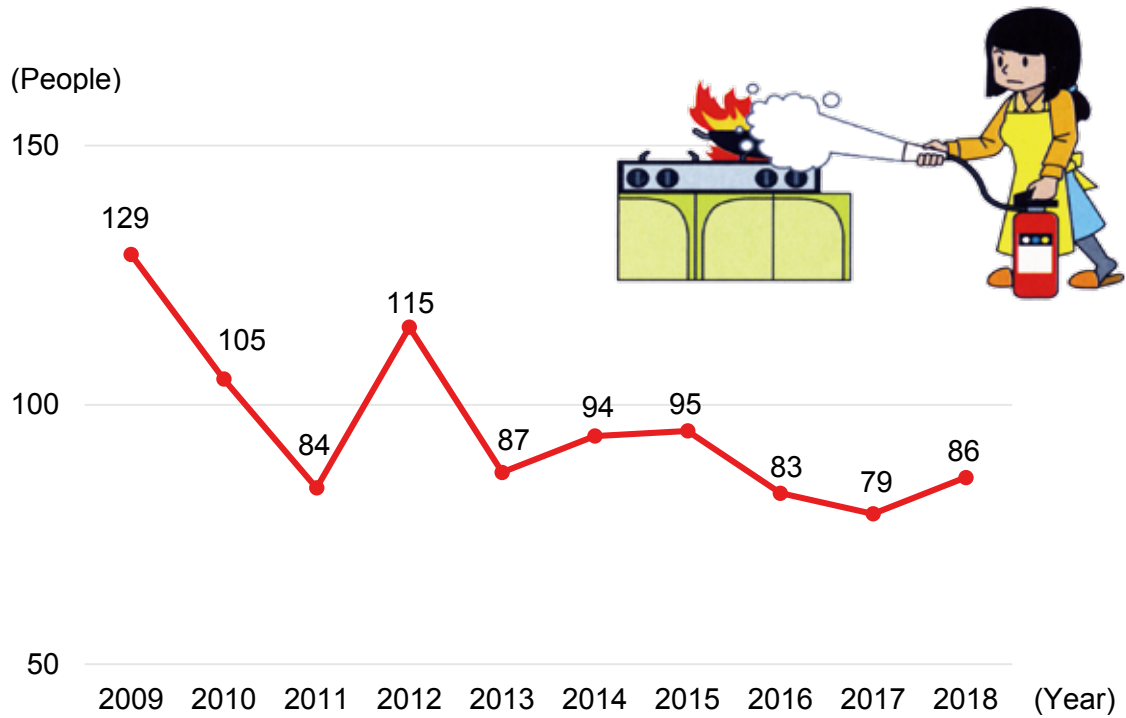


Chart 1-3. Number of Fires (2018)

In terms of fire type, there were 2,696 building fires, a decrease of 141 from the previous year, which accounted for nearly 70% of all fires. There were 1,046 other types of fires, a significant decrease of 102 from the previous year.

| | 2018 | From 2017 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Building Fires* | 2,696 | -141 |
| Wildland Fires | 2 | -1 |
| Vehicle Fires | 225 | +9 |
| Ship Fires | 3 | +3 |
| Aircraft Fires | 0 | — |
| Others | 1,046 | -102 |
| Fires in Extraterritorial Areas | 1 | — |
| TOTAL | 3,973 | -232 |

*The “*building fires*” means the fire that burns a building and/or its interior property.

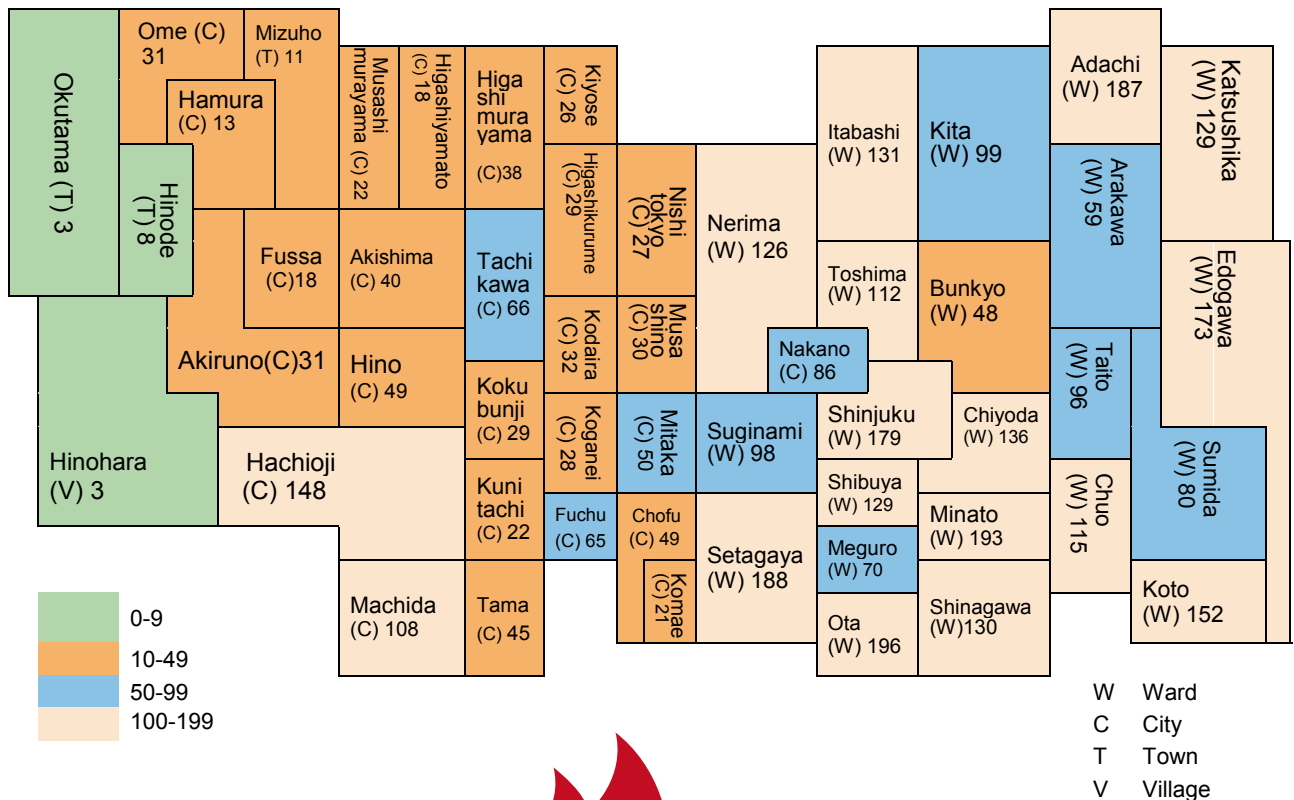
Chart 1-4. Number of Fires by Municipality (23-Ward Area/2014-2018)

| Ranking | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | |
|---------|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|-----|
| 1 | Adachi | 272 | Setagaya | 226 | Minato | 217 | Adachi | 235 | Ota | 196 |
| 2 | Shinjuku | 249 | Ota | 209 | Adachi | 188 | Minato | 207 | Minato | 193 |
| 3 | Ota | 228 | Adachi | 205 | Shinjuku | 186 | Ota | 204 | Setagaya | 188 |
| 4 | Koto | 226 | Shinjuku | 202 | Edogawa | 177 | Shinjuku | 198 | Adachi | 187 |
| 5 | Edogawa | 225 | Minato | 199 | Ota | 176 | Setagaya | 184 | Shinjuku | 179 |

Chart 1-5. Number of Fires by Municipality (Tama Area/2014-2018)

| Ranking | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | |
|---------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|------------------------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|
| 1 | Hachioji | 199 | Hachioji | 185 | Hachioji | 143 | Hachioji | 176 | Hachioji | 148 |
| 2 | Machida | 125 | Machida | 110 | Machida | 116 | Machida | 94 | Machida | 108 |
| 3 | Fuchu | 79 | Fuchu | 78 | Fuchu | 76 | Tachikawa | 79 | Tachikawa | 66 |
| 4 | Tachikawa | 64 | Chofu | 66 | Chofu | 49 | Chofu | 65 | Fuchu | 65 |
| 5 | Chofu | 61 | Tachikawa | 60 | Tachikawa Musashino | 44 | Fuchu | 64 | Mitaka | 50 |

Chart 1-6. Number of Fires by Municipality (2018)



2. Fire Deaths

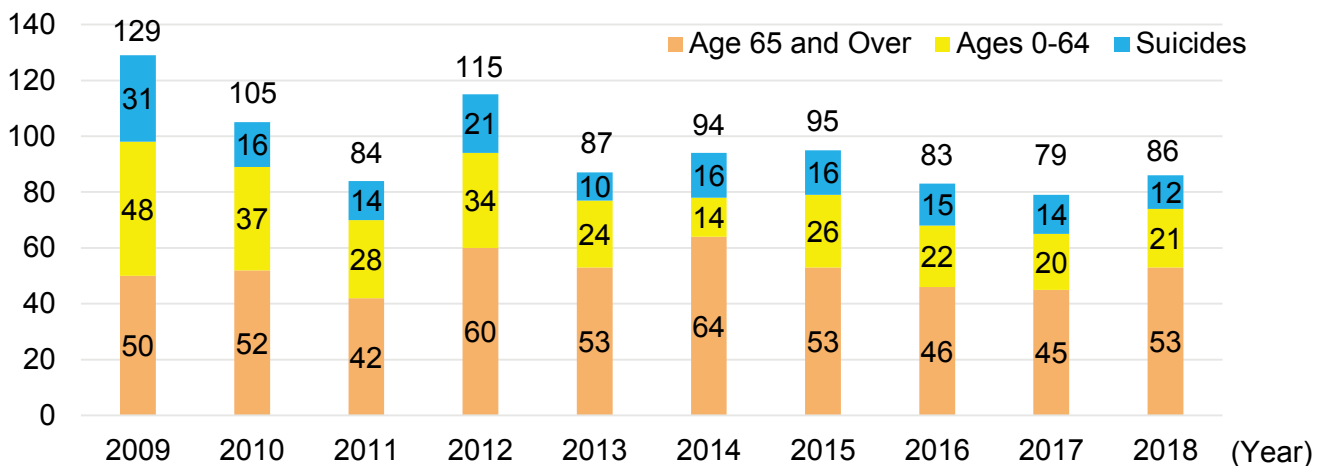
Chart 2-1. Number of Fire Deaths by Age Group (2018)

The number of fire deaths excluding self-inflicted loss in 2018 was 74, up 9 from the previous year. In terms of the occurrence of deaths by age group, the number of the elderly people aged 65 and over was 53 (71.6%), which accounted for the highest number and over 70% of fire deaths.

| | 2018 | From 2017 |
|--------------------|------------|-----------|
| Age 65 and Over | 53 (71.6%) | +8 |
| Ages 0-64 | 21 (28.4%) | +1 |
| Suicides | 12 | -2 |
| Excluding Suicides | 74 | +9 |
| TOTAL | 86 | +7 |

Chart 2-2. Number of Fire Deaths by Age Group (2009-2018)

(people)



3. Fire Injuries

Chart 3. Number of Fire Injuries by Severity (2018)

There were 798 fire injuries, up 40 from the previous year.

In terms of the degree of the 798 injuries, people with minor injuries accounted for nearly 60% of the total. However, the number of people with critical injuries accounted for 42 (5.3%), those with severe injuries accounted for 93 (11.7%), and those with moderate injuries accounted for 197 (24.7%). More than 40% of the injured persons having moderate or worse fire injuries required hospitalization.



| | 2018 (people) | From 2017 |
|------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Critical Fire Injuries | 42 (5.3%) | +17 |
| Severe Fire Injuries | 93 (11.7%) | +10 |
| Moderate Fire Injuries | 197 (24.7%) | -3 |
| Minor Fire Injuries | 466 (58.4%) | +16 |
| TOTAL | 798 | +40 |

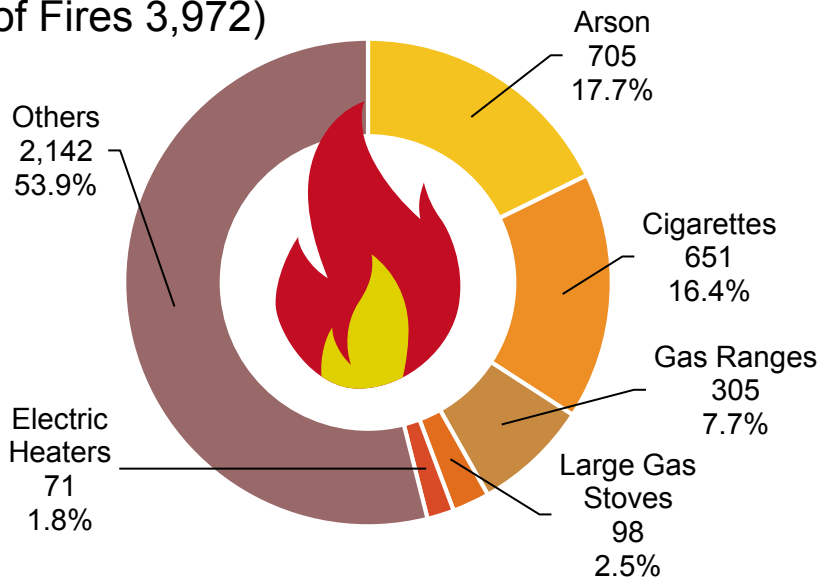
4. Fire Causes

Chart 4-1. Major Fire Causes (2018)

The first major cause of the fires in 2018 was arson (including suspected arson), followed by cigarettes and gas ranges and similar devices. There has been no change in ranking since 1995.

There were 705 cases of arson (including suspected arson), which accounted for the number one cause, down 191 from the previous year, and the ratio of arson fires out of a total of 3,972 fires was 17.7%. It has been the first major cause of fires since 1977. The second major cause was cigarettes, which accounted for 651 cases, down 40 from the previous year. The third major cause was gas ranges and similar devices, which accounted for 305 cases, down 55 from the previous year. The fourth major cause was large gas stoves, which accounted for 98 cases (an increase of three cases), followed by electric heaters, which accounted for 71 cases (down 29 cases). The ratio of arson in the total number of fires has been decreasing over the last 10 years. Although cigarettes and gas ranges, etc., as major fire causes remained flat, the percentage of cigarettes as a major cause in 2018 was 16.4%, which was about the same as the percentage in the previous year, hitting a peak for the last 10 years.

(Number of Fires 3,972)

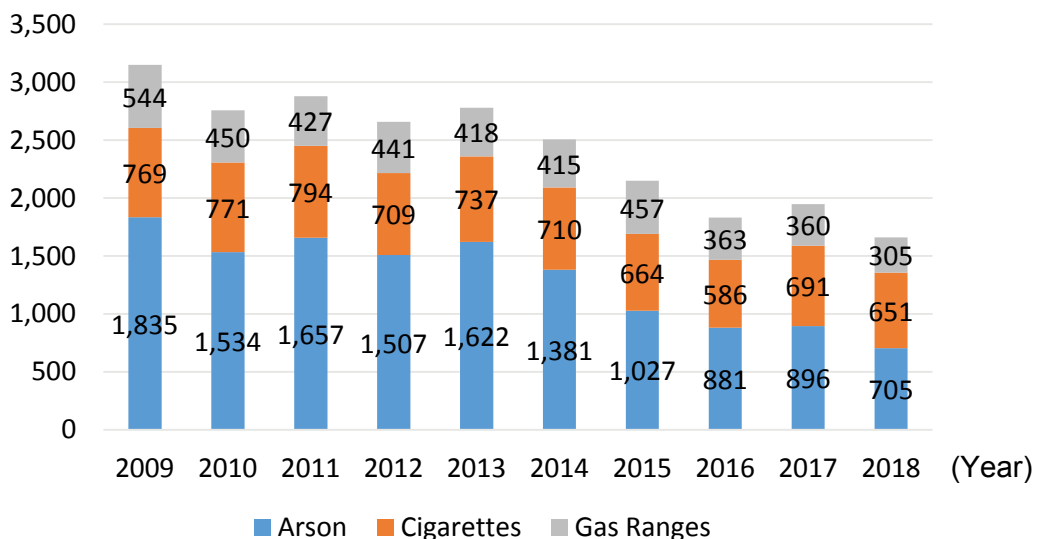


Note 1: Fires in extraterritoriality areas and outside the jurisdiction are excluded from the 3,972 incidents.

Note 2: Other breakdown items include cords, plugs, and outlets as the causes of fires.

Chart 4-2. Top Three of Major Fire Causes (2009-2018)

(Number)



5. Building Fires

**Chart 5-1. Number of Structure Fires by Different Types (2014-2018)
(Top Eight Structure Fires excluding Residential Fires)**

The number of fires that broke out from “structure fires” in 2018 was 2,609, down 121 from the previous year.

There were 1,484 fires that broke out from detached houses and apartment buildings, accounting for about 60% of the fires from buildings.

The breakdown shows 945 apartment building fires (down 73 from the previous year) and 539 detached house fires (down 40). There were 1,125 structure fires from the buildings other than those for residential use, down eight from the previous year. By type of use, the number of restaurant fires was 330, which was the largest (up 12 from the previous year), followed by 142 office fires (down 9) and 94 fires from department stores and article stores (down 16).

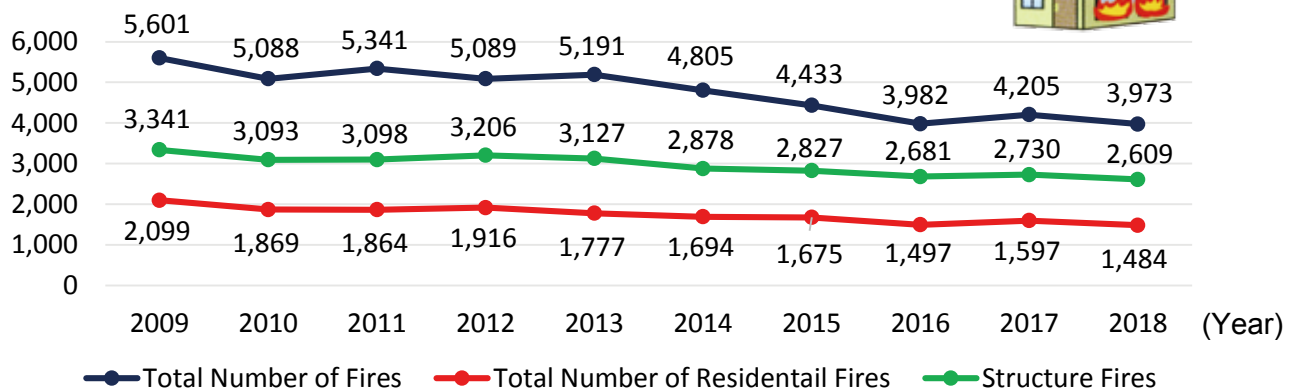
*The “*Structure Fires*” means the fires that broke out from commercial buildings, and the number of “*Structure Fires*” differs from the number of the “building fires” classified according to fire type.

| | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| House Fires | 634 | 615 | 539 | 579 | 539 |
| Apartment Building Fires | 1,060 | 1,060 | 958 | 1,018 | 945 |
| Total Number of Residential Fires | 1,694 | 1,675 | 1,497 | 1,597 | 1,484 |
| Restaurant Fires | 296 | 339 | 345 | 318 | 330 |
| Office Fires | 123 | 121 | 126 | 151 | 142 |
| Department Store Fires | 113 | 87 | 103 | 110 | 94 |
| Factory Fires | 84 | 95 | 89 | 84 | 90 |
| Hotel Fires | 33 | 26 | 37 | 36 | 19 |
| School Fires | 27 | 29 | 33 | 31 | 40 |
| Hospital Fires | 13 | 20 | 17 | 24 | 21 |
| Railroad Station Fires | 22 | 18 | 21 | 14 | 16 |
| Total Number of Structure Fires | 2,878 | 2,827 | 2,681 | 2,730 | 2,609 |

Chart 5-2. Breakdown of Building Fires (2009-2018)

The number of the fires that occurred during 2018 was 3,973, of which 1,484 were residential fires. The number of residential fires decreased by 113 from the previous year. As for the changes in the number of housing fires over the last 10 years, the number decreased by 615 in 2018 down to 1,484 compared to 2,099 in 2009, when many residential fires occurred.

(Number)



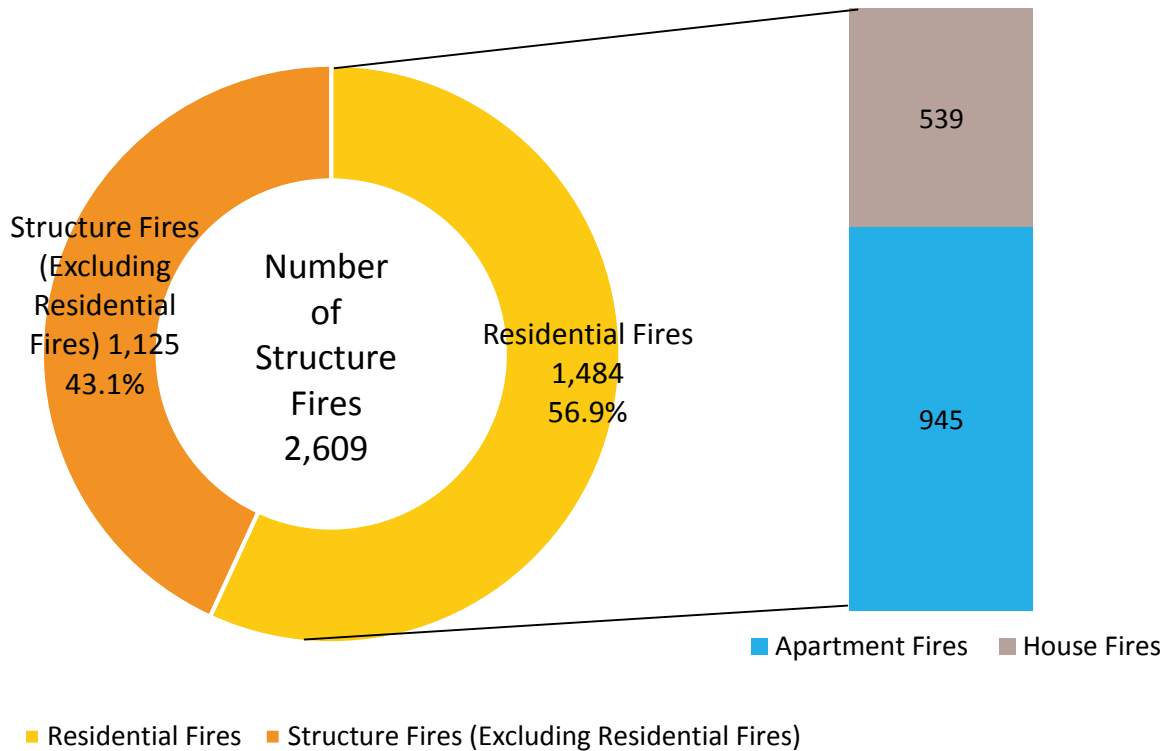


Chart 5-3. Residential Fire Causes (2018)

As for the causes of fires in 2018, the first major cause was cooking stoves, which accounted for 298 cases (20.1%), followed by 276 cases caused by cigarettes (18.6%), 116 cases of arson (7.8%), and 97 cases caused by heaters (6.5%). When these top-ranking causes are combined, they account for about 60% of the total.

Keep in mind that you should never leave cooking stoves in use unattended, smoke in bed, or place flammable materials near heaters.

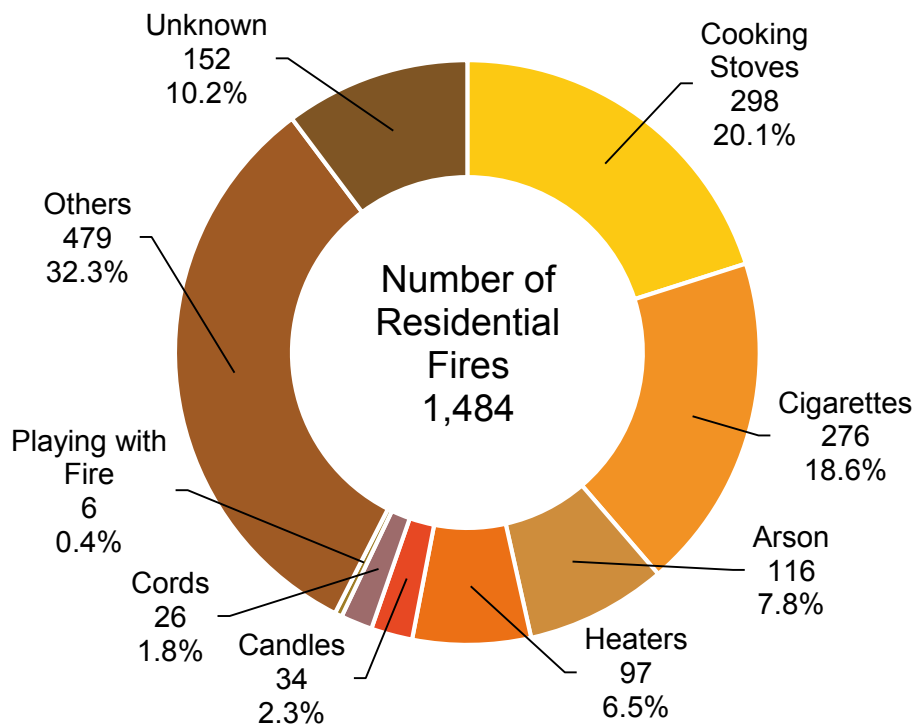


Chart 5-4. Number of Residential Fire Deaths (2009-2018)

The number of the fire deaths excluding self-inflicted loss in 2018 was 74, up 9 from the previous year. Of these, 66 were killed by residential fires, up 7 from the previous year. The proportion of the deaths due to residential fires except self-inflicted loss was 89.2%.

In terms of housing type, 27 people (40.9%) were killed by detached house fires, and 39 people (59.1%) were killed by apartment building fires, which means the proportion of residential fires is high.

*Residential fires include the fires at multi-use housing, apartment buildings, and dormitories.

(People)

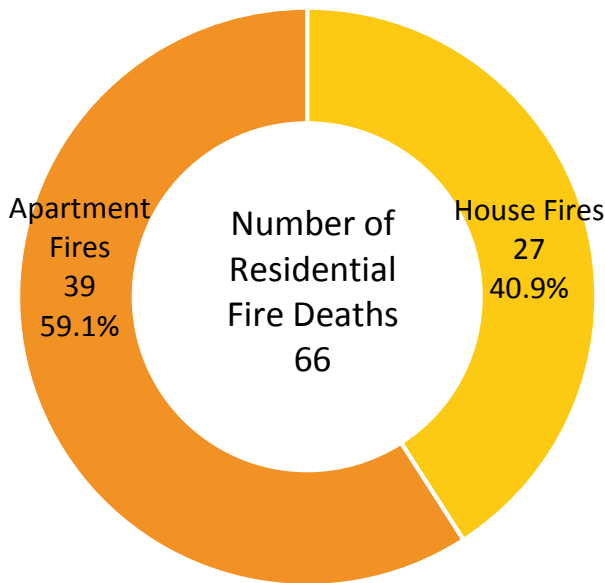
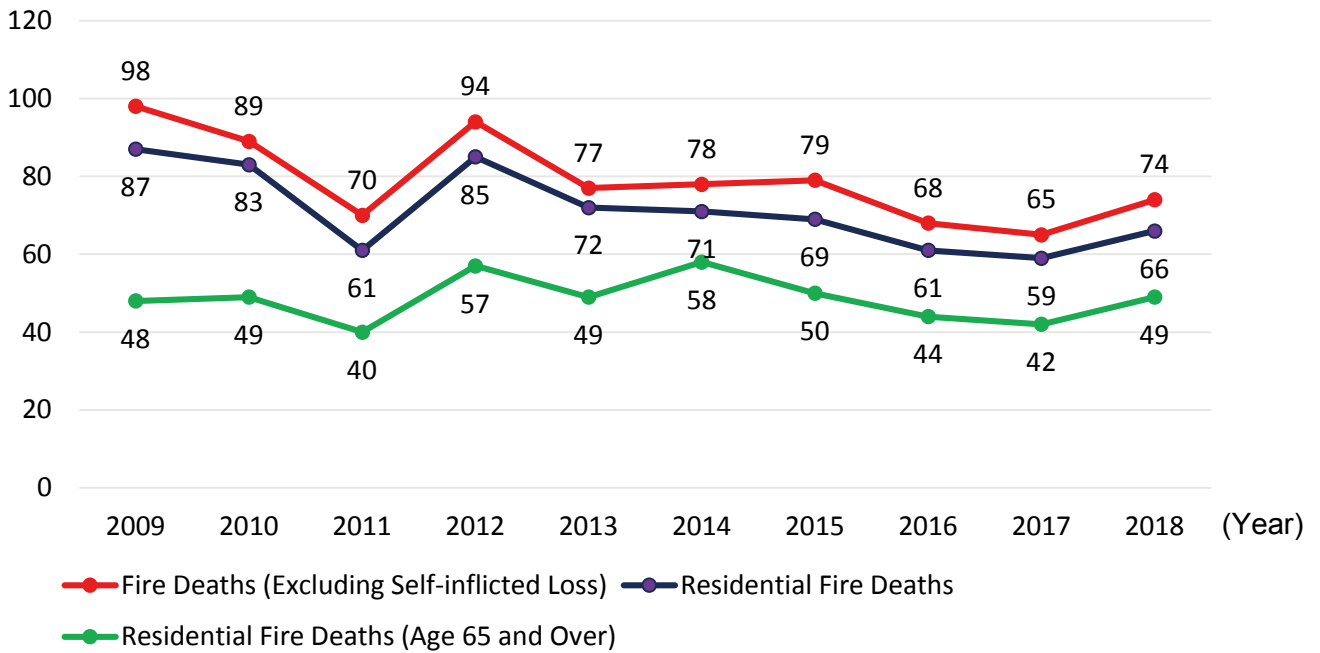


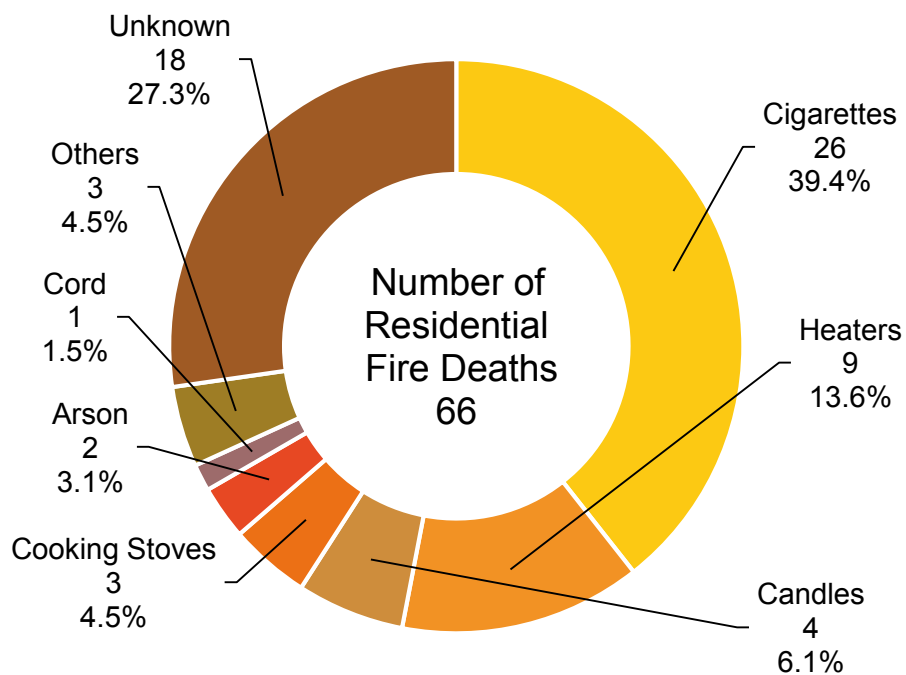
Chart 5-5. Breakdown of Residential Fire Deaths by Age Group (2018)

As for the residential fire deaths classified by age, it is absolutely necessary to make the living environment of the elderly safe, because 49 elderly people (74.2%) of 65 years or older occupy about 70% of the total. The TFD conducts comprehensive fire and disaster diagnosis as a community effort to ensure the safety and security of those who need attention. In terms of gender, there were 39 men (59.1%) and 27 women (40.9%), with a higher percentage of men. As for the elderly, the table shows that there were 28 men (71.8%) and 21 women (77.8%).

| Age | Men | Women | TOTAL |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Ages 0-5 | 0 | 0 | 0 (0%) |
| Ages 6-19 | 0 | 0 | 0 (0%) |
| Ages 20-64 | 11 | 6 | 17 (25.8%) |
| Ages 65 and Over | 28 | 21 | 49 (74.2%) |
| TOTAL | 39 (59.1%) | 27 (40.9%) | 66 (100%) |

Chart 5-6. Residential Fire Deaths by Fire Cause (2018)

Of the 66 residential fire deaths, cigarettes were the first major cause, which killed 26 people (39.4%), followed by heaters, which killed 9 people (13.6%), and candles, which killed 4 people (6.1%).



6. Residential Fire Alarms

Chart 6. Percentage of the Homes with Fire Alarms (2007-2018)

The installation rate of residential fire alarms in 2018 was 85.2%.

The installation rate, which was about 20% when all houses were obliged to install fire alarms in 2006, rose to about 80% in 2010, four years later. A residential fire alarm may not be able to detect fires due to the lifespan or failure of electronic components, battery exhaustion, etc., so conduct a regular inspection by pressing the button on the main unit or pulling the string. It is also important to check the replacement period (about 10 years) of the main unit with the instruction manual or on the basis of the year of manufacture.

