Massachusetts Fires in 2018



Structure Arson by Year



Motor Vehicle Arson by Year



Structure arson decreased by 30% and motor vehicle arson increased 8% from 2017 to 2018. Since 1985, motor vehicle arson has fallen 98.5%. For statistical purposes, a fire is considered arson when the cause is listed as intentional & age is not a factor or the person involved was over 18. This definition excludes undetermined and juvenile-set fires.

Department of Fire Services

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Massachusetts Fire Deaths in 2018



- 40 fatal fires killed 45 civilians 24 men, 19 women and 2 people under age 18.
- 1 firefighter died in a fire-related incident.
- Forty-four percent (44%) of fatal fire victims were older adults (over 65).
- Fire deaths decreased by 22% from the 58 in 2017.
- Eighty-seven percent (87%) of the civilian fire victims died in their homes.
- In 2018, smoking fires were the leading cause of residential fire deaths; smoking fires caused 13, or 33% of home fire deaths.



