

Office of the Fire Commissioner



2nd **Quarter Statistics** | Apr. 1, 2023 – Jun. 30, 2023

New Fires



Structure 704 Fires 4 Deaths 41 Injuries



Vehicle 258 Fires 1 Death 9 Injuries



Outdoor 1382 Fires 0 Deaths 3 Injuries



Person*
8 Fires
4 Deaths
4 Injuries

Fire Loss Statistics

# of Fires	Property Loss	Contents Loss	Total Loss	Injuries	Deaths
2,352	\$59M +	\$12M +	\$71M +	57	9

There are 2 additional deaths pending further investigation, bringing the potential total fire-related deaths in British Columbia in the second quarter of 2023 to **11.**

^{*}Accidental or otherwise involving a person and fire e.g., refueling, fireworks, campfire etc.

Areas of Interest for this Quarter



17 fires this quarter were started by a rechargeable battery resulting in almost a million dollars in loss.



336 fires were reported as suspicious, and **454 fires** were reported as incendiary.



58 fires, 10 injuries and 2 deaths were a result of suspected impairment (use of alcohol or drugs).



439 fires originated in garbage, trash or rubbish.

Fire Cause Contributors

This section refers to the human action or inaction that contributes to the fire cause or which caused the fire for all reported fires.

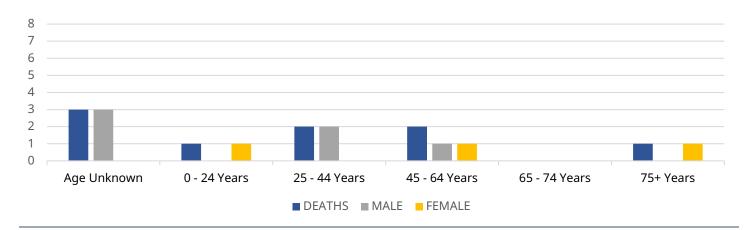
- **245** fires were caused by the ignorance of a hazard
 - **71** fires were caused by people who were distracted or preoccupied
 - fires were caused by suspected impairment use of alcohol, drugs, or medication

Actions Taken to Combat the Fire

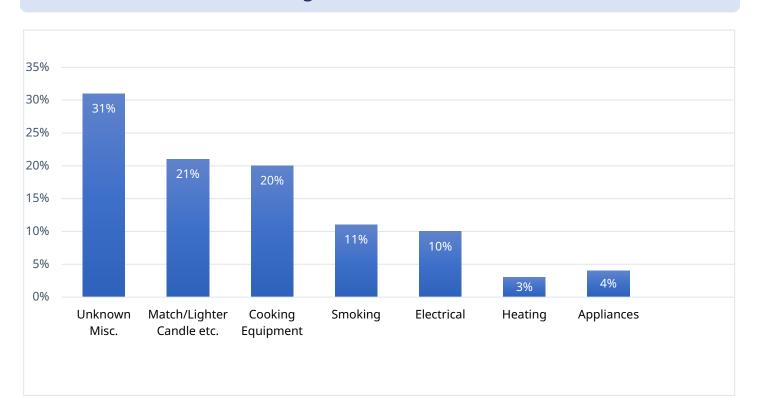
- **74%** of fires were extinguished by a fire department
- **14%** of fires were extinguished by others (passer-by, occupant, witness etc.)
 - **8%** of fires that did not require extinguishing and burned out of fires where actions varied, e.g., fire extinguished by automatic system;
 - **4%** shut off gas, oil, electricity; no action taken (exposure damage only blistering, etc.)

Deaths

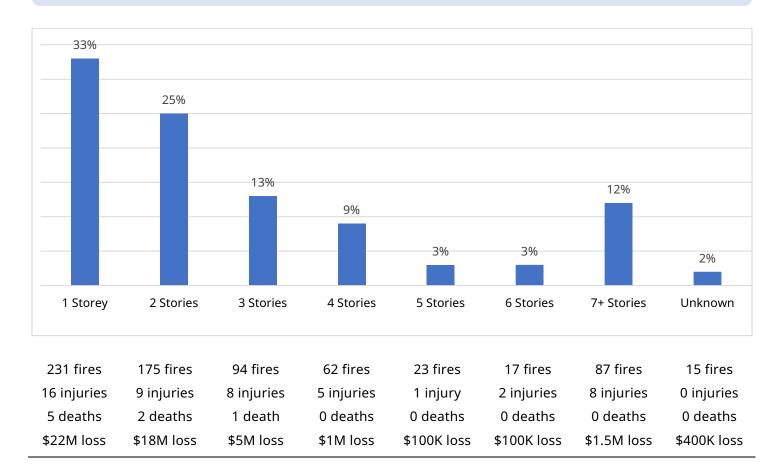
There were **9** reported deaths in BC during 2023 Q2 versus **16** deaths reported in 2022 Q2.



Sources of Ignition for STRUCTURE Fires



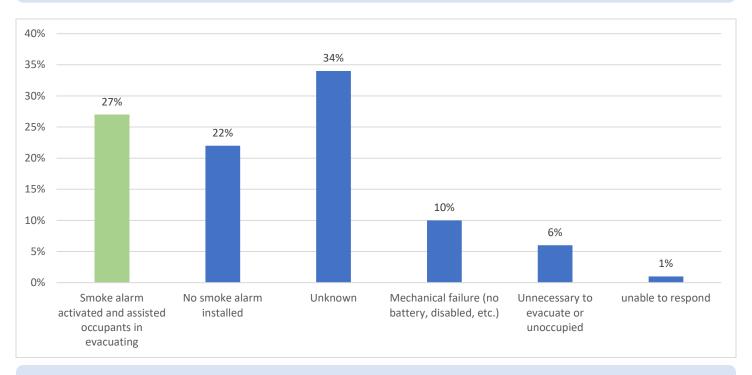
Building Height: Fire Breakdowns



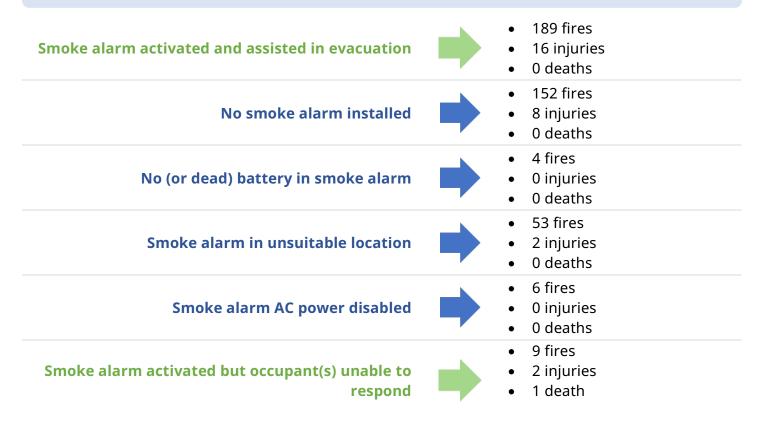
Fire Incidents by OFC Regions

	# of Fires	Total Loss \$	Injuries	Deaths	# of Locations Reporting for 2nd Quarter
Region 1: Vancouver Island	162	6M	1	0	34
Region 2: Lower Mainland	1,553	24M	37	6	39
Region 3: Kootenay	148	7M	6	0	35
Region 4: Interior	331	9M	7	2	42
Region 5: Northern	158	25M	6	1	29
PROVINCIAL TOTAL	2,352	71M	57	9	179

Smoke Alarm Operation



Fires, Injuries and Deaths by Smoke Alarm Operation



Note: Report statistics are based on fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC). They are subject to change as fire reports are continuously submitted by communities after the publication date. Also, the OFC's and the Coroners Service's fire fatality data may differ due to definitions and criteria. The findings should be interpreted with caution as they do not take a coroner's investigative findings into consideration. The OFC and the Coroners Service are working to reconcile their data sets.