



## 4th Quarter Statistics<sup>1</sup> | October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024

### New Fires



**Structure**  
915 Fires  
12 Deaths  
59 Injuries



**Vehicle**  
392 Fires  
6 Deaths  
4 Injuries



**Outdoor**  
1,262 Fires  
0 Deaths  
2 Injuries



**Person\***  
11 Fires  
0 Deaths  
7 Injuries

\*Accidental or otherwise involving a person and fire (e.g., refueling, fireworks, campfire etc.).

### Fire Loss Statistics

# of Fires	Property Loss	Contents Loss	Total Loss	Injuries	Deaths
2,580	\$136M +	\$46M +	\$182M +	72	18

<sup>1</sup> **Data notes:** There may be a difference between the Office of the Fire Commissioner’s (OFC) and the British Columbia Coroners Service’s (BCCS) fire fatality data due to definitions and criteria. This report provides preliminary data on fire-related incidents and fatalities. The findings should be interpreted with caution as they do not take a coroner’s investigative findings into consideration. The OFC and the BCCS are working to reconcile their data sets.

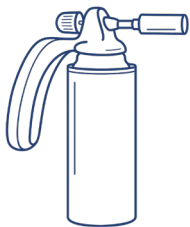
## Areas of Interest for this Quarter



**141 fires** in outdoor property inside an encampment of persons experiencing homelessness (including brush, grass, etc.).



**44 fires** occurred in tractor trailers and ground transport vehicles resulting in over **\$2.6 million in loss**.



**27 fires** were started with a torch (including blow torch, plumbers torch, etc.) resulting in **7 injuries and 4 deaths**.



**16 fires** started from use of a wood/pellet stove resulting in **3 injuries** and approximately **\$2 million** in damages.

## Fire Cause Contributors

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

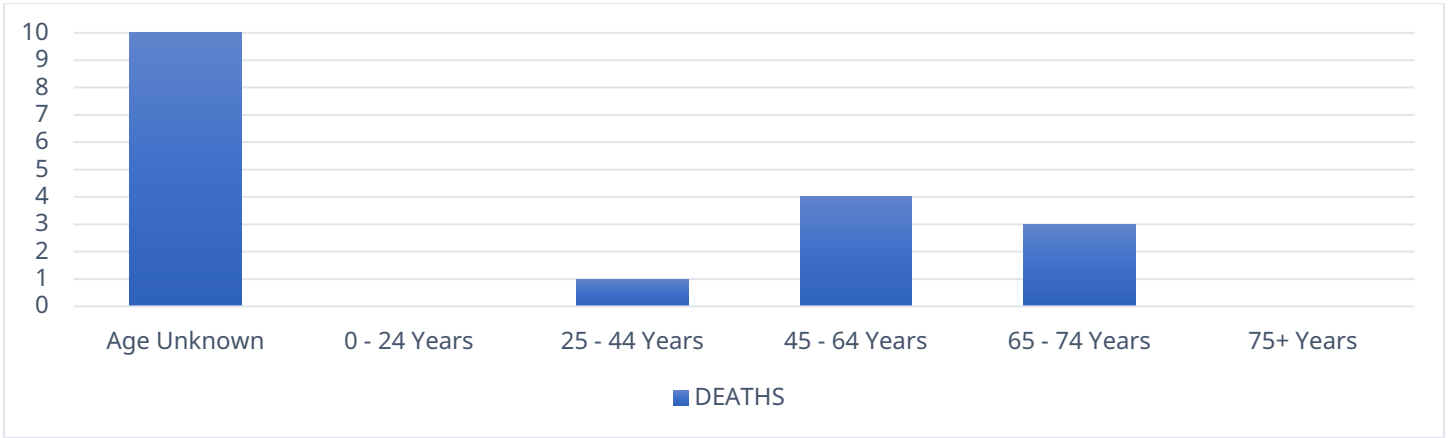
- 319** fires were caused by the unawareness of a hazard
- 85** fires were caused by people who were distracted or preoccupied
- 90** fires were caused by suspected impairment – use of alcohol, drugs, or medication

## Actions Taken to Combat the Fire

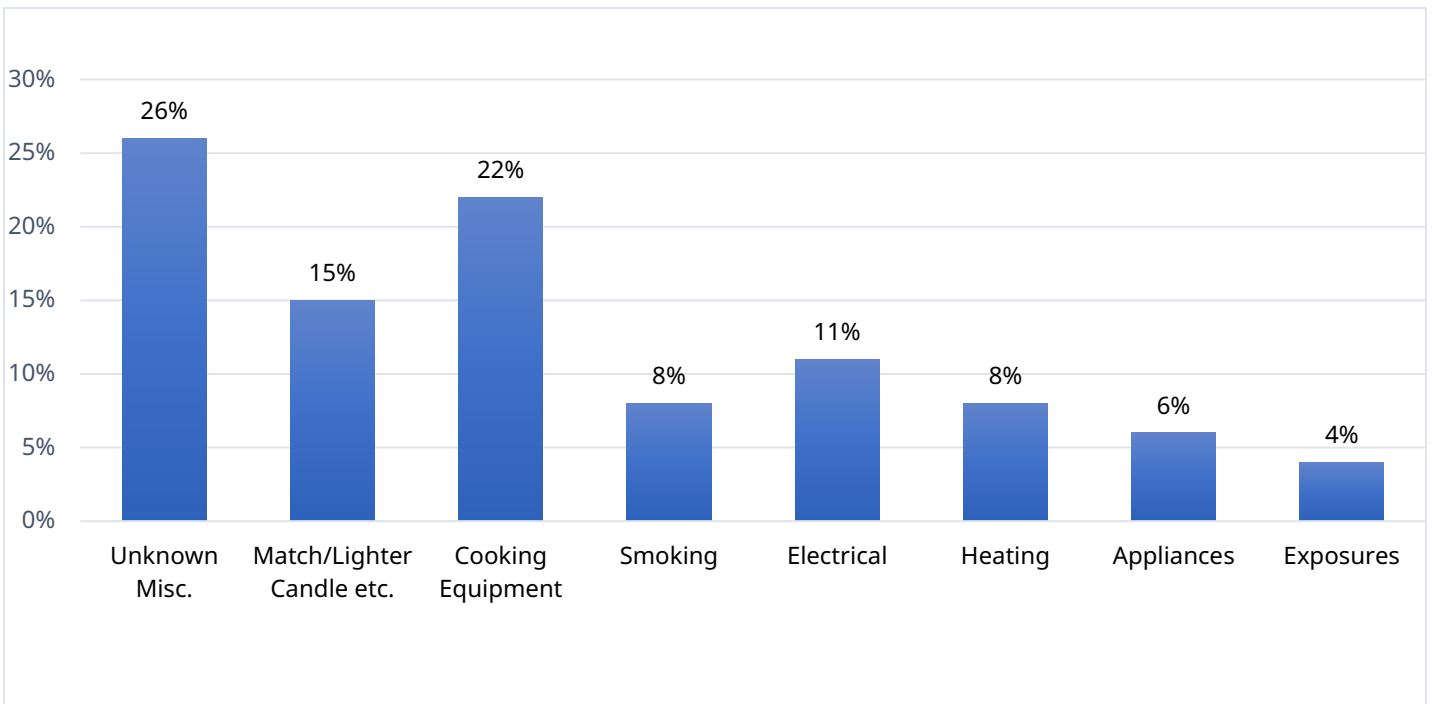
- 72%** of fires were extinguished by a fire department
- 14%** of fires were extinguished by others (e.g., passer-by, occupant, witness, etc.)
- 10%** of fires did not require extinguishing and burned out
- 4%** of fires where actions varied, e.g., fire extinguished by automatic system, shut off gas, oil, electricity, or it was a minor fire (e.g., exposure damage, blistering) with no action taken, unknown

## Deaths

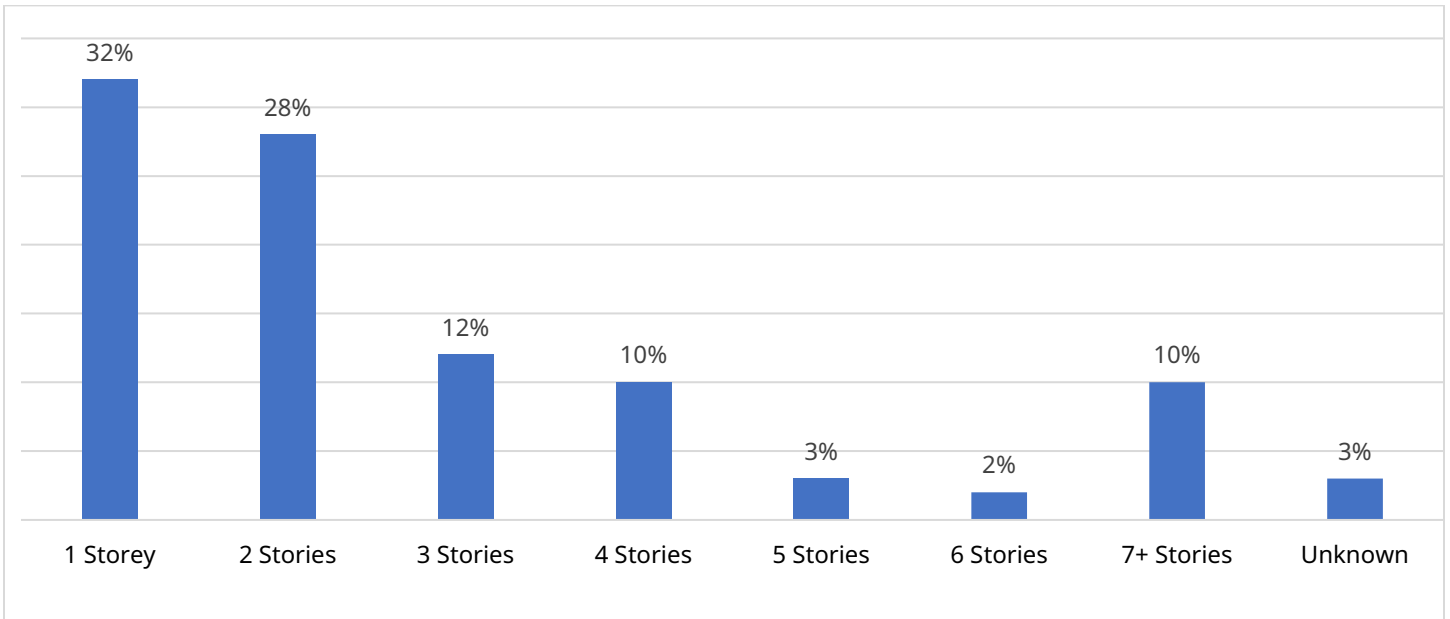
There were 18 deaths reported in BC during 2024 Q4 and 13 deaths reported in 2023 Q4.



## Sources of Ignition for Structure Fires



## Building Height: Fire Breakdowns

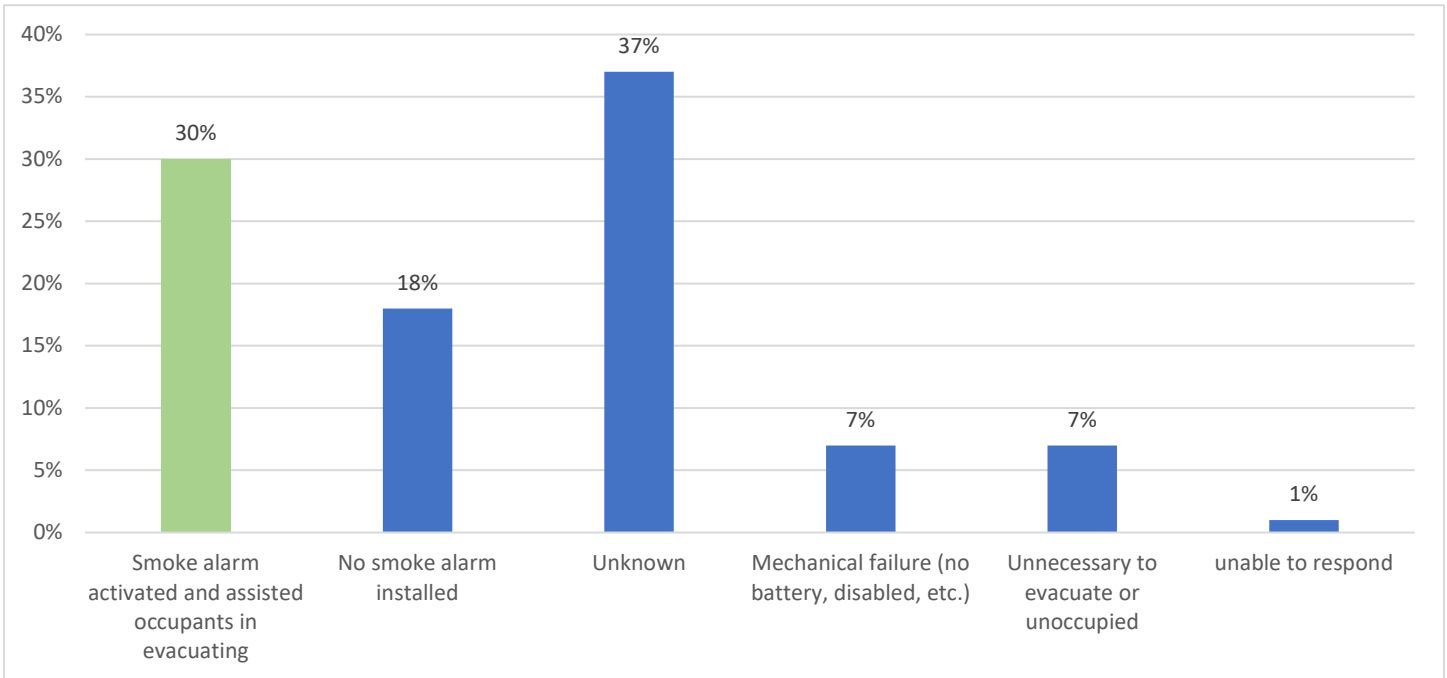


301 fires	223 fires	123 fires	79 fires	29 fires	25 fires	94 fires	41 fires
17 injuries	16 injuries	10 injuries	7 injuries	2 injuries	2 injuries	5 injuries	0 injuries
2 deaths	9 deaths	0 deaths	3 deaths	0 deaths	0 deaths	0 deaths	0 deaths
\$38.3M loss	\$75.8M loss	\$7M loss	\$7M loss	\$160K loss	\$92K loss	\$12.1M loss	\$5M loss

## Fire Incidents by OFC Regions

	# of Fires	Total Loss \$	Injuries	Deaths	# of Locations Reporting for 4th Quarter
<b>Region 1:</b> Vancouver Island	315	\$25M	10	6	46
<b>Region 2:</b> Lower Mainland	1562	\$95M	48	3	32
<b>Region 3:</b> Kootenay	108	\$43M	5	3	25
<b>Region 4:</b> Interior	473	\$13M	6	5	45
<b>Region 5:</b> Northern	122	\$6M	3	1	32
<b>PROVINCIAL TOTAL</b>	<b>2,580</b>	<b>\$182M</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>180</b>

## Smoke Alarm Operation



## Fires, Injuries and Deaths by Smoke Alarm Operation

<b>Smoke alarm activated and assisted in evacuation</b>	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 274 fires</li> <li>• 24 injuries</li> <li>• 2 deaths</li> </ul>
<b>No smoke alarm installed</b>	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 167 fires</li> <li>• 13 injuries</li> <li>• 2 deaths</li> </ul>
<b>No (or dead) battery in smoke alarm</b>	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 fires</li> <li>• 2 injuries</li> <li>• 1 death</li> </ul>
<b>Smoke alarm in unsuitable location</b>	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28 fires</li> <li>• 1 injury</li> <li>• 0 deaths</li> </ul>
<b>Smoke alarm AC power disabled</b>	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 fires</li> <li>• 0 injuries</li> <li>• 1 death</li> </ul>
<b>Smoke alarm activated but occupant(s) unable to respond</b>	➔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 fires</li> <li>• 0 injuries</li> <li>• 0 deaths</li> </ul>

**Note:** These statistics are based on fire incidents reported to the Office of the Fire Commissioner. They are subject to change as fire reports are continuously submitted by communities after the date of this publication.