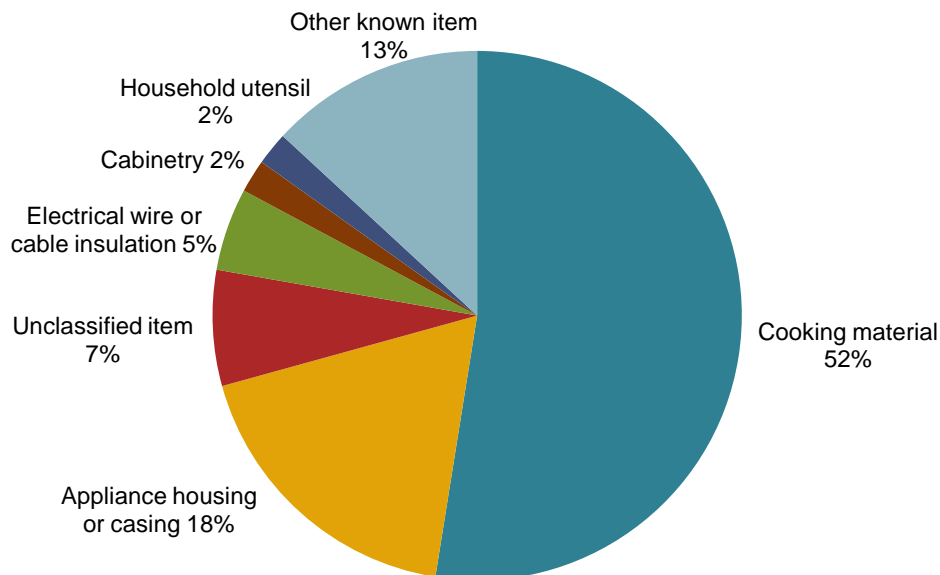


Home Fires Involving Microwave Ovens

During 2006-2010, U.S. fire departments responded to an average of 7,300 home¹ structure fires per year in which a microwave oven was involved in ignition. These fires caused an annual average of less than 10 civilian deaths, 150 civilian injuries, and \$31 million in direct property damage.

- Three out of five (60%) of the involved microwaves were stationary and 40% were portable. Nearly all (95%) of these fires began in the kitchen.
- One in every six (18%) of microwave oven home structure fires cited appliance housing or casing as the item first ignited.
- Microwave ovens involve more emergency room scald burn injuries than any other cooking device.
- Nearly half (44%) of the microwave oven injuries seen at emergency rooms in 2011 were scalds.
- One-third of the scald burns and 15% of all microwave oven related injuries were scald burns incurred by children under five years of age.

Home Fires Involving Microwave Ovens, by Item First Ignited, 2006-2010



¹ Homes are dwellings, duplexes, manufactured homes, apartments, townhouses, rowhouses and condominiums.