

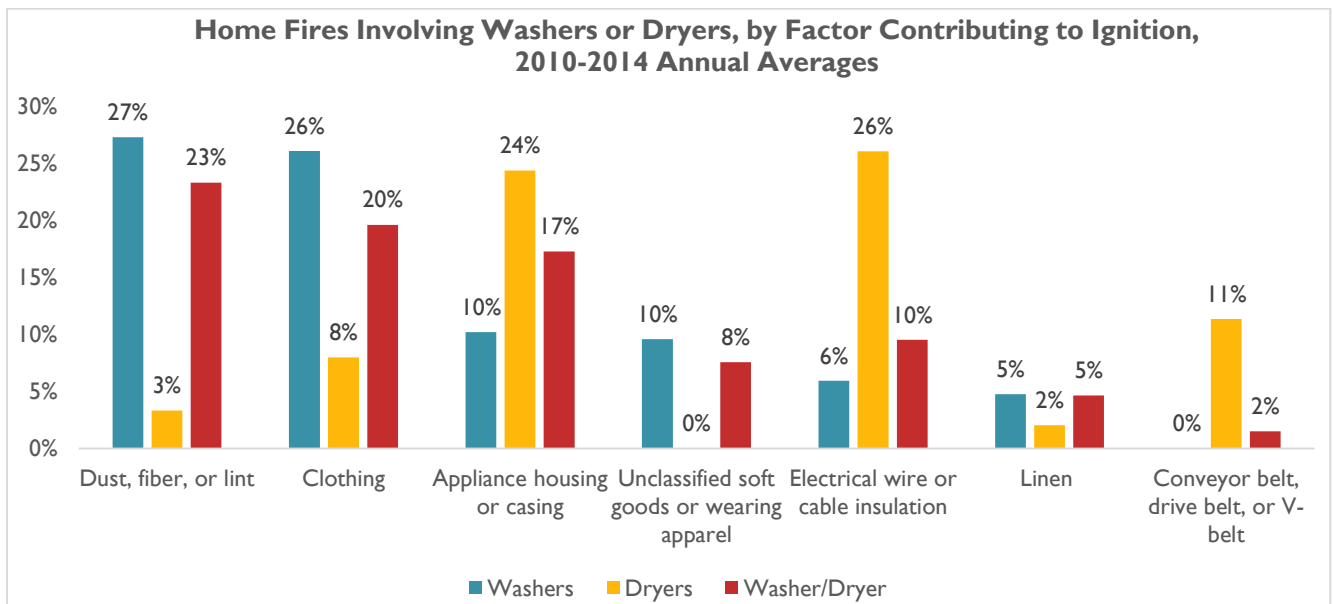


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## Clothes Dryers and Washing Machines Fact Sheet

In 2010-2014, U.S. municipal fire departments responded to an estimated 15,970 home fires involving clothes dryers or washing machines each year.\* These fires resulted in annual losses estimated at:

- 13 civilian deaths
- 440 civilian injuries
- \$238 million in direct property damage



Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

In 2010-2014:

- The leading item first ignited in clothes dryer fires were dust, fiber, or lint (27%) and clothing (26%). In washing machine fires, the leading items first ignited were electrical wire or cable insulation (26%) and appliance housing or casing (24%).
- Most of these home fires involve clothes dryers (92%).
- The leading cause (31%) of home clothes dryer and washer fires was failure to clean.

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

Source: *Home Fires Involving Clothes Dryers or Washing Machines*, Richard Campbell, April 2017  
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