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Colorado Department of Public Safety  
**Division of Fire Safety**  
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## FIRE IN COLORADO – 2004

(December 2005 Estimate)

NATURE OF INCIDENT	2004 TOTAL INCIDENTS (EST) <sup>1</sup>	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
Building Fires	4,518	1.21%
Vehicle Fires	2,610	0.70%
Other Fires	6,790	1.82%
<b>TOTAL FIRES</b>	<b>13,918</b>	<b>3.72%</b>
Overpressure Ruptures, Explosions	548	0.15%
Emergency Medical / Rescue Calls	243,030	64.99%
Hazardous Condition Calls	16,644	4.45%
Service Calls	26,516	7.09%
Good Intent Calls	30,270	8.10%
Severe Weather / Natural Disaster	263	0.07%
Special / Unknown Incidents	1,167	0.32%
False Alarms (Includes malicious)	41,567	11.12%
<b>TOTAL INCIDENTS</b>	<b>373,923</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Civilian Fire-Related Deaths	24	
Civilian Fire-Related Injuries	270	
Firefighter Line-of-Duty Deaths	0	
Firefighter Line-of-Duty Injuries	135	
Estimated Total Property Loss	\$99.6 Million	

<sup>1</sup> These figures were compiled by the Colorado Division of Fire Safety from data submitted by local fire departments. A total of 123 fire departments, which protect about 81.0% of Colorado's resident population, submitted their 2004 data to the Division. For all reporting elements (except fire deaths), statistical methods were employed to project estimated actual rates from reported rates.

## CIVILIAN FIRE DEATHS – 2004

In 2004, there were a total of 24 civilian fire-related deaths reported to the Division of Fire Safety. This is based on data submitted from a total of 123 fire departments, which protect about 81.0% of Colorado's resident population. However, it is estimated that the actual number of civilian fire-related deaths in Colorado during 2004 was 29 persons (based on statistical projections). Following is a summary of some of the civilian fire-related deaths during 2004:

January 1, 2004, a 52 year old man died from burns he received after a propane tank exploded outside of his room at the Motel Roggen in Roggen, about 50 miles northeast of Denver along Interstate 76.

February 13, 2004, an unidentified man was found dead at the scene of an apartment-house fire in Denver.



### **Infant Killed in Fire at Aurora Day Care**

On November 18, 2004, a 3-month-old boy died in a house fire in the 2500 block of South Genoa Street in Aurora. The fire broke out in the home day care on Genoa Street in the Sterling Hills West subdivision of East Aurora just after 9 a.m. Thursday. Investigators said it spread quickly from the garage to the house, possibly because a door that led to the garage was left open.

The caretaker escaped with her child and two other children but an infant died in the heavy smoke.

An off-duty Denver County deputy who spotted the smoke while returning from his overnight shift tried to enter the burning home but couldn't get to the infant.

February 24, 2004, an elderly woman died of smoke inhalation in a house fire in her Englewood home. Her elderly husband, a prominent Englewood physician and former president of the Colorado Medical Society, was severely burned in the fire. He died from his injuries on February 27, 2004.

March 17, 2004, a 7-year-old autistic boy was killed in a fire in his home in the 6600 block of West Colorado Avenue, in Lakewood. The fire is believed to have been set by the youth or his 5-year-old brother.

April 29, 2004, a house fire at Carter Lake southwest of Loveland destroyed a home and claimed the life of the owner, a 51 year-old male.



### **Platte Canyon Firefighters Battle Deadly Tanker Fire**

On May 20, 2004, a tanker laden with nearly 9,000 gallons of gasoline left U.S. Highway 285 in rural Park County, Colorado, west of the Town of Bailey. It overturned and burst into flames. The trailer came to rest upside down off the roadway in a small pond. The driver was found dead near the blazing wreckage.

37 Firefighters responded from Platte Canyon. The fire took several hours to control. The highway remained closed for at least 24 hours as environmental cleanup crews recovered an estimated 4000 gallons of unburned gasoline. Fire crews expended more than 300 gallons of foam concentrate controlling the fire and laying a protective blanket on the pond.

May 20, 2004, a 32 year-old male died when his gasoline tanker truck rolled and exploded into flames on U.S. 285 west of Bailey.

May 25, 2004, a 21-year-old male was killed in a fire at the Bishop Court Apartments in Castle Rock, when he was unable to escape from a 2nd floor apartment.

July 1, 2004, an unidentified man was found dead in a house fire at 949 S. Perry Street in Denver.

July 21, 2004, an unidentified man was killed in an explosion and fire in a home located just off of Hogden and Thompson Roads in Black Forest (El Paso County).

August 25, 2004, a 25-year-old man died after firefighters pulled him from a burning home in the 12000 block of West Stanford Drive in Morrison. Investigators from West Metro Fire District and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office said the fire was set deliberately.

November 18, 2004, a 3-month-old boy died in a house fire in the 2500 block of South Genoa Street in Aurora.

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### **Candle Started Mobile-Home Fire That Killed Sisters**



**Greeley** - Fire investigators concluded that a lighted candle started a mobile-home fire that killed two young sisters. The candle was in the girls' bedroom.

Brianna and Janet Quintero, ages 3 and 5, died December 1 when their family's mobile home erupted into flames.

Firefighters found the front of the mobile home engulfed in flames when they arrived shortly after midnight.

The girls' mother and stepfather suffered minor injuries while trying to rescue the girls. They were home when the fire broke out.

Firefighters were unable to reach the girls because they encountered burned out floors and falling ceilings as they tried to rescue them.

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November 19, 2004, a 44-year-old woman committed suicide by setting herself on fire in a Cheesman Park alley in Denver.

November 27, 2004, an unidentified woman was found dead in a house fire in the 9900 block of East Walsh Place in Denver.

December 1, 2004, two girls, ages 3 and 5, died December 1 when their family's mobile home, in the Holiday Village Mobile Home Community in southeast Greeley, erupted into flames.

December 5, 2004, an 89 year-old woman died in a house fire in the 500 block of South Oneida Way in Denver.

## **Participation in the Colorado Fire Incident Reporting System**

The Division of Fire Safety would like to acknowledge those fire departments that participated in the Colorado Fire Incident Reporting System during 2004:

Akron Vol. Fire Dept.  
Artesia Vol. Fire Dept.  
Arvada Fire Dept.  
Aspen Fire Prot. Dist.  
Aurora Fire Dept.  
Basalt and Rural Fire Prot. Dist.  
Bennett Fire Prot. Dist.  
Berthoud Fire Prot. Dist.  
Black Forest Fire Rescue  
Black Hawk Fire Dept.  
Blanca Vol. Fire Dept.  
Boulder Fire Dept.  
Boulder Rural Fire Prot. Dist.  
Burning Mountain Fire Prot. Dist.  
Carbondale & Rural Fire Prot. Dist.  
Castle Rock Fire & Rescue Dept.  
Chaffee County Fire Prot. Dist.  
Cherryvale Fire Prot. Dist.  
Cimarron Hills Fire Prot. Dist.  
Clifton Fire Prot. Dist.  
Coal Creek Canyon Fire Prot. Dist.  
Colorado Sierra Fire Dept.  
Colorado Springs Fire Dept.  
Copper Mountain Fire Dept.  
Cortez Fire Prot. Dist.  
Cripple Creek Emergency Services  
Cunningham Fire Prot. Dist.  
Delta County FPD #5 (Crawford FD)  
Delta County FPD #4 (Hotchkiss FD)  
Denver Fire Dept.  
Durango Fire Rescue Authority  
East Grand County Fire Prot. Dist.  
Eaton Fire Prot. Dist.  
Elizabeth Fire Prot. Dist.  
Englewood Fire Department  
Estes Park Vol. Fire Dept.  
Evans Fire Dept.  
Fairmount Fire Prot. Dist.  
Falcon Fire Prot. Dist.  
Federal Heights Fire Dept.  
Fisher's Peak Fire Prot. Dist.  
Foothills Fire Prot. Dist.  
Fort Lupton Fire Prot. Dist.  
Fort Morgan Fire Dept.  
Fountain Fire Dept.  
Four Mile Fire Prot. Dist.

Glenwood Springs Fire Dept.  
Golden Fire Dept.  
Golden Gate Fire Prot. Dist.  
Grand Fire Prot. Dist. #1  
Grand Junction Fire Dept.  
Grand Valley Fire Prot. Dist.  
Greater Eagle Fire Prot. Dist.  
Gunnison Fire Dept.  
Gypsum Fire Prot. Dist.  
Hartsel Fire Prot. Dist.  
Hillrose-Snyder Fire Prot. Dist.  
Hygiene Fire Prot. Dist.  
Indian Hill Fire Rescue  
Johnstown Fire & Rescue  
Kiowa Fire Prot. Dist.  
Kremmling Fire Prot. Dist.  
La Junta Rural Fire Prot. Dist.  
La Salle Fire Prot. Dist.  
Lafayette Fire Dept.  
Lake Dillon Fire Prot. Dist.  
Lamar Fire Dept.  
Lands End Fire Prot. Dist.  
Littleton Fire Rescue  
Livermore Fire Prot. Dist.  
Longmont Fire Department  
Los Pinos Fire Prot. Dist.  
Loveland Fire & Rescue (City)  
Loveland Rural Fire Prot. Dist.  
Lyons Fire Prot. Dist.  
Merino Fire Dept.  
Milliken Fire Prot. Dist.  
Montrose Fire Prot. Dist.  
Nederland Fire Prot. Dist.  
North Metro Fire Rescue District  
North Park Fire Rescue  
North Routt Fire Prot. Dist.  
North Washington Fire Prot. Dist.  
Oak Creek Fire Prot. Dist.  
Pagosa Fire Prot. Dist.  
Parker Fire Prot. Dist.  
Peetz Vol. Fire Dept.  
Pitkin Vol. Fire Dept.  
Plateau Valley Fire Prot. Dist.  
Pleasant View Fire Prot. Dist.  
Poudre Canyon Fire Prot. Dist.  
Pueblo Fire Dept.

Pueblo Rural Fire Prot. Dist.  
Red, White & Blue Fire Prot. Dist.  
Rio Blanco Fire Prot. Dist. (Meeker FD)  
Rist Canyon Vol. Fire Dept.  
Sable-Altura Fire Dept.  
Salida Fire Dept.  
San Isabel Vol. Fire Fighters  
Sheridan Fire Dept.  
Skyline Fire Prot. Dist.  
Snake River Fire Prot. Dist.  
South Adams County Fire Prot. Dist.  
South Metro Fire Rescue  
Southwest Adams County Fire Dept.  
Steamboat Springs Fire Dept.  
Sterling Fire Dept.  
Stonewall Fire Prot. Dist.

Strasburg Fire Prot. Dist.  
Stratmoor Hills Fire Prot. Dist.  
Sugar Loaf Fire Prot. Dist.  
Sunshine Fire Prot. Dist.  
Telluride Fire Prot. Dist.  
Thornton Fire Dept.  
Tri-Lakes Fire Prot. Dist.  
Trinidad Fire Dept.  
Union Colony Fire/Rescue Authority  
Walsh Fire Department  
West Douglas County Fire Prot. Dist.  
West Metro Fire Prot. Dist.  
Westminster Fire Dept.  
Wiggins Fire Prot. Dist.  
Woodmoor-Monument Fire Prot. Dist.

Note: The Division would also like to acknowledge the following fire departments that have begun participating in NFIRS during 2005:

Baca Grande Vol. Fire Dept.  
Brush Fire Department  
Central Orchard Mesa Vol. Fire Dept.  
Deer Trail Fire Prot. Dist.  
Donald-Wescott Fire Prot. Dist.  
Edgewater Fire Department  
Ellicott Volunteer Fire Department  
Florissant Fire Prot. Dist.  
Genesee Fire & Rescue  
Granada Vol. Fire Dept.  
Hugo Vol. Fire Dept.  
Jackson 105 Fire Prot. Dist.

Julesburg Vol. Fire Dept.  
Leadville Lake County Fire Rescue  
Lower Valley Fire Prot. Dist.  
Manitou Springs Fire Dept.  
Northeast Teller County Fire Prot. Dist.  
North Routt Fire Prot. Dist.  
Palmer Lake Vol. Fire Dept.  
Security Fire Prot. Dist.  
Springfield Vol. Fire Dept.  
Wellington Fire Department  
Wheat Ridge Fire Dept.

### **Photo Credits**

Page 1 - Infant Killed in Fire at Aurora Day Care. TheDenverChannel.com (Channel 7), November 18, 2004.

Page 2 - Platte Canyon Firefighters Battle Deadly Tanker Fire. Firehouse.com

Page 3 - Candle Started Mobile-Home Fire That Killed Sisters. RockyMountainNews.com, December 8, 2004.