

## Causes and Circumstances of Home Candle Fires

- On average, one home candle fire is reported every 34 minutes.
- More than half of all candle fires start when something that could burn, such as furniture, mattresses or bedding, curtains, or decorations is too close to the candle.
- In one-fifth (20%) of candle fires, the candles are unattended or abandoned.
- Almost two-fifths of home candle fires begin in the bedroom.
- Falling asleep is a factor in 12% of home candle fires and 26% of the associated deaths.
- December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. In December, 13% of home candle fires begin with decorations compared to 4% the rest of the year.
- One-half of home candle fire deaths occur between Midnight and 6 am.
- Young children and older adults have the highest death risk from candle fires.
- The risk of fatal candle fires appears higher when candles are used for light.

Sources: NFIRS, NFPA