

OIA 2023-00009936 10 most common cause of residential structure fires

Since 1 January 2021 onwards

Fire Cause Name	Incidents Attended	Rank
Unattended cooking	1,265	1
Other electrical failure	511	2
Undetermined	393	3
Heat source too close to combustibles	268	4
Careless disposal or use: cigarettes, ashes, embers	255	5
Short circuit, earth fault	253	6
Failure to clean	219	7
Unable to classify	192	8
Suspicious	186	9
Carelessness with heat source - Other	181	10



OIA 2023-00009936 Average number of residential structure fires in Auckland and Christchurch by month

Since 1 January 2021 onwards

	Incidents	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2021	Auckland	65	74	72	58	79	52	75	59	72	58	70	53	66
	Christchurch City	17	18	14	21	25	29	23	15	20	23	22	25	21
2022	Auckland	74	51	64	65	71	31	13	11	45	28	7	33	41
	Christchurch City	23	16	14	15	18	7	1		10	9	1	7	11
2023	Auckland	54	20											37
	Christchurch City	17	5											11

Released under the Official Information Act 1982

Properties involved in Residential Structure Fires

Properties	2021	2022	2023	Total
Structure fire with damage	1,520	1,080	159	2,759
Structure fire with no damage	1,209	756	87	2,052
Total	2,729	1,836	246	4,811

Properties	2021	2022	2023	Total
Not Recorded	1,006	768	90	1,864
Other Detector	51	33	6	90
Smoke Alarms	1,673	1,035	149	2,857
Total	2,730	1,836	245	4,811

Prope	rties	2	2021	2022	2023	Total
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roperties w	ith Smc	oke Al	arm Fa	ilures	Reco	rded
-	erties		2021	2022	2023	
Detector Not in	Room of (Origin	252	126	15	393
No Failure Reco			2,287	1,606		
Smoke Alarm F	ailure Red	corded	178	100		
			2,717	1,832		C
20/02						C