



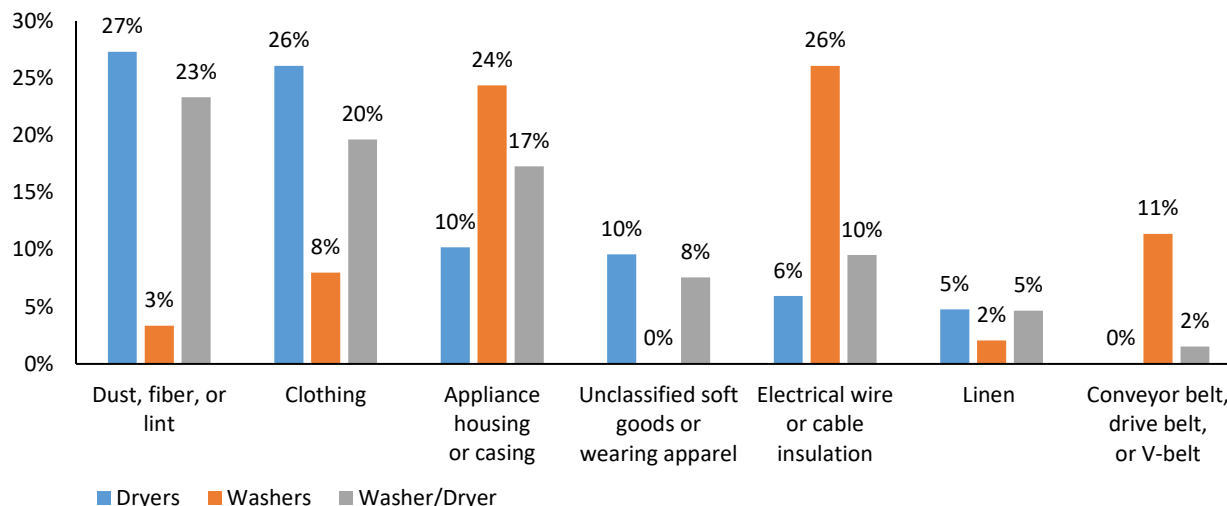
# FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

## Home Fires Involving Clothes Dryers and Washing Machines

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
- ▶ and \$238 million in direct property damage

**Home Fires Involving Washers and Dryers, by Factor Contributing to Ignition  
2010–2014 Annual Averages**



Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

### In 2010–2014:

- ▶ The leading items 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 involved 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: NFPA Research: [www.nfpa.org/research](http://www.nfpa.org/research)  
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