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U.S. HIGH RISE HOTEL FIRE STATISTICS

By Richard Schulte

Are U.S. high rise hotel buildings “safe”? The following are statistics collected by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) on the fire safety record of high rise hotels in the 14 year period between 1985 and 1998:

	Number of Fires	Civilian Fatalities	Civilian Injuries
1985	1,800	0	70
1986	1,600	0	50
1987	1,500	5	40
1988	1,800	8	60
1989	1,600	5	60
1990	1,600	7	120
1991	1,300	0	90
1992	1,300	0	80
1993	1,000	0	60
1994	900	0	70
1995	1,000	0	70
1996	1,100	8	100
1997	800	6	40
1998	800	0	20
Total:	18,100	39	930
Average:	1,293	3	67

Source: Table 1, *High Rise Building Fires*, John R. Hall, Jr., Fire Analysis and Research Division, National Fire Protection Association, June 2009

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