

Electrical Vehicle Fire Analysis from NFIRS and NERIS

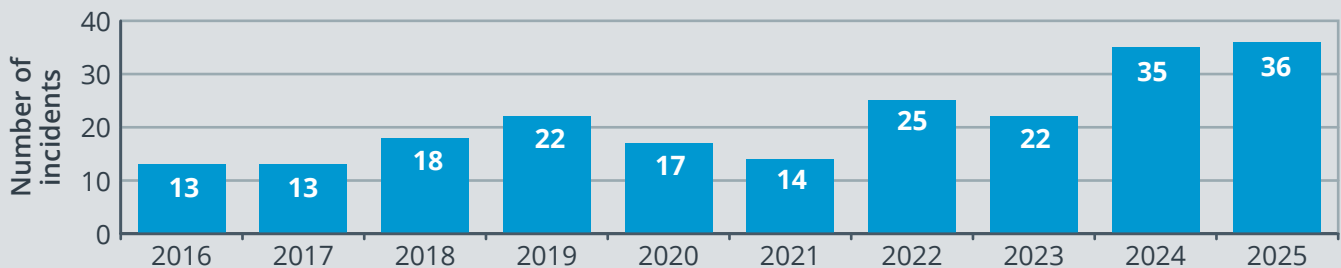
First responders are constantly faced with new emerging hazards in our rapidly changing world, particularly with the proliferation of electric vehicles (EVs). Firefighters reporting their incidents in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) were challenged with the system's limitations. Knowing that these incidents needed to be flagged in the new incident reporting system in an easier way, the developers of the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) allowed firefighters to flag their incidents as having an emerging hazard with a simple drop-down menu.

Below, historical NFIRS data shows that EV fires have been a problem in American communities for the past decade. Compare this to NERIS data for just a six-month span; this data shows EV fires are already surpassing what was reported the previous calendar year.

We have included other electrical related hazards that firefighters reported in NERIS for the same period. In some cases, there may be more than one hazard reported per incident.

Firefighters who want to learn more about reporting emerging hazards in their NERIS reports can view the Fire Safety Research Institute training video here: <https://vimeo.com/1174768830?fl=pl&fe=sh>. Other resources can be found here: <https://neris.fsri.org/resources>.

Electric vehicle fires reported to NFIRS (2016-2025)



The above information is "as-reported" data queried from the NFIRS public data release.

The criteria used:

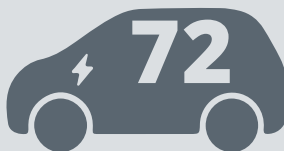
- Incident Type = 130-139 (Vehicle fires)
- Aid <> 3 or 4,
- Version = 5.0
- Mobile Property Involved = 1 (Not involved in ignition, but burned) or 3 (Involved in ignition and burned)
- Keywords in the Mobile Property Model field: electric, hybrid, Tesla, Prius, and EV (alternative spellings not included)

From Jan. 1 to
July 31, 2026,

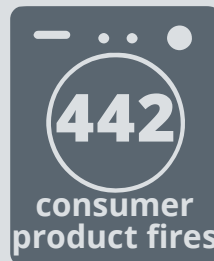
760

electrical hazards
were reported
to NERIS.

These hazards included:



EV fires



consumer
product fires



lithium-ion
battery fires

The above information is "as-reported" data queried from NERIS incidents with an "approved" status designated by the local fire department.

From Jan. 1, 2026, to July 31, 2026, there were 757 fire incidents where a specific electrical hazard was reported. The above incidents have been grouped by their Emerging Hazard Category. In some cases, there was more than one hazard reported per incident, which means the total number of incidents is less than that total number of hazards reported.



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