

**Freedom of Information request reference number:** 6105.1

**Date of response:** 08 December 2021

**Request:**

*I have been informed by other sources that up to 25% of all fires with an unconfirmed/undetermined source are most likely caused by rodent related electrical fires.*

*Do we have any LFB data, that can be shared with members of the public, relating to rodent related electrical fires.*

**Response:**

Our Data team confirmed that, unfortunately, the LFB have no category to identify rodent related electrical fires in our Incident Management System (IMS).

However, they were able to perform a free text search for any mention of 'rodent' and 'electric' in information/description held for fires where our Fire Investigation team attended.

The table below includes data that involves rodent related electrical fires broken down by property type and ignition source group:

Number of rodent related electrical fires Property type broken down by ignition source group	Calendar Year				Grand Total
	2018	2019	2020	2021 to 25/11/2021	
<b>Converted Flat/Maisonette - Up to 2 storeys</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>2</b>
Electrical distribution	1				1
Other ignition source		1			1
<b>Converted Flat/Maisonettes - 3 or more storeys</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Electrical distribution				1	1
Not confirmed			1		1
<b>House - single occupancy</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>
Cooker			2		2
Electrical distribution	1	1	1		3
Heating appliances				1	1
Lighting				1	1
Smoking related				1	1
White goods			1		1
<b>Licensed House in Multiple Occupation - 3 or more storeys</b>			<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>
Other item			1		1
<b>Other private non-residential building</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Cooker				1	1
<b>Private Garden Shed</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>
White goods	1				1
<b>Restaurant/cafe</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>
Other ignition source	1				1
<b>Takeaway, fast food</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Electrical distribution				1	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>

It should be noted that the fire investigation team do not attend every fire attended by the LFB. In addition, the free text search is not always 100% accurate and we may have missed some other incidents that have been recorded differently. Therefore, once summed up this table will not represent a total number of rodent related fires attended by LFB, meaning you are unable to take percentages from it (*i.e. X percent of fires attended by LFB involved rodents*).

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request on our website: <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>