



Independent Insurance Agents
& Brokers of America, Inc.



ESFi

Electrical Safety Foundation International

NEWS

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IIABA Electrical Safety Survey Results Summary

The survey results were obtained via a national telephone poll of more than 1,000 American households conducted April 2 through 6, 2004 by Media , Pa.-based International Communications Research for the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America. The survey has an average margin of error of +/- 3.7 percent. The basic results are:

1. How often do you check your home for potential electrical hazards such as frayed or overheated cords, overloaded outlets and circuits, light bulbs that are the wrong wattage, etc.?
 - More than **18 million American homeowners (one in four) never check for electrical hazards**. Slightly more than 30.4 percent check monthly. Nearly 15 percent check twice a year and 18.2 percent check every year.
2. How often do you change the batteries in your smoke alarms?
 - Slightly more than **26 percent of respondents say they change their smoke alarm batteries twice yearly**. Nearly 36 percent change their smoke alarm batteries only once a year. Slightly more than 17 percent change the batteries “when it beeps.” Nearly 8 percent never change the batteries. Nearly 5 percent (4.5) of homeowners don’t have smoke alarms. This number increases to 5.8 percent in homes that are more than 30 years old.
3. How old is your home?
 - Less than 10 years old: 17.3 percent
 - 10 years but less than 20: 15.1 percent
 - 20 years but less than 30: 15.1 percent
 - 30 years but less than 40: 16.4 percent
 - 40 years but less than 50: 10.1 percent
 - 50 years old or more: : 22.9 percent
4. Have you done any major renovations or added any major appliances to your home?
 - Yes, both: 24.2 percent (of this number, 16.5 percent of homes were less than 30 years old while 31.9 percent were more than 30 years old)

(more)

- Yes, major renovation only: 16.2 percent (of this number, 12.9 percent of homes were less than 30 years old while 19.9 percent were more than 30 years old)
- Yes, added major appliances only: 9.8 percent (of this number 11.9 percent of homes were less than 30 years old and 8.5 percent were more than 30 years old)
- No, neither: 49.3 percent

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