

# Domestic fire safety

Information presented by BAFE Fire Safety Register and NAPIT



Data collated from 2010/2011 to 2020/2021 for England, Wales, and Scotland demonstrates dwelling fires are still a potential risk to life safety in domestic premises.



**424,464**

Dwelling fires



**81,608**

Non-fatal casualties



**2,982**

Fatalities

Early fire detection by appropriate systems in place can aid residents to react quickly, evacuate safely, and contact the Fire and Rescue Service.

*England, Wales, and Scotland combined data available (from April 2010-March 2011 to April 2020-March 2021)  
782 dwelling fires recorded by Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (2019/2020)*

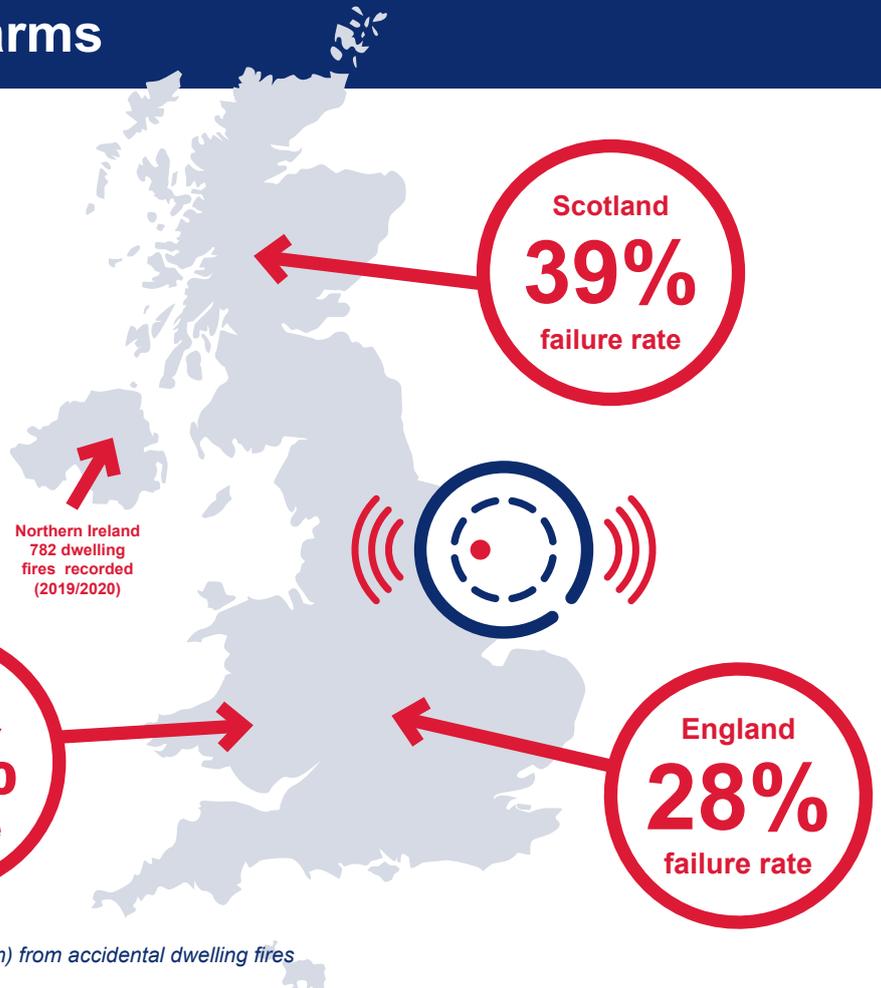
## Issue: high failure rates and absence of domestic smoke alarms

Nationwide across the UK Fire and Rescue Services report staggering failure rates and absence of dwelling fire detection and fire alarm equipment.

Domestic fires are a very probable risk to life. To reduce these numbers and mitigate risk, BAFE and NAPIT encourage specifying BAFE DS301 as a requirement when choosing a domestic electrical contractor to design, install, commission and maintain your Grade D fire detection and fire alarm equipment.

**“you are around 8 times more likely to die from a fire if you don’t have a working smoke alarm in your home.”**

**- Fire Kills Campaign**



*Data recorded (Fire and Rescue Services) 2020/2021:  
Smoke alarms that failed to operate (or not present/unknown) from accidental dwelling fires*

# Domestic fire safety: new builds

	England (2020-2021)	Wales (2020-2021)	Scotland (2019-2020)	Northern Ireland (2020)
New dwellings completed	182,380+	4,616	22,014	6,419
New dwellings started	175,650+	4,314	25,292	6,046

**Important:** Every new dwelling build (or renovation) must comply with Building Regulations and relevant Approved Documents when providing appropriate fire detection and fire alarm systems. These refer to BS 7671 (Requirements for Electrical Installations) and BS 5839-6 (Code of practice for the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of fire detection and fire alarm systems in domestic premises). To assist in complying with these requirements, competent contractors should be used.



**Not all electrical contractors have appropriate third-party certification for Grade D fire detection and fire alarm work. It would be considered a lack of due diligence by any specifier in today's landscape of competency and fire safety to assume so.**



## Sourcing Grade D domestic fire alarm contractors

**Organisations assessed by NAPIT and awarded BAFE DS301 third-party certification have evidenced their competency to deliver design, installation, commissioning and/or maintenance works for Grade D fire detection and fire alarm systems in domestic premises.**

- Organisations are able to complete work safely and to legally required standards.
- Organisations are regularly assessed (usually on an annual basis) to check their ongoing competence.
- Organisations hold appropriate insurance.
- Organisations are able to provide the necessary certificates to demonstrate the regulatory compliance of the work they do.

Ensure your chosen **Grade D fire alarm** domestic contractors are appropriately third-party certificated by **specifying and verifying: Third-party certification and BAFE Registration to the BAFE DS301 scheme** (noting the specific modules/work required i.e. design, installation, commissioning and/or maintenance).

BAFE DS301 third-party certificated contractors can be found and verified via the BAFE Fire Safety Register website or via the NAPIT website.



NAPIT ID cards evidence the individual's (i.e. Qualified Supervisor) competence to carry out work in line with the BAFE DS301 scheme (under their organisation's third-party certification).

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