

NEWS RELEASE

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Additional media resources at:
<http://firedoorsafetyweek.co.uk/toolkit>



101 Facts about Fire Doors

Key statistics on fires

Fire Door Safety Week Research 2017

1. Since the Grenfell fire tragedy, almost seven in ten (67%) apartment renters say their landlord hasn't been in touch at all to discuss/reassure them about fire safety measures in their rented accommodation. (Atomik Research 2017¹)
2. Since the tragedy, just 17% of landlords have been in touch in person to discuss fire safety measures and 16% got in contact via email or letter. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
3. Those renting through a local authority are significantly less likely to have had face-to-face reassurance (10%) than private renters (23%). (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
4. Over two thirds (69%) of council renters have not had any reassurance from their landlord. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
5. A quarter (24%) of adults surveyed feel more nervous/anxious about living in a rented apartment since the fire and the issues it exposed with regard to fire safety measures. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
6. This rises to a third (33%) of those living in London feel more anxious. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
7. Over half (55%) of those renting a flat do not feel fully prepared on what to do in the event of a fire in their building. This includes 16% of respondents that feel they would make a good guess at what to do but have never been formally told. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)

¹ Survey of 1001 tenants living in flats was conducted from 23 August – 1 September 2017 by Atomik Research on behalf of Fire Door Safety Week.



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8. One in ten (10%) of those renting in London feel completely under-prepared as they have never been told what to do. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
9. Four in ten (40%) renters say there is not a clear fire escape route displayed somewhere in their building and 9% do not know. Those renting through local authority are most likely to be without these displays or to be unaware of whether they are there (53%). (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
10. Just over one third (39%) of those with fire doors admit they have seen one propped open in their building. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
11. One fifth (20%) have noticed that there are damaged doors in their building, such as holes, cracks chips, won't open or close fully etc. This includes 12% which reported the damage and 8% that didn't report the problem. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
12. Almost one fifth (18%) of renters have reported a fire safety infringement or concern to their landlord. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
13. Three in ten (31%) of those who made a report were left waiting for several weeks before the landlord answered or rectified the issue. Furthermore, 13% said the landlord never even replied or sorted out the issue. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
14. 12% of renters, rising to 16% of private renters, have contacted their landlord to ask for fire training. Those living in London are the most likely to have requested training (20%).
15. In the majority (88%) - but not all - instances the landlord came back with the training or a date proposed. Six in ten (57%) had to wait up to a week for this, while 13% were left waiting for more than a week. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
16. In the event of a fire, the most common actions that people would take is:
 - i. 50% - try to get out through the door
 - ii. 50% - leave their flat immediately and try to get down the stairs
 - iii. 32% - would try to get out through the windows
 - iv. 23% - would try and block any gaps in the doors with towels/sheets.
 - v. 9% - would stay in their flat. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
17. Respondents thought that the responsibility for checking the fire doors and officially 'signing off' the building for fire safety is with
 - i. 41% - the landlord
 - ii. 23% - the fire brigade
 - iii. 16% - the landlord's management company
 - iv. 4% - themselves (Source: Atomik Research 2017)



18. Among private renters, 28% do not trust their landlord to understand and implement all the necessary fire safety measures in their building, including 8% which do not trust them due to something they have seen/witnessed while renting. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)
19. This is despite the fact that the majority (57%) of private renters see their landlord or landlord's management company as being responsible for adhering to fire safety measures in their building. (Source: Atomik Research 2017)

Great Britain

20. In 2015-16, there were 614 dwelling fires per million people in Great Britain. (Source: Gov UK²)
21. In 2015, fire accounted for 16% of domestic property insurance claims. (Source: Association of British Insurers³)

England

22. There were 303 fire-related fatalities in England during 2015-16. (Source: Home Office⁴)
23. From April 2015 to March 2016 there were 7,661 casualties in fires in England. (Source: Fire Statistics⁵)
24. Dwelling fires are the most common type of primary fire, accounting for 43% of primary fires in 2015-16 and almost a fifth of all fires. (Source: Home Office)
25. From April 2015 to March 2016, three quarters of fire-related fatalities and casualties occurred in dwelling fires. (Source: Fire Statistics)
26. From April 2015 to March 2016, 52% of all fire-related fatalities and 25% of casualties in dwelling fires were 65 years old and over in 2015/16. (Source: Fire Statistics)

² Fire 0201: Dwelling fires attended by fire and rescue services by nation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables>

³ <https://www.abi.org.uk/globalassets/sitecore/files/documents/publications/public/2016/keyfacts/keyfacts2016.pdf>

⁴ Fire Statistics Monitor: April 2015 to March 2016:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/545927/fire-statistics-monitor-1516-hosb0916.pdf

⁵ Fire Statistics: England April 2015 to March 2016:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/611182/fire-statistics-england-1516-hosb0517.pdf



27. Over one third of fire-related fatalities from April 2015 to March 2016 (where the cause of death was known) was 'overcome by gas or smoke'. (Source: FIRE0504⁶) This is the most common cause of fire-related fatalities.
28. One fifth of fire-related fatalities were caused by a combination of burns and overcome by gas. (Source: FIRE0504)
29. Fire-related fatalities in accidental dwelling fires accounted for almost two-thirds of all fire-related fatalities. (Source: Home Office)
30. In the 2014-15 government report, it was found that 41% of all fatalities from fires in England were 65 years old and over (Source: Home Office⁷). This makes the elderly 10 times more likely to die in a fire than younger people. (Source: FIA⁸)
31. The average area of fire damage in dwellings in England in 2015-16 is 18.3m². (Source: Gov UK⁹)

Scotland

32. In 2015-16, the SFRS attended a total of 26,613 fires, an increase of six per cent compared to 2014-15. (Source: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service¹⁰)
33. In 2015-16 there were 45 fatal casualties from fires in Scotland. (Source: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service)
34. There were 1,256 non-fatal fire casualties in 2015-16. (Source: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service)
35. Just over half of all primary fires were in dwellings (52%) and 23% were in other types of buildings. (Source: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service)
36. 87% of the fire fatalities in 2015-16 occurred in dwellings. (Source: Scottish Fire and Rescue Service)

Wales

37. There were 19 total fire fatalities in Wales in 2015-16. (Source: Welsh Government¹¹)

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables>

⁷ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/532364/fire-statistics-england-1415-hosb0816.pdf

⁸ <http://www.fia.uk.com/news/how-care-homes-can-make-compliance-easy.html#sthash.DLeZnm93.dpuf>

⁹ Fire 0204: Average area of damage in dwelling fires:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables>

¹⁰ http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/media/1009443/fire_and_rescue_statistics_scotland_2015_16.pdf

¹¹ Fire statistics Wales, 2015-16 <http://gov.wales/docs/statistics/2016/160727-fire-statistics-2015-16-en.pdf>

38. There were 13 fire related fatalities in dwellings in 2015-16. (Source: Welsh Government)
39. There were 593 non-fatal casualties in 2015-16. (Source: Welsh Government)
40. 77% of non-fatal casualties in 2015-16 were as a result of dwelling fires. (Source: Welsh Government)

Northern Ireland

41. In 2015-16 there were 843 accidental dwelling fires in Northern Ireland. (Source: NIFRS Annual Report 2015-16¹²)
42. In 2015-16 there were 16 fire fatalities - 12 (Please note: 2 of these deaths are subject to State Pathologist's report to confirm cause of death) of these were in accidental dwelling fires. (Source: NIFRS Annual Report 2015-16)

Fire doors, legislation and best practice

Fire doors

43. Fire protection systems in buildings range from inbuilt (passive) fire protection to sprinklers and fire alarms. Fire doors are one of the most critical elements of passive fire protection, used to provide compartmentation – in other words, containing fire and smoke for a period of time to allow people to be safely rescued and evacuated.
44. There are about 3 million new fire doors bought and installed every year in the UK, the vast majority made from timber. (Source: British Woodworking Federation)
45. To determine the FD rating of fire doors, the manufacturers are having fire doors assessed by subjecting them to a test procedure specified in BS 476-22 or BS EN 1634-1.

Regulatory Reform Order (RRO) also known as the Fire Safety Order (FSO)

46. The RRO was signed into law on 7 June 2005. Its provisions came into force on 1 October 2006.
47. The responsibility for fire risk assessment in all non-domestic buildings, including the common parts of flats and houses of multiple occupation, falls to the so-called

¹² <https://www.nifrs.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/NIFRS-Annual-Report-2015-16.pdf>



'Responsible Person' or 'Responsible Persons'. The Responsible Person must carry out a fire safety risk assessment and implement and maintain a fire management plan. (Source: BWF-Certifire¹³)

48. The RRO applies to you if you are:
 - i. Responsible for business premises
 - ii. An employer or self-employed with business premises
 - iii. Responsible for a part of a dwelling where that part is solely used for business purposes
 - iv. A charity or voluntary organisation
 - v. A contractor with a degree of control over any premises
 - vi. Providing accommodation for paying guests (Source: BWF-Certifire)
49. The government says you must keep a written record of your Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) if your business has 5 or more people. (Source: Safety management UK¹⁴)
50. Fire safety in the common areas of HMOs, blocks of flats or maisonettes are controlled by the RRO. (Source: Fire Safe¹⁵)
51. Article 17 of the FSO requires a suitable maintenance regime to ensure relevant equipment is kept in an efficient state. This includes fire doors and escape doors. (Source: FDIS¹⁶)
52. Article 18 of the FSO requires the Responsible Person to appoint one or more competent persons to assist in undertaking the preventive and protective measures. With regard to fire doors and escape doors this is where the FDIS education programmes come in. (Source: FDIS)
53. The Responsible Person must:
 - i. Ensure that a fire safety risk assessment is carried out and reviewed on a regular basis
 - ii. Identify and record the fire hazards
 - iii. Identify and record the people at risk
 - iv. Evaluate, remove or mitigate the fire safety risks
 - v. Prepare an emergency plan and provide training
 - vi. Review and update the fire risk assessment regularly
 - vii. Part of this risk assessment and fire management plan must consider the safe installation, maintenance and inspection of fire doors.
54. The person responsible for fire safety in Scotland is called the 'duty holder', while in Northern Ireland they are known as the 'appropriate person'. However, the duties of

¹³ <http://www.bwfcertifire.org.uk/assets/bwf-best-practice-guide-2016.pdf>

¹⁴ http://www.safety-managementuk.com/the_wrong_person.php

¹⁵ <http://www.firesafe.org.uk/houses-in-multiple-occupation/>

¹⁶ <http://fdis.co.uk/fire-door-law>



this person, regardless of country, are the same: to carry out the FRA and ensure the safety of anyone using their premises. (Source: Fire Door Safety Week¹⁷)

Building Regulations and standards

55. The Building Regulations provide guidance as to the minimum building standards to be achieved. Each country has their own building regulation documents for fire safety.
- i. For England and Wales these are in Approved Document B.
 - ii. For Scotland these are in Technical Handbook 2.
 - iii. For Northern Ireland these are in Technical Booklet E.

Common Fire Door Failures

56. A review undertaken by FDIS certificated fire door inspectors in 2015 revealed the extent of fire door failures being seen on site.
- i. Over 61% of fire doors inspected had problems with fire or smoke seals.
 - ii. More than a third had incorrect signage.
 - iii. 230 fire doors inspected had gaps bigger than 3mm between door and frame.
 - iv. More than 20% had unsuitable hinges.
 - v. Almost 1 in 6 had damage to the door leaf. (Source: FDIS¹⁸)

High rise and tower blocks

57. Of the 30,296 dwelling fires attended by fire and rescue services in England in 2016/17, a quarter were in purpose built flats. (Source: Home Office¹⁹)
- i. 16% were in purpose-built low-rise flats (1 - 3 storeys)
 - ii. 6% in purpose-built medium-rise flats (4 - 9 storeys)
 - iii. 2% were in purpose-built high-rise flats (10 storeys or more)
58. There were 139 non-fatal casualties in fires in purpose-built high-rise flats with 10 storeys or more, in England in 2016/17, compared with 214 in 2009/10. (Source: Home Office)
59. Of those, there were 63 non-fatal casualties that required hospital treatment from fires in purpose-built high-rise flats in 2016/17. (Source: Home Office)

¹⁷ <http://firedoorsafetyweek.co.uk/public-register-responsible-persons/?article=true>

¹⁸ <http://fdis.co.uk/latest-news/third-year-report-on-fire-door-safety-warns-of-sleepwalking-into-danger>

¹⁹ Fires in purpose-built flats, England, April 2009 to March 2017:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/622114/fires-in-purpose-built-flats-england-april-2009-to-march-2017.pdf

60. There were 3 fire-related fatalities in high-rise purpose-built flats with 10 storeys or more in England in 2016/17. In 2009/10, this figure was 12. (Source: Home Office)
61. In 2016/17, 3 of the 714 fires in high-rise purpose-built flats had fire-related fatalities (0.4%) compared with 0.8% of fires in medium-rise flats, 0.6% of fires in low-rise flats, and 0.7% of fires in houses, bungalows, converted flats and other dwellings. (Source: Home Office)
62. London Fire Brigade's 'Know the Plan' campaign was launched in March 2015 after a YouGov poll found that more than half (60%) – or around 760,000 of London's high rise households – don't have a fire escape plan. (Source: London Fire²⁰)
63. London Fire Brigade reissued tower block safety advice in June 2017 after the Grenfell Tower fire. LFB said: Fire safety in purpose built flats and maisonettes is dependent upon good maintenance and housekeeping. Residents should know the following:
- i. All flat front doors and doors on corridors and staircases must be 'self-closing' fire doors.
 - ii. Fire doors must not be held or wedged open as they are designed to stop the spread of fire.
 - iii. Things must not be stored in corridors or staircases as this can block escape routes and stop firefighters doing their job.
 - iv. Information about what to do in the event of a fire is understood and easily available.
 - v. You know who your landlord is and how to contact them. Your landlord may be your housing association, local borough council or a private landlord. Legally your landlord is responsible for fire safety. (Source: London Fire Brigade²¹)

Private rented property

64. In March 2016, a landlord from Redruth, Cornwall, was handed a £2,000 fine after inspectors from the local council found a number of fire safety hazards. An inspection of the flat in May 2015 by Cornwall Council's Private Sector Housing Team uncovered a number of issues, including sub-standard fire doors that had bolt locks on the inside and clasp type locks on the outside. (Source: Falmouth Packet²²)
65. In November 2015, the director of a firm in charge of a three storey block of flats that caught fire was given a six months prison sentence, suspended for two years. He

²⁰ http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/news/AC1B4F18D05A4D82B52979C6465BBFE5_Pupilpoweremployedtoensurehighrisemessagehits_home.asp#.V6R72esrKUK

²¹ http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/news/LatestNewsReleases_Reissuetowerblockadvice.asp#.WXdzE4TyuUK

²² http://www.falmouthpacket.co.uk/news/14335153.Camborne_landlord_fined_2_000_following_council_safety_inspection/



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was also given 240 hours unpaid work and the firm was fined £10,000. He was sentenced after admitting 10 fire safety breaches including failure to provide adequate fire separation between the means of escape and the flats, and failure to provide adequate fire doors to one of the second floor flats. (Source: Lancashire Evening Post²³)

66. In March 2016, a landlord in Merseyside and his wife were fined £8,000 each after admitting to breaching fire safety rules in a property they rented out. They were also ordered to pay a £120 victim surcharge and the council's costs of £1,326. The property had been converted into three self-contained flats, but they had no fire alarms or fire doors. Liverpool City Council had already issued a prohibition order which said the property could not be occupied until the problems were fixed. A few months later, a re-inspection found that people were living in each of the flats and that work they had ordered had not been completed. (Source: FIA²⁴)

HMOs

67. In 2015, 58% of all fire door fines (£454,786) were issued to landlords of HMOs in the UK. (Source: FDIS²⁵)

68. You are six times more likely to die in a fire if you live in any house in multiple occupation, compared with a single family house. The risk increases to sixteen times more at risk of fatal injury if you live in an HMO which is 3 or more storeys high. (Source: Bedford Council²⁶)

69. Research indicates that certain types of HMOs present significantly greater health and safety risks to tenants than comparable single occupancy dwellings. Risk assessments carried out by ENTEC on fire safety in HMOs concluded:

- i. in all houses converted into bedsits, the annual risk of death per person is 1 in 50,000 (six times higher than in comparable single occupancy houses).
- ii. In the case of bedsit houses comprising three or more storeys the risk is 1 in 18,600 (sixteen times higher than in comparable single occupancy houses).

(Source: County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service²⁷)

70. A Birmingham landlord has been fined £6,400 and ordered to pay £3,696 costs and a £120 victim surcharge for failing to licence a HMO and breaching HMO regulations.

²³ <http://www.lep.co.uk/news/crime/lancashire-firm-fined-10-000-after-flat-fire-1-7581762>

²⁴ <http://www.fia.uk.com/news/landlord-admits-to-breaching-fire-safety-rules.html>

²⁵ <http://fdis.co.uk/latest-news/fdis-reveals-million-pound-problem>

²⁶ http://www.bedford.gov.uk/housing/houses_in_multiple_occupation/hmo_fire_safety.aspx

²⁷ Fire Safety Precautions in HMOs

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service with the co-operation of Durham County Council and Darlington Borough Council.

<http://www.durham.gov.uk/media/3189/Fire-safety-precautions-for-Houses-in-Multiple-Occupation/pdf/FireSafetyPrecautionsForHousesinMultipleOccupation.pdf>



Officers that inspected the property found several fire safety faults including the self-closing devices for fire doors being defective or missing. (Source: Landlord today²⁸)

Social and council housing

71. In February 2017, Southwark council was fined £570,000 for fire safety failings at Lakanal House in Camberwell, south London, a 14-storey block of flats where six people died in a fire in 2009. (Source: The Guardian²⁹)
72. In the wake of Grenfell Tower, Inside Housing conducted a major analysis of fire risk assessments in which they examined 436 of approximately 4,000 tower blocks in England. It revealed that 268 (61%) had problems with fire doors that were not to the correct standard, damaged or did not close properly. (Source: Inside Housing³⁰)
73. In February 2016, housing manager Lewisham Homes was given a £40,000 fine and ordered to pay £23,407 in costs over breaching fire safety laws. The housing association was prosecuted by London Fire Brigade after two women died in a fire on the 16th floor of the tower block on February 4, 2011. An investigation after the fire revealed serious fire safety offences including the failure to maintain fire doors which directly contributed to the spread of the fire. The flat in which the fire started was fitted with a metal security door, preventing the existing fire door behind it from closing. (Source: London Evening Standard³¹)

Care homes and sheltered accommodation

74. Fire safety inspectors found "truly shocking" safety failings at Morven House near Croydon which led to a fine of almost £70,000 for the care home company in May 2014. The case came just one week after the Brigade released figures showing that there were 10 fires a week in the capital's care homes and that a third of the people who died in accidental fires in London last year were receiving care services. (Source: London Fire Brigade³²)
75. In July 2015 a Paignton care home owner was fined £19,500 and ordered to pay more than £5000 in costs for "very, very serious offences" which included fire doors with damaged or missing self-closing devices. (Source: FRM Journal³³)

²⁸ <https://www.landlordtoday.co.uk/breaking-news/2015/10/10k-bill-for-birmingham-hmo-landlord>

²⁹ <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/feb/24/southwark-council-admits-safety-failings-tower-block-lakanal-house-blaze>

³⁰ <https://www.insidehousing.co.uk/news/news/fire-safety-issues-uncovered-in-tower-blocks-51604>

³¹ <http://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/firm-fined-40k-over-fatal-deptford-tower-block-fire-a3171041.html>

³² <http://www.london->

[fire.gov.uk/news/AC1B4F18D05A4D82B52979C6465BBFE5_Croydoncarehomeslapped.asp#.VdXvHPIViko](http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/news/AC1B4F18D05A4D82B52979C6465BBFE5_Croydoncarehomeslapped.asp#.VdXvHPIViko)

³³ http://www.frmjournal.com/news/news_detail.owner-fined-for-care-home-failings.html?_tkn=1361754C-BD74-478E-8C0E597FA26D6FFB

76. In February 2016, a care group was hit with a fine and costs totalling £410,000. A series of fire regulation breaches put the lives of residents and staff at risk. These breaches came to light after an investigation into the fire at 60-bed Donwell House Care Home in Washington, Tyne and Wear in September 2014. Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue service investigators uncovered several safety breaches. These breaches included wedged open fire doors and the failure to install electronic devices that allow fire doors to be held open and quickly closed in an emergency. The door was wedged open in the room where the fire started. This, the fire services said, let smoke and heat fill the communal corridor and travel into a neighbouring bedroom which also had a wedged open door. (Source: Chronicle Live³⁴)

Hotels and guest houses

77. In October 2015, the owner of a bed and breakfast in Three Bridges was ordered to pay more than £6,000. There were four breaches of the FSO including fire doors being wedged open. The B&B owner was fined £1,000 for each of the four charges he admitted and ordered to pay more than £2,000 towards prosecution and court costs. (Source: Crawley news³⁵)

78. The part-time owner of a hotel in Torquay was fined £11,500 after admitting to four breaches of the Fire Safety Order. Fire protection officers visited the Summerhill Hotel after a basic check showed a lack of safety provisions. The follow up inspection in June 2015 revealed several breaches to the RRO including a number of fire doors in the bedrooms and the fire doors to the hotel's kitchen and boiler room being below the acceptable standard. (Source: FIA³⁶)

79. In June 2017, a hotel in Golders Green, London was fined £20,000 for five fire safety offences under the FSO. This included inadequate fire doors and no evacuation procedures in place. (Source: Safety and Health Practitioner³⁷)

Fire safety in hospitals

80. Many hospitals, like care homes, have a 'defend in place' policy as part of their fire strategy in order to reduce the impact of building evacuations. They may also be built around a progressive horizontal evacuation system, so that patients can be moved progressively sideways away from a fire rather than taken outside the building. This is why hospitals rely especially on fire doors providing the intended fire separation.

³⁴ <http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/washington-care-home-fire-results-11092529>

³⁵ <http://www.crawleynews.co.uk/bridges-b-b-owner-prosecuted-putting-lives-quests/story-27953685-detail/story.html>

³⁶ <http://www.fia.uk.com/news/hotel-owner-guilty-of-fire-safety-offences.html#sthash.sUBeqWyZ.dpuf5>

³⁷ <https://www.shponline.co.uk/hotel-fined-fire-safety-offences/>

81. In 2015, Britain's first PFI privately funded NHS hospital was denounced as a major fire safety risk. An independent report commissioned by the NHS Trust into fire precautions found that fire proofing materials had been used which did not meet the required 60 minute protection standard to allow for safe evacuation and prevent any fire from spreading in the building. (Source: ITV, June 2015 ³⁸)
82. Hospitals across England were urged to review their fire safety measures in 2013 after publication of the damning report into fire safety standards following a major blaze at the Woodlands Unit at Ipswich Hospital in 2011, during which firefighters had to force their way through locked fire doors to reach a young patient who was overcome by smoke. (Source: Building Better Healthcare ³⁹)

Awareness

Fire safety checks by families

83. A dodgy fire door is a sure sign of an unsafe building generally, yet two thirds of parents with children living away from home admit that even they would not know what to look for. (Source: Atomik Research, September 2015⁴⁰)
84. In a survey of a thousand parents with children living away from home in a rented property, shared house or student accommodation, nearly half (46%) of respondents cited furniture blocking doorways and corridors as visual clues which would most likely make them think that a building had poor fire safety.
85. A further 38% said it would be old electrics or heating systems and 29% said they were most wary of buildings with no visible fire extinguishers. Damaged doors or internal doors wedged open were only mentioned by 23% and 22% respectively. (Source: Atomik Research, September 2015)
86. More than half of parents in the 2015 survey (54%) correctly identified what an 'internal fire door' looked like when shown a photograph, but 15% thought it was a 'normal door' and one in ten thought it was a security door. (Source: Atomik Research September 2015)

³⁸ ITV, 1 June 2015: <http://www.itv.com/news/border/2015-06-01/fire-safety-concerns-at-cumberland-infirmary/>

³⁹ Building Better Healthcare, 14 February 2013:

http://www.buildingbetterhealthcare.co.uk/news/article_page/Hospitals_told_to_step_up_fire_security_after_scathing_report_into_ipswich_blaze/86061

⁴⁰ Survey carried out in September 2015 by Atomik Research for Fire Door Safety Week 2015. The sample consisted of 1,002 parents with a child living away from home in a rented property, shared house or student accommodation.



87. According to the research, mothers are twice as likely as fathers to admit they would have no idea what a faulty fire door looks like. (Source: Atomik Research September 2015)
88. More than half (51%) correctly knew that it is the property owner or landlord's responsibility to check fire doors. A fifth (20%) incorrectly thought it was up to the residents themselves. (Source: Atomik Research September 2015)
89. Almost three in ten families (29%) admit that neither they nor their child checked a property's fire safety before they rented or moved in. (Source: Atomik Research September 2015)
90. Yet only a quarter (25%) of the 2015 research respondents felt very confident that their family member knew about fire safety where they lived, as they had been given fire training or instructions. (Source: Atomik Research September 2015)
91. A fifth (20%) of respondents had little, if any, confidence at all in their family member's living companions' fire safety awareness. A further 16% were completely unaware of whether they had any knowledge of fire safety at all. (Source: Atomik Research September 2015)

Research by Ironmongery Direct 2017

92. A recent survey of 2000 UK adults by Ironmongery Direct has revealed that a quarter of people are unaware that fire doors must be kept shut at all times.
93. Just under half (49%) of those surveyed say they have seen a fire door propped open and over a third (36%) admit that they would prop a fire door open at certain times, such as when needing to regularly pass through a fire door protected doorway, needing fresh air or when moving heavy objects.
94. Nearly 6 in 10 people (59%) do not know how to identify a fire door
95. 13% of people who do would either take no action or be unsure what to do if there was an obvious problem with a fire door.
96. Previous research by Ironmongery Direct has shown that just under three quarters (73%) of tradespeople that were surveyed had noticed fire doors without correctly fitted seals, and 74% had seen a blocked or obstructed fire door.

Fire Door Safety Week research from 2016

97. In a survey of more than 1,000 tenants living in flats, only one third (35%) of the lowest income households renting flats say they have been given information on



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the emergency fire plan for the building where they live, compared to 88% of tenants on incomes over £100,000 a year. (Source: Atomik Research September 2016⁴¹)

98. Those on incomes of £25,000 or less are much less likely to feel completely safe from fire (27%) than those on incomes above £80,000 (44%). (Source: Atomik Research September 2016)
99. Two out of every nine (22%) households with incomes under £25,000 living in rented flats who have concerns over fire safety are unable to move because they can't afford to. (Source: Atomik Research September 2016)
100. More than half of all tenants (58%) and over 70% of lower income tenants have no idea who the 'Responsible Person' is for the building where they live – the person to whom they should usually report their fire safety concerns. (Source: Atomik Research September 2016)
101. 15% of all tenants living in blocks of flats who have got fire safety concerns have never reported those concerns to anyone at all. (Source: Atomik Research September 2016)

⁴¹ Survey of 1001 tenants living in flats was conducted in September 2016 by Atomik Research on behalf of Fire Door Safety Week.