



## **Partial List of U.S. massive fires in large wood buildings:**

### Massive fires in New Jersey:

1. [Edgewater, NJ 2015](#) Occupied 408-unit wood building destroyed by fire, no humans killed, and some animals killed. 500 firefighters responded. 1000 people displaced. Schools closed for several days. Took firefighters over twelve hours to extinguish fire. Fireboats from Hudson river pumped water into building.
2. [Cliffside NJ 2014](#) Under construction four-story wood building burns and ignites 3-story building nearby. Hundreds of residents evacuated.
3. [Edgewater NJ 2000](#) Near-completion 200-plus unit wood building burned to the ground. 9 surrounding homes burned. NB: Same location that burned down while occupied in 2015 fire above, only it burned down during construction.

### North American massive fires outside of NJ:

4. [Los Angeles CA 2014](#) Under construction 526-unit wood complex burns. 250 firefighters respond. Fire closed two freeways.
5. [Houston TX 2014](#) Under construction 396-unit luxury apartment building. “A five-alarm, windswept fire that destroyed a \$50 million luxury apartment building under construction in Montrose on Tuesday may have been sparked by a welder, a fire department official said. ‘There was a report of a couple of guys working on the roof doing welding,’ said Houston Fire Department Deputy Chief Greg Lewis. ‘When our units arrived, there was a small fire and construction workers were attempting to put it out. There was sustained wind of 15 to 20 miles an hour, and it was a wind-driven fire.’
6. [San Francisco, CA 2014](#) Under construction 172-unit wood. Building completely gutted. Fire started by welding on roof. Nearby buildings filled with smoke and damaged. Fire investigation cited no fire watch for “hot work” of welding and grinding. “Experts say it’s difficult for fire officials to inspect the majority of construction sites to ensure that those “hot work” rules are followed. In many cases, fire departments rely on the private sector to ensure crews are abiding by the safety codes.” ([KQED, June 16, 2014](#)).
7. [Dallas TX 2014](#) Occupied building. Smoke and fire seen first in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors; 80 people displaced; 16 fire engines deployed due to fear fire would spread. Firefighter sustained minor injuries by falling debris.
8. [Glendale, CO 2013 \(near Denver\)](#) Under construction block-sized wood building. As many as 100 neighbors evacuated. Fire seen miles away. Neighboring apartments suffered exterior damage because of extreme heat. Cars damaged by radiant heat. 23 fire trucks responded.
9. [Uniondale NY 2012](#) Under construction. Truss construction fire spreads through roof.
10. [Quincy MA 2011](#) Occupied 24-unit wood structure destroyed. Rapid fire spread throughout the trussed attic space. Believed to be started by a charcoal grill on first floor patio.
11. [Renton, WA 2009](#) (near Seattle). Under construction fire-story wood building; fire spread to neighboring one-story business. 4-alarm fire; 100 fire fighters.
12. [Ontario, Canada, 2009](#) Under construction. 55 wood townhouses destroyed.
13. [Conshohocken, PA, 2008](#). Occupied 188 units in two wood buildings destroyed, as well as large part of neighboring complex under construction. Sparks from welding torch at adjacent construction site started fire. \$36.2M settlement. \$9M to renters; the rest to rebuild the complex.
14. [Danvers, MA 2007](#) Four under construction wood buildings with a total of 147 units burned. Four-alarm blaze. 8 communities sent firefighters. 20 residents evacuated from nearby apartments. “The fire engulfed

entirely new construction ... The fire also destroyed four utility buildings ... Workers had yet to install sprinkler systems in the structure that burned. The fire 'basically went through like a lumberyard fire,' [Fire Chief] Tutko said."