

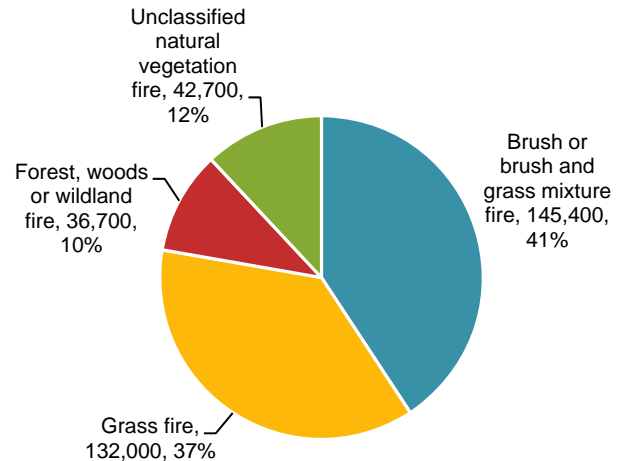


## Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass or Forest Fires in 2004-2008

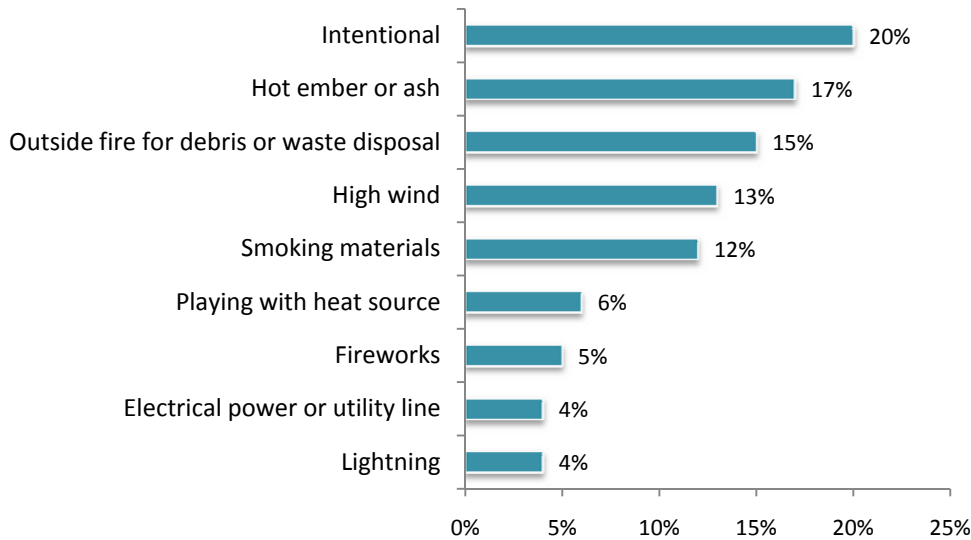
During the five-year period of 2004-2008, local U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated average of 356,800 brush, grass, and forest fires per year.<sup>1</sup>

- 41% were brush or brush and grass mixtures. More than one-third were grass fires. Only 10% were forest, woods, or wildland fires.
- On average, 976 brush, grass, or forest fires were reported per day.
- These incidents accounted for 23% of all fires reported to local fire departments.
- 4,800 buildings were involved in these brush, grass, and forest fires per year.
- Less than an acre burned in three-quarters (74%) of these fires. Only 4% burned more than ten acres.
- Nine percent, or an average of 31,700 fires per year, occurred at one- or two-family homes.

**Brush, Grass and Forest Fires by Incident Type**



## Brush, Grass and Forest Fires by Major Causal Factors and Type of Fire



Overall, one in five of these fires were intentionally set.

Other leading factors include hot embers or ashes, open burning of debris, high winds, and smoking materials.

Lightning caused 15% of the forest, woods or wildland fires, but only 4% of overall brush, grass or forest fires.

<sup>1</sup> Fires handled by the federal and state wildland fire agencies are not included in these statistics unless they were also reported to a local fire department.