

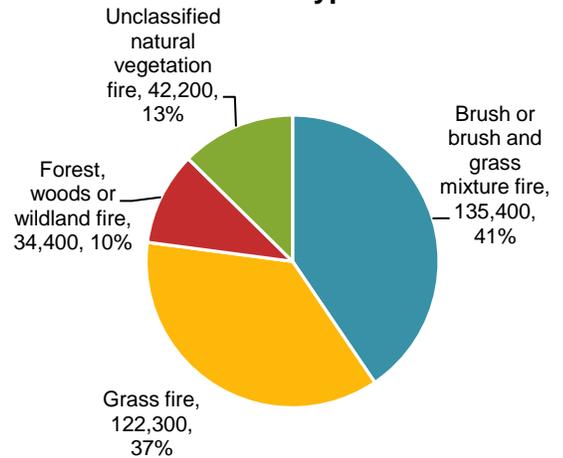


## Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass or Forest Fires in 2007-2011 Fact Sheet

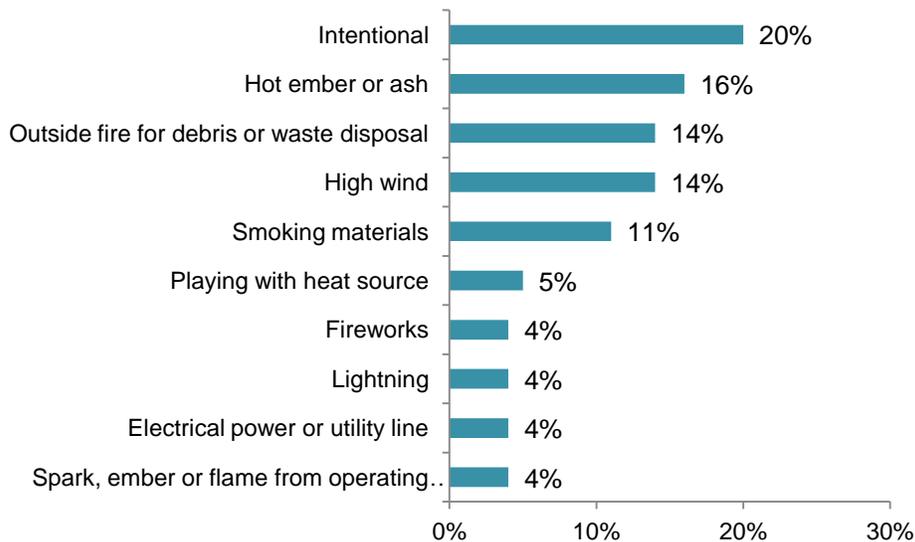
During the five-year period of 2007-2011, local (municipal or county) fire departments responded to an estimated average of 334,200 brush, grass, and forest fires in the U.S. per year.<sup>1</sup>

- Two of every five (41%) were brush or brush and grass mixtures. More than one-third (37%) were grass 13% were unclassified forest, brush or grass fires or unclassified natural vegetation fires.
- On average, 915 brush, grass, or forest fires were reported per day.
- These incidents accounted for 24% of all fires reported to local fire departments.
- Less than an acre burned in three-quarters (76%) of these fires. Only 4% burned more than ten acres.
- Ten percent, or an average of 32,200 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 16% 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.