



RESEARCH

Large-Loss Fires and Explosions in the United States During 2018

Supporting Tables

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Large-Loss Fires and Explosions in the United States During 2018: Supporting Tables

The tables and figures in this document are a companion to the article of the same name published in the November/December 2019 issue of *NFPA Journal*.

In order to compare losses over the past 10 years, we adjust losses for inflation to 2009 dollars. When adjusted for inflation, the number of fires in 2018 that would have been categorized as large-loss fires—that is, fires resulting in a loss of \$10 million in 2009 dollars—drops to 26 fires, with an adjusted loss of slightly more than \$10.9 billion. (See Table 1, and Figures 1 and 2.)

Table 1.
Large-Loss Fires that Caused \$10 Million or more in Property Damage, 2009-2018

Year	Number of Fires	Number of Fires Causing \$10 Million or more in 2009 Dollars	Property Loss (Unadjusted)	Property Loss in 2009 Dollars
2009	25	25	\$950	\$950
2010	17	12	\$652	\$592
2011	23	18	\$820	\$734
2012	26	19	\$1,463	\$1,301
2013	21	16	\$845	\$731
2014	26	23	\$714	\$620
2015	27	17	\$2,535	\$2,200
2016	25	19	\$1,464	\$1,255
2017	24	20	\$12,572	\$10,968
2018	36	26	\$12,912	\$10,944

Note: Number of fires and unadjusted loss are based on data from studies that appeared in previous annual large-loss studies. Some of the information may differ from previously published material because material was updated after publication.

Note: Adjustment for inflation is based on the Consumer Price Index using 1992 as a base year. Note that adjustment for inflation not only reduces the total dollar loss for each year but also reduces the number of fires when adjusted losses large enough to qualify as large-loss fires.

Source: NFPA's Fire Incident Data Organization, Applied Research

Figure 1
Large-Loss Fires, Unadjusted and Adjusted for Inflation (2009 - 2018)

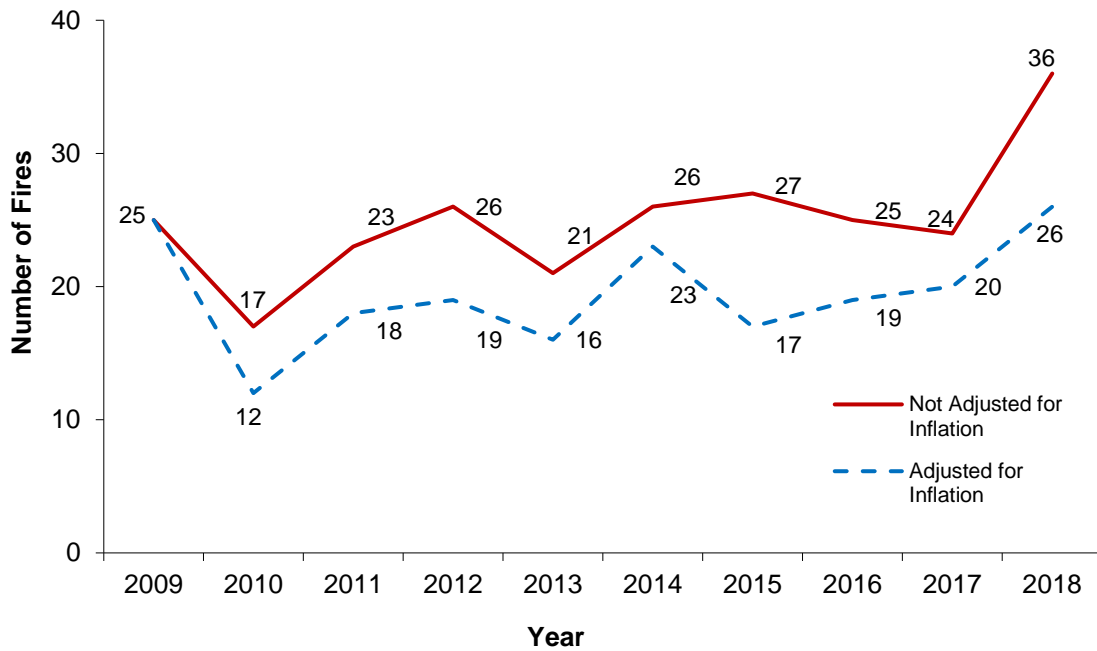
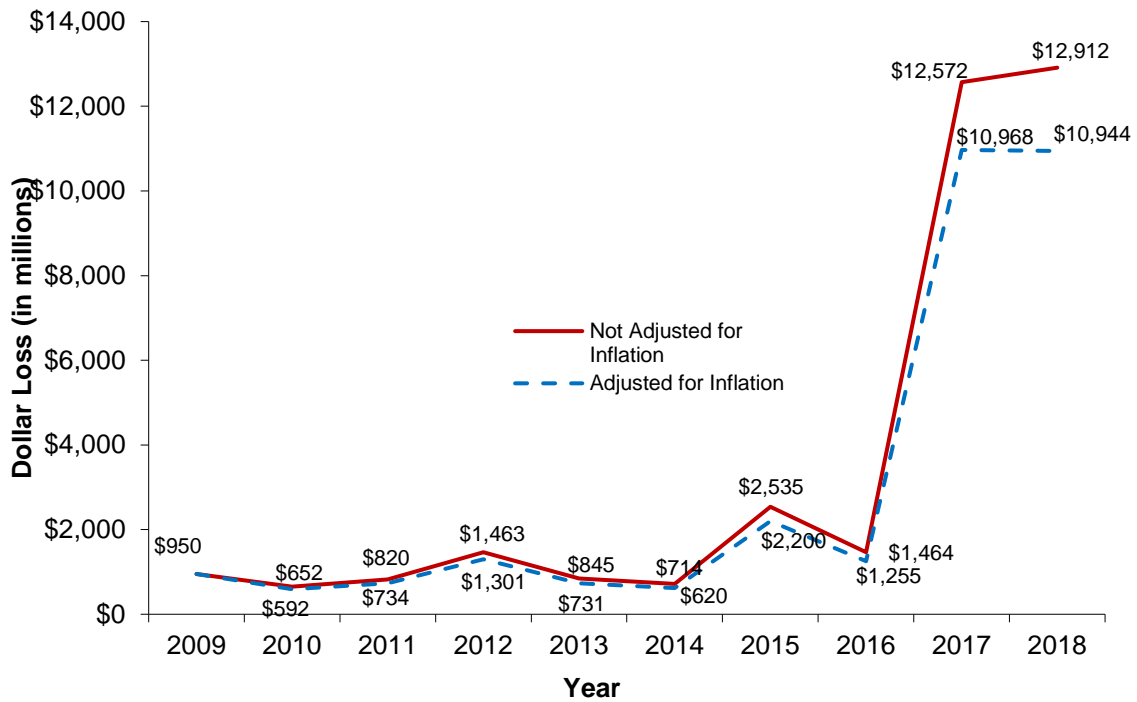


Figure 2
Direct Dollar Loss in Large-Loss Fires, Unadjusted and Adjusted (2009-2018)



In 2018, 11 fires, two less than the previous year, resulted in more than \$20 million each in property damage. These 11 fires resulted in a combined property loss of \$12.59 billion, or 97.5 percent of the total loss in large-loss fires. (See Table 2.)

Table 2.
Large-Loss Fires of \$20 Million or More in 2018

Incident and Location	Dollar Loss (in Millions)
Wildland-urban interface fire, Camp Fire, California	\$8,473.4
Wildland-urban interface fire, Woolsey Fire, California	2,932.1
Wildland-urban interface fire, Carr Fire, California	892.6
University library, Kansas	70.0
Apartment complex under construction, California	60.5
Occupied apartment building, District of Columbia	47.0
Wildland-urban interface fire, Ranch Fire, California	30.3
Printing facility, Wisconsin	21.0
Single-family home, California	20.5
Hog farm, Missouri	20.0
Wood product manufacturing plant, California	20.0
Total losses – 11 incidents	\$12,587.4

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

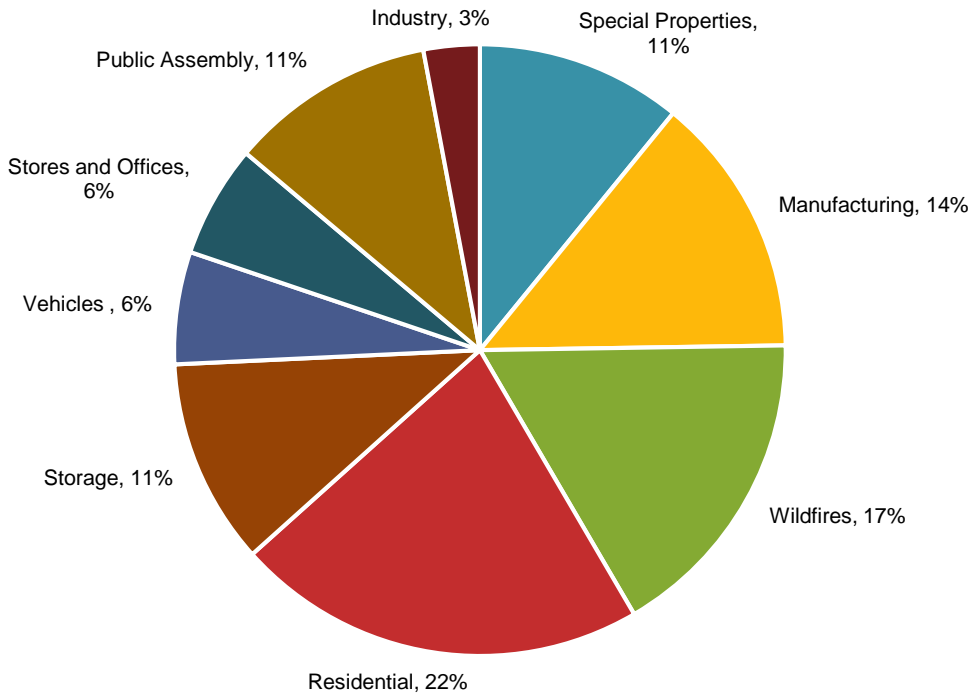
Source: NFPA's Fire Incident Data Organization, Applied Research

Table 3.
2018 Large-Loss Fires by Major Property Use

Property Use	Number of Fires	Percent of Fires	Total Dollar Loss	Percent of Loss
Residential	8	22%	\$136,343,475	1.1%
Wildfires	6	17%	\$12,355,354,215	95.7%
Manufacturing	5	14%	\$86,130,000	0.7%
Public Assembly	4	11%	\$114,046,911	0.9%
Special Properties	4	11%	\$96,207,756	0.7%
Storage	4	11%	\$51,250,000	0.4%
Vehicles	2	6%	\$28,000,000	0.2%
Stores and Offices	2	6%	\$25,000,000	0.2%
Industry	1	3%	\$20,000,000	0.2%
Total	36	100%	\$12,912,332,357	100.0%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.
Source: NFPA’s Fire Incident Data Organization (FIDO).

Figure 3.
Large-Loss Fires by Major Property Use in 2018



Acknowledgements

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