



**RESEARCH**

# **Brush, Grass and Forest Fires**

## **Supporting Tables**

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December 2018

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## Brush, Grass and Forest Fires: Supporting Tables

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The tables that follow were discussed in the [Brush, Grass and Forest Fires report](#). Please refer back to the report for a discussion of key points and methodology.

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**Table 1.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Month**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Month	Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Total, including Unclassified	
January	8,000	(6%)	10,400	(9%)	1,700	(6%)	21,900	(7%)
February	8,800	(7%)	9,300	(8%)	2,300	(8%)	22,200	(7%)
March	15,200	(12%)	14,200	(12%)	4,000	(13%)	36,600	(12%)
April	17,400	(14%)	11,600	(10%)	4,300	(14%)	38,000	(12%)
May	12,400	(10%)	8,800	(8%)	3,000	(10%)	28,800	(9%)
June	10,700	(9%)	9,600	(8%)	2,700	(9%)	27,200	(9%)
July	13,400	(11%)	14,700	(13%)	3,100	(10%)	36,300	(12%)
August	9,900	(8%)	10,200	(9%)	2,600	(8%)	26,400	(9%)
September	7,700	(6%)	7,800	(7%)	1,800	(6%)	20,100	(7%)
October	7,200	(6%)	6,600	(6%)	1,700	(6%)	18,100	(6%)
November	8,500	(7%)	5,900	(5%)	2,300	(8%)	19,200	(6%)
December	4,400	(4%)	4,500	(4%)	900	(3%)	11,200	(4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>10,300</b>	<b>(8%)</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>(8%)</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>(8%)</b>	<b>25,500</b>	<b>(8%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA survey.

**Table 2.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Day of Week**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Day of Week	Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Total, including Unclassified	
Sunday	19,500	(16%)	16,800	(15%)	5,000	(16%)	47,100	(15%)
Monday	17,600	(14%)	15,600	(14%)	4,400	(14%)	43,200	(14%)
Tuesday	16,100	(13%)	14,800	(13%)	3,900	(13%)	39,900	(13%)
Wednesday	16,100	(13%)	15,500	(14%)	4,000	(13%)	40,700	(13%)
Thursday	16,100	(13%)	15,300	(14%)	4,000	(13%)	40,600	(13%)
Friday	16,700	(14%)	15,800	(14%)	3,900	(13%)	41,800	(14%)
Saturday	21,600	(17%)	19,500	(17%)	5,400	(18%)	52,700	(17%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>17,700</b>	<b>(14%)</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>(14%)</b>	<b>4,400</b>	<b>(14%)</b>	<b>43,700</b>	<b>(14%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA survey.

**Table 3.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Alarm Time**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Alarm Time	Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Total, including Unclassified	
Midnight- 12:59 a.m.	1,800	(1%)	1,500	(1%)	400	(1%)	4,500	(1%)
1:00-1:59 a.m.	1,300	(1%)	900	(1%)	300	(1%)	3,000	(1%)
2:00-2:59 a.m.	1,000	(1%)	800	(1%)	300	(1%)	2,400	(1%)
3:00-3:59 a.m.	900	(1%)	600	(1%)	200	(1%)	2,100	(1%)
4:00-4:59 a.m.	800	(1%)	600	(1%)	200	(1%)	1,900	(1%)
5:00-5:59 a.m.	900	(1%)	600	(1%)	300	(1%)	2,200	(1%)
6:00-6:59 a.m.	1,300	(1%)	700	(1%)	400	(1%)	3,000	(1%)
7:00-7:59 a.m.	1,600	(1%)	900	(1%)	500	(2%)	3,700	(1%)
8:00-8:59 a.m.	1,800	(1%)	1,200	(1%)	500	(2%)	4,400	(1%)
9:00-9:59 a.m.	2,400	(2%)	1,900	(2%)	600	(2%)	5,800	(2%)
10:00-10:59 a.m.	3,700	(3%)	3,700	(3%)	800	(3%)	9,500	(3%)
11:00-11:59 a.m.	6,000	(5%)	6,600	(6%)	1,300	(4%)	15,500	(5%)
12:00-12:59 p.m.	8,800	(7%)	9,600	(8%)	2,000	(7%)	22,800	(7%)
1:00-1:59 p.m.	11,600	(9%)	12,400	(11%)	2,700	(9%)	29,800	(10%)
2:00-2:59 p.m.	13,300	(11%)	13,800	(12%)	3,200	(10%)	33,800	(11%)
3:00-3:59 p.m.	13,400	(11%)	13,300	(12%)	3,300	(11%)	33,600	(11%)
4:00-4:59 p.m.	12,100	(10%)	11,600	(10%)	3,100	(10%)	30,300	(10%)
5:00-5:59 p.m.	10,500	(8%)	9,200	(8%)	2,700	(9%)	25,600	(8%)
6:00-6:59 p.m.	8,400	(7%)	6,800	(6%)	2,200	(7%)	20,000	(7%)
7:00-7:59 p.m.	6,700	(5%)	5,000	(4%)	1,800	(6%)	15,700	(5%)
8:00-8:59 p.m.	5,600	(5%)	3,900	(3%)	1,500	(5%)	12,800	(4%)
9:00-9:59 p.m.	4,300	(4%)	3,400	(3%)	1,100	(4%)	10,400	(3%)
10:00-10:59 p.m.	3,200	(3%)	2,700	(2%)	800	(3%)	7,800	(3%)
11:00-11:59 p.m.	2,300	(2%)	1,800	(2%)	500	(2%)	5,500	(2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Average by alarm hour</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>(4%)</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>(4%)</b>	<b>1,300</b>	<b>(4%)</b>	<b>12,700</b>	<b>(4%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA survey.

**Table 4.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires, by Major Cause**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Major Cause	Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Total, including Unclassified	
Intentional	27,900	(23%)	15,700	(14%)	5,000	(16%)	57,400	(19%)
Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	21,200	(17%)	14,600	(13%)	4,200	(14%)	43,800	(14%)
Smoking materials	12,800	(10%)	10,300	(9%)	1,000	(3%)	30,900	(10%)
Electrical power or utility line	9,800	(8%)	12,200	(11%)	4,300	(14%)	29,900	(10%)
Garden tools or agricultural equipment	4,100	(3%)	8,800	(8%)	700	(2%)	15,300	(5%)
Lightning	3,700	(3%)	2,300	(2%)	5,100	(17%)	13,500	(4%)
Playing with heat source	5,300	(4%)	5,700	(5%)	1,100	(4%)	13,400	(4%)
Agriculture or land management burns	5,300	(4%)	5,400	(5%)	1,300	(4%)	13,200	(4%)
Fireworks	3,800	(3%)	6,900	(6%)	600	(2%)	12,200	(4%)
Rekindle	5,200	(4%)	3,100	(3%)	2,100	(7%)	11,600	(4%)
Shop tools and industrial equipment, including torches	3,000	(2%)	5,300	(5%)	500	(2%)	9,600	(3%)
Exposure fire	3,000	(2%)	3,000	(3%)	1,100	(4%)	7,600	(2%)
Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	2,400	(2%)	1,300	(1%)	900	(3%)	5,600	(2%)

Note: Major causes were extracted from cause of ignition, factors contributing to ignition, heat source and equipment involved in ignition. Unknowns were allocated separately for each data element. Double counting does occur. For example, some fireworks and intentional fires were caused by playing with heat source. Some open burning fires were considered intentional. Causal factors that did not describe a specific scenario are not shown but can be found in the respective data elements. Sums do *not* add to 100% or monthly totals. These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Unclassified vegetation fires are not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 5A.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires, by Major Cause and Month**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Peak months for each cause are in red.

Cause	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Total Fires
Intentional	8%	8%	14%	13%	9%	7%	9%	7%	6%	7%	8%	5%	100%	57,400
Open burning	10%	10%	17%	15%	7%	5%	6%	5%	5%	6%	8%	5%	100%	43,800
Smoking materials	4%	5%	9%	14%	14%	11%	13%	11%	7%	5%	5%	2%	100%	30,900
Electrical power or utility line	6%	6%	8%	10%	9%	12%	13%	11%	7%	7%	6%	4%	100%	29,900
Garden tool or agricultural equipment	3%	3%	8%	9%	11%	14%	16%	13%	9%	7%	6%	2%	100%	15,300
Lightning	0%	1%	2%	5%	10%	19%	28%	23%	8%	2%	1%	0%	100%	13,500
Playing with heat source	7%	6%	10%	10%	8%	10%	26%	7%	5%	4%	4%	3%	100%	13,400
Agricultural burn	6%	8%	26%	21%	7%	6%	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	3%	100%	13,200
Fireworks	8%	2%	2%	2%	2%	9%	64%	4%	2%	1%	1%	3%	100%	12,200
Rekindle	5%	6%	13%	13%	8%	9%	12%	11%	8%	6%	6%	2%	100%	11,600
Shop tool or industrial equipment, including torches	8%	7%	12%	8%	9%	11%	12%	12%	9%	6%	4%	3%	100%	9,600
Exposure to other fire	8%	8%	14%	11%	8%	8%	13%	10%	6%	4%	6%	3%	100%	7,600
Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	8%	7%	11%	12%	10%	7%	8%	8%	8%	7%	8%	5%	100%	5,600
Spontaneous combustion/chemical reaction	4%	3%	6%	15%	14%	12%	12%	10%	8%	6%	6%	4%	100%	2,700
All brush, grass and forest fires	7%	7%	12%	12%	9%	9%	12%	9%	7%	6%	6%	4%	100%	306,000

Note: Major causes were extracted from cause of ignition, factors contributing to ignition, heat source and equipment involved in ignition. Unknowns were allocated separately for each data element. Double counting does occur. For example, some fireworks and intentional fires were caused by playing with heat source. Some open burning fires were considered intentional. Causal factors that did not describe a specific scenario are not shown but can be found in the respective data elements. Sums do *not* add to 100% or monthly totals. These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. local fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 5B.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires, by Major Cause and Month**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

The most common causes for each month are in red.

Cause	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Intentional	4,400	4,400	8,300	7,700	4,900	4,100	5,300	3,900	3,300	3,900	4,400	2,700	57,400
Open burning	4,600	4,500	7,600	6,400	3,300	2,400	2,500	2,400	2,000	2,600	3,600	2,100	43,800
Smoking materials	1,300	1,500	2,700	4,400	4,200	3,500	4,000	3,300	2,200	1,600	1,400	800	30,900
Electrical power or utility line	1,900	1,900	2,500	2,900	2,800	3,500	4,000	3,200	2,200	2,100	1,800	1,200	29,900
Garden tool or agricultural equipment	500	500	1,200	1,300	1,600	2,100	2,500	1,900	1,400	1,100	900	300	15,300
Lightning	100	100	300	700	1,400	2,600	3,700	3,200	1,100	300	100	100	13,500
Playing with heat source	1,000	800	1,400	1,300	1,100	1,300	3,500	900	600	600	600	400	13,400
Agricultural burn	800	1,100	3,400	2,700	1,000	800	600	500	500	600	800	400	13,200
Fireworks	900	200	300	300	300	1,100	7,800	400	200	100	100	400	12,200
Rekindle	600	700	1,500	1,500	1,000	1,100	1,400	1,300	900	700	700	300	11,600
Shop tool or industrial equipment, including torches	800	700	1,100	800	800	1,100	1,100	1,200	800	600	400	300	9,600
Exposure to other fire	600	600	1,100	800	600	600	1,000	700	500	300	500	200	7,600
Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	500	400	600	700	600	400	500	400	400	400	500	300	5,600
Spontaneous combustion/chemical reaction	100	100	200	400	400	300	300	300	200	200	200	100	2,700
All brush, grass and forest fires	21,900	22,200	36,600	38,000	28,800	27,200	36,300	26,400	20,100	18,100	19,200	11,200	306,000

Note: Major causes were extracted from cause of ignition, factors contributing to ignition, heat source and equipment involved in ignition. Unknowns were allocated separately for each data element. Double counting does occur. For example, some fireworks and intentional fires were caused by playing with heat source. Some open burning fires were considered intentional. Causal factors that did not describe a specific scenario are not shown but can be found in the respective data elements. Sums do *not* add to 100% or monthly totals. These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. local fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.



**Table 6.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires, by Cause of Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Cause of Ignition	Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Total, including Unclassified	
Unintentional	68,900	(56%)	71,800	(63%)	13,900	(45%)	175,100	(57%)
Intentional	27,900	(23%)	15,700	(14%)	5,000	(16%)	57,400	(19%)
Unclassified cause	12,900	(10%)	10,100	(9%)	3,700	(12%)	29,800	(10%)
Act of nature	8,800	(7%)	9,600	(8%)	6,800	(22%)	26,300	(9%)
Failure of equipment or heat source	5,200	(4%)	6,200	(5%)	1,300	(4%)	17,400	(6%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the cause of ignition was unknown or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires of known cause of ignition. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 7A.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Factor Contributing to Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Factor Contributing	Fires	
Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	43,800	(14%)
High wind	42,300	(14%)
Abandoned or discarded material or product	41,900	(14%)
Unclassified natural condition	26,400	(9%)
Unclassified factor contributed to ignition	20,200	(7%)
Electrical failure or malfunction	17,900	(6%)
Unclassified misuse of material or product	16,300	(5%)
Unclassified fire spread or control	14,700	(5%)
Playing with heat source	13,400	(4%)
Agriculture or land management burn	13,200	(4%)
Heat source too close to combustibles	12,800	(4%)
Rekindle	11,600	(4%)
Storm	11,500	(4%)
Mechanical failure or malfunction	9,400	(3%)
Exposure fire	7,600	(2%)
Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	5,600	(2%)
Other known factor contributing to ignition	10,800	(4%)
<b>Total fires</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Total factors*</b>	<b>319,500</b>	<b>(104%)</b>

\*Multiple entries are allowed, resulting in more factor entries than fires.

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the factor contributing to ignition was undetermined, coded as “none,” or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known factor contributing to ignition. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 7B.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush or Brush and Grass Mixture Fires**  
**by Factor Contributing to Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Factor Contributing to Ignition	Fires	
Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	21,200	(17%)
Abandoned or discarded material or product	18,600	(15%)
High wind	16,700	(14%)
Unclassified natural condition	10,000	(8%)
Unclassified factor contributed to ignition	8,500	(7%)
Unclassified misuse of material or product	7,100	(6%)
Fire spread or control, other	6,000	(5%)
Electrical failure or malfunction	5,900	(5%)
Playing with heat source	5,300	(4%)
Agriculture or land management burn	5,300	(4%)
Rekindle	5,200	(4%)
Heat source too close to combustibles	5,100	(4%)
Storm	3,100	(2%)
Exposure fire	3,000	(2%)
Mechanical failure or malfunction	2,500	(2%)
Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	2,400	(2%)
Other known factor contributing to ignition	3,600	(3%)
<b>Total fires</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Total factors*</b>	<b>129,400</b>	<b>(105%)</b>

\*Multiple entries are allowed, resulting in more factor entries than fires.

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the factor contributing to ignition was undetermined, coded as “none,” or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known factor contributing to ignition. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 7C.  
Local Fire Department Responses to Grass Fires  
by Factor Contributing to Ignition  
2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Factor Contributing to Ignition	Fires	
High wind	17,900	(16%)
Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	14,600	(13%)
Abandoned or discarded material or product	12,300	(11%)
Electrical failure or malfunction	9,000	(8%)
Unclassified natural condition	8,800	(8%)
Unclassified factor contributed to ignition	6,700	(6%)
Mechanical failure or malfunction	5,800	(5%)
Playing with heat source	5,700	(5%)
Fire spread or control, other	5,600	(5%)
Unclassified misuse of material or product	5,500	(5%)
Agriculture or land management burn	5,400	(5%)
Heat source too close to combustibles	5,200	(5%)
Rekindle	3,100	(3%)
Exposure fire	3,000	(3%)
Storm	2,200	(2%)
Cutting or welding too close to combustibles	2,100	(2%)
Other known factor contributing to ignition	4,800	(4%)
<b>Total fires</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Total factors*</b>	<b>118,000</b>	<b>(104%)</b>

\*Multiple entries are allowed, resulting in more factor entries than fires.

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the factor contributing to ignition was undetermined, coded as “none,” or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known factor contributing to ignition. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 7D.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fires**  
**by Factor Contributing to Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Factor Contributing to Ignition	Fires	
High wind	5,000	(16%)
Outside/open fire for debris or waste disposal	4,200	(14%)
Storm	4,000	(13%)
Unclassified natural condition	3,000	(10%)
Abandoned or discarded material or product	2,100	(7%)
Rekindle	2,100	(7%)
Fire spread or control, other	1,600	(5%)
Unclassified factor contributed to ignition	1,600	(5%)
Electrical failure or malfunction	1,400	(5%)
Agriculture or land management burn	1,300	(4%)
Exposure fire	1,100	(4%)
Playing with heat source	1,100	(4%)
Unclassified misuse of material or product	900	(3%)
Outside/open fire for warming or cooking	900	(3%)
Heat source too close to combustibles	900	(3%)
Mechanical failure or malfunction	500	(2%)
Other known factor contributing to ignition	600	(2%)
<b>Total fires</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
<b>Total factors*</b>	<b>32,400</b>	<b>(106%)</b>

\*Multiple entries are allowed, resulting in more factor entries than fires.

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the factor contributing to ignition was undetermined, coded as “none,” or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known factor contributing to ignition. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 8A.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Heat Source**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Heat Source	Fires	
Hot ember or ash	54,300	(18%)
Smoking materials	30,900	(10%)
Unclassified heat source	25,900	(8%)
Match	23,700	(8%)
Unclassified hot or smoldering object	21,600	(7%)
Lighter	18,400	(6%)
Flying brand, ember or spark	18,200	(6%)
Arcing	16,600	(5%)
Lightning	13,500	(4%)
Unclassified heat spread from another fire	12,500	(4%)
Fireworks	12,200	(4%)
Spark, ember or flame from operating equipment	11,700	(4%)
Flame or torch used for lighting	10,200	(3%)
Heat from direct flame or convection currents	6,700	(2%)
Heat or spark from friction	5,500	(2%)
Other known heat source	24,200	(8%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the heat source undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known heat source. The estimates of matches, lighters, smoking materials, flames or torches used for lighting and candles include a proportional share of fires in which the heat source was heat from an unclassified open flame or smoking material. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 8B.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush or Brush and Grass Mixture Fires**  
**by Heat Source**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Heat Source	Fires	
Hot ember or ash	23,800	(19%)
Smoking materials	12,800	(10%)
Match	11,700	(9%)
Unclassified heat source	10,900	(9%)
Lighter	8,700	(7%)
Unclassified hot or smoldering object	8,700	(7%)
Flying brand, ember or spark	7,400	(6%)
Arcing	5,400	(4%)
Unclassified heat spread from another fire	4,900	(4%)
Flame or torch used for lighting	4,700	(4%)
Fireworks	3,800	(3%)
Lightning	3,700	(3%)
Spark, ember or flame from operating equipment	3,500	(3%)
Heat from direct flame or convection currents	2,900	(2%)
Other known heat source	10,700	(9%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the heat source undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known heat source. The estimates of matches, lighters, smoking materials, flames or torches used for lighting, and candles include a proportional share of fires in which the heat source was heat from an unclassified open flame or smoking material. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 8C.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Grass Fires**  
**by Heat Source**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Heat Source	Fires	
Hot ember or ash	19,500	(17%)
Smoking materials	10,300	(9%)
Unclassified heat source	8,100	(7%)
Flying brand, ember or spark	7,800	(7%)
Arcing	7,400	(7%)
Match	7,400	(6%)
Unclassified hot or smoldering object	7,000	(6%)
Spark, ember or flame from operating equipment	7,000	(6%)
Fireworks	6,900	(6%)
Lighter	5,800	(5%)
Unclassified heat spread from another fire	4,900	(4%)
Flame or torch used for lighting	3,400	(3%)
Heat or spark from friction	3,100	(3%)
Heat from direct flame or convection currents	2,600	(2%)
Lightning	2,300	(2%)
Unclassified heat from powered equipment	2,000	(2%)
Other known heat source	7,800	(7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the heat source undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known heat source. The estimates of matches, lighters, smoking materials, flames or torches used for lighting and candles include a proportional share of fires in which the heat source was heat from an unclassified open flame or smoking material. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.



**Table 8D.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fires**  
**by Heat Source**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Heat Source	Fires	
Hot ember or ash	6,000	(20%)
Lightning	5,100	(17%)
Unclassified heat source	2,600	(8%)
Flying brand, ember or spark	2,300	(7%)
Arcing	1,900	(6%)
Match	1,800	(6%)
Unclassified hot or smoldering object	1,700	(6%)
Unclassified heat spread from another fire	1,700	(6%)
Lighter	1,600	(5%)
Smoking materials	1,000	(3%)
Flame or torch used for lighting	800	(3%)
Heat from direct flame or convection currents	800	(3%)
Spark, ember or flame from operating equipment	600	(2%)
Fireworks	600	(2%)
Other known heat source	2,100	(7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the heat source undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known heat source. The estimates of matches, lighters, smoking materials, flames or torches used for lighting and candles include a proportional share of fires in which the heat source was heat from an unclassified open flame or smoking material. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 9A.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Equipment Involved in Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Equipment Involved in Ignition	Fires	
<b>No equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>223,200</b>	<b>(73%)</b>
<b>Electrical distribution and lighting equipment</b>	<b>43,700</b>	<b>(14%)</b>
<i>Electrical power or utility line</i>	29,900	(10%)
Wiring and related equipment other than power or utility line	5,900	(2%)
Transformer or power supply equipment	4,600	(2%)
Lamp, bulb or lighting	2,200	(1%)
<b>Garden tools and agricultural equipment</b>	<b>15,300</b>	<b>(5%)</b>
Lawn mower	7,300	(2%)
Hay processing equipment	4,300	(1%)
<b>Shop tools and industrial equipment, including torches</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>(3%)</b>
Torch, burner or soldering iron	4,500	(1%)
<b>Unclassified equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>(3%)</b>
<b>Other known equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved in ignition. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was entered as none but the heat source indicated equipment involvement or the heat source was unknown were also treated as unknown and allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are included in Table 8A, but not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 9B.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush or Brush and Grass Mixture Fires**  
**by Equipment Involved in Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

<b>Equipment Involved in Ignition</b>	<b>Fires</b>	
<b>No equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>97,300</b>	<b>(79%)</b>
<b>Electrical distribution and lighting equipment</b>	<b>14,400</b>	<b>(12%)</b>
Electrical power or utility line	9,800	(8%)
Wiring and related equipment other than power or utility lines	2,000	(2%)
Transformer or power supply	1,400	(1%)
Lamp, bulb or lighting	900	(1%)
<b>Garden tools or agricultural equipment</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>(3%)</b>
Lawn mower	2,100	(2%)
Hay processing equipment	800	(1%)
<b>Unclassified equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
<b>Shop tools and industrial equipment, including torches</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
Torch, burner or soldering iron	1,400	(1%)
<b>Other known equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved in ignition. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was entered as none but the heat source indicated equipment involvement or the heat source was unknown were also treated as unknown and allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 9C.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Grass Fires**  
**by Equipment Involved in Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Equipment Involved in Ignition	Fires	
<b>No equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>(66%)</b>
<b>Electrical distribution and lighting equipment</b>	<b>18,200</b>	<b>(16%)</b>
Electrical power or utility line	12,200	(11%)
Transformer or power supply	2,700	(2%)
Wiring and related equipment other than power or utility lines	2,400	(2%)
<b>Garden tools or agricultural equipment</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>(8%)</b>
Lawn mower	4,300	(4%)
Hay processing equipment	3,000	(3%)
<b>Shop tools and industrial equipment, including torches</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>(5%)</b>
Torch, burner or soldering iron	2,500	(2%)
Power saw	700	(1%)
Power sander, grinder, buffer, or polisher	600	(1%)
<b>Unclassified equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>4,100</b>	<b>(4%)</b>
<b>Other known equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved in ignition. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was entered as none but the heat source indicated equipment involvement or the heat source was unknown were also treated as unknown and allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 9D.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fires**  
**by Equipment Involved in Ignition**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Equipment Involved in Ignition	Fires	
<b>No equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>(75%)</b>
<b>Electrical distribution and lighting equipment</b>	<b>5,300</b>	<b>(17%)</b>
Electrical power or utility line	4,300	(14%)
Transformer or power supply	300	(1%)
Wiring and related equipment other than power or utility lines	600	(2%)
<b>Unclassified equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
<b>Garden tools or agricultural equipment</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
Lawn mower	300	(1%)
<b>Shop tools and industrial equipment, including torches</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
Torch, burner or soldering iron	200	(1%)
Chain saw	200	(1%)
<b>Other known equipment involved in ignition</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>(2%)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved in ignition. Fires in which the equipment involved in ignition was entered as none but the heat source indicated equipment involvement or the heat source was unknown were also treated as unknown and allocated proportionally among fires with known equipment involved. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 10A.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Item First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Item First Ignited	Fires	
Light vegetation, including grass	205,700	(67%)
Heavy vegetation, including trees	35,500	(12%)
Unclassified organic materials	26,600	(9%)
Unclassified item first ignited	11,000	(4%)
Rubbish, trash, or waste	7,200	(2%)
Chips, including wood chips	6,800	(2%)
Other known item first ignited	13,300	(4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

**Table 10B.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush or Brush and Grass Mixture Fires**  
**by Item First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Item First Ignited	Fires	
Light vegetation, including grass	81,900	(66%)
Heavy vegetation, including trees	14,700	(12%)
Unclassified organic materials	10,400	(8%)
Unclassified item first ignited	4,700	(4%)
Chips, including wood chips	3,500	(3%)
Rubbish, trash, or waste	3,400	(3%)
Other known item first ignited	5,100	(4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the item first ignited was undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known item first ignited. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires are included in Table 9A, but not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 10C.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Grass Fires**  
**by Item First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Item First Ignited	Fires	
Light vegetation, including grass	94,400	(83%)
Unclassified organic materials	4,400	(4%)
Unclassified item first ignited	3,500	(3%)
Heavy vegetation, including trees	3,100	(3%)
Rubbish, trash, or waste	2,600	(2%)
Other known item first ignited	5,400	(5%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

**Table 10D.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fires**  
**by Item First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Item First Ignited	Fires	
Heavy vegetation, including trees	13,200	(43%)
Light vegetation, including grass	12,400	(41%)
Unclassified organic materials	1,900	(6%)
Unclassified item first ignited	1,200	(4%)
Rubbish, trash, or waste	700	(2%)
Other known item first ignited	1,100	(4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>
Heavy vegetation including trees	13,200	(43%)

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the item first ignited was undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known item first ignited. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 11A.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Type of Material First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Type of Material First Ignited	Fires	
Unclassified natural product	117,100	(38%)
Hay or straw	50,100	(16%)
Wood chips, sawdust or shavings	43,200	(14%)
Unclassified type of material	36,100	(12%)
Multiple types of material	12,800	(4%)
Round timber, including round posts and poles	10,800	(4%)
Unclassified processed wood or paper	8,100	(3%)
Wood pulp	5,400	(2%)
Other known type of material	22,300	(7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the type of material first ignited was required but undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known type of material first ignited. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Unclassified vegetation fires included in Table 10A but not shown separately.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.



**Table 11B.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush or Brush and Grass Mixture Fires**  
**by Type of Material First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Type of Material First Ignited	Fires	
Unclassified natural product	44,900	(36%)
Wood chips, sawdust or shavings	20,300	(16%)
Hay or straw	17,900	(14%)
Unclassified type of material	14,100	(11%)
Multiple types of material	6,100	(5%)
Round timber, including round posts and poles	4,600	(4%)
Unclassified processed wood or paper	3,800	(3%)
Wood pulp	2,400	(2%)
Other known type of material	9,600	(8%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the type of material first ignited was required but undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known type of material first ignited. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 11C.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Grass Fires**  
**by Type of Material First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Type of Material First Ignited	Fires	
Unclassified natural product	46,900	(41%)
Hay or straw	29,100	(26%)
Unclassified type of material	15,200	(13%)
Wood chips, sawdust or shavings	5,000	(4%)
Multiple types of material	4,100	(4%)
Unclassified processed wood or paper	1,700	(2%)
Other known type of material	11,400	(10%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the type of material first ignited was required but undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known type of material first ignited. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 11D.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fires**  
**by Type of Material First Ignited**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Type of Material First Ignited	Fires	
Unclassified natural product	12,800	(42%)
Unclassified type of material	4,200	(14%)
Hay or straw	3,600	(12%)
Round timber, including round posts and poles	3,000	(10%)
Multiple types of material	2,000	(6%)
Unclassified processed wood or paper	1,200	(4%)
Wood chips, sawdust or shavings	1,000	(3%)
Wood pulp	800	(2%)
Other known type of material	2,000	(7%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Fires in which the type of material first ignited was required but undetermined or not reported were allocated proportionally among fires with known type of material first ignited. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 12.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Acres Burned**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Acres Burned	Brush or Brush Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Total, including Unclassified	
Less than an acre	77,100	(62%)	66,100	(58%)	13,100	(43%)	184,700	(60%)
1-10 acres	40,100	(32%)	40,300	(36%)	13,900	(45%)	102,600	(34%)
11-50 acres	4,400	(4%)	4,900	(4%)	2,300	(7%)	12,500	(4%)
More than 50 acres	2,200	(2%)	2,100	(2%)	1,300	(4%)	6,100	(2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

**Table 13.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Number of Buildings Involved**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Number of Buildings Involved	Fires	
No buildings involved	296,600	(97%)
1 building	8,300	(3%)
2 buildings	600	(0%)
3 or more buildings	400	(0%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. Fires in which the number of acres burned or buildings involved were unknown were allocated proportionally.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 14.**  
**Local Fire Department Response Trends to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by Year**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture</b>	<b>Grass</b>	<b>Forest, Woods or Wildland</b>	<b>Unclassified Natural Vegetation</b>	<b>Total,</b>
2003	134,900	130,400	31,300	36,700	333,300
2004	134,200	110,900	30,300	34,800	310,200
2005	150,600	147,400	32,700	41,300	372,000
2006	159,500	154,900	42,500	44,100	401,000
2007	148,600	116,800	40,600	48,900	354,800
2008	138,300	127,200	32,600	44,900	343,000
2009	128,600	118,200	29,800	39,200	315,800
2010	127,700	111,000	31,100	38,400	308,200
2011	133,700	138,200	37,600	39,300	348,900
2012	134,800	118,000	33,600	43,500	329,900
2013	101,800	90,300	24,600	32,300	249,100
2014	120,600	112,400	27,700	34,700	295,400
2015	127,600	108,000	29,500	41,500	306,600

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors.

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

**Table 15.**  
**Local Fire Department Responses to Brush, Grass, and Forest Fires**  
**by U.S. Cohesive Strategy Region**  
**2011-2015 Annual Averages**

Region	Brush or Brush/Grass Mixture		Grass		Forest, Woods or Wildland		Unclassified Natural Vegetation		Total	
Northeast	40,100	(32%)	20,400	(18%)	6,800	(22%)	13,600	(35%)	80,900	(26%)
Southeast	60,200	(49%)	68,000	(60%)	19,000	(62%)	13,800	(36%)	161,100	(53%)
West	22,300	(18%)	24,400	(22%)	4,500	(15%)	10,600	(28%)	61,900	(20%)
Other or unreported territory or area	1,000	(1%)	600	(0%)	300	(1%)	300	(1%)	2,100	(1%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>123,700</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>113,400</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>38,300</b>	<b>(100%)</b>	<b>306,000</b>	<b>(100%)</b>

Note: These are national estimates of fires reported to U.S. municipal fire departments and so exclude fires reported only to Federal or state agencies or industrial fire brigades. National estimates are projections. Fires are rounded to the nearest hundred. Sums may not equal due to rounding errors. NFIRS “incident state” was used to separate states into regions. Unclassified vegetation fires included in the total but not shown separately

Source: NFIRS 5.0 and NFPA fire experience survey.

## Acknowledgements

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The National Fire Protection Association thanks all the fire departments and state fire authorities who participate in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and the annual NFPA fire experience survey. These firefighters are the original sources of the detailed data that make this analysis possible. Their contributions allow us to estimate the size of the fire problem.

We are also grateful to the U.S. Fire Administration for its work in developing, coordinating, and maintaining NFIRS.

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NFPA No. USS89ST