



State Fire Report – March 2020
 OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
 NORTH DAKOTA STATE FIRE MARSHAL
 Issued 4/15/2020

Fires reported in the month of March **97**

2020 Monthly Fire Counts

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
90	98	97										145

Dollar loss attributed to fire year to date..... **\$3,825,301.00**

Incidents reported for the month..... **1,601**

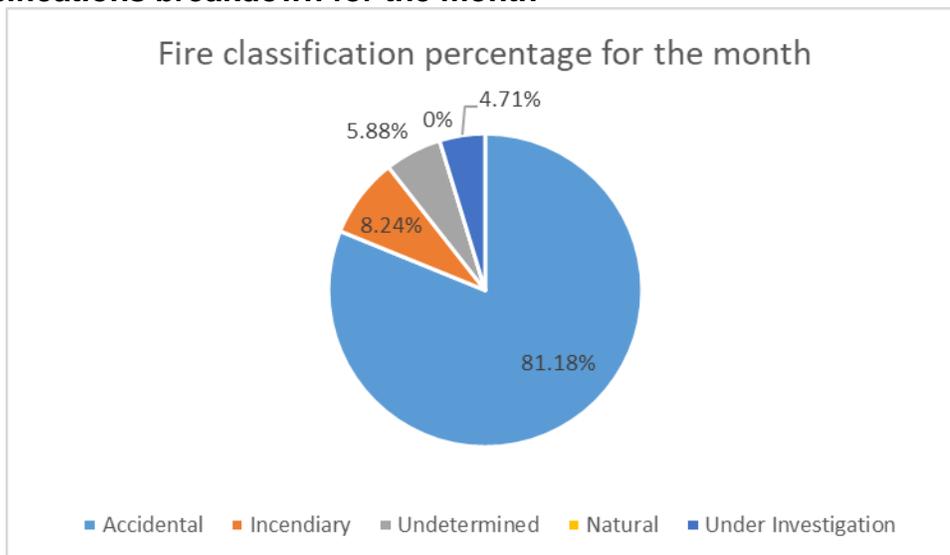
Most reported fire type for the month

- Building fires 25.77%
- Grass fire 14.43%

Most reported heat source for the month

- Heat from powered equipment, other 14.12%
- Undetermined 24.71%

Fire classifications breakdown for the month



Injuries and Fatalities

Civilian fire casualties for the month	0	Year to date	2
Civilian fire injuries for the month	2	Year to date	9
Fire service injuries for the month	0	Year to date	1

Percentage of fire departments reporting for the month **21%**

Incident totals by type year to date 2020

Fires	Rescue (EMS)	Hazardous Conditions	Service	Good Intent	Severe Weather	Special Incident	False Calls	Total
285	4,518	288	338	682	1	37	808	6,963

Update from the State Fire Marshal's Office:

The past month has been very challenging to say the least, and it looks like the current pandemic will continue to produce challenges for the fire service and those we serve. Please note that I included information from the United States Fire Administration regarding Covid-19 in the Public Education section.

The State Fire Marshal's Office is working from home, but is still open. We will continue to respond to requests for assistance with investigations and inspections following recommended practices to reduce/contain the spread of the Corona Virus.

If you have any fire incidents resulting in injuries (civilian or fire service) or casualties, notify the North Dakota State Fire Marshal's Office. If requesting assistance with a fire investigation please contact State Radio at (701)328-9921, and they will notify us to contact you to coordinate a response.

The State Fire Marshal's Office will be releasing reported fire incidents to NFIRS on a weekly basis until the pandemic subsides. This has been requested by NFIRS staff to assist in keeping fire service information as up to date as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions about fire reporting, when to contact the State Fire Marshal's Office, or how to ensure your incidents make it into NFIRS.

Thank you,

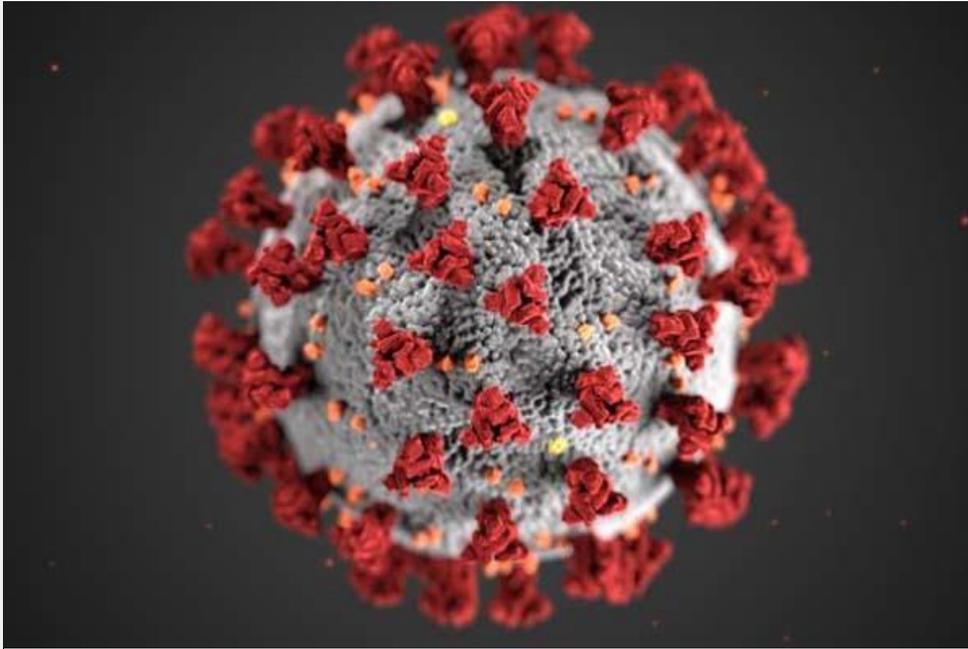
Douglas Nelson
ND State Fire Marshal

Public education and outreach for the month:

This month I decided to pass on the complete USFA April Fire Safety Resources Newsletter. All of the information below (specifically resources for Covid-19 response and the NFIRS special study) are critically important at this point in time. More public education resources can be found on both organizations websites.

United States Fire Administration: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/index.html>

National Fire Protection Association: www.nfpa.org



Resources to help you respond to COVID-19

During these difficult times, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) wants to help. We have created a page to provide you with information to help yourself and your fellow first responders. On this [page](#), you can find:

- Guidance for EMS and PSAP from the CDC
- HIPPA disclosure
- Preparing workplaces for COVID-19
- Information for First Responders on Maintaining Operational Capabilities During a Pandemic
- Financial and resource support for your organization

Follow our digital communications; [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

for updates.

NFIRS National COVID-19 Special Study

USFA is using the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) to conduct a national-level special study on fire department responses to the new coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The goal of the study is to help fire departments consistently document fire department calls to suspected or confirmed incidents involving COVID-19.

This [special study](#) will collect, aggregate and quantify the number of fire department responses to incidents in which COVID-19 was a factor. The data will be used by the USFA at the national level and it will be available in the NFIRS Data Warehouse for registered NFIRS users. Data will not be made available to the public.

Have questions about the COVID-19 Special Study? Please contact the NFIRS Support Center: Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. ET, at 888-382-3827 or by email at fema-nfirshelp@fema.dhs.gov.



April is WUI Awareness Month

April is the traditional start of the wildfire season. This year, USFA wants to raise awareness about what [wildland urban interface \(WUI\) fires](#) are and how fire departments can help communities become safer.

Each week, we will highlight information about what communities need to know before, during and after a WUI fire. Please share these free outreach materials to help your community prepare to live close to nature.

NFA on-campus training suspended until May 10

National Fire Academy training at the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) is suspended for an eight-week period (March 14 – May 10). Training is suspended due to the ongoing need for students to commit to their families and communities. If you were scheduled for a class at NETC, our Admissions Office will contact you to reschedule.

Off-campus students: please contact your [state fire training agency](#) for

information about NFA classes delivered in your state.



Mutual Aid Planner

In the aftermath of a disaster, emergency responders regularly rely on mutual aid support from neighboring towns to help response and to cover the area while recovery efforts continue, which can take days or longer. It is important to have such plans already in place. Scrambling for regional assistance at the last minute takes time out from important life-saving measures.

In its research on improving mutual aid partnerships, the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate developed an application to help jurisdictions create better mutual aid plans. The [Mutual Aid Resource Planner](#) (MARP) allows planners to develop capability-based mutual aid plans using a cloud-based platform, enabling rapid deployment and streamlining information sharing.