



**State Fire Report – September 2020**  
 OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL  
 NORTH DAKOTA STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
 Issued 10/15/2020

**Fires reported in the month of September ..... 172**

**2020 Monthly Fire Counts**

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
102	121	160	259	279	266	242	250	172				<b>1,586</b>

**Dollar loss attributed to fire year to date..... \$21,290,199.00**

**Incidents reported for the month..... 1,667**

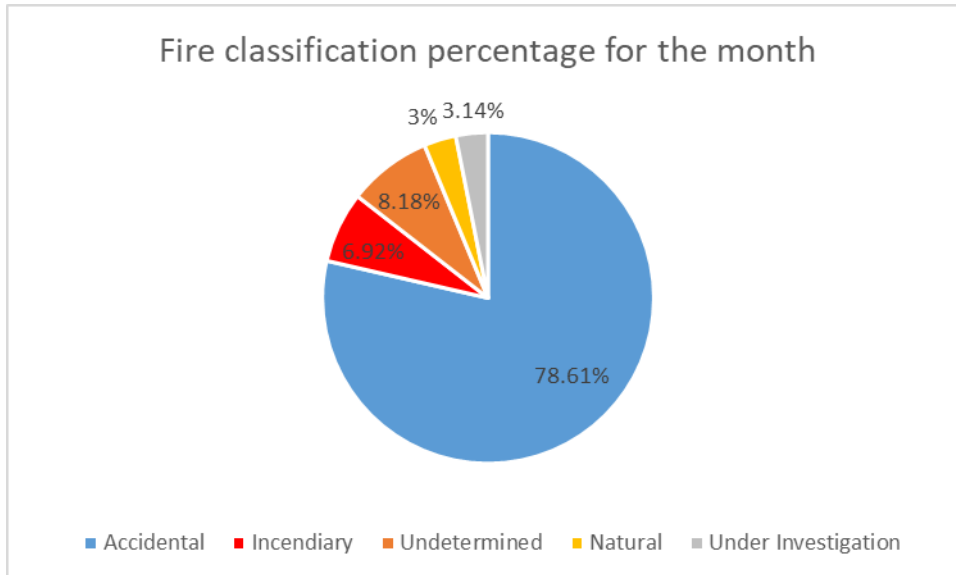
**Most reported fire type for the month**

- Grass fire ..... 20.93%
- Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire ..... 12.79%

**Most reported heat source for the month**

- Spark, ember or flame from operating equipment ..... 10.06%
- Radiated, conducted heat from operating equipment ..... 10.06%
- Undetermined ..... 33.96%

**Fire classifications breakdown for the month**



## Injuries and Fatalities

Civilian fire casualties for the month	<b>0</b>	Year to date	<b>9</b>
Civilian fire injuries for the month	<b>2</b>	Year to date	<b>15</b>
Fire service injuries for the month	<b>0</b>	Year to date	<b>6</b>

Percentage of fire departments reporting for the month ..... **28%**

### Incident totals by type year to date 2020

Fires	Rescue (EMS)	Hazardous Conditions	Service	Good Intent	Severe Weather	Special Incident	False Calls	Total
1,891	16,084	1,041	1,380	3,000	30	180	2,821	<b>26,427</b>

### Update from the State Fire Marshal's Office:

Fire Prevention Week, as Governor Burgum declared through Proclamation, has come to a close, there are a number of on-going issues for the fire service that I would like to bring to your attention.

2020 Emergency Response Guides (ERGs) are awaiting pick-up for those departments or emergency managers that have contacted us to reserve them. Please check with your local emergency managers to see if they have ordered or picked them up for your fire department.

The North Dakota Insurance Department has begun sending the Fire Insurance Tax Distribution Checks to departments who have approved Certificates of Fire Department Existence (CoE). Please go online and submit your CoE as soon as possible to receive your check.

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) will be undergoing a large change. This includes removing all non-online reporting (Fire Reporting Tool), and password/account management. Please see the attached document reporting the changes, and what may affect your reporting. For those of you that report through Emergency Reporting or other third party software, the changes will not affect your incident reporting and you may continue to report your fires uninterrupted.

Please let us know if you have any questions and if there is anything we can assist your fire department or district with.

Thank you,  
Douglas Nelson  
ND State Fire Marshal

## Public education and outreach for the month:

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](http://www.nfpa.org)

Consumer Product Safety Commission: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fire-Safety-Information-Center>

## Assistance to Firefighters Grant - COVID-19 Supplemental Program

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is providing an additional opportunity for **volunteer** and **combination** fire departments to apply for funding under the fiscal year 2020 Assistance to Firefighters Grant – COVID-19-Supplemental Program (AFG-S) to support the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) and related supplies by the fire service community to help prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. FEMA anticipates opening the application period in October 2020.

The purpose of AFG-S is to award grants directly to fire departments to enhance their ability to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as first responders, through the purchase of PPE and essential supplies related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Volunteer and combination fire departments** in any of the 50 states as well as fire departments in the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization are eligible. A fire department is defined as an agency or organization having a formally recognized arrangement with a state, local, tribal or territorial authority (e.g. city, county, parish, fire district, township, town or other governing body) to provide fire suppression to a population within a geographically fixed primary first due response area.

Volunteer and combination fire departments are eligible to apply in this round even if they had a successful application in the first round. However, new applications must support new capabilities. Departments that applied in the first round but were unsuccessful must reapply in this round; applications from the first round will not automatically carry forward to this round for consideration.

All activities under this solicitation will be limited to the purchase of PPE and related supplies required to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19. This includes reimbursement for expenditures made since Jan. 1, 2020.

## Cooking Fires in Residential Buildings

Each year, from 2016 to 2018, fire departments in the United States responded to an estimated average of

**189,300**

**cooking fires  
in residential  
buildings.**

**These fires caused an estimated:**



**deaths**



**injuries**




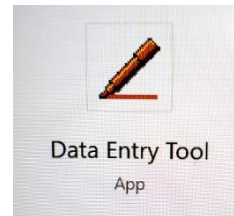
**in property loss**



**North Dakota Fire Departments/Districts reporting fires and/or No Activity using NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System):**

**\*\* All NFIRS services and reporting will be unavailable/not functioning, the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of October 2020!**

Many of you have been using the software DET (Data Entry Tool) Which may look like this  to enter your Fire Reports and/or your No Activity Reports.



With the next USFA NFIRS release, planned in October 2020, all functions of the DET (Data Entry Tool) will be provided in the new modernized, web-based tool called **eNFIRS**. At this same time in mid-October, the USFA will decommission the client software Data Entry Tool (DET), meaning, you will no longer be able to use this software/app. for fire reporting.

What the implementation of **eNFIRS** means for users:

- The USFA Client Tool (Data Entry Tool (DET) and System Admin Tool) software will no longer connect with the NFIRS national database.
- Users who do not use a third-party vendor product (such as Emergency Reporting) to create an incident report will now be required to use the USFA's web-based tool, **eNFIRS**, for incident data
- eNFIRS will now be found at and reside at the USFA website:  
[https://www.usfa.fema.gov/data/nfirs/user\\_tools/index.html](https://www.usfa.fema.gov/data/nfirs/user_tools/index.html)
- There will no longer be the option to do reporting offline
- In **eNFIRS** users will be able to reset their own Password
  - In fact, state admins. will no longer be able to do this for you. The user will be required to reset their own password through use of a valid email address.
- ALL users will (starting mid-October) need to utilize a web browser, not the software program.
  - FEMA recommends Microsoft Edge as the most compatible browser to use.
- If your user account is "Active" when this change happens your user account will transfer to the new system flawlessly.
- **All users will receive an email the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October that states that they have 5 days to log in to the new system. If they do not log in and create a new password within those 5 days, their account will become locked and the State Admin. will be required to reset the account in order for them to regain access to NFIRS.**
- Watch your email for dates in September and October when FREE video trainings on this new, modernized, **eNFIRS**, will be offered online. Also watch for the sharing of a new eNFIRS User Guide.
- eNFIRS will utilize a single sign-on portal. What this means is you will be able to access all that eNFIRS has to offer, with 1 signon in 1 location.
  - Upon login, the system will display tools based on the user's NFIRS account permissions. The functions of the NFIRS tools will remain the same, but the interfaces will be updated and modernized.

Here is the contact information for the NFIRS Support Center:

(888) 382-3827

[fema-nfirshelp@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:fema-nfirshelp@fema.dhs.gov)

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