



State Fire Report – March 2021
 OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
 NORTH DAKOTA STATE FIRE MARSHAL
 Issued 4/15/2021

Fires reported in the month..... 300

- Structure Fires 74
- Vehicle Fires 28
- Other Fires 198

2021 Monthly Fire Counts

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
104	115	300										519

Dollar loss attributed to fire year to date..... \$5,909,004.00

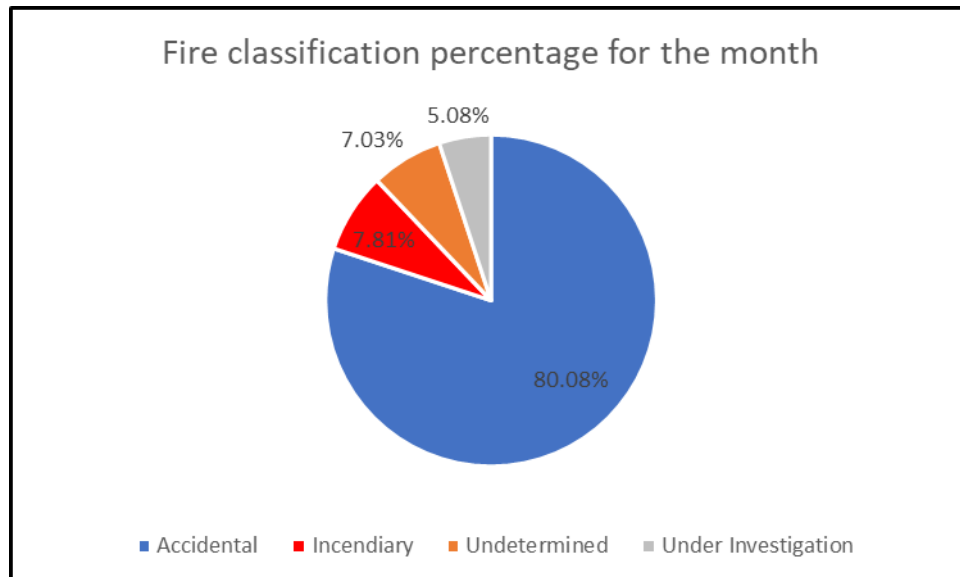
Total incidents reported for the month..... 3,502

Most reported fire type for the month

- Grass fire 30.62%
- Building fires 15.96%

Most reported heat source for the month

- Hot Ember or Ash 13.28%
- Undetermined 27.34%



Injuries and Fatalities	Month	Year to date
Civilian fire casualties	0	1
Civilian fire injuries	3	9
Fire service injuries	2	2

Percentage of fire departments reporting for the month **34%**

Incident totals by type year to date 2021

Fires	Rupture/ explos.	Rescue (EMS)	Hazardous Conditions	Service	Good Intent	Severe Weather	Special Incident	False Calls	Total
519	24	6,157	372	560	1,132	3	48	1,111	9,926

Update from the State Fire Marshal's Office:

Greetings to all this month. As you are assuredly already aware, very dry conditions exist throughout the State. Wildfires are always a risk, especially when combined with dry conditions, heat and our North Dakota winds. To help evaluate and monitor the risks in your community, please visit the burn ban restrictions and fire danger maps at the Department of Emergency Services (DES) website. For further questions about wildland fire response or risks please contact DES or the Department of Forestry. To request a fire investigation of a wildfire please contact State Radio to dispatch a Deputy Fire Marshal.

[Burn Ban Restrictions & Fire Danger Maps | ND Response](#)
[NDSU - North Dakota Forest Service — North Dakota Forest Service](#)

The North Dakota State Crime Lab has experienced turnover of fire debris analysts. This is a critical service for the State Fire Marshal's Office and fire departments that collect their own evidence or conduct fire investigations. Their short staffing is expected to last throughout this year, and could result in delays of fire debris analysis of up to two weeks. Please help the Crime Lab through this by being patient for results and reaching out to them if you have any priority cases that need a faster turn-around.

National fire incident reporting for the year 2020 is coming to a close. Please note that any 2020 incidents reported after June 30, 2021 will not be included in the FEMA Official Federal Fire Statistics for 2020. Please make every effort to report and "review" or "save" any and all 2020 incidents prior to that date.

The State Fire Marshal's pages on the Office of the Attorney General's Website have been updated! Please visit us at [Attorney General \(nd.gov\)](#) to view our new windows and layout. We are under "Public Safety", then click "Fire Safety Information". Hopefully this is simpler for all to navigate.

The North Dakota Fire Chief's Association provided the following link for any fire departments interested in learning more about the SIRM 20/20 Radio project. [SIRM 20/20 | North Dakota ITD \(nd.gov\)](#)

Please notify the ND State Fire Marshal's Office directly of any fire injuries or fatalities (civilian or fire service). It assists in tracking this critically important data. Injuries and fatalities should also be reported through your fire incident reporting platform (Emergency Reporting, NFIRS, etc.).

Please let us know if you have any questions or anything we can assist with.

Thank you,
 Douglas Nelson
 ND State Fire Marshal

Public education and outreach for the month:

More public education resources can be found on the following organizations websites.

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

National Fire Protection Association: www.nfpa.org

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

Focus on Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)



Fire departments across the country are increasingly called upon to respond to WUI fires, including brush, grass, forest fires or other outdoor fires. You may believe that you don't have a WUI problem, and that WUI fires only occur in western states, but more than 46 million residences in 70,000 communities in the U.S. are at risk for WUI fires.

The WUI is the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development. It is the line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. Communities adjacent to and surrounded by wildland are at varying degrees of risk from wildfires.

During April, USFA is drawing attention to these fire risks and providing [resources and information](#) to help your community learn about the WUI, the risks and what they can do to prevent fires as well as keep their neighborhoods safer if there is a fire.

Share these resources to teach your community how to stay safer [before](#), [during](#) and [after](#) a WUI fire.

Get Involved! 2021 Wildfire Preparedness Day



Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is the first Saturday in May. The national campaign encourages people and organizations everywhere to come together on a single day to take action to raise awareness and reduce wildfire risks. Since in-person gatherings are limited or on-hold in many places, this year's [Prep Day](#) is focused on what residents can do on and around their home to help protect against the threat of wildfires.

USFA has created [new wildland urban interface outreach materials](#) to help you share prevention and safety messages with your communities.

Telecommunicators Week



April 11-17, 2021 is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. It's been a tough year, and everyone knows that telecommunicators have been essential. Take a moment to tell the person (or persons) who somehow gets it all done with patience, compassion and a smile on their face thank you.

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