

Bushfire Causes Report - Western Australia (by region)

from 01/07/2020 to 30/06/2021

Causes of Bushfire	Perth Metro and Greater Metro	Midwest Gascoyne	Goldfields Midlands	South West	Lower South West	Upper Great Southern	Great Southern	Pilbara	Kimberley	Western Australia (whole)
Burn off fires	128	18	30	36	32	12	32	3	9	300
Campfires, bonfires, outdoor cooking, other open flames/fires	101	11	34	17	8	3	17	14	3	208
Children misadventure	8	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	15
Cigarette	304	5	3	7	0	1	1	6	2	329
Fireworks/Flares	8	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	13
Hot works (e.g. grinding/cutting)	28	1	6	5	1	0	2	0	0	43
Power lines	46	20	8	10	11	4	4	2	0	105
Suspicious or Deliberate	766	91	130	68	34	7	26	109	302	1534
Vehicles (includes farming equipment/activities)	40	25	37	7	9	20	22	5	2	167
Weather conditions (Lightning)	29	36	45	11	11	17	58	25	21	253
Weather conditions (high winds, natural combustion)	25	2	3	4	3	1	2	8	1	49
Other – equipment	42	5	6	9	4	1	3	1	1	74
Other – human error/impairment	11	4	4	7	3	1	1	1	6	36
Undetermined	27	6	12	13	5	9	6	11	57	146
Total	1563	229	319	196	122	77	174	187	404	3272

*does not include unreported fires and reignition of previous fires



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Region*

from 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2020

Causes of Bushfire	Perth Metro and Great Metro	Midwest Gascoyne	Goldfields Midlands	South West	Lower South West	Upper Great Southern	Great Southern	Pilbara	Kimberley	Western Australia (whole)
Burn off fires	222	28	74	67	67	24	60	7	9	559
Campfires, bonfires, outdoor cooking, other open flames/fires	91	11	25	19	12	7	18	10	10	203
Children misadventure	12	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	18
Cigarette	327	3	6	6	2	1	1	11	3	360
Fireworks/Flares	8	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	16
Hot works (e.g. grinding/cutting)	46	4	4	2	0	1	1	3	0	61
Power lines	64	26	11	24	12	8	11	0	0	156
Suspicious or Deliberate	1009	102	167	124	49	14	31	128	219	1844
Vehicles (includes farming equipment/activities)	30	22	35	9	7	25	24	5	2	159
Weather conditions (Lightning)	43	59	68	11	15	45	73	63	25	402
Weather conditions (high winds, natural combustion)	20	2	6	7	4	4	1	10	5	59
Other – equipment	49	7	11	14	5	4	10	3	2	103
Other – human error / impairment	21	5	7	12	1	4	6	3	4	63
Undetermined	32	8	11	19	7	10	2	18	26	133
Total	1972	280	448	316	183	147	238	263	307	4136

*does not include unreported fires and reignition of previous fires



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Bushfire Causes Report - Western Australia (by region)

Region*

from 01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018

Causes of Bushfire	Perth Metro and Great Metro	Midwest Gascoyne	Goldfields Midlands	South West	Lower South West	Great Southern	Pilbara	Kimberley	Western Australia (whole)
Burn off fires	129	30	47	68	117	162	2	23	578
Campfires, bonfires, outdoor cooking, other open flames/fires	86	10	11	16	13	15	9	6	166
Children misadventure	7	2	6	2	4	3	1	0	25
Cigarette	430	10	12	24	3	7	10	3	499
Fireworks/Flares	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	3	10
Hot works (e.g. grinding/cutting)	22	1	4	6	2	3	3	1	42
Power lines	60	6	7	24	13	15	1	1	127
Suspicious or Deliberate	999	101	181	129	43	73	206	347	2079
Vehicles (including farming equipment and issues)	29	10	19	12	13	58	7	8	164
Weather conditions (Lightning)	28	52	52	7	12	54	101	26	332
Weather conditions (high winds, natural combustion)	14	3	4	1	5	1	2	1	31
Other	33	1	6	10	3	5	3	0	51
Undetermined	45	5	13	11	5	5	26	13	123
Total	1887	231	362	312	233	401	371	432	4227

*does not include unreported fires and reignition of previous fires



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Examples of bushfires and their causes (Western Australia)

Date	Location	Cause of Bushfire
2021 (February)	Wooroloo	Spark from an angle grinder
2020 (January)	Norseman	Lightning strikes
2019 (December)	Stirling Ranges	Lightning strike
2018 (March)	Picton	Cigarette
2018 (January)	Kings Park	Suspicious or deliberate
2016 (January)	Waroona and Harvey	Lightning strikes
2015 (January)	Boddington	Lightning strike
2015 (January)	Northcliffe – Windy Harbour	Lightning strike
2014 (January)	Parkerville	Fallen power pole
2011 (November)	Margaret River	Prescribed burn
2011 (February)	Roleystone Kelmscott	Spark from an angle grinder
2011 (January)	Lake Clifton	Suspicious or deliberate
2009 (December)	Toodyay	Fallen power pole
2003 (December)	Tenterden	Overhead power lines clashing



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Bushfire Location Report - Western Australia (by month)

Number of Bushfires each month*

from 01/07/2020 to 30/06/2021

Regions	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Total
Great Southern	1	4	3	37	18	58	52	7	22	15	6	4	233
Upper Great Southern	1	2	1	13	16	26	15	3	6	5	2	0	90
Lower South West	1	5	11	29	11	35	29	17	13	21	2	4	178
South West	4	8	11	35	21	44	39	18	15	27	14	7	243
Goldfields Midlands	33	14	42	51	54	50	54	13	10	25	13	21	380
Midwest Gascoyne	10	4	17	28	38	57	49	10	18	23	15	6	275
Perth Metro and Greater Metro Area	61	69	89	161	119	283	360	148	139	140	94	50	1713
Pilbara	20	10	22	38	32	19	14	3	14	14	17	21	224
Kimberley	49	65	41	68	52	6	5	3	5	44	87	63	488
Total	186	181	237	460	361	578	618	222	242	314	250	176	3825

*All landscape fires (including unreported and reignited fires)



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Bushfire Location Report - Western Australia (by month)

Number of Bushfires each month*

from 01/07/2017 to 30/06/2018

Regions	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Great Southern	2	5	18	28	58	74	43	31	41	56	174	14	544
Lower South West	4	4	4	24	32	31	20	20	24	32	120	2	317
South West	3	4	17	20	48	48	56	41	39	36	92	3	407
Goldfields Midlands	19	31	33	36	81	68	55	14	33	46	49	13	478
Midwest Gascoyne	10	9	19	27	38	44	27	6	22	21	37	6	266
Perth Metro and Greater Metro Area	32	54	81	126	331	335	290	238	186	156	196	47	2072
Pilbara	34	29	59	51	72	47	50	18	21	50	36	23	490
Kimberley	65	80	99	67	73	24	5	3	16	41	96	64	633
Total	169	216	330	379	733	671	546	371	382	438	800	172	5207

*All landscape fires (including unreported and reignited fires)



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FIRE PROGRESSION – How fast does it spread?



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00:00



00:01



00:03



00:05



00:08



00:10



00:12



00:15



00:17



00:20



00:23



00:25



00:27

SCENARIO – Getting help if there is a fire



1. You are hanging out with friends where there is dry grass. One of your friends suggests lighting a fire to see how well it burns. What do you do?
2. You have tried your best to convince them not to play with fire, but they set fire to the grass anyway. What do you do?
3. The fire gets out of control and you're afraid of getting into trouble. What do you do?









