



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

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Reporting Year: 2014

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Forestry and Agrifoods Agency
Forestry Services Branch

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR FOREST FIRE STATISTICS

REPORTING YEAR: 2014

Compiled by: Forest Engineering and Industry Services Division, Fire Management & Co-ordination Section

In Newfoundland and Labrador the Forest Fire Season begins on the island portion of the province on May 1 and in Labrador on May 15. The season remains in effect for both areas until September 30. Although the official season runs from May until September, data collected by the Department of Natural Resources Forestry Services Branch, and presented in the following statistics, are for the entire year.

DEFINITIONS:

Productive Forest Type: Area of Forest capable of producing at least 35 cubic meters per hectare (m³/ha) at rotation.

Non-Productive Forest Type: Area of Forest that is not capable of producing at least 35 cubic meters per hectare (m³/ha) at rotation.

Hectare (ha.): The metric unit of area measurement and can be measured as follows:

- 1 hectare = 100 metres by 100 metres or 0.01 km²
- 1 hectare = 2.47 acres

Full Response Fire: A wildfire which requires immediate, aggressive initial attack and/or sustained suppression action until the fire is declared out.

Modified Response Fire: A wildfire that is allowed to burn within set policy and management guidelines or may be actioned in such a manner as to bring the wildfire back within those guidelines.

TOTAL FIRES

REGION	TOTAL
Eastern	61
Western	17
Labrador	46
Total:	124

AREA AND FOREST TYPE IN HECTARES (HA)

REGION	TOTAL AREA	PRODUCTIVE	NON-PRODUCTIVE
Eastern	40.9	19.9	21.0
Western	16.7	5.8	10.9
Labrador (full response)	9,750.3	2,361.8	7,388.5
Labrador (modified response)	7,008.9	504.1	6,504.8
Total:	16,816.8	2,891.6	13,925.2

FIRE OCCURRENCE

CAUSE	NUMBER	AREA BURNED (HA)
Lightning	39	16,580.7
Resident	45	14.9
Forest Industry	2	0.1
Other Industrial Operations	4	1.3
Incendiary	2	0.2
Railroad	0	0.0
Recreation	25	29.2
Garbage Dump	1	2.0
Miscellaneous Known	6	188.4
Total:	124	16,816.4

STANDARD CAUSE CLASSIFICATIONS (3 CATEGORIES)

CAUSE OF FIRE (Known or Suspected)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Lightning	0	1	38	39
Resident	33	10	2	45
Forest Industry	0	1	1	2
Other Industrial Operations	1	0	3	4
Incendiary	1	0	1	2
Railroad	0	0	0	0
Recreation	22	3	0	25
Garbage Dump	0	1	0	1
Miscellaneous Known	4	1	1	6

RESPONSIBLE GROUP (Known or Suspected)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Resident	31	11	3	45
Mischance	1	0	0	1
Recreation	18	3	1	22
Mining Operation	0	0	1	1
Forestry Industry	0	1	1	2
Government Activities	1	0	0	1
Children	10	1	0	11
Industrial Operation	0	0	2	2
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** There were 39 lightning fires during the 2014 forest fire season – of which 38 occurred in Labrador and 1 in Western region.

MEANS OF IGNITION (Known or Suspected)

	EASTERN	WESTERN	LABRADOR	TOTAL
Match and/or Lighter	27	7	1	35
Cigarette, Cigar, Pipe	2	2	0	4
Camp Fire	7	2	0	9
Chimney Spark	0	0	0	0
Explosions	0	0	0	0
Power Saw	0	0	0	0
Hydro Wire	0	0	3	3
Vehicle Fire	1	0	1	2
Structural Fire	1	1	0	2
Slash and/or Debris Fire	7	1	0	8
All-Terrain Vehicle	7	1	1	9
Heavy Equipment	0	1	2	3
Lightning	0	1	38	39
Spontaneous Combustion	0	0	0	0
Other	9	1	0	10

FIRES BY MONTH

MONTH	NUMBER OF FIRES	AREA BURNED (HA)
January	0	0.0
February	0	0.0
March	0	0.0
April	1	0.4
May	24	19.6
June	16	448.2
July	32	5,131.0
August	36	11,199.2
September	6	17.2
October	9	1.2
November	0	0.0
December	0	0.0
Total:	124	16,816.8

AREA BURNED BY SIZE

FIRE SIZE (HA)	NUMBER	AREA BURNED (HA)
Less than or equal to 0.1	59	2.7
0.11 – 1.0	27	11.8
1.1 – 10.0	21	82.0
10.1 – 100.0	2	49.7
100.1 – 1,000.0	12	5,103.0
1000.1 – 10,000.0	3	11,567.6
Greater than 10,000.0	0	0.0
Total:	124	16,816.8