



# Communities At Risk

## FISCAL YEAR 2021

This report provides a national snapshot of wildland fire risk, preparedness, and capacity using the latest USDA Forest Service National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System data. For more information about this report, contact NASF Fire Director Jim Karels at [jkarels@stateforesters.org](mailto:jkarels@stateforesters.org).



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE FORESTERS

# REDUCING RISK TO AMERICA'S COMMUNITIES

A community is at reduced risk if it has satisfied at least one of the following:

- (1) Recognized as a Firewise community or equivalent, or
- (2) Enacted a mitigation/fire prevention ordinance, or
- (3) Reduced or appropriately maintained hazardous fuels on lands identified as high-priority in its Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) or equivalent plan.

## NATIONWIDE in FY 2021:

NUMBER of Communities At Risk (CAR)	63,661
NUMBER of CAR COVERED by a CWPP or EQUIVALENT	19,268
PERCENT of CAR COVERED by a CWPP or EQUIVALENT	30.3%
NUMBER of CAR at REDUCED RISK	3,267
PERCENT of CAR at REDUCED RISK	5.1%
PERCENT of CAR COVERED by a CWPP and at REDUCED RISK	17%

## BY NASF REGION in FY 2021:

	# of CAR	CAR COVERED by CWPPs	CAR at REDUCED RISK
WEST	9,064	7,464	475
SOUTH	43,771	9,187	2,025
NORTHEAST-MIDWEST	10,826	2,617	767





# INCREASING WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION CAPACITY

A Community At Risk (CAR) has increased its local suppression capacity if it has satisfied at least one of the following:

- (1) Increased the number of trained and/or certified fire fighters and crews, or
- (2) Purchased new or upgraded existing wildfire suppression equipment, or
- (3) Established a new or expanded an existing fire department involved in wildland firefighting.

## NATIONWIDE in FY 2021, Suppression Capacity Supported by State (SFA) and Volunteer (VFA) Fire Assistance:

NUMBER of Wildland Firefighters TRAINED	94,520 (SFA: 74,300   VFA: 20,220)
FUNDING for Upgrading or Purchasing EQUIPMENT	\$21.35 Million (SFA: \$9.2 M   VFA: \$12.1 M)
NUMBER of Volunteer Fire Departments ESTABLISHED or EXPANDED	103
NUMBER of Communities ASSISTED with INCREASED CAPACITY	22,243
PERCENT of CAR with INCREASED CAPACITY	34.9%

## SFA AND VFA: FY21 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The State Fire Assistance (SFA) and Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) programs provide crucial financial and technical assistance to states and local fire departments for wildland fire mitigation, detection, and suppression.

### IN FY21, VFA:

- Provided \$16,618,336 in funding to volunteer fire departments in **10,135 communities**
- Helped train **20,220 firefighters**
- Supported the **organization or expansion of 103 fire departments**
- Provided \$12,145,865 for the purchase, rehabilitation, and maintenance of **equipment for volunteer fire departments**





## IN FY21, SFA:

- Assisted **12,108 total communities** through a variety of different activities
- Helped train **74,300 firefighters**
- Helped conduct over **24,630 prevention and education programs**, directly benefiting 6,582 communities
- Contributed \$9,204,054 to the purchase, maintenance, and rehabilitation of **needed firefighting equipment**
- Contributed \$10,984,390 to support **preparedness activities**, such as personnel and facilities maintenance
- Contributed \$9,931,068 to support **suppression operations** and support activities, such as dispatch centers
- Helped conduct **2,053 risk assessments and fire management plans**, supporting 2,853 communities
- Provided \$18,597,826 for **hazardous fuels treatments**, benefiting 1,482 communities in the wildland-urban interface (WUI)
- Helped **treat 93,606 acres** for hazardous fuels and provided leverage to treat an **additional 219,770 acres**

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**Learn more about SFA and VFA and why they need your support at [www.stateforesters.org](http://www.stateforesters.org).**

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