

# OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL YOUTH WITH FIRE IN OREGON 2014



**Prevention · Education · Intervention**





## Mission

Protecting citizens, their property and the environment from fire and hazardous materials.

## Vision

Premier Public Safety Services.

## Values

### PROFESSIONALISM

We are a highly skilled and competent workforce.

### CREDIBILITY

We demonstrate trust and accountability through our actions.

### COLLABORATION

We partner with others to achieve our mission.

### LEADERSHIP

We are dedicated to an environment for success.

### DEDICATION

We believe our mission is worthy of our efforts.



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# YOUTH INVOLVED WITH FIRE

## Introduction

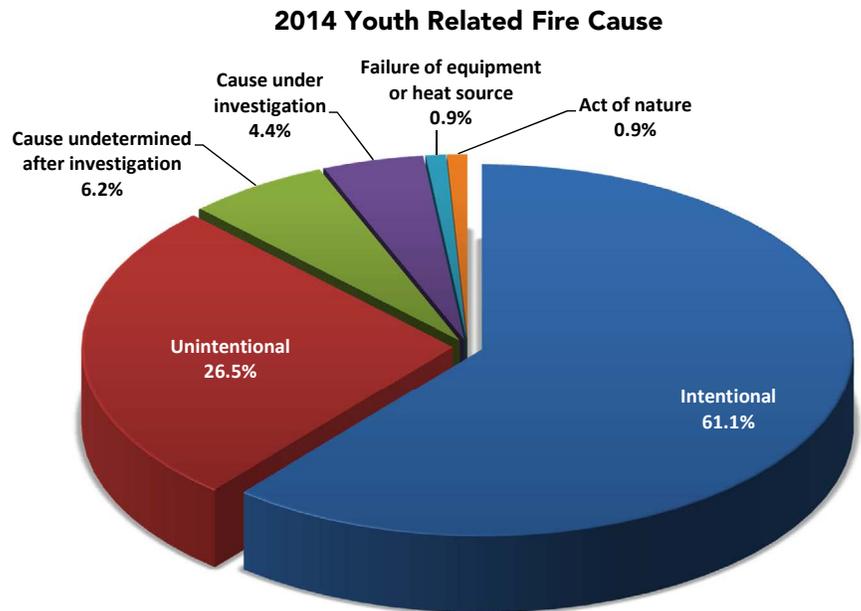
This section pertains to youth involved with fire. Youth are defined as persons under the age of 18. Information pertaining to youth involved with fire incidents are based on NFIRS incident data submitted by local fire agencies. There were 113 fires identified as having youth involvement reported to the OSFM in 2014.

The following is a year to year comparison of statistics regarding youth involved fires in Oregon.

In 2014, sixty-one percent of all fires involving youths were determined to be intentionally set fires.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total fires	134	141	156	154	113
Civilian deaths	2	2	0	0	0
Civilian Injuries	2	3	3	7	3
<b>Property damage in millions</b>	<b>\$0.24</b>	<b>\$1.11</b>	<b>\$2.37</b>	<b>\$1.04</b>	<b>\$0.59</b>

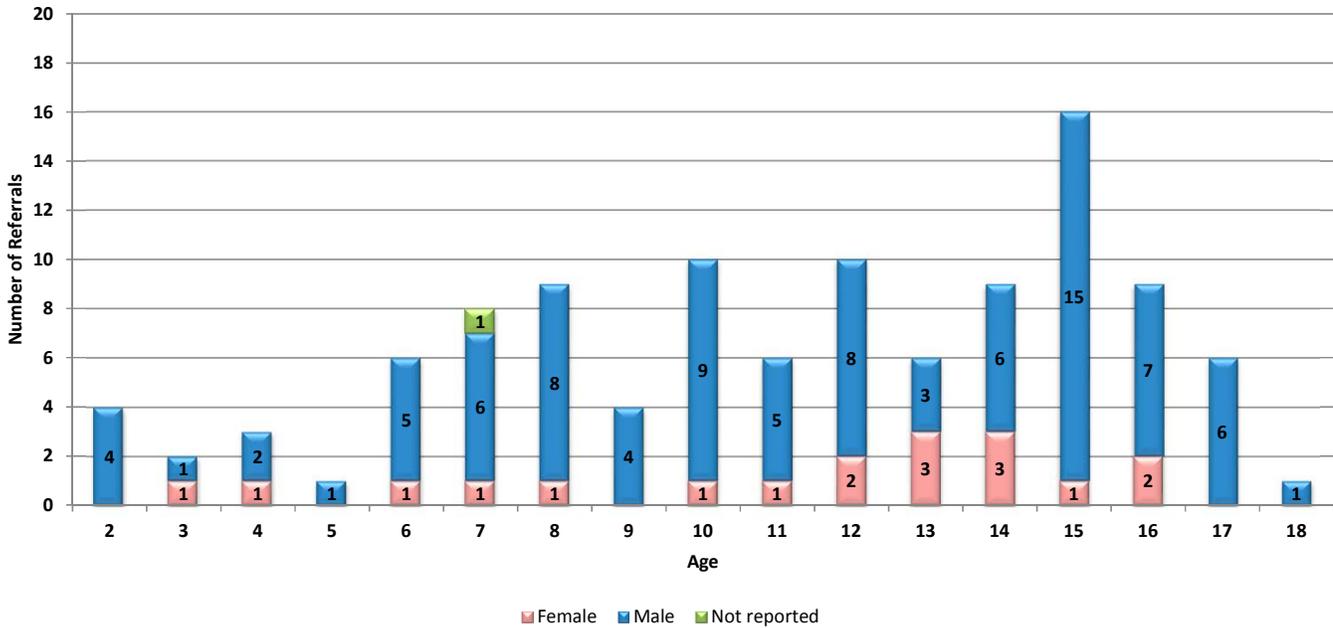
Cause of Ignition	Fires	%
Intentional	69	61.1%
Unintentional	30	26.5%
Cause undetermined after investigation	7	6.2%
Cause under investigation	5	4.4%
Failure of equipment or heat source	1	0.9%
Act of nature	1	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



# Incidents

Youths between the ages 10 and 16, accounted for 58% of youth involved fires. Males were involved in 82% of the fires, while females accounted for 16%. No gender was reported for the remaining 2%.

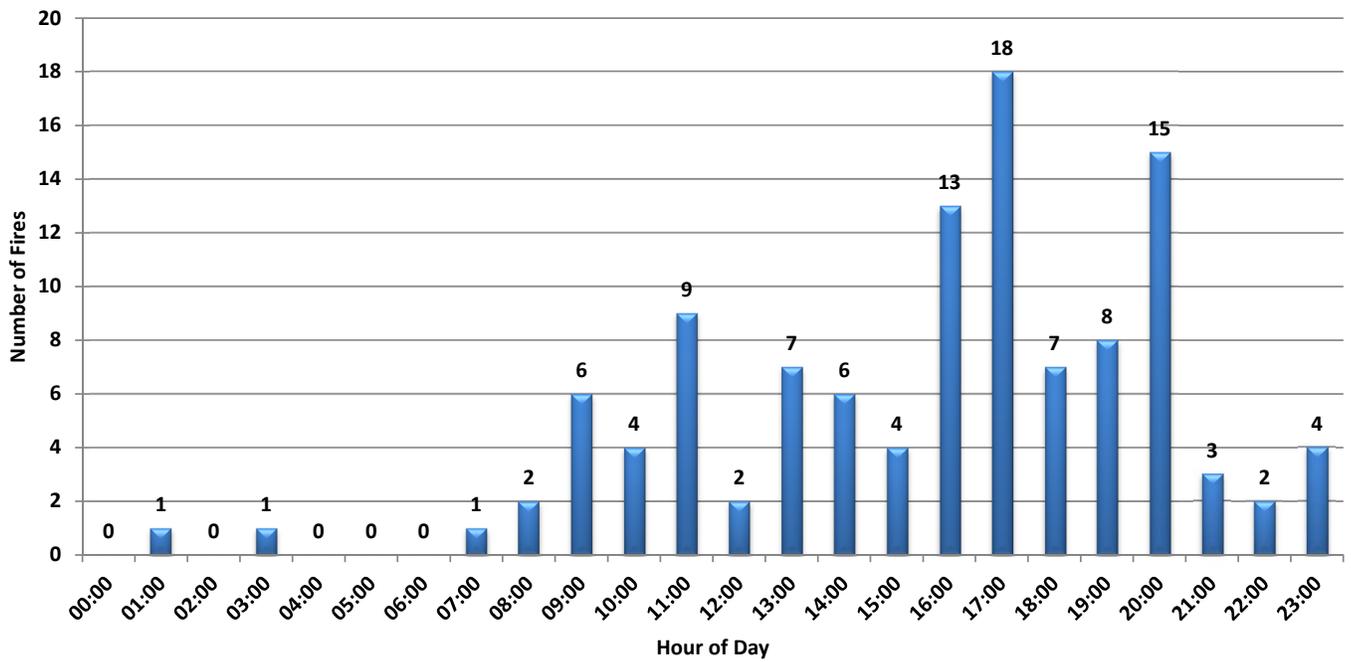
**2014 Ages and Gender of Youth Involved with Fire**



Gender\Age	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Not reported	Total	
Female		1	1		1	1	1		1	1	2	3	3	1	2				18	
Male	4	1	2	1	5	6	8	4	9	5	8	3	6	15	7	6	1		93	
Not reported						1													1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>113</b>	

Sixty-nine percent of fire incidents involving youth occur between 1pm and 8 pm. The hours from 4 pm to 8 pm accounted for 54% of all youth involved fires.

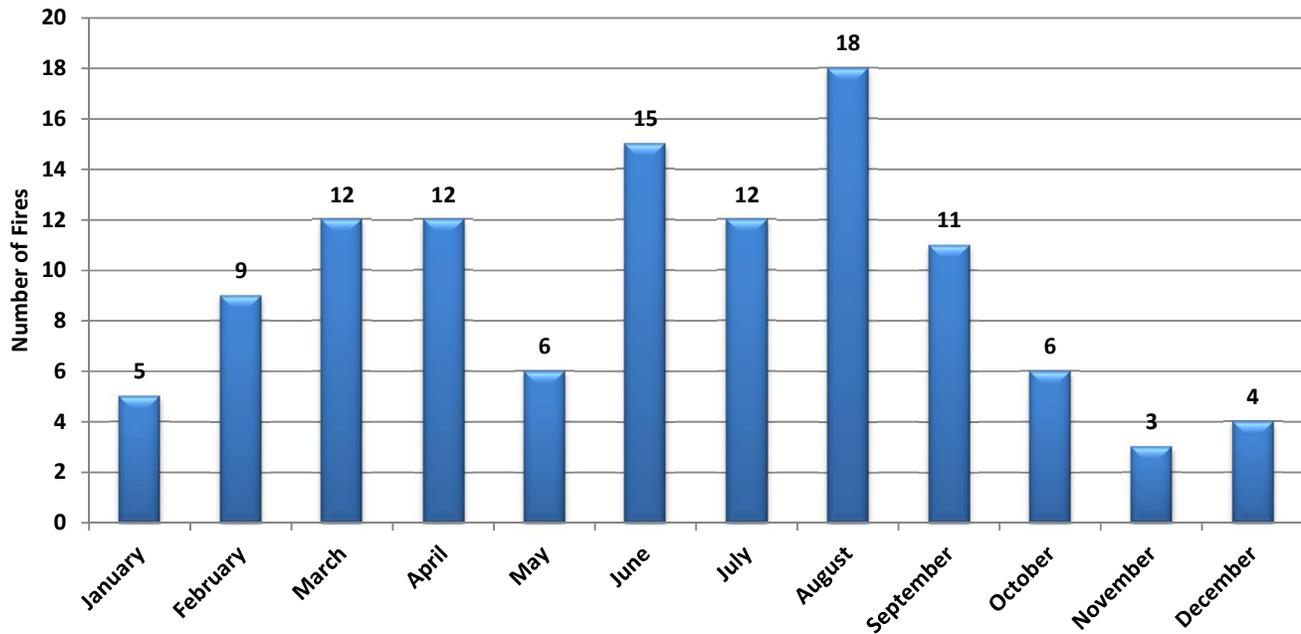
**2014 Fire Incidents Involving Youth by Time of Day**



Hour	Fires	%	Hour	Fires	%	Hour	Fires	%	
00:00	0	0.0%	08:00	2	1.8%	16:00	13	11.5%	
01:00	1	0.9%	09:00	6	5.3%	17:00	18	15.9%	
02:00	0	0.0%	10:00	4	3.5%	18:00	7	6.2%	
03:00	1	0.9%	11:00	9	8.0%	19:00	8	7.1%	
04:00	0	0.0%	12:00	2	1.8%	20:00	15	13.3%	
05:00	0	0.0%	13:00	7	6.2%	21:00	3	2.7%	
06:00	0	0.0%	14:00	6	5.3%	22:00	2	1.8%	
07:00	1	0.9%	15:00	4	3.5%	23:00	4	3.5%	
							<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Fort-nine percent of youth involved fires occurred from June through September.

**2014 Fire Incidents Involving Youth by Month**

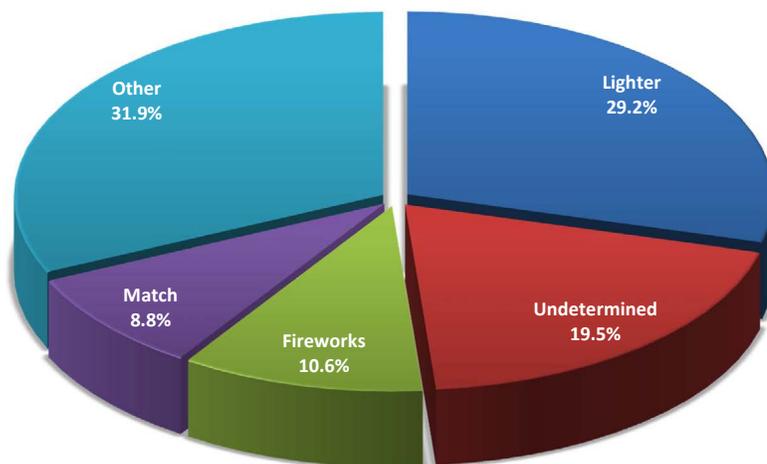


Month	Fires	%	Month	Fires	%
January	5	4.4%	July	12	10.6%
February	9	8.0%	August	18	15.9%
March	12	10.6%	September	11	9.7%
April	12	10.6%	October	6	5.3%
May	6	5.3%	November	3	2.7%
June	15	13.3%	December	4	3.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100.0%</b>			

The following charts show the heat sources and top items first ignited by youths. The heat sources and items first ignited are determined by on-scene fire officers or investigators.

Heat Source	Fires	%
Lighter	33	29.2%
Undetermined	22	19.5%
Fireworks	12	10.6%
Match	10	8.8%
Other	36	31.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

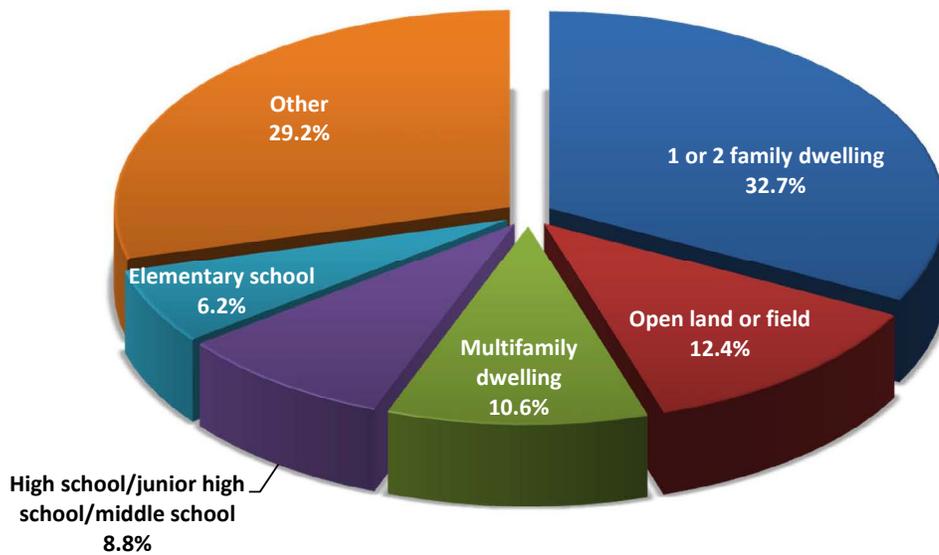
**2014 Top Heat Sources of Youth Involved Fires**



Item First Ignited	Count	%
Light vegetation - not crop, including grass	26	23.0%
Rubbish, trash, waste	13	11.5%
Heavy vegetation - not crop, including trees	8	7.1%
Magazine, newspaper, writing paper	8	7.1%
Undetermined	8	7.1%
Other	50	44.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

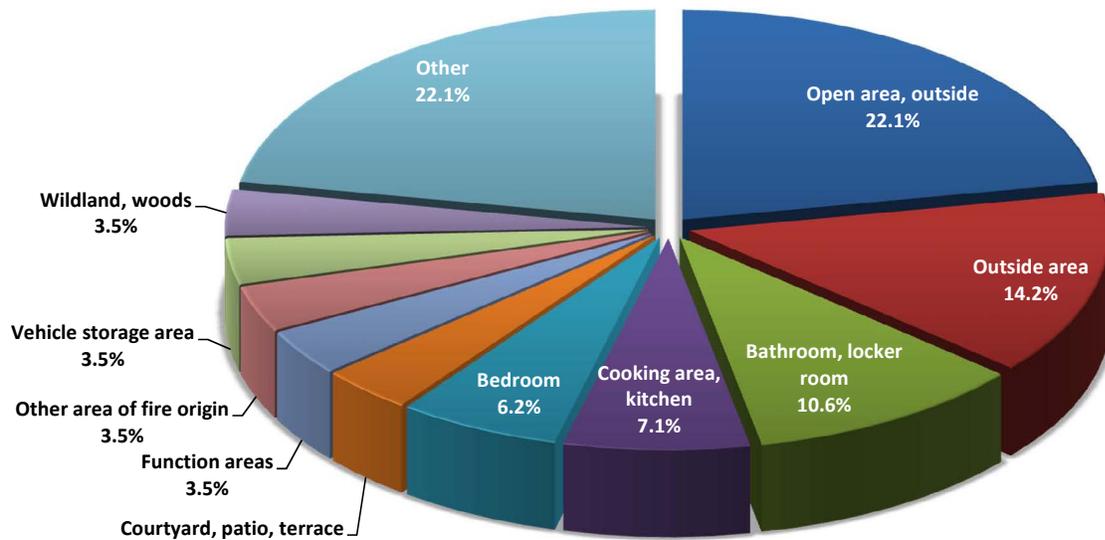
The largest percentage (44%) of all fires involving youths occurred in residential dwellings. The following chart shows the property uses where fires involving youths started. Property types in the 'Other' category include open land or fields, streets, parking areas, hospitals, crops, orchards, outbuildings, and sheds.

**2014 Fires Involving Youth by Property Use**



Half of all fires involving youths start in outdoor areas, such as fields, forest areas, playgrounds, and courtyards. The chart below indicates the highest percentage of indoor fires originate in bedroom areas.

**2014 Fires Involving Youth by Area of Origin**



## Interventions

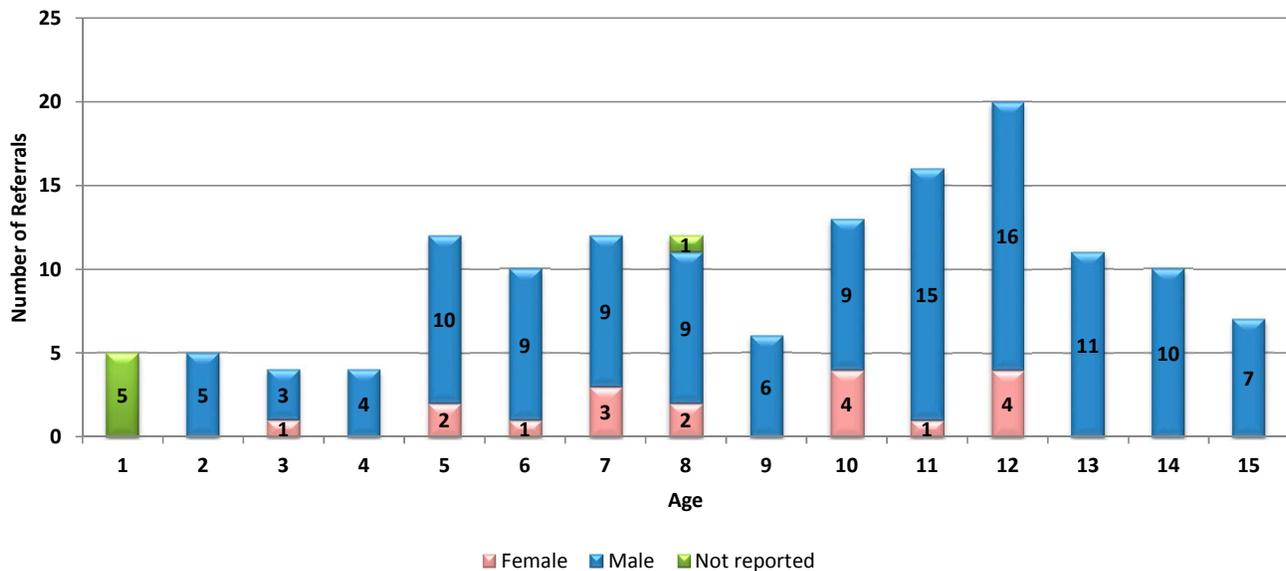
In 2014, 147 interventions involving youth were reported to the OSFM. It is important to note not every fire involving a youth results in an intervention. Interventions also may occur without a response from a local fire agency.

OSFM's transition to a new online reporting system resulted in a decrease of fire agencies and other entities reporting youth misusing fire to the state office. Strategies to address this have been identified and are being implemented.

The following information includes data exclusively from the youth involved with fire module in the Oregon Fire Bridge™.

This graph indicates the highest percentage of youths involved in misusing fire are ages 12-14. Determining their ages helps establish a target group for prevention and intervention programs.

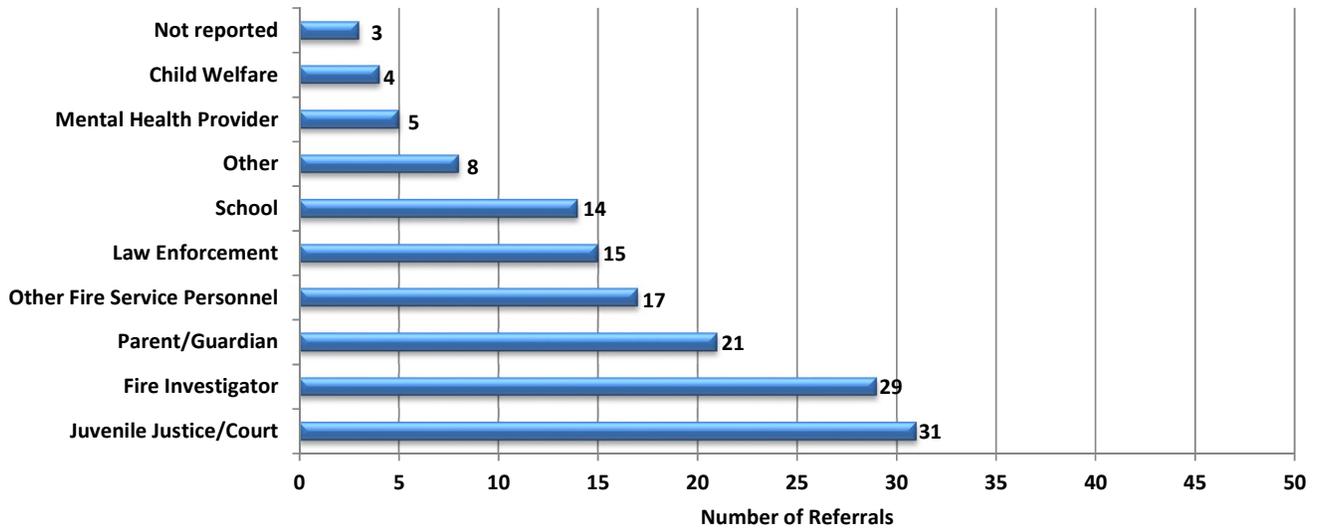
**2014 Ages and Gender of Youth Involved with Fire**



Gender\Age	0	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
Female			1		2	1	3	2		4	1	4				18
Male		5	3	4	10	9	9	9	6	9	15	16	11	10	7	123
Not reported	5							1								6
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>147</b>

Youth misusing fire are referred through a number of community partners or their parents. This graph demonstrates the variety of disciplines involved in ensuring the continuum of care.

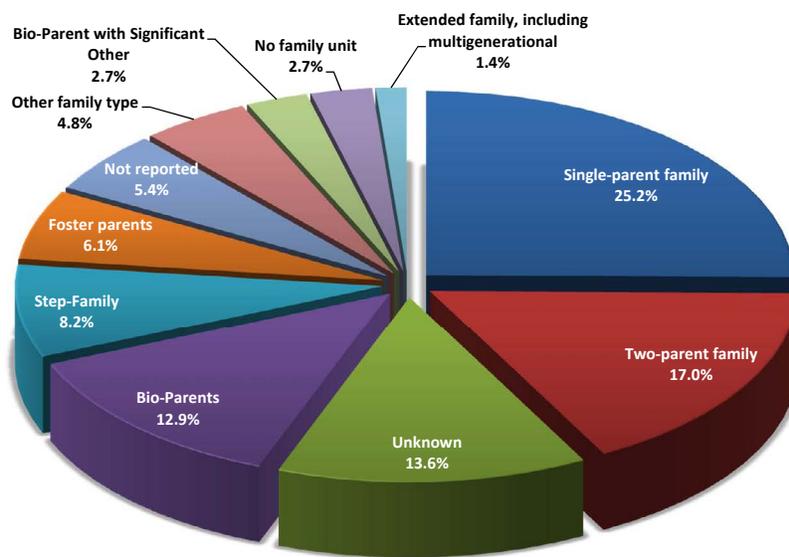
**2014 Sources of Youth Referrals to the Fire Service**



Referral Source	Count	%	Referral Source	Count	%
Juvenile Justice/Court	31	21.1%	School	14	9.5%
Fire Investigator	29	19.7%	Other	8	5.4%
Parent/Guardian	21	14.3%	Mental Health Provider	5	3.4%
Other Fire Service Personnel	17	11.6%	Child Welfare	4	2.7%
Law Enforcement	15	10.2%	Not reported	3	2.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100.0%</b>			

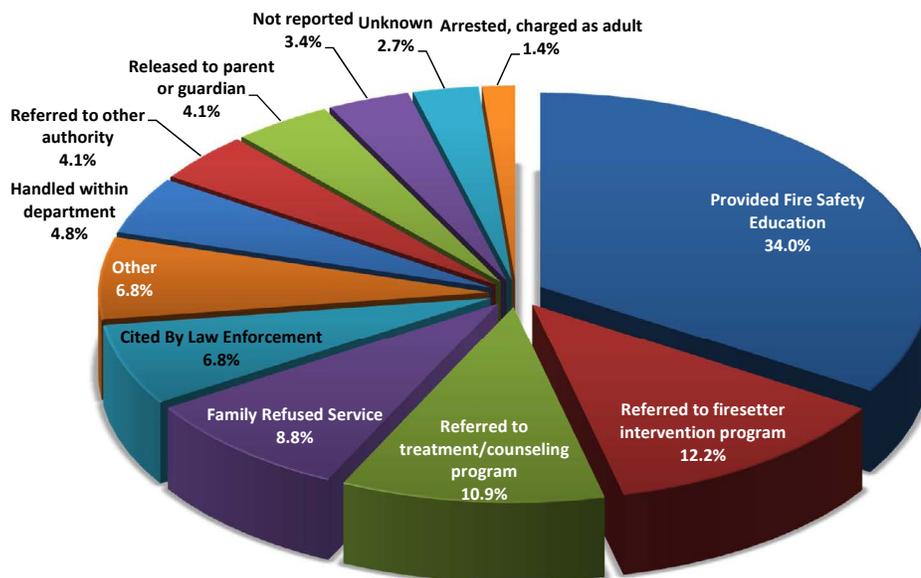
There are many combinations of family units in today's society. In 2014, of the 147 reported youth involved with fire, the largest percentage (48%) of youths misusing fire lived in family combinations where two adults were in the home.

**2014 Family Types of Youth Involved with Fire**



A youth coming to the attention of a fire agency often receives several different interventions. This chart details the number of youths involved with fire that were seen by fire agencies and referred for further evaluation and community services.

**2014 Intervention Resources Used**

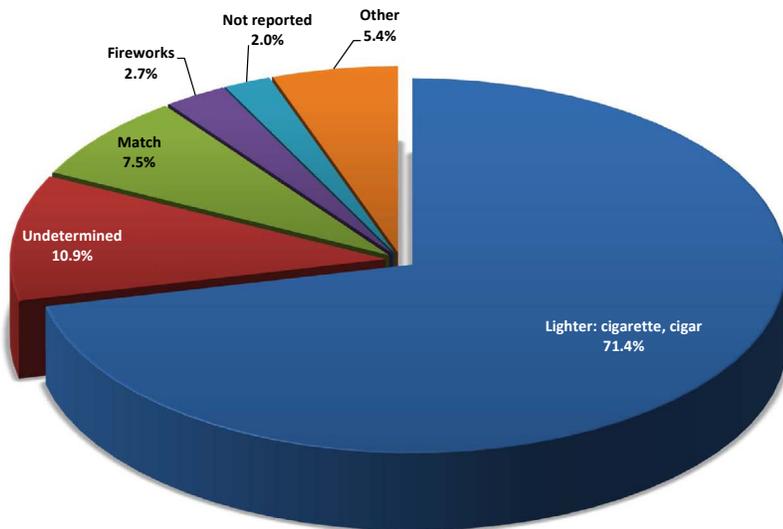


By the time a youth is referred to a fire agency for intervention, or a fire has gotten out of control, a history of misusing fire has already been established. Forty percent of youth interventions in 2014 indicated prior experiences with fire. These youths reported a total of 182 fire experiences.

Previous Fires Set	# of Youth	%
None	87	59.2%
1	10	6.8%
2	8	5.4%
3	9	6.1%
4	6	4.1%
5	9	6.1%
6	1	0.7%
10	3	2.0%
50	2	1.4%
Not reported	12	8.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

In 2014, data shows most youths continue to use matches and lighters as their primary sources of ignition.

**2014 Ignition Source of Youth Involved with Fire**

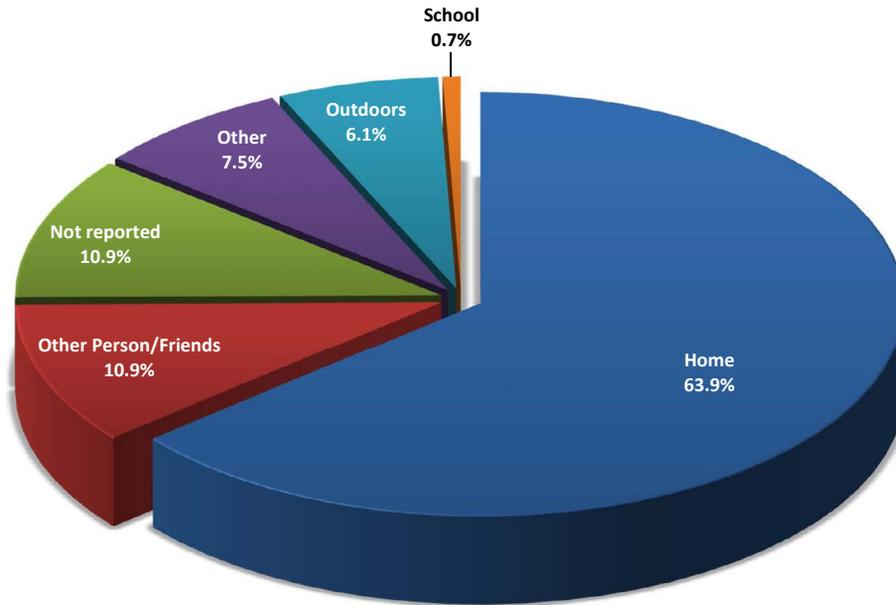


There were 14 reported instances in which a youth used an accelerant to start a fire. The following is a breakdown of those accelerants.

Accelerant Used	Total
Not reported	131
Axe Spray	3
Cologne	3
Brake Cleaner	2
Gasoline	2
Hand Sanitizer	2
N/A	2
Lighter fluid	1
Plasti-Dip	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>

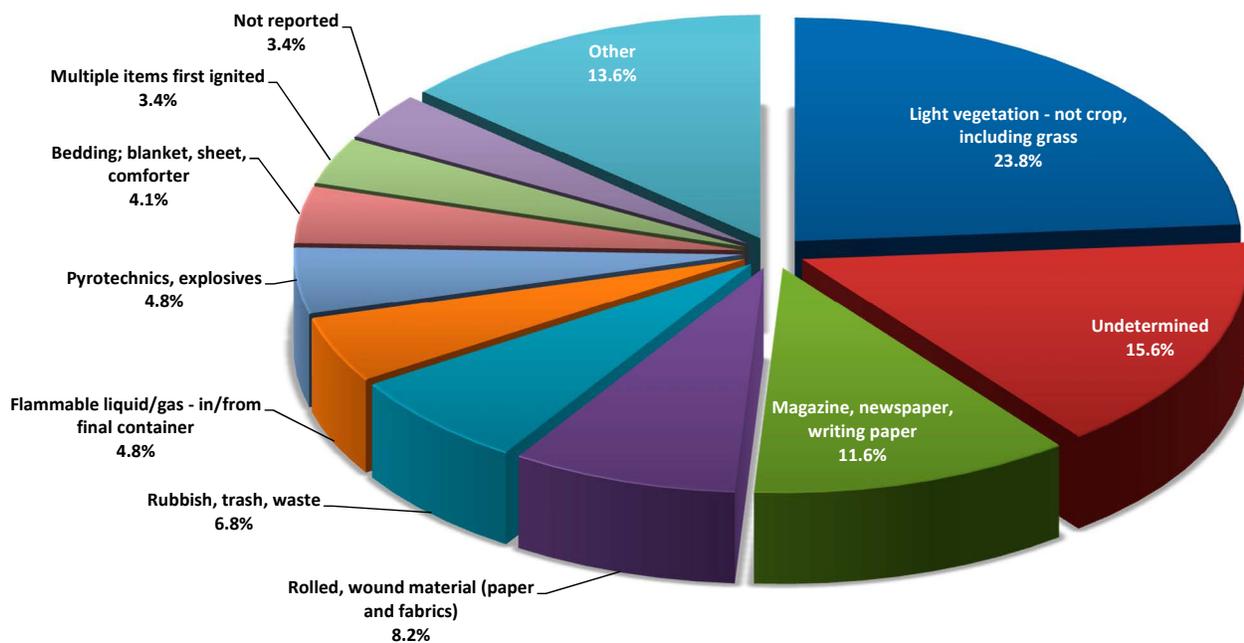
Sixty-four percent of the youths reported obtaining the ignition source at home. This has consistently been the leading location for youth to obtain ignition sources.

**2014 Where Ignition Source was Obtained**



The first material ignited tends to be a functional opportunity. Youth use readily available materials as shown in the accompanying chart. These items do not represent a large fire loss, which could be a reason small fires may not get investigated thoroughly.

**2014 Top 10 Items Ignited by Youth Involved with Fire**



Youth involved with fire data is based on information provided by 18 of Oregon's 320 fire agencies:

ALBANY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
BEND FIRE DEPARTMENT  
CLACKAMAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1  
CORVALLIS FIRE DEPARTMENT  
CROOK CO FIRE & RESCUE  
FOREST GROVE FIRE & RESCUE  
HILLSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
JACKSON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #3  
JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1  
KLAMATH CO FIRE DISTRICT #1  
LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
MEDFORD FIRE-RESCUE  
MOHAWK VALLEY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT  
OREGON OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
PENDLETON FIRE & AMBULANCE SERVICE  
REDMOND FIRE & RESCUE  
SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT  
TUALATIN VALLEY FIRE & RESCUE

PROVIDED COURTESY OF  
YOUTH FIRE PREVENTION & INTERVENTION PROGRAM



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