

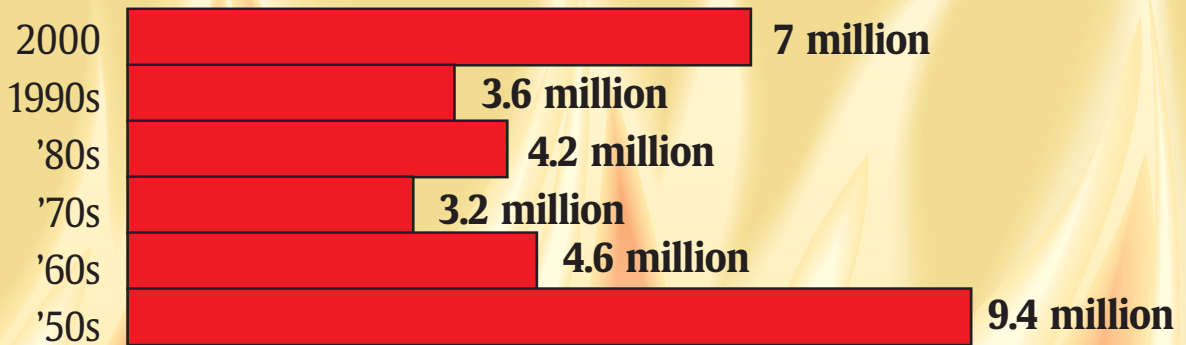
# Wildfires nearly snuffed

Only four large wildfires (more than 100 acres) were burning in the USA Monday, down from a September peak of 86 active fires. Active fires in California, Nevada and two in Minnesota were 50%-100% contained. Low humidity and high winds are a concern in California and Florida, where some small fires have gotten a start.

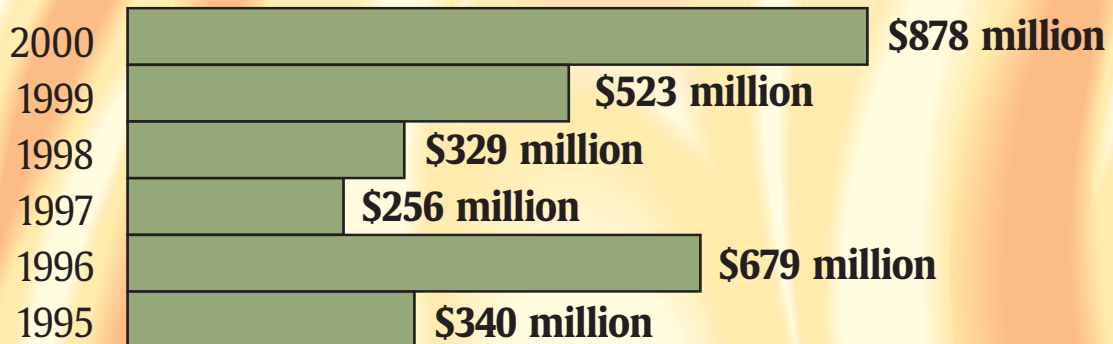
## January-October 2000 wildfire season

A strong La Niña weather pattern, dry ground fuels from previous dry seasons, and persistent hot, dry weather, led to one of the most severe wildfire seasons in U.S. history. Comparing the 2000 season (as of Oct. 21) with previous ones:

### Acres burned in 2000 season and annual average, by decade



### Firefighting costs for federal agencies<sup>1</sup>



### States where most acreage burned in 2000

	Fires	Acres burned	Portion of state's land burned
<b>Idaho</b>	1,598	1,282,862	2.4%
<b>Montana</b>	2,366	947,819	1.0%
<b>Alaska</b>	351	751,233	0.2%

<sup>1</sup> – U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Fish and Wildlife Service