

CHANGING TRENDS ACROSS AUSTRALIA*

Bushfire seasons are getting longer and catastrophic events are increasing, as hotter, drier conditions make fuels more combustible.



FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO BUSHFIRES

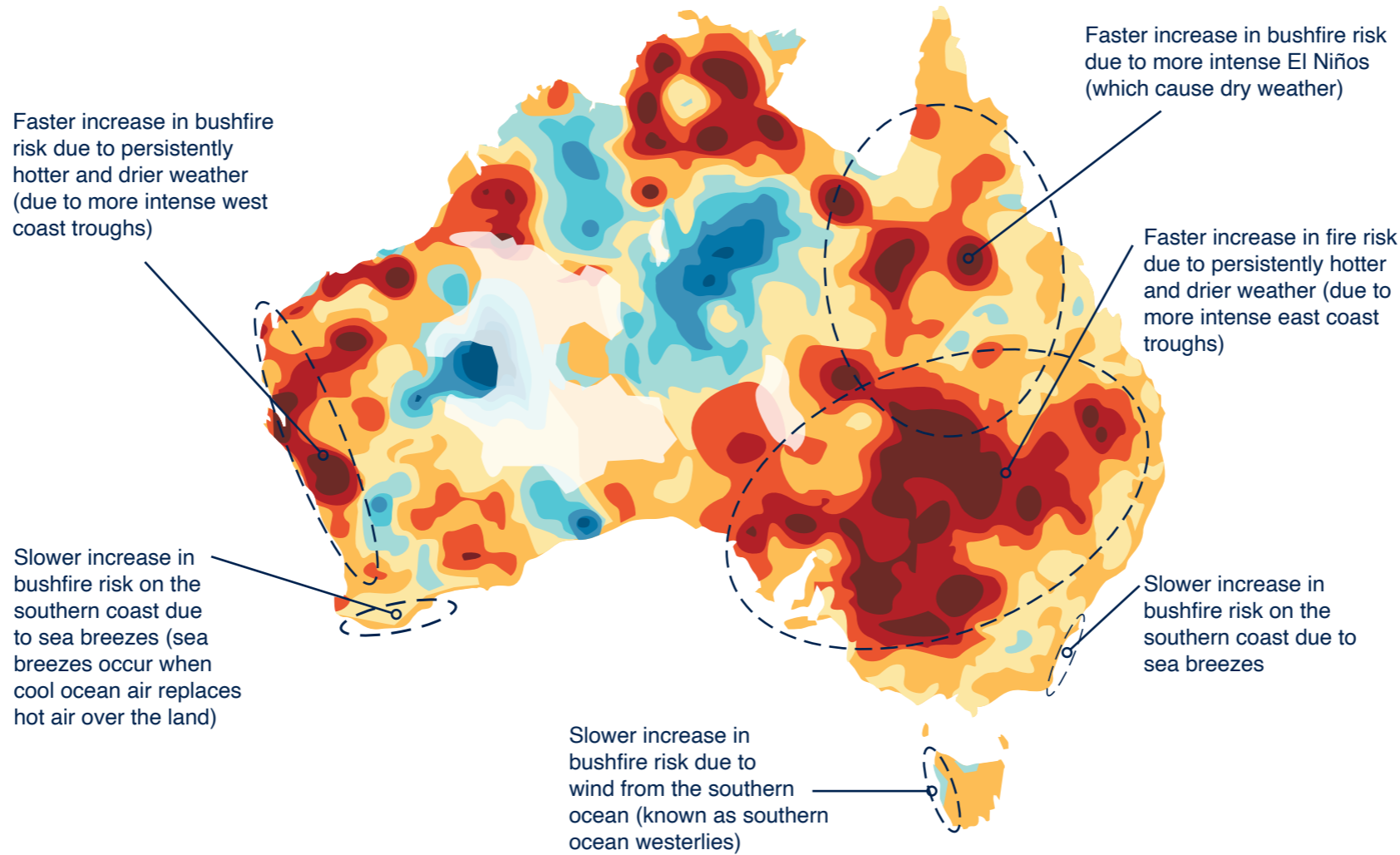
- High Maximum Temperature
- Lower Afternoon Humidity
- Higher Wind Speeds

WHAT MAKES BUSHFIRES WORSE?

- Dry Conditions and Drought
- Dry Vegetation (dead trees, dried leaves and dry plants)

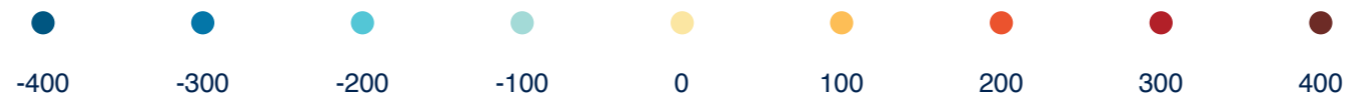
HOW BUSHFIRE RISK IS CHANGING ACROSS AUSTRALIA

*Trends in Daily Forest Fire Danger Index 1978-2017, Bureau of Meteorology 2018.



FOREST FIRE DANGER INDEX

FFDI points/decade



see also: <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/fire-weather-centre/index.shtml>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS WITH HIGH BUSHFIRE RISK*

- VIC**
 - Cardinia
 - Macedon Ranges
 - Mornington Peninsula
 - Murrindindi
 - Yarra Ranges
- NSW**
 - Blue Mountains
 - Central Coast
 - Sutherland Shire
 - Wollongong
 - Wollondilly
- QLD**
 - Brisbane
 - Gold Coast
 - Logan
 - Moreton Bay
 - Sunshine Coast
- SA**
 - Adelaide Hills
 - Grant
 - Naracoorte Lucindale
 - Tea Tree Gully
 - Wattle Range
- TAS**
 - Clarence City
 - Glenorchy City
 - Hobart City
 - Huon Valley
 - Kingborough
- WA**
 - Armadale
 - Busselton
 - Kalamunda
 - Rockingham
 - Wanneroo

*based on total sum of premium at risk.

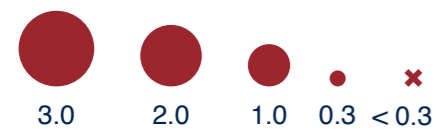
CHANGING BUSHFIRE RISK ACROSS THE SEASONS*

These graphics show where Australia's bushfire risk is changing most rapidly. The diagrams are based on 40 years of data from the Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI), from 1978-2017. The FFDI measures the severity of bushfire weather conditions over the four seasons, based on factors including vegetation loads, slope, aspect and dryness.

BUSHFIRE RISK

Points/decade

Red filled circles
Highly confident trends indicating increasing bushfire risk.



Open Circles
Confident trends indicating increasing bushfire risk.

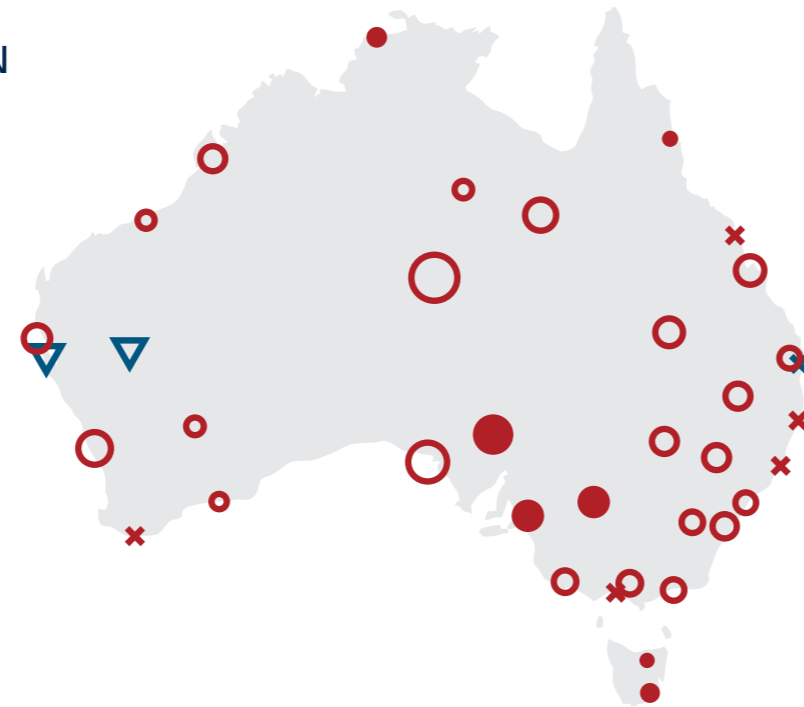


Open Triangles
Confident trends indicating decreasing bushfire risk.

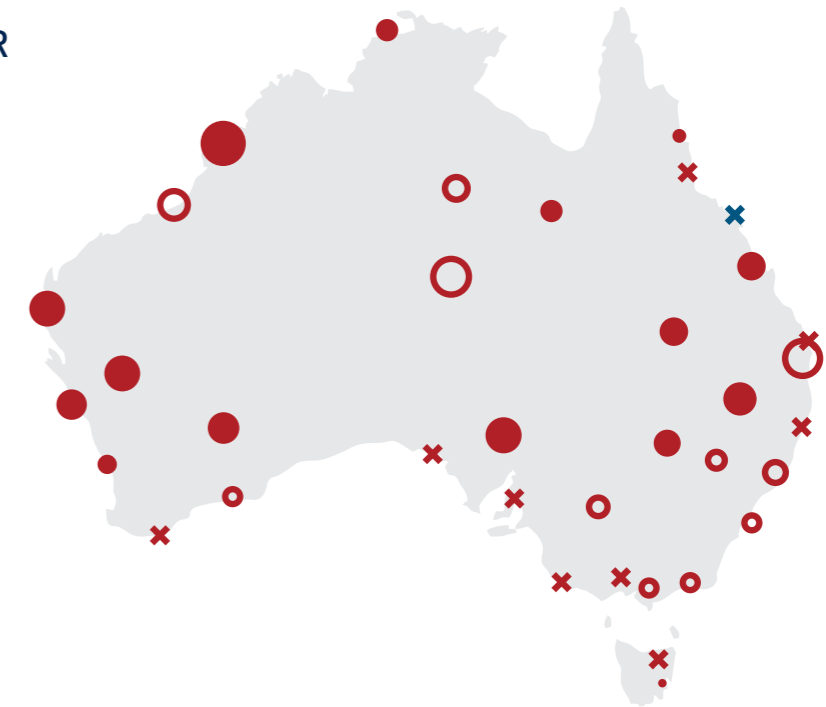


Source: Harris S, Lucas C (2019) Understanding the variability of Australian fire weather between 1973 and 2017. PLoS ONE 14(9): e0222328. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0222328>

AUTUMN



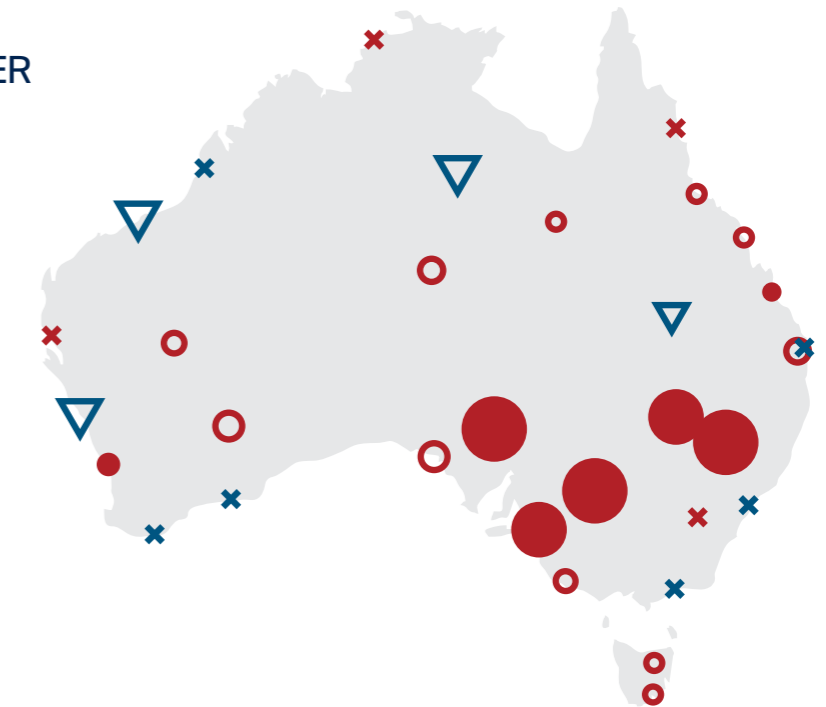
WINTER



SPRING



SUMMER



* Information and graphics supplied by IAG, Australia's largest general insurer.