

2023

ANNUAL WILDFIRE STATISTICS

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND RENEWABLES

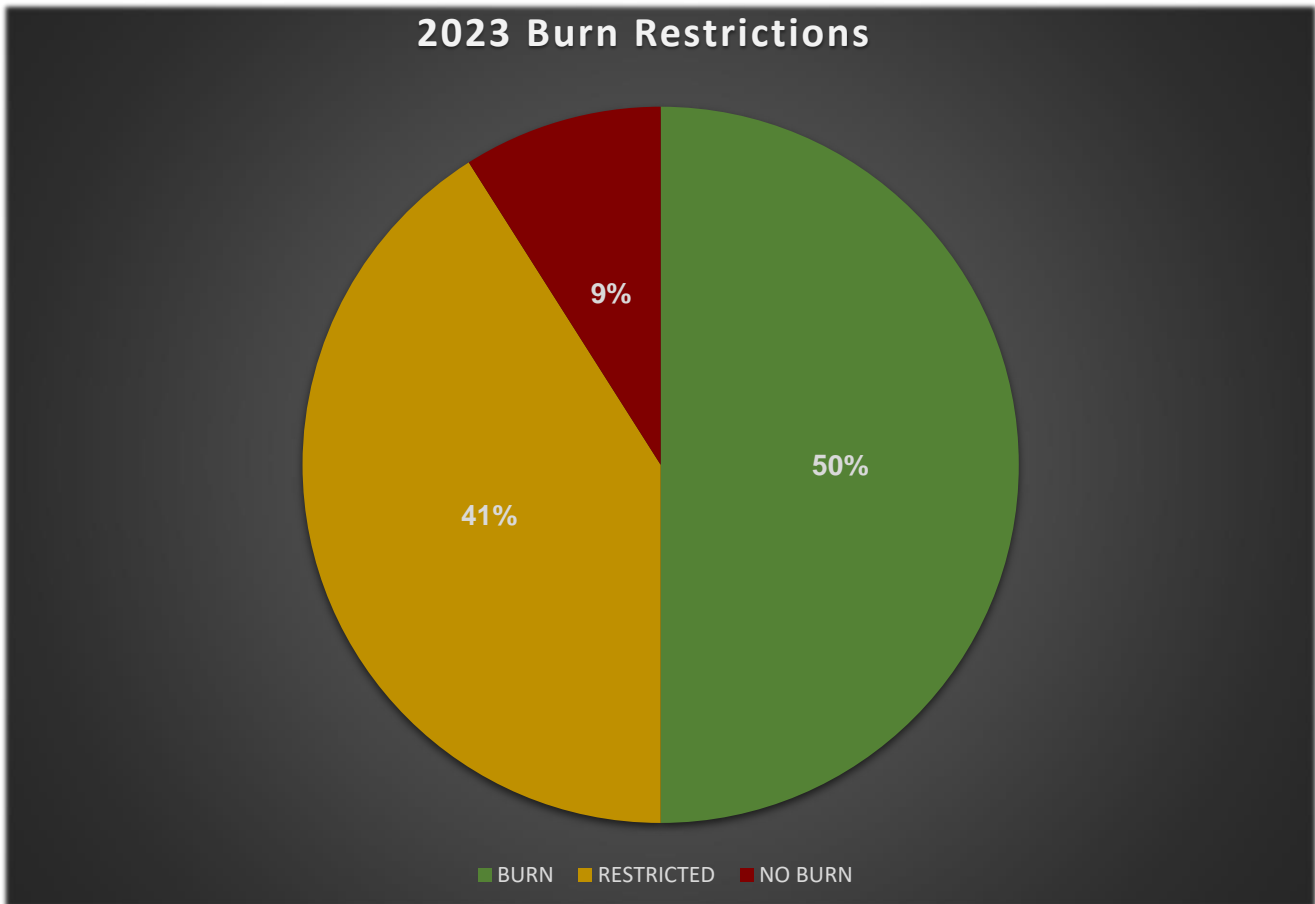
2023 Wildfire Season

The Provincial Wildfire Center, located in Shubenacadie, is responsible for the coordination of wildfire management, the acquisition, distribution and maintenance of fire control equipment, the delivery of fire related training courses to district staff, fire weather and burn restriction daily readings.

The 2023 fire season in Nova Scotia started March 15th. This season saw minimal snow fall during January-April (Halifax County 40cm) and minimal amount of precipitation from January to End of May (Halifax County 130mm), leading to an early start of wildfire activity provincially. Burn Restrictions were set from March 15 to October 15th with 190 days under the restriction program.

The 2023 wildfire season was one of the most disastrous seasons in Nova Scotia history, with 220 fires burning 25093.29 hectares of land.

For the 2023 fire season the Burn Restrictions were set at NO BURN (RED) for 9% of the time, 41% in Restrictive burning (YELLOW) and 50% in Burn (GREEN)



FIRES AND AREA BURNED BY COUNTY 2023

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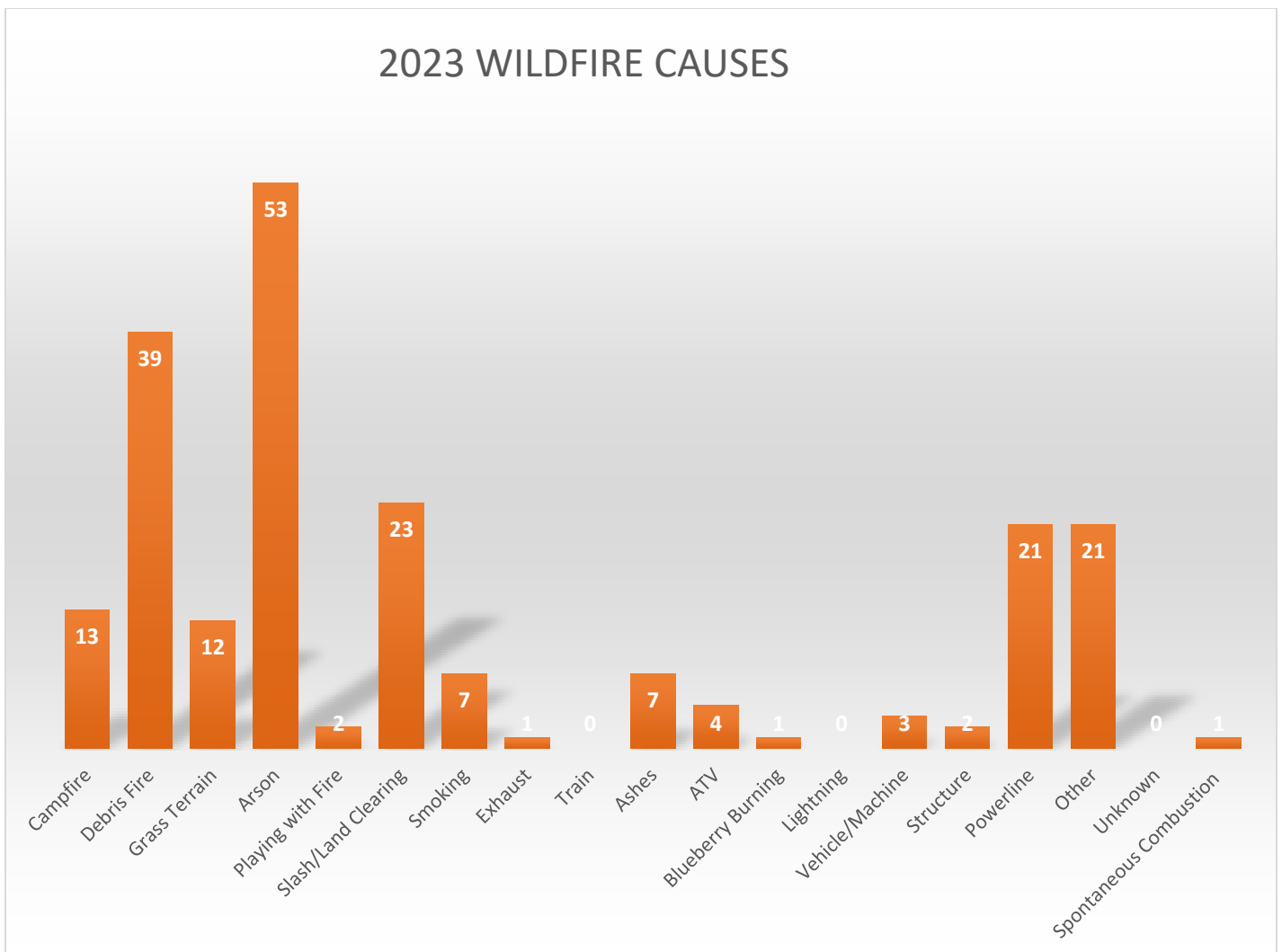
REGION	COUNTY	MARCH		APRIL		MAY		JUNE		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER		TOTAL FIRES	TOTAL HA
		#	HA	#	HA	#	HA	#	HA	#	HA	#	HA	#	HA	#	HA		
WESTERN	YARMOUTH	4	25.9	11	35.12	6	3.96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	64.98
	SHELBURNE	0	0	6	42.47	4	23391	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	23433.89
	DIGBY	0	0	4	1.21	5	121.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	122.32
	ANNAPOLIS	0	0	3	10.22	6	0.593	2	0.017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	10.83
	LUNENBURG	0	0	12	1.24	14	11.58	1	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	12.831
	KINGS	0	0	7	1.51	8	0.724	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.01	0	16	2.2437
	QUEENS	0	0	7	2.51	2	0.35	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	2.86
CENTRAL	HANTS	0	0	10	3.25	5	2.85	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.01	17	6.41
	HALIFAX	2	57.3	2	1.3	9	975.8	3	0.53	0	0	1	0.2	0	0	0	0	18	1035.13
	COLCHESTER	0	0	3	3.85	5	1.046	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	4.8961
	CUMBERLAND	0	0	6	7.95	4	10.07	1	0.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	18.62
	PICTOU	0	0	6	2.71	7	6.16	0	0	1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	8.97
EASTERN	GUYSBOROUGH	0	0	0	0	5	1.82	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1.82
	ANTIGONISH	0	0	8	9.8	2	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	9.82
	INVERNESS	0	0	2	0.02	6	2.77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2.79
	RICHMOND	0	0	1	0.56	2	0.389	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.949
	CAPE BRETON	0	0	9	26.49	5	6.43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	32.922
	VICTORIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.01
TOTAL		6	83.2	97	150.2	95	24537	8	1.168	1	0.1	1	0.2	1	0.01	1	0.01	213	24772.292

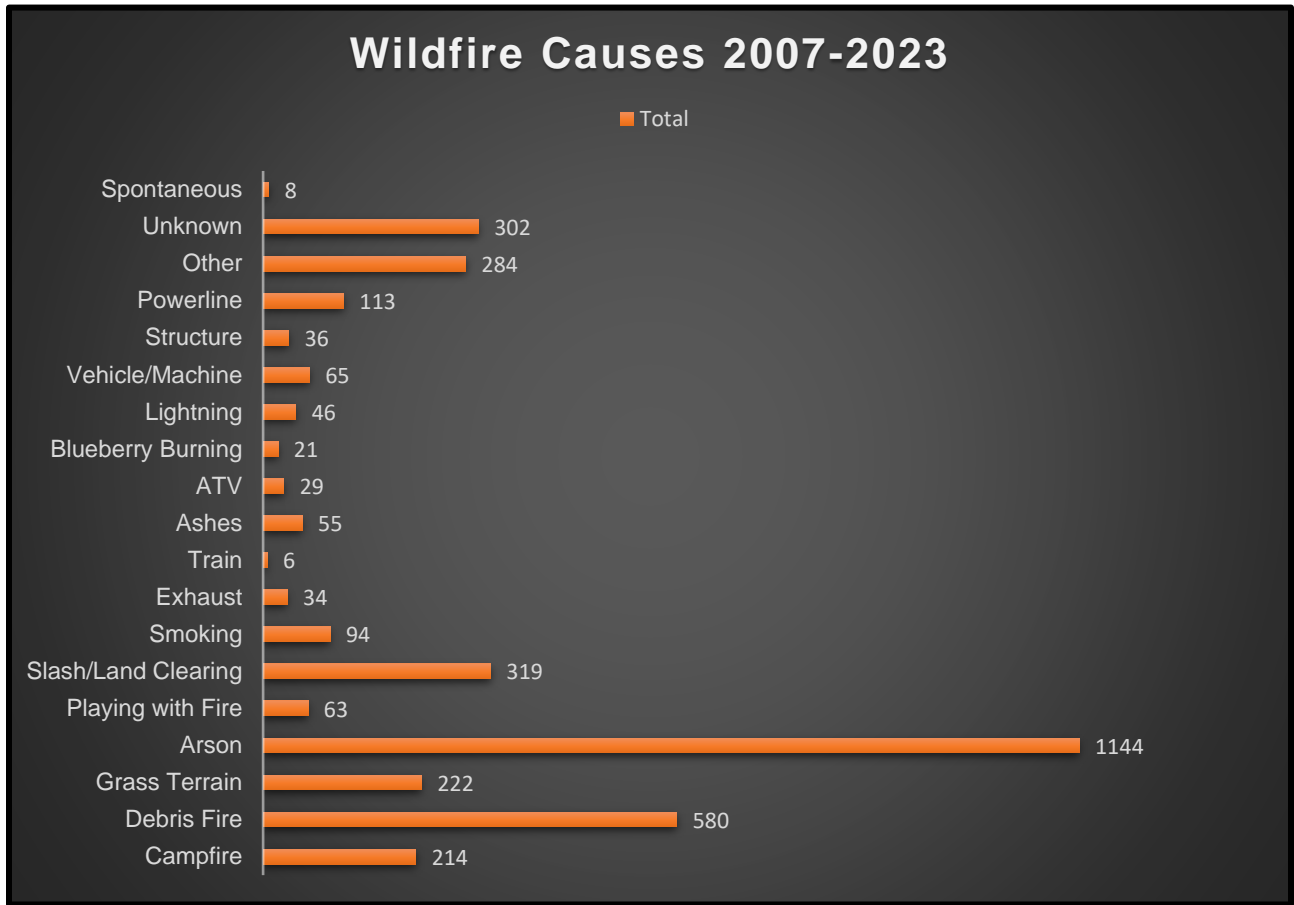
FIRE CAUSES

Over the past five years fire numbers have remained around the same there has however been an increase in area burned. Below compares the fires over the past 5 years.

Year	Fire Numbers	Hectares Burned
2023	220	25093.29
2022	152	3389
2021	113	197
2020	176	710
2019	143	154.5
5-year average	160	5909

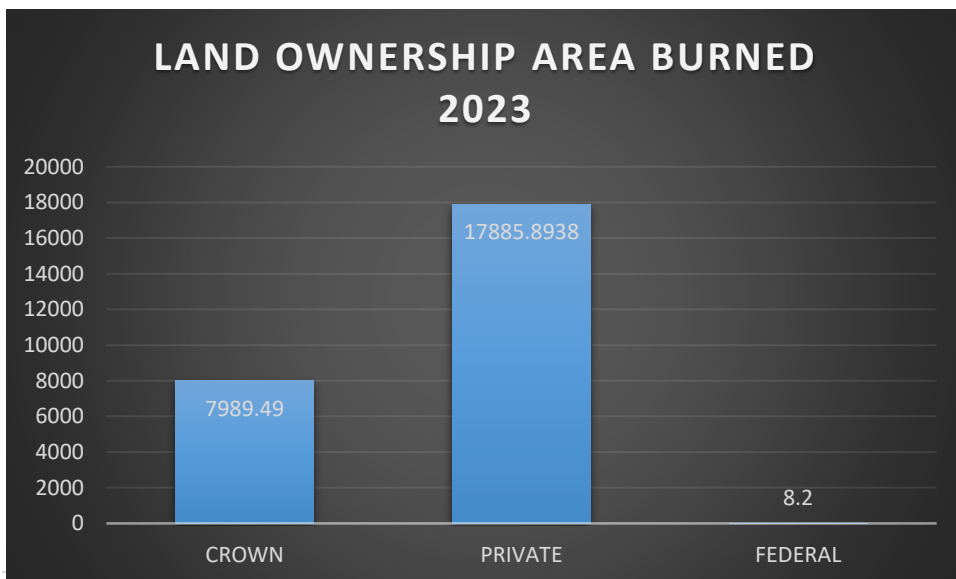
FIRE CAUSES FOR 2023





LAND OWNERSHIP

2023 Fire season approximately 79789.49ha of crown was burned and 17885.8938ha of private land burned. 8.2 ha burned on Federal Lands, 0ha of Wilderness Area.



Wildfires by County 2013-2023

WILDFIRES BY COUNTY PER YEAR												
COUNTY	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTAL PER COUNTY
LUNENBURG	1	1	10	14	10	14	6	21	10	8	27	138
SHELBURNE	7	10	7	14	10	17	9	16	8	5	9	130
QUEENS	9	2	10	16	10	10	9	14	10	9	12	128
YARMOUTH	9	13	8	19	8	14	8	17	9	11	21	178
DIGBY	2	1	6	19	7	8	7	6	4	3	9	93
ANNAPOLIS	5	5	0	14	5	8	1	9	1	4	11	81
KINGS	23	14	12	22	16	13	12	18	22	12	16	230
HANTS	13	12	16	21	11	3	5	8	7	14	18	142
east	7	4	8	5	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	51
west	6	8	8	16	8	0	2	5	4	9	8	86
HALIFAX	14	16	25	28	21	16	17	13	10	27	19	237
east	5	8	18	9	10	6	9	6	7	13	9	121
west	9	8	7	19	11	10	8	7	3	14	10	116
CUMBERLAND	25	15	14	15	11	11	7	21	10	8	11	186
east	10	9	9	8	5	10	6	18	10	6	8	111
west	15	6	5	7	6	1	1	3	0	2	3	75
COLCHESTER	9	6	5	3	1	5	2	4	5	6	8	77
PICTOU	13	17	28	24	9	23	12	9	6	5	14	204
ANTIGONISH	4	7	6	0	5	3	5	6	1	5	10	59
GUYSBOROUGH	0	6	9	3	7	5	6	2	1	3	5	53
St. Marys	0	5	5	0	4	2	1	1	0	2	2	25
Guysborough	0	1	4	3	3	3	5	1	1	1	3	28
CAPE BRETON	34	40	81	60	30	32	26	7	8	10	14	453
INVERNESS	2	3	4	1	9	5	6	0	1	13	8	62
VICTORIA	1	0	0	1	0	3	4	1	0	3	1	15
RICHMOND	0	3	6	0	4	0	1	1	0	6	3	26
TOTAL PER YEAR	171	171	247	274	174	190	143	173	113	152	213	2489

Hectares by County 2011-2023

HECTARES BY COUNTY PER YEAR														
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTAL PER COUNTY
LUNENBURG	2.4	34.9	0.5	2.9	2.4	19.45	2.24	3.52	3.16	46.75	0.97	1.58	12.831	133.601
SHELBURNE	14.31	59.539	2.53	8.56	0.462	19.102	92.59	13.06	28.84	43.64	5.12	0.8	23477.6	23766.113
QUEENS	0.91	11.4	2.11	1.901	13.8	17.8	7.5	1.22	1.99	1.764	120.199	24.42	298.56	503.5737
YARMOUTH	61.25	258	32.6	285.25	160.005	93.86	504.4	90.71	14.0071	215.09	11.3438	3217.21	64.98	5008.7059
DIGBY	1.22	9.7	21	0.14	0.79	9.5	2.31	1.69	6.35	2.8	1.98	36.67	122.32	216.47
ANNAPOLIS	1.88	11.25	1.15	19.5	0	392.01	0.28	5.28	0.12	7	0.5	0.32	10.83	450.12
KINGS	2.46	10.41	6.55	2.2	4.72	10.23	5.32	3.35	3.96	134.846	5.53	1.75	2.2437	193.5697
HANTS	1.19	2.45	61.36	84.01	13	17.569	5.62	0.73	1.72	2.29	7.161	18.13	6.71	221.94
EAST	1	0.7	9.12	1.62	11.16	16.2	3.95	0.73	0.5	0.61	3.501	9.31	2.3	60.701
WEST	3	1.75	52.24	82.39	1.84	1.369	1.67	0	1.22	1.68	3.66	8.82	4.41	164.049
HALIFAX	5.31	39.304	8.92	9.5101	28.6699	13.271	5.408	8.6	1.991	51.573	6.88	58.0006	1038.61	1276.0486
EAST	8	10.23	6.39	6.6201	27.7389	6.36	3.293	0.89	1.241	50.72	5.98	54.64	59.27	234.983
WEST	1	29.074	2.53	2.89	0.931	6.911	2.115	7.71	0.75	0.853	0.91	3.3606	1019.34	1078.3756
CUMBERLAND	0.05	61.7813	35.657	54.361	23.97	25.89	29.401	12.6	15.265	27.65	2.1	8.9	18.62	316.2453
EAST	0	32.282	16.462	8.581	13.42	16.89	23.83	9.4	15.235	23.31	2.1	8.6	17.95	188.06
WEST	0.05	29.4993	19.195	45.78	10.55	9	5.571	3.2	0.03	4.34	0	0.3	0.67	128.1853
COLCHESTER	5.5	34.2	12.93	7.4	4.2	2.42	0.01	1.043	0.6	0.91	2.35	2.81	4.8961	79.2691
PICTOU	12.054	65.84	10.32	13.0384	21.93	35.15	11.22	26.82	3.96	4.57	1.23	1.11	8.97	216.2124
ANTIGONISH	1.22	2.73	3.65	3.89	8.72	0	0.83	0.03	5.23	148.52	1	0.86	9.82	186.5
GUYSBOROUGH	1.473	9.1	0	0.58	63.363	0.2	3.69	0.34	17.1	0.02	0.1	1.88	1.82	99.666
ST. MARYS	2	1.6	0	0.48	49.6	0	3.51	0.11	0.01	0.01	0	0.31	0.32	57.95
GUYSBOROUGH	2	7.5	0	0.1	13.763	0.2	0.18	0.23	17.09	0.01	0.1	1.57	1.5	44.243
CAPE BRETON	35.101	180.62	101.32	69.2	163	98.41	53.5	77.57	46.5	19.12	30.65	4.71	32.922	912.623
INVERNESS	4.051	21.202	0.38	0.84	5.21	0.01	2.181	2.94	1.5	0	0.06	2.22	2.7	43.294
VICTORIA	0	2.5	0.37	0	0	0.1	0	1.53	1.79	0.4	0	0.55	0.01	7.25
RICHMOND	0	2.11	0	1.1802	2.51	0	1.93	0	0.41	0.175	0	7.194	0.949	16.4582
TOTAL PER YEAR	150.379	817.036	301.347	564.461	516.75	754.972	728.43	251.033	154.493	707.118	197.174	3389.11	24819	4946.019