

Understanding the Fire Behaviour Index



While the AFDRS Fire Danger Ratings are primarily intended for community messaging, the Fire Behaviour Index is intended to support operational fire management decision making.

Features of the Fire Behaviour Index (FBI):

A Fine Scale of Fire Behaviour

The FBI is expressed in whole numbers from 0 to 100+. As the FBI rises, the more dangerous a fire that starts will become.

Takes advantage of decades of improved understanding of fire behaviour, fuels and fire weather.

Stepped Categories

Links transitions in fire behaviour to implications for operational decision making.

Turns the FBI into a powerful operational tool and takes advantage of improved understanding of the relationship between fire behaviour, fire spread, suppression and impacts.

Fuel Type Specific

Eight different Fire Behaviour Indexes based on eight different fire behaviour models.

Takes advantage of decades of improved knowledge of fire behaviour in different fuels to produce more specific results.

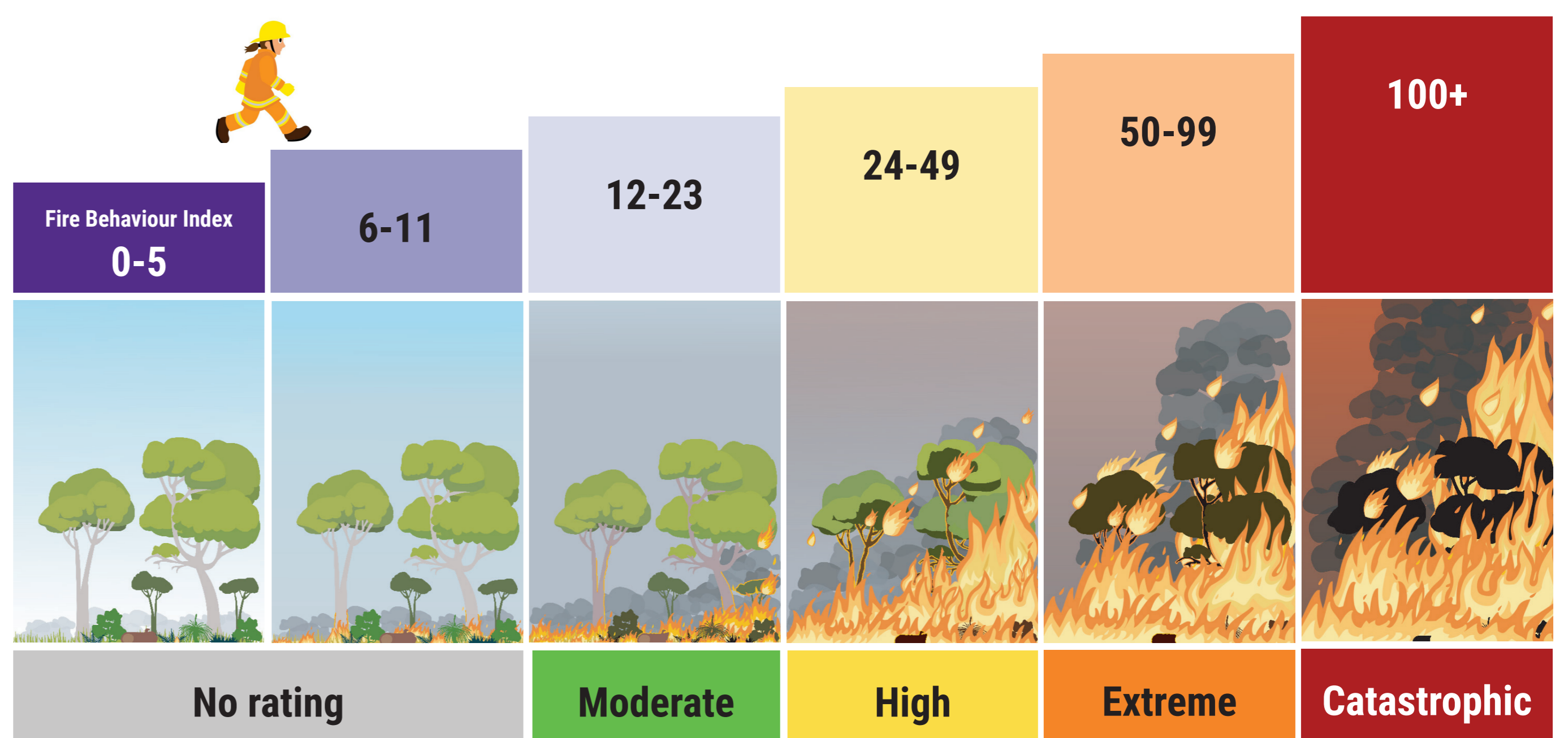
Nationally Consistent

The index is the same anywhere in Australia.

Supports cross border operations and resource sharing.

The Stepped categories are controlled by tables that define FBI thresholds. The thresholds represent changes in the underlying fire behaviour that have consequences for operational decision making, including:

- Indicative fire behaviour and fire weather.
- Implications for prescribed burning.
- Fire suppression and containment strategies that are appropriate.
- Potential for impact on life, property and infrastructure.



For more information visit dfes.wa.gov.au/prepare or email AFDRS@dfes.wa.gov.au