

WISCONSIN BURNING

2020



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Introduction

The Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Fire Prevention Program is pleased to present the *2020 Wisconsin Burning Report*. This report presents data on fire department incidents to help readers understand the Wisconsin fire situation and to help the fire service improve public safety services. This data is also used at the national level to help identify challenges facing the fire service and understand what resources are needed to meet those challenges. All the incident data for the *2020 Wisconsin Burning* was collected from fire department submissions into the National Fire Incident Reporting Systems (NFIRS) and all the statistical information on fire departments was collected from Fire Chief submissions into eSLA during 2% Fire Dues Self-Certification. Currently, Wisconsin has 814 fire departments, of which 803 are required to report data to the NFIRS data base (11 departments are not required per their status being Federal/State/Military/Private).

Incident reporting provides essential information about fires, their causes, and consequences, as well as descriptive data about many other types of emergency services that fire departments provide. This data can help communities improve their fire protection systems while helping fire departments improve service delivery. Also, as we track data across the years, we can identify trends and determine how the fire problem in Wisconsin is changing.

We hope this information will be useful to fire departments, elected officials, and the public as a planning tool for meeting the future needs of the fire service and promoting fire safety in Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

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Statistics Disclaimer

As you read through *2020 Wisconsin Burning*, you may question some of the numbers reported. The data in this report contains information that was supplied by our Wisconsin fire departments. Incident information submitted does not always translate into usable data once it enters NFIRS. NFIRS requires a minimum amount of data for an incident to be considered valid. If critical data, such as type of fire, is missing the incident cannot be accurately analyzed. Some fire departments report all responses, while others only report fire responses. To paint a true picture of the fire departments' role in Wisconsin communities, this report contains information on all reported response types. Developing incident response data for a fire department can help determine the use of limited resources and budget dollars. When we look at the data submitted using the "OTHER" incident type (100, 200, 300, etc.) sometimes we see fluctuation from year to year. When reporting incidents, we need to be more specific and not overuse the "OTHER" category i.e., 100-Fire, other; 200-Overpressure, other. For example, in 2020 the "OTHER" category was used a total of **24,307** times. That's about the same as 2019 numbers, which was **25,800** incidents. We did see an improvement from 2019 to 2020. In 2021, so far, the Other category has been used 14,030 times. That number will likely change because of as of the writing of the 2020 Burning report Fire Departments were still editing 2021.

The DSPS Fire Prevention staff trains fire departments in accessing and properly submitting fire incident data. Fire departments are encouraged to reach out to your Fire Prevention Coordinator for training or if you have questions while filling out a report you can contact Sarah Brown.

Fire Department Statistics

FDID's in Wisconsin for 2020	814
FDID's that reported incidents to NFIRS in 2020	684
FDID's not reporting incidents to NFIRS in 2020 (11 departments aren't required to report)	130
Career Firefighters in Wisconsin	4,728
Unpaid Volunteer Firefighters in Wisconsin	8,255
Paid Volunteer Firefighters in Wisconsin	12,744
Non-Firefighter Staff in all Departments	6,886
Career Fire Departments	41
Combination Fire Departments	125
Volunteer Fire Departments	635
Federal/State/Military Fire Departments	9
Private Fire Brigades	2



What's New with NFIRS

1. You can reset your own user account if you forgot your password: [NFIRS Login](#)
2. Reminder that once incidents are submitted to the NFIRS National Database, your FD data is ready for your use and analysis in the NFIRS Data Warehouse. For access, please contact your State Program Manager.
3. Automated Data Quality Reports. This service automatically sends to the state program manager. FDs can run these by themselves, anytime, if they use USFA reporting tools.
4. Reminder to keep your Fire Department Registry information up to date: [National Fire Department Registry \(fema.gov\)](#).
5. Helpful resources:
 - NFIRS Grams: [NFIRS Coding Help \(fema.gov\)](#)
 - Training videos and Self-study classes: [NFIRS Training \(fema.gov\)](#)
 - Complete Reference Guide (all fields and codes in the system):
https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/nfirs/NFIRS_Complete_Reference_Guide_20_15.pdf
 - Coding Questions Guide:
https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/nfirs/NFIRS_Coding_Questions_2016.pdf
6. NFIRS National Study Reports. NFIRS data and publications are available analyzing the scope of the fire problem in the United States:
<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/statistics/reports/>
7. NFIRS COVID-19 Special Study Dashboard. Reports on U.S. fire departments participating in the NFIRS COVID-19 Special Study: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/a-z/covid-19/>



NFIRS Reporting – Invalids

When completing a NFIRS incident report there is a minimum amount of data that must be entered into the NFIRS system for the incident to be deemed a valid incident. Warning and Critical errors will occur when a required module is missed or incomplete and when module questions are answered incorrectly or not at all. Certain modules are “Required” based on the incident type reported and depending on if the question is a “Required” question or if it is just considered “Additional Information” will determine whether it is a Warning or a Critical error. It is very important to answer all the required questions in all the required modules as completely as possible. When an incident is deemed invalid the data is considered unusable in the NFIRS system and therefore cannot be used in data analysis. As you can see in the following charts, work is needed to get invalid incidents under control.

Incident Summary:	
Valid imports:	22
Invalid imports:	0
Deleted Incidents:	5
Import failures:	3
TOTAL Processed:	30


Ways to check your NFIRS reporting for Invalid Incidents:

1. Run an **Incident Search** under the Incident Management tab and filter for the year and to just show your Invalids.
2. Run an **Incident Listing or Monthly Incident Counts** report in the Summary Output Report Tool filtered to just show your Invalids.
3. If you are using third party software, you should be looking at the **Zip File** that is emailed to you after NFIRS has completed your import. Invalids will show at the bottom under the **Incident Summary**.

If you would like assistance with Invalids, contact your Fire Coordinator or Sarah Brown.

2020 Top 10 Invalid Reasons
1. Clear Time cannot be later than Last Unit Clear Time (Apparatus Module)
2. Street or Highway is required
3. Fire Service Fatalities is required
4. Fire Service Injuries is required
5. Action Taken is required
6. Age of Person Must be Greater than Zero (Fire Module)
7. Age of Person Not Allowed (given Human Factors) (Fire Module)
8. Arrival Date is required
9. Non-Fire Service Injuries is required
10. Non-Fire Service Fatalities is required

NFIRS Incident Code Guide

100 Series (Fire)	200 Series (Overpressure Explosion, Overheat – No Fire)
<p>(11) Structure fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (111) Building Fire (112) Fires in structures other than in a building (113) Cooking fire, confined to container (114) Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue (115) Incinerator overload or malfunction, fire confined (116) Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined (117) Commercial compactor fire, confined to rubbish (118) Trash, or rubbish fire in a structure, no flame damage <p>(12) Fire in mobile property used as fixed structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (121) Fire in mobile home used as a fixed residence (122) Fire in motor home, camper, recreational vehicle (123) Fire in portable building, fixed location <p>(13) Mobile property (vehicle) fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (131) Passenger vehicle fire (132) Road freight or transport vehicle fire (133) Rail vehicle fire (134) Water vehicle fire (135) Aircraft vehicle fire (136) Self-propelled motor home or recreational vehicle fire (137) Camper or recreational vehicle fire (138) Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire <p>(14) Natural vegetation fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (141) Forest, woods, or wildland fire (142) Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire (143) Grass fire, includes fire confined to area <p>(15) Outside rubbish fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (151) Outside rubbish, trash, or waste fire (152) Garbage dump or sanitary landfill fire (153) Construction or demolition landfill fire (154) Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire (155) Outside stationary compactor/compacted trash fire <p>(16) Special outside fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (161) Outside storage fire on residential or commercial/industrial property (162) Outside equipment fire (163) Outside gas or vapor combustion explosion (164) Outside mailbox fire <p>(17) Cultivated vegetation, crop fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (171) Cultivated grain or crop fire (172) Cultivated orchard or vineyard fire (173) Cultivated trees or nursery stock fire 	<p>(21) Overpressure rupture from steam (no ensuing fire)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (211) Overpressure rupture of steam pipe or pipeline (212) Overpressure rupture of steam boiler (213) Steam rupture of pressure or process vessel <p>(22) Overpressure rupture from air or gas – no fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (221) Overpressure rupture of air or gas pipe/pipeline (222) Overpressure rupture of boiler from air or gas (223) Air or gas rupture or pressure or process vessel <p>(23) Overpressure rupture, chemical reaction – no fire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (231) Chemical reaction rupture of pressure or process vessel <p>(24) Explosion (no fire)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (241) Munitions or bomb explosions (no fire) (242) Blasting agent explosion (no fire) (243) Fireworks explosion (no fire), all classes of fireworks <p>(25) Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (251) Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition
	<p>300 Series (Rescue & EMS Incidents)</p>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p>Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services Division of Industry Services Fire Prevention Program 4822 Madison Yards Way PO Box 7302 Madison, WI 53707-7302</p> </div> </div> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 20px;">All Incident Type Codes are part of the National Fire Incident Reporting System standard. Table format was developed by Heather N. Bostic, December 2011. WV State Fire Marshall's Office, Public Education Division</p>	<p>(31) Medical assist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (311) Medical assist, assist EMS crew <p>(32) Emergency medical service (EMS) incident</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (321) EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury (322) Vehicle accident with injuries (323) Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped) (324) Motor vehicle accident with no injuries <p>(33) Lock-in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (331) Lock-in, includes vehicles (if lock-out, use 511) <p>(34) Search for lost person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (341) Search for person on land (342) Search for person in water (343) Search for person underground <p>(35) Extrication, rescue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (351) Extrication of victim(s) from building/structure (352) Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle (353) Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator (354) Trench/below grade rescue (355) Confined space rescue (356) High angle rescue (357) Extrication of victim(s) from machinery <p>(36) Water or ice-related rescue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (361) Swimming/recreational water areas rescue (362) Ice rescue (363) Swift water rescue (364) Surf rescue (365) Watercraft rescue <p>(37) Electrical rescue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (371) Electrocution or potential electrocution (372) Trapped by power lines <p>(38) Rescue or EMS standby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (381) Rescue or EMS standby; hazardous conditions

400 Series (Hazardous Conditions – No Fire)	600 Series (Good Intent Calls)
<p>(41) Combustible/flammable spills & leaks (411) Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill, Class I (412) Gas leak (natural gas or LPG) (413) Oil or other combustible liquid spill, Class II or III</p> <p>(42) Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition (421) Chemical hazard (no spill or leak) (422) Chemical spill or leak (423) Refrigeration leak (424) Carbon monoxide incident</p> <p>(43) Radioactive condition (431) Radiation leak, radioactive material</p> <p>(44) Electrical wiring/equipment problem (441) Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn insulation (442) Overheated motor or wiring (443) Breakdown of light ballast (444) Power line down (445) Arcing, shorted electrical equipment</p> <p>(45) Biological hazard (451) Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected</p> <p>(46) Accident, potential accident (461) Building or structure weakened or collapsed (462) Aircraft standby (463) Vehicle accident, general cleanup</p> <p>(47) Explosive, bomb removal (471) Explosive, bomb removal (for bomb scare, use 721)</p> <p>(48) Attempted burning, illegal action (481) Attempt to burn (482) Threat to burn</p>	<p>(61) Dispatched and canceled en route (611) Dispatched and canceled en route</p> <p>(62) Wrong location, no emergency found (621) Wrong location (622) No incident found at dispatch address</p> <p>(63) Controlled burning (631) Authorized controlled burning (632) Prescribed fire (with prior written, approved fire plan)</p> <p>(64) Vicinity Alarm (641) Vicinity alarm (incident in other location)</p> <p>(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke (651) Smoke scare, odor of smoke, not steam (652) Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke (653) Smoke from barbeque, tar kettle (not hostile fire)</p> <p>(66) EMS call where party has been transported (661) EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency</p> <p>(67) Hazmat release investigation w/no hazmat (671) Hazmat release investigation w/no hazmat found (672) Biological hazard, none found</p>
	700 Series (False Alarms and False Calls)
	<p>(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm (711) Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm (712) Direct tie to FD, malicious/false alarm (713) Telephone, malicious false alarm (714) Central station, malicious false alarm (715) Local alarm system, malicious false alarm</p> <p>(72) Bomb scare (721) Bomb scare – no bomb</p> <p>(73) System or detector malfunction (731) Sprinkler activation due to system malfunction or failure (732) Extinguishing system activation due to malfunction (733) Smoke detector activation due to malfunction (734) Heat detector activation due to malfunction (735) Alarm system activation due to malfunction (736) CO detector activation due to malfunction</p> <p>(74) Unintentional system/detector operation – no fire (741) Sprinkler activation, no fire – unintentional (742) Extinguishing system activation (743) Smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional (744) Detector activation, no fire – unintentional (745) Alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional (746) Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO</p> <p>(75) Biological hazard (751) Biological hazard, malicious false report</p>
500 Series (Service Call)	
<p>(51) Person in distress (511) Lock-out (512) Ring or jewelry removal, no transport to hospital</p> <p>(52) Water problem (521) Water (not people) evaluation (522) Water or steam leak, includes open hydrants</p> <p>(53) Smoke problem (531) Smoke or odor removal</p> <p>(54) Animal problem or rescue (541) Animal problem (542) Animal rescue</p> <p>(55) Public service assistance (551) Assist police or other governmental agency (552) Police matter (553) Public service, not government agencies (554) Assist invalid (555) Defective elevator, no occupants</p> <p>(56) Unauthorized burning (561) Unauthorized burning</p> <p>(57) Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up (571) Cover assignment, standby, move-up</p>	
	800 Series (Severe Weather and Natural Disaster)
	<p>(81) Severe Weather & Natural Disaster (811) Earthquake assessment, not rescue/other service (812) Flood assessment, not water rescue (813) Windstorm, tornado/hurricane assessment (814) Lightning strike (no fire), includes investigation (815) Severe weather or natural disaster standby</p>
	900 Series (Special Incident Type)
	<p>(91) Citizen complaint (911) Citizen complaint, includes code violations</p>

Incident Reporting

2020 Wisconsin Burning contains information on the total number of incidents reported by participating fire departments. In 2020, a total of 793 fire departments reported incident data to NFIRS. 11 fire departments failed to enter a single report in 2020. Another 11 fire departments are not required to report to NFIRS because they are Federal/State/Military department or a Private fire brigade, but 3 of them did report incidents into the NFIRS database.

For 2020, **SPS 314 and NFPA 1 (2012)** had the following requirements under **1.11.3.2**, “The fire department shall keep a record of fire and other emergency responses occurring within its jurisdiction and of facts concerning the same, including statistics as to the extent and damage caused by such fires or emergencies.” In addition, Wisconsin State Statutes § 101.141 shall apply; **101.141 RECORD KEEPING OF FIRES. (1)** Each city, village, and town fire department shall file a report for each fire that involves a building and that occurs within the boundaries of the city, village, or town with the U.S. fire administration for placement in the fire incident reporting system maintained by the U.S. fire administration. The report shall be filed within 60 days after the fire occurs.

SPS 314.01 (11) FIRE INCIDENT REPORTS. Substitute the following wording for the requirements in NFPA 1 section 1.11.3.2:

- (a) 1. For each fire, a record shall be compiled by a fire department serving the municipality in which the fire occurred.
2. The record in subd. 1. shall include all applicable information specified in s. 101.141 (2), Stats., shall be filed with the federal agency specified in s. 101.141 (1), Stats., and shall be filed no later than the deadline specified in s. 101.141(1).

The fire service, the DSPS, and the U.S. Fire Administration recognize the importance of accurately reporting all fires. To be eligible for federal government fire grants, fire departments must report all incidents to the NFIRS. Failure to report can disqualify a department from receiving grants and may also disqualify members from attending training at the National Fire Academy.

To report the 2020 fire incident data, Wisconsin fire departments used one of the following methods:

1. State provided Image Trend Elite
2. Federally provided eNFIRS
3. Privately paid for third party software (Firehouse, Fire Programs, Emergency Reporting, ProPhoenix, etc.)

Summary by Incident Type

100 – Fire (Fire)

According to NFIRS 2020 had a reported 17,677 fire incidents in Wisconsin.

Fire by Incident Type & Code	Mutual Aid None	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Received	Other Aid Given	Exposures	Total Incidents
Year	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Building Fires (110-118, 120-123)	3,554	3,961	1,390	30	101	9,036
Vehicle Fire (130-138)	2,317	254	197	8	39	2,815
Other Fires (100, 140-173)	4,538	810	450	14	14	5,826

200 – Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (Exp)

There was a total of 676 calls related to the 200 series.



300 – Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident (EMS)

Rescue and EMS incidents accounted for 293,202 calls in 2020. Per the norm, EMS lands at the top with the most calls of all the incident types.

400 – Hazardous Calls (Hazard)

The number of Hazardous calls decreased to 14,111 incidents in 2020 from the numbers reported in 2018 and 2019. We had seen a continuous rise in Hazardous calls since 2017. Gas leaks were the number one incident type class in this category with 3,530 reported incidents and Carbon Monoxide incidents coming in second at 2,435.



500 – Service Calls (Service)

Wisconsin fire departments had 22,331 service calls in 2020.

Top 5 types of Service Calls for 2021:

1. Assist Invalid: 6,436
2. Public Service: 2,102
3. Smoke or odor removal: 2,046
4. Defective elevator, no occupants: 1,952
5. Police Matter: 1,891

600 – Good Intent Calls (Assist)

There was a total of 25,525 calls recorded in the 600 series. The number one reason went to Dispatched & Canceled en route—15,512, and the second reason was No Incident found at dispatch address.

700 – False Calls

Incident Type and Code	Mutual Aid None	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Received	Other Aid Given	Total False Calls
Year	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020
Malicious Call (710-715, 751)	1,619	14	32	5	1,670
All other False Calls (700, 721-746)	26,644	480	722	12	27,858

800 – Severe Weather and Natural Disaster (Weather)

Wisconsin reported 573 Severe Weather Calls in 2020. The majority (160) of the Severe Weather calls were for Windstorm, Tornado/Hurricane.



900 – Special Incident Type (Other)

	2020
Special type of incident, other	417
Citizen complaint	520

Fires Over the Years

A reoccurring question that is asked of the Fire Prevention Program is “How have the numbers of fires compared over the years?” There are so many different scenarios that we could run looking at fires, so we narrowed it down by Incident Type. We see that Building fires have been decreasing since 2018. Wisconsin’s total for Building Fires in 2020 is 6,561. That’s down over 1,000 Building Fires from 2018.

Passenger vehicle fires came in second, those numbers have been continuing to decrease. As we predicted in last year’s *Burning Report*, 2020 numbers are down from 2019. Quote from last year **“It looks like 2020 is on track to be less than 2019 numbers of fires”**.

Cooking Fires contained to a container have continued to decrease from 2018 to 2020. Even with more people staying home (due to Covid shutdowns) and an increased amount of cooking at home.

Let’s talk about Outside Rubbish fires. In this incident type category, we see that Outside rubbish, trash, or waste fires were the most reported from 2018-2020. These numbers stay consistent from 2016 to 2019, but in 2020 we see a spike up to almost 1,000 fires. 2020 is the highest year we have seen in quite some time.

Wisconsin had a spike in Grass fires in 2018 of 1,113 and then a sharp decrease down to 699 grass fires in 2019 and then back up to 763 for 2020.

If you would like a more complete look at all the incidents reported in Wisconsin, please click the link below.

[Wisconsin Multi Year Trends](#)



Fire Causes - Fire Module – Structure

2020 Description	Total
Unknown	858
Other Unintentional, Careless	572
Cooking	567
Open Flame	305
Electrical Malfunction	298
Other Heat	217
Heating	177
Intentional	174
Equipment Mis Operation, Failure	171
Smoking	124
Appliances	123
Natural	122
Exposure	108
Other Equipment	27
Investigation with Arson Mod.	22
Playing with a Heat Source	18



NFIRS Dashboard Summary Report (Valid Incidents Only)

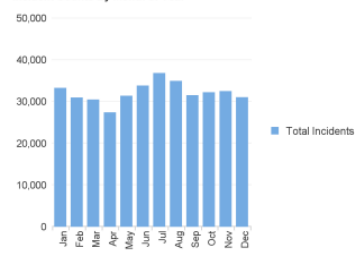
NFIRS Dashboard Summary Report (All Incidents)

Report Period: 1/1/20 to 12/31/20

Summary By Incident Type Category

Incident Type Category	Total Incidents	Percent	Aid Given	Exposures	Grand Total
Fires (100-173)	9,441	2.6%	4,741	114	14,296
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat Calls (200-251)	643	0.2%	29	0	672
Rescue and EMS Calls (300-381)	274,469	74.3%	4,886	0	279,355
Hazardous Condition Calls (400-482)	13,524	3.7%	427	0	13,951
Service Calls (500-571)	20,157	5.5%	1,011	0	21,168
Good Intent Calls (600-672)	20,906	5.7%	3,817	0	24,723
False Alarm and False Calls (700-751)	28,687	7.8%	467	0	29,154
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster Calls (800-815)	545	0.1%	20	0	565
Special Incident Type Calls (900-911)	890	0.2%	33	0	923
Unknown or Not Reported	0	0.0%	1	10	11
Grand Total	369,262	100.0%	15,432	124	384,818

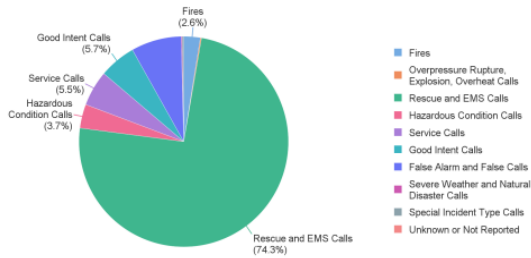
Incident Counts By Month of Year



Monthly Incident Counts

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
33,158	30,862	30,329	27,254	31,272	33,713	36,691	34,831	31,356	32,100	32,375	30,877	384,818

Incident Type Category Summary



Percent Valid
100.0%

Percent Released
98.1%

Incident Valid Status Summary

Incident Valid Status	Total	Percent
Valid	384,817	100.0%
Invalid	0	0.0%
No Activity	0	0.0%
Grand Total	384,817	100.0%

Incident Release Status Summary

Incident Valid Status	Total	Percent
Released	377,655	98.1%
Unreleased	7,162	1.9%
Grand Total	384,817	100.0%

Fire Service Injuries
638

Fire Service Deaths
0

Fire Service Casualty Summary

Fire Service Casualties	Fire-Related	Non-Fire	Grand Total
Fire Service Injuries	119	519	638
Fire Service Deaths	0	0	0
Total Fire Service Casualties	119	519	638



NFIRS Dashboard Summary Report (Valid Fire Incidents Only)

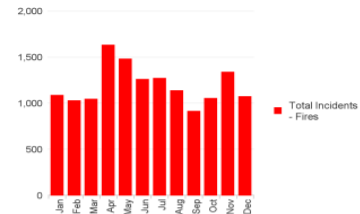
NFIRS Dashboard Summary Report (Fire Incidents)

Report Period: 1/1/20 to 12/31/20

Summary By Incident Type Category

Incident Type Group	Total Incidents	Percent	Aid Given	Exposures	Grand Total
Structure Fires (111-118)	3,749	39.7%	3,697	58	7,504
Fires in Mobile Property Used as a Fixed Structure (120-123)	84	0.9%	40	13	137
Mobile Property (Vehicle) Fires (130-138)	1,936	20.5%	242	29	2,207
Natural Vegetation Fires (140-143)	1,612	17.1%	417	3	2,032
Outside Rubbish Fires (150-155)	1,223	13.0%	55	3	1,281
Special Outside Fires (160-164)	291	3.1%	55	0	346
Cultivated Vegetation, Crop Fires (170-173)	106	1.1%	60	1	167
Fires, Other (100)	440	4.7%	175	7	622
Grand Total	9,441	100.0%	4,741	114	14,296

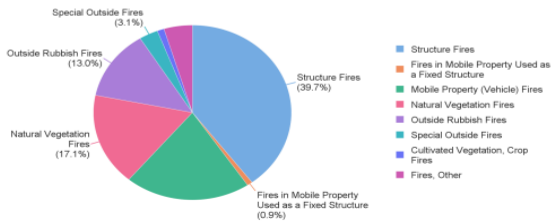
Fire Incident Counts By Month of Year



Monthly Incident Counts

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
1,085	1,025	1,043	1,629	1,478	1,258	1,270	1,136	913	1,051	1,336	1,072	14,296

Fire Incident Type Category Summary



Fire Dollar Loss Summary

Dollar Loss	Grand Total
Total Fire Property Loss	\$105,783,511
Total Fire Contents Loss	\$60,812,451
Total Fire Dollar Loss	\$169,605,962

Total Fire Dollar Loss
\$169,605,962

Civilian Fire Injuries
103

Civilian Fire Deaths
43

Civilian Fire Casualty Summary

Civilian Fire Casualties	Grand Total
Civilian Fire Injuries	103
Civilian Fire Deaths	43
Total Civilian Fire Casualties	146



Detector Information for 2020

Detector Presence	1,664
Detector Type	1,565
Detector Power Supply	1,437
Detector Operation	1,496
Detector Effectiveness	1,008
Detector Failure	78



Cooking Fires in Residential Buildings

Wisconsin fire departments responded to 354 cooking fires in residential buildings in 2020 resulting in:

- 9 civilian injuries
- No civilian deaths
- No firefighter injuries
- No firefighter deaths
- \$1,921,172 in property loss
- \$695,268 in contents loss
- \$2,616,440 in total dollar loss



What's New with the DSPS Fire Prevention Program?

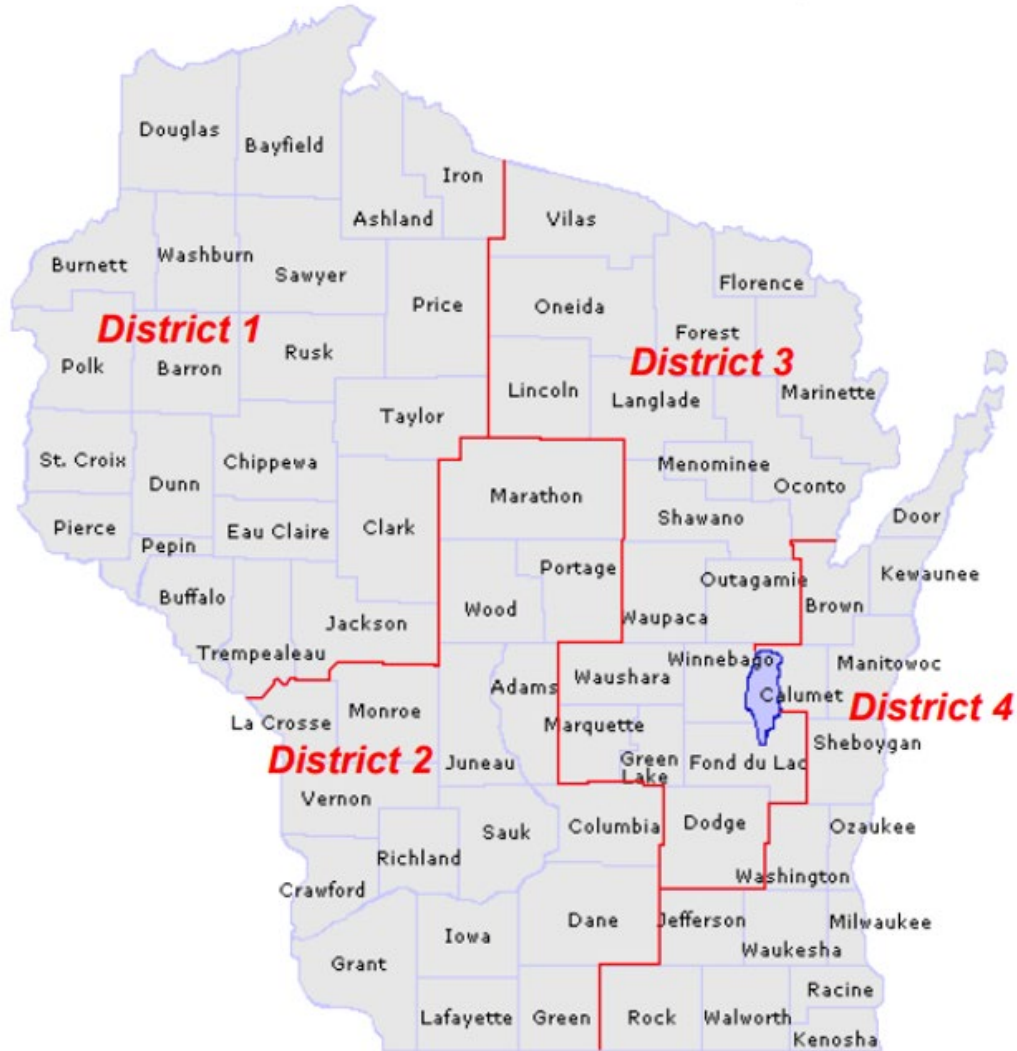
Fall Training

In the fall of 2021, the DSPS Fire Prevention provided training sessions to Wisconsin Fire Service. Those sessions included training on Fire Inspections, Code Interpretation, NFIRS Fire Chief duties and SPS 330. Sessions next year will include NFIRS Import Failures/Invalids, Member Assistance and Fire Hero Learning Network, Documentation Anything and Everything, Safety and Health Committee, Health and Safety Officer, and Incident Safety Officer and Inspector Authority-Limitations/Pre-Planning. Schedules will be posted online when available. If you have questions, contact Sarah or your fire coordinator.



New District Lines

The district lines for Wisconsin have been revamped. The only District that didn't change at all was District 1—District 2, 3, and 4 all have new boundaries. Below is a new map of the districts.



DSPS Staff

Fire Prevention Office Personnel



Bradley Johnson, P.E., serves as Section Chief with the Department of Safety and Professional Services where he is involved in evaluating, improving, and implementing the business model and mission for all programs with specific emphasis in the Fire Prevention and POWTS Programs. He has been employed by the State of Wisconsin for 29 years and with DSPS for 23 of those years. Brad was previously employed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Wisconsin Department of Commerce.

Brad has served 23 years in the fire service as a part-time firefighter, rising to the rank of Division Chief of Fire Prevention. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering and is registered as a Professional Engineer in the state of Wisconsin. Brad can be reached at (920) 492-5605 or via email at Bradley.Johnson@wisconsin.gov.

Sarah Brown has served as the Operations Program Associate and NFIRS Program Manager for the Department of Safety and Professional Services Fire Prevention Program for the past six years. In that time, she has been to the National Fire Academy for NFIRS Program Manager training and for NFIRS Data Warehouse training. Graduating both times at the top of her class. Sarah is also a subject matter expert in our eSLA database, the 2% Fire Dues Program and has authored the Wisconsin Burning report since 2017. You will always see Sarah in the DSPS Fire Prevention booth at many of Wisconsin's fire conventions and conferences. Sarah was born and raised in the Medford area, where she and her husband Matt reside with their three children. Sarah can be reached at (715) 634-4013 or by email at Sarah2.Brown@wisconsin.gov.



District 1

Rick Sommerfeld currently serves as the District 1 Fire Prevention Coordinator. Rick has been very active in the fire service for past 35 years serving in many roles and is currently the fire chief of his local volunteer fire department. Rick has also worked as an EMT for his local volunteer ambulance service for the past 33 years. He has completed Firefighter 1 and 2, Fire Inspector 1, Fire Officer, Rappelling, Extrication, Driver-Operator, Fire Investigation, Grain Bin Rescue, Open Water Diver and many other fire and EMS trainings. Rick also completed the National Fire Academy's NFIRS Program State Manager class. In his spare time Rick likes to hunt, camp and fish with his four daughters. If you need to contact Rick, he is available by email at Richard.Sommerfeld@wisconsin.gov or by phone at (715) 944-4114.



District 1 Statistics

District 1, which is in northwestern Wisconsin, currently has 193 fire departments comprised of 176 Volunteer, 13 Combination and 4 Career fire departments. For 2020, District 1 recorded 30,587 incidents. Of those, 29,748 were valid incidents and 839 invalids. When we break down the calls, we see that Rescue/EMS had by far the highest counts at 20,816. Fire calls followed behind with 2,575. In District 1, the most frequent types of fire calls were Structure fires with a total of 1,266. Total dollar loss from fires in 2020 was \$43,500,344, which is a decrease from what was reported in 2019 (\$54,327).

Casualty Summary	Civilian 2020	Fire Service 2020
Fire related injuries	17	19
Non-fire related injuries	16	55
Fire related deaths	11	0
Non-fire related deaths	13	0



Number of Fire Inspectors for 2020	607
Number of Public Buildings & Places of Employment	27,525
Number of Inspections Conducted	33,652
Number of Violations Recorded	10,049
Number of Violations Corrected	7,592



District 2

April Hammond currently serves as the District 2 Fire Prevention Coordinator. April has served as partner and advocate for Everyone Goes Home, a program founded by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, since 2020. April previously worked as an Occupational Safety Inspector for DSPS and served as a subject matter expert throughout the SPS 330-Firefighter Safety and Health code update process. She worked closely with stakeholders, committee members, and agency representatives during the process. April has served in the fire service as a volunteer firefighter for over 21 years and she is currently serving as her local fire department's Assistant Chief. April works part-time for Madison College as a Fire Service Instructor and serves as a Municipal Judge for her community. She has previously worked as a wildland firefighter, emergency dispatcher, EMT, and in law enforcement. April's educational background is in criminal justice and fire science. April lives in Dane County with her husband and two daughters, where they also help manage her family farm. April can be reached at (608) 225-6593 or by email at April.Hammond@wisconsin.gov.



District 2 Statistics

Located in southwestern Wisconsin, District 2 has 204 fire departments—161 Volunteer, 33 Combination, 6 Career and 4 Military fire departments. They reported a total of 72,610 incidents during 2020. 71,672 were valid and 938 were invalid. The greatest number of calls were recorded as Rescue/EMS calls (48,006). Good Intent calls followed with 6,483. The most frequent types of fire calls were Structure fires at 1,923. Total Fire Dollar loss in 2020 was \$43,350,661, a decrease from 2019 when the total was \$43,780,385.

Casualty Summary	Civilian 2020	Fire Service 2020
Fire related injuries	25	21
Non-fire related injuries	44	81
Fire related deaths	17	0
Non-fire related deaths	21	0

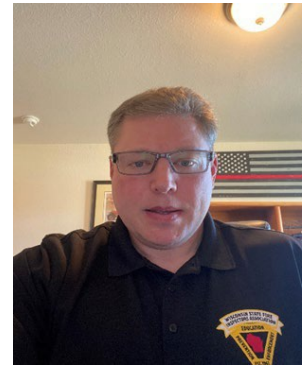


Number of Fire Inspectors for 2021	648
Number of Public Buildings & Places of Employment	53,397
Number of Inspections Conducted	74,258
Number of Violations Recorded	24,924
Number of Violations Corrected	16,106



District 3

Our newest addition to the Fire Prevention Program is **Gary Peck**. He is the Fire Prevention Coordinator for District 3. Gary has been very active in the fire service for the past 30 years, serving in many roles in the Military/Federal Service, including as a Full-Time/Career Firefighter/Fire Officer for 24 years—14 of those years as a Fire Chief. He also served as the District 4 Fire Prevention Coordinator from March 2018–September 2019. Gary works part-time for Moraine Park Technical College as a Fire Emergency Services Instructor. He has also been a Wisconsin Emergency Medical Technician for the last 25 years. Gary is IFSAC certified as Firefighter I/II, Fire Officer IV, Fire Inspector III, Fire Instructor III, Rescue Technician I/II, Hazmat Technician & Incident Commander and has also completed many other classes and training activities at the state and national levels. Gary also completed the National Fire Academy's NFIRS Program State Manager class. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with family and friends and watching Wisconsin's sports teams. Gary can be reached at (608) 219-9470 or by email gary.peck@wisconsin.gov.



District 3 Statistics

District 3 is in northeastern Wisconsin, and they have 218 fire departments—188 Volunteer, 20 Combination, 7 Career and 3 Federal/Military fire departments. During 2020 District 3 had 72,653 reported incidents. 71,966 were valid and 687 were invalid. District 3 had the lowest number of invalids of all 4 districts—kudos District 3! The most incidents reported were EMS calls (50,194) followed up by Good Intent Calls (5,467). There were 3,954 Fire calls and total fire dollar loss was \$44,911,977. This is a slight increase from 2019 loss of \$43,381,735.



Casualty Summary	Civilian 2020	Fire Service 2020
Fire related injuries	43	25
Non-fire related injuries	68	131
Fire related deaths	18	0
Non-fire related deaths	19	0



Number of Fire Inspectors for 2020	734
Number of Public Buildings & Places of Employment	35,536
Number of Inspections Conducted	51,018
Number of Violations Recorded	17,204
Number of Violations Corrected	10,892

District 4

Steve Komar currently serves as Fire Prevention Coordinator in District 4. He has worked most of his career in the Pewaukee and Waukesha fire departments as a firefighter, fire inspector, fire investigator and public education coordinator. Steve holds 5 Wisconsin state licenses, 4 of them as an inspector in Commercial Buildings, UDC Construction, UDC HVAC, and Tank Systems, and he is also a Wisconsin Emergency Medical Technician. Steve has an Associate Degree in Fire Protection Technician and has completed multiple classes and training activities at the state and national levels.



In his free time he enjoys spending time with family, deer hunting at his cabin, ice fishing and watching Wisconsin's sports teams. Steve can be reached at (608) 575-0179 or Steven.Komar@wisconsin.gov.



District 4 Statistics

District 4 is in central to southeastern Wisconsin. There are 207 fire departments in the district, including 24 Career, 59 Combination, 111 Volunteer, 1 Federal fire department, and 2 Private fire brigades. District 4 had a total of 211,190 incidents and 16,875 invalid incidents in 2020. The largest number of calls were for Rescue/EMS 173,994. False Calls came in 2nd place with 16,973. District 4 had a total of 6,958 fires. Most reported were Structure fires (3,610). Total fire dollar loss for District 4 was \$106,655,056, a decrease from 2019 which had \$119,037,317.

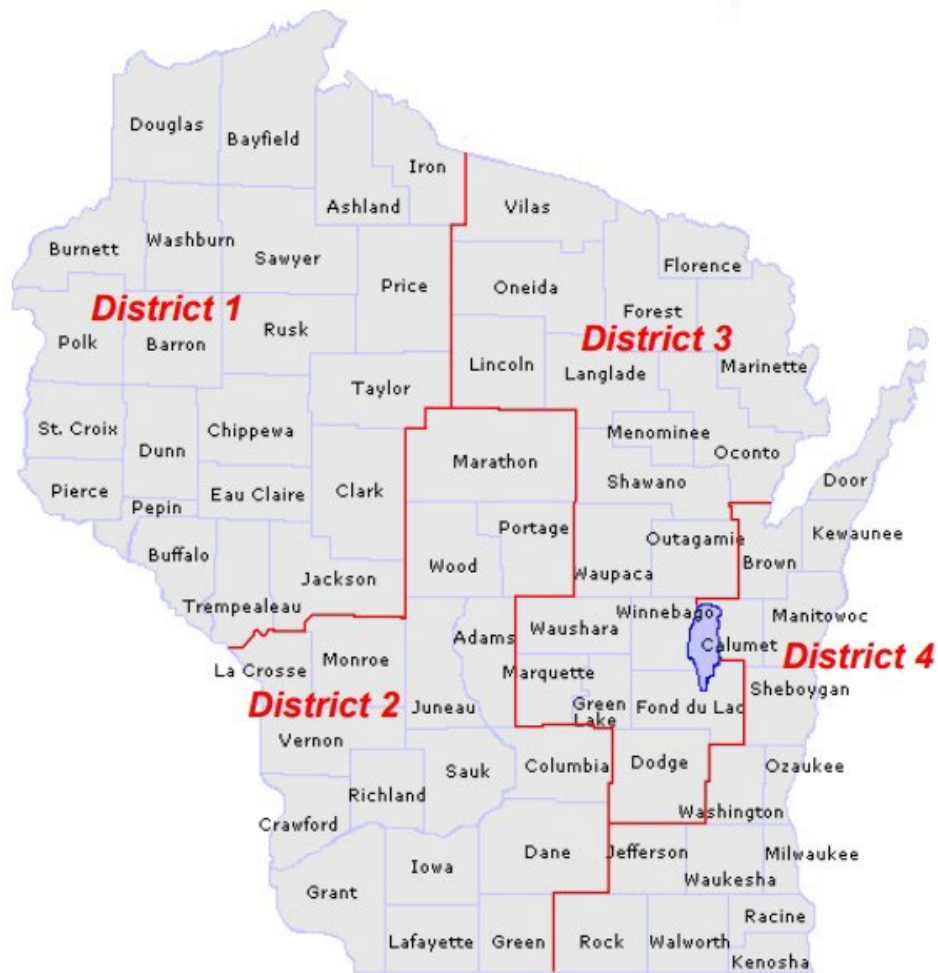
Casualty Summary	Civilian 2020	Fire Service 2020
Fire related injuries	53	51
Non-fire related injuries	21	362
Fire related deaths	11	0
Non-fire related deaths	4	0



Number of Fire Inspectors for 2020	628
Number of Public Buildings & Places of Employment	102,115
Number of Inspections Conducted	145,378
Number of Violations Recorded	61,449
Number of Violations Corrected	46,493



Fire Prevention District Map

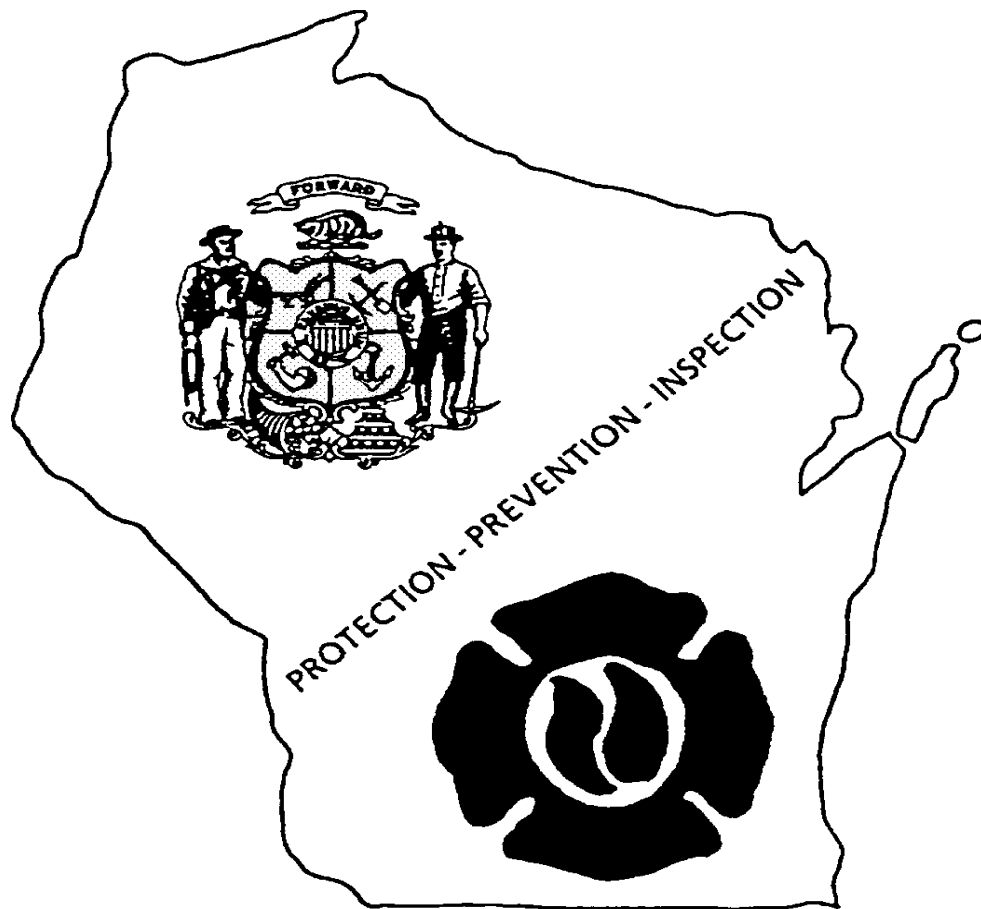


1 – Rick Sommerfeld	richard.sommerfeld@wisconsin.gov	715-944-4114
2 – April Hammond	April.hammond@wisconsin.gov	608-225-6593
3 – Gary Peck	gary.peck@wisconsin.gov	608-219-9470
4 – Steven Komar	steven.komar@wisconsin.gov	608-575-0179
Fire Dues and NFIRS – Sarah Brown	Sarah2.brown@wisconsin.gov	715-634-4013
Supervisor – Brad Johnson	bradley.johnson@wisconsin.gov	920-492-5605

Fire Department Training Pictures







Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services

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