

Neosho Fire Department 2014 Annual Report



It is the design of the department to serve the public to the best of our ability.

The mission of the department is to assist people through Prevention, Planning, Education, and Action. We pursue this mission with determination and resolve with emphases on Dedication, Compassion, and Constant Improvement.

Introduction

The Neosho Fire Department kept about as busy with calls in 2014 as we were in 2013. The mild winter, wet spring, mild summer and again a somewhat wet fall helped reduce the number of outside fires that had kept us so busy in years past. The fire department budget continued to improve allowing us to continue all aspects of service that we have provided in the past. It also allowed us to keep our staffing at a safe level and allowed us to perform station and apparatus maintenance that was much needed.

In 2014 the Neosho Fire Department responded to 1,856 calls for service. A break down of the call history, response by district, department training, and history of calls for service is provided later in this report.

I would like to say “Thank You” to the citizens that have continued to support the fire department. We have worked very hard at maintaining the high standards that the citizens of Neosho have come to expect. I would also like to say “Thank You” to the members of the department, their families and fellow City employees that have sacrificed their personal lives to assist residents and visitors to our community and our department.

Chief Mike Eads

Departmental facts

Fire Station 1
125 N. College St.
Neosho, Missouri 64850
Phone: 417-451-8021
Fax: 417-451-8027

Fire Station 2
501 Industrial Drive
Neosho Missouri 64850
Phone: 417-451-8030
Fax: 417-451-8047

Department e-mail: Fire Chief Mike Eads, meads@neoshomo.org
Administrative Assistant Mari Mallory, mmallory@neoshomo.org

Staffing-40 hour

Fire Chief
Administrative Assistant
Training Officer*(1)

Staffing-24 hr Shift

3 Battalion Chiefs
3 Captains
12 Engineers*(2)
6 Firefighters*(6)

Staffing-Paid-per-call

5 firefighters

Deputy Chief position was removed in 2011 and was not funded in 2013/2014 budget year.

**Fire Department Personnel Current staff
End of year 2014
(Year of Full Time Hire)**

Administrative Staffing (40 hr)

Chief Mike Eads (86)
Administrative Assistant Mari Mallory (99)
Training Officer/Firefighter Scott Maness (11)

A-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Brad Morris (92)
Capt. Adrian Hitchcock (02)
Eng. Bryan McCutcheon (01)
Eng. Beau Davis (05)
Eng. Derek Williams (05)
Eng. Dustin Wright (11)
FF Jacob Pim (11)
FF Cody Bunch (14)

B-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Jim Ledford (97)
Capt. Roy Haskett (02)
Eng. Mark Solomon (02)
Eng. Tim Duncan (02)
Eng. Ryan Bogle (05)
Eng. Heath Crowder (11)
FF Dakota Pendleton (14)
FF Josh Anderson (Jan. '15)

C-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Bret Smith (91)
Capt. Kyle Rogers (03)
Eng. Al Cervantes (95)
Eng. Wade Sterling (04)
Eng. Luke Powell (12)
Eng. Travis Bracht (11)
FF Jacob Guernsey (13)
FF Andy Fournell (14)

Paid-per-Call

Firefighter Gregg Lee (77)
Firefighter Steffen Wiest (11)
Firefighter Derek Lawrence (11)
Firefighter Phillip Doke (13)
Firefighter Hershel Macy (13)
Firefighter Eric Brodie (14)*

***(Up one from 2013)**



The Fire Service is a noble calling, one which is founded on mutual respect and trust between firefighters and the citizens they serve. To ensure the continuing integrity of the Fire Service, the highest standards of ethical conduct must be maintained at all times.

Response area of the department is approximately 93 square miles, which includes:

City of Neosho (15.75 Sq. Miles)
District A-Inside City limit, north of South Street
District B-Inside City limit, south of South Street

Neosho Area Fire Protection District
District C-Area outside City of Neosho (77.25 Sq. Miles)
Limits: Iris Road on the north, Goldfinch on the west, AA Highway on the south, Panda Road on the east. District lines follow section lines where no roads are located.

Mutual Aid (M/A)

Assistance requested from and provided to all local fire or other agencies that request personnel, equipment, or special assistance from the fire department. Department also participates in the State Wide Mutual Aid assistance program when requested if resources and personnel are available.

Equipment Operated by the Fire Department: (year of vehicle)

City:	District:
2 Engines (2013 & 1999)	2 Engines (2009 & 1995)
1 Reserve Engine (1987)	1 Reserve Engine (1997)
1 Aerial-75 Ft. (1996)	2 Tankers (1999 & 2000)
1 Light rescue (2008)	3 Brush trucks (2001, 2006, 2009)
4 Service units-pickup trucks, & Air Unit (2001, 2001, 2005, 2005)	1 Light rescue (2005)
1 Command vehicle-Staff (2006)	1 Command vehicle (Chief) (2009)
1 Educational trailer (CARE)	1 Flatbed trailer
1 Radio/Rehab vehicle (1992)	1 Tanker (2009) Build in process

County Supplied Vehicle (2001)-Air Unit 1 is a Mobile Air Supply unit purchased through a joint agreement of the Newton County Fire Departments and Newton County Commission. (Pickup used to supply breathing air for firefighters during emergencies.) Area departments share cost of operations of this equipment.

Homeland Security Equipment operated by fire department- In September 2008, the City of Neosho Opted out of this program due to funding available to support the program. In January 2010, we closed out funding from Missouri's Homeland Security Regional Response System (HSRRS) program funds. Teams retained all equipment received through the program. Unencumbered funds were reallocated to the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee. Team was comprised of members of the Neosho Police (Law Enforcement), Neosho Fire (Haz-mat), and Newton County Ambulance District (Medical). Equipment has been used to support local and mutual aid operations when requested or Regional or State Responses when called for.

Primary mission of the Neosho Haz-Mat Team was to support other Regional and State teams during times of emergency.

Equipment listed consists of Hazardous materials and Decontamination Equipment used by the Neosho Fire Department HSRRS.

3-Prime equipment Movers (F250, F-550, and Bobcat loader)

1-28 foot Cargo Trailer-Hazardous Materials Equipment

1-20 foot Cargo Trailer-Equipment Mover

1-16 foot Flatbed Trailer-Equipment Mover

4-ATV's with Trailers and Carts-Equipment Movers

Assorted logistical support equipment (Sheltering tents, generators, heating system, etc).

Neosho Police and Newton County Ambulance District also received specialized equipment through the program.

Equipment issued to and purchased for the team through the Homeland Security Program was in excess of \$410,000.

Vehicle Maintenance and Service

Due to the nature of the services the fire department provides, the task of proper operation and maintenance of all equipment is of utmost importance. The maintenance programs of the department consist of daily, weekly, monthly, six-month and annual service. Records are maintained on all apparatus and motorized equipment. Minor service and repairs, such as oil changes, adjustments to vehicles, and equipment are performed by duty personnel or individuals within the department that have been factory trained in maintenance procedures on specific equipment. These would include major repairs, computerized diagnostics on apparatus engines and electrical equipment, air sampling and service of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and their air cylinders. Our annual ISO testing of pumpers, SCBA's, aerial, and ground ladders are performed by an outside vendor since the department does not have proper equipment for these types of testing. NFPA recommends an outside testing source as well. We do attempt to schedule and offer these testing requirements to other departments within our area to help with reducing the cost to all departments for these services.

We also rely on the public works maintenance shop and personnel. Allowing the fire department to use the shop and pit area to perform maintenance has greatly helped our personnel. Shop personnel have also helped and or provided support in areas that we needed assistant with maintenance and repair of our apparatus.

Fire Department Response Information

Calls by District

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
District A (748) =40.30%		46.24%	45.26%	42.09%	45.75%
District B (483) =26.02%		25.96%	24.94%	27.17%	25.15%
District C (550) =29.63%		24.30%	26.27%	25.94%	25.49%
Mutual Aid (75) =4.04%		3.48%	3.52%	4.80%	3.60%

5 year average for Calls by District

City-District A 43.93% City-District B 25.85% District C: 26.33% Mutual Aid: 4.70%

Yearly Average Response Time for the First Arriving Unit (from receiving alarm to arrival) (Fire calls only) (In minutes) (Times are from Station to call)

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
City: District A	5.35	5.32	5.12	5.24	4.34
District B	7.12	6.48	4.30	6.00	6.00
District C:	9.30	8.11	10.12	10.03	8.41

5 year average for first arriving unit

City-District A 5.07 City-District B 5.98 District C: 9.19

Yearly Average Response Time for the Second Arriving Unit (from receiving alarm to arrival) (Fire calls only)

	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
City: District A	7.16	6.30	6.26	6.52	5.16
District B	7.12	7.48	5.36	6.00	7.00
District C:	10.27	9.18	10.49	10.41	10.39

5 year average for second arriving unit

City-District A 6.28 City-District B 6.59 District C: 10.15

Factors that can effect response times are location of call, travel routes, traffic, overlapping or multiple calls, calls outside the district areas (Example: Dist. Apparatus responding to Dist. B area or Dist. B responding to Dist. A area) and Dispatching of call.

Insurance Services Organization criteria say that a build-upon area of a community should have a first-due engine company within 1.5 road miles of the protected properties and a ladder-service company within 2.5 miles. This benchmark criterion produces an expected response time of 3.2 minutes for an engine company and 4.9 minutes for a ladder-service company, based on a formula developed by the RAND Corporation. During our last evaluation ISO awarded 2.28% of a possible 4% for Distribution of Companies.

**Man-hours by District (Man-hours=number of personnel responding X length of call)
(From receiving alarm till apparatus and equipment are returned to service) (All call types)**

District A (Calls for service-748)	1,330.68 man hours
District B (Calls for service-483)	828.41 man hours
District C (Calls for service-550)	2,128.14 man hours
Mutual Aid (Outside City and District 75 calls for service)	292.70 man hours

Average Response Turnout (Personnel On-scene of working structure fires only)

District A (Incidents-17)	Average turn out per incident-9
District B (Incidents-5)	Average turn out per incident -9
District C (Incidents-19)	Average turn out per incident-9
ISO recommends 10 personnel for structure alarms	

5 year average turn out per incident

City-District A	9	City-District B	9	District C	9
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Major structure incidents, with over \$5,000 fire department estimated loss:

January	City-508 E. McKinney St-\$5,500
March	District-17239 Locust Rd-\$35,000
	District-822 E. Spring St-\$205,000
	District-15526 Panda Rd-\$45,000
	District-17945 Hwy D-\$5,200
June	District-18389 E. Hwy 86-\$6,000
July	City-225 N. Washington St-\$155,000
	City-636 Stephens St-\$45,000
August	City-432 Ravenwood Cir-\$35,000
	City-429 Baxter St-\$20,000
September	District-10784 Otter Dr-\$45,000
	District-10580 Gateway Dr-\$43,000
	City-4300 Price Dr-\$9,000
November	District-17895 Kentucky Rd-\$10,000
December	District-12950 Prospect Ln-\$95,000
	City-1205 Ozark Dr-\$22,000

We responded to 62 calls for service that were logged as a fire (Structure, vehicle, etc.) and of that number we had an estimated dollar loss amount of \$981,257. This number reflects all calls where there was a reported loss of any amount. (Estimates for dollar loss are just an estimate from fire personnel on scene and do not reflect the actual dollar loss by the Insurance Company or Home Owner)

Fire related injuries or deaths (Civilian or Fire Personnel)

0-Civilian deaths in the City or District

0-Civilian injury in the City or District

0-Fire personnel deaths in the City or District

0-Fire personnel injury in the City or District

Fire Department Manning/Personnel:

During our last ISO review in 1999, manning consisted of 22 fulltime personnel, (21 Firefighters): 2 Chief Officers, 1 Fire Inspector, 3 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 12 Engineers and 1 civilian (Admin. Assist.). At that time the department had 8 paid-per-call Firefighters.

ISO-ISO awards credit for the total number of members' on-duty: staffing is taken as a yearly average considering vacations, sick leave, and other absences. ISO gives credit for off-duty paid members and paid-per-call members responding on first alarms. At that time our department received 3.27 points of a possible 15 points for company personnel and minimum manning was five on-duty personnel. Credit for off-duty and paid-per-call personnel only counts 3 for every 1 on-duty. If we had 6 personnel off duty or paid-on-call personnel show up for a call we would receive credit for 2 personnel per ISO. There are several areas that ISO looks at on top of personnel. They are equipment such as fire department apparatus numbers, pumping capabilities, training, distances from fire stations, water system capabilities, roads and dispatching.

A ¼ cent Sales Tax was passed in 2001 and with that the department was able to hire 6 fulltime firefighters and 1 full time Training Officer. The tax was estimated to support the purchasing of new fire apparatus, an additional 3 full time firefighters and the future building of additional fire stations. The tax generated enough only to hire the 7 personnel mentioned above, still 3 personnel short along with new apparatus and future additional fire stations left unfunded per our last ISO rating in 1999.

1999 Personnel Levels	2004 Personnel Levels	2014 Personnel Levels
2 Chief Officers*	2 Chief Officers**	1 Chief Officer***
1 Admin. Assist.	1 Admin. Assist.	1 Admin. Assist.
1 Fire Inspector*	1 Sec.	1 Trng. Officer/Inspect.***
3 Captains*	1 Building Inspector**	3 Bat. Chiefs***
3 Lieutenants*	1 Training Officer**	3 Captains***
12 Engineers*	3 Captains**	12 Engineers***
8 Paid per call Firefighters	3 Lieutenants**	6 Firefighters***
	12 Engineers**	6 Paid per call Firefighters
	6 Firefighters**	
	8 Paid per call Firefighters	
21 Fulltime Firefighters*	28 Fulltime Firefighters**	26 Fulltime Firefighters***
8 PPC Firefighters	8 PPC Firefighters	6 PPC Firefighters
2 Stations	2 Stations	2 Stations

The numbers above show our staff levels since 1999, our last ISO visit. ISO made several recommendations to the city, those being; water line improvements, dispatching improvements, road improvements, additional fire personnel, additional apparatus and additional stations. Since then some areas have seen improvements, those are: water lines, dispatching, road and some additional fire personnel. We are still behind in those recommendations with that being fire personnel, apparatus and additional stations.

It comes down to the better the service we can provide to the homeowner, the cheaper their insurance rates can be. For every 1 point drop in the ISO rating we can achieve, the homeowner could see a \$100 to \$200 drop in their homeowners insurance. Currently the city has a “5” rating and the district has a “9” rating.

We continue to work and improve all areas so we can improve our ISO score. Areas of improvement would be the water line projects in and around the City, increased number of hours of training for personnel and better record keeping of same, increased number of personnel, improvements to the communications system and inspections of businesses and industry. Replacing older apparatus as budget allows. All of these improvements were noted as defiance’s during our last ISO visit. Two areas of concern that could hamper our efforts at receiving a lower rating for insurance that were noted during our last visit was the recommendation for additional fire stations and personnel to man them in areas of the City outside the 1.5 mile radius of the existing stations. The City funds have not allowed that type of growth for us. To cover those areas, we would be looking at 2 to 3 additional stations and or the moving of the existing stations to cover the City properly plus the manpower for those stations. For each station we would need 12 personnel. (4 per shift-3 shifts) This allows for one off at a time, vacation, sick, special assignment, etc. These concerns have been noted in the past and are part of the long range plan of the fire department, again as funds allow all areas are addressed when possible.



2014 in Review:

Surplus Ambulance-A request was made to the Missouri Department of Conservation through their vehicle and equipment surplus program for a radio/command/rehab vehicle. A 1992 Ford ambulance was received. This vehicle is on loan from the surplus program and ours to use as long as needed. Our only cost is for insurance and maintenance. This vehicle will be used between fire, police and public works as needed. All three departments have contributed to the cost of the maintenance and set up of the vehicle. It is truly a joint effort between departments and goes to show how well we strive to work together to provide service to the community as cost effective as possible.

Tri-State Fire Recruitment Alliance-This program allows individuals interested in the fire service to test only one time per year for all departments participating in the program. There are currently seventeen fire departments participating in the program. This allows us to have a set standard for testing and a hiring list when or if the need arises to hire personnel.

Annual Pump Testing-Annual testing of all apparatus pumps. All city apparatus passed testing with the exception of Engine 7. The pump failed the vacuum/Suction test. The cost of repairing vs. value of the apparatus is not cost prohibitive at this time. (Factors are: Cost to rebuild or replace-pump, motor, transmission, piping, valves plus the cab does not meet NFPA standards with it being a open cab configuration)

Annual Ladder Testing-Annual testing of all ladders. No problems found this year.

Annual SCBA Testing-All self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) where tested. Some minor issues were found and corrected.

Community Events-Personnel assisted with several organizations for fund raising and community assistance programs. Children's Miracle Network, Newton County Fire Chiefs Christmas for Kids, Shop with a Cop, Food Basket Brigade, Neosho Christmas Parade, Neosho School System events, Newton County Relay for Life, Fourth of July activities, numerous other city and chamber events and filled numerous dunk tanks.

Neosho Area Fire Protection District- The district continues to work with supporting the fire department. One area that is being looked at is the ISO rating in the district and what improvements need to be made to help lower the ISO rating. The new water line down Kodiak Road should impact some citizens in the district on the west side of town. Also, the District Board has approved the building of a fire station. This new station will be located on Highway 86, west of Interstate 49. Their plan is to have the station open in 2015. The location site would help with response times in the northwest portion of the district but also could help within the Northwest portion of town. At this time it would be an unmanned station. It will have living quarters, two bedrooms (2 beds each), two baths, living room, kitchen and work station area. One bathroom will act as a storm shelter. (Concrete encased), space for 3 vehicles and storage. A pumper, tanker and brush truck will be placed at the station. The vehicles are currently at Station 1 which will free up some much needed space.

Fire Training-Personnel participated in 5,240.25 hours of in-house and outside department training. That breaks down to 158.80 hours of training per individual.

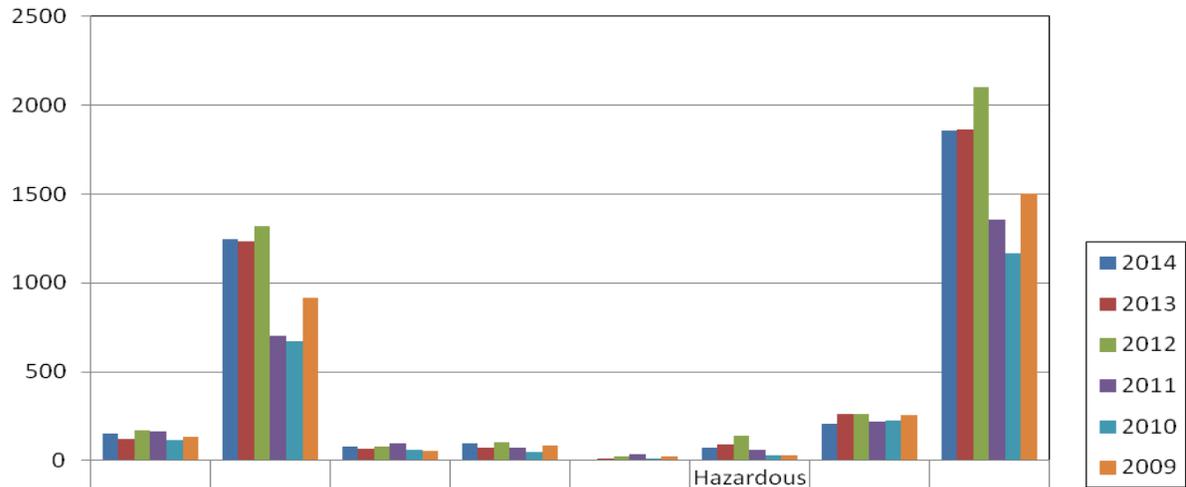
Community Training-12.5 hours of public education was performed during the year, that consisted of extinguisher training, school fire prevention programs, fire safety talks for businesses, industry and the public.

Inspections- 361 inspections were performed during the year, those include Business/Company/Industry, new construction, remodels, tent, fireworks, and burn permits. An additional 65 re-inspections were performed to follow up on questions and or concerns brought up from the first inspection.

Firefighter Training-We continue to train all Firefighters to be Engineers so we have the flexibility to have enough operators of the apparatus to respond to structure fires. These changes will give us more flexibility in our operations and what we can offer.

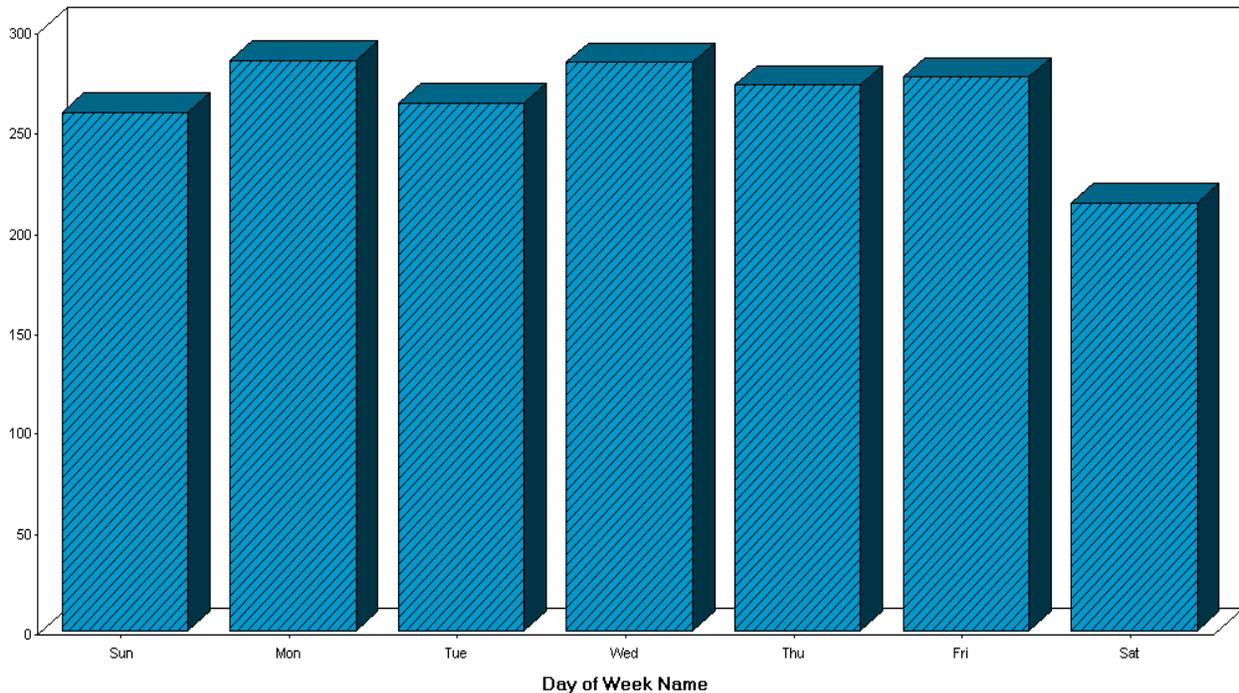
Open House-Our open house was a great success. This was our second year to hold the open house during the City Fall Festival. The Chili cook-off went over very well again this year. The competition was opened up to other agencies, police, sheriffs, fire, public works and ambulance. This year the 3 shifts from the fire department and one shift from the police department competed. A-Shift won the chili completion this year. All chili was good and none went to waste.

Call Numbers 2009-2014

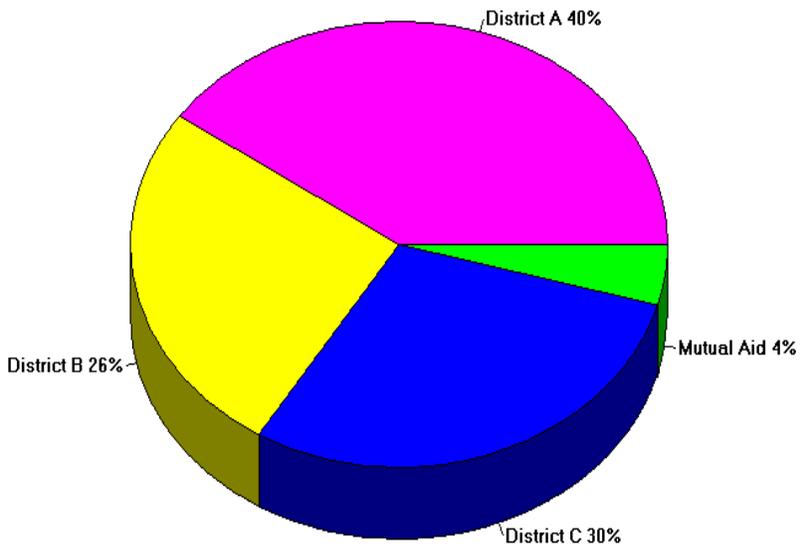


	Fires	Rescue/E MS	FALSE	Mutual Aid	Haz-Mat	Hazardous Response	Others	Total
2014	150	1246	81	96	6	72	205	1856
2013	119	1235	69	74	12	90	265	1864
2012	171	1319	77	106	22	141	265	2101
2011	166	702	99	75	34	60	218	1354
2010	115	671	63	50	11	29	226	1165
2009	134	915	52	86	25	32	257	1501

Incident Responses by Day of Week
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2014} And {12/31/2014}



Incidents by District (Modified)
 Alarm Date Between {01/01/2014} And {12/31/2014} and District In "A" "B" "C" "MA"



Fire vs EMS by Month
 Fire Alarm Date Between {01/01/2014} And {12/31/2014}
 EMS Alarm Date Between {01/01/2014} And {12/31/2014} and Type of Service Requested Between "1" And "1"

