

2020 Annual Report



O'Fallon Fire Protection District

Fire Chief Tom Vineyard

111 Laura K Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
636-272-3493

www.ofallonfire.org



Center for
Public Safety
Excellence

Accredited Since 2007

Table of Contents

Letter from the Chief:.....	2
District Governing Body	3
Staffing	4
2020 O'Fallon Fire Protection District Staff	5
District Facilities and Equipment.....	6
District Finances.....	8
Financial Trends.....	9
Fire Prevention Permits.....	10
Fire Prevention Inspections.....	11
Public Relations/Education and Programs	12
Training	13
Incident Type Summary	14
District Response Zones.....	15
Calls by Response Zone	16
90% Response Times by Zone	17
Incidents by Month/Day/Hour	18
Unit Responses.....	19
Mutual Aid Detail	20
Fire Loss/Save Analysis.....	21
Fire Investigation Report.....	22

Letter from the Chief:

Dear Citizens:

I am proud to be serving as Chief of your O'Fallon Fire Protection District. The district is moving forward in a positive manner and I look forward to the exciting opportunities we have in front of us.

This past year has been a very difficult year for our community as well as the district due to COVID 19. Through the pandemic we saw many members of our community struggle to make ends meet. We also realize the economic impact the pandemic has had on many businesses in our community. As things get back to a somewhat sense of normality, it is our hope that the members of our great community and business leaders will recover from this terrible pandemic.

The district was also greatly impacted by the pandemic. We had many of our members struck by the virus, fortunately they have all made a complete recovery and have returned to full duty. District leadership quickly realized the potential impact of the virus and took immediate measures to ensure the safety of our first responders and those we serve. Unfortunately, this meant the suspension of all community relation activities. While the district was hit hard by the pandemic, I am proud to say, due to the dedication of our firefighters and staff, there was never a gap in service delivery at any time.

The district has resumed serving the community in non-emergent ways, such as providing car seat installations, community education, installing smoke alarms and replacing batteries, free CPR classes for district residents, first aid training, and a variety of other community-oriented programs. We also have the O'Fallon Firefighter Community Outreach program that assists district residents in their time of need.

I am honored to lead the dedicated men and women of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, who train hard and work hard. They are well prepared to respond to the call of duty when the bell rings for them to do their jobs. I can assure you, our taxpayers, that with our leadership and attitude, we are and will continue to be fiscally responsible and transparent in all transactions to ensure proper oversight. We are mindful about limiting spending and living within our means while still providing the highest level of emergency services.

I welcome constructive input from all parties, so we can meet and exceed our goals of making the O'Fallon Fire Protection District the best in the region. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your concerns, questions or comments,

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Vineyard, Fire Chief
O'Fallon Fire Protection District
tvineyard@ofallonfire.org



District Governing Body



Pictured from left to right:

Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido, Treasurer Matt Gober, Chairman Bill Laughlin, Secretary Matt Simmons, Fire Chief Tom Vineyard, Attorney Neil Bruntrager

Staffing

The O'Fallon Fire Protection District suffered a great loss in January with the passing of Battalion Chief Mel Emge. Mel joined the department as a volunteer firefighter in July of 1976 and served as a volunteer for 21 years alongside his father Dennis, and wife Mary. He began his paid career in 1997 as a firefighter, promoted to career captain in 1999 before being promoted to battalion chief for A-Shift in 2001.

Mel will always be remembered for his 44 years of dedicated service to the community and to the district as a leader and mentor to many. He served as an instructor for the St. Charles County Fire Academy for most of his career, and was active on many of the fire department's committees.



Matt Braile was promoted to Battalion Chief in June
Matt has served the district since 2001



Kevin Davis was promoted to Captain in June
Kevin has served the district since 1988



Firefighter/Paramedic Allison Adams



Firefighter/Paramedic Chad Ham

The district hired two new firefighter/paramedics in 2020. Allison joined the department in January, and Chad in February. The district welcomes their skills and looks forward to their successful careers with O'Fallon Fire Protection District.

2020 O'Fallon Fire Protection District Staff		
Board of Directors		
Bill Laughlin - Chairman	Matt Gober - Treasurer	Matt Simmons - Secretary
Administrative Division		
Fire Chief		
Tom Vineyard		
Administrative Assistant	Assistant Chiefs	Accounting/HR Clerk
Karen Lucido	Ken Vomund Brian Moore	Julie Meyer Katie Ennis
Fire Prevention Division		
Fire Inspector	Fire Marshal	Fire Inspector
Kaylee Ellison	Mark Morrison	Ed Engel
Suppression Division		
A-Shift	B-Shift	C-Shift
Battalion Chief Matt Braile	Battalion Chief Rick Miller	Battalion Chief Andy Parrish
Station 1	Station 1	Station 1
Captain Mike Alcorn Engineer Kern Swafford Engineer Darrell Daly Engineer Steve Wilson Firefighter Justin Tichy	Captain Darren Daly Engineer Russ Hubert Engineer Shawn Sides Engineer Jewett Ellis Firefighter Trey Thomure	Captain Mary Emge Engineer Darwin Shepherd Engineer Adam Stenger Engineer Jon Blevins Firefighter Jeff Woodson
Station 3	Station 3	Station 3
Captain Gary McCutchen Engineer Ron Ormsby Engineer Kelly Ennis Firefighter Kyle Chadwell Firefighter Chad Ham	Captain Mark Ballmann Engineer Tom Vogelgesang Engineer Jeff Dennis Engineer Jim Castello Firefighter Paul McReynolds	Captain Tom Bollenbach Engineer George Toelke Engineer Mark Livingston Engineer Mike Paubel Firefighter Blake Koppel
Station 4	Station 4	Station 4
Captain Ed Kues Engineer Vernon King Engineer Darren Barton Engineer Jeff Smith Firefighter Brett Tichenor	Captain Bud Marchlewski Engineer Todd Yeager Engineer Brandon Stenger Firefighter Heather Gump Firefighter Kenny Gales	Captain Chris Jones Engineer Tim Janes Engineer Doug Ellis Engineer Matt Chapman Firefighter Alex Wetteroth
Station 5	Station 5	Station 5
Captain Eric Johnston Engineer Vic Sanders Engineer Dave O'Leary Firefighter Levi Ammons Firefighter Scott Wichern	Captain Chad Vesely Engineer Dave Koenig Engineer Mike Knipping Engineer Tim Porras Firefighter Alli Adams	Captain Kevin Davis Engineer Kory Dunn Engineer Elliot Thomas Engineer Sean Porter Firefighter Cody Willis
Volunteers and Reserve Members		
Neil Fredrick Rick Kunz Erwin Emge Bob Moore Scott Lewis	Paul Fowlie Gavin Purcell Dennis Ellis Terry Kieffer David (DJ) Markivee	Mark Lorince Doug Christ Joe Cahill Austin Vesely
Citizen's Planning Committee		
Pres. Dr. Ottomeyer Vice Pres. Jim Worman Kelly Rector Dave Buck	Jamie Cronk Joe Donahue Jim Frain Tony Graceffa	John Cook Teri Reiter Sister Michaleen Vomund

District Facilities and Equipment

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

111 Laura K Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
Purchased 2015

Home to Chief Officers, Fire Prevention,
Finance Dept., Support Staff and Board of Directors



ENGINE HOUSE 1

1200 North Main St.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
Construction Completed 2015

Engine House 1 Equipment:

2014 Pierce Rescue/Pumper 9114
2000 E-One Rescue/Pumper 9110
2004 Ford F-350 Brush Unit 9118
Inflatable Water Rescue Boat

ENGINE HOUSE 2 (Volunteer Station)

2300 St. Paul Rd.
O'Fallon, MO 63366

Engine House 2 Equipment:

2001 E-One Rescue/Pumper 9124
1941 GMC Volunteer Parade Truck



ENGINE HOUSE 3

600 Laura Hill Rd.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
Construction Completed 2001

Engine House 3 Equipment:

2012 Pierce Rescue/Pumper 9134
2007 International Rescue Squad 9136
2019 Chevy Suburban Unit 9106



ENGINE HOUSE 4

1306 Sunview Dr.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
Original Construction Completed 1997
Reconstruction Completed 2019

Engine House 4 Equipment:

2020 E-One Rescue/Ladder Truck 9142
2013 Pierce Tanker/Tender 9143
Training Facility
1927 Volunteer Parade Truck (First motorized fire truck for O'Fallon Volunteer Fire Department)



ENGINE HOUSE 5

7140 S. Outer 364
O'Fallon, MO 63368
Constructed 1997, Remodeled 2017

Engine House 5 Equipment:

2018 Pierce Rescue/Pumper 9154
2002 E-One Rescue/Pumper 9150
2003 Ford F-350 Brush Unit 9158



District Finances

The COVID pandemic had a significant impact on the district finances in 2020. In order to continue services uninterrupted, the district experienced unexpected manpower expenses due to quarantine, and the purchase of protective medical supplies and equipment.

The district began 2020 with an established general fund budget of \$13,632,524 in revenue and \$12,932,726 in expenses. The district received actual revenues in 2020 in the amount of \$13,967,791 (\$335,267 more than anticipated budget revenue) and paid out expenses of \$13,124,549 (\$191,823 over budget), resulting in a surplus of \$843,242.

Attached is the 2020 Revenue/Expense Breakdown:

GENERAL REVENUE	
Property taxes	\$13,555,876
Investment earnings	\$147,926
COVID-19 Stimulus	\$59,408
Charges for services (Permits and fees)	\$204,481
Operating grants/other income	\$100
TOTAL REVENUES	\$13,967,791

OPERATING EXPENSES	
Personnel - wages, taxes, benefits	\$9,112,376
Fire Prevention	\$17,319
Insurance	\$2,231,608
Information Systems	\$81,209
Office & Miscellaneous Supplies	\$726,937
Firefighter Equipment & Supplies	\$269,001
Training & Education	\$27,326
Professional Fees & Subscriptions	\$219,694
Communications – Dispatching, Telephone and Paging	\$52,589
Facility Maintenance	125,629
Equipment & Vehicle Maintenance	\$178,762
Fuel & Oil	\$28,010
Utilities	\$54,089
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,124,549

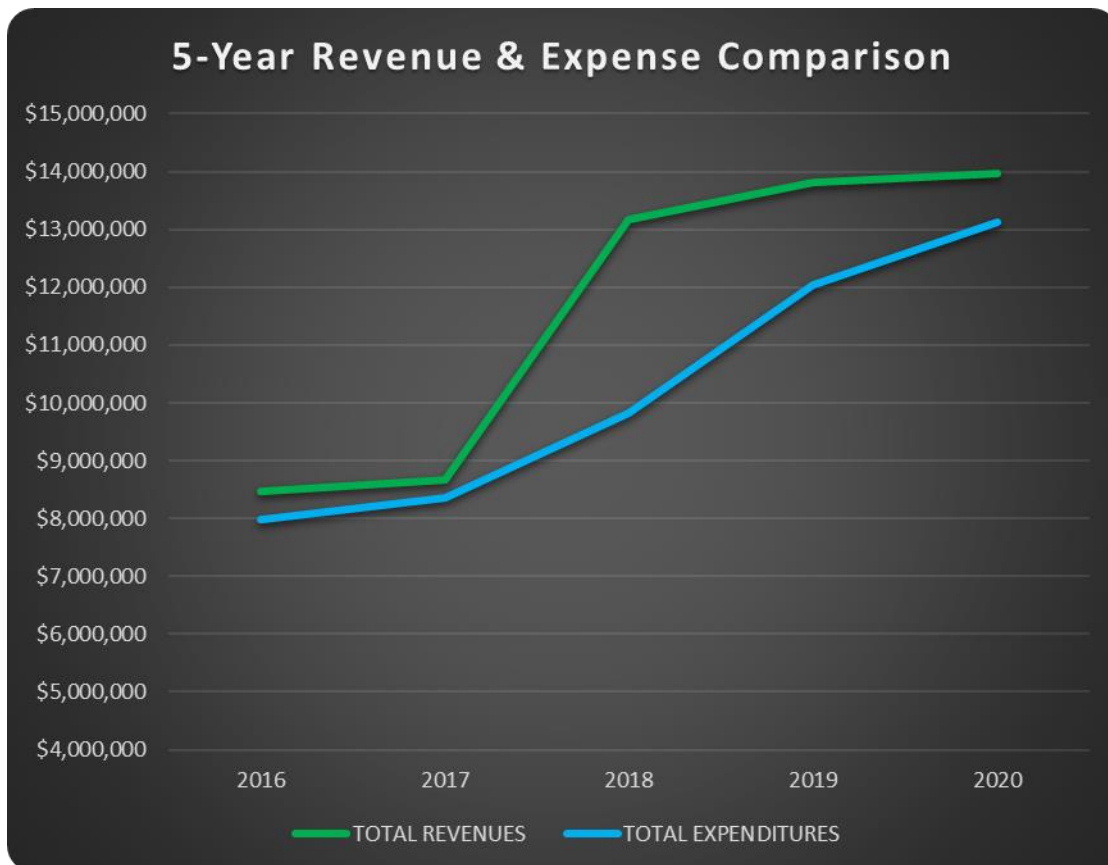
End of Year Surplus/(Debt)	\$843,242
-----------------------------------	------------------

Financial Trends

The O’Fallon Fire Protection District places a high priority on operating within its budget each year and has finished the year within the established operating budget for the last 5 years.

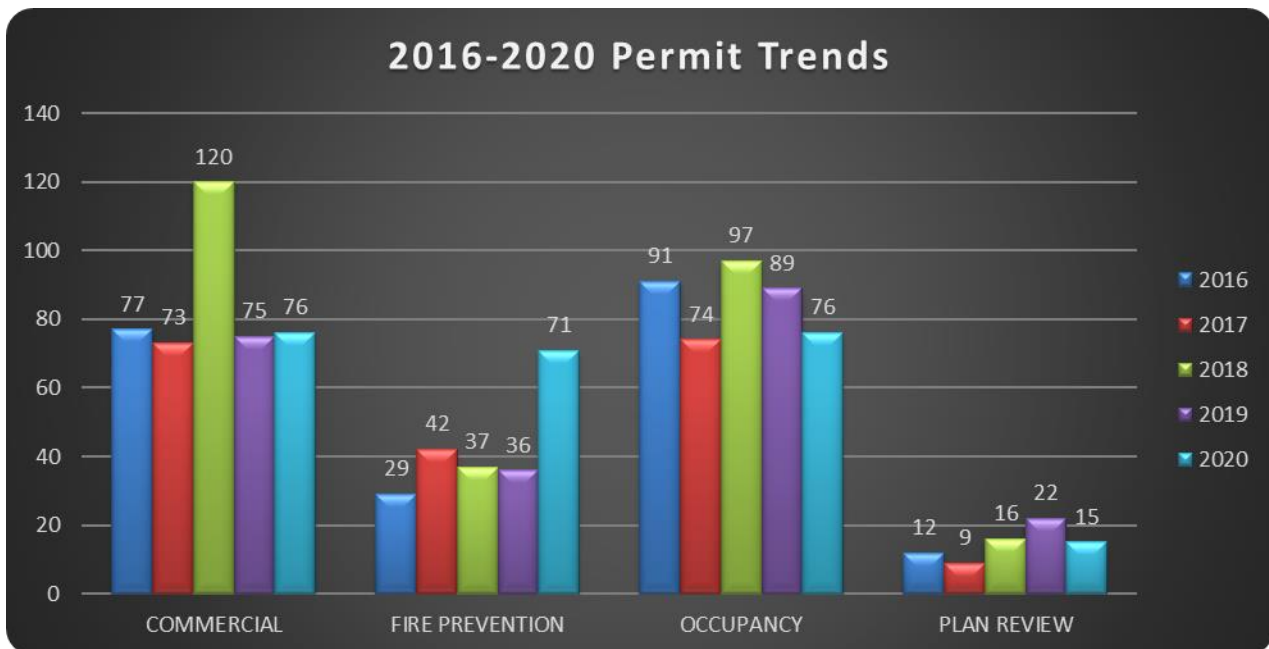
With the estimated replacement cost of Rescue/Engines nearing \$850,000 and the cost of an Aerial/Ladder Truck nearing \$1.3 million, the men and women of the district remain committed to a regimented maintenance program to ensure all apparatus and equipment are in proper operating condition when the need arises. The district has established an “operational life expectancy” of Rescue/Engines to last 15 years and Aerial/Ladder trucks to last 12 years.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Revenue	\$8,464,021	\$8,664,004	\$13,171,355	\$13,820,122	\$13,967,791
Expenses	\$7,985,652	\$8,357,270	\$9,826,412	\$12,045,019	\$13,124,549
Surplus/(Debt)	\$478,369	\$306,734	\$3,344,943	\$1,775,103	\$843,242



Fire Prevention Permits

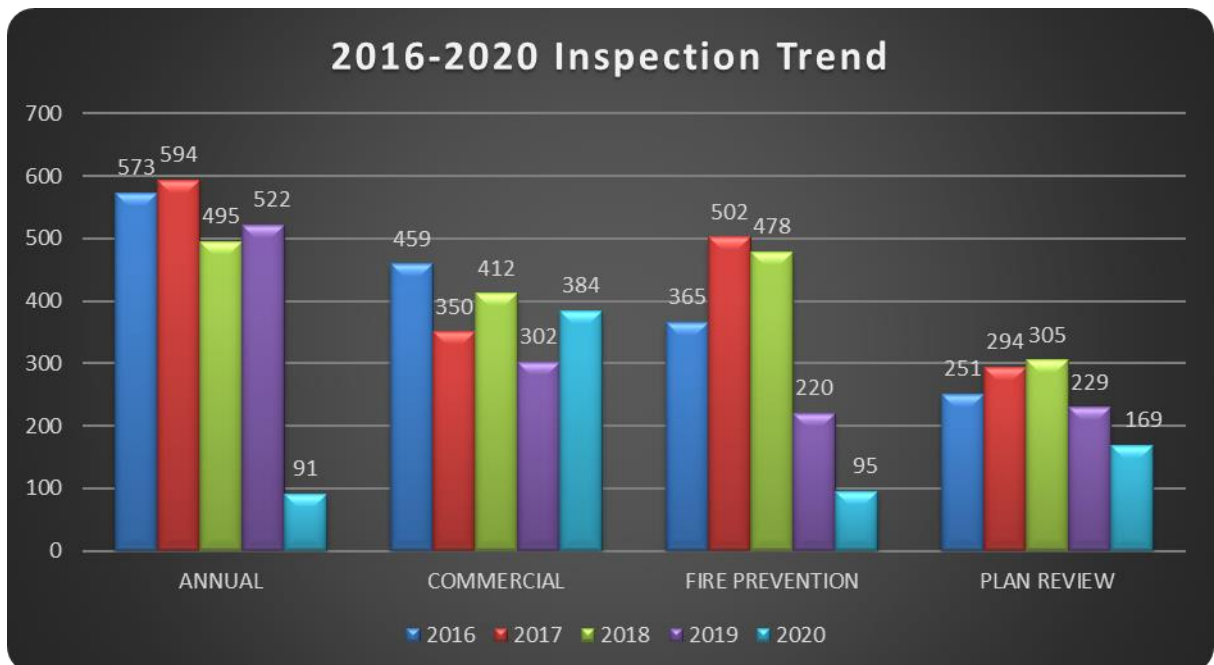
The Fire Prevention Division continues to issue permits for firework displays, new construction and renovations for commercial occupancies within the district. In 2020, the division issued 238 permits, an increase of approximately 7.2% from 2019 statistics. Following is a list of permits by month and a 5-year permit trend.



Fire Prevention Inspections

The Fire Prevention Division continues to perform inspections and plan reviews on commercial occupancies within the district. In 2020, the division completed 739 inspections. This is a decrease of approximately 42% from 2019. The restrictions from the COVID pandemic prevented the division from completing the majority of the Annual Inspections and Fire Prevention activities.

Following is a trend on inspections performed over the last 5 years. The “Fire Prevention” inspection category includes Meetings/Consultations, PR events, School Fire Drills, Fire Hydrant Testing/Inspections and Fireworks Stand Inspections.



Public Relations/Education and Programs

Fire Prevention Public Relations and Education

The COVID-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of all public relation and education activities for the year. This included the pictures with the Easter Bunny and Santa.

Child Safety Seat Check/Installations

The O'Fallon Fire Protection District continues to be the only fire agency in the area that offers the residents in our community to have their child safety seats checked and installed at all our manned engine houses. Child safety seat checks were temporarily suspended for the first three quarters of 2020. In 2020 fire personnel checked and/or installed 26 car seats. We request that you call ahead of time to schedule an appointment with the crews.

Smoke Detector Check and Battery Replacement Program

This program allows residents to have their batteries replaced in smoke detectors each year by fire crews. Generally, this is accomplished over one or two days with the crews going to residents that have signed up for the service through their homeowner's association. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program was suspended for the year.

Free Citizen CPR Training

In 2015, the men and women of the district began hosting free CPR classes for our residents. District instructors are certified through the American Heart Association. Classes are held once per month in the evening, and participants are issued a Heart Saver CPR-AED card through the American Heart Association that is valid for 2 years. Class Registration is required.

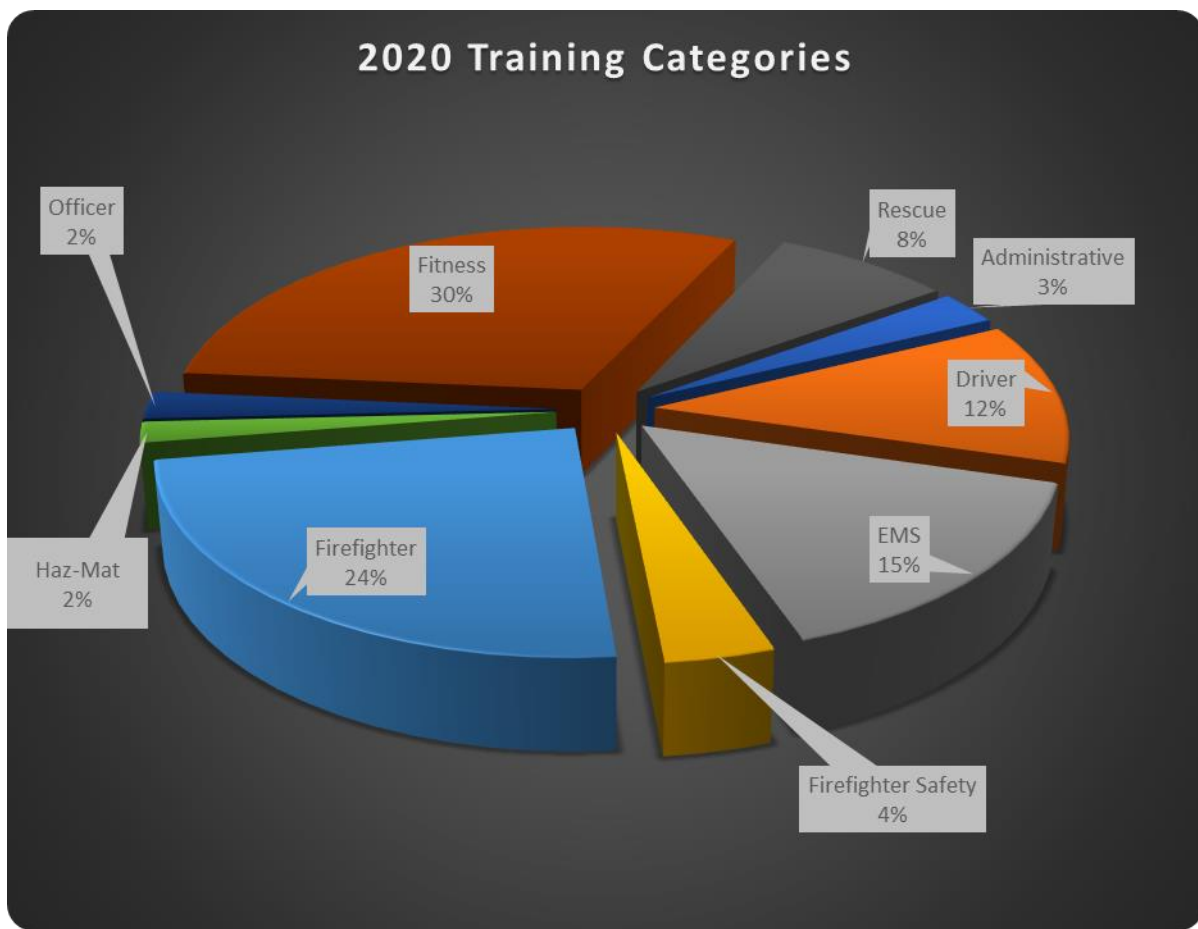
Participant registration forms can be downloaded from the district's website: www.ofallonfire.org or can be picked up at the Administrative Offices at 111 Laura K Dr. in O'Fallon. Due to the COVID pandemic, the CPR courses were suspended.

Information on these programs can be found on our website www.ofallonfire.org or by calling 636-272-3493.

Training

On average, each firefighter received approximately 175 hours of on-going training in 2020. Fire personnel participated in approximately 3,000 training classes totaling 10,040 hours of training for all personnel.

2020 Training Categories	
Subject	Hours
Administrative & Diversity Training	117
Driver Training	3,695
EMS Training	1,272
Firefighter Safety Training	138
Firefighter Training	2,194
Hazardous Materials Training	221
Officer Training	469
Physical Fitness	1,372
Rescue Training	564
Total Training Hours:	10,040



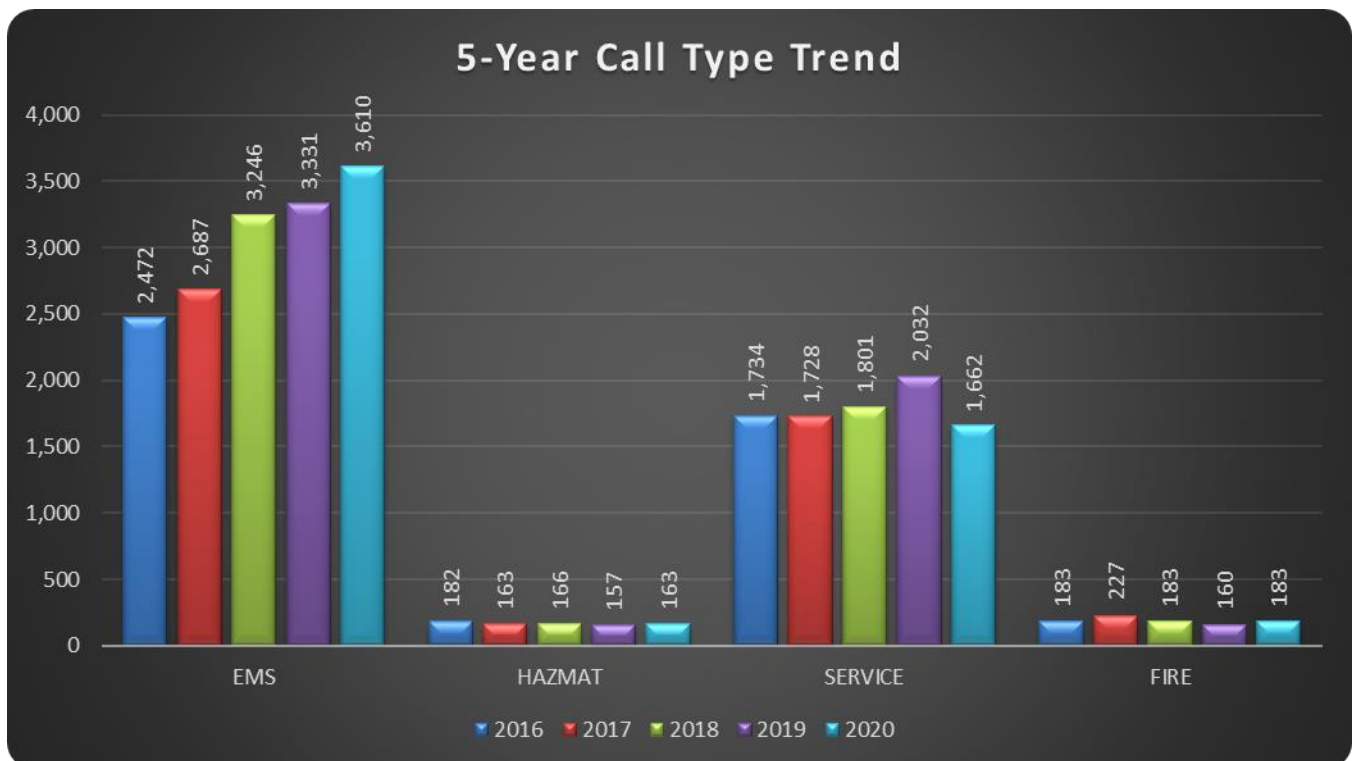
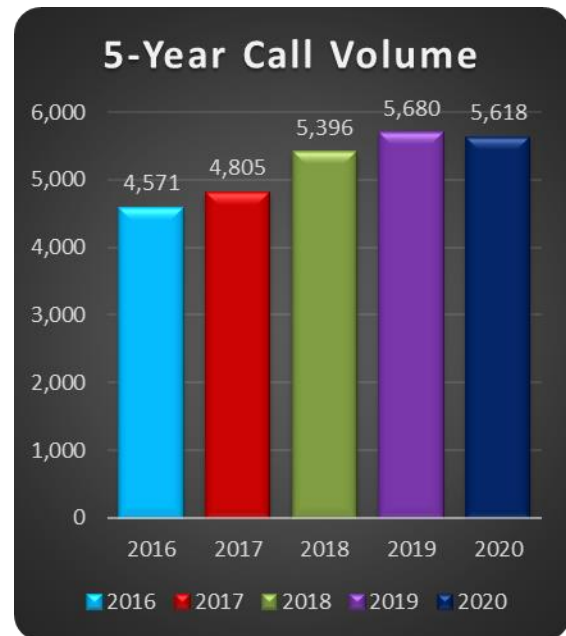
Incident Type Summary

The district uses the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) for categorizing incidents. In addition to fires and other calls for service, fire units also respond on medical calls with St. Charles County Ambulance District personnel. In many cases, fire units arrive ahead of County Ambulance units and initiate medical care to patients. Medical calls continue to account for most of the emergency responses at 58.5% of all responses.

In 2020, units responded to 5,232 calls for service. This includes responses to assist neighboring agencies as well as calls within our boundaries. EMS incidents accounted for 64.1% of responses.

The district utilizes data from incident reporting to establish potential trends and for appropriate placement of apparatus and equipment. The data is evaluated over 5-year periods.

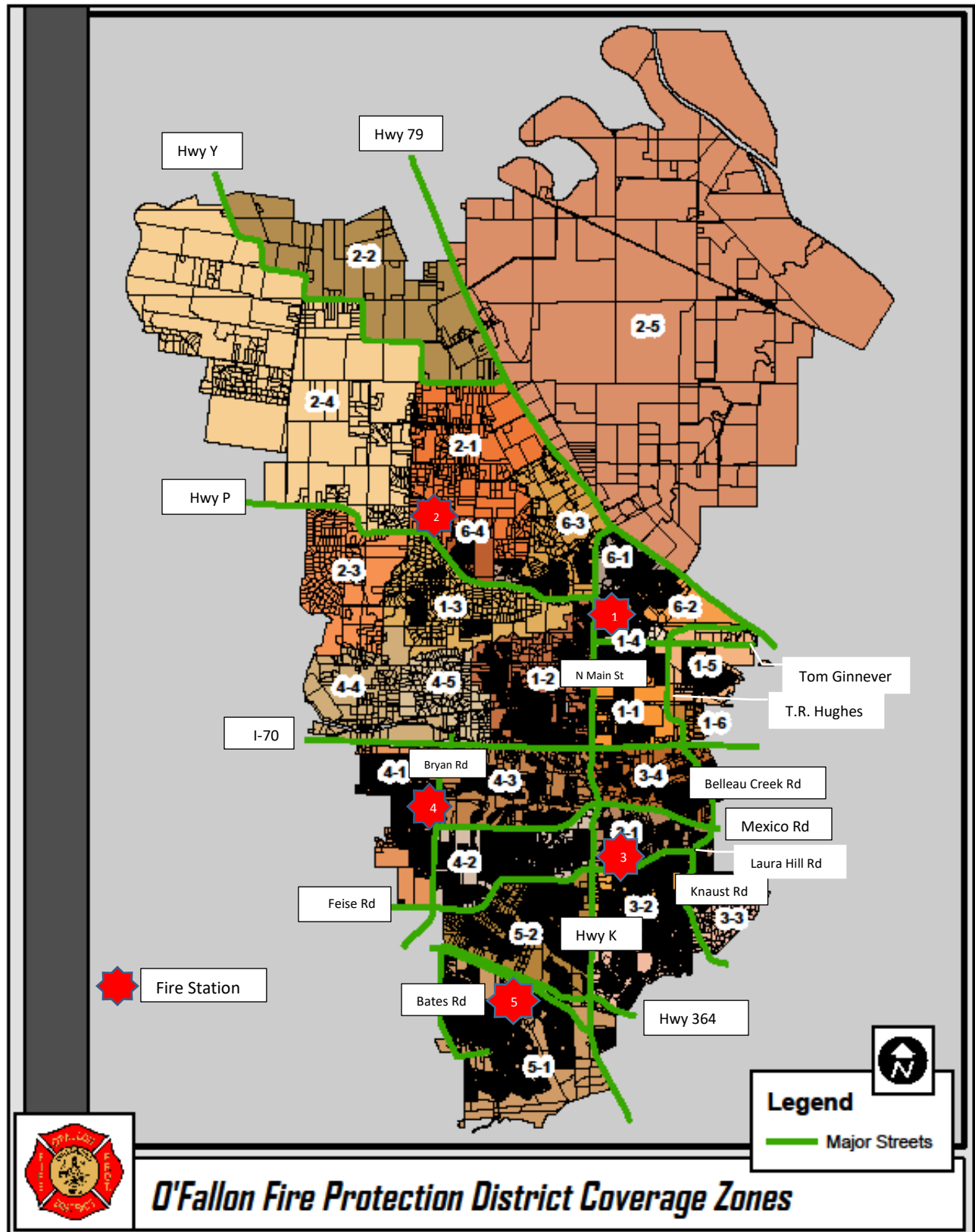
The district participated in the national survey on the affect COVID had on emergency responders. The survey was started in late March. Reporting officers responded to the questions on 2,220 EMS incidents from March through December with COVID being confirmed or suspected on 4.9% of incidents and undetermined on 63.5% of calls.



The “Service” call category includes weather related incidents, public and governmental agency assistance and non-fire hazardous conditions such as overheating, overpressure, electrical hazards and spills/leaks.

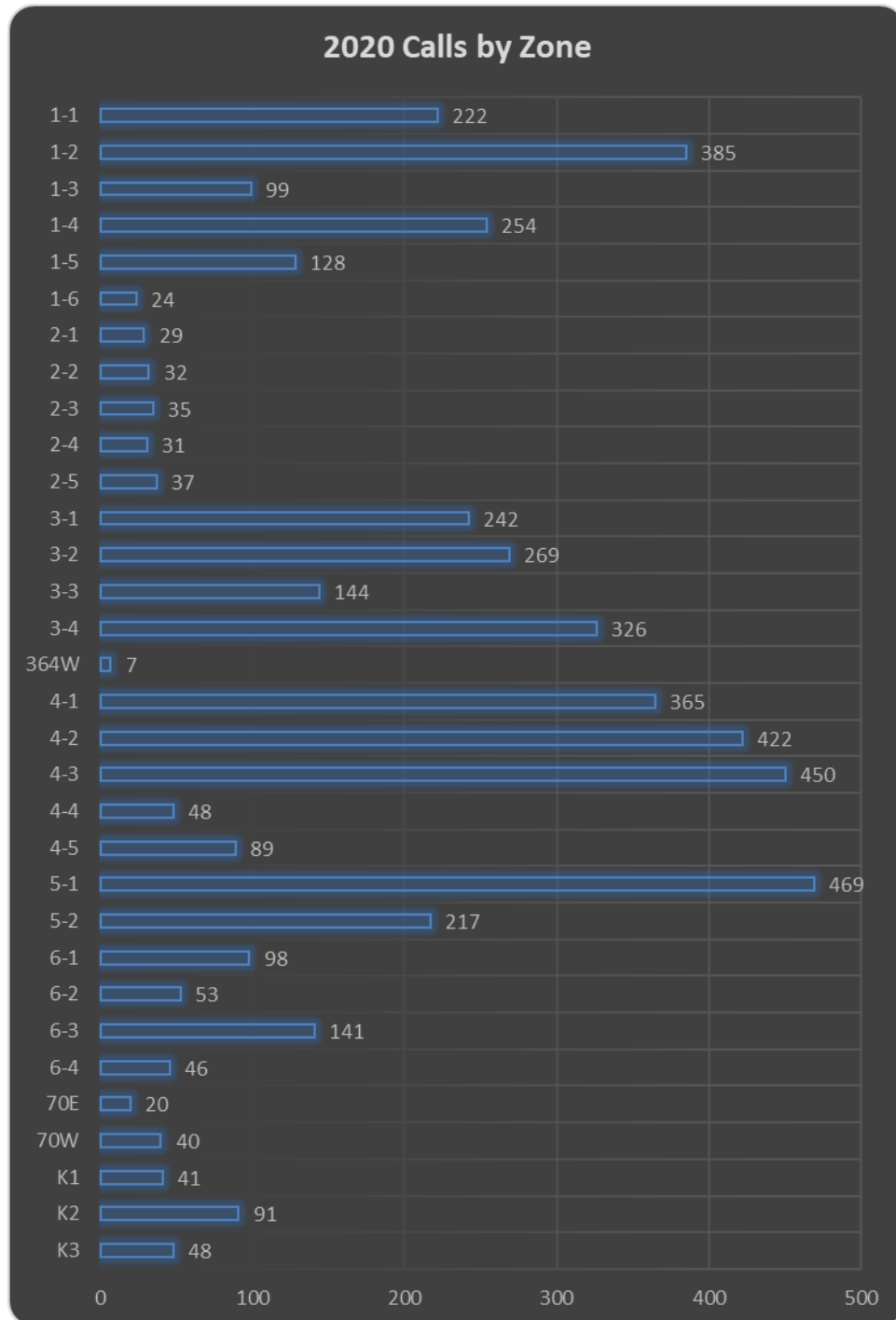
District Response Zones

The O'Fallon Fire Protection District is divided into 31 geographical response zones:



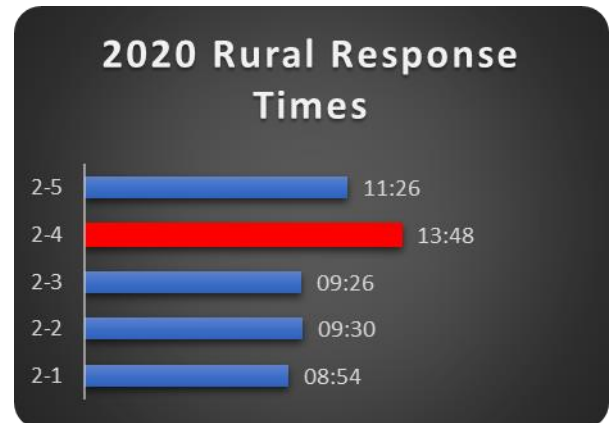
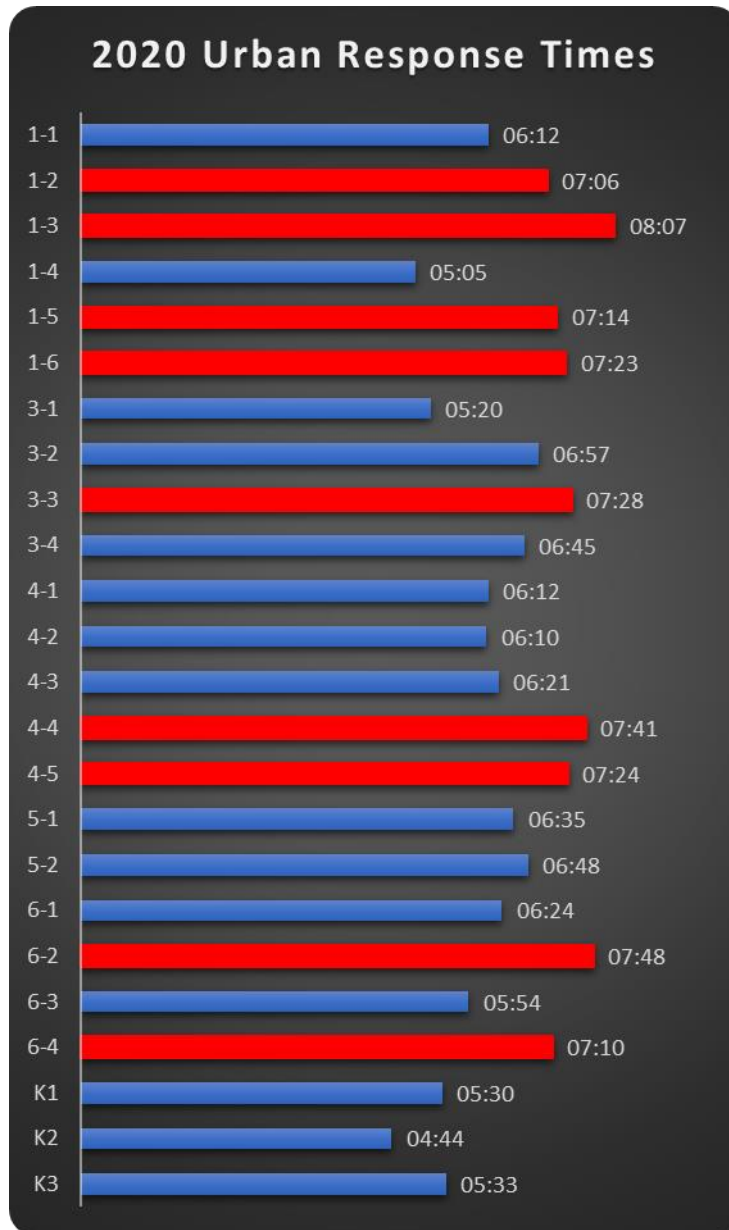
Calls by Response Zone

There were 4,826 calls for service within our boundaries in 2020 and an additional 716 calls to assist neighboring jurisdictions. The three busiest zones are 5-1 (area south of Highway 364), 4-2 (area bordered by Hwy. K, Bryan Rd, Mexico Rd & Feise Rd) and 4-3 (area bordered by Hwy. K, Bryan Rd, Mexico Rd & Interstate 70). These 3 zones accounted for 27.4% of all calls in the district. See the map on the previous page for zone locations and boundaries. 50.5% of all calls in the district are North of Interstate 70.



90% Response Times by Zone

Instead of using “Average Response Time” (which is how long it takes 50% of the time), we utilize 90th percentile times which is a much more accurate reflection of how we are performing. The 90% response times by zone indicates the amount of time for the first fire unit to arrive on the scene of an incident once the fire department is notified (how long it takes 90% of the time). Emergency responses are responses where lights and sirens are utilized. The district has an established benchmark of a 7-minute response time in Urban Areas 90% of the time, and 12 minutes in Rural Areas 90% of the time for emergency responses. In 2020, fire units arrived in less than 7-minutes 93% of the time in Urban Areas and arrived in less than 12-minutes 94% of the time in Rural Areas.

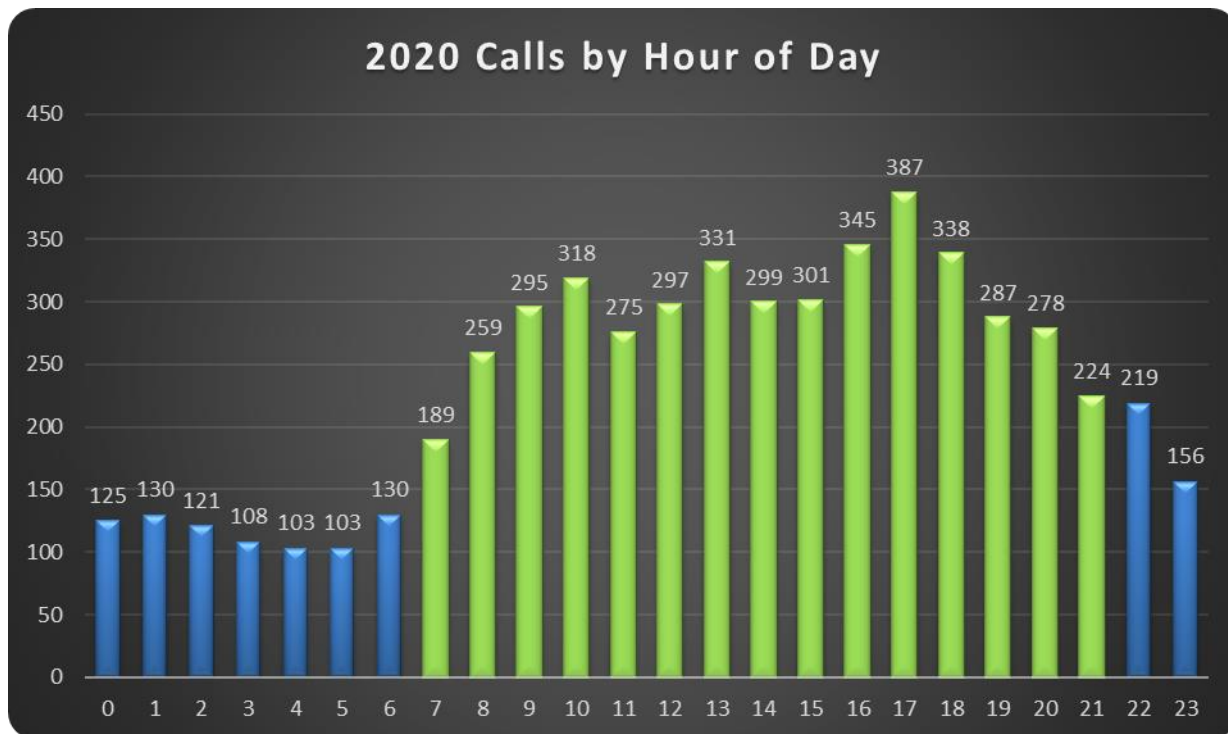


Times highlighted in red indicate times that fall outside our established 7-minute benchmark.

Incidents by Month/Day/Hour

Calls by Month and Day													
Day	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Sunday	51	72	71	56	59	63	73	92	64	58	89	37	785
Monday	73	69	64	46	59	64	65	105	5	58	87	43	788
Tuesday	54	60	80	54	56	70	68	54	77	79	56	88	796
Wednesday	87	71	51	60	45	47	83	69	70	64	68	65	780
Thursday	84	64	68	54	55	65	74	76	71	83	65	55	814
Friday	91	81	47	43	65	61	93	57	60	81	64	78	821
Saturday	68	101	50	48	64	72	63	90	68	81	76	53	834
Grand Total	508	548	431	361	403	442	519	543	465	504	505	419	5,618

In years past, December has generally been the busiest month for calls for service. In 2020, August was the busiest with 543 calls for service. Saturday was the busiest day for calls overall for the year.



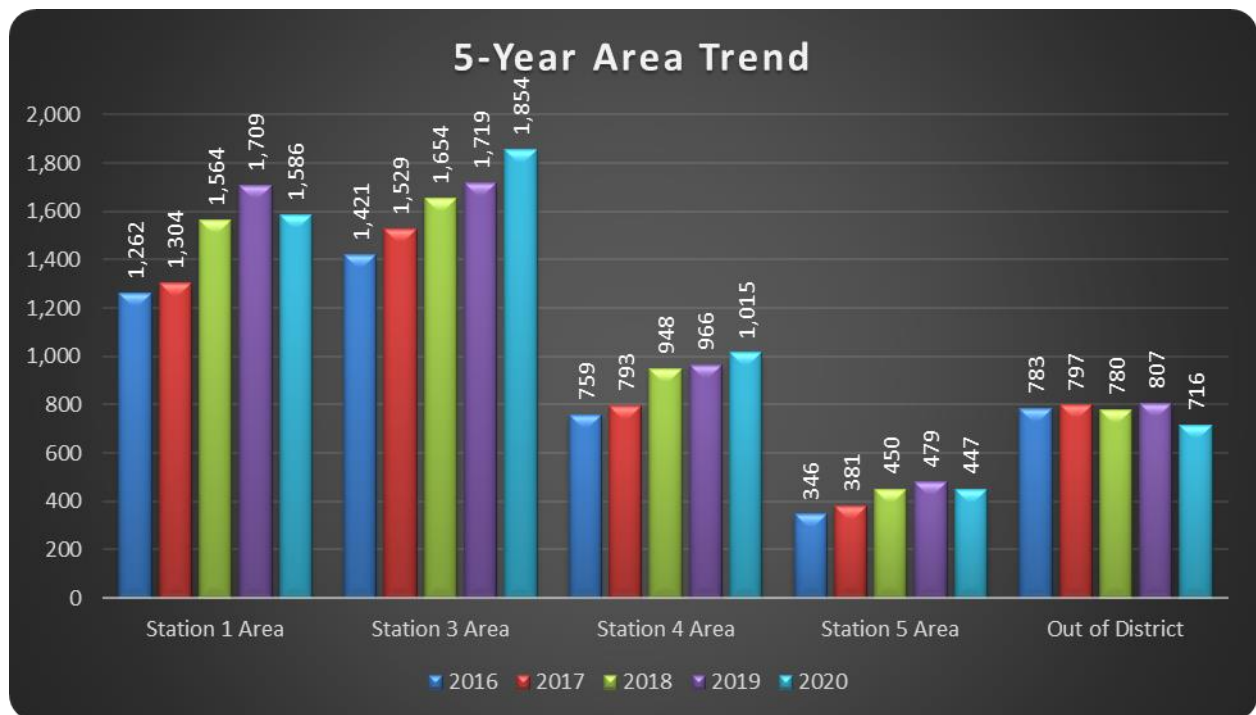
Hour of Day: Day Versus Night

Daytime hours are considered from 7AM until 10PM. In 2020, units responded to 4,321 calls for service during the Day (yellow), and 911 at Night (blue).

(Times are in military time (where 0 is midnight, 1 is 1AM, etc.).

Unit Responses

Unit	Station 1 Area	Station 3 Area	Station 4 Area	Station 5 Area	In District	Out of District	Unit Total
9100 - Fire Chief	0	3	1	0	4	0	4
9101 - Asst. Chief	2	0	1	0	3	2	5
9102 - Asst. Chief	1	2	3	0	6	0	6
9106 - Battalion Chief	88	112	45	17	262	79	341
9114 - Station 1	1,365	65	86	2	1,518	65	1,583
9118 - Station 1	26	2	2	0	30	8	38
9134 - Station 3	119	1,271	239	55	1,684	165	1,849
9136 - Station 3	0	1	0	0	1	2	3
9142 - Station 4	65	156	356	7	584	117	701
9143 - Station 4	8	1	4	0	13	10	23
9144 - Station 4	42	138	273	6	458	75	533
9150 - Station 5	0	1	0	0	1	2	3
9154 - Station 5	20	193	32	401	646	400	1,046
9158 - Station 5	0	3	1	0	4	15	19
9199-K9 Search/Rescue	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Grand Total	1,735	1,947	1,045	487	5,214	944	6,158



Station 1 Area: Area North of Interstate 70

Station 3 Area: Area along the Highway K corridor

Station 4 Area: Area along the Bryan Road corridor

Station 5 Area: Area along Highway 364 corridor

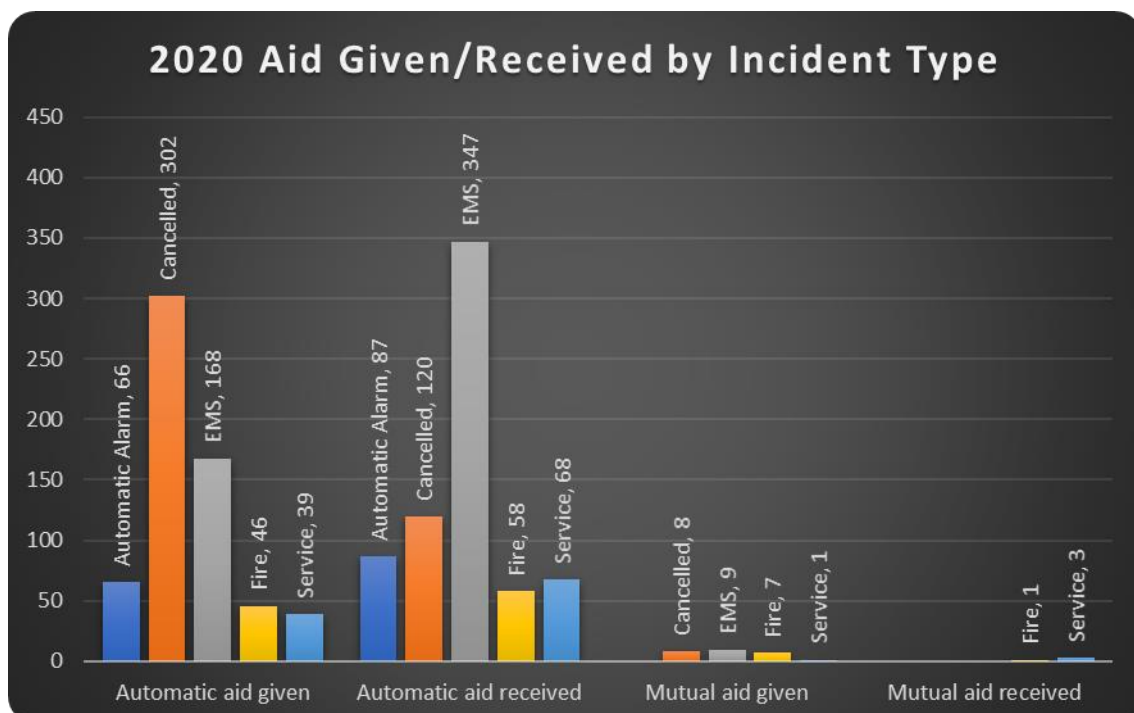
Out of District are calls where O'Fallon Fire units responded to assist our neighboring communities.

Calls for service dropped during 2020 due to the COVID pandemic where dispatch protocols were changed to limit exposure of first responders with fire units in the county having limited responses during the height of the pandemic restrictions.

Mutual Aid Detail

O'Fallon Fire Protection District participates in the Missouri Statewide Mutual Aid System where we will respond to assist other agencies anywhere in the State of Missouri in the event of large-scale incidents or area coverage. We also receive reciprocal aid from other agencies when needed. Below is a breakdown of agencies where we provided aid, and agencies from whom we received aid.

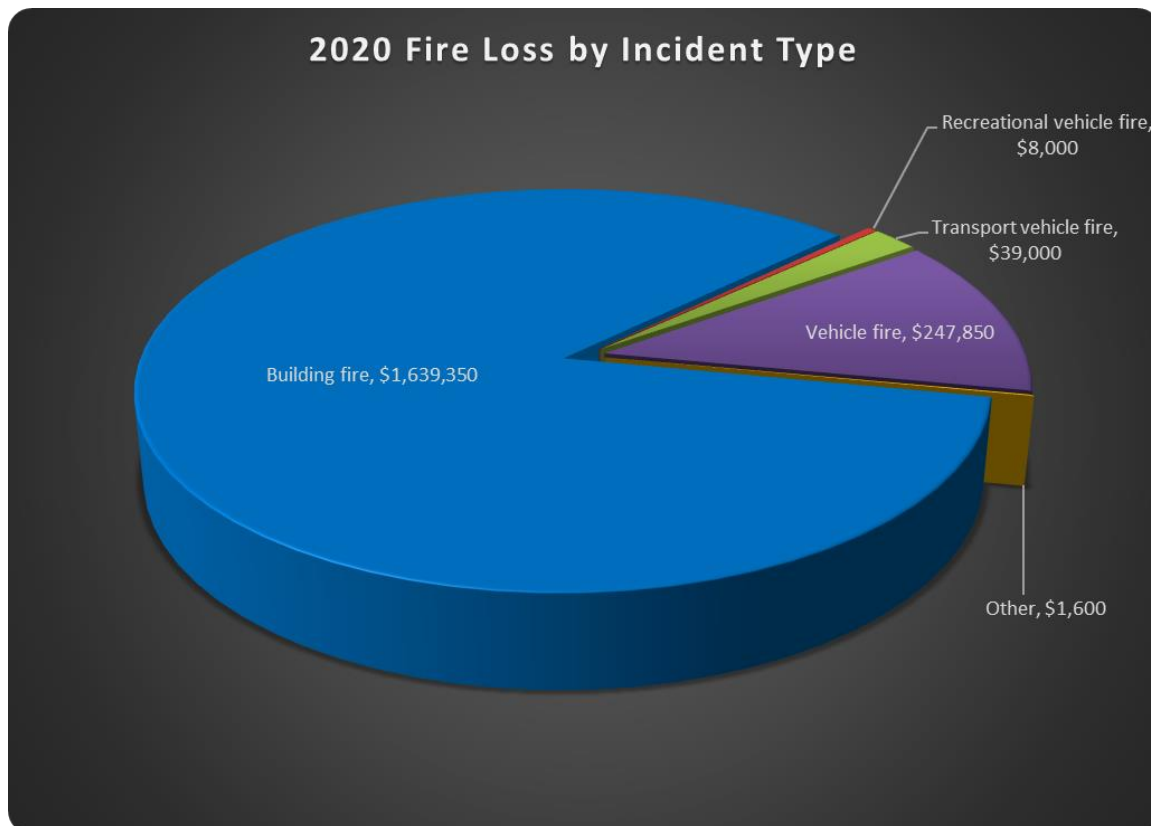
2020 Aid Given/Received by Department					
Fire Department	Mutual aid received	Automatic aid received	Mutual aid given	Automatic aid given	Total
Augusta Fire Protection District				2	2
Central County Fire & Rescue	3	306	5	94	408
Cottleville Fire Protection District	1	68	3	159	231
Lake St. Louis Fire Protection District		198	2	56	256
Lincoln County Fire Protection District	1		1	2	4
Old Monroe Fire Protection District	1	48	3	14	66
Orchard Farm Fire Protection District			2	1	3
Rivers Pointe Fire Protection District				1	1
St. Charles City Fire Department				3	3
Warrenton Fire Protection District			1		1
Wentzville Fire Protection District		58	7	288	353
Winfield Foley Fire Protection District			1	1	2
Totals	6	678	25	621	1,330
Year End Totals					
Provided Aid to other agencies	646				
Received Aid from other agencies	684				



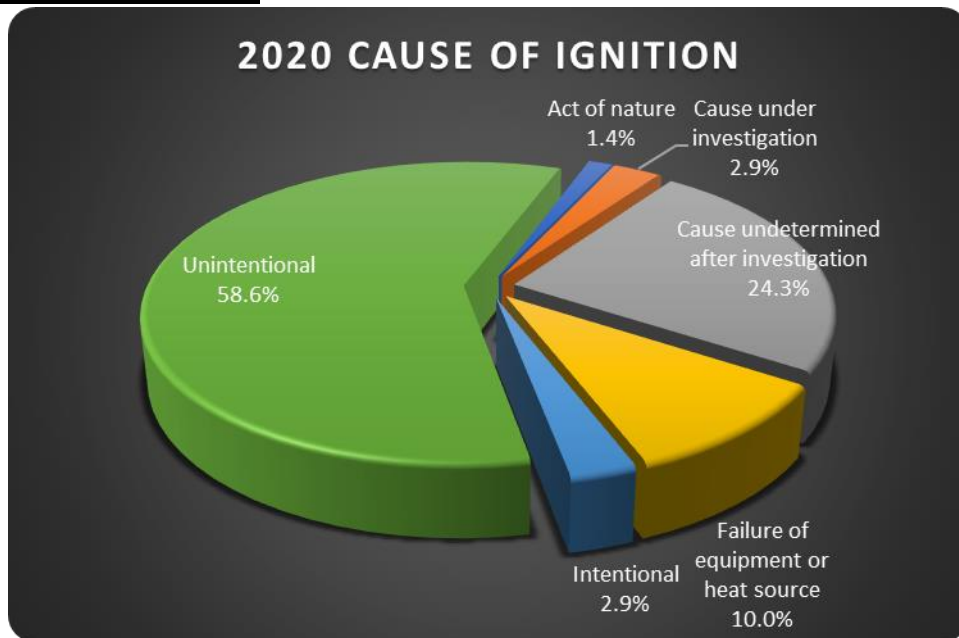
Fire Loss/Save Analysis

Year	Fire Loss	Total Value	Property Saved	% Saved
2016	\$1,007,850	\$31,548,772	\$30,540,922	96.8%
2017	\$1,714,800	\$18,957,512	\$17,242,712	91.0%
2018	\$1,410,775	\$66,717,257	\$65,306,482	97.9%
2019	\$629,565	\$23,630,652	\$23,001,087	97.3%
2020	\$1,935,800	\$9,382,018	\$7,446,218	79.4%
Total	\$6,698,790	\$150,236,211	\$143,537,421	95.5%

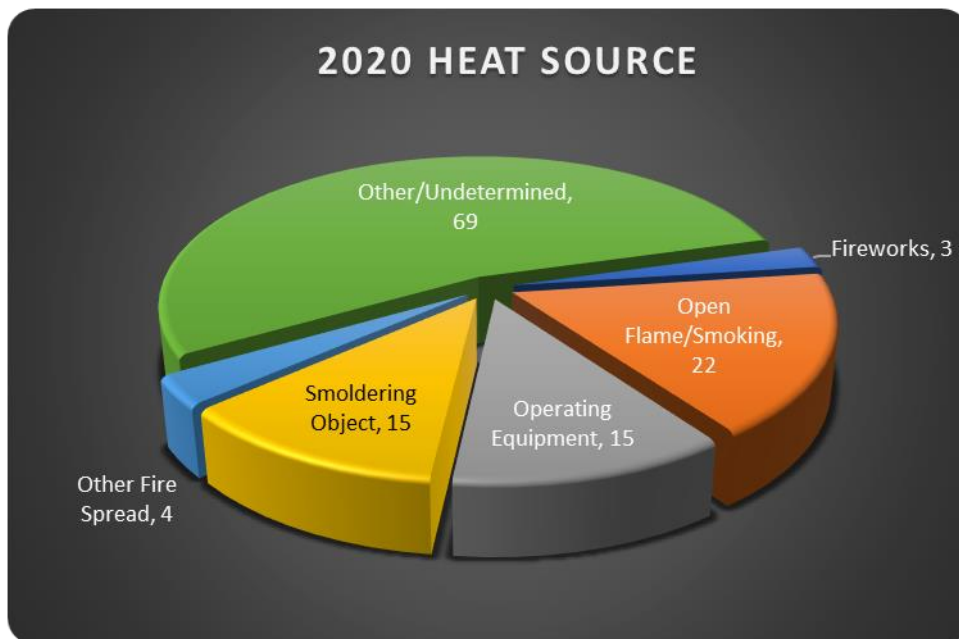
The district continuously monitors the total fire loss on an annual basis. The fire loss and property values are estimated by the reporting officer and include both property and content values. Over the last five years, fire crews successfully saved nearly 96% of property and contents on incidents involving fire. 2020 was an unusual year for fire loss with three residential house fires with significant losses accounting for just over \$1.2 million in damage. In all three fires, the home was unoccupied at the time of the fire and were heavily involved upon arrival of the first fire unit.



Fire Investigation Report



District Fire Investigators work to determine both where the fire started and what caused the fire. Fire units responded to 70 building and vehicle fires within our district in 2020. The cause of the fire was determined in 75.7% of these fires.



Investigators work to determine what started fires in the district to determine patterns and work to educate our community of how fires start. The heat source can be difficult to determine in many cases, with investigators successfully determining the source in 46% of the 128 fires in 2020 units responded to.