

City of Battle Creek Fire Department



2022 Annual Report



City of Battle Creek Fire Department
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battlecreekmi.gov

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BCFD Mission Statement

The Battle Creek Fire Department shall provide responsive quality emergency services and public safety education to our community. Promoting safety, well-being, and enhanced quality of life for all visitors and residents.



BCFD Core Values

Preserving **Honor** through respect and integrity. Maintaining **Competence**, through training and professional development. Providing services that meet and exceed industry standards for **Excellence**. Utilizing **Predictability** to address internal and external customer service needs. Providing an atmosphere that encourages **Loyalty** and camaraderie. Providing a climate of **Inclusion** devoid of racism, sexism, favoritism and nepotism. Embracing **Accountability** to ensure all members contribute to organizational success.



BCFD Vision Statement

"The Battle Creek Fire Department strives for industry best practice and excellence in emergency preparedness, response and mitigation. Our efforts are customer-focused, innovative, and driven toward world class emergency services delivery."



Battle Creek Fire Department



From the Desk of Fire Chief Bill Beaty

2022 Annual Report: Message from the Fire Chief

It is my pleasure to present the Battle Creek Fire Department's Annual Report for 2022. The information inside will provide you with history, activities, and statistical information on incident response and other department data.

2022 saw the department respond to the highest volume of calls for service in its history, 8541 incidents. The dedicated men and women of your fire department respond to fires of all types, fire alarms, medical emergencies, technical rescues such as water or confined space rescue, vehicle accidents, aviation emergencies, and hazardous materials incidents, among countless other calls for service. These professionals also provide fire prevention, public education, and fire inspection services to the community.

The department's aging facilities were assessed by the Wightman Group in 2022. Numerous short term updates have been initiated as a result of this assessment. A study of the fire protection services, emergency medical services, and law enforcement in Battle Creek was undertaken by the Center for Public Safety Management (CPSM) in 2022. The extensive study is reviewing the service delivery models, operations, management, and facilities and their locations of the three emergency services. CPSM expects to deliver their findings and recommendations to the City in March or April of 2023.

A vacancy occurred in the Fire Chief's position in April, 2022. After a nationwide search, Chief Bill Beaty was selected and reported for duty in October. It is important to note that during the six month interim period, the men and women of the department did exemplary work; working together and with the City Manager's office to continue top-notch services to the citizens of Battle Creek, apparatus purchases, facilities work, and so on. The Battalion Chiefs are represented by the Organization of Supervisory Personnel. All other uniformed members are represented by Local 335 of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

I am proud, and equally humbled, to be part of this team of professionals as we strive to provide these critical services to our community.





A Note from Battle Creek Firefighters Union Local 335

Your firefighters would first and foremost like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2023. This past year I think we all feel like life got back to somewhat normal. Your local firefighters pushed through the end of the pandemic and continued to provide top level service to the citizens and visitors of Battle Creek. As we move into 2023, we would like to congratulate those that retired and those that were hired into this great profession over the past year. We look forward and are excited for the things to come this year.

Respectfully,
Jayeson Tkac, President
Battle Creek Firefighters Union Local 335



Battle Creek Fire Department



From the Desk of Fire Chief Bill Beaty

BATTLE CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT 2022 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT

Wightman facilities assessments

Station 4 remodel and new roof

Significant work on other findings

Center for Public Safety Management emergency services study

Pumper apparatus ordered

Squad unit/tow vehicle ordered

Nine new firefighters completed their one-year probationary period

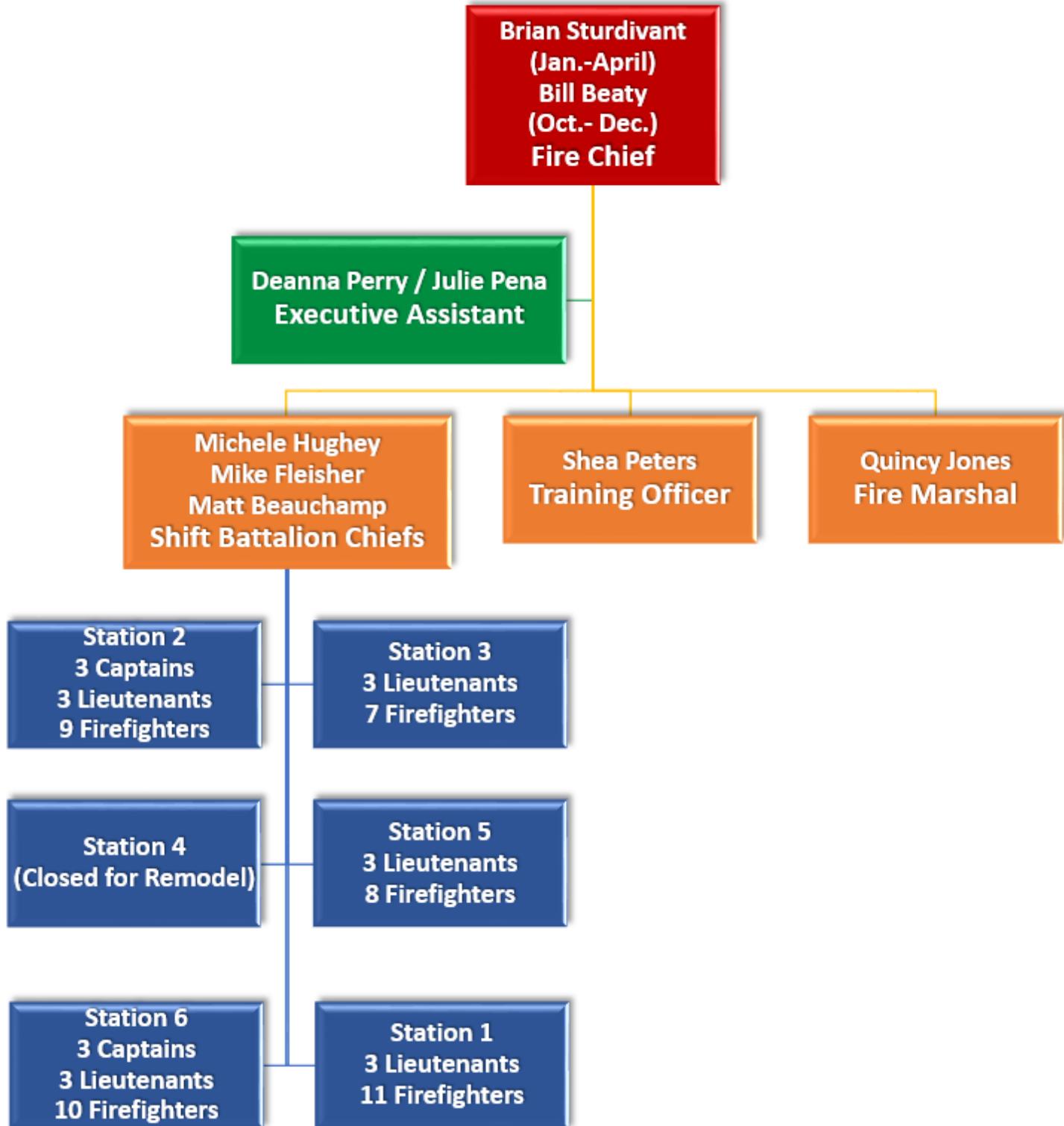
Five new firefighters joined the department

HazMat Team validated, only second team in Michigan

New Fire Chief



City of Battle Creek Fire Department Organization Chart



Members of the City of Battle Creek Fire Department

Fire Chief: Bill Beaty

Executive Assistant: Julie Pena

Fire Marshal: Lt Quincy Jones

Training Officer: Shea Peters

A Platoon

Battalion Chief

M. Hughey

Lt J. Justin

EO B. Barle

FF N. Mingle

FF M. Asiala

B Platoon

Battalion Chief

M. Beauchamp

Lt J. Martin

EO W. Hardy

FF R. Willms

FF R. Wright

PFF T. Hegner

C Platoon

Battalion Chief

M. Fleisher

Lt N. Brizendine

EO K. Lohrke

FF J. Wood

FF A. Upston

FF Z. Mueller

PFF Y. Fujita

Capt S. Barnes

Lt J. Pratt

EO L. Hillard

FF S. Holly

FF D. Wuis

FF G. Metheny

Capt C. Titus

Lt B. McCarthy

EO T. Walker

FF J. Mervyn

FF J. Ekema

Capt E. Haines

Lt A. Doser

EO T. Gieske

FF K. Hoeksema

FF J. Hagen

Lt B. Barney

EO Jayeson Tkac

FF J. Cushman

FF S. Hughes

Lt T. Miller

EO N. Stencel

FF J. Shanks

Lt L. Mingle

EO K. Williams

FF B. Root

PFF J. Holm

Lt H. VanSickle

EO G. Smith

FF P. Cleland

Lt R. Johnson

EO S. Foster

FF M. Tobin

PFF R. DeGroff

Lt M. Koch

EO A. Furman

FF S. Kelly

PFF J. Miller

Capt J. Ramey

Lt S. Keeler

EO T. Aupperlee

EO C. Hughes

FF B. Howland

FF S. Nemeth

Capt S. Williamson

Lt J. Coffey

EO J. Hudson

EO W. Payne

FF M. Spivey

Capt. D. Wolfe

Lt B. Caid

EO J. Willman

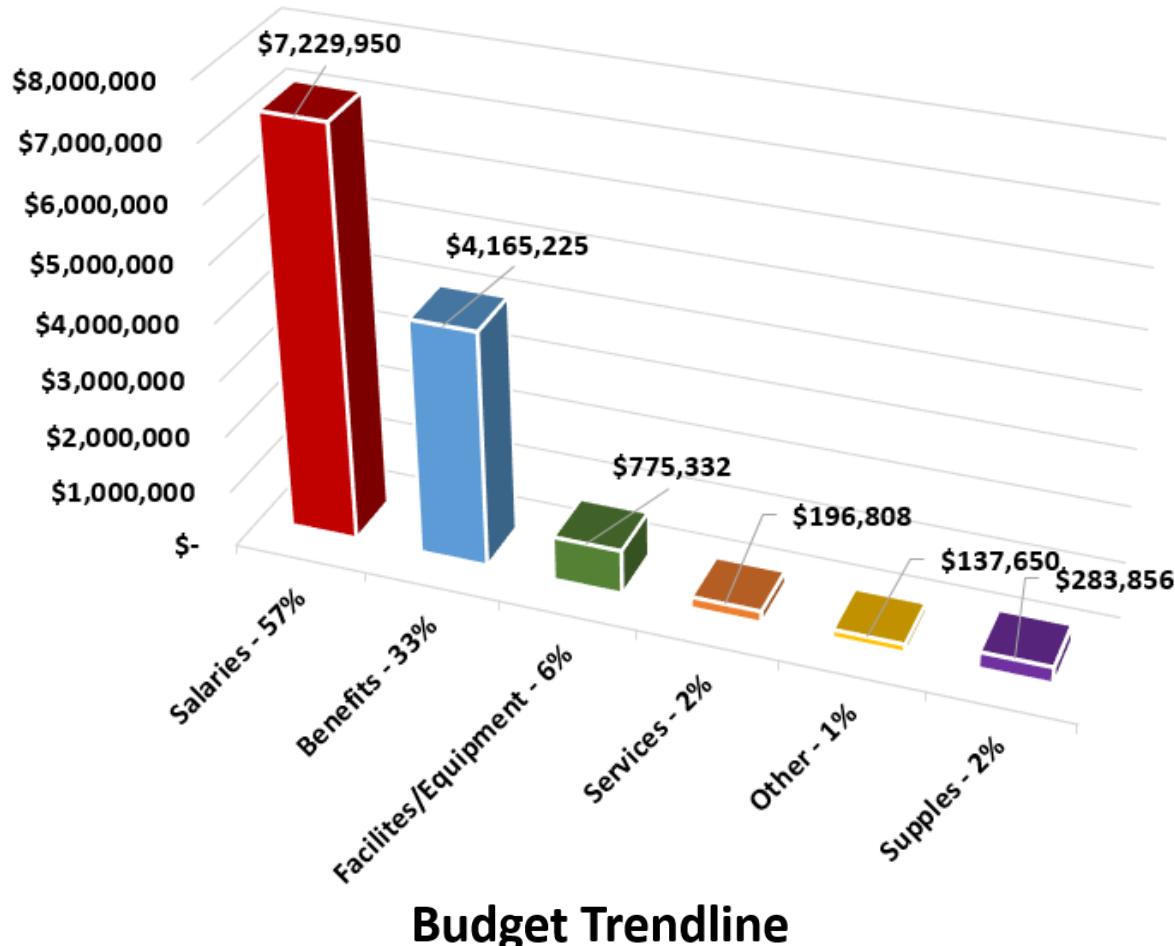
EO J. Gray

PFF T. Henley

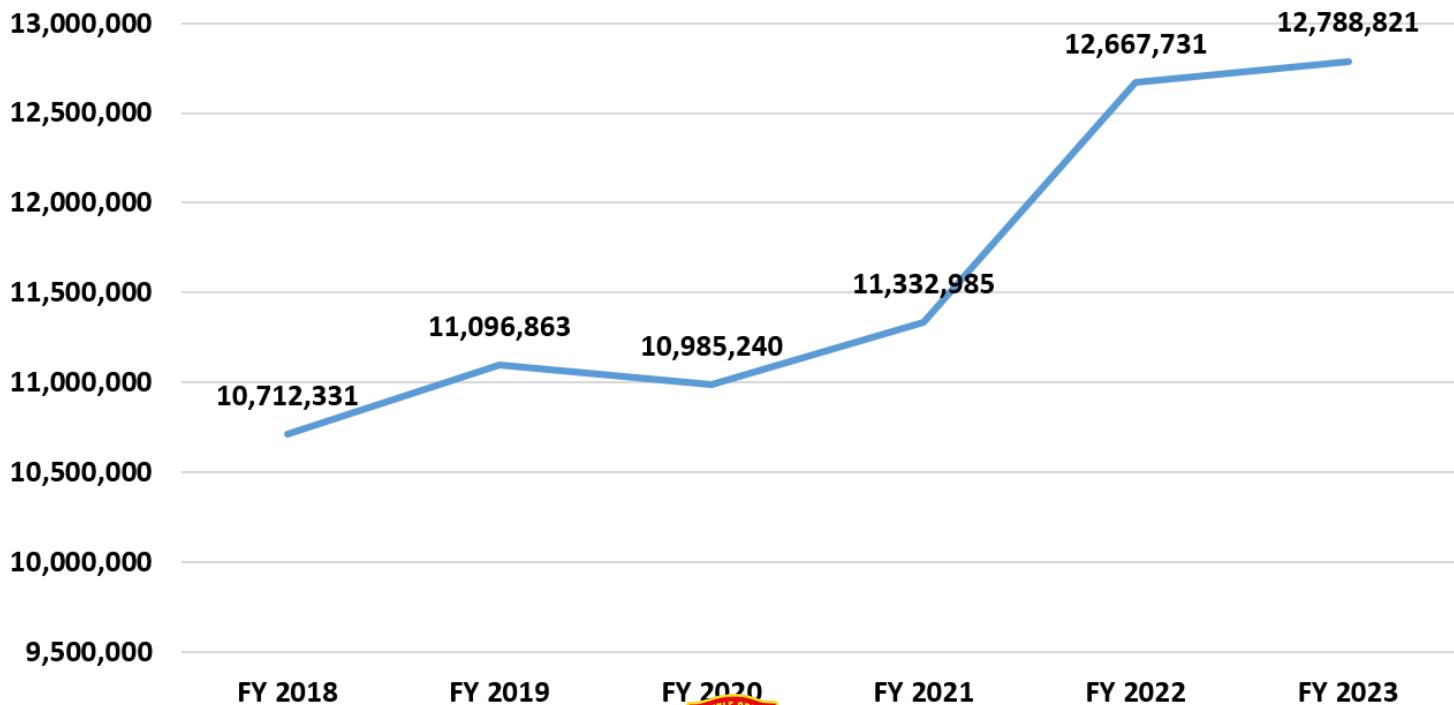


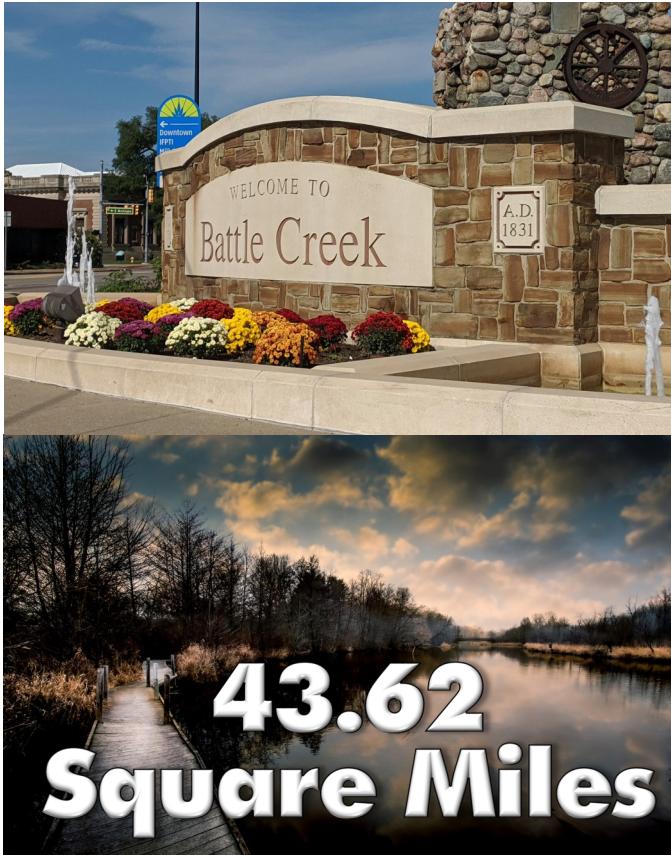
Financial and Growth Information

FY 2022-2023 Budget

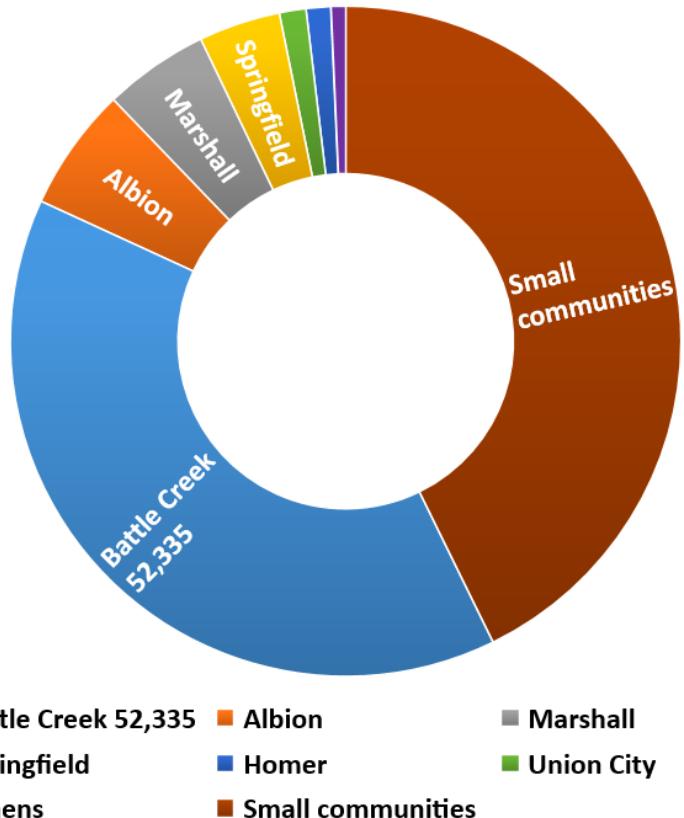


Budget Trendline





Calhoun County Population 133,819 (census.gov)



City of Battle Creek

City Administration

- **Rebecca Fleury**—City Manager
- **Ted Dearing**—Assistant City Manager
- **Jill Steele**—City Attorney

Commission Members

- **Mark Behnke**—Mayor At-Large
- **Sherry Sofia**—Vice Mayor At-Large
- **Roger Ballard**—Ward 1
- **Jenasia Morris**—Ward 2
- **Patrick O'Donnell**—Ward 3
- **Christopher Simmons**—Ward 4
- **Jim Lance**—Ward 5
- **Carla Reynolds**—At-Large
- **Jake Smith**—At-Large





Fire Station Information



Station 1

195 E. Michigan Ave.



Station 2

145 N. Washington Ave.



Station 3

222 Cliff St.



Station 4

8 S. 20th St.



Station 5

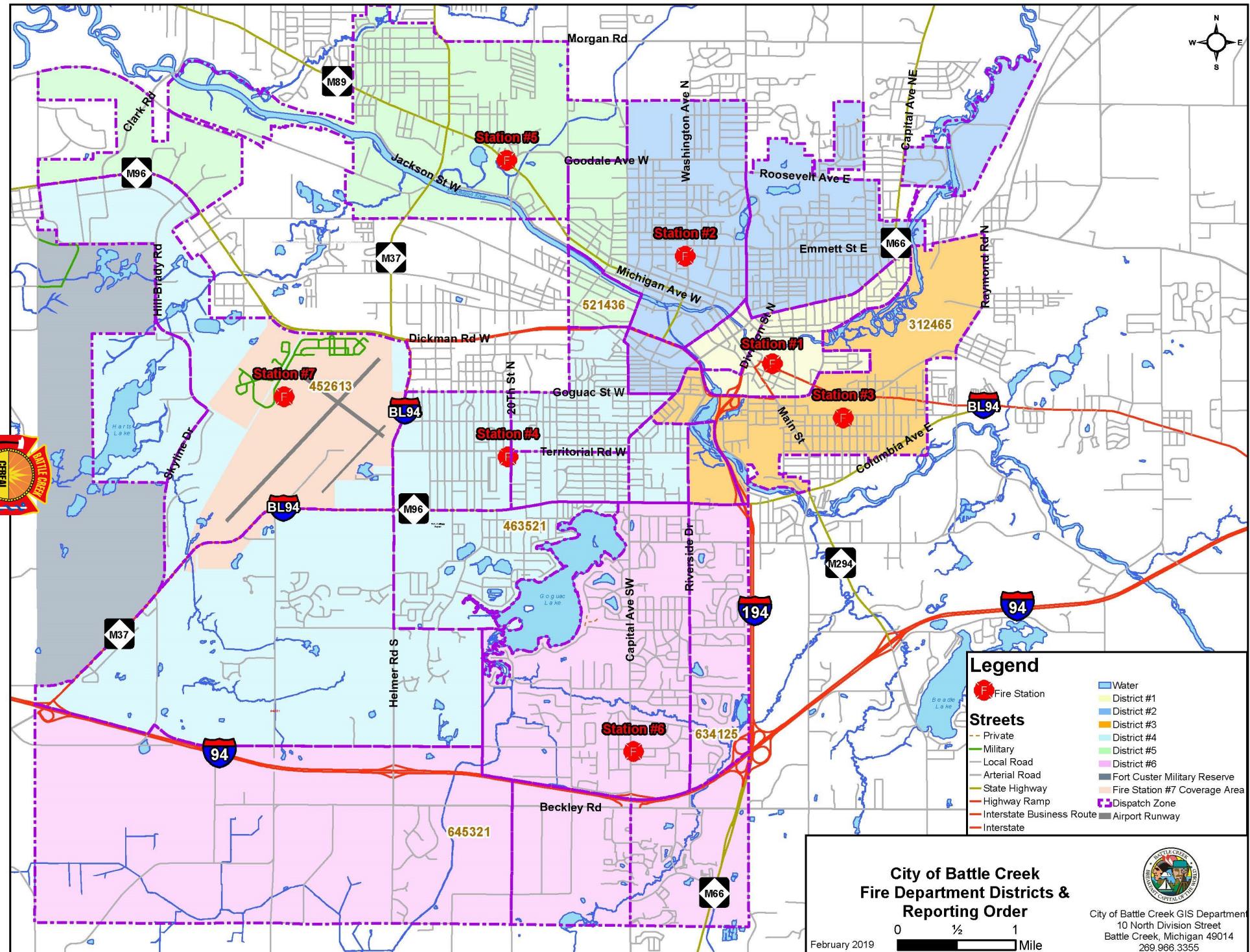
1170 W. Michigan Ave.



Station 6

2401 Capital Ave. SW







Apparatus In Service



Apparatus in Service

The City of Battle Creek Fire Department operates a variety of fire, emergency service apparatus, and support vehicles to provide service to our citizens.

2022 FIRE DEPARTMENT APPARATUS, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

Frontline Apparatus

Engine 2	2020 Spartan pumper	Station 2
Rescue 3	2017 Spartan rescue pumper	Station 3
Engine 5	2021 Spartan pumper	Station 5
Rescue 6	2017 Spartan rescue pumper	Station 6
Truck 1	2016 Spartan 100' aerial	Station 1
Crash 9	2015 Oshkosh ARFF	Airport Operations
Crash 10	2015 Oshkosh ARFF	Airport Operations

Frontline and Staff Vehicles

Squad 2	2016 Ford Medical Responder	Station 2
Squad 6	2021 Ford Medical Responder and brush truck	Station 6
Car 3	2015 Yukon – Battalion Chief	Station 1
Car 5	2017 Yukon – Fire Marshal	Station 1
Car 1	2014 Yukon – Fire Chief	Station 1

Additional Equipment and Fleet Vehicles

Engine 7	1997 E-One pumper – reserve apparatus	Station 1
Engine 8	1997 E-One pumper – reserve apparatus	Station 1
TRT Trailer	2016 Interstate Trailer – Tech Team equipment	Station 1
HazMat 1	2006 Spartan Rescue Squad – HazMat Team equipment	Elm St.
HM Trailer	2003 Wells Cargo – HazMat Team equipment	Elm St.
Boat 1	2017 Alweld Connector Boat	Station 6
Boat 2	2017 Inmar Inflatable Boat	Station 6
Argo	6WD ATV and trailer	Elm St.
Car 4	2009 Tahoe – BCFD Fleet vehicle	Station 1
Car 6	Chevrolet – Training Officer vehicle	Station 6
Car 10	2001 Chevrolet – snow plow unit	Station 3
Smokehouse	2000 Fire Safety demonstration house trailer	Elm St.



Fire Training Program

Training for fire department personnel is integral to the operations of the department, competent service delivery to the community, and the safety of our personnel in the work they do. At a minimum, personnel are certified firefighters and Hazardous Materials operators by the State of Michigan, and licensed as Medical First Responders by the state. Personnel receive additional training in Incident Command from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Many become certified as fire instructors. The department's officers obtain Fire Officer Certifications commensurate with their rank as they progress in their careers. While the department functions at the Medical First Responder level, nearly half of the department's members are licensed at the higher-level Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic.

Members of the department's special operations teams, Hazardous Materials Team and Technical Rescue Team, receive additional training in their specialties as well.

Battle Creek's personnel annually receive training on apparatus operation and driving, basic firefighting skills such as ladders, fire hose techniques and self-contained breathing apparatus, hazardous materials, Aircraft Rescue Firefighting, fire prevention and public education, water rescue, emergency medical services, and countless other topics.

In 2022, the department logged 8645 hours of training for its personnel.

Skills & Training Topics

Training includes all skills a firefighter may need to perform in their line of duty.

Topics include:

- Apparatus
- Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF)
- Basic Skills
- Equipment
- Fire Prevention and Education
- Hazardous Materials
- Medical
- Officer Training
- Safety
- Site Surveys
- Technical Rescue



HazMat Team

Battle Creek Fire Department becomes second team in Michigan to complete Hazmat Validation process

The Battle Creek Fire Department Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team was validated as a FEMA Type II Hazardous Materials Response Company on March 16, 2022. This makes them the second team in the entire state to complete the new Hazmat Team Validation process.

The new process is designed to validate the capabilities of a team or company responding to disasters in the state of Michigan. It is the result of a partnership between the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center (EMHSTC) and the Michigan Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

The validation proves that the Battle Creek Hazardous Materials Team, which is made up of 18 members, is ready to serve the City of Battle Creek and beyond.

“Battle Creek Hazmat showed impressive capability and efficiency throughout this validation process,” said Dave McIntyre, Director of Special Operations with Michigan MABAS. “We are thrilled to have this system in place to measure the capabilities of our state hazmat teams and be able to deploy them with confidence.”

The team holds annual refresher training to remain up to date on new or emerging threats and to practice hands-on skills with monitoring equipment or other specialized tools used in response.



Technical Rescue Team

The Battle Creek Fire Department has 15 personnel on its Technical Rescue Team (TRT). All members are trained in accordance with NFPA 1670 standards for operation and training and are in compliance with OSHA 1910.146 permit required confined space.

Team members are trained for technical rope rescue technician level, as well as, confined space rescue technician level, which is a 40-hour course. Six members are trained for the tactical rope rescue operations level. Battle Creek also has 4 members of its team on the MI-TRT-5 district team, receiving additional training in operations level in collapse rescue and trench rescue.

The 5th District also has equipped Battle Creek with a trailer for housing its technical rescue equipment. The equipment for the trailer has been provided through the efforts of the Battle Creek Fire Department and the Michigan 5th District meeting NFPA 1983 equipment compliance standards.

In 2022, team members participated in local and regional training exercises to maintain proficiency with skills and equipment.

The department responded to 104 hazardous materials incidents in 2022.



Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau was established by the Battle Creek City Commission as a division of the Battle Creek Fire Department (BCFD) in 1975. The Bureau is located Fire Station 1, 195 East Michigan Avenue.

Functions: The functions of the Bureau are defined by ordinance and the International Fire Code and include coordinating fire investigations, fire prevention code enforcement inspections, and fire safety public education programs. The Bureau coordinates the smoke alarm installation program for BCFD.

Inspections: The Fire Marshal conducts annual code enforcement inspections of all types of businesses and commercial properties, as well as residential occupancies larger than four-family dwellings. The inspections monitor fire safety and prevention measures such as ensuring exit pathways are clear, exits are not improperly secured, sprinkler systems are not obstructed, and so on.

The Fire Marshal's inspection tasks also include building plan review and alarm and sprinkler system validation prior to a new business being awarded a Certificate of Occupancy.

In 2022, the Fire Marshal was the sole BCFD member certified as a Fire Inspector.



Bureau Activities

ACTIVITY	2021	2022
Inspections	202	232
PR Events	31	40
Fire Investigations—Closed	23	20
Arsons	5	6
Juvenile fire setter	0	1
Smoke alarm installed	74	174
Carbon Monoxide alarms installed	27	23
2021 results impacted by program suspensions that resulted due to the pandemic.		

Investigations: The Bureau is also charged with investigations for cause and origin determination for fire incidents. These investigations are for all types of fires that occur if the operational units on scene cannot readily determine the cause and origin of a fire. Fire investigations include determining arson fires and find the Fire Marshal collaborating with law enforcement and prosecutors through the entire investigation and legal process. Investigators receive specialized training and certification in fire and arson investigations. The Fire Marshal is the only certified fire and arson investigator on BCFD.



Public Education

- Station Tours:** Basic fire safety education is taught to children, by firefighters, during station tours. The basic information is in an outline called "What Every Child Should Know".
- Public Talks:** Presentations to groups are made by the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal.
- Public Programs for Children:** Presentations to large groups of children use the "Fire Safety Trailer" and/or "Pluggie" the robot. The Fire Safety Trailer was gifted to the BCFD by the Battle Creek Kiwanis Club. The trailer is used during Fire Prevention Week each fall and is brought to all 20 elementary schools in the city limits each spring. The trailer teaches children from kindergarten to third grade basic fire safety, including "how to survive a fire at home."
- Juvenile Fire Setting:** The Fire Marshal coordinates a task force that operates an educational intervention program for families with juvenile fire setters.
- Fire Prevention Week:** The BCFD partners with other city departments and community organizations to provide an area-wide educational program during National Fire Prevention Week each October. This program includes a media blitz, individual presentations to each kindergarten classroom, fire safety literature used in every K-3 classroom, fire safety literature sent to the home of every K-3 student, and a Saturday afternoon family entertainment program that is designed to be educational.

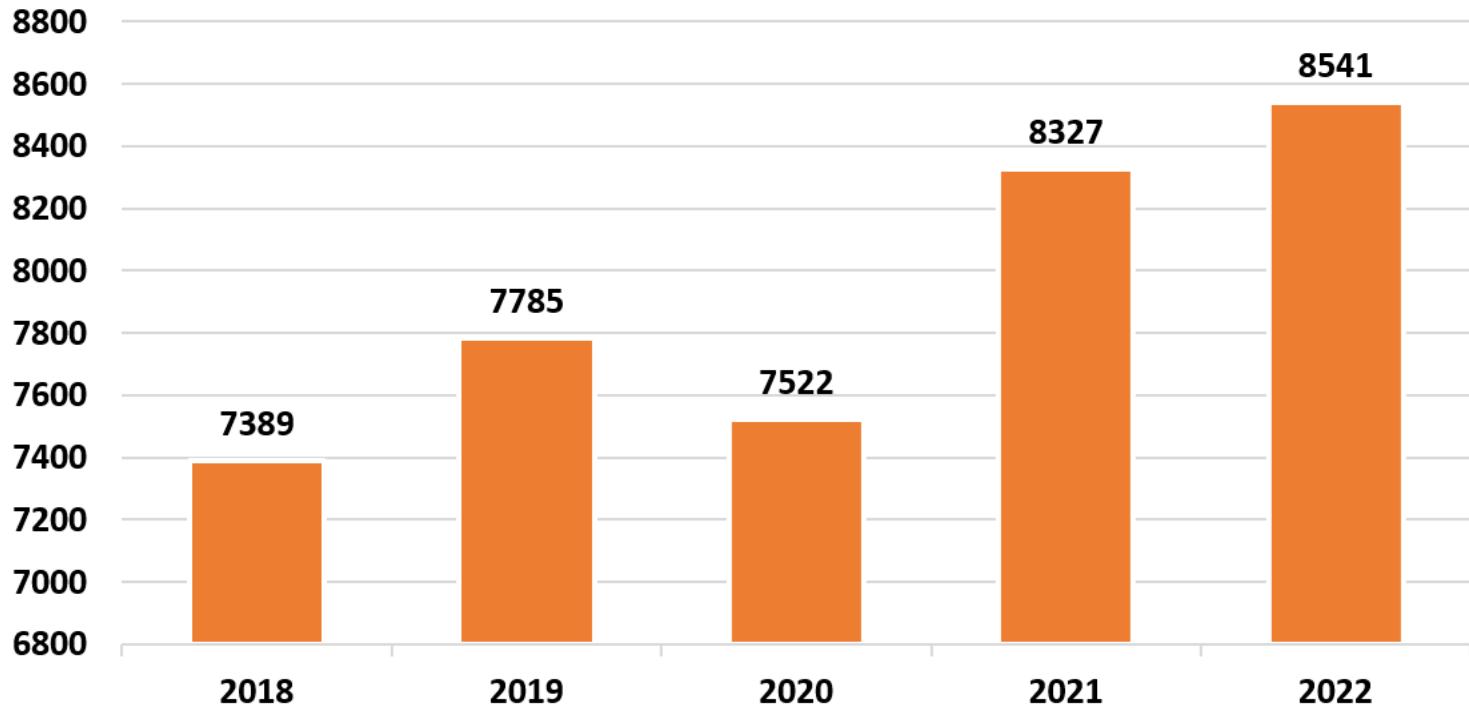




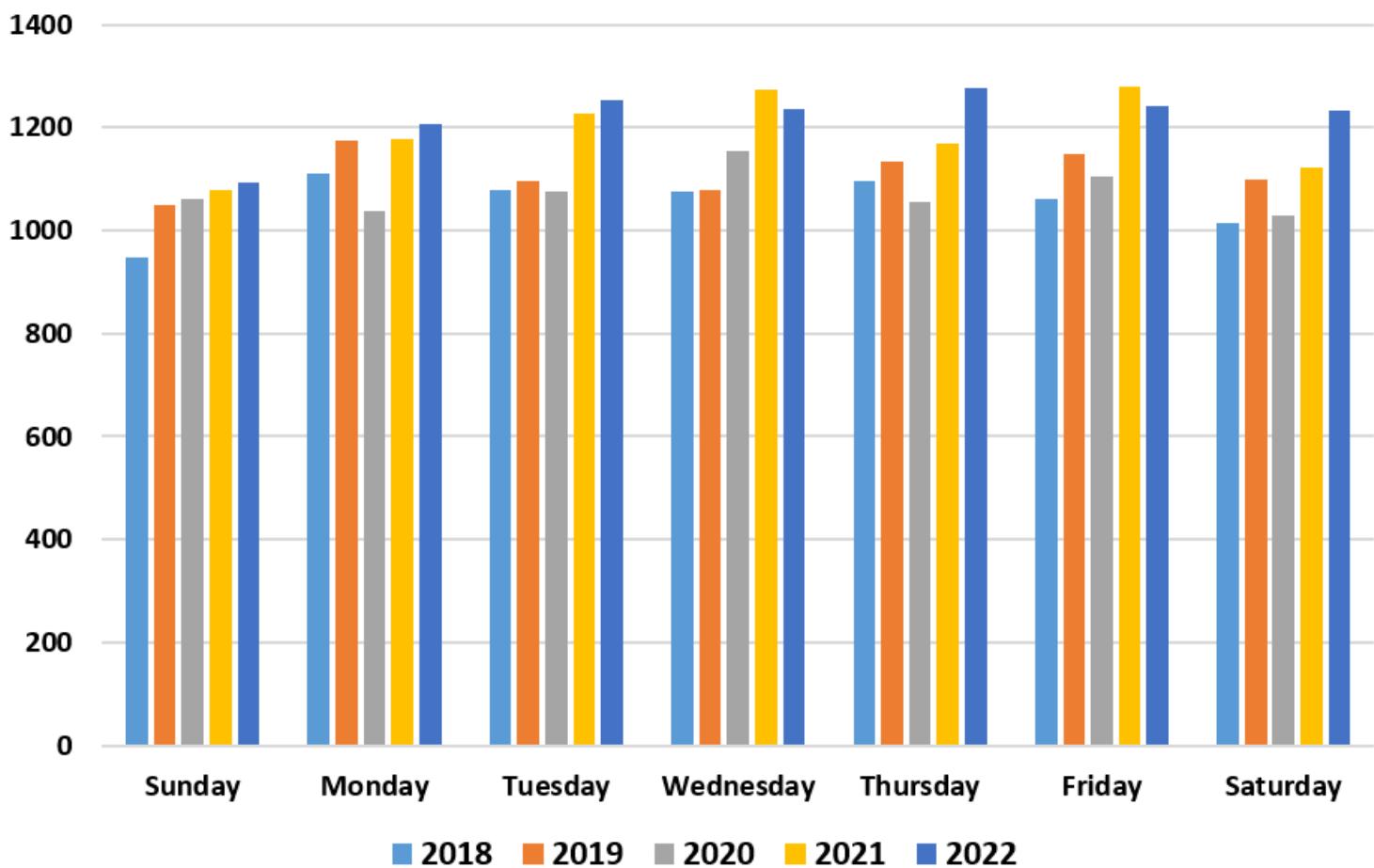
Incident Data and Emergency Response Statistics



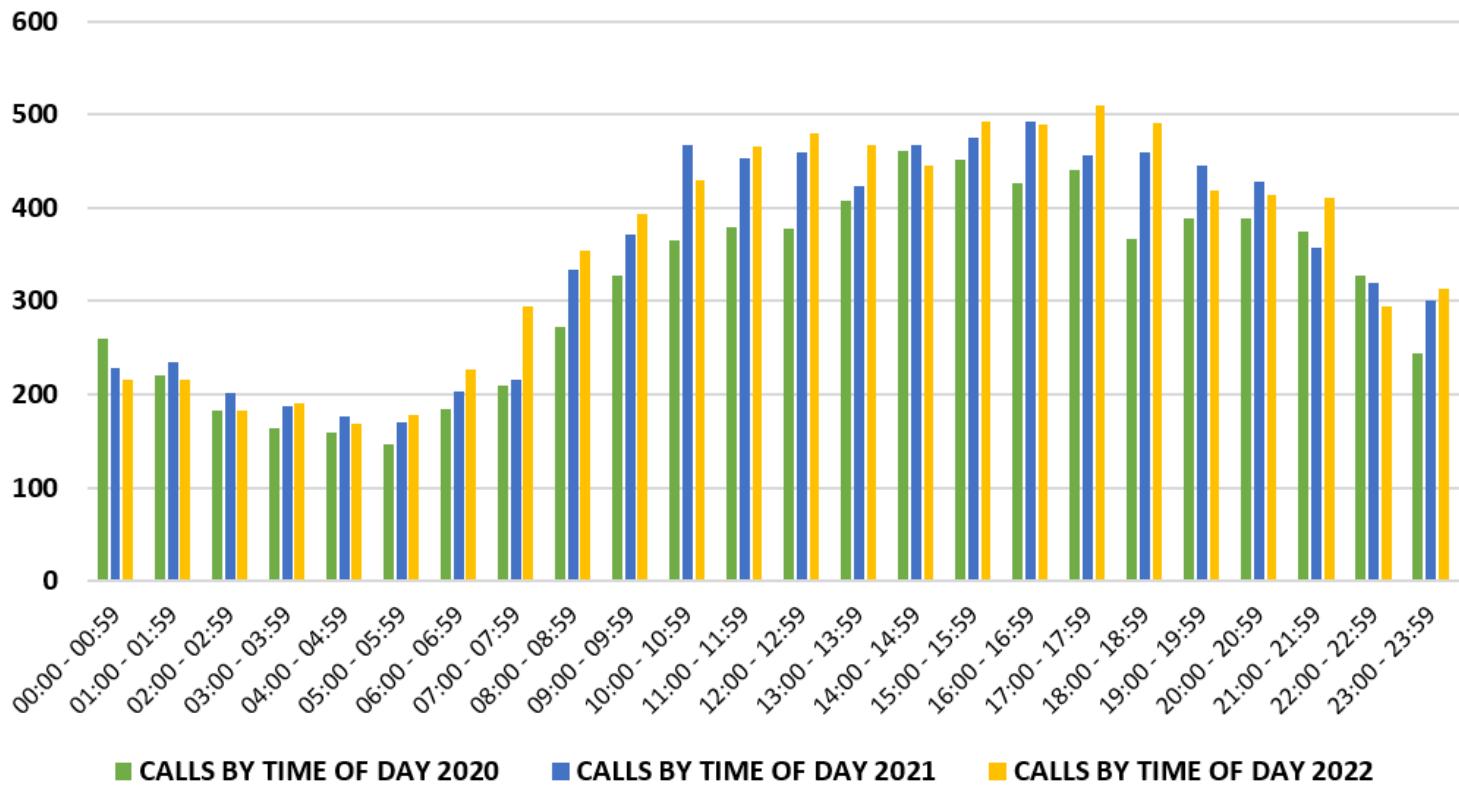
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



CALLS BY THE DAY OF THE WEEK



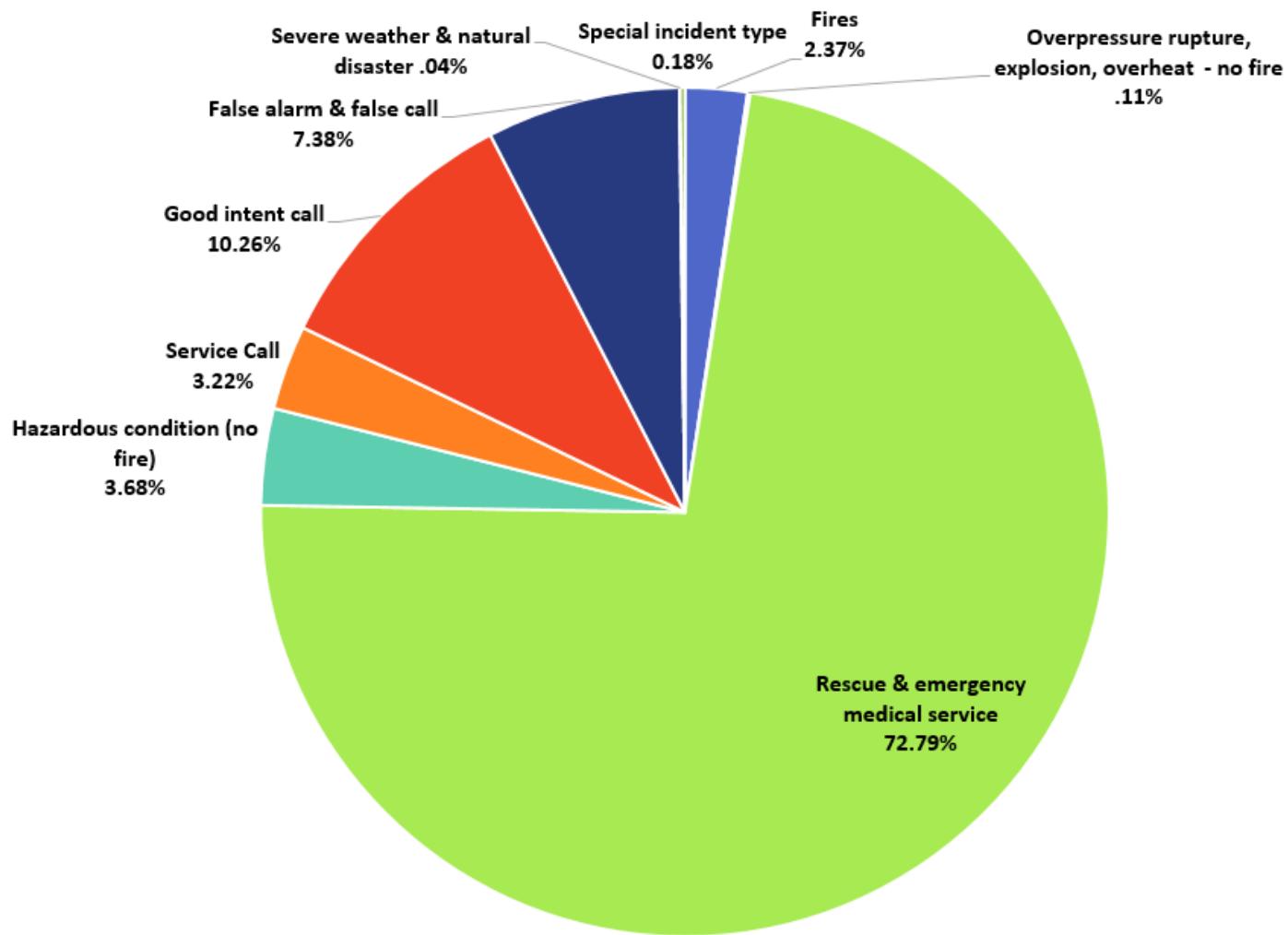
CALLS BY TIME OF DAY



■ CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2020 ■ CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2021 ■ CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2022



Incident Data



INCIDENT TYPE	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	CHANGE FROM 2021
Fires	193	214	185	186	202	+16
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat - no fire	12	7	7	11	9	-2
Rescue & emergency medical service	5400	5518	5311	6039	6217	+178
Hazardous condition (no fire)	217	247	305	324	314	-10
Service Call	297	312	324	306	275	-31
Good intent call	847	958	908	872	876	+4
False alarm & false call	414	517	465	580	630	+50
Severe weather & natural disaster	2	4	10	1	3	+2
Special incident type	7	8	7	8	15	+7
Total	7389	7785	7522	8327	8541	+214





