

# City of Battle Creek Fire Department



## 2020 Annual Report



City of Battle Creek Fire Department  
195 E. Michigan Avenue  
Battle Creek, MI 49014  
(269) 966-3519

[battlecreekmi.gov](http://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 that promotes safety, wellbeing, and the enhancement of 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 an 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 Brian Sturdivant*

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## 2020 Annual Report: Message from the Fire Chief

On behalf of the members of the Battle Creek Fire Department (BCFD), I am pleased to present our annual Report for 2020. This report illustrates our commitment to the residents, visitors, and businesses within our community; it also reflects our dedication to each other as a progressive fire service organization. The excellent professional work accomplished by our Operations, EMS, Special Operations, Fire Prevention and Administrative Divisions exemplify “our family, serving yours”.

2020 proved to be an extraordinary year for the Battle Creek Fire Department. Our emergency services delivery system was burdened in the midst of a global pandemic. COVID 19 presented with multiple challenges, however in typical fashion, the BCFD accepted the challenge as an opportunity to review, refine and polish our emergency services with a continued focus on responder safety and efficient, effective emergency services delivery.

BCFD did recognize a slight decrease in calls for service in 2020; however, EMS calls were primary with approximately 65% of total calls. Our continued partnership with Life Care Ambulance once again proved invaluable in servicing our community during this pandemic. Due to significant State and Federal COVID restrictions, training hours and our ability to meet face-to-face were hampered.

The current year of 2021 will continue with fiscal and personnel challenges. The City of Battle Creek has graciously provided an additional benefit to the fire department with COVID paid time off. This will ensure our members can take care of themselves and their families both physically and mentally. The BCFD is grateful to the City for recognizing this need and in turn will ensure the highest level of service delivery to our community is continued. Regardless of the challenges that we may face, each member of the BCFD is committed to supporting the community in an innovative and fiscally responsible manner.

Again, I would like to thank all members of our Department for their professionalism and commitment at every level of the organization. I would also like to thank our elected officials (past and present), City Manager, the Executive Team, and our outstanding City staff for their continued supportive efforts.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian S. Sturdivant".

Brian Sturdivant, Fire Chief



# Battle Creek Fire Department



*From the Desk of Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant*

## BATTLE CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT 2020 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENT

### ADMINISTRATION:

- Development of BCFD COVID -19 Response Plan
  - ◊ 65% of BCFD personnel received COVID -19 vaccinations
- BCFD firehouses/rigs routinely disinfected with DC7 (COVID -19 approved)
- Restructure of the BCFD ARFF (Aircraft Rescue Firefighting) Team. Virtual training implemented due to COVID -19 restrictions
- Annual “Pump, Hose, and Ladder” testing completed
- Successful completion of Center for Public Safety Excellence Chief Fire Officer Designation (Beauchamp initial, Sturdivant re-designated)
- Purchased \$300,000 of new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)

### GRANTS:

- Awarded \$50,000 Haz Mat equipment grant from State of MI 5<sup>th</sup> District Homeland Security Group

### FIRE APPARATUS:

- Placed “new” Engine 2 in service at Station 2
- Purchased 2021 Spartan S-180 Model 2111 (replace Engine 5)
- Purchased 2020 Ford F-350 (replace Squad 6)
- Transitioned Training Car 6 into Medical Response Unit (Squad 2)

### COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION:

- Successful virtual Open House for 2020 Fire Prevention Week
- Access Vision Fire Marshal interview (Oct. 2020)
- BCFD Fire Marshal Jones appointed board member MI Fire Inspector Society
- Acknowledgement of Excellence; Maranda (News 8), MI S.A.F.E./Operation Save A Life partners



# City of Battle Creek Fire Department Organization Chart



**Brian Sturdivant  
Fire Chief**

**Julie Pena / Deanna Perry  
Executive Assistant**

**Michele Hughey  
Mike Fleisher  
Matt Beauchamp  
Shift Battalion Chiefs**

**Vacant  
Admin Battalion  
Chief**

**Quincy Jones  
Fire Marshal**

**Station 2  
3 Captains  
3 Lieutenants  
10 Firefighters**

**Station 3  
3 Lieutenants  
9 Firefighters**

**Vacant  
Training Officer**

**Station 4  
3 Lieutenants  
9 Firefighters**

**Station 5  
3 Lieutenants  
6 Firefighters**

**Station 6  
2 Captains  
3 Lieutenants  
10 Firefighters**



## Members of the City of Battle Creek Fire Department

Fire Chief: Brian Sturdivant

Executive Assistant: Julie Pena / Deanna Perry

Admin Battalion Chief: Vacant

Fire Marshal: Lt Quincy Jones

Training Officer: Vacant

### A Shift

#### **Battalion Chief**

Michele Hughey

#### **Station 2**

Capt. Dan Wolfe  
Lt Scott Barnes  
EO Carl Turner  
FF Shaun Hughes  
FF Brock Howland

#### **Station 3**

Lt Brad Barney  
EO Jayeson Tkac  
FF Josh Cushman  
FF Shane Holly

#### **Station 4**

Lt Jeannell Justin  
EO Lucas Hillard  
FF Gary Metheny  
FF Ben Barle

#### **Station 5**

Lt Holly VanSickle  
EO Greg Smith  
FF Patrick Cleland

#### **Station 6**

Capt Chris Love  
Lt Scott Keeler  
EO Chad Hughes  
EO Calvin Hardin  
FF Todd Aupperlee

### B Shift

#### **Battalion Chief**

Matt Beauchamp

#### **Station 2**

Capt. Derek Malone  
Lt Cody Titus  
EO Tracey Walker  
FF James Mervyn  
FF Jon Ekema

#### **Station 3**

Lt Andre Doser  
EO Jaye Tkac  
FF Joe Shanks  
FF Brendon Caid

#### **Station 4**

Lt Jake Martin  
EO Walter Hardy  
FF Ralf Willms  
FF Jessica Lindquist

#### **Station 5**

Lt Todd Miller  
EO Nate Stencel  
FF Michael Tobin

#### **Station 6**

Capt Shawn Metheny  
Lt Jeremy Pratt  
EO Ryan Johnson  
EO Gus Furman  
FF Jake Gray

### C Shift

#### **Battalion Chief**

Michael Fleisher

#### **Station 2**

Capt. Eric Haines  
Lt Scott Williamson  
EO Tim Gieske  
FF Kurt Hoeksema  
FF Josh Hagen  
FF Zach Mueller

#### **Station 3**

Lt LaMarr Mingle  
EO Justin Coffey  
FF David Wuis  
FF Kyle Williams

#### **Station 4**

Lt Nick Brizendine  
EO Jared Willman  
FF Chad Stuck  
FF Jill Wood

#### **Station 5**

Lt Mark Koch  
EO Mike Archer  
FF Shaun Kelly

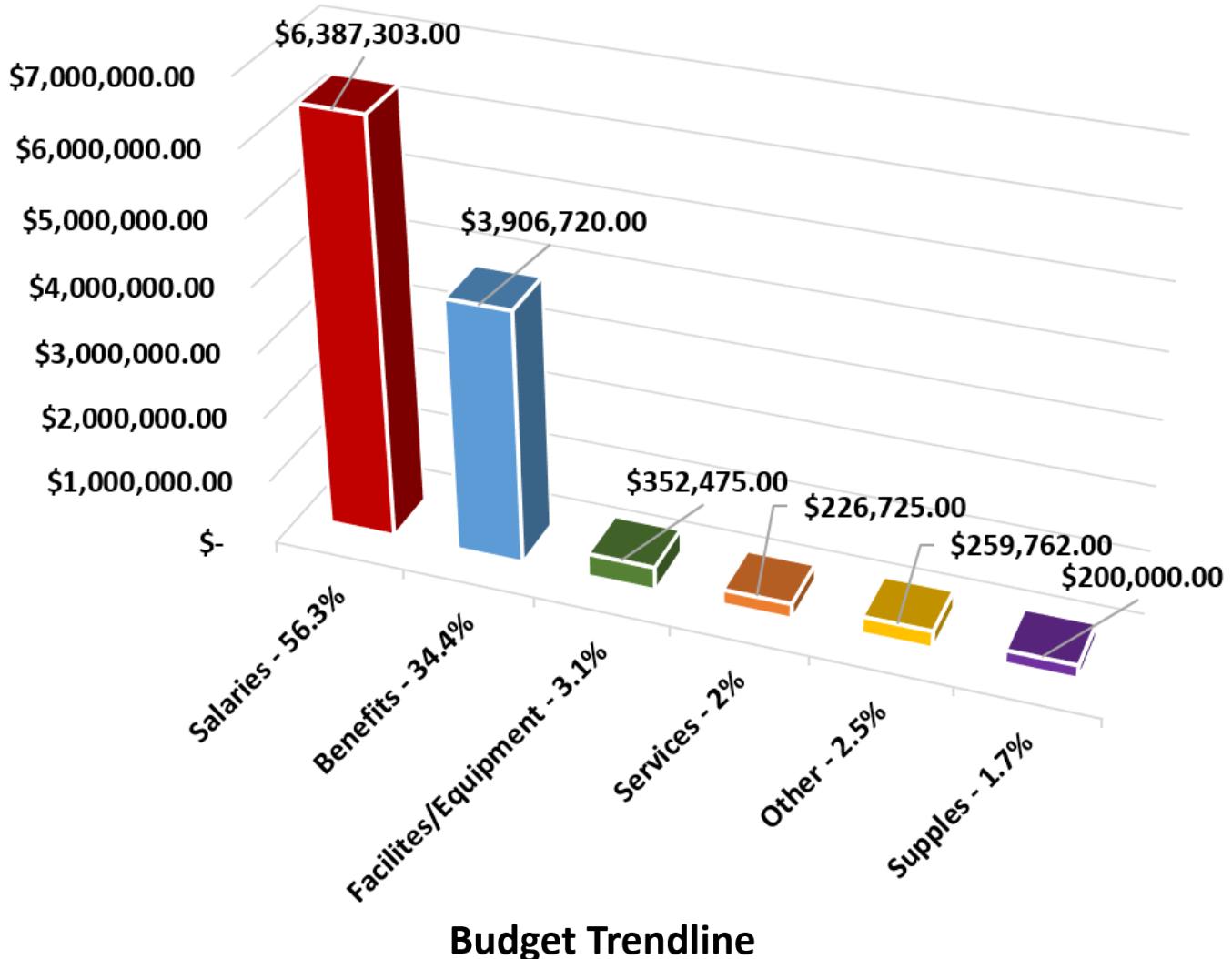
#### **Station 6**

Lt JD Ramey  
EO Jeff Hudson  
EO Bush McCarthy  
FF Adam Upston  
FF Kevin Lohrke

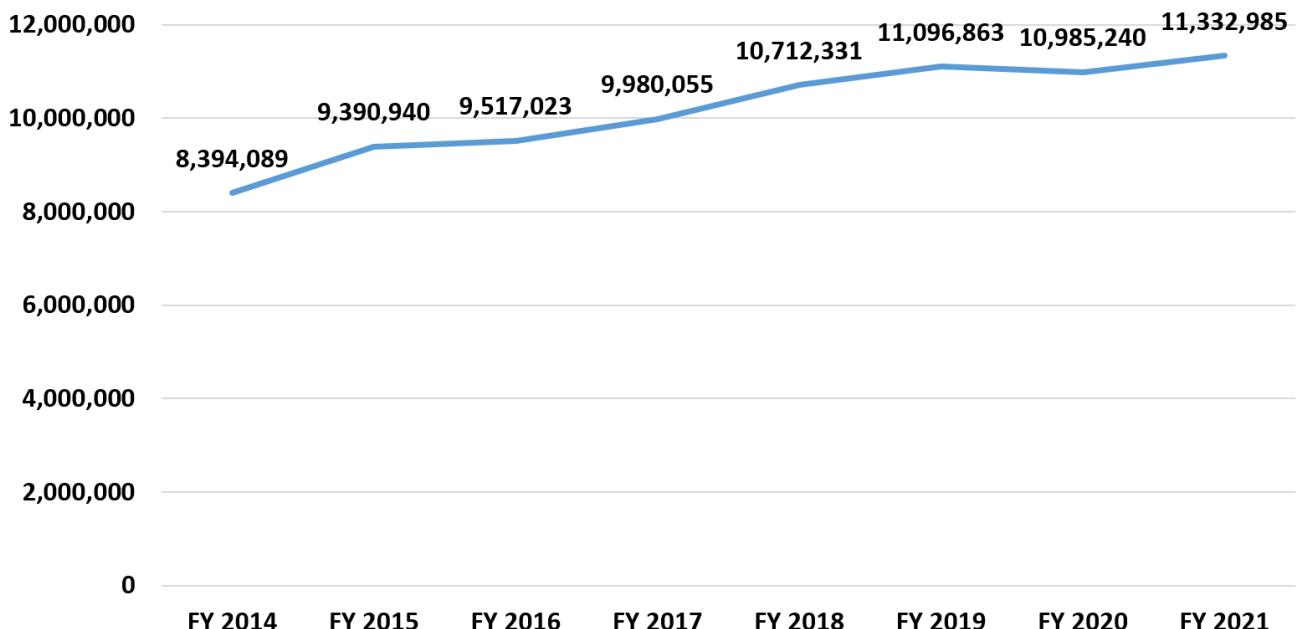


## Financial and Growth Information

### FY 2020-2021 Budget



### Budget Trendline





## **BCFD INSURANCE SERVICES OFFICE (ISO) CLASS RATING: 3**

In 2016, the BCFD secured a favorable ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating of 3, among the top ratings for municipalities in the State of MI. This rating measures a community's capacity for fire prevention, and fire suppression, which influences the business community's insurance rates.

The ISO conducts a periodic review of the community's ability to respond to and mitigate fire incidents. This review analyzes 911 call-processing, pre-emergency planning, fire training and response and the distribution of fire resources, reliability of the water distribution grid is also measured.

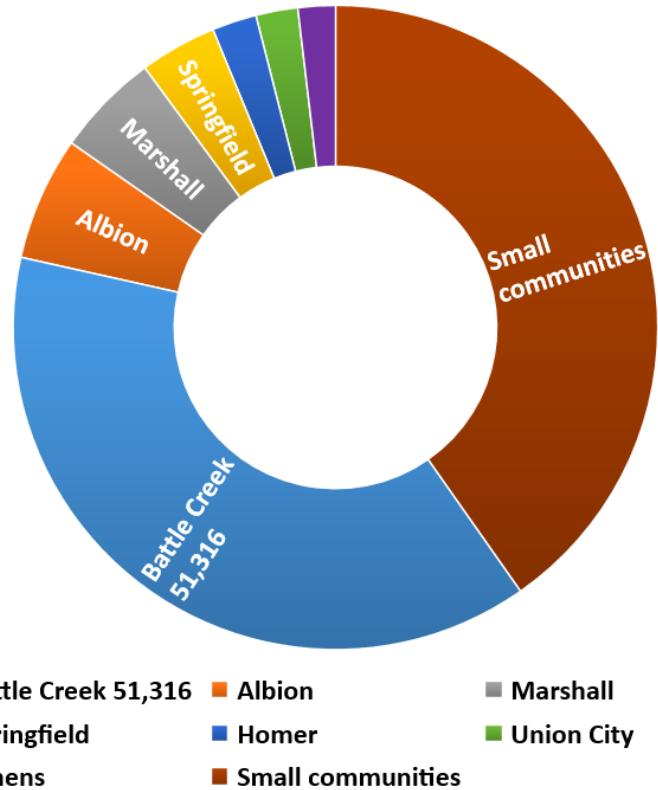
In each community throughout the United States, ISO analyzes the relevant data using a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). They then assign a Public Protection Classification from 1 (best) to 10 (worst). Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection.

The BCFD initially planned for a 2021 ISO review of our community's PPC, however, due to COVID, we have pushed this process out to 2022. There have been several significant upgrades within our system since 2016. We will continue with ISO data collection for 2021 and target 2022 as the review date. We feel very confident that our PPC will increase from the current rating of 3 to an updated, enhanced rating of 2. When this happens, it will signify BCFD's continued commitment to community protection and economic development.





Calhoun County Population 134,212 (2020 census)



# 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
- **Kaytee Faris**—Vice Mayor At-Large
- **Kristin Blood**—Ward 1
- **Jenasia Morris**—Ward 2
- **Boonikka Herring**—Ward 3
- **Kathy Szenda Wilson**—Ward 4
- **Jim Lance**—Ward 5
- **Carla Reynolds**—At-Large
- **Sherry Sofia**—At-Large





## Fire Station Information



# Station 1

195 E. Michigan Ave.  
Total Response: 227



# Station 2

145 N. Washington Ave.  
Total Response: 1821



# Station 3

222 Cliff St.  
Total Response: 1414



No. 3 Fire Station ~ Battle Creek, Mich.



# Station 4

8 S. 20th St.  
Total Response: 1606



# Station 5

1170 W. Michigan Ave.  
Total Response: 1036



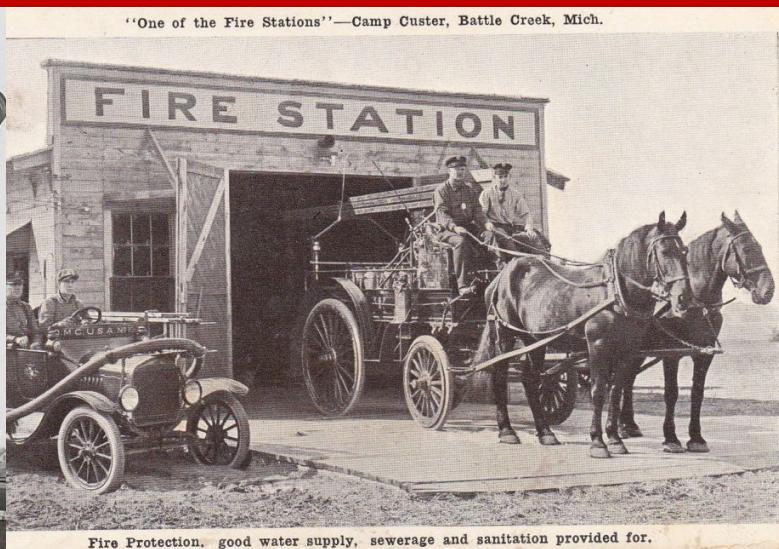
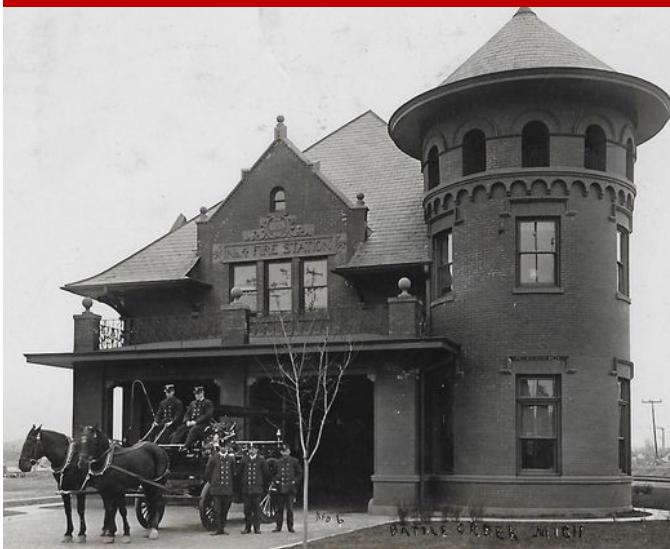
# Station 6

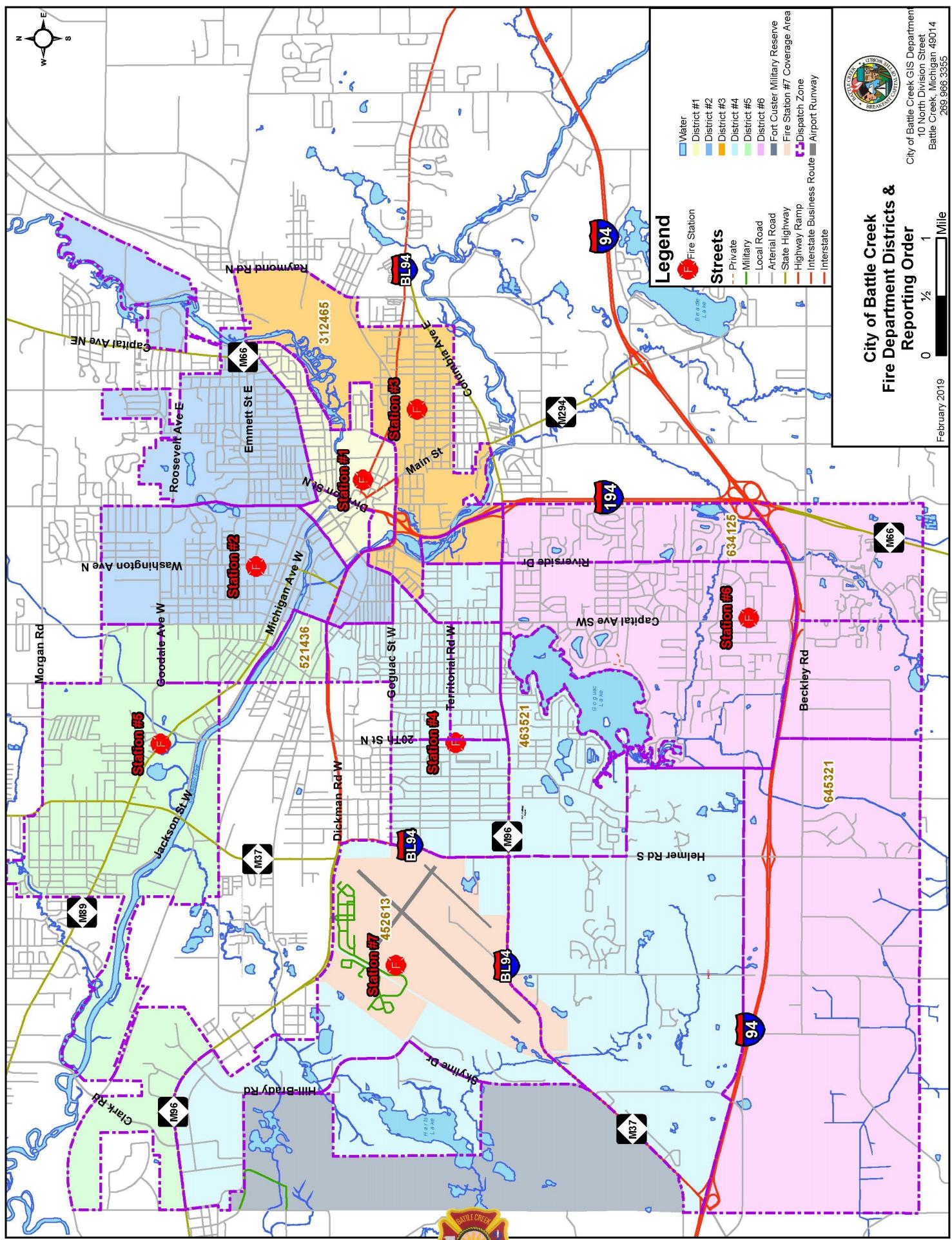
2401 Capital Ave. SW  
Total Response: 1412



# Station 7

W.K. Kellogg Airport/National Guard Base  
Total Response: 6







# 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.

<u>Station and Equipment Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
<b>Station 1</b>		
GMC Yukon 4x4	2014	Car 1
GMC Yukon XL	2015	Car 3
Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4	2009	Car 4
GMC Yukon XL	2017	Car 5
ARGO plus trailer	2018	ARGO
Interstate Trailer	2016	TRT
Wells Cargo	2003	Haz-Mat Trailer
E-One 1750 GPM Pump Reserve Engine	1996	Engine 7
<b>Station 2</b>		
Spartan Fire Engine	2020	Engine 2
Pierce Dash Quint 75' Ladder	2005	Ladder 2
Ford F-350 4x4	2016	Squad 2
<b>Station 3</b>		
Spartan Spencer 1500 GPM Rescue	2017	Rescue 3
Chevrolet Blazer 4x4	2006	Extra staff vehicle
<b>Station 4</b>		
Spartan Spencer 1500 GPM Rescue	2017	Rescue 4
Chevrolet 2500 4X4 Plow Truck	2001	Car 10
Alweld Connector Boat plus motor	2017	Boat 1
Inmar Inflatable Boat plus motor	2017	Boat 2
<b>Station 5</b>		
E-One 1750 GPM Pump Engine	1996	Engine 5
<b>Station 6</b>		
Smeal Quint 100' Aerial	2015	Truck 6
Spartan Rescue Squad	2006	Squad 6
<b>Station 7</b>		
Osh Kosh T-1500	2015	Crash 9
Osh Kosh T-1500	2015	Crash 10



# Fire Training Program

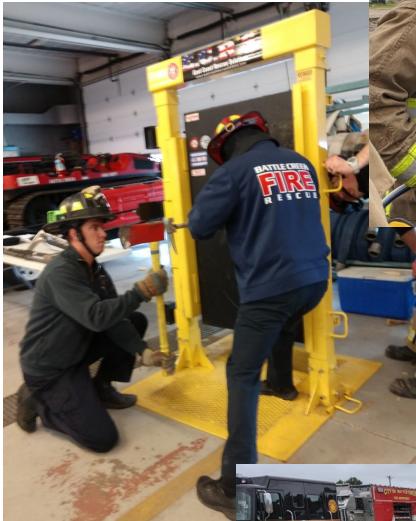
Training is an essential component to providing effective firefighting services. The Training Division directs all training for Battle Creek's 81 fire personnel. LifeCare assists with the continuing education for our Medical First Responders. Battle Creek's Training Division was led in 2020 by Training Officer Lt. Andre Doser.

Firefighters are required to become certified Firefighter I and II by the State of Michigan, plus receive 24 hours of Hazardous Materials training. Once all this is complete, all newly hired firefighters go through a 12-month probationary training period where they learn our procedures, techniques, equipment, apparatus, streets, and other fire fighting skills.

## 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



## Training Hours

Training Categories	2019	2020
Company training	5768	2125
Officer training	2046	1629
Driver/Operator training	1036	773
Hazardous materials	329	458
ARFF	581	30
Fire prevention	478	452
Apparatus training	1082	1444
Specialty training (tech rescue)	219	20
Medical training	978	165
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,517</b>	<b>7,096</b>



## HazMat Team

There are 13 personnel on the HazMat team trained to the Hazardous Materials Technician level. The technicians are required to obtain additional training courses compliant to NFPA 472 which is equivalent to 300 hours of additional specialized training. Topics include air monitoring, incident management, evidence collection and sampling, chemistry, hazard and risk analysis, and decontamination.

The team also has technicians who hold subject matter specialty in incidents such as: Highway Cargo Incidents, Railroad Response, Radiological Emergencies, Chemical and Biological Weapons, and Explosives.

Team members have traveled to specialized schools for training such as the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Training Center in Lansing, Michigan as well as free, federally-funded courses through The Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama, the Counter Terrorism Operations Support School in Mercury, Nevada, the Specialized Emergency Response Training Center in Pueblo, Colorado, and New Mexico Technical University in Socorro, New Mexico.

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.

In 2020, the Battle Creek Fire Department received a \$50,000 Michigan 5<sup>th</sup> District Homeland Security Planning/Preparedness grant which was used to purchase equipment, maintain current equipment, or replace outdated equipment. The team also obtained a battery powered extrication tool.

### HazMat Statistics

ACTIVITY	2020
NFIRS Code Range 400-431 (Hazardous Materials Codes)	76
NFIRS Code 736 & 746 (Carbon Monoxide)	32
NFIRS Code 671 (HazMat Release Investigation)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>111 calls for service</b>

\*NFIRS— National Fire Incident Reporting System



## 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.

All 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 6 members of its team on the MI-TRT-5 district team, 5 of those members having been trained to operations level in collapse rescue and trench rescue.

The 5<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> District meeting NFPA 1983 equipment compliance standards.

The Battle Creek Fire Department is the City of Battle Creek's confined space rescue team. Confined space operations are performed by the City of Battle Creek sometimes on a daily basis. The team is also available to serve the local industries if called upon.

In 2020, the team continued its work with the City of Battle Creek Risk Management Department to address any potential special operations needs.

The team performs annual training for its 15 members as well as annual training across the department. In 2020, the team performed approximately 46 hours of training team wide.



# 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 inside Fire Station 1, 195 East Michigan Avenue.

## Functions

The functions of the Bureau are defined by ordinance and include coordinating **fire investigations**, **fire prevention inspections**, and **fire safety programs**.

- Station #6 Demonstration of Safe Kitchen Cooking Tips. (Captain John Hausman, Lieutenant Scott Williamson, FF Jeff Hudson, and FF Bush McCarthy).
- Station #6 Fire Apparatus Familiarization Equipment/ Tool display and use.
- Fire Prevention Week Education - Month of October Access Vision TV Recorded Interview w/Fire Marshal Jones. (Conducted by Lynn Ward Gray. Assisted by Jessica Vanderkolk).
- Fire Prevention Week Facebook Live Interview - Host Jessica Vanderkolk. Interview with Chief Sturdivant and Fire Marshal Jones.
- Acknowledgment of Battle Creek Fire Department for protecting and serving the community by Maranda of News 8 and Michigan S.A.F.E. / Operation Save A Life partners. Station #6 visit and presentation by Maranda and Michael McLeieer.
- Fire Marshal Jones Appointed and Sworn in by State Fire Marshal Kevin Sehlmeyer as board member of Michigan Fire Inspectors Society.



## Fire Prevention Statistics

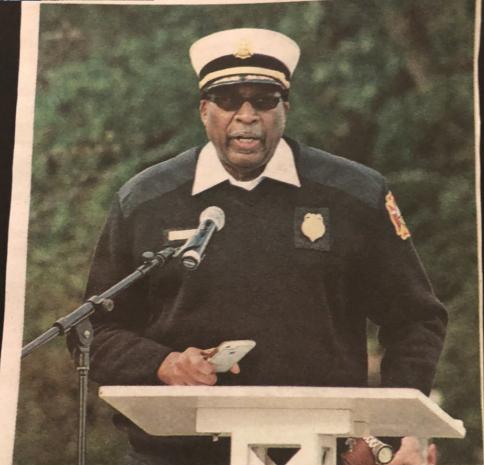
ACTIVITY	2020
Inspections	132
PR Events	17
Fire Investigations—Closed	18
Arsons	8
Juvenile fire setter	0
Smoke alarm installed	113
Carbon Monoxide alarms installed	18

\*Inspections prioritized by Life Safety Requirements due to pandemic. Smoke alarm installation program suspended March 2020 due to pandemic\*



## 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.



Battle Creek City Fire Chief Brian Sturdvant talks about how the country truly is stronger when it stands together. (Shopper News photo by Shelly Sulser)

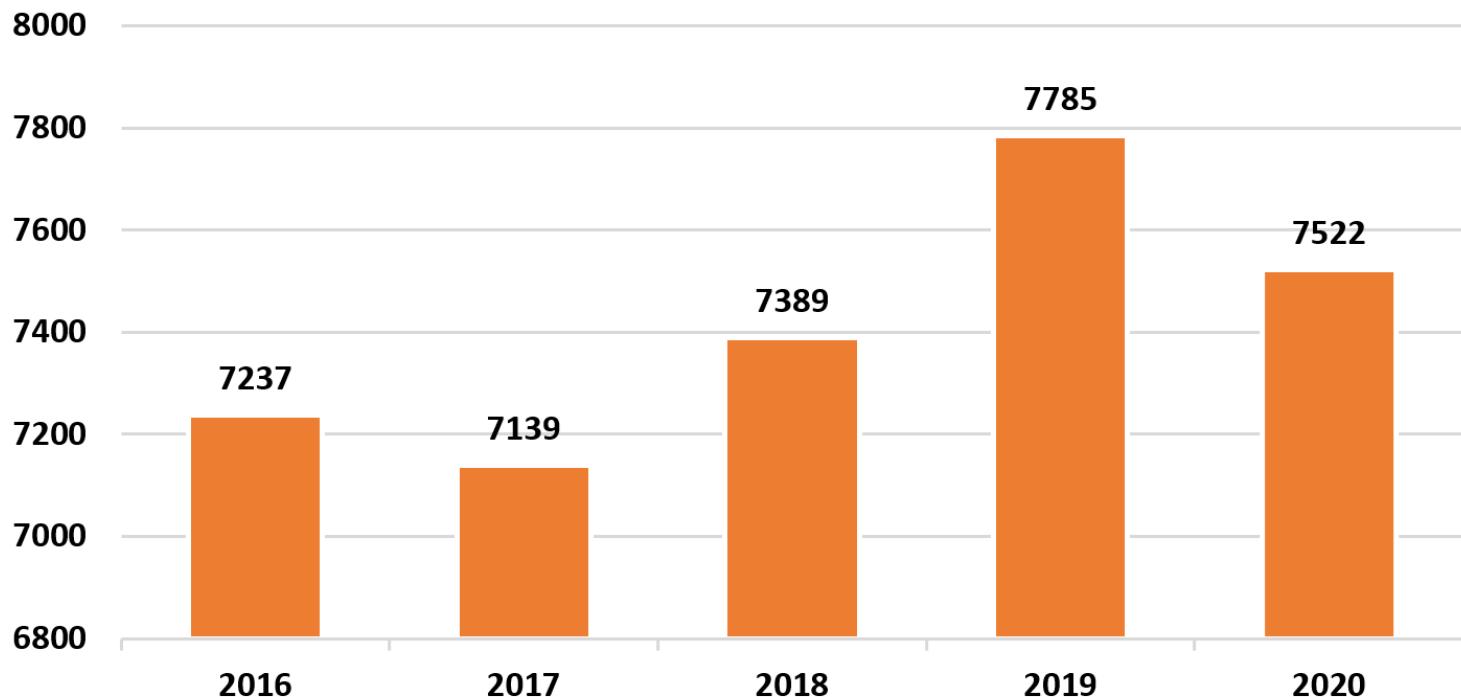




## Incident Data and Emergency Response Statistics



## TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



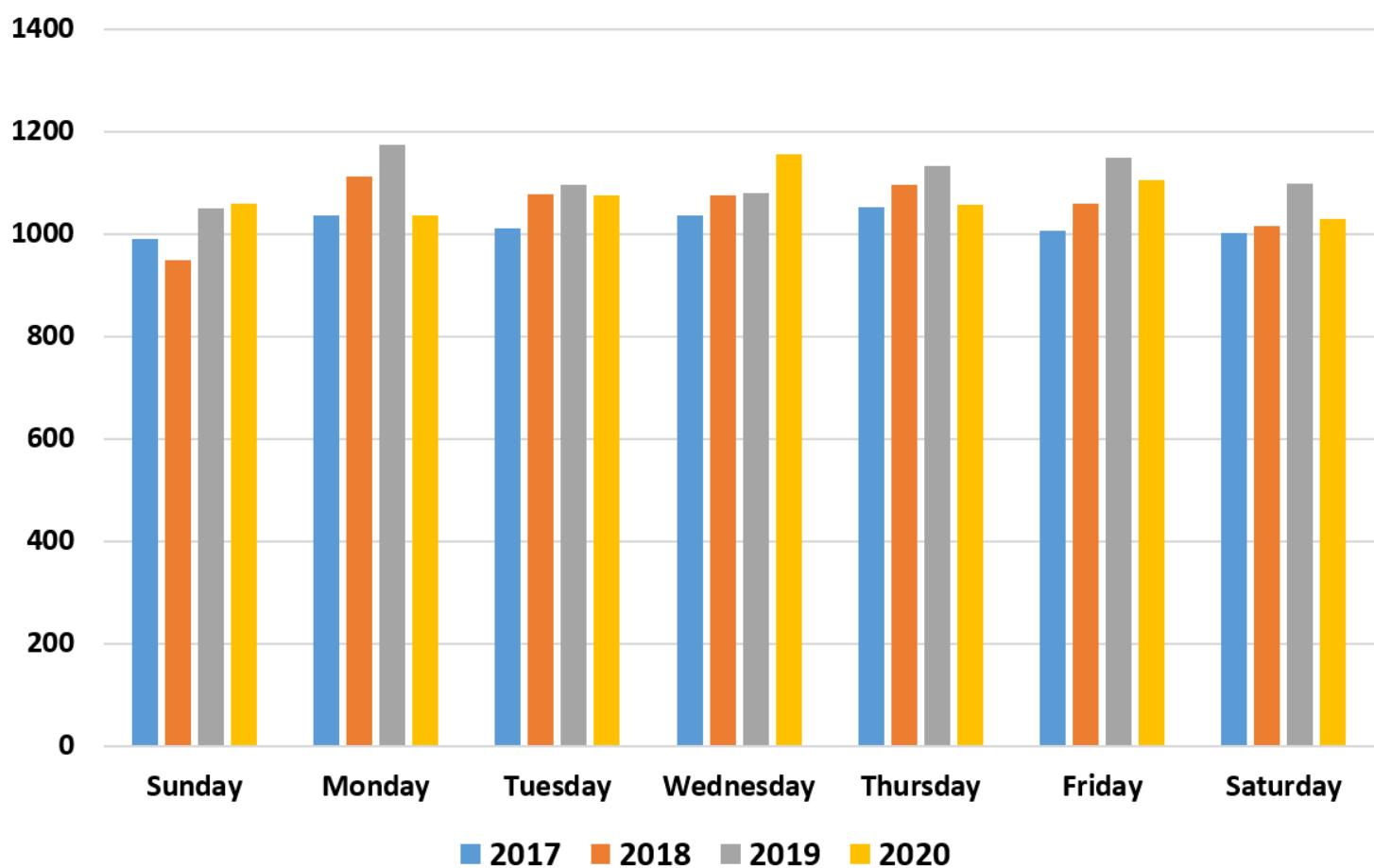
YEAR	INCIDENTS
2016	7237
2017	7139
2018	7389
2019	7785
2020	7522

Response Mode (in minutes)	2017	2018	2019	2020
Lights and Sirens	4.61	4.77	4.79	4.37
Initial Lights and Sirens, Downgraded to No Lights or Sirens	6.24	6.38	5.74	6.24
Initial No Lights and Sirens, Upgraded to Lights and Sirens	6.63	6.45	6.31	5.48
No Lights or Sirens	5.82	6.13	6.47	7.30
Average	5.83	5.93	5.83	6.09



CALLS BY DAY OF THE WEEK	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sunday	990	949	1051	1061
Monday	1038	1112	1176	1037
Tuesday	1012	1078	1096	1076
Wednesday	1037	1077	1080	1156
Thursday	1052	1096	1133	1057
Friday	1007	1061	1150	1106
Saturday	1003	1016	1099	1029

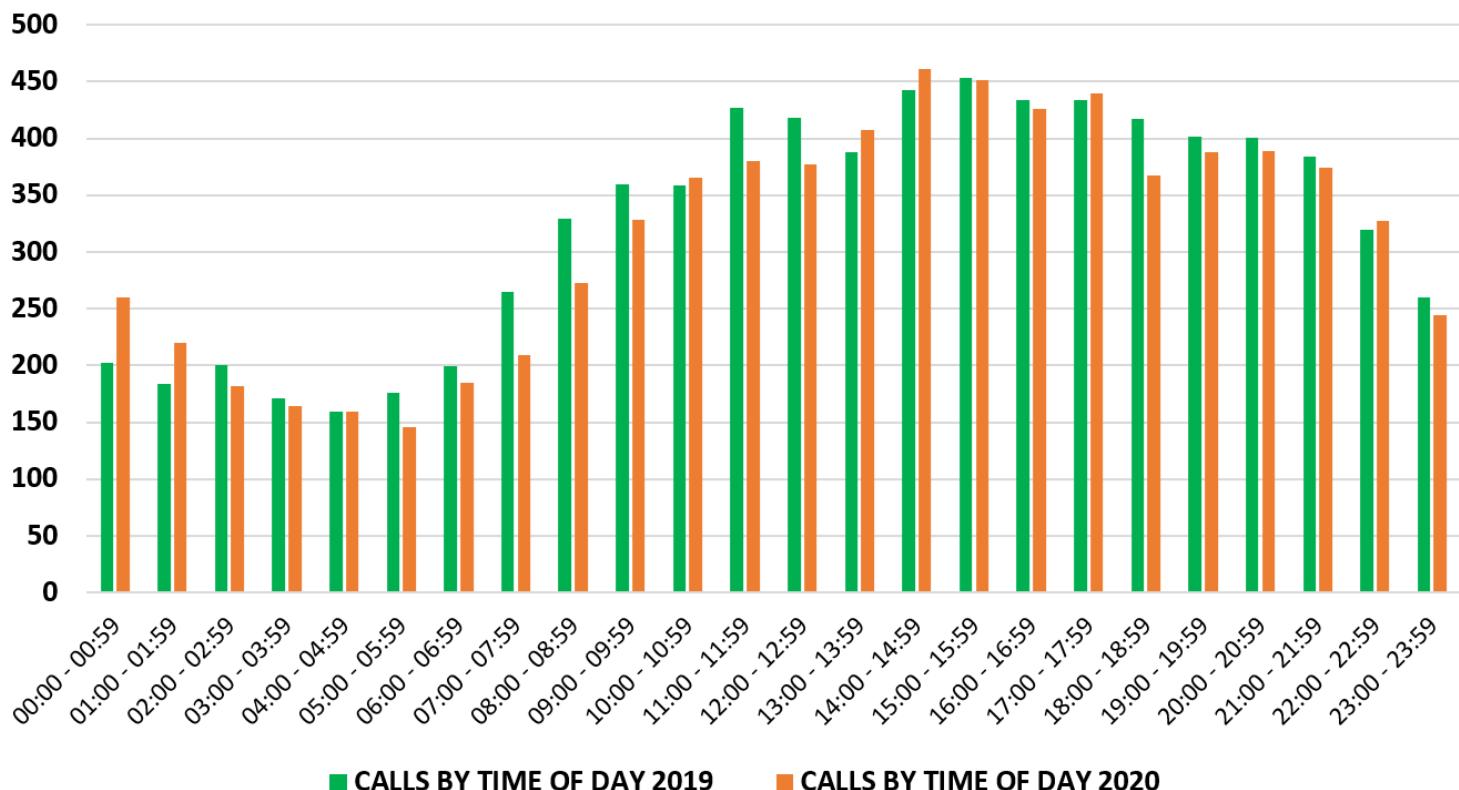
## CALLS BY THE DAY OF THE WEEK



## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY

TIME	2017	2018	2019	2020
00:00 - 00:59	238	211	202	260
01:00 - 01:59	202	195	184	220
02:00 - 02:59	163	180	200	182
03:00 - 03:59	151	160	171	164
04:00 - 04:59	150	160	159	159
05:00 - 05:59	145	180	176	146
06:00 - 06:59	178	162	199	185
07:00 - 07:59	228	267	265	209
08:00 - 08:59	280	263	329	273
09:00 - 09:59	294	351	360	328
10:00 - 10:59	340	399	359	365
11:00 - 11:59	387	400	427	380
12:00 - 12:59	399	405	418	377
13:00 - 13:59	411	408	388	407
14:00 - 14:59	408	427	443	461
15:00 - 15:59	412	431	453	451
16:00 - 16:59	423	379	434	426
17:00 - 17:59	387	374	434	440
18:00 - 18:59	373	413	417	367
19:00 - 19:59	362	356	402	388
20:00 - 20:59	350	358	401	389
21:00 - 21:59	336	358	384	374
22:00 - 22:59	304	291	320	327
23:00 - 23:59	218	261	260	244

## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2020



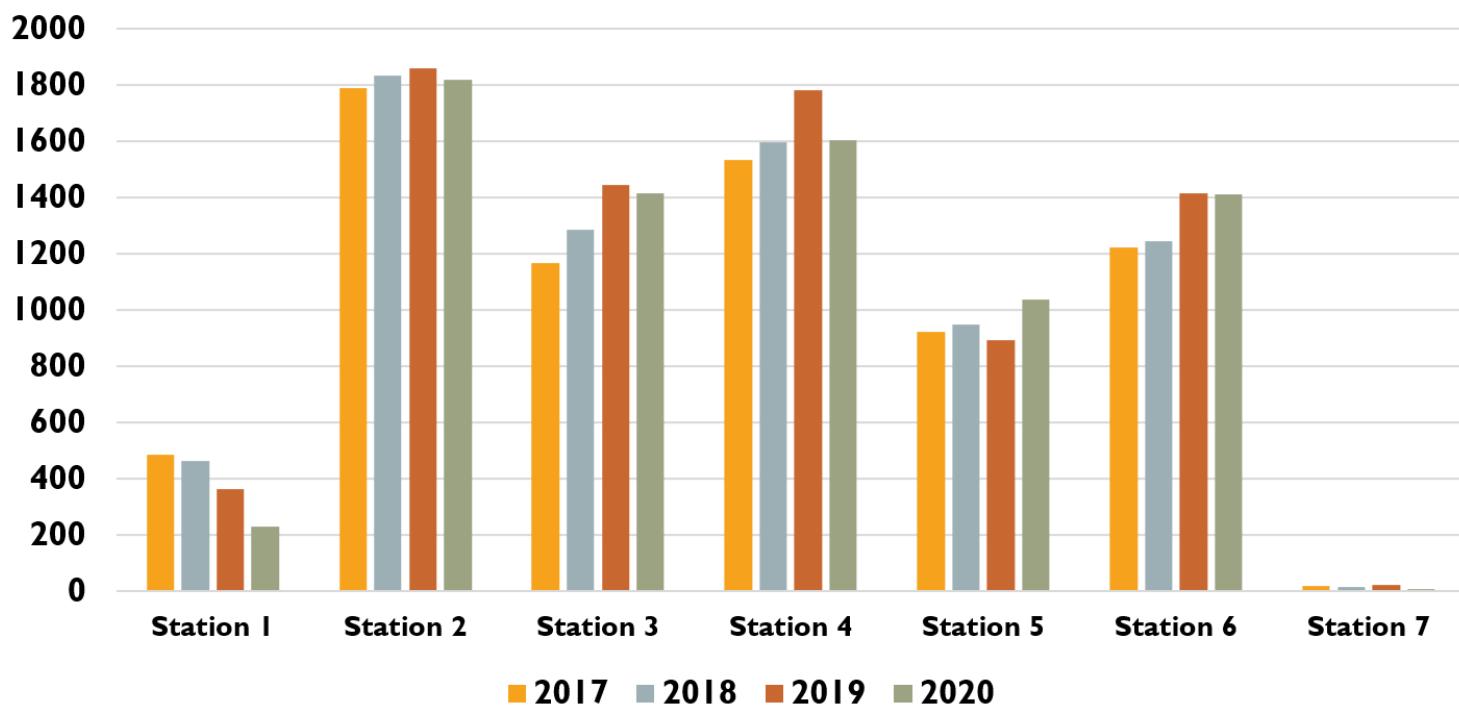
■ CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2019

■ CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2020

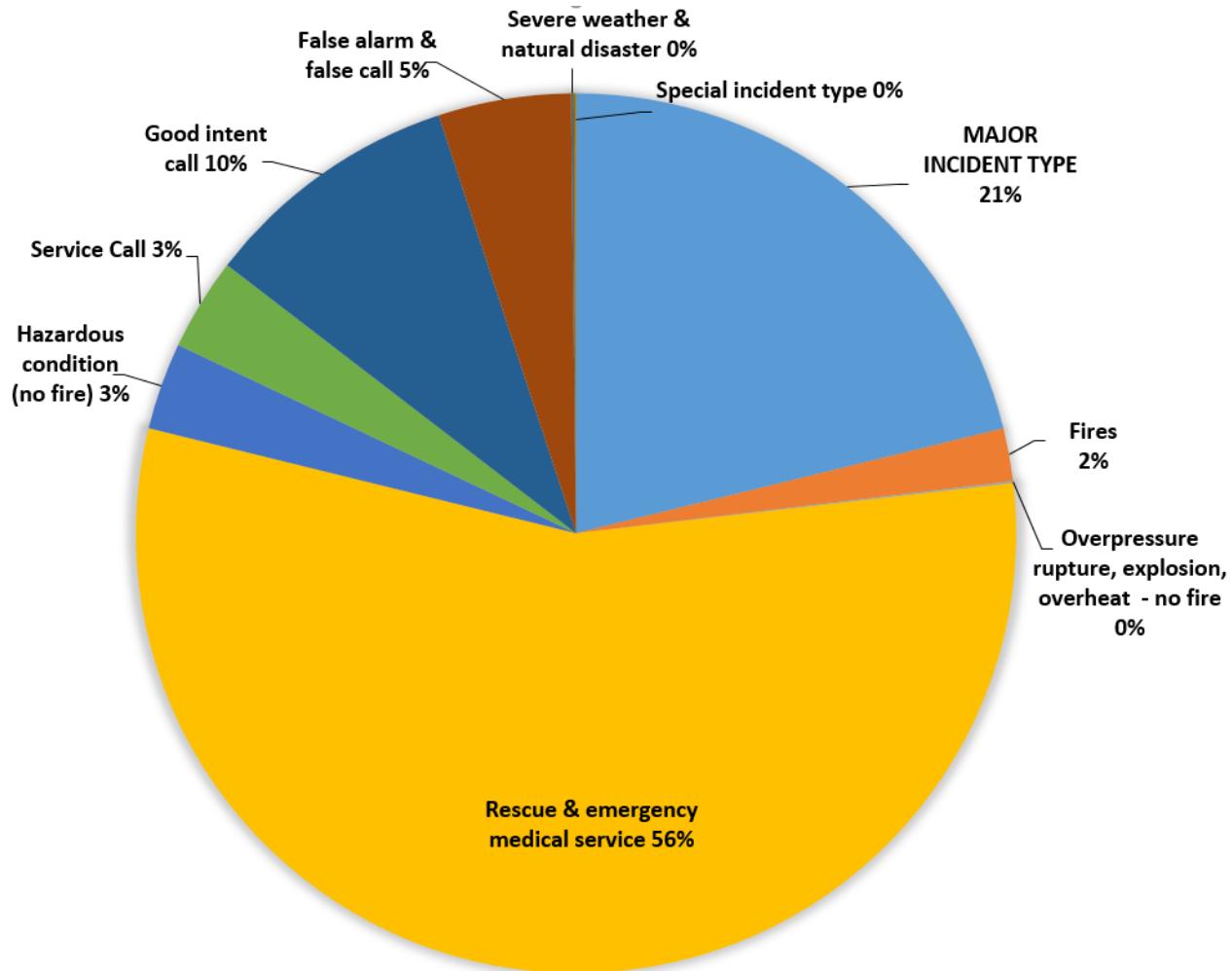


CALLS PER DISTRICT	2017	2018	2019	2020	CHANGE BETWEEN 2019 AND 2020
Station 1	484	464	363	227	-136
Station 2	1791	1835	1860	1821	-39
Station 3	1167	1286	1446	1414	-32
Station 4	1533	1597	1784	1606	-178
Station 5	922	949	894	1036	142
Station 6	1223	1244	1416	1412	-4
Station 7	19	14	22	6	-16
Total	7139	7389	7785	7522	-263

## CALLS PER DISTRICT



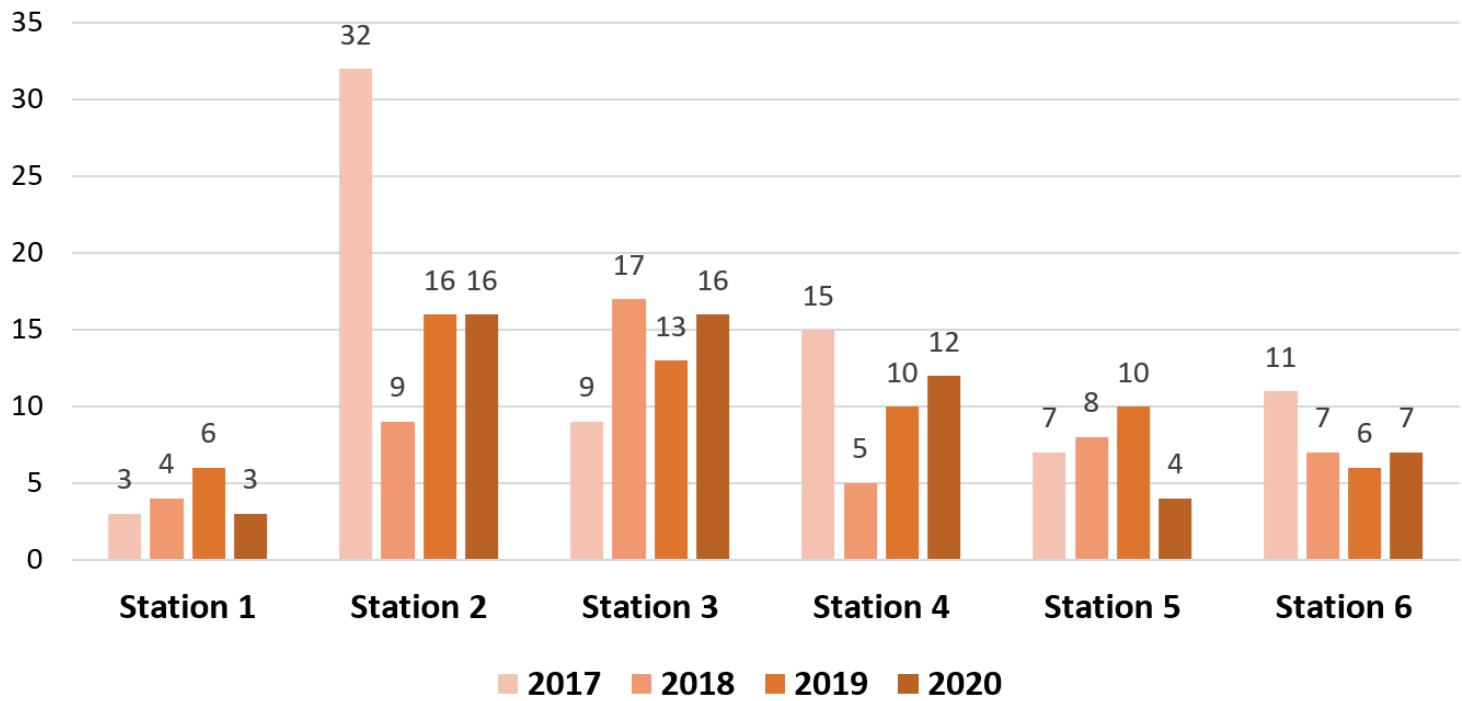
# Incident Data



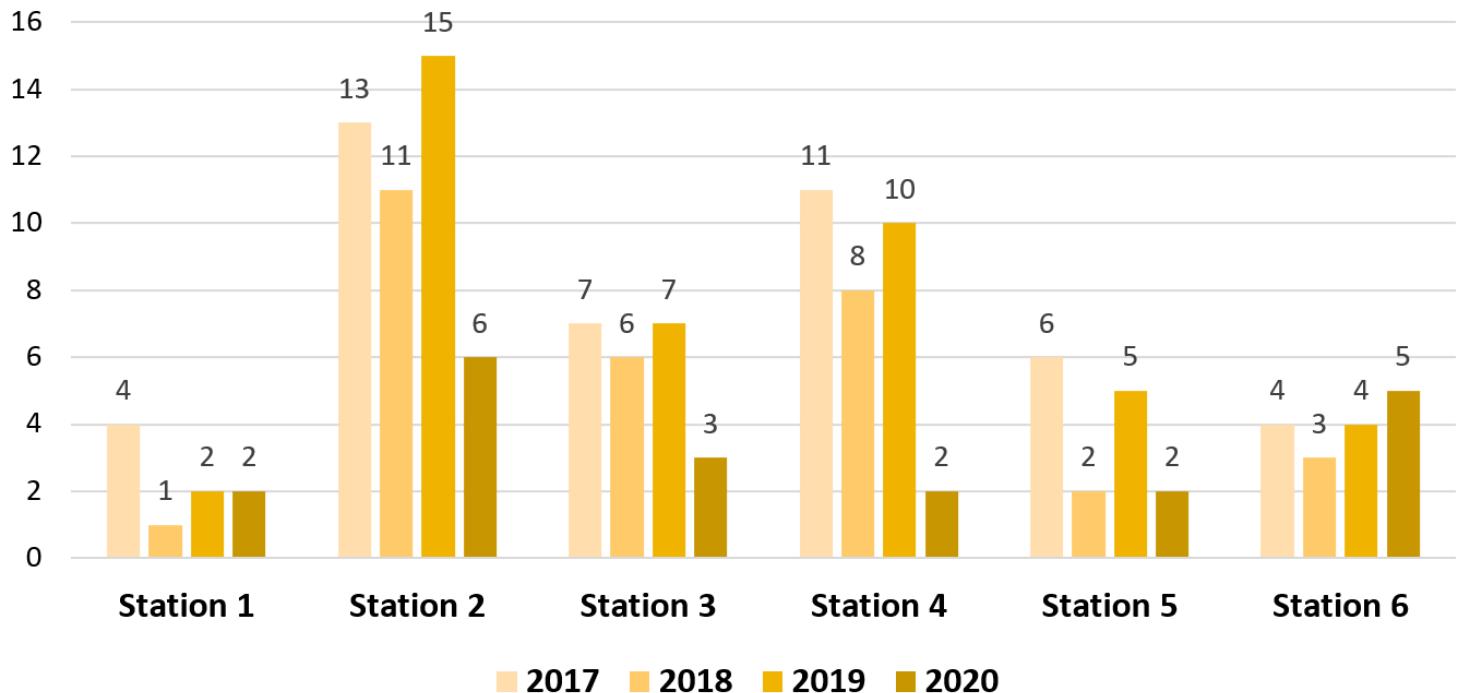
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	2017	2018	2019	2020	CHANGE
Fires	246	193	214	185	-29
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat - no fire	11	12	7	7	0
Rescue & emergency medical service	5201	5400	5518	5311	-207
Hazardous condition (no fire)	276	217	247	305	58
Service Call	273	297	312	324	12
Good intent call	726	847	958	908	-50
False alarm & false call	401	414	517	465	-52
Severe weather & natural disaster	0	2	4	10	6
Special incident type	5	7	8	7	-1
Total	7139	7389	7785	7522	-263



## STRUCTURE FIRES BY STATION (4.9% DECREASE FROM 2019)

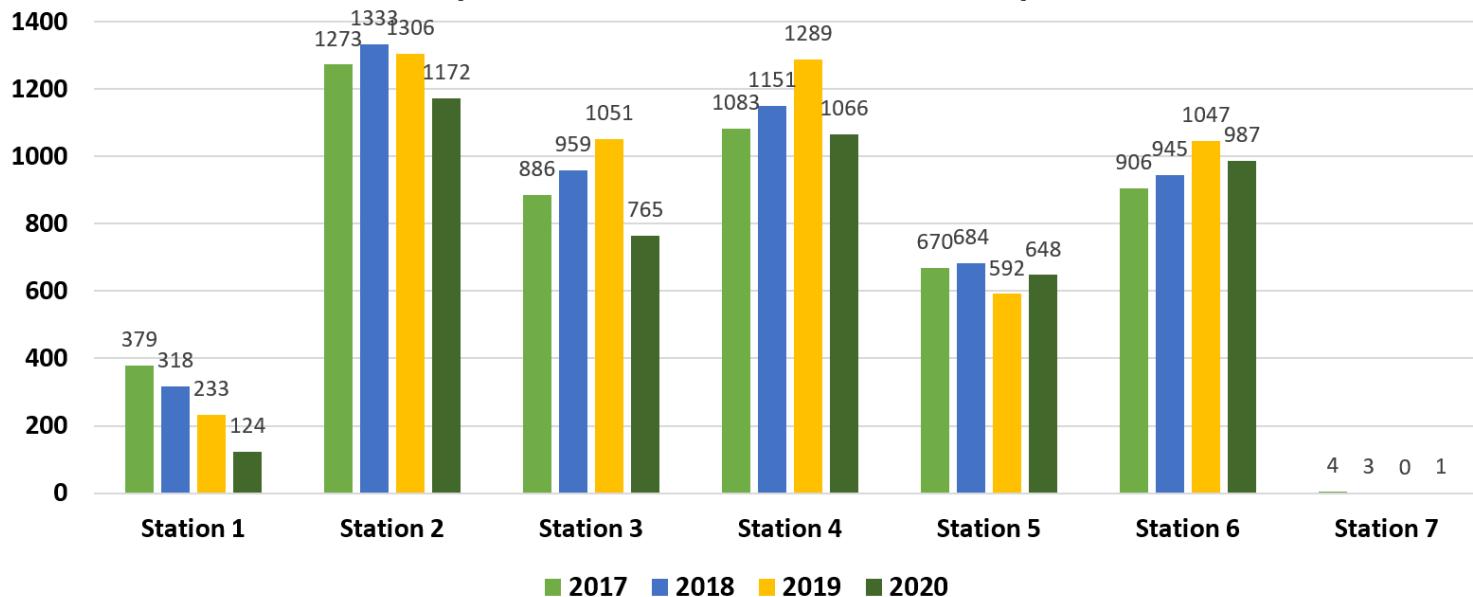


## COOKING FIRES BY STATION (53% DECREASE FROM 2019)



## EMS AND RESCUE CALLS BY STATION

(13.7% DECREASE from 2019)



## PERCENTAGE OF CALLS FOR 2020

■ EMS & Rescue Calls      ■ All Other Responses

