



VERMONT

Department of Public Safety

***DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY***

[firesafety.vermont.gov](http://firesafety.vermont.gov)

# Report of the **STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

# 2018



100 YEARS OF KEEPING PEOPLE FIRE SAFE WHERE THEY LIVE WORK AND PLAY

Thomas D. Anderson

Commissioner  
Department of Public Safety



Michael Desrochers

Executive Director  
Division of Fire Safety

# 2018 Report of the State Fire Marshal

## Division of Fire Safety Mission

The Division of Fire Safety's mission is to protect the public and fire service through coordinated efforts in Code Enforcement, Fire Service Training, Public Education, Hazardous Materials Response, Fire Investigation and Urban Search and Rescue. These efforts maximize life safety and property conservation and minimize environmental impacts due to fire, natural disasters and other emergencies in the State of Vermont.

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## Cautions on Interpretation

The main data source for this report is the National Fire Incident Reporting system (NFIRS). While Vermont fire departments are required by state law to report to the Division, NFIRS is a voluntary system, and it includes data from only incidents reported and entered in the system by fire departments that participate.

Additionally, not all fire departments that report to NFIRS provide complete data or report all incidents. In addition, fire departments that report in one year may not report the following year or report all the months in the year. Thus, NFIRS may not be a complete representative of all incidents that occur statewide in a year.



## State of Vermont Department of Public Safety

The statutory purpose of the Department of Public Safety is to promote the detection and prevention of crime, to participate in searches for lost and missing persons, and to assist in cases of statewide or local disasters or emergencies.

**Commissioner, Thomas D. Anderson**  
**Deputy Commissioner, Christopher Herrick**



The Division of Fire Safety provides safety code enforcement and emergency response to protect residents and guests of Vermont

**Director, Michael Desrochers**



The Vermont State Police is a full-service law enforcement agency providing primary law enforcement services to approximately 200 towns.

**Director, Colonel Matthew Birmingham**



Vermont Emergency Management, The mission is to ensure the state's resilience to disasters.

**Director, Erica Bornemann**



VCIC is the State's repository for criminal record information systems.

**Director, Jeffrey Wallin, M.Sc.Ed.**



The VFL is the only forensic laboratory in the State of Vermont and provides services to the entire criminal justice system

**Director, Trisha Conti, Ph.D.**



Radio Technology Services plans, designs, installs, and maintains the voice & data communication systems used by the Department of Public Safety.

**Director, Terry LaValley**



The Vermont Homeland Security Unit administers the Homeland Security Grant Program for the State of Vermont. Funding is provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.



The Vermont Intelligence Center's goal is to identify patterns and indicators of criminal and terrorism-related activity in the state.

***This report was designed and produced by***

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## IN MEMORY OF

**Casey Stephen Kuhns**

Lieutenant Volunteer Firefighter  
Morrisville Fire Department



Photo courtesy of Faith Funeral Home - Morrisville



**All emergency responders who answered  
their final alarm in 2018**

*We will never forget*

**Their Service and Sacrifices**



## Commissioner's Message

As Commissioner of Public Safety, I am sure that I speak for all Vermonters in thanking all the men and women who serve as firefighters in Vermont. Despite the dangers and sacrifices inherent in being a professional or volunteer firefighter, Vermont's firefighters continue to rise to the challenge day in and day out. Your selflessness and dedication are a testament to your courage, community spirit and concern for your fellow citizens. You make us all very proud. And I look forward to continuing our partnership in the year ahead.

This year's Annual Report of the State Fire Marshal is must reading for all firefighters in Vermont. It provides important information and statistical data unique to Vermont that will benefit all firefighters. Please take time to review it and keep it handy for future reference.

Finally, the Division of Fire Safety, under the leadership of Director Michael Desrochers, and the Fire Academy, in the capable hands of Peter Lynch, will continue to work tirelessly to fulfill its obligations to Vermont's firefighter and all Vermonters. But we can't do it without the ongoing assistance of all of you. We are always looking for ways to do things better and more efficiently. Your feedback and participation is therefore critically important to building on our successes and fulfilling our mission.

On behalf of the Governor, thank you for the service you provide to our communities and for protecting all Vermonters.

**THOMAS D. ANDERSON,**  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY



## Division Executive Director's Message

The Division of Fire Safety publishes the Report of the State Fire Marshal annually. The report is a comprehensive statewide statistical analysis capturing fire and emergency services incidents. The report reflects the division's efforts across a broad range of programs aimed at protecting Vermonters and first responders. Information contained in the report is designed to elevate awareness of the fire problem to Vermont's fire service, EMS, municipalities, and many other partners with valuable insight and perspective on the impact fire has on the State of Vermont and the nation. Data collected is evaluated and may necessitate changes to our programs, especially if we identify trends and emerging issues.

This report contains critical data from 45,000 individual emergency incident reports submitted by local fire departments throughout Vermont using the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). In 2018, 73.91% of the fire departments in Vermont participated in NFIRS reporting. Vermont fire departments respond to an average of 3,000 emergency calls a month. Based on evaluating fire loss information and identifying specific trends, the Division of Fire Safety will reallocate resources and implement changes to existing programs to better protect those whom we serve, while still maintaining programs and services that continue to be extremely effective.

During 2018, the division concentrated on continuous improvement throughout all our programs while being mindful of the State's strategic plan and goals. Below is a snap shot of a few initiatives we feel supported the goals.

- In 2017, 79% of all construction permits were issued within 30 days, compared to 90% in 2018. In 2017, average turnaround time across 100% of all permits was 19 days compared, to 14 days in 2018. This will be a continuous improvement effort in 2019.
- A new 50 hour exterior support firefighter course was developed and geared to train those who may not want to fight fires, but rather provide critical emergency ground support services. This is a stepping stone for those that are entering the fire service or want to volunteer in their community, but can't commit initially to the full firefighter I training. At the request of Vermont Firefighters, this course is formatted to be delivered by a local training officer at a pace appropriate for the students. It is our hope this helps with recruitment throughout the state while keeping firefighters safe on the emergency scene.
- In the fall of 2018, the Urban Search and Rescue Team moved into warehouse space with the division's Hazardous Material Response Team. Moving equipment and vehicles under one roof has streamlined the movement of team assets and significantly improved the team's logistics. During the last three years, the USAR Task Force has been training three Live-Find search and rescue canines and handlers. One dog has achieved FEMA and State Urban Search and Rescue certification and the other two are expected to test in the spring of 2019. These three dogs and handlers are a first in Vermont and will become the only three dogs with such certification in the State.
- The public education section continues to fight fire through education and prevention. Micheal Greenia, Assistant State Fire Marshal was appointed to serve as a Director of the National Fire Protection Association Fire Safety Education Member Section Executive Board. Fire Safety received an Assistant to Fire Fighter Grant (AFG) to install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in single-family owner-occupied homes. We have partnered with Meals and Wheels and will be pushing out events through collaborating with fire departments to install alarms in homes that are not otherwise protected, or owners are not able to physically install them. Protecting the most vulnerable is a high priority for the division of fire safety.

The significant gains we have made would not have been possible without the hard work and devotion of our staff and support from the Commissioner, Administration, the Legislature and most importantly, the Vermont Fire Service. On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank all of those involved in supporting the mission of the Division of Fire Safety, Department of Public Safety.

**Michael Desrochers,**  
Division of Fire Safety, Executive Director

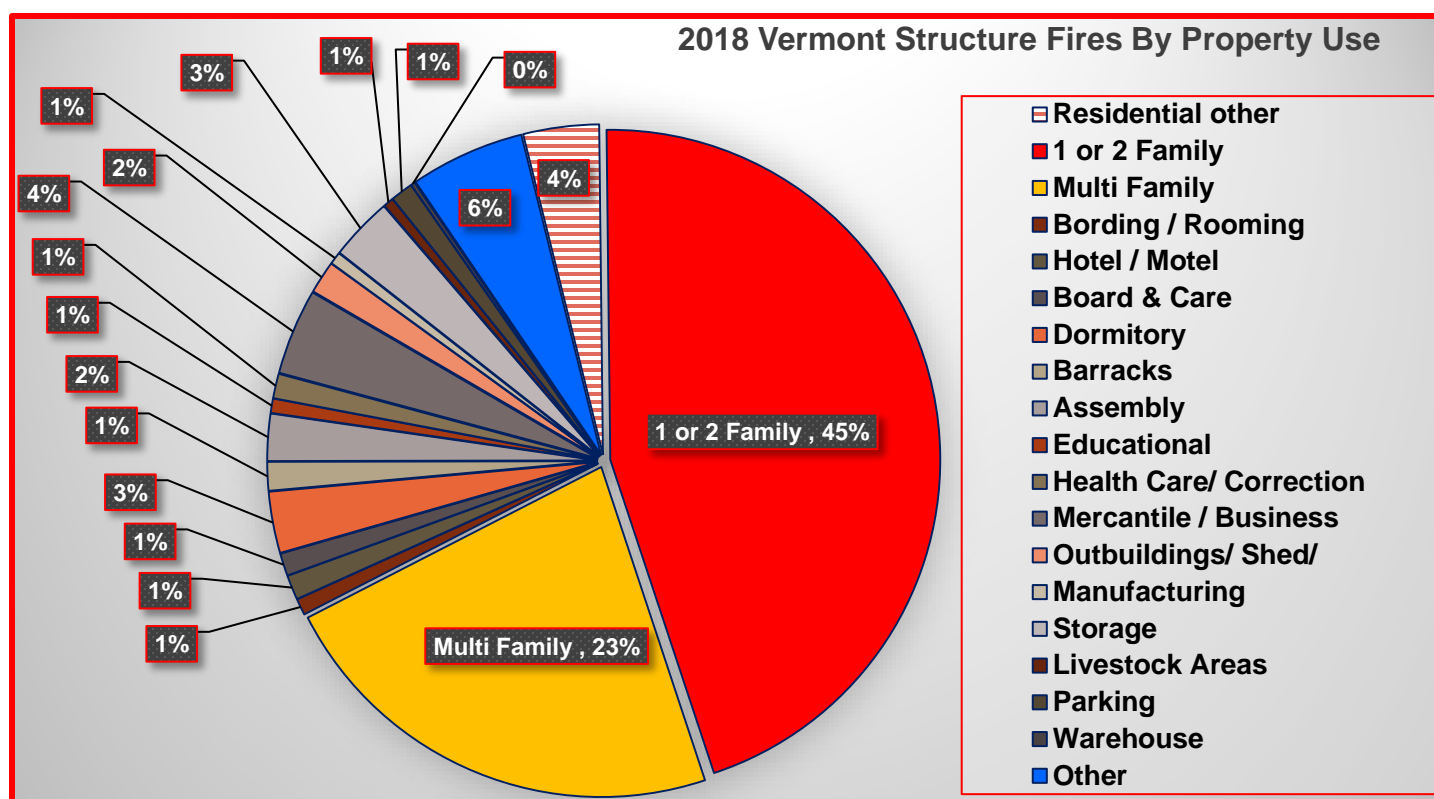


# The Impact of Fire in Vermont

During 2018, VT fire departments reported responses to over 45,122 emergency incidents. Residential properties account for the majority of Vermont structure fires and civilian fatalities.

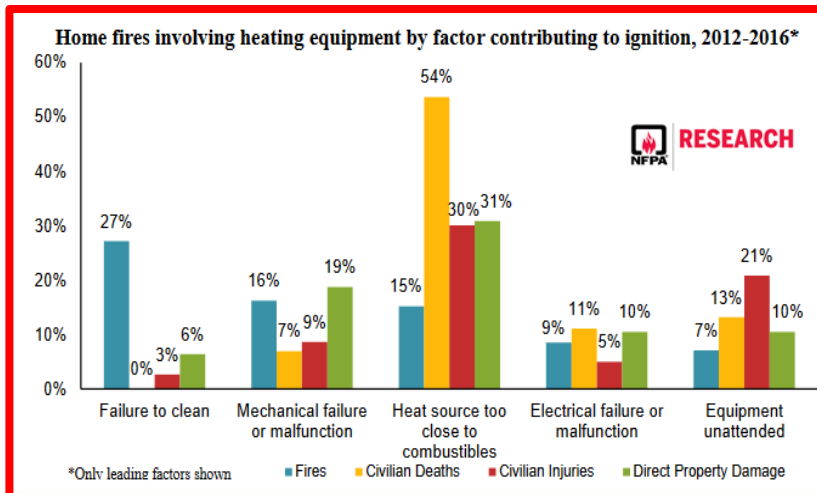
United States fire departments responded to an estimated 1,319,500 fires in 2017. These fires resulted in 3,400 civilian fire fatalities, 14,670 civilian fire injuries and an estimated \$23 billion in direct property loss (this figure includes a \$10 billion loss in Northern California wildfires). There was a **civilian fire death every 2 hours and 34 minutes** and a **civilian fire injury every 36 minutes** in 2017. Home fires caused 2,630, or 77%, of the civilian fire deaths. Fires accounted for four percent of the 34,683,500 total calls. Seven percent of the calls were false alarms; 64% of the calls were for medical aid such as emergency medical services (EMS) or rescues.

While the fire problem varies across the country, there are several common contributing factors such as poverty, climate, education, code enforcement, demographics and other factors that influence the statistics.



Heating appliances and cooking fires in Vermont continue to be the leading causes of structure fires.

The leading factor contributing to home heating fires was failure to clean creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment chimneys. The long cold Vermont winters put added stress on heating systems. Furthermore, fluctuating fuel prices can force people to use alternative heating sources that may not be safe. An improperly installed and maintained heating appliance is dangerous and can result in carbon monoxide poisoning or be the source of a fire.

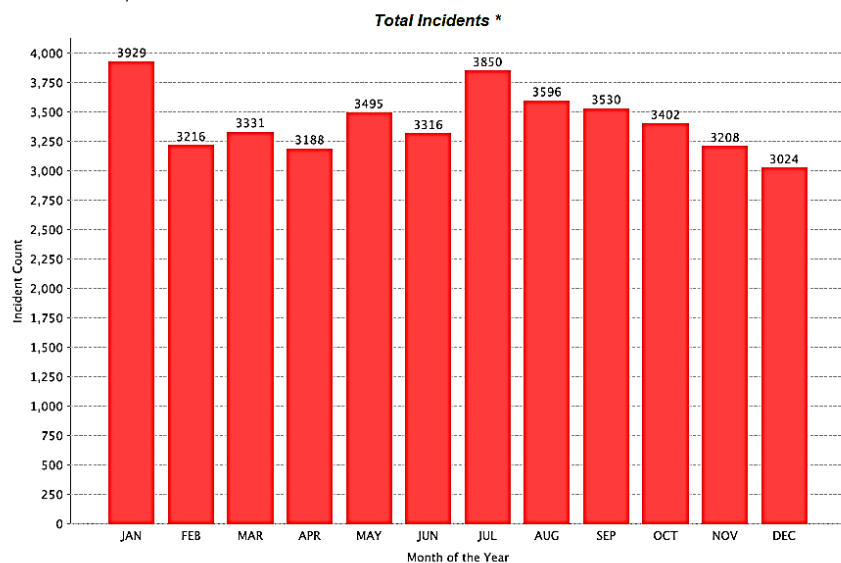


## 2018 Vermont Incident Data

### Incident By Time Series: Month of the Year

Report Period: From 01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018

Incident Total: 41,085

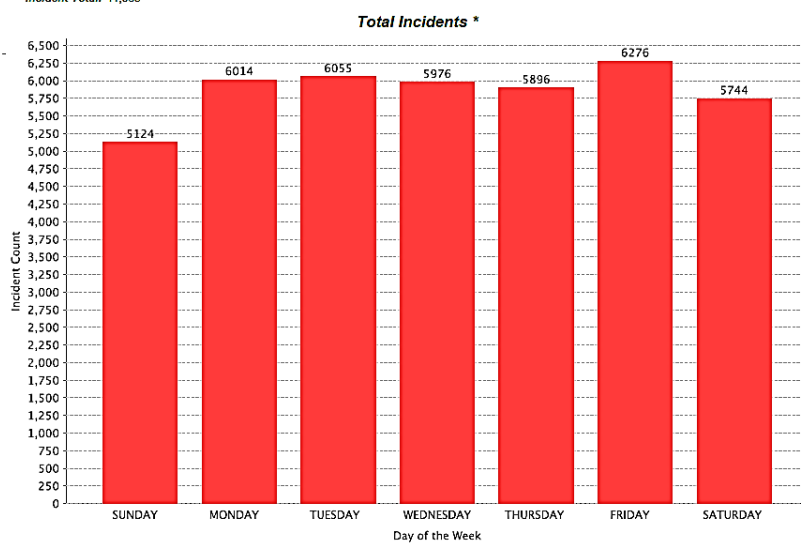


\* - No Activity Incidents Excluded.

### Incident By Time Series: Day of the Week

Report Period: From 01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018

Incident Total: 41,085

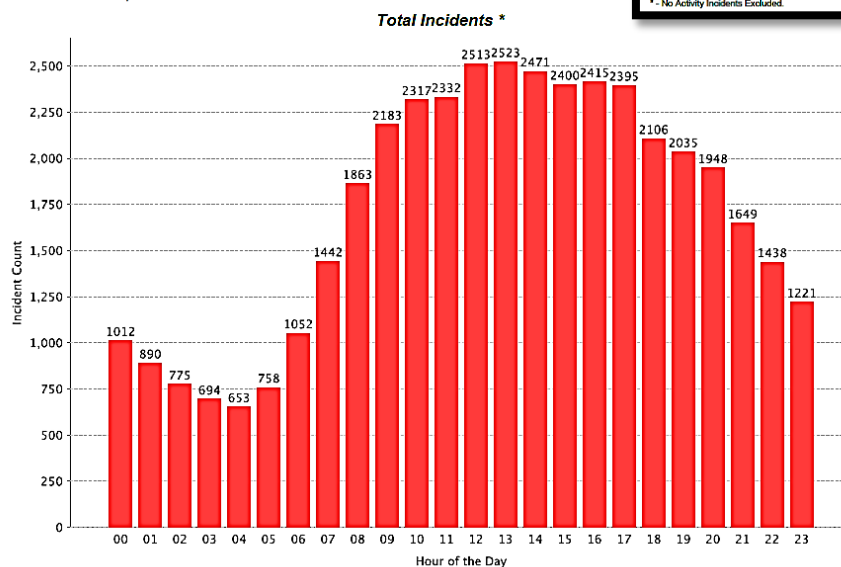


\* - No Activity Incidents Excluded.

### Incident By Time Series: Hour of the Day

Report Period: From 01/01/2018 to 12/31/2018

Incident Total: 41,085



\* - No Activity Incidents Excluded.



## Common Statewide Emergency Incident Types

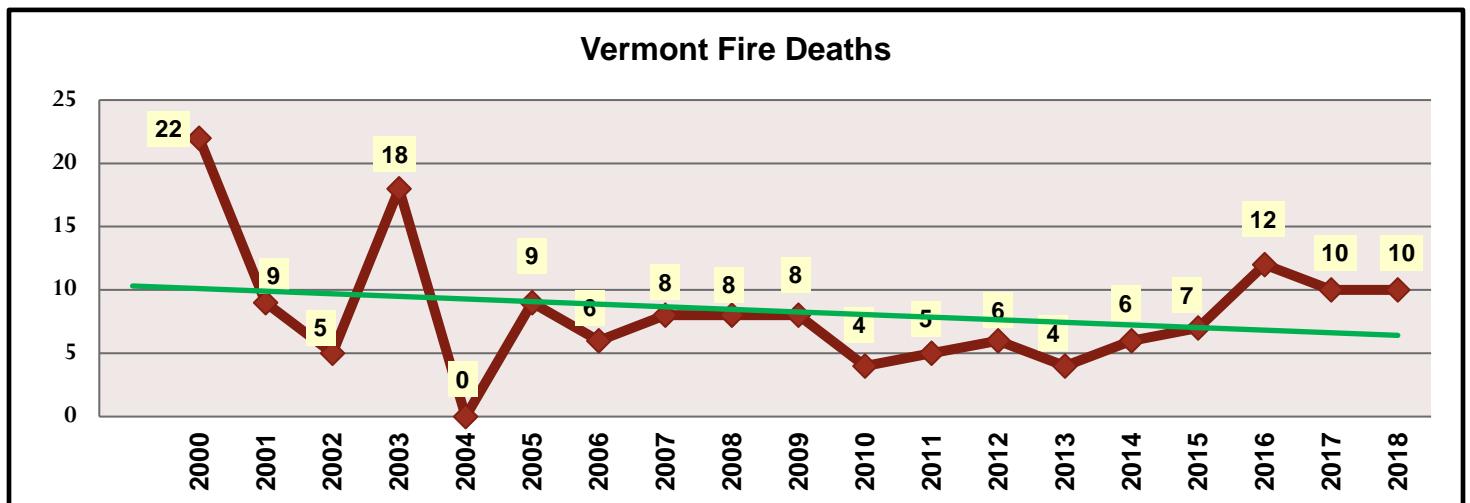
Code	Incident types / Description	2017 Statewide Total	2018 Statewide Total	+ / - From Last year
321	EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	14,084	<b>17,638</b>	<b>+</b>
311	Medical assist, assist EMS crew	2,314	<b>1,740</b>	<b>-</b>
324	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	1,560	<b>1,695</b>	<b>+</b>
322	Vehicle accident with injuries	1,008	<b>1,066</b>	<b>+</b>
743	Smoke detector activation, no fire – unintended	1,190	<b>1,354</b>	<b>+</b>
611	Dispatched & canceled in-route	929	<b>972</b>	<b>+</b>
733	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	829	<b>975</b>	<b>+</b>
600	Good intent call, other	695	<b>630</b>	<b>-</b>
745	Alarm system sounded, no fire unintentional	870	<b>927</b>	<b>-</b>
661	EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency	808	<b>515</b>	<b>-</b>
735	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	728	<b>648</b>	<b>-</b>
463	Vehicle accident, general cleanup	518	<b>533</b>	<b>+</b>
554	Assist invalid	708	<b>647</b>	<b>-</b>
300	Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) call, other	505	<b>592</b>	<b>+</b>
444	Power line down	628	<b>604</b>	<b>-</b>
553	Public service	395	<b>344</b>	<b>-</b>
500	Service Call, other	305	<b>600</b>	<b>+</b>
111	Building fires	325	<b>327</b>	<b>+</b>
700	False alarm or false call, other	285	<b>331</b>	<b>+</b>
424	Carbon monoxide incident	333	<b>352</b>	<b>+</b>
113	Cooking fire, confined to container	256	<b>326</b>	<b>+</b>
114	Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	186	<b>222</b>	<b>+</b>
122	Fire in motor home, camper, recreational Veh.	5	<b>5</b>	
142	Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	125	<b>126</b>	
341	Search for person on land	31	<b>38</b>	
342	Search for person in water	16	<b>10</b>	
351	Extrication of victim (s) from building/structure	18	<b>24</b>	
353	Removal of victim (s) from stalled elevator	141	<b>157</b>	
356	High angle rescue	3	<b>9</b>	
360	Water & ice related rescue, other	20	<b>14</b>	
561	Unauthorized burning	220	<b>288</b>	
800	Severe weather or natural disaster, other	54	<b>45</b>	
812	Flood assessment	126	<b>63</b>	
813	Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	157	<b>79</b>	
900	Special type of incident, other	89	<b>90</b>	
911	Citizen complaint	117	<b>104</b>	
542	Animal rescue	23	<b>34</b>	

# VERMONT Fire Deaths

Historically, Vermont has had a disproportionately high per capita fire fatality rate. The chart below shows the number of fire deaths spanning 19 years. Fire safety officials, fire departments and other safety advocates can directly link the overall reduction in fire deaths to numerous prevention efforts.

Although the National and State fire death rate has decreased, the elderly and young children are still the most vulnerable populations. Older adults have a greater risk of fire death than the overall population. In the past 5 years, 51.2% all of Vermont's fire deaths have been seniors over the age of 65.

Although young children are at greater risk of home fire death nationally, it is important to note that in the 13 years before 2017 Vermont did not have a single child fire death.



Incident Date	Age	Gender	Building type	Town
1/8/2018	76	Male	Storage barn / Work Shop	Poultney VT
1/17/2018	83	Male	Single Family Home	Waitsfield VT
2/10/2018	55	Female	Mobile Home	Castleton VT
4/14/2018	60	Female	Mobile Home with addition	South Royalton VT
5/15/2018	52	Male	Single family Home	Saint Johnsbury, VT
8/03/2018	25	Female	Vehicle	Warren, VT
10/9/2018	52	Male	single-family house with an attached apartment.	Guilford VT
10/27/2018	52	Male	Vacant - Single Family Home	Rutland City, VT
10/27/2018	47	Female	Vacant - Single Family Home	Rutland City, VT
12/06/2018	21	Female	Barn	Barnet VT

### Vermont Fire Deaths by Type of Fire - 5 years

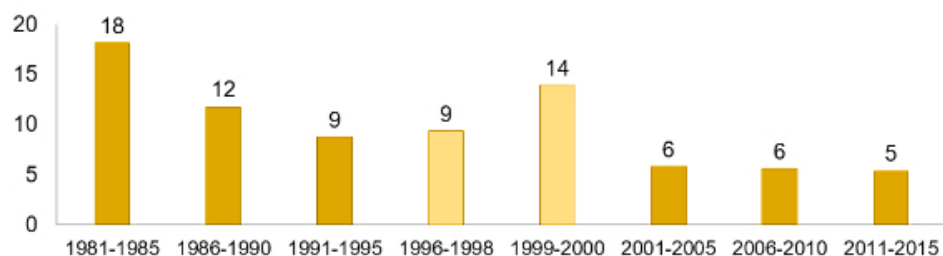
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	5 - year Total
Heating Equipment	0	2	3	0	4	9
Cooking	0	0	0	1	0	1
Smoking Materials	4	0	1	1	1	7
Open Flame	0	1	1	2	0	5
Explosion	0	1	0	0	2	3
Electrical	0	0	1	1	0	3
Undetermined	2	2	6	5	2	19
Homicide	0	1	0	0	1	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>49</b>

### Vermont Fire Deaths by Age Fire - 5 years

Age group	Age	Deaths	%
<b>Childhood (0 - 12)</b>	Neonatal (0 - 1 mo)	0	0
	Infancy (2 - 23 mo)	0	0
	Preschool Age (2 - 5)	0	0
	School Age (6 - 12)	1	2.0%
<b>Teen</b>	Adolescence (13 - 17)	0	0
<b>Adulthood (18 +)</b>	Young Adulthood (18 - 29)	3	6.1%
	Thirties (30 - 39)	5	10.2%
	Middle Age (40 - 64)	20	40.8%
<b>Senior</b>	Aged (65+)	13	26.5%
	Very Old (85+)	5	10.2%
	Unknown	2	4.0%
		<b>49</b>	

### Fire caused an average of 5 Vermont deaths per year in 2011-2015

- 70% decrease from the 18 per year in 1981-1985
  - Shorter time periods are shown for transition years from ICD-9 to ICD-10 coding
  - 2011-2015 average is based on five-year total of 27 deaths



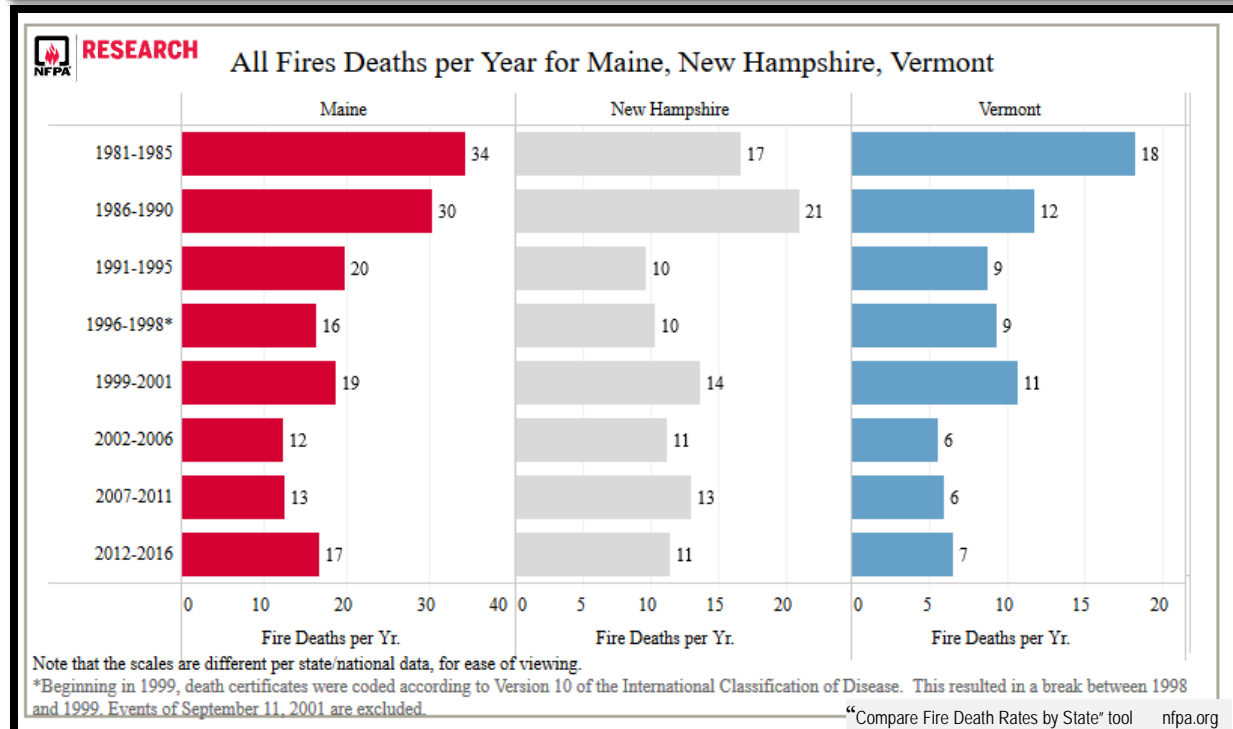
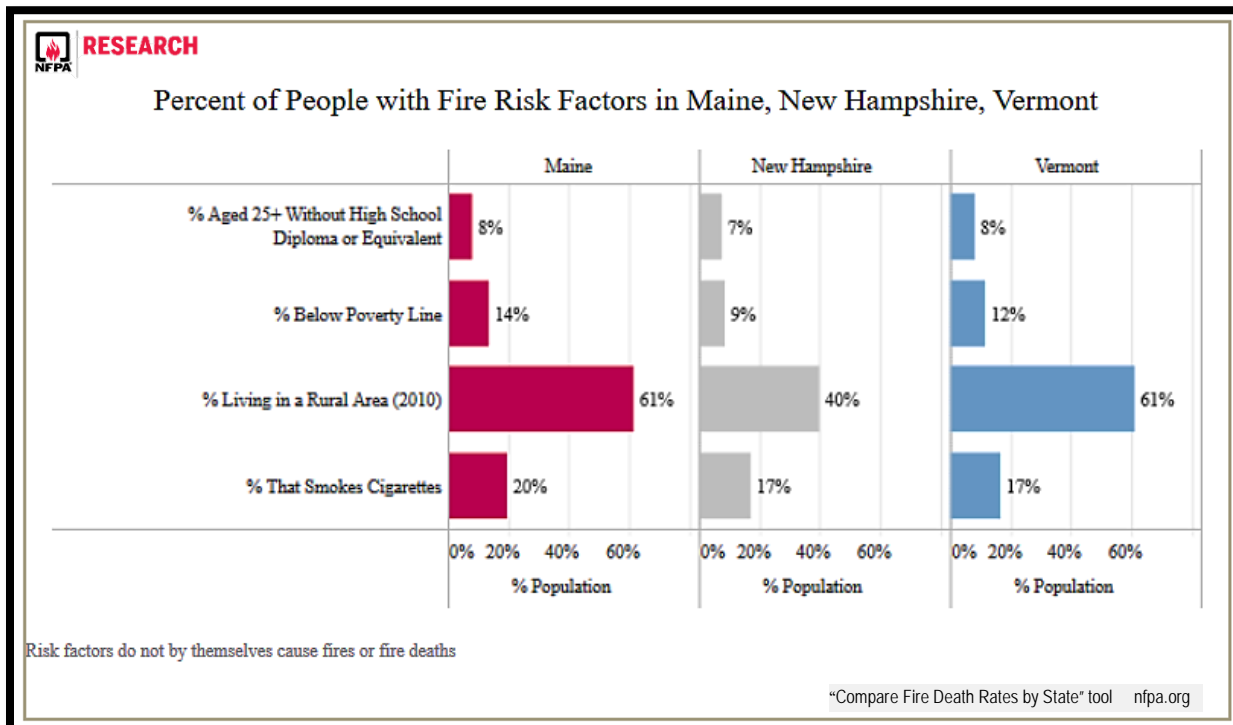
nfpa.org | © National Fire Protection Association. All rights reserved

## Factors associated with higher fire death rates

Fire death rates vary considerably by state, with 2012-2016 average death rates per million population ranging from a low of 3.9 to a high of 24.4. The U.S. average was 9.7 deaths per million population.

Higher state fire death rates are correlated with larger percentages of population who:

- ▶ Have incomes below the poverty line;
- ▶ Are adults without a high school diploma or equivalent;
- ▶ Are current smokers;
- ▶ Live in rural areas; and
- ▶ Are either African American or Black, or are Native American or Alaskan Native





## VERMONT CHARACTERISTICS and FIRE FACTS

- Vermont has 230 active fire departments
  - Vermont is one of the states that has the largest amount of firefighters and fire departments per capita.
  - 70.87% of all of Vermont Fire Departments reported incidents to the NFIRS in 2018
  - Vermont is considered one of the most rural of the United States because a large percentage of its residents live in communities of less than 2,500.
  - Vermont is the second least-populated state in the USA.
  - Vermont's housing stock is dominated by older, owner-occupied homes. It is the second oldest in the nation behind Maine. About 44% of the housing stock is comprised of year-round, owner occupied homes built before 1950. A third of all rental and owned homes in the state were built before 1950
  - Heat from a fire rises at 90 feet per second or approximately 60 mph and doubles in size every minute.
  - Fire killed more Americans than all natural disasters combined.
- .Vermont has the 2nd oldest median age in the nation. 42.6 years  
% of Population Over 65: 16.4%  
% of Population Under 18: 20.1%
- Vermont is the seventh coldest state in the country.
  - Vermont ranks first in the nation for its per-capita use of wood for heat, with at least one in six Vermont households now using wood products as their primary heating source.
  - Over 45,000 Vermont emergency incidents were reported in 2018
  - Vermont has almost one half of the dairy farms in all of New England.
  - Chances your household will have a reported home fire in an average lifetime: 1 in 4
  - Chances that someone in your household will suffer a fire injury in an average lifetime: 1 in 10
  - Households can expect to average a home fire every 15 years or five fires in an average lifetime.

# Carbon Monoxide

The Vermont Legislature passed carbon monoxide (CO) alarm legislation in 2005. The law required CO alarms in all buildings where people sleep.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a deadly, colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. CO is a by-product of incomplete combustion of fuels such as, propane, oil, kerosene, gasoline, charcoal, diesel, and wood. Improperly maintained and installed heating appliances contribute to the risk of CO production in the home.

Carbon monoxide poisoning can mimic flu symptoms such as headaches, dizziness, nausea and fatigue. Higher levels of exposure result in disorientation, drowsiness, unconsciousness and death.

## CARBON MONOXIDE EDUCATIONAL SAFETY MESSAGES

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a gas you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is often called “the invisible killer.” It is created when fossil fuels, such as kerosene, gasoline, coal, natural gas, propane, methane, or wood do not burn completely. CO gas can kill people and pets.

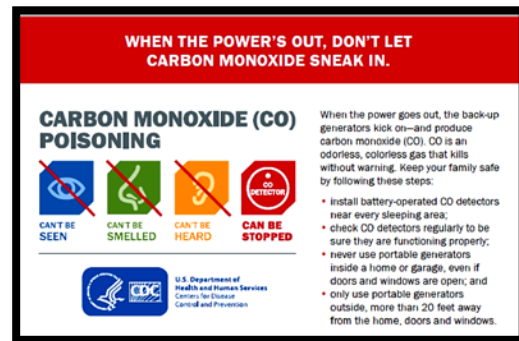
Carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning can result from malfunctioning or improperly vented furnaces or other heating appliances, portable generators, water heaters, clothes dryers, or cars left running in garages.

Choose a carbon monoxide (CO) alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory.

Install and maintain carbon monoxide alarms (CO) outside each separate sleeping area, on every level of the home, and in other locations as required by laws, codes, or standards. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for placement and mounting height.

If you have combination smoke/carbon monoxide (CO) alarms, follow the directions for smoke alarm installation.

Carbon monoxide (CO) alarms are not substitutes for smoke alarms and vice versa. Know the difference between the sound of smoke alarms and the sound of CO alarms.



Test carbon monoxide (CO) alarms at least once a month and replace them if they fail to respond when tested. The sensors in CO alarms have a limited life. Replace the CO alarm according to manufacturer’s instructions or when the end-of-life signal sounds

Have fuel-burning heating equipment (fireplaces, furnaces, water heaters, wood stoves, coal stoves, space heaters, and portable heaters) and chimneys inspected by a professional every year.

Vent the exhaust from fuel-burning equipment to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. Keep the venting clear and unblocked.

Never run a vehicle or other fueled engine or motor in a garage, even if garage doors are open. The carbon monoxide (CO) gas can kill people and pets.

If Your Carbon Monoxide (CO) Alarm Sounds Immediately move to a fresh air location outdoors. Make sure everyone is accounted for.

Call 9-1-1 or the fire department from the fresh air location. Remain there until emergency personnel declare that it is safe to re-enter the home.

*Excerpts From National Fire Protection Association EDUCATIONAL MESSAGES DESK REFERENCE 2018 Edition*



If you need a smoke or CO alarm and can't afford it, or need help installing one, contact your local fire department. The Vermont Division of Fire Safety Fire Safe 802 program and the American Red Cross can also help.



# Smoke Alarms and Smoke Detectors

## Using Correct Terms for the Different Devices

Excerpt From the January 2019 All Hands Herald published by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. [www.mass.gov/dfs](http://www.mass.gov/dfs)

The terms “alarm” and “detector” are used interchangeably in discussions and written materials about residential fire protection devices. However, the two terms are not interchangeable. Incorrect references are everywhere: in the laws, the building and fire codes, and even educational materials.

The terms are used incorrectly by the fire service, design professionals, installers and the general public. The terms are also used incorrectly in discussions of carbon monoxide (CO) and heat protection.

### What is a Smoke Alarm?

**A smoke alarm includes both detection and notification components in a single housing.**

Smoke alarms have been a backbone of residential fire protection since they were first mass produced in the mid-1970s. Popular brands of smoke alarms include First Alert, Kidde, NEST, and BRK.

Smoke alarms can be powered by: an integral battery (9 volt, AA, or long life battery), an external AC power supply (AC hard-wired), or both (hard-wired with battery back-up). Smoke alarms can be either single-station (stand-alone) or multiple-station (interconnected with other alarms). All smoke alarms must be tested, and listed, to ANSI/UL 217.

### What is a Smoke Detector?

**A smoke detector senses the particles of combustion. The detector sends a signal to a household fire alarm system.**

A household fire alarm system includes a fire alarm control panel that notifies building occupants of a fire. More popular companies/brands of smoke detectors include ADT, Honeywell, System Sensor, Brinks, and Protection1. All smoke detectors must be tested, and listed, to ANSI/UL 268.

## SMOKE ALARM EDUCATIONAL SAFETY MESSAGES

**Working smoke alarms save lives, cutting the risk of dying in a home fire in half.**

**Smoke alarms should be installed and maintained in every home.**

**Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home.**

**Install alarms in the basement. Larger homes may require additional smoke alarms to provide a minimum level of protection.**

**Install smoke alarms away from the kitchen to prevent nuisance alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from a cooking appliance.**

**In Vermont Any single-family dwelling when built new or transferred by sale or exchange shall contain photoelectric-only-type smoke detectors**

**Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.**

**Make sure everyone in the home understands the sound of the smoke alarm and knows how to respond.**

**Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning to keep smoke alarms working. The instructions are included in the package or can be found on the internet.**

**Smoke alarms with non-replaceable (long-life) batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.**

**For smoke alarms that do not have non-replaceable (long-life) batteries, replace batteries at least once a year.**

**If the alarm chirps, replace only the battery**

**Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old. Replace any smoke alarm that does not respond after a new battery has been installed**

**Be sure smoke alarms are installed in all rental housing. Contact your landlord, property manager, or fire department for help.**

*Excerpts From National Fire Protection Association EDUCATIONAL MESSAGES DESK REFERENCE 2018 Edition*



## The Vermont and New Hampshire Carbon Monoxide Alliance



Due to a number of fatal fire and CO incidents in Vermont and New Hampshire, the VT/NH Alliance for Prevention of Carbon Monoxide Incidents (VT/NH Alliance) was established in 2015. The VT/NH Alliance is a unique organization, established to provide a venue for collaborative efforts to address CO issues within fire safety activities in VT and NH. The Alliance is located within the Department of Community & Family Medicine at Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine with the support of the VT Division of Fire Safety and NH Department of Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal.

The Carbon Monoxide Alliance is a collaborative effort of many key stakeholders in the VT / NH region. The mission of the VT/NH Alliance is to understand the preventable structural and personal causes of CO and fire incidents in the bi-state region and take actions to prevent future devastating occurrences. The division of fire safety has had numerous personnel actively involved in the work of the alliance.

### 2018 Fire Safety and Carbon Monoxide Summit

In November, the Vermont and New Hampshire Fire Marshal's offices, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the VT/NH Carbon Monoxide Alliance, hosted the second two-day Fire Safety and CO Summit with the help of various sponsors.

Both days were designed to enhance community risk reduction education and provide information on research and national projects. Effective teaching methods and resources were also covered. A special evening session was offered for rural emergency service personnel who could not make the daytime program. The event was quite successful and planning has begun to hold an additional summit in 2019.





# Firefighter Deaths and Injuries

## FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES IN THE UNITED STATES—2017 Issued: June 2018

Report: NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA Author: Rita F. Fahy, Paul R. LeBlanc, Joseph L. Molis

Each year, NFPA collects data on all firefighter fatalities in the U.S. that resulted from injuries or illnesses that occurred while the victims were on-duty. The NFPA produces a report of the information. This report analyzes the types of duty associated with firefighter deaths, the cause and nature of fatal injuries to firefighters, and the ages of the firefighters who died.

### Abstract

In 2017, a total of 60 firefighters died while on-duty in the U.S. The largest share of deaths occurred while firefighters were operating at fires (17 deaths).

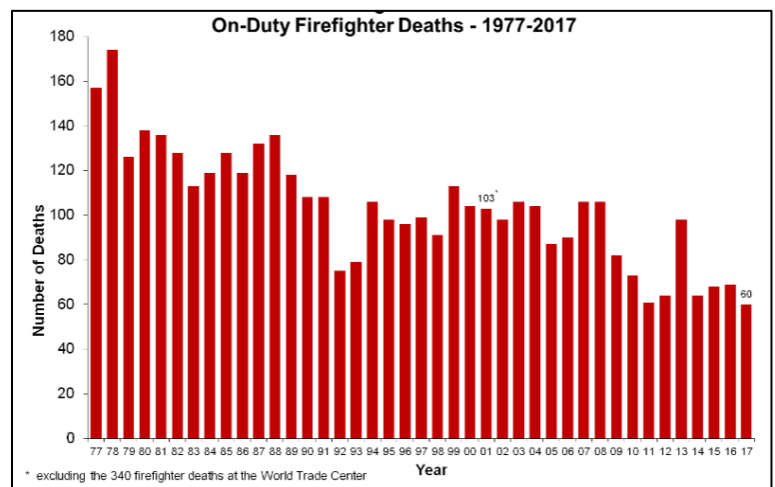
Sudden cardiac death accounted for the largest share of deaths with 29 deaths. There was one multiple-fatality incident where two firefighters were struck and killed and another was injured by a drunk driver at the scene of downed power lines.

Deaths among career and volunteer firefighters continued on a downward trend. In 2017, firefighter deaths were at its lowest level since 1977.

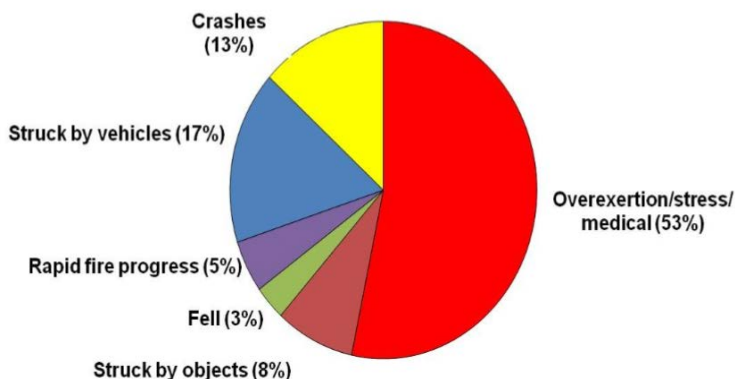


# RESEARCH

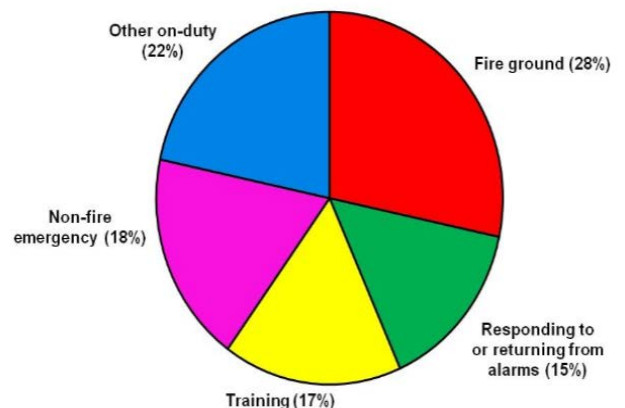
NFPA Fire Analysis and  
Research Quincy, MA



Firefighter Deaths by Cause of Injury -- 2017



Firefighter Deaths by Type of Duty - 2017





## FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

### Firefighter Fatalities in the United States – 2016

A total of 69 on-duty firefighter deaths occurred in the United States in 2016. This is the fifth time in the past 6 years that the total number of deaths of firefighters has been below 70. The average number of deaths annually over the past decade is 79.

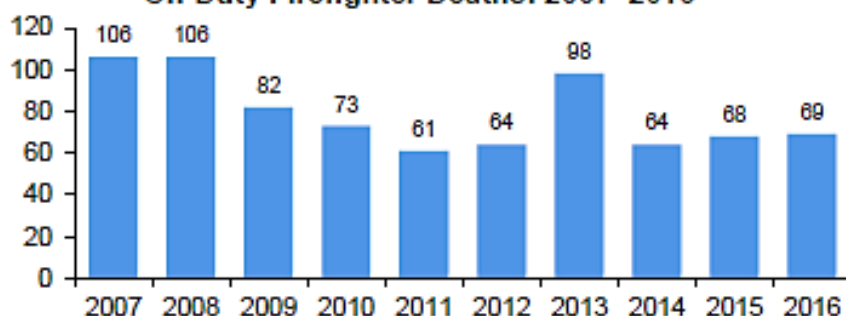
Of the 69 firefighters who died while on duty in 2016, 39 were volunteer firefighters, 19 were career firefighters, nine were employees or contracted with federal or state land management agencies, one was a member of an industrial fire brigade, and one was a prison inmate. This is the lowest number of career firefighter deaths in the 40 years that NFPA has done this study.

The largest share of deaths occurred while firefighters were responding to and returning from alarms (17 deaths), and the next largest share occurred while firefighters were operating at fires (15 deaths), each accounting for one-fifth to one-quarter of the total deaths. This is the lowest number of fireground deaths. In the highest loss incident, three firefighters died in a structural collapse in a dwelling.

Other findings include the following:

- ▶ The numbers of sudden cardiac death and internal trauma were tied with the largest number of deaths in 2016, with 26 deaths in each category.
- ▶ Of the deaths while responding to or returning from alarms, 10 were due to crashes, three were due to falls, two to sudden cardiac death, another to drowning when flood waters washed a vehicle off the road, and one to an alcohol overdose while returning from a wildland fire.
- ▶ The fireground deaths included six in fires involving dwellings and one death at a fire in a store. Six firefighters died at wildland fires and two at motor vehicle fires.
- ▶ The firefighters who died in 2016 ranged in age from 16 to 79, with a median age of 47 years.
- ▶ There were two deaths by suicide while on duty, two firefighters were murdered, and another firefighter was shot unintentionally by another firefighter.

On-Duty Firefighter Deaths: 2007–2016



Source: Firefighter Fatalities in the United States – 2016, NFPA, Rita F. Fahy, Paul R. LeBlanc, and Joseph L. Molis, June 2017.

Source: NFPA Research: [www.nfpa.org/research](http://www.nfpa.org/research)  
Contact information: 617-984-7451 or [research@nfpa.org](mailto:research@nfpa.org)



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# United States Firefighter Injuries – 2017 Issued: October 2018

Report: NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA Author: Hylton J. G. Haynes, Joseph L. Molis

## Key Findings

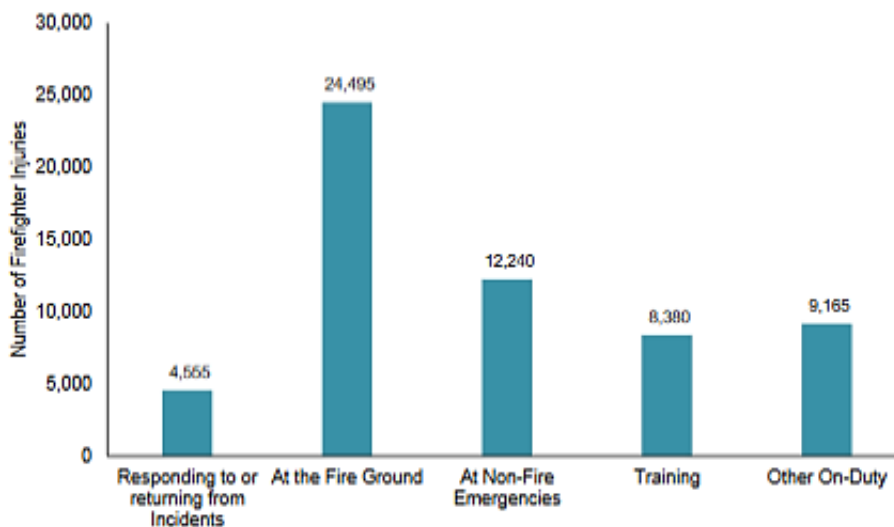
Estimated 58,835-firefighter injuries occurred in the line of duty in 2017, a decrease of 5 percent from the previous year. In addition to injuries, there were 7,345 documented exposures to infectious diseases, and 44,530 exposures to hazardous conditions. Firefighters were more likely to be injured at fireground operations than at other types of duties.

In 2017, 24,495 injuries, or 42 percent of all reported firefighter injuries, occurred at the fireground. An estimated 4,555 occurred while responding to, or returning from an incident; 8,380 were incurred during training activities, 12,240 occurred at non-fire emergency incidents, and 9,165 occurred during other on duty activities.

The major types of injuries received during fireground operations were: strain, sprain, muscular pain (48 percent); wound, cut, bleeding, bruise (15 percent); smoke or gas inhalation (7 percent) and thermal stress (frostbite or heat exhaustion)(5 percent). Strains, sprains, and muscular pain accounted for 56 percent of all non fireground injuries.

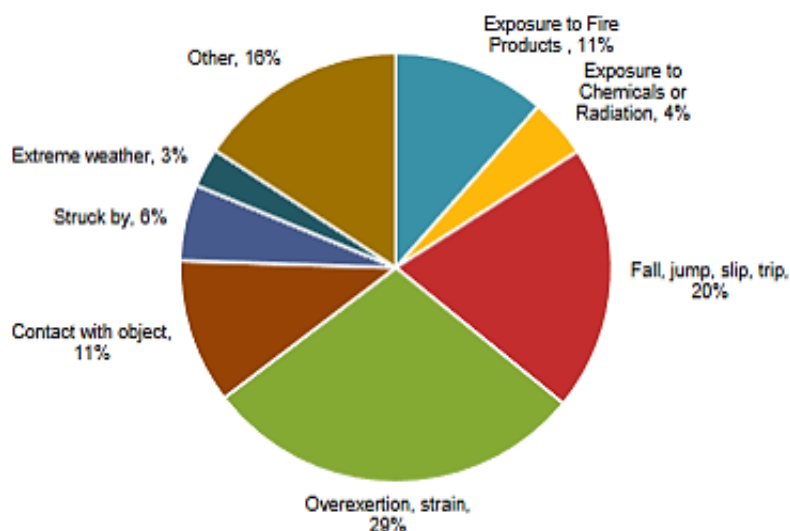
The leading cause of fireground injuries was overexertion or strain (29 percent). In 2017, an estimated 15,430 collisions involved fire department emergency vehicles responding to or returning from incidents.

Figure 4. Firefighter Injuries by Nature of Injury and Type of Duty, 2017



Source: NFPA Annual Survey of Fire Departments U.S. Fire Experience, 2017.

Figure 5. Fireground Injuries by Cause, 2017



Source: NFPA Annual Survey of Fire Departments U.S. Fire Experience,



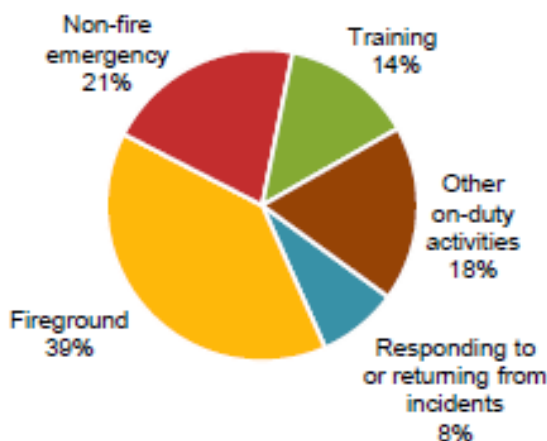
## FACT SHEET » RESEARCH

### United States Firefighter Injuries – 2016

62,085 firefighter injuries were reported in the United States during 2016.

- ▶ A decrease of 8.8% from 2015.
- ▶ One firefighter injury occurred every 8 minutes and 28 seconds.
- ▶ 24,325 (39%) of all firefighter injuries occurred in fireground operations.
- ▶ The leading cause of fireground injuries was **overexertion or strain (27.1%)**.
- ▶ 5,200 (8%) of all injuries occurred while responding to or returning from an incident.
- ▶ 8,480 (13.7%) of all injuries occurred during training activities.
- ▶ 12,780 (21%) of all injuries occurred during non-fire emergency incidents.
- ▶ 11,300 (18.2%) of all injuries occurred during other on-duty activities.
- ▶ 19,050 (30.6%) of all firefighter injuries resulted in lost time in 2016.

United States Firefighter Injuries  
by Type of Duty 2016



The **Midwest** region reported a higher number of fireground injuries per 100 fires than the rest of the country.

There were **9,275** documented exposures to infectious diseases and **36,475** reported exposures to hazardous conditions.

There were **15,425** collisions involving fire department emergency vehicles, with **700** firefighter injuries resulting from these collisions.

Hylton J.G. Haynes and Joseph L. Mollis, United States Firefighter Injuries – 2016, October 2017, Quincy: National Fire Protection Association, Research, Data and Analytics Division.

Source: NFPA Research: [www.nfpa.org/research](http://www.nfpa.org/research)  
Contact information: 617-984-7451 or [research@nfpa.org](mailto:research@nfpa.org)



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# Insurance Companies Reported

## Dollar Loss from Fire

### Dollar Loss from Fire -

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) provides a large amount of information on fires and other types of incidents fire departments respond to, including causes of fire, property loss, injuries and death. NFIRS provides the big picture however, more specific information on property loss is obtained separately through a survey of insurance companies.

The NFIRS and insurance company data compiled in the table is for 2012 through 2017 and reflects the significant impact of the property loss in Vermont. What the figures don't show is the additional loss in wages to employees who are out of a job after a fire, the loss in tax revenues to municipalities when a building is burned, the loss of business in a community when a business is forced to close after a fire or the cost of health care for the treatment of fire and burn injuries.

Year	Fire Departments Reporting	Fires Reported	Estimated Dollar Loss by Fire Departments	Insurance Companies Reporting/ Total	Fire Claims Reported	Reported Dollar Loss by Insurance Companies
2012	194	2,233	\$ 17,840,192	860	839	44,510,095
2013	194	2,116	\$ 26,485,951	615	878	50,911,724
2014	228	2,114	\$ 30,412,139	615	1,130	50,589,356
2015	230	2,198	\$ 25,112,224	606	939	45,574,673
2016	228	3,138	\$16,919,906	644	706	57,098,292
2017	172	2,458	\$ 21,029,493		1,104	54,359,205
2018	170	1,708	\$ 22,628,798.00	Data not currently available		

## EXTRACTS OF HISTORY TO ESTABLISH A STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

The state fire marshal's office has its roots in the insurance industry; early insurance companies were concerned with the rising cost of fire losses. The insurance department of Vermont was organized by the legislature in Oct 1, 1852. The Secretary of the State, Ferrand F Merrill and the State Treasurer; George Howes were designated ex-officio commissioners. The first published report of the department was issued in October 1869.

In his 1894 farewell address, Governor Levi K. Fuller commented, "On account of the increasing loss by fire, there is a demand for a State Fire Marshal, and for a general law regulating the construction of buildings in incorporated villages". However, it was not until 1917 that the office of Insurance Commissioner became the ex-officio fire marshal with power to investigate all suspicious fire losses.

In 1919, legislative action was taken to establish the office of the state fire marshal. Act 147 was enacted on April 7 1919. The legislation defined the duties and powers of the office. It also allowed for the appointment of a deputy fire marshal. Joseph G Brown served as insurance commissioner and Alfred G. Preble of Barre was appointed to serve as the deputy fire marshal.

### NO. 147.—AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE MAINTENANCE THEREOF.

[H. 223]

*It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:*

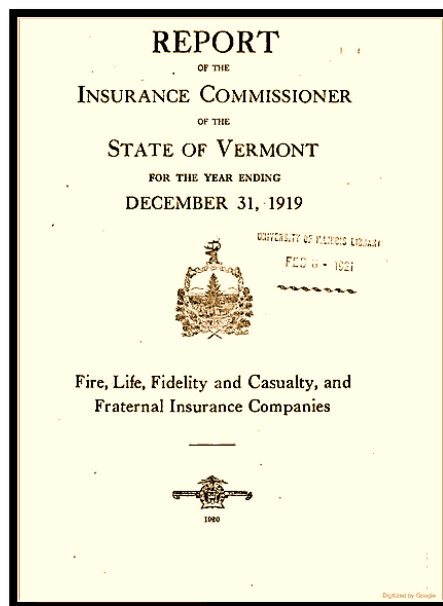
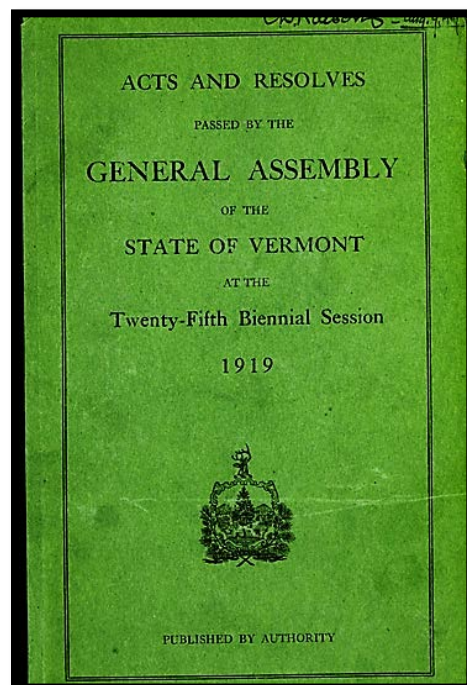
SECTION 1. *Establishment.* The office of state fire marshal is hereby established.

SEC. 2. *Insurance commissioner ex-officio fire marshal; deputy.* The insurance commissioner shall be ex-officio state fire marshal, and he is hereby authorized to appoint a deputy fire marshal whose duties shall be to assist him as state fire marshal, and in case of the absence or inability of that officer, to perform the duties of the office.

SEC. 3. *Investigation of fires.* The fire marshal or the deputy fire marshal, the chief of the fire department in every city or incorporated village in which a paid fire department is established, the president, or the chairman of the board of trustees in case there is no president, of incorporated villages and the first selectmen of towns are authorized to investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in any such city, village or town in which property has been destroyed or damaged, when the damage exceeds fifty dollars, except that all fires of unknown origin shall be reported and they shall make special investigation as to whether any fire was the result of carelessness, accident or design.

SEC. 4. *Investigation; when made.* Such investigation shall be begun within five days after the occurrence of such fire or as soon thereafter as it appears that there is cause therefor, and the fire marshal or the deputy fire marshal shall have the right to supervise and direct such investigation whenever he deems it necessary or expedient.

SEC. 5. *Reports to fire marshal.* The officer making an investigation of a fire, as provided in the preceding sections, shall forthwith notify the fire marshal and shall within one week after the occurrence of the fire, furnish to him a written statement of all facts relating to the cause and origin of the fire and shall give him such other information as may be called for on blanks furnished by the fire marshal. Whenever it may seem to be for the public good, the insurance commissioner shall personally visit and investigate any fire in accordance with the provisions of this act, and he shall be repaid all expenses incident thereto out of the funds provided for in this act.





# REPORTED FIRES AND LOSSES FROM 100 YEARS AGO

## FIRE LOSS STATISTICS

### FIRE LOSS STATISTICS, 1919

Tabulated from reports filed with the Insurance Commissioner by companies authorized to transact business in Vermont under the provisions of Section 3572.

ADDISON COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Addison.....	2 \$ 3,300.00	Orwell.....	2 \$ 63.50
Bridport.....	7 8,438.55	Panton.....	* *
Bristol.....	9 1,753.62	Ripton.....	* *
Cornwall.....	2 6,038.00	Salisbury.....	* *
Ferrisburg.....	9 13,478.30	Shoreham.....	9 548.00
Goshen.....	3 639.00	Starksboro.....	3 1,378.00
Granville.....	1 850.00	Vergennes.....	3 80.50
Hancock.....	1 160.00	Waltham.....	3 7,053.50
Leicester.....	2 285.00	Weybridge.....	3 375.00
Lincoln.....	11 6,388.85	Whiting.....	* *
Middlebury.....	12 2,017.77		
Monkton.....	1 150.00		
New Haven.....	18 20,270.20		
Total.....		101 \$	73,207.79

BENNINGTON COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Arlington.....	10 \$ 1,182.92	Sandgate.....	1 \$ 1,187.31
Bennington.....	36 29,009.77	Searsburg.....	6 11,876.62
Dorset.....	7 2,744.00	Shaftsbury.....	2 3,430.00
Glastenbury.....	* *	Stamford.....	4 1,230.25
Landgrove.....	* *	Sunderland.....	* *
Manchester.....	14 32,451.73	Winhall.....	1 15.10
Peru.....	1 1,060.00	Woodford.....	1 15.10
Pownall.....	6 782.50		
Readsboro.....	3 935.00		
Rupert.....	2 300.00		
Total.....		93 \$	86,805.20

CALEDONIA COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Barnet.....	13 \$ 11,790.54	Sheffield.....	2 \$ 20.00
Burke.....	5 297.00	St. Johnsbury.....	37 104,168.42
Danville.....	7 1,405.00	Stannard.....	* *
Groton.....	4 292.69	Sutton.....	1 200.00
Hardwick.....	5 2,728.55	Walden.....	5 6,417.50
Kirby.....	2 620.00	Waterford.....	9 13,387.27
Lyndon.....	8 206.25	Wheelock.....	2 65.05
Newark.....	3 2,544.25		
Peacham.....	2 96.70		
Ryegate.....	4 2,349.34		
Total.....		109 \$	146,589.16

ORANGE COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Bradford.....	5 \$ 3,544.15	Thetford.....	3 \$ 237.00
Braintree.....	3 131.00	Topsham.....	7 4,445.49
Brookfield.....	10 477.05	Tunbridge.....	2 403.00
Chelsea.....	3 246.50	Vershire.....	1 1,859.50
Corinth.....	5 330.00	Washington.....	1 150.00
Fairlee.....	3 1,314.04	West Fairlee.....	4 923.55
Newbury.....	9 1,964.85	Williamstown.....	3 1,984.00
Orange.....	1 4,217.75		
Randolph.....	19 4,771.90		
Strafford.....	2 615.00		
Total.....		81 \$	27,614.78

ORLEANS COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Albany.....	9 \$ 1,234.81	Irasburg.....	8 \$ 544.00
Barton.....	8 610.84	Jay.....	3 756.27
Brownington.....	4 88.00	Lowell.....	5 4,931.15
Charleston.....	3 172.85	Morgan.....	5 764.37
Coventry.....	5 5,022.00	Newport.....	33 41,493.58
Craftsbury.....	8 9,127.52	Troy.....	20 32,154.83
Derby.....	10 8,348.92	Westfield.....	4 1,867.85
Glover.....	11 6,293.95	Westmore.....	2 8,726.35
Greensboro.....	4 1,065.92		
Holland.....	3 4,100.35		
Total.....		145 \$	128,503.06

CHITTENDEN COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Bolton.....	2 \$ 685.00	Richmond.....	18 \$ 11,567.61
Burlington.....	103 167,128.33	Sheburne.....	4 10,388.38
Charlotte.....	1 76.00	So. Burlington.....	5 1,668.00
Colchester.....	13 29,920.15	St. George.....	* *
Essex.....	11 22,343.72	Underhill.....	3 210.60
Hinesburg.....	4 510.00	Westford.....	4 9,997.60
Huntington.....	4 400.00	Williston.....	4 378.55
Jericho.....	6 971.80		
Milton.....	11 2,420.00		
Total.....		193 \$	258,865.72

ESSEX COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Bloomfield.....	1 \$ 75.00	Lemington.....	* *
Brighton.....	6 2,879.65	Lunenburg.....	9 \$ 4,488.39
Brunswick.....	1 744.00	Maidstone.....	4 9,421.75
Cannan.....	2 2,034.05	Norton.....	3 1,798.00
Concord.....	13 12,285.00	Victory.....	1 175.00
East Haven.....	1 100.00		
Granby.....	1 6,550.00		
Guildhall.....	5 6,550.00		
Total.....		46 \$	40,350.84

FRANKLIN COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Bakersfield.....	8 \$ 3,684.50	Montgomery.....	4 \$ 25,672.57
Berkshire.....	10 755.84	Richford.....	24 53,608.58
Enosburg.....	12 13,616.51	Sheldon.....	15 1,075.15
Fairfax.....	5 675.00	St. Albans City.....	35 24,159.98
Fairfield.....	15 4,833.65	St. Albans Town.....	12 7,065.19
Fletcher.....	8 3,421.75	Swanton.....	28 119,267.00
Franklin.....	8 554.62		
Georgia.....	7 5,554.35		
Highgate.....	18 13,786.24		
Total.....		209 \$	277,730.93

GRAND ISLE COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Alburg.....	14 \$ 6,456.30	South Hero.....	1 \$ 20.00
Grand Isle.....	3 9,486.30		
Isla La Motte.....	3 3,810.00		
North Hero.....	1 9,549.00		
Total.....		22 \$	29,321.60

LAMOILLE COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Belvidere.....	1 \$ 50.00	Morrisstown.....	8 \$ 644.50
Cambridge.....	7 3,250.00	Stowe.....	11 2,304.00
Eden.....	6 1,222.05	Waterville.....	2 30.00
Elmore.....	* *	Wolcott.....	3 90.00
Hyde Park.....	9 11,226.20		
Johnson.....	8 995.00		
Total.....		55 \$	19,811.75

RUTLAND COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Benson.....	3 \$ 221.45	Pittsford.....	8 \$ 620.75
Brandon.....	22 69,822.03	Portney.....	15 10,738.10
Castleton.....	2 7,280.10	Proctor.....	2 10.82
Chittenden.....	6 6,394.50	Rutland City.....	74 172,674.85
Clarendon.....	5 10,633.82	Rutland Town.....	3 1,168.00
Danby.....	6 138.62	Sherburne.....	* *
Fair Haven.....	2 2,312.00	Shrewsbury.....	* *
Hubbardton.....	2 3,231.00	Sudbury.....	2 300.00
Ira.....	2 20.00	Tinmouth.....	10 823.30
Mendon.....	1 2,996.66	Wallingford.....	1 19.00
Middleton Springs.....	3 10,371.50	West Haven.....	0 6,401.33
Mount Holly.....	1 30.00	West Rutland.....	0 6,401.33
Mount Tabor.....	5 30.00		
Pawlet.....	1 30.00		
Pittsfield.....	1 30.00		
Total.....		195 \$	320,784.95

WASHINGTON COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Barre City.....	59 \$ 18,777.25	Moretown.....	2 \$ 43.00
Barre Town.....	12 10,064.74	Northfield.....	20 9,159.41
Berlin.....	6 4,473.15	Plainfield.....	2 180.00
Cabot.....	9 1,729.50	Roxbury.....	1 25.00
Calais.....	3 50.00	Switzfield.....	8 2,778.00
Duxbury.....	2 75.00	Warren.....	2 135.00
East Montpelier.....	4 140.00	Waterbury.....	11 6,376.50
Fayston.....	1 480.00	Woodbury.....	2 1,010.50
Marshfield.....	* *	Worcester.....	* *
Middlesex.....	3 79.00		
Montpelier.....	26 5,051.15		
Total.....		173 \$	60,627.20

WINDHAM COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Athens.....	* *	Rockingham.....	22 \$ 10,336.29
Brattleboro.....	22 \$ 2,644.61	Somerset.....	* *
Brookline.....	1 20.00	Stratton.....	* *
Dover.....	1 35.00	Townshend.....	3 55.97
Dummerston.....	2 150.00	Vernon.....	5 3,479.12
Grafton.....	5 211.70	Wardsboro.....	3 2,635.00
Guilford.....	2 46.20	Westminster.....	1 86.87
Halifax.....	3 6,020.00	Whitingham.....	8 5,105.08
Jamaica.....	4 180.40	Wilmington.....	4 1,852.00
Londonderry.....	2 268.00	Windham.....	1 57.05
Marlboro.....	1 2,500.00		
Newfane.....	3 2,773.95		
Putney.....	7 3,558.36		
Total.....		100 \$	42,015.60

WINDSOR COUNTY			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Andover.....	3 \$ 117.00	Reading.....	3 \$ 1,017.45
Baltimore.....	1 100.00	Rochester.....	11 13,153.12
Barnard.....	1 150.00	Royalton.....	4 1,376.70
Bethel.....	8 1,137.80	Sharon.....	2 3,429.50
Bridgewater.....	5 350.00	Springfield.....	10 6,810.28
Cavendish.....	2 301.00	Stockbridge.....	1 12.00
Chester.....	7 1,405.80	Weathersfield.....	4 4,808.00
Hartford.....	7 5,221.25	Weston.....	2 552.00
Hartland.....	3 1,306.50	West Windsor.....	2 110.00
Ludlow.....	11 6,995.46	Windsor.....	15 11,061.17
Norwich.....	3 1,857.20	Woodstock.....	11 4,372.00
Plymouth.....	2 415.00		
Pomfret.....	3 283.50		
Total.....		127 \$	66,492.73

FIRE LOSS 1919—BY COUNTIES			
No. of Fires	Damage	No. of Fires	Damage
Addison.....	101 \$ 73,207.79	Orange.....	81 \$ 27,614.78
Bennington.....	93 86,805.20	Orleans.....	145 128,503.06
Caledonia.....	109 146,589.16	Rutland.....	195 320,784.95
Chittenden.....	193 258,865.72	Washington.....	173 60,627.20
Essex.....	46 40,350.84	Windham.....	100 42,015.60
Franklin.....	209 277,730.93	Windsor.....	127 66,492.73
Grand Isle.....	22 29,321.60		
Lamoille.....	55 19,811.75		
Total.....	1,649 \$		1,578,721.91

# Overview of Division Activities

## Rules, Codes and Standards

Since 1972 the State of Vermont Division of Fire Safety has adopted nationally recognized safety standards to protect the public. Vermont is able to benefit from the research and advanced fire safety experience of experts from across the nation.

The existing 2015 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code incorporates editions of the NFPA & ICC codes and standards. The Division of Fire Safety amends the national standards only when necessary to address conditions specific to Vermont. Currently the division is in process of reviewing revised editions of the codes for adoption.

Current Primary Adopted Codes and Standards		
<b>2012 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code</b>		<b>2015 edition</b>
<b>NFPA 101</b>	<b>Life Safety Code</b> - National Fire Protection Association	<b>2015 edition</b>
<b>NFPA 1</b>	<b>Fire Code</b> - National Fire Protection Association	<b>2015 edition</b>
<b>IBC</b>	<b>International Building Code</b> – International Code Council	<b>2015 edition</b>
<b>NBIC</b>	<b>National Board Inspection Code</b> , - National Board of Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspectors	<b>2015 edition</b>
<b>Vermont Electrical Safety Rules</b>		<b>2017 edition</b>
<b>NFPA 70</b>	<b>National Electrical Code</b> - National Fire Protection Association	<b>2017 edition</b>
<b>ADA</b>	<b>Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Standards</b>	<b>2012 edition</b>
<b>Vermont Access Rules</b>		<b>2012 edition</b>
<b>ASME A17.1</b>	<b>Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators</b>	<b>2013 edition</b>
<b>ASME A17.3</b>	<b>Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators</b>	<b>2011 edition</b>
<b>ASME A18.1</b>	<b>Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts</b>	<b>2011 edition</b>
<b>Vermont Plumbing Rules</b>		<b>2015 edition</b>
<b>IPC</b>	<b>International Plumbing Code</b> – International Code Council	<b>2015 edition</b>

If you have any code questions please contact:

**The Regional Office in your area**

visit

**[firesafety.vermont.gov/ContactUS](https://firesafety.vermont.gov/ContactUS)**

for contact information

## Licensing, Variance Boards and Committees

Licensed and certified trade professionals play a significant role in protecting Vermonters by following adopted rules and standards and ensuring building equipment and systems are safe. Over the years professionals in the trades have contributed to the reduction of fire related fatalities and injuries throughout the State.

The Division of Fire Safety administers the program for the licensing and certification of construction trade groups to maintain professionals at a high level of technical knowledge.

Trade professionals are required to meet minimum qualifications in their respective field for licenses and or certification renewal including, obtaining continuing education to keep current with code changes and emerging technology.

The Division furnishes administrative and technical support to numerous licensing boards as well as several emergency services committees. Division staff works regularly with representatives of the trades community and fire and rescue services on current issues, education and licensing matters.

If you have any questions about the program, contact:

The Division of Fire Safety Main Office  
1311 U.S. Route 302, Barre, VT 05641-2351

## Fire Incident Reporting and Data Management

### Fighting Fire with Facts

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) program was adopted in Vermont in 1983.

The NFIRS provides a large amount of information on fires and other types of incidents reported by fire departments. The reports provide the big picture and helps us provide information to decision makers and it helps to justify grants and fire service funding. We call this fighting fire with facts.

Fire reporting by fire departments is required by state law. It is recommended that fire departments submit their data at monthly intervals. If no runs were made during the month, a report of "no activity" should be submitted to the state for the reporting period. Do not wait to send all your reports at the end of the year.

To meet FEMA security requirements for protection of the system. NFIRS includes an automatic user account deactivation and new requirements for passwords. Accounts not accessed in a 60-day period are locked. To be reactivated, you must contact one of the State Program Managers. It is recommended that users login to the system at least once a month.

#### Program Contacts

##### REQUESTS TO RESET AN ACCOUNT

Your VFIRS account will become inactive if you don't use it regularly To request a re-set please send an e-mail to [dps.vfirs@vermont.gov](mailto:dps.vfirs@vermont.gov)

##### Or contact

**Maurice VanDemark**  
[Maurice.Vandemark@vermont.gov](mailto:Maurice.Vandemark@vermont.gov)  
Phone: 802-479-7565

##### Technical Assistance & Training

The state program managers provide technical assistance, user training

##### Stanley Baranowski

802-479-7575 [stanley.baranowski@vermont.gov](mailto:stanley.baranowski@vermont.gov)

##### Michael D. Greenia

802-479-7587 [micheal.greenia@vermont.gov](mailto:micheal.greenia@vermont.gov)



## Fire and Building Safety Services

### **Code Enforcement & Plan Review**

Most Vermont towns do not have a fire marshal/building inspector to conduct life safety building inspections in public buildings. The Division of Fire Safety reviews plans and issues State building permits. Every attempt is made to issue permits in a timely manner (within 30 days). We work collaboratively with the business community and try to find ways to insure the plans we receive have adequate information to assist us in expediting our plan review process.

Inspections and code enforcement activities help us validate that structures have been built in compliance with nationally adopted building standards. Pre-construction meetings are often held to ensure the proposed project is on the right track for permitting and errors are caught in the design phase avoiding costly mistakes or delays in permitting.



2018 Statistics	
Construction Permits issued	2,846
Electrical Inspections	5,550
Plumbing Inspections	1,166
Field Reviews	1,130
Fire/Building Inspections	6,169
Total	16,861



## Division of Fire Safety Special Operations

To meet the operational and resource needs of Vermont's emergency services and to support local governments, the division established special operation response teams to assist in rapid building inspections to evaluate buildings for structural integrity.

The Division's Special Operations section works in support of Vermont Emergency Management with emergency/disaster response. The Division is currently reviewing and updating its State Emergency Response Plan to enhance our efforts in responding to emergencies and supporting VEM and our local first responders.

The Division has established its own Emergency Operation Center that will play an integral role in future responses. Creating our own EOC has allowed us to effectively communicate and assemble response resources quickly. The Division is also active in community-based outreach programs aimed at educating our municipal partners about our resource capabilities. This new initiative has been tested and proven to be very successful.

The Division looks forward to working with and assisting our state and municipal partners in the future. Being better prepared and planning for emergencies makes Vermont a safer place.



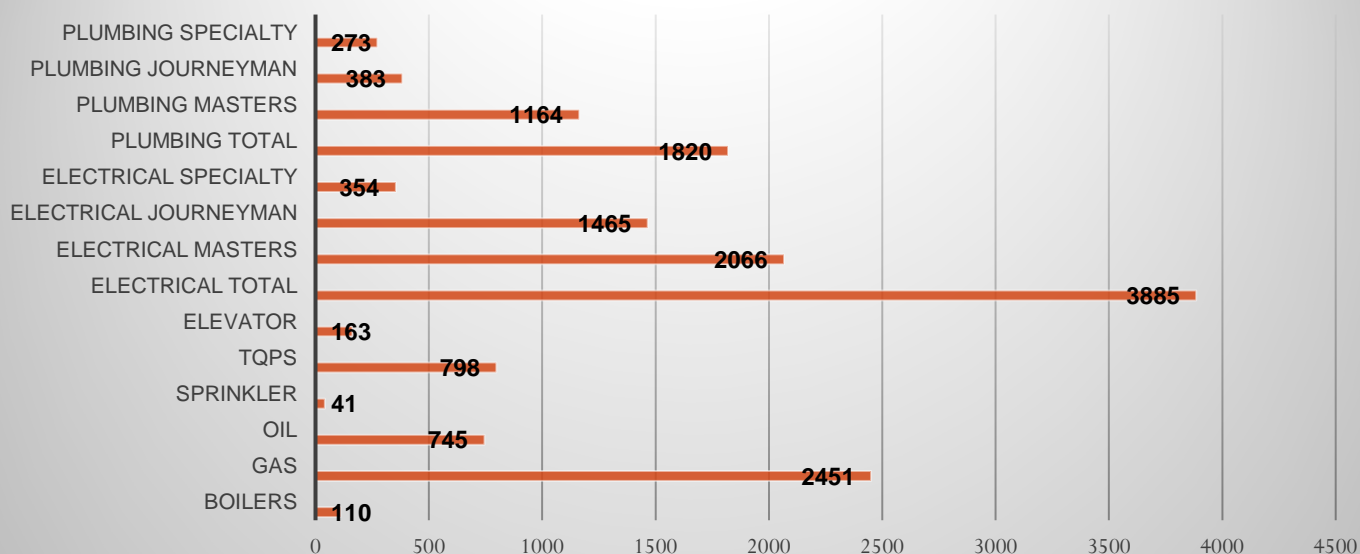
**To request DFS special operations response or other assistance after hours contact the VT Emergency Management Watch Officer at  
1-800-347-0488**

## Licensing and Certification

Licensed and certified trade professionals play a significant role in protecting Vermonters by following adopted rules and standards and ensuring building equipment and systems are safe.

Vermont Licenses and Certification Types			
<b>Electrical</b>	Master, Journeyman, Specialist	<b>3885</b>	<b>Certified Professionals / Technically Qualified Person (TQP)</b> <b>T 1</b> Fire Alarm <b>T 2</b> Fire Suppression <b>T 3</b> Fire Sprinkler <b>I 3</b> Fire Sprinkler Designer <b>I 4</b> Fire Sprinkler Designer <b>T 4</b> Chimney Sweeps <b>T 6</b> Emergency Generators <b>T 8</b> Domestic Fire Sprinkler Systems <b>O B</b> NORA Oil Bronze Cert <b>O S</b> NORA Oil Silver Cert <b>G N</b> Natural Gas <b>L P</b> Propane Gas <b>G B</b> Natural / Propane Gas
<b>Plumbing</b>	Master, Journeyman, Specialist	<b>1,820</b>	
<b>Elevator</b>	Inspector, Mechanic, Lift Mechanic	<b>163</b>	
<b>Boiler</b>	Commissioned Inspector	<b>110</b>	

### Vermont Licenses and Certification 2018



For Assistance With : <b>All Electrical, Plumbing, Elevator Licenses</b> <b>T1, T3, I3, I4, T8 TQPs</b> Please Contact	For Assistance With : <b>T2, T4, T6, TQPs</b> <b>OB, OS All Gas Certifications</b> Please Contact
Central Office - Licensing Specialist 802-479-7564	<b>Debbie Moulton</b> Springfield - Regional Assistant 802-885-8883 <a href="mailto:debra.moulton@vermont.gov">debra.moulton@vermont.gov</a>

# Annual Report from Fire Academy

**Peter Lynch Vermont Fire Academy - Chief of Training**

2018 was a year for the Fire Academy to start translating some of your visions into reality. Aside from the important work that goes on daily, our full-time staff and part-time instructor group rolled up their sleeves and performed amazing work to address twelve initiatives. This was a very big undertaking with a strong desire to address the needs of the entire Vermont fire service. We are very pleased with the outcome and fully realize that we will have to make adjustments as we roll out finished projects to the fire service. Below are a few highlights of the 2018 accomplishments.

We have spent a great deal of time building foundations that are a benefit to firefighters, however they are not something that are typically seen. The first is the development of Standard operating guidelines. Fifty of these have now been created to help us to consistently direct Fire Academy related operations. The second item is the creation of a Strategic Plan, which is now complete and under review. It is our intent to share the Plan with you during the summer months. Lastly, we continue to raise the bar for our instructors by identifying areas for growth and offering instructor development training.



Many advances have been made in programing that are having a positive impact on the fire service. Pumping Apparatus Driver Operator program has been updated, and has had one pilot delivery completed. Rapid Intervention Crew curriculum has been created and the three module program will go out to pilot this year. Entry Level Exterior Support Fire Fighter development is also now complete. The fifty hour course was designed in a handoff format and is available for fire department training officers use at their own pace. Aerial Apparatus Driver Operator is now undergoing revision and update and is expected to be available in Spring 2019. Flammable Gas Control is still under revision, but progress has been made toward completion. To aid in curriculum development, we have created a new part-time position called Fire Service Training Specialist I.

Two separate committees have been working to establish special rescue training to be provided by the Fire Academy. One of the committees is working on a standalone vehicle extrication course. While the implementation for this is still months away, we have made real progress on curriculum development. Another committee has taken on the task of technical rescue training. The committee has reviewed the training needs survey that you filled out and prioritized the need for various types of technical rescue training. After identifying the needs, the focus was placed on initial development of curriculum for Ice Water Rescue and purchase the training equipment. The Fire Academy is also now offering Rope Operations and have received ProBoard Accreditation for Rope Awareness and Operations.

In addition to the work on course and program development, last year the Fire Academy campus continued to see improvements. The burn building and its concrete pad are now complete. The space is now accessible year-round and we have been taking advantage of that. We are excited to have you come and train at the building. Also on the campus is our former offices at the East Cottage which is currently vacant. This building has approval to be renovated into dormitory space. It is our hope that in a few years you will be able to come to the Fire Academy for multi-day courses and stay overnight in the Fire Academy dorms.

While great work was accomplished in 2018 by the Fire Academy Staff and Instructors, there is much more to be done. We will continue to look at ways to improve and look forward to feedback from you in order to make this happen in a way that positively effects the entire Vermont Fire Service.





### 2018 Statistics

Course Name	Courses Held	Student Completion
Firefighter I	5	87
Firefighter II	2	59
Firefighter I/II	3	70
Modern Fire Behavior	5	74
Hazardous Materials	17	295
Technical Rescue	1	25
National Fire Academy	4	81

### Total Number Firefighters Certified

Level	Total
Firefighter I	3,645
Firefighter II	1055
Fire Officer I	87
Fire Officer II	165
Fire Instructor I	325
Fire Inspector I/II	9
Driver Operator - Aerial	43
Driver Operation - Pumper	117

Photos from the Fire Academy and their Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/Vermont-Fire-Academy-25038311671748/>



# Public Education and Information 2018 Activity Report

## Micheal Greenia - Public Education Section Chief

One of the essential areas of prevention is public education and awareness. Fire safety education is designed to increase knowledge and to develop attitudes and behaviors that keep everyone fire safe. Fire prevention requires efforts every day of the year. Preventing fire is something we all need to practice every day. ***Fire is Everyone's Fight.***

The DFS Public Fire Safety Education and Information Section is responsible for enhancing statewide public fire prevention education, information, and outreach services. The section provides support services to fire departments, fire and life safety educators and community organizations by providing technical assistance, educational equipment and coordinates national and State resources to help with efforts to reduce the fire problem in their communities.

During 2018, a combination of new and established programs helped us meet the educational needs of Vermonters of all ages. With the support of part time Fire Safety Education Specialists: Nicole English, Chris Brown and other division staff, we presented over 140 local education programs at various events around the State

We continue to work on Community Risk Reduction programs, which provide an identification and prioritization of risks, followed by the coordinated application of resources to minimize the probability of occurrence and/or the impact of unfortunate events. One area that needs more attention is providing home fire safety surveys and fire safety education to older age groups. We are hopeful that the new FIRESAFE 802 program will help to minimize the incidence of death and injuries caused by fire and fire-related hazards.

Our continued involvement in the NFPA public education network, Vision 2020, US Fire Admiration, Safe Kids worldwide American Red Cross and the Vermont/New Hampshire Carbon Monoxide Alliance all help us to facilitate and share national cutting-edge fire prevention education programs and materials to fire and life safety educators in Vermont.





## 2018 Public Education Programs and Events Overview

#	Program type	Primary Audience	Amount
1	K-12 School Programs	School Children	24
2	College Student Programs	College Students	9
3	Senior Adult Programs	Senior Adults	2
4	Community Events / Regional Fairs	General Public - All ages	31
5	Adult Education	Adults	4
6	Workplace Safety Talks / Training	Workers - Business Owners	12
7	FD Events, Programs and Open Houses	General Public - All ages	20
8	Special Programs	General Public - All ages	3
9	Program Development / Meetings / Event prep	Project Committee Members	10
10	Other -		2
11	DFS Special Opps. / Emergency Management	SEOC & DFS Response Personnel	8
12	Ect. Division Personal Training	DFS Response Personnel	8
13	FD Training programs NFIRS / FLSE	Fire Department Personnel	4
14	NFPA / Vision 2020 Programs / Meetings/ Training	State Representatives	11
15	FireSsafe 802 / RC Sound the Alarm events	General Public - All ages(home)	10
<b>Total Events</b>		<b>140</b>	
(Not including meetings development, event prep or Personal Training)			

## Reginald Beliveau of the Swanton Village Fire Department Receives the 2018 NFPA Rising and Shining Star Award



March, 2018, Quincy, MA – Reginald Beliveau Jr. of the Village of Swanton Fire Department, has been selected by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to receive a Rising and Shining Star Scholarship Award for his 30 years of dedication in effectively reaching the public with fire safety education.

As an award recipient, Reg will join Vermont's NFPA Public Education Network member Micheal Greenia as well as fire and life safety educators from around the country at NFPA's Conference & Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada, in June, where he will participate in training sessions, conference events, and a networking reception. NFPA's Conference & Expo serves as the premier annual event for fire, electrical, and building safety.



"Reg has consistently demonstrated a strong commitment to reducing Swanton's residents' risk to fire and related hazards," said Kelly Ransdell, regional education specialist for NFPA's Public Education Division. "He is truly deserving of this award, and we're thrilled to have him attend this year's conference."

NFPA selected 12 scholarship recipients from the United States and Canada who provide consistent and innovative outreach to their community, actively use and implement NFPA resources and programs, and/or are enthusiastic, fire and life safety educators interested in learning about NFPA programs and materials.



## Highlighted Projects

### The Robert Howe Fire Safety Calendar



This program is an annual event that produces a calendar featuring the artwork of 3rd grade students from around the State.

Each year the Division of Fire Safety reaches out to the schools across the State of Vermont, as a collaborative effort to spread the word of Fire Safety.

Third grade Students submit their artwork detailing a Fire Safety message. The artwork is judged and winners are selected and invited to the State House to receive recognition for the artwork. Each month of the calendar represents a Fire Safety message that is appropriate for that time of year.

Go to <http://firesafety.vermont.gov/Pubed/calendar> to find out how you can get involved or have your students take part in the next calendar.





# The FIRESAFE 802 Program

Vermont families and the homes we live in, face numerous high fire risks. Residential properties account for the majority of the structure fires and civilian fatalities in Vermont.

Our research has found that home safety visits and working alarms play a powerful role in enhanced rural fire safety. This project builds on past statewide fire prevention efforts and enhances our current efforts to reach high-risk Vermonters and mitigate the incidence of death and injuries caused by fire.



FIRE SAFE 802 is a comprehensive statewide community risk reduction program that brings fire departments and community groups together to install FREE smoke and CO alarms in neighborhoods at greatest risk for home fires.

With financial assistance from the AFG Fire Prevention & Safety (FP&S) Grant program, the division is working with local fire departments, the American Red Cross and other community volunteers to equip teams to help educate the public and make sure smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are installed and working in people's homes. Teams also provide free home safety surveys and provide fire prevention education.

We are currently scheduling trainings and install events.

**How can your department or group become a partner in making your community safer? Contact:**

**FS802 Project Coordinator Henry Knott**  
**Or Public Education Section Chief Micheal D. Greenia**

**micheel.greenia@vermont.gov (802) – 479 - 7587**



## Department of Public Safety Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit



The Department of Public Safety Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit brings together the strengths of both the Division of Fire Safety and the Vermont State Police to address the issues identified in fire investigation. Fire Departments are reminded that when calling for assistance from the fire investigation unit the Fire Chief must call the nearest State Police Barracks. The dispatchers have a call out list for the fire investigators.

The Department of Public Safety is committed to working with and assisting the fire service in its goal of protecting life and property in Vermont.

The Division of Fire Safety Investigators were directly involved in 139 fire investigations. These fires resulted in ten civilian deaths, one firefighter fatality and fifteen civilian injuries and approximately \$50 million in property damage. There were no fatalities from carbon monoxide exposure in 2018.

During 2018, the Division investigated twenty incendiary fires, forty-two accidental fires, sixty- nine undetermined and seven fires from other causes. The Unit investigated fires in sixty-four single-family homes, thirteen in multi-family complexes, six vehicles, three in hotels/inns and eighty for all other occupancies.

Of the ninety-two residential fires, forty-two had smoke alarms, twenty-one did not and the investigation was unable to confirm the existence of smoke alarms in the remaining twenty-nine residential occupancies.

The one factor that has been consistent in the loss of life each year in Vermont is they are mostly in single-family homes where there was a lack of smoke alarms or smoke alarms that did not function because the batteries had been removed. It is important that we and Vermont's Fire Service continue to encourage the use of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to help reduce the loss of life from fires or carbon monoxide. One life lost is too many.



**1-800-32-ARSON**

(1-800-322-7766)

**We Want Your Information Not Your Name!**





# State Hazardous Materials Response Team

The Vermont HAZMAT Response Team (VHMRT) continues to offer a high level of technical response and assistance to all fire departments dealing with hazardous materials incidents. With 21 years and numerous incidents, the team remains dedicated to continuous improvement and stands ready to respond to any HAZMAT challenge, which may occur in Vermont.

The goal of the hazmat response system has always been to provide the appropriate level of response to cope with the magnitude of the incident and to do so rapidly. In 2018, the Team responded to 118 incidents. These breakdown to 28 Responses, 44 Notifications, and 46 Phone Consultations.

Classified as a FEMA Type I HAZMAT Team, VHMRT has the highest rating given to HAZMAT teams and is capable of managing any type of incident including chemical, biological and radiological. The thirty (30) Technicians are led by a Chief, two Deputy Chiefs and three Crew Chiefs. The team has a fleet of four HAZMAT Response Vehicles. Three of the vehicles carry everything the team needs to perform at any incident, including specialized protective suits, chemical sampling and identification instruments, spill and leak containment devices and communications equipment. The team has an LP Gas Trailer which was used to assist with LP incidents Fire Departments had in 2017.



The Team provided refresher training to 1,091 responders for a total of 141 hours, throughout the state. Classes included Air Monitoring, HazMat Awareness, Hazmat Operations Hazmat Decon, Compressed Natural Gas, and Ethanol & Foam. The team also assists Vt. State Police, when requested with instruction of Traffic Incident Management and Clandestine Lab Awareness.

In 2108, the team along with the Vt. Guard 15th Civil support Team worked together to strengthen our interagency training/response and both teams are a compliment to each other.

Chief Cosgrove collects and disseminates over 2,634 Tier II reports (2018) required under the Community Right to Know Act, working with the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committees. Chief Cosgrove serves as Chair of the SERC.

The team's authorization comes from Vermont statute, V.S.A. § 2673 for the expressed purpose of assisting any fire department in the management of hazardous materials events. The Team Chief works for the State Fire Marshal at the Division of Fire Safety. If you have, any questions please contact: Team Chief. Todd J. Cosgrove



If you have any questions about the program, contact:

**Todd J. Cosgrove**  
**Vermont Haz-Mat Team Chief**

1311 U.S. Route 302, Suite 600 Barre, VT 05641  
Phone: 802-479-7586. Email: [todd.cosgrove@vermont.gov](mailto:todd.cosgrove@vermont.gov)

**To request the state HAZ MAT TEAM**  
**for an emergency call the Hazmat hotline**

**800-641-5005**

## 2018 Statistics

In 2018, the Team responded to 118 incidents. These breakdown to 28 Responses, 44 Notifications, and 46 Phone Consultations. Breakdown by Type of incident is Clan Lab-0, Motor Vehicle/Boat Spill-39, Above/below ground tank spill-18, Chemical spill-26, Special Event Support-3, Misc Asst.-11, LPG/CNG/NG-6, White Powder-12, RAD-3. Classes Taught to Local Agencies - 1,096, for 141 hours of training, such as Meth Lab Awareness, Air Monitoring, Hazmat, Refresher, Decontamination, Foam Operations, First Receiver Training for Hospitals.



# Urban Search and Rescue Team

## VT Task Force 1

Mike Cannon - Urban Search and Rescue Program Coordinator



Vermont Urban Search and Rescue Task Force One (VT TF-1) is a National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type III Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) capable of operating in difficult technical rescue incidents for up to 72 hours. The 90 person Task Force trains in advanced rope rescue and search and rescue for persons trapped in collapsed heavy concrete structures. The Task Force is capable of responding with boats and rescue swimmers to assist communities during flood and moving water incidents.

The Task Force responds with approximately 35-90 members trained in mission specific specialties within the Team. These include Rescue, Search, Medical, HazMat, Logistics and Planning. Each group is responsible for carrying out important mission specific job functions such as concrete cutting, breaching, shoring, operating search cameras and listening devices or searching with specially trained canine resources.

During the summer and fall of 2018, the United States experienced an unprecedented string of weather disasters that stretched federal and state resources to their limits. The State of Vermont answered an urgent State-to-State Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request from the State of North Carolina for swift water/flood Teams during Hurricane Florence.

Vermont Task Force One was vetted by North Carolina and EMAC and deployed within 12 hours of the request. After driving 20 hours non-stop, the Task Force was pre-deployed to work in Bladen County North Carolina, about 50 miles in from the Coast. The Team was split into two smaller water rescue units and worked non-stop for about 96 hours with little to no sleep. During this period, the Task Force rescued 41 persons from moving floodwaters while working in hurricane force winds and less than suitable working conditions. The Team also evacuated another 40 persons and 11 pets from flooded homes, vehicles and businesses. Vermont Task Force One was the only water rescue team assigned to Bladen County and worked without relief for 5 days providing boat rescues to stranded citizens living near the flooded Black and Cape Fear River systems.

Vermont Task Force One also served the citizens of Vermont in 2018, by responding to various flood events and assisting the Division of Fire Safety and Vermont State Police Fire Investigators with shoring fire damaged buildings. Task Force members logged countless hours of training as well as maintenance of equipment and vehicles. The Task Force continues to draw its membership from local Fire Departments, EMS agencies, Hospitals, engineering and the professional civilian population.



Photos from the VT TF 1 and their Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/VTTF1/>





# VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION TASK FORCE

## 1998-2017 Rural Fire Protection Grant Program

Also known as the Dry Hydrant Grant Program

Troy Dare, RFP Program Manager  
802-828-4582 or [dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com](mailto:dryhydrantguy@yahoo.com)

170 Lower Sumner Hill Road, Sumner, ME 04292  
[www.vacd.org](http://www.vacd.org)






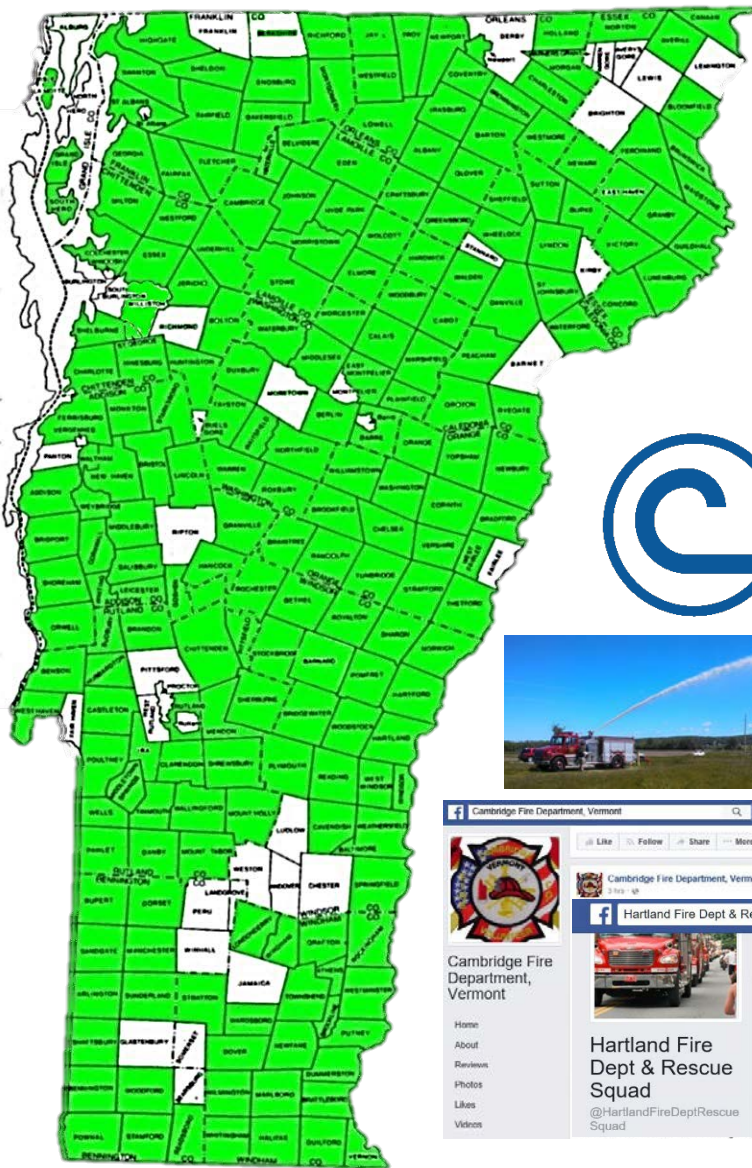
**20 Year Anniversary! Dedicated to the Fire Fighters, Communities, Legislators and Vermont People who made it possible!**

The mission of the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force is to improve the safety and welfare of Vermont communities by assisting local fire departments in reducing the risk of injury, loss of life, and damage to property and natural resources.





-  **1998-2017 RFP Grant Program Recipients - 214 Towns** were awarded **884 grants** up to **\$5,000** each totaling **\$1.78M** funded by Vermont Legislative Appropriations through the Department of Public Safety
-  **2000-2017 Special Cases RFP Grant Program - 85 Towns** were awarded **124 grants** up to **\$10,000** each totaling **\$479,777** funded by the US Forest Service through the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation
-  **2012 RFP Flood Recovery Grants - 18 Towns** received **28 Repair & Replacement grants** totaling **\$64,627** funded by Vermont Legislative Appropriations through the Department of Public Safety - after May 2011 flood damage & Tropical Storm Irene



**TOTALS:**  
**\$2.26 Million**  
**1008 Grants Awarded**  
**214 Towns Served**



*"With the manpower shortage tl day, this hydrant allows us to se one person, giving us more help*

Richard Fisher  
Chief, Concord VFD

*"Three days after we tested it, the dry hydrant was used to fight a barn fire. Boy, were we happy to have it."*

Pete Richardson  
Captain, Norwich VFD

*"This program is great! Without this grant money, a lot of small departments would not be able to have these draft sites."*

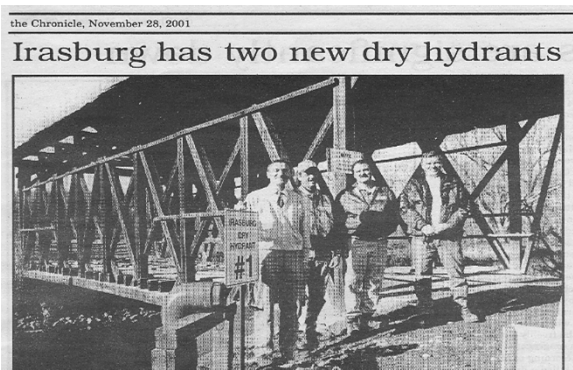
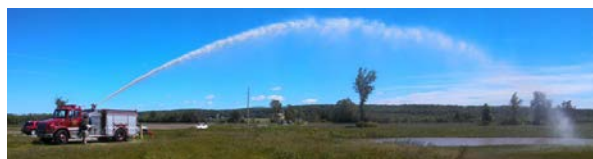
Russ Garrow  
Mt. Holly VFD

*"This project greatly improves our fire protection in our industrial zoned area. The hydrant is so wonderful."*

Mike Spackman  
West Windsor VFD

*"A densely settled area of town now has a reliable water source."*

Gary Moore  
Bradford FD



**George "Rip" Richards**  
Task Force Chairman - 1998-2010

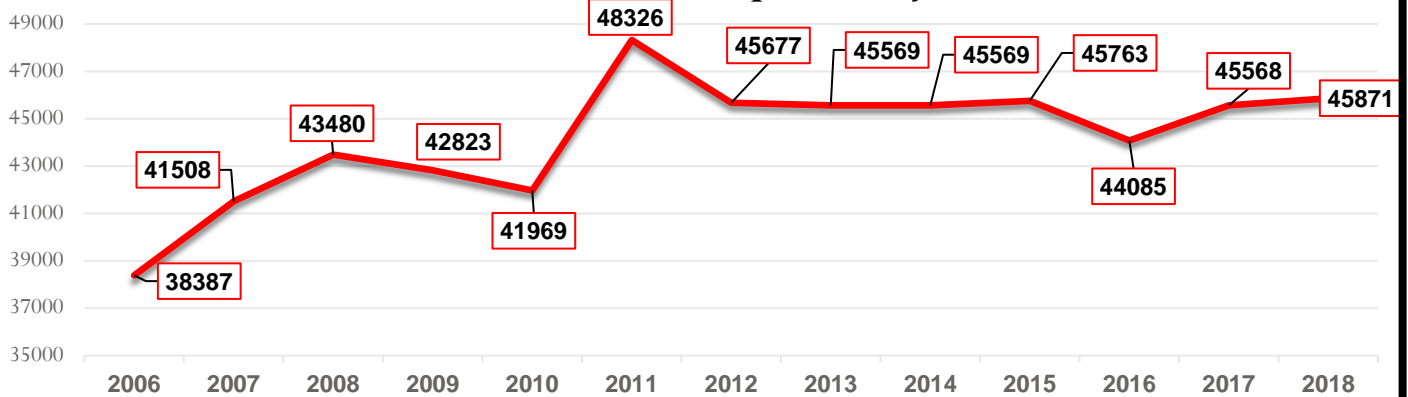


Thanks to our partners: VT Dept. of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety, VT Dept. of Forest Parks & Rec., and US Forest Service

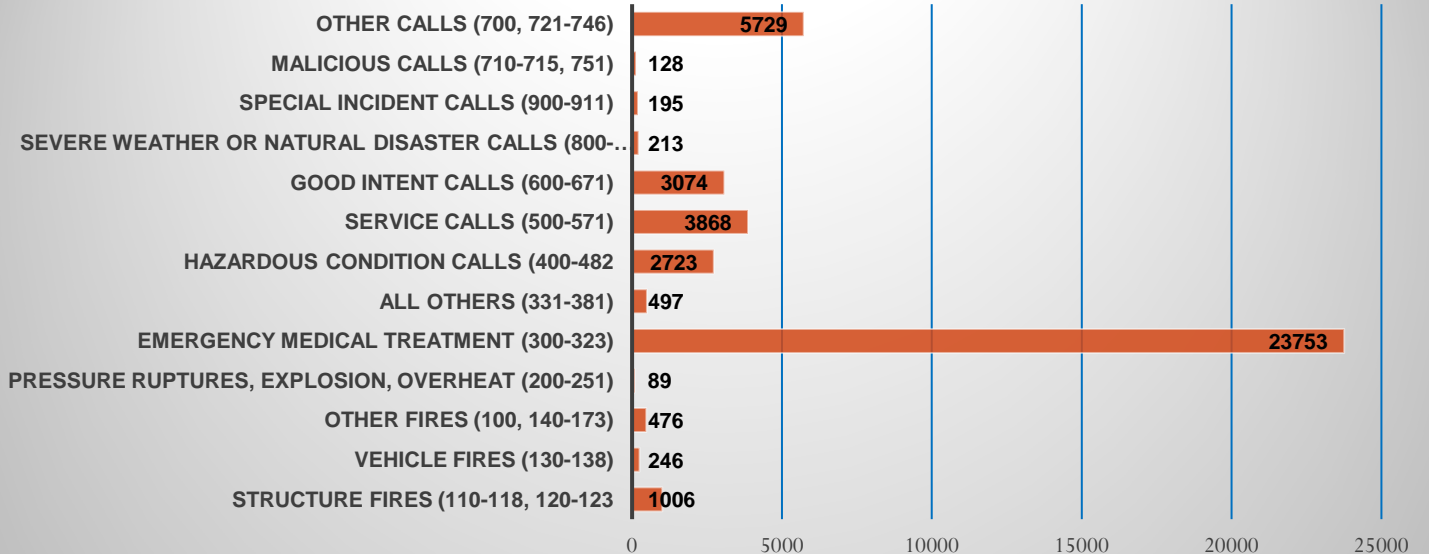
# 2018 Statewide Emergency Incident Data



## Statewide Incidents Reported By Year



## Statewide 2018 Incident Type Summary



**NOTE -** The following list is from a NFIRS reports run on March 15, 2019 and based on data from entered incidents by fire departments that participate. It provides an overview of selected incident types and may not be a full account of fire department calls. Some departments may not have reported during all months of the year. Departments marked in gray had no incident reports entered in 2018

State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	N/A	Total
01003	ADDISON	19	0	74	9	2	3	6	0	0	1	114
10006	ALBANY											0
07009	ALBURGH	11	0	10	2	3	3	1	0	0	0	30
02015	ARLINGTON	26	0	29	19	10	13	25	10	1	0	133
14016	ASCUTNEY	9	0	61	8	9	8	3	1	0	0	99
06024	BAKERSFIELD	10	0	37	1	2	0	5	1	0	0	56
14030	BARNARD	9	0	47	4	1	8	4	0	0	0	73
03033	BARNET	4	0	10	0	0	1	5	0	0	1	21
12036	BARRE CITY	44	8	1,949	69	125	128	135	5	5	0	2,468
12039	BARRE TOWN	37	1	30	62	12	31	35	0	0	0	208
10042	BARTON											0
05044	BEECHER FALLS											0
13045	BELLOWS FALLS	20	0	59	11	24	27	29	0	1	0	171
02051	BENNINGTON RURAL	15	0	33	39	45	8	72	0	0	0	212
02451	BENNINGTON	10	1	11	13	39	15	44	5	0	0	138
11054	BENSON	4	0	11	1	4	1	7	0	0	2	30
06057	BERKSHIRE	6	0	15	3	0	1	2	1	0	3	31
12060	BERLIN	34	0	272	11	3	43	61	10	1	0	435
14063	BETHEL	16	0	12	25	7	0	13	0	0	0	73
04069	BOLTON	12	0	45	11	2	11	7	2	0	0	90
09072	BRADFORD	11	0	47	21	8	15	35	0	0	0	137
11078	BRANDON	11	0	47	21	8	15	35	0	0	0	137
13080	BRATTLEBORO	67	4	1,358	139	327	270	364	14	8	0	2,551
14084	BRIDGEWATER											0
01087	BRIDPORT	12	0	57	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	76
05090	BRIGHTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
01093	BRISTOL	23	1	51	18	4	16	27	0	0	0	140
09096	BROOKFIELD	6	0	7	4	1	0	2	0	0	0	20
04114	BURLINGTON	145	9	5,045	153	639	843	1,173	6	31	0	8,044
12117	CABOT											0
08123	CAMBRIDGE	14	1	36	7	2	57	28	0	0	0	145
11129	CASTLETON	33	0	44	20	9	13	39	1	0	2	161
14132	CAVENDISH	3	0	32	1	1	0	7	2	0	1	47
13548	CHAMPION											0
10135	CHARLESTON	9	0	11	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	27
04138	CHARLOTTE	27	1	86	30	11	7	48	3	1	0	214
09141	CHELSEA	17	0	10	6	2	1	6	0	2	9	53
14144	CHESTER	18	0	23	24	19	20	18	1	0	0	123



State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	Fire 100	Overpressur e Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire) 200	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents 300	Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 400	Service Call 500	Good Intent Call 600	False Alarm and False Call 700	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster 800	Special Incident Type 900	N/A	Total
11147	CHITTENDEN											0
11150	CLARENDON	7	0	16	6	0	0	3	0	0	1	33
04153	COLCHESTER	73	2	157	97	24	94	222	1	0	0	670
05156	CONCORD	9	0	73	16	8	4	1	0	0	0	111
09206	CORINTH	12	0	17	9	4	7	2	0	0	0	51
01162	CORNWALL	7	0	29	5	0	2	8	0	0	42	93
10168	CRAFTSBURY	6	0	30	5	0	4	9	0	0	1	55
11171	DANBY /MT TABOR	12	0	30	9	3	1	11	0	0	1	67
03174	DANVILLE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10177	DERBY LINE	22	1	2	8	0	1	18	0	0	4	56
02180	DORSET	18	0	22	11	13	7	47	3	1	1	123
03199	EAST BURKE	3	0	16	2	1	0	12	0	0	21	55
02193	EAST DORSET	21	0	36	9	1	1	55	1	0	3	127
13191	EAST DOVER	8	0	22	7	2	12	1	0	0	0	52
05192	EAST HAVEN											0
12195	EAST MONTPELIER	20	0	396	52	27	31	17	0	0	0	543
09209	EAST RANDOLPH	9	0	5	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	21
08201	ELMORE	10	0	15	1	0	1	12	0	0	6	45
06205	ENOSBURGH	25	0	27	5	1	26	17	0	0	0	101
04208	ESSEX JCT.	39	0	176	89	43	87	140	0	3	0	577
04207	ESSEX TOWN	7	1	158	18	2	28	39	0	0	0	253
11216	FAIR HAVEN											0
06210	FAIRFAX	21	0	49	9	85	17	24	1	0	0	206
06213	FAIRFIELD											0
09219	FAIRLEE											0
01421	FERRISBURG	14	0	34	7	2	11	4	0	0	1	73
06234	FRANKLIN	11	0	7	3	1	1	3	1	0	2	29
10801	GOSHEN											0
06237	GEORGIA											0
10243	GLOVER											0
13249	GRAFTON	10	1	46	16	4	2	16	0	0	0	95
07255	GRAND ISLE	15	0	32	6	8	42	13	1	0	16	133
01261	GRANVILLE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10264	GREENSBORO	9	0	2	8	1	8	6	0	0	0	34
03267	GROTON	2	0	8	4	1	0	1	0	2	0	18

State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	Fire 100	Overpressur e Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire) 200	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents 300	Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 400	Service Call 500	Good Intent Call 600	False Alarm and False Call 700	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster 800	Special Incident Type 900	N/A	Total
13273	GUILFORD	1	0	14	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	22
13276	HALIFAX											0
01179	HANDCOCK											0
03282	HARDWICK	12	0	11	5	2	0	13	1	3	21	68
14285	HARTFORD	45	4	1,549	54	243	144	171	1	7	0	2,218
14288	HARTLAND	22	0	57	12	10	1	16	0	0	2	120
06291	HIGHGATE											0
04294	HINESBURG	19	0	295	12	14	29	29	2	0	0	400
11300	HUBBARDTON	5	0	9	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	17
04303	HUNTINGTON	3	0	2	6	2	1	2	0	0	0	16
08306	HYDE PARK	25	1	26	11	21	6	20	3	0	0	113
04806	IBM / Global Foundries	0	0	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	47
11309	IRA	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
10312	IRASBURG	6	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	13
07318	ISLE LA MOTTE	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
13324	JAMAICA	7	1	93	24	11	2	10	4	0	2	154
10327	JAY											0
08336	JOHNSON	21	0	37	8	12	23	22	2	0	1	126
11588	KILLINGTON	13	0	157	15	4	43	133	0	0	0	365
01354	LINCOLN	3	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	29
10360	LOWELL											0
13357	LONDONDERY / PHOENEX											0
14363	LUDLOW	18	0	27	26	22	20	57	0	0	0	170
05366	LUNEBURG											0
03371	LYNDONVILLE	26	0	17	84	42	5	41	2	1	0	218
04808	MALLETTS BAY	18	0	135	23	39	153	57	0	0	0	425
02373	MANCHESTER	30	0	33	28	15	23	119	2	1	5	256
13378	MARLBORO											0
12381	MARSHFIELD	12	0	13	3	1	2	8	0	2	4	45
01387	MIDDLEBURY	27	0	17	43	24	21	70	2	13	0	217
12390	MIDDLESEX											0
11393	MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
04396	MILTON	36	0	43	31	20	65	27	1	0	0	223
01399	MONKTON											0
06402	MONTGOMERY	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
12405	MONTPELIER	42	8	1,136	68	263	145	131	1	0	0	1,794
12408	MORETOWN											0
08414	MORRISVILLE											0

State: VT

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11470	MT HOLLY	19	1	13	5	7	6	10	0	0	7	68
01432	NEW HAVEN											0
03423	NEWARK											0
13429	NEWBROOK -Newfane / Brookline	13	0	123	26	18	14	13	0	0	0	207
09426	NEWBURY	12	0	7	7	5	6	6	0	0	0	43
10438	NEWPORT	34	0	32	27	15	15	46	2	1	0	172
10436	NEWPORT Center	9	0	7	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	19
02443	NORTH BENNINGTON	12	0	5	4	17	2	17	0	0	3	60
07444	NORTH HERO											0
08448	NORTH HYDE PARK / EDEN	14	0	21	4	4	1	18	1	1	0	64
10445	NORTH TROY											0
12440	NORTHFIELD	13	0	11	20	2	16	20	0	1	0	83
14450	NORWICH	3	0	12	2	2	7	10	0	0	0	36
10456	ORLEANS	13	0	6	11	4	3	12	0	0	0	49
1459	ORWELL	4	0	13	3	2	6	2	0	0	5	35
11465	PAWLET	7	0	7	4	6	4	7	0	0	0	35
03468	PEACHAM											0
02474	PERU	6	0	13	5	2	0	18	0	0	1	45
11477	PITTSFIELD											0
11480	PITTSFORD	4	0	13	3	1	3	3	0	0	0	27
12483	PLAINFIELD											0
14486	PLYMOUTH	8	0	3	3	1	3	7	0	0	1	26
11492	POULTNEY	12	0	25	4	5	9	14	0	0	0	69
02495	POWNA	8	0	17	4	0	2	1	0	0	0	32
02813	POWNA VALLEY	9	0	8	15	16	2	9	0	0	0	59
11498	PROCTOR											0
14501	PROCTORSVILLE	22	1	60	8	14	2	16	0	0	12	135
13504	PUTNEY	12	0	25	4	5	9	14	0	0	0	69
09509	RANDOLPH CENTER	16	1	28	7	5	10	8	0	0	2	77
09507	RANDOLPH VILLAGE	12	0	20	35	10	7	25	0	0	5	114
14510	READING	5	0	21	3	7	5	3	0	0	0	44
2513	READSBORO	7	0	51	4	12	7	2	0	1	0	84
06516	RICHFORD	12	0	44	11	4	1	28	1	0	0	101
04519	RICHMOND	16	0	94	17	5	6	17	8	0	0	163
01522	RIPTON	5	0	22	3	2	27	5	5	0	0	69
14525	ROCHESTER	4	0	13	1	0	2	7	1	0	0	28
13528	ROCKINGHAM	8	0	63	2	6	8	3	1	1	0	92
12531	ROXBURY											0



State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	Fire 100	Overpressur e Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire) 200	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents 300	Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 400	Service Call 500	Good Intent Call 600	False Alarm and False Call 700	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster 800	Special Incident Type 900	N/A	Total
02537	RUPERT											0
11540	RUTLAND CITY	75	6	116	105	291	64	243	41	20	0	961
11543	RUTLAND TOWN	23	0	35	18	34	16	44	0	0	0	170
03544	RYGATE	8	0	8	8	2	12	6	0	0	1	45
01561	SALISBURY											0
13567	SAXTONS RIVER											0
02573	SHAFTSBURY	23	0	5	51	0	4	26	0	0	0	109
14576	SHARON	1	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
03579	SHEFFIELD / WHEELLOCK											0
04582	SHELBURNE	23	3	58	26	18	30	99	0	2	0	259
06585	SHELDON	20	1	36	11	4	1	4	1	0	4	82
01591	SHOREHAM											0
11594	SHREWSBURY	4	0	4	1	1	0	3	0	0	3	16
04600	SOUTH BURLINGTON	75	11	2,565	126	395	179	391	1	19	0	3,762
07603	SOUTH HERO	5	0	23	1	6	16	2	2	0	1	56
13590	SOUTH NEWFANE											0
14604	SO ROYALTON BROAD BROOK											0
14605	SOUTH WOODSTOCK											0
14606	SPRINGFIELD	47	3	1,799	73	203	73	71	6	44	0	2,319
06549	ST. ALBANS CITY	10	10	12	53	65	9	94	4	0	0	257
06552	ST. ALBANS TOWN	29	0	38	70	26	11	59	0	4	0	237
03608	ST. JOHNSBURY	70	4	698	110	122	63	154	0	0	0	1,221
04810	ST. MICHEALS COLLAGE	Reports with Colchester Center - FDID 04153										
02609	STAMFORD	10	0	42	5	9	8	4	1	0	0	79
01615	STARKSBORO	10	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	32
14618	STOCKBRIDGE											0
08621	STOWE	3	1	2	5	0	2	15	0	0	0	28
09624	STRAFFORD	6	0	58	12	2	2	3	0	0	5	88
13627	STRATTON MTN											0
03636	SUTTON											
06339	SWANTON	24	0	107	39	25	19	20	3	10	0	247
14595	TEAGO - POMFRET											0
09462	THETFORD	31	0	180	22	5	16	13	7	1	0	275
11645	TINMOUTH											0
13652	TOWSHEND											0
09730	TRI- VILLAGE	8	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	12
10654	TROY	10	0	9	4	4	2	4	0	1	0	34
09657	TUNBRIDGE	7	0	11	8	0	1	4	0	0	1	32

State: VT

FDID	Fire Departments	Fire 100	Overpressur e Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire) 200	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents 300	Hazardous Condition (No Fire) 400	Service Call 500	Good Intent Call 600	False Alarm and False Call 700	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster 800	Special Incident Type 900	N/A	Total
04660	UNDERHILL-JERICHO	22	0	189	26	40	20	50	7	1	0	355
01663	VERGENNES	20	1	31	8	27	23	33	1	1	1	146
88888	VERMONT HAZ-MAT	3	0	0	96	9	1	0	2	2	6	119
13666	VERNON											0
09669	VERSHIRE											0
12675	WAITSFIELD / FAYSTON	7	0	8	13	2	7	9	0	0	0	46
03678	WALDEN											0
11681	WALLINGFORD	9	0	49	8	6	4	9	0	0	0	85
13687	WARDSBORO											0
12690	WARREN	14	0	12	11	4	9	25	0	0	1	76
09693	WASHINGTON	11	0	23	3	2	2	5	0	0	0	46
12698	WATERBURY	24	3	56	30	14	45	46	0	0	0	218
12698	WATERFORD											0
11708	WELLS	3	0	20	2	1	2	4	0	0	15	47
09711	WELLS RIVER	12	0	24	12	1	5	7	0	0	0	61
03713	WEST BURKE	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	5
13721	WEST DOVER	3	1	6	10	8	1	28	0	0	0	57
13722	WEST DUMMERSTON											0
11723	WEST HAVEN	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
09714	WEST NEWBURY	8	0	1	2	3	4	1	0	0	0	19
09725	WEST PAWLET	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
11735	WEST RUTLAND											0
14705	WEST WEATHERSFIELD											0
14738	WEST WINDSOR											0
04720	WESTFORD	7	0	16	2	0	4	4	0	0	2	35
13726	WESTMINISTER	8	0	228	16	75	31	12	29	2	0	401
10670	WESTMORE											0
14732	WESTON											0
01741	WEYBRIDGE	4	0	5	2	0	1	8	0	0	3	23
01750	WHITING	3	0	22	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	30
13753	WHITINGHAM											0
09756	WILLIAMSTOWN	35	0	62	8	12	9	13	2	2	0	143
04759	WILLISTON	36	2	1,130	54	266	210	333	2	0	0	2,033
13762	WILMINGTON											0
14768	WINDHAM											0
14768	WINDSOR	30	2	1,680	23	100	54	52	1	0	0	1,942

State: VT		Fire	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire)	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents	Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	Service Call	Good Intent Call	False Alarm and False Call	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	Special Incident Type		
FDID	Fire Departments	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	N/A	Total
02771	WINHALL											0
8777	WOLCOTT											0
04774	WINOOSKI	61	0	37	38	78	36	108	0	0	0	358
12780	WOODBURY	19	0	60	9	4	7	4	1	2	0	106
14786	WOODSTOCK	6	0	16	16	6	24	51	0	0	0	119
12789	WORCHESTER											0

### TOTAL INCIDENTS REPORTED – 2018

ACTIVE VT FIRE DEPTS	Fire	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire)	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents	Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	Service Call	Good Intent Call	False Alarm and False Call	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	Special Incident Type	Undeter- mined incident type	N/A
230	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	UUU	
Totals	2,660	96	25,012	2,982	4,359	3,837	6,248	223	201	253	0
Totals										45,871	

FIRE DEPT.S WITH OUT ANY 2018  
REPORTS SUBMITTED  
(As of March 15<sup>th</sup> 2019)

65

71.73%

VERMONT FIRE DEPT.S SUBMITTED REPORTS IN 2018

### INCIDENTS REPORTED - 5 years

01/01/2003-12/31/2018	Fire	Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Ensuing Fire)	Rescue and Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Incidents	Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	Service Call	Good Intent Call	False Alarm and False Call	Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	Special Incident Type	Undeter- mined incident type	N/A
	100	200	300	400	500	600	700	800	900	UUU	
Totals	55,769	1,627	333,197	58,759	72,810	52,245	92,150	3,923	4,564	2,052	0
Totals										677,299	



# Important Contact Information

## Division Central Office:

1311 U.S. Rte. 302, Suite 600,  
Barre, VT 05641-2351  
Phone: (800) 640-2106,  
Fax: (802) 479-7562

## Vermont Fire Academy

93 Davison Drive  
Pittsford, VT 05763  
Phone: 800-615-3473 or 802-483-2755  
Fax: 802-483-2464



## Barre Regional Office

1311 U.S. Rte. 302, Suite 500  
Barre, VT 05641-4271  
Phone: (888) 870-7888, Fax 479-4446

## Rutland Regional Office

56 Howe Street Building A, Suite 200  
Rutland, VT 05701-3449  
Phone: (888) 370-4834, Fax: (802) 786-5872



## Springfield Regional Office

100 Mineral Street, Suite 307  
Springfield, VT 05156-3168  
Phone: (866) 404-8883, Fax: (802) 885-8885

## Williston Regional Office

3380 Hurricane Lane, Suite 101  
Williston, VT 05495  
Phone: (800) 366-8325, Fax: (802) 879-2312

**FOR GENERAL CODE QUESTIONS CONTACT THE REGIONAL OFFICE FOR YOUR AREA**

**To request DFS special operations response or other assistance after hours contact the VT Emergency Management Watch Officer at**

**1-800-347-0488 (24hrs)**



**Vermont Haz-Mat Hotline - 1-800-641-5005 (24hrs)**

**DFS PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATION** - To schedule the VT Fire Safety House trailers or to acquire other fire safety education resources or assistance contact the Public Fire Safety Education and information section at **(802)-479-7587**



**To report a developing emergency disaster or an unusual event that requires additional assistance or resources. Call the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center. Duty Watch Officer Contact number: 800-347-0488 (24hrs)**

**To contact a fire investigator please call your nearest State Police barracks (24 hrs)**





Vermont Department of Public Safety

## ***DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY***

**Central Office**  
**1311 US Route 302—Suite 600**  
**Barre VT 05641-2351**  
**[Firesafety.vermont.gov](http://Firesafety.vermont.gov)**



# **Make Everyday a Fire Safe Day**