

# City of Battle Creek Fire Department



## 2019 Annual Report



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

[battlecreekmi.gov](http://battlecreekmi.gov)

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## BCFD Mission Statement

The Battle Creek Fire Department shall provide responsive quality emergency services and public safety education to our community that promotes safety, wellbeing, and the enhancement of quality of life for all visitors and residents.



## BCFD Core Values

Preserving **Honor** through respect and integrity.

Maintaining **Competence**, through training and professional development.

Providing services that meet and exceed industry standards for **Excellence**.

Utilizing **Predictability** to address internal and external customer service needs.

Providing an atmosphere that encourages **Loyalty** and camaraderie.

Providing an climate of **Inclusion** devoid of racism, sexism, favoritism and nepotism. Embracing **Accountability** to ensure all members contribute to organizational success.



## BCFD Vision Statement

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



# Battle Creek Fire Department



*From the Desk of Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant*

## 2019 Annual Report: Message from the Fire Chief

On behalf of the members of the Battle Creek Fire Department (BCFD), I am honored and very proud to present our Annual Report for 2019. This report illustrates our commitment to the residents, visitors, and businesses within our community; it also reflects our commitment to each other as a progressive fire service organization. The outstanding work accomplished by our Operations, EMS, Special Operations, Fire Prevention and Administrative Divisions exemplify “our family, serving yours”.

The year 2019 marked the first full year of my tenure as the Fire Chief in Battle Creek. I have worked across the country in the fire service as a Chief Officer for multiple organizations, the quality of service delivery provided by Battle Creek firefighters and their commitment to excellence is without a doubt, second to none. World-Class internal/external customer service is the target and we consistently look to meet and/or exceed this target every day.

Emergency calls for service increased in 2019 by almost 5.5% from the previous year. The majority of these calls were emergency medical in nature. This upward trajectory of EMS calls within our system dictates that we proactively prepare our organization to manage this trend. The on-going efforts with increased public safety technology will assist with these initiatives.

The current year of 2020 will continue to challenge our department and the resources allocated. However, through critical thinking, creative problem solving and a strategic thought process, we will remain vigilant while continuing to build public safety resilience within our community. Our dedication to responsive quality emergency services while ensuring our members are cared for physically, emotionally, and mentally is priority number one for me as your Fire Chief. Regardless of the challenges that we may face, each member of the BCFD is committed to supporting the community in an innovative and fiscally responsible manner.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Sturdivant, Fire Chief



# Battle Creek Fire Department



*From the Desk of Fire Chief Brian Sturdivant*

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## BATTLE CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENT 2019 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### **GRANTS (Awards):**

- FEMA Regional Radio Grant - \$400,000
- FEMA Extrication Equipment Grant - \$96,000
- State of Michigan HazMat Equipment Grant - \$105,000
- Firekeepers Casino Local Revenue Share Grant - \$10,500
- BC Community Foundation Smoke Detector Grant - \$6,000

### **FIRE RIGS/APPARATUS:**

- Purchased 2020 Spartan S-180 Model 2111 (replace Engine 2)
- Purchased 2020 Ford F-500 (replace Squad 2)
- Technology install – “Freedom App” (increased response time accuracy)

### **TRAINING:**

- 1,740 hours Officer Training (Safety Officer/Incident Command Certification)
- “2” The Rescue – Firefighter Emotional/Mental PTSD Training
- Eastern Michigan University Fire Staff and Command – Battalion Chief Graduate
- National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer – Battalion Chief Graduate

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

- Hosted 1<sup>st</sup> Annual BCFD Retiree Breakfast
- Published 1<sup>st</sup> Edition BCFD Annual Report (2018 Data)
- Hosted 1<sup>st</sup> IAFC/IAFF Labor Management Alliance
- Conducted 1<sup>st</sup> Ever BCFD SWOT Analysis for Strategic Plan Development
- Promoted Fire Battalion Chief, Fire Lieutenant, and Fire Training Officer
- Developed FF Health and Safety and FF Peer Support Teams

### **COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION:**

- Conducted 1<sup>st</sup> Smoke Detector Blitz (Partnership with American Red Cross)
- Developed Fire Company District Familiarization Site Survey Program
- Developed the Adopt-A-School Reading Buddies Program in Partnership with BCPS and MI Community in Schools – 96% of students paired with a Reading Buddy maintained or increased their reading level since inception of this program.



# City of Battle Creek Fire Department Organization Chart



# Members of the City of Battle Creek Fire Department

Fire Chief: Brian Sturdivant

Fire Marshal: Lt Quincy Jones

Executive Assistant: Julie Pena

Training Officer: Lt Andre Doser

Admin Battalion Chief: Michele Hughey

## A Shift

### **Battalion Chief**

Martin Erskine

### **Station 2**

Capt Dan Wolfe  
Lt Scott Barnes  
FF Calvin Hardin  
FF Carl Turner  
FF Patrick Cleland  
FF Shaun Hughes

### **Station 3**

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

### **Station 4**

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

### **Station 5**

Lt Holly VanSickle  
FF Greg Smith  
FF Mike Archer

### **Station 6**

Capt Chris Love  
Lt Scott Keeler  
FF Todd Aupperlee  
FF Chad Hughes  
FF Gus Furman

### **Station 7**

Lt Todd Miller

## B Shift

### **Battalion Chief**

Matt Beauchamp

### **Station 2**

Capt Derek Malone  
Lt Richard Teinert  
FF Tracey Walker  
FF James Mervyn  
FF Jon Ekema  
FF Jake Gray

### **Station 3**

Lt Jake Martin  
FF Jaye Tkac  
FF Joe Shanks  
FF Brock Howland

### **Station 4**

Lt Cody Titus  
FF Walter Hardy  
FF Nate Stencil  
FF Jessica Lindquist

### **Station 5**

Lt Cliff Hill  
FF Michael Tobin  
FF William Payne

### **Station 6**

Capt Shawn Metheny  
Lt Jeremy Pratt  
FF Ryan Johnson  
FF Ralf Willms  
FF Steve Foster

### **Station 7**

Lt Brian Bartzten

## C Shift

### **Battalion Chief**

Michael Fleisher

### **Station 2**

Capt John Hausman  
Lt Jeff Slayton  
FF Tim Gieske  
FF Kurt Hoeksema  
FF Josh Hagen  
FF Zach Mueller

### **Station 3**

Lt LaMarr Mingle  
FF Justin Coffey  
FF David Wuis  
FF Brendon Caid

### **Station 4**

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

### **Station 5**

Lt JD Ramey  
FF Shaun Kelly  
FF Kyle Williams

### **Station 6**

Capt Eric Haines  
Lt Scott Williamson  
FF Jeff Hudson  
FF Bush McCarthy  
FF Adam Upston  
FF Kevin Lohrke

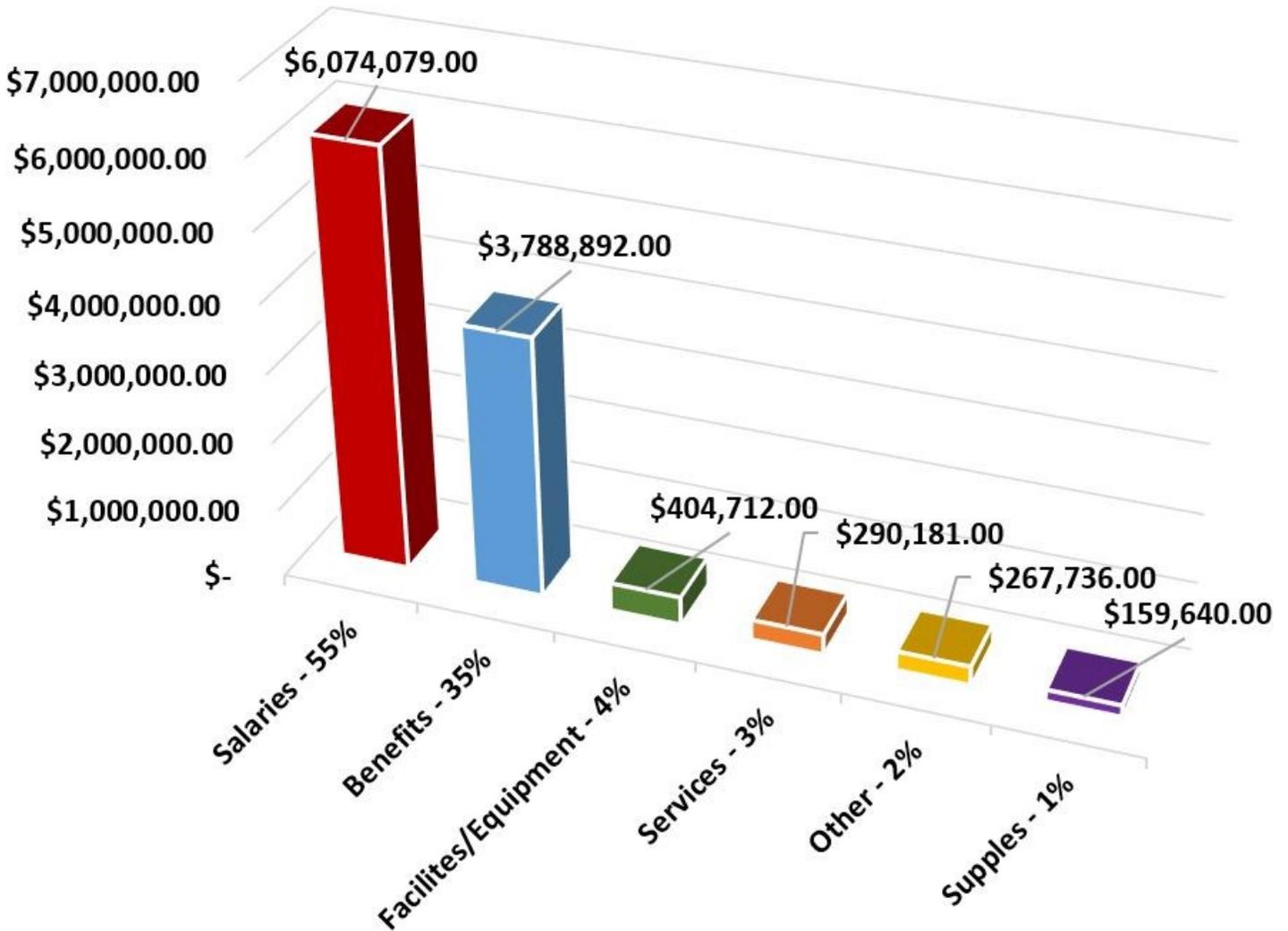
### **Station 7**

Lt Mark Koch

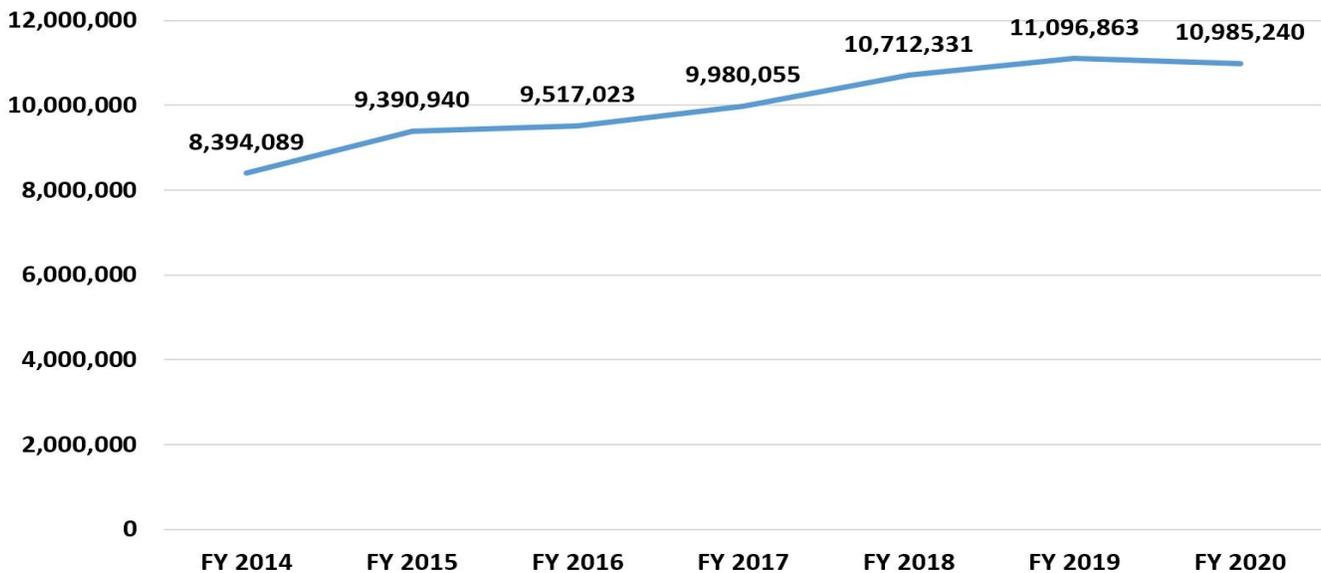


# Financial and Growth Information

## FY 2019-2020 Budget



### Budget Trendline





## Battle Creek Fire Department's ISO Class Rating is "3"

In 2016, the City of Battle Creek Fire Department secured a favorable Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating of 3, among the top ratings for municipalities in Michigan. The ISO Rating measures a community's capacity for fire prevention and fire suppression, which can favorably influence the business community's insurance rates.

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

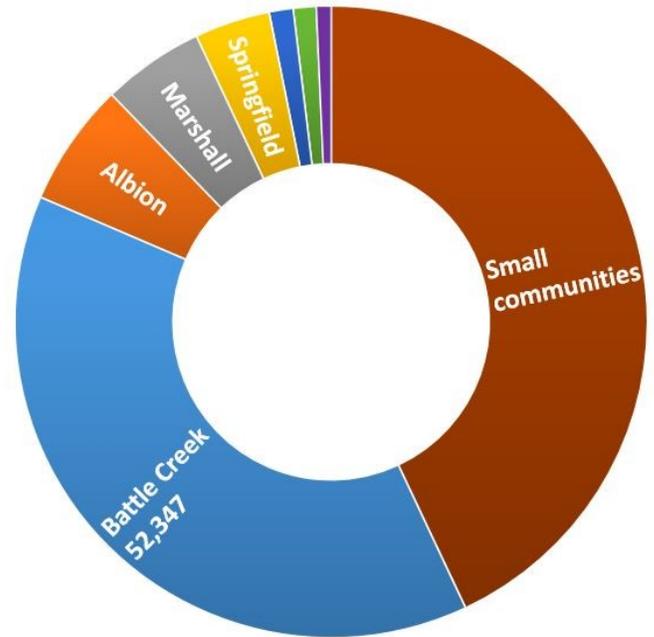
Through the Public Protection Classification (PPC) program, ISO evaluates municipal fire-protection efforts in communities throughout the United States. In each of these communities, ISO analyzes the relevant data using a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). They then assign a Public Protection Classification from 1 (best) to 10 (worst). Class 1 generally represents superior property fire protection, and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program does not meet ISO's minimum criteria.

The Battle Creek Fire Department is excited to announce that 2020 will be the "data collection year" for a 2021 ISO review of our communities' Public Protection Classification. There have been significant upgrades within our system since 2016. We feel very confident that our PPC will increase from the current rating of 3 to an updated, enhanced rating of 2. This is great news for our current and emerging business community!





Calhoun County Population 136,146 (2010 census)



- Battle Creek 52,347
- Albion
- Marshall
- Springfield
- Homer
- Union City
- Athens
- Small communities

# City of Battle Creek

## City Administration

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

## Commission Members

- Mark Behnke—Mayor At-Large
- Sherry Sofia—Vice Mayor At-Large
- John Griffin—Ward 1
- Lynn Ward Gray—Ward 2
- Kate Flores—Ward 3
- Christopher Simmons—Ward 4
- Jim Lance—Ward 5
- Susan Baldwin—At-Large
- Kaytee Faris—At-Large





# Fire Station Information



# Station 1

195 E. Michigan Ave.  
Total Response: 363



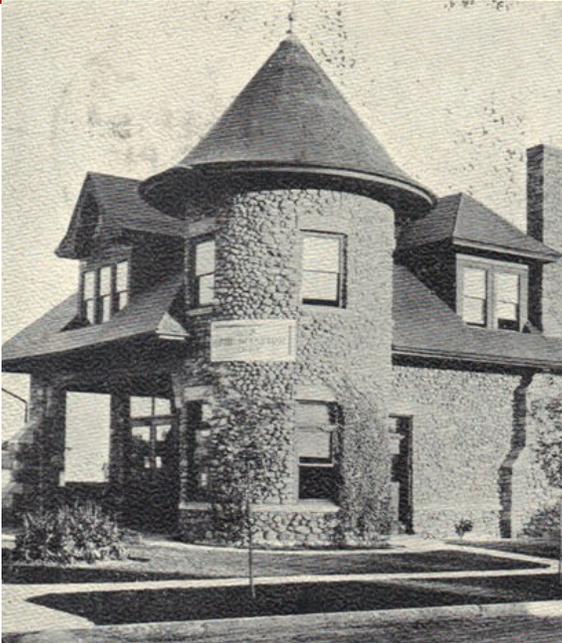
# Station 2

145 N. Washington Ave.  
Total Response: 1860



# Station 3

222 Cliff St.  
Total Response: 1446



*No. 3 Fire Station -- Battle Creek, Mich.*



# Station 4

8 S. 20th St.  
Total Response: 1784



# Station 5

1170 W. Michigan Ave.  
Total Response: 894



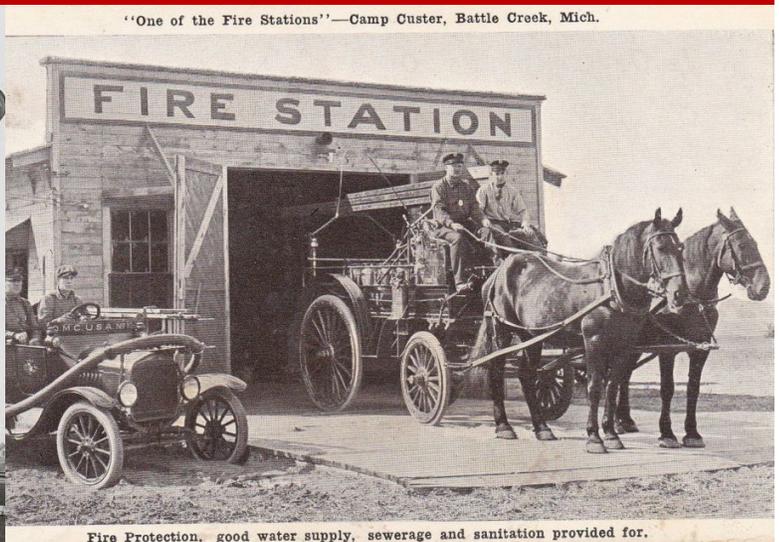
# Station 6

2401 Capital Ave. SW  
Total Response: 1416



# Station 7

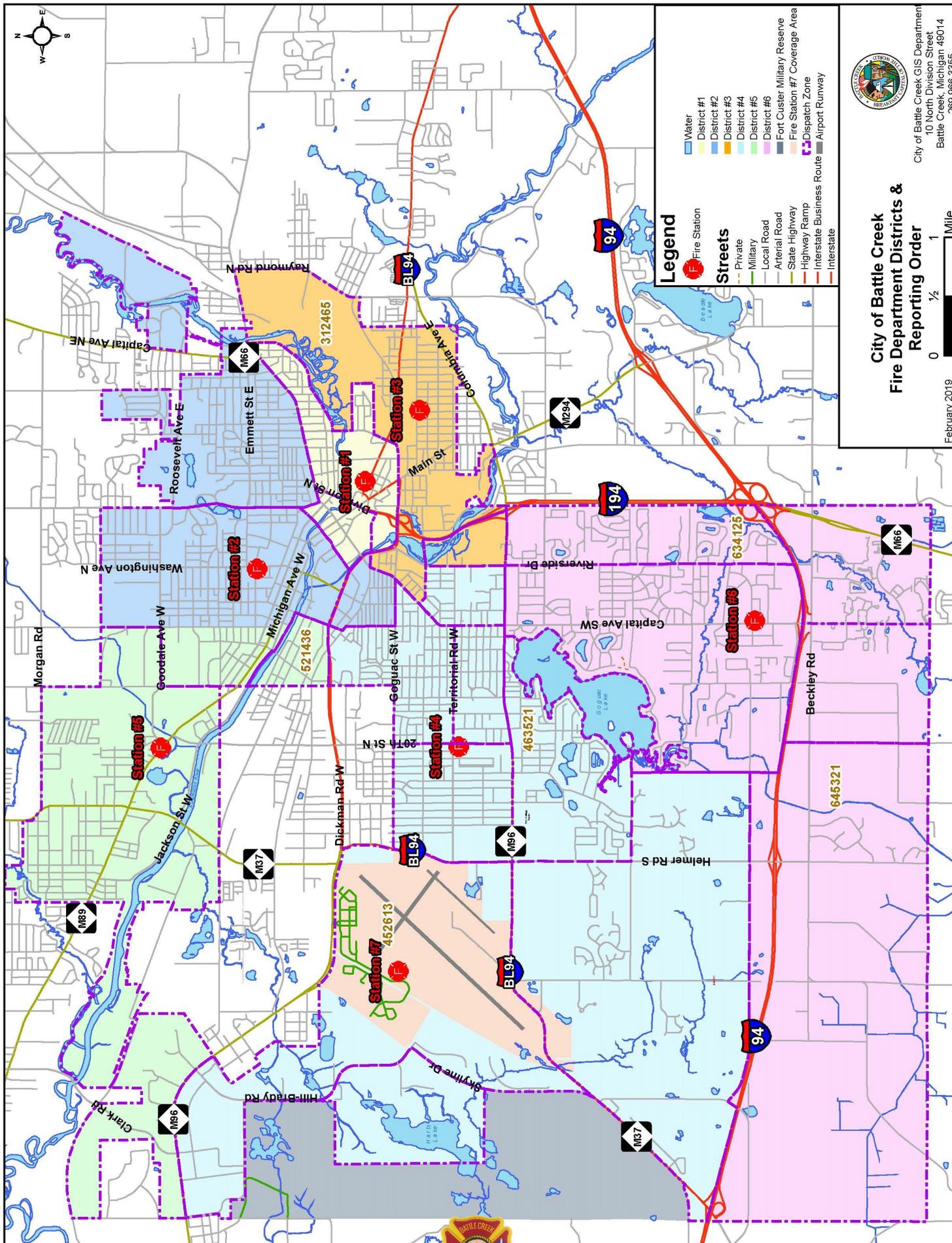
W.K. Kellogg Airport/National Guard Base  
Total Response: 22



"One of the Fire Stations"—Camp Custer, Battle Creek, Mich.

Fire Protection. good water supply, sewerage and sanitation provided for.





City of Battle Creek GIS Department  
 10 North Division Street  
 Battle Creek, Michigan 49014  
 269.966.3355

**City of Battle Creek  
 Fire Department Districts &  
 Reporting Order**

February 2019

1 Mile





# Apparatus In Service



# Apparatus in Service

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

<u>Station and Equipment Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
<b>Station 1</b>		
GMC Yukon 4x4	2014	Car 1
GMC Yukon XL	2015	Car 3
Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4	2009	Car 4
GMC Yukon XL	2017	Car 5
Ford F-350 4x4	2016	Car 6
ARGO plus trailer	2018	ARGO
Interstate Trailer	2016	TRT
Wells Cargo	2003	Haz-Mat Trailer
E-One 1750 GPM Pump Reserve Engine	1996	Engine 7
<b>Station 2</b>		
Pierce Dash Quint 75' Ladder	2005	Engine 2
Chevrolet 3500 4x4 Crew	1999	Squad 2
Chevrolet Blazer 4x4	2006	Extra staff vehicle
<b>Station 3</b>		
Spartan Spencer 1500 GPM Rescue	2017	Rescue 3
<b>Station 4</b>		
Spartan Spencer 1500 GPM Rescue	2017	Rescue 4
Chevrolet 2500 4X4 Plow Truck	2001	Car 10
Alweld Connector Boat plus motor	2017	Boat 1
Inmar Inflatable Boat plus motor	2017	Boat 2
<b>Station 5</b>		
E-One 1750 GPM Pump Engine	1996	Engine 5
<b>Station 6</b>		
Smeal Quint 100' Aerial	2015	Truck 6
Spartan Rescue Squad	2006	Squad 6
<b>Station 7</b>		
Osh Kosh T-1500	2015	Crash 9
Osh Kosh T-1500	2015	Crash 10



# Fire Training Program

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

Firefighters are required to become certified Firefighter I and II by the State of Michigan, plus receive 24 hours of Hazardous Materials training. Once all this is complete, all newly - hired firefighters go through a 12-month probationary training period where they learn our procedures, techniques, equipment, apparatus, streets, and other fire fighting skills. Battle Creek firefighters average approximately 16 hours of training per month, which equates to over 12,000 hours of training every year for the department.

## Skills & Training Topics

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

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



### 2019 Training Hours

Training Categories	Total Hours
Company training	5768
Officer training	2046
Driver/Operator training	1036
Hazardous materials	329
ARFF	581
Fire prevention	478
Apparatus training	1082
Specialty training (tech rescue)	219
Medical training	978
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,517</b>



## HazMat Team

There are 17 personnel on the HazMat team, of which 15 are trained to the Hazardous Materials Technician level. The technicians are required to obtain additional training courses compliant to NFPA 472 which is equivalent to 300 hours of additional specialized training. Topics include air monitoring, incident management, evidence collection and sampling, chemistry, hazard and risk analysis, and decontamination.

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

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

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

In 2019, the Battle Creek Fire Department received a \$105,000 Michigan 5<sup>th</sup> District Homeland Security Planning/Preparedness grant which was used to purchase radiation isotope identifier/monitor, radiation hand-held monitors, area RAE with weather pack, LCD toxic industrial and weapons of mass destruction (WMD) monitor, and Rigaku unknown solid/liquid identification unit.

### HazMat Statistics

ACTIVITY	2019
NFIRS Code Range 400-431 (Hazardous Materials Codes)	81
NFIRS Code 736 & 746 (Carbon Monoxide)	41
NFIRS Code 671 (HazMat Release Investigation)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>125 calls for service</b>

\*NFIRS— National Fire Incident Reporting System



## Technical Rescue Team

The Battle Creek Fire Department has 21 personnel on its Technical Rescue Team (TRT). All members are trained in accordance with NFPA 1670 standards for operation and training and in compliance with OSHA 1910.146 permit required confined space.

Of the 21 members, 15 are trained to technical rope rescue technician level, 6 members trained to the tactical rope rescue operations level, and 20 are trained to the confined space rescue technician level, which is a 40-hour course.

Battle Creek also has 7 members of its team on the MI-TRT-5 district team, 5 of those members having been trained to operations level in collapse rescue and trench rescue.

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

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

In 2019, the team continued its work with the City of Battle Creek Risk Management Department to address any potential special operations needs.

The team performs annual training for its 21 members as well as annual training across the department. In 2019, the team performed approximately 64 hours of training team wide.



# Fire Prevention Bureau

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

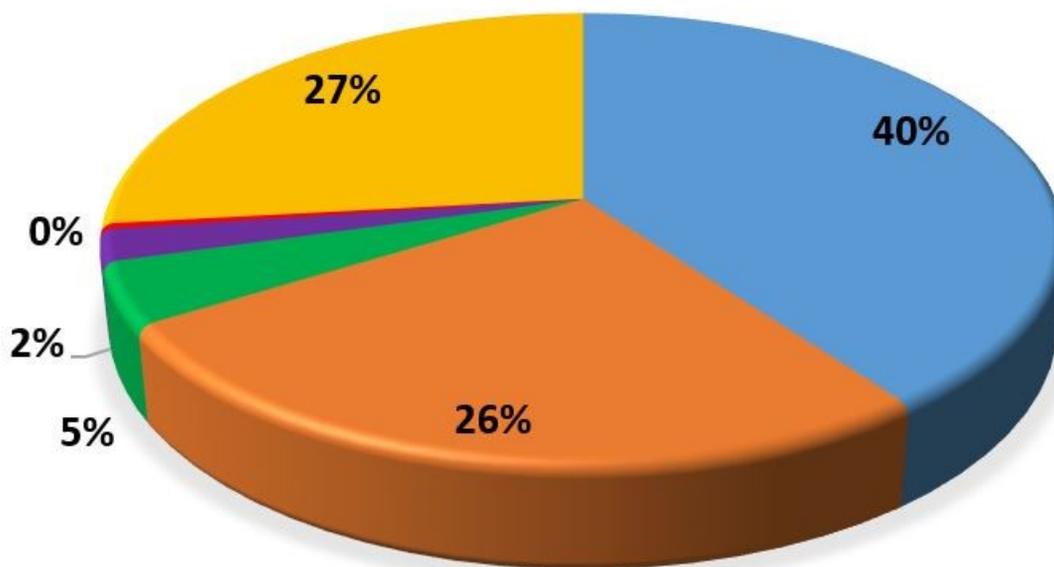
## Functions

The functions of the Bureau are defined by ordinance and include coordinating **fire investigations, fire prevention inspections, and fire safety programs.** In 2019, we installed 840 smoke alarms in single-family residences in the City of Battle Creek and reached over 1,000 students through our various public education programs and events.



## Fire Prevention Statistics

ACTIVITY	2019
Inspections	209
PR Events	137
Fire Investigations—Closed	23
Arsons	12
Juvenile fire setter	2
Smoke alarm appointments	140



- Inspections
- PR Events
- Fire Investigations—Closed
- Arsons
- Juvenile fire setter
- Smoke alarm appointments



## Public Education

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

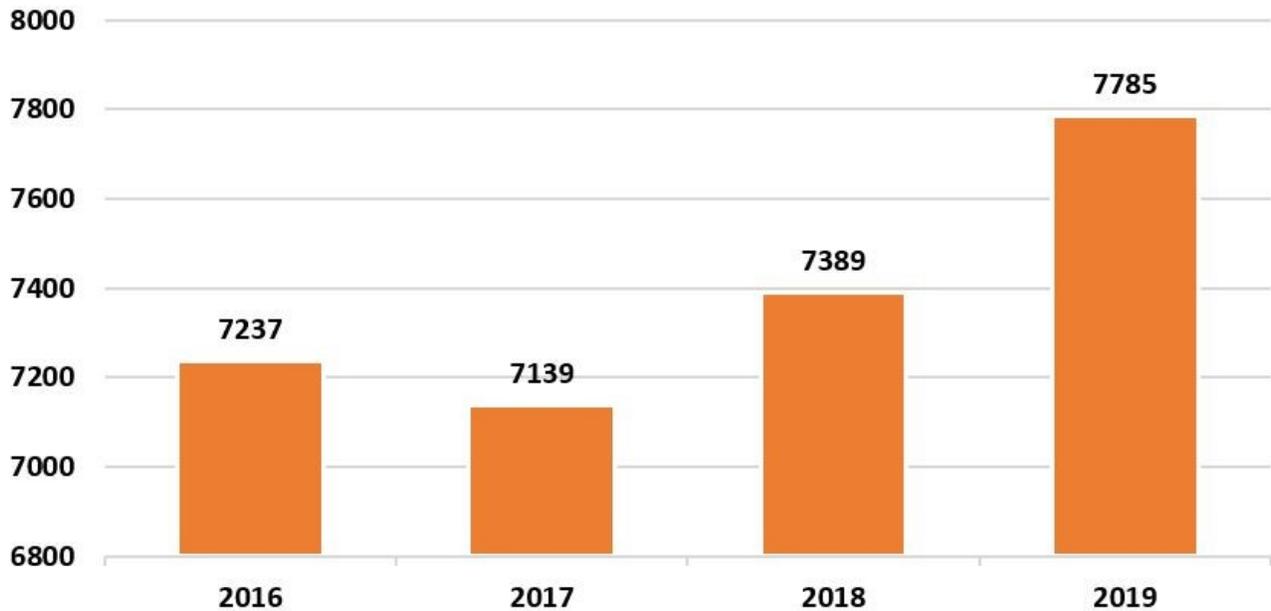




# Incident Data and Emergency Response Statistics



## TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



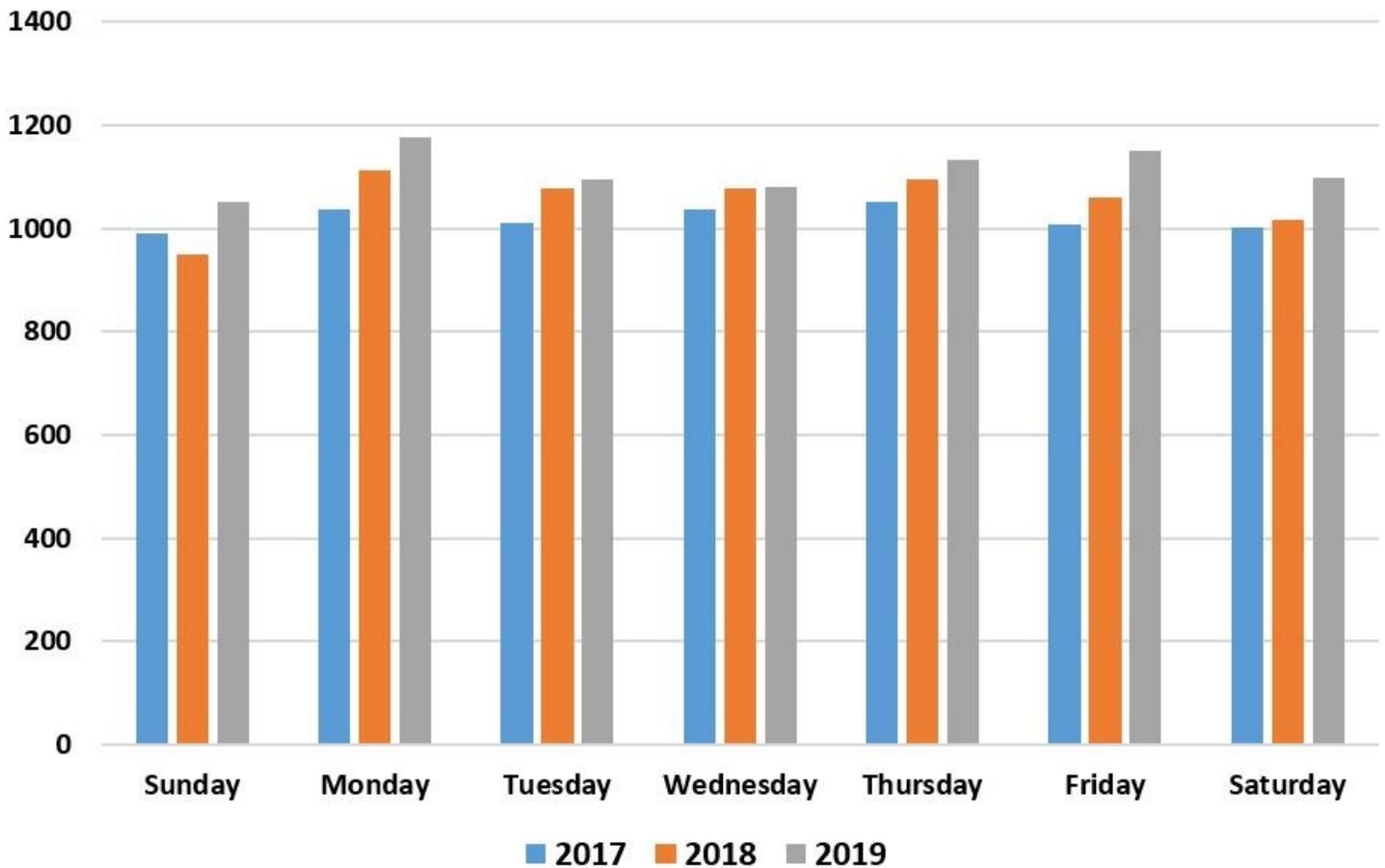
YEAR	INCIDENTS
2016	7237
2017	7139
2018	7389
2019	7785

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



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

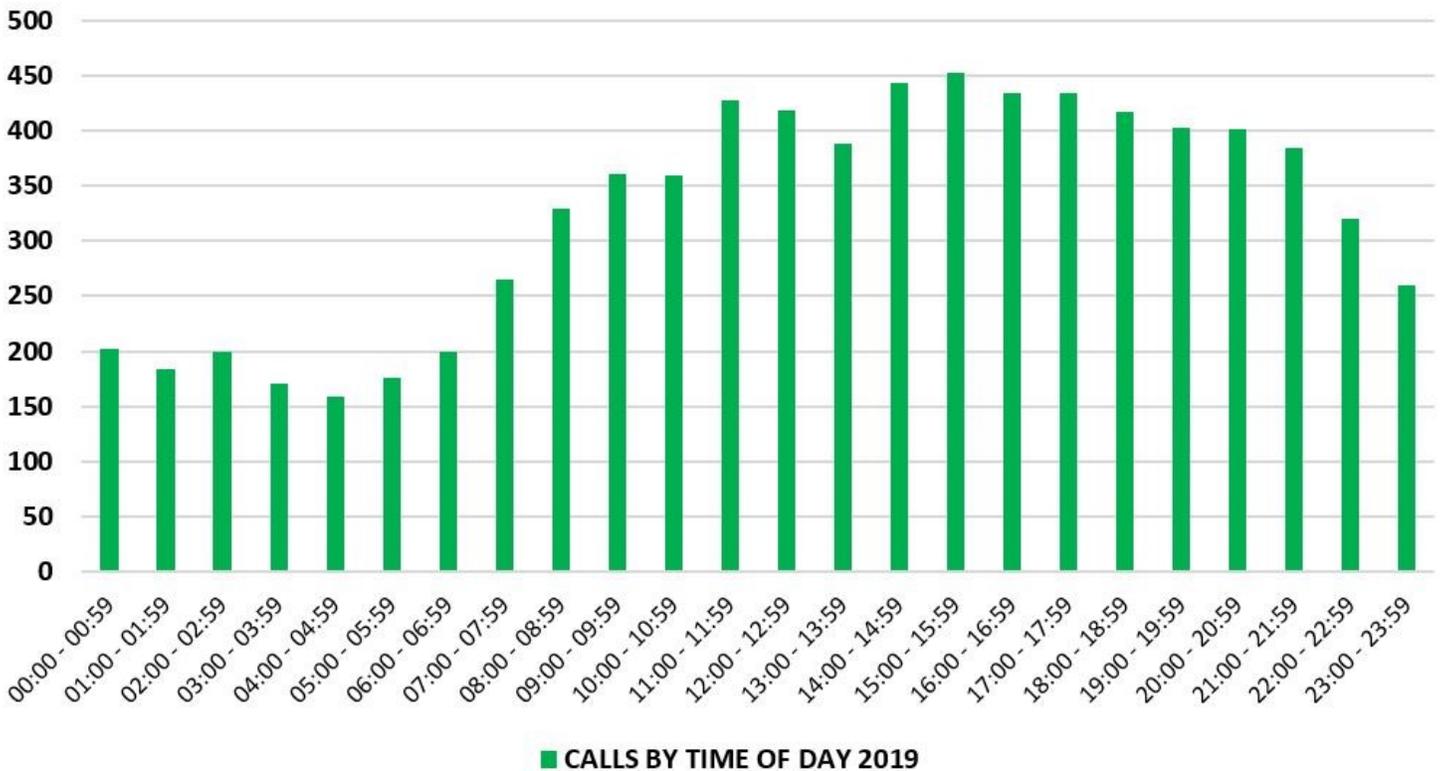
## CALLS BY THE DAY OF THE WEEK



## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY

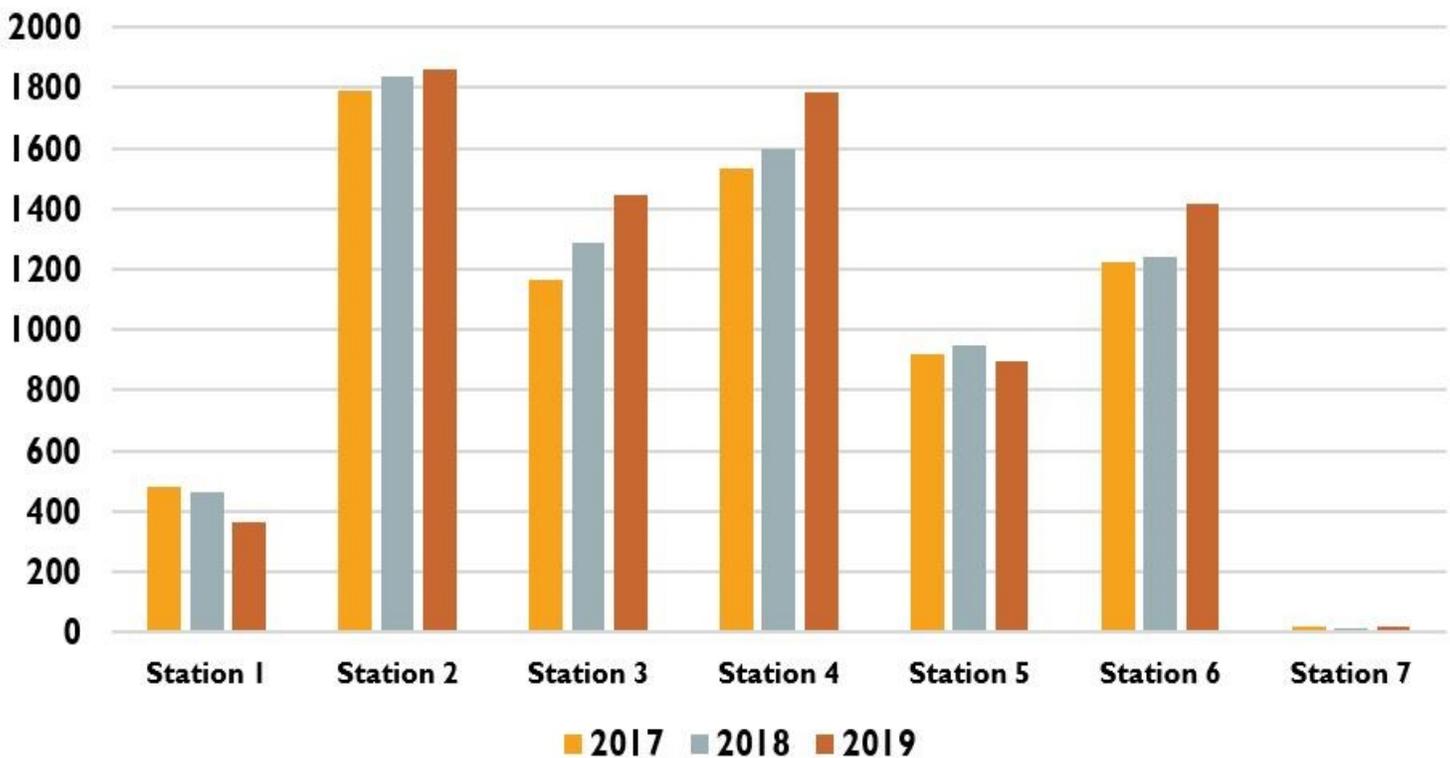
TIME	2017	2018	2019
00:00 - 00:59	238	211	202
01:00 - 01:59	202	195	184
02:00 - 02:59	163	180	200
03:00 - 03:59	151	160	171
04:00 - 04:59	150	160	159
05:00 - 05:59	145	180	176
06:00 - 06:59	178	162	199
07:00 - 07:59	228	267	265
08:00 - 08:59	280	263	329
09:00 - 09:59	294	351	360
10:00 - 10:59	340	399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

## CALLS BY TIME OF DAY 2019

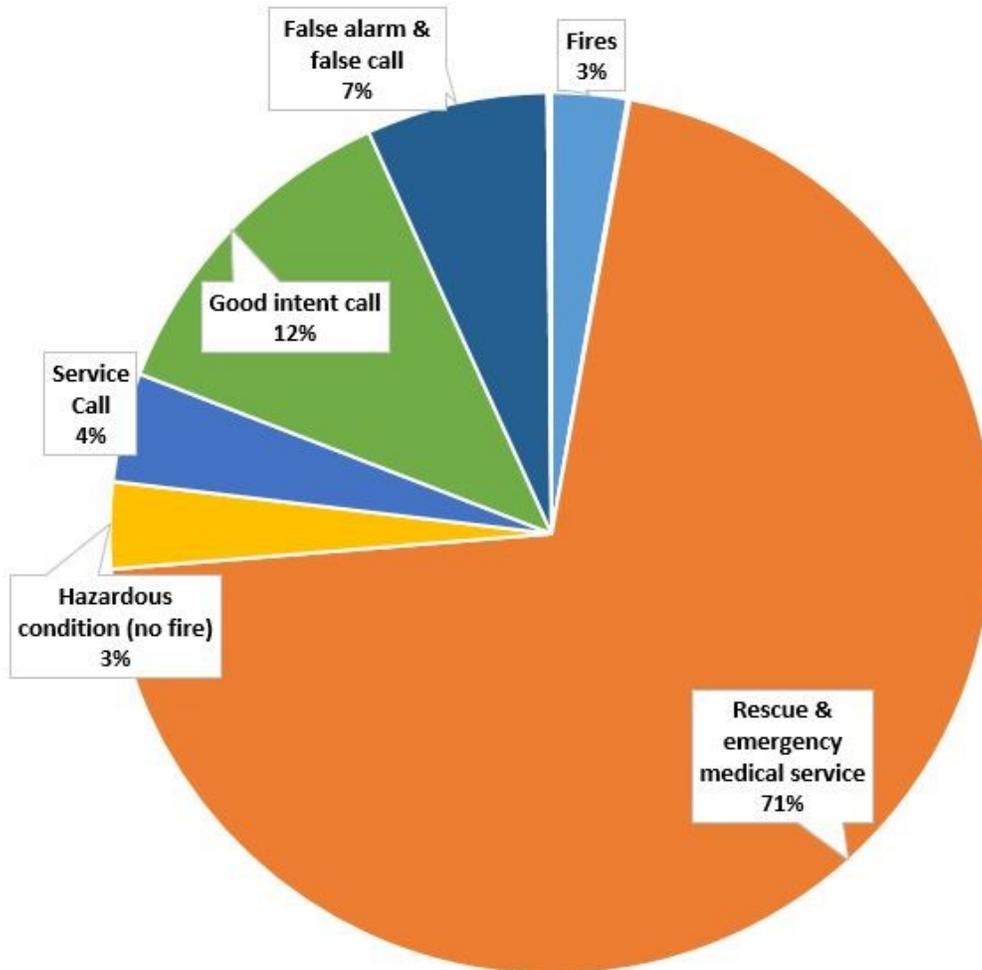


CALLS PER DISTRICT	2017	2018	2019	CHANGE BETWEEN 2018 AND 2019
Station 1	484	464	363	-101
Station 2	1791	1835	1860	+25
Station 3	1167	1286	1446	+160
Station 4	1533	1597	1784	+187
Station 5	922	949	894	-55
Station 6	1223	1244	1416	+172
Station 7	19	14	22	+8
Total	7139	7389	7785	+396

## CALLS PER DISTRICT



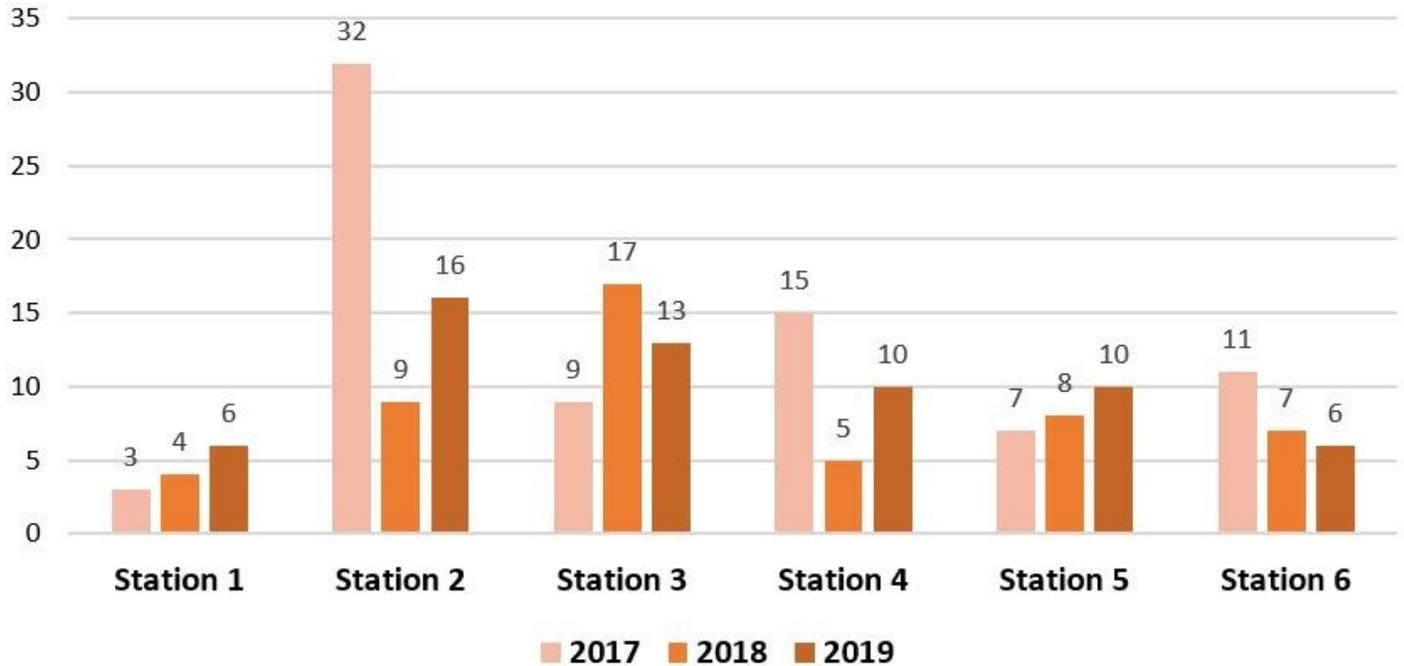
## Incident Data



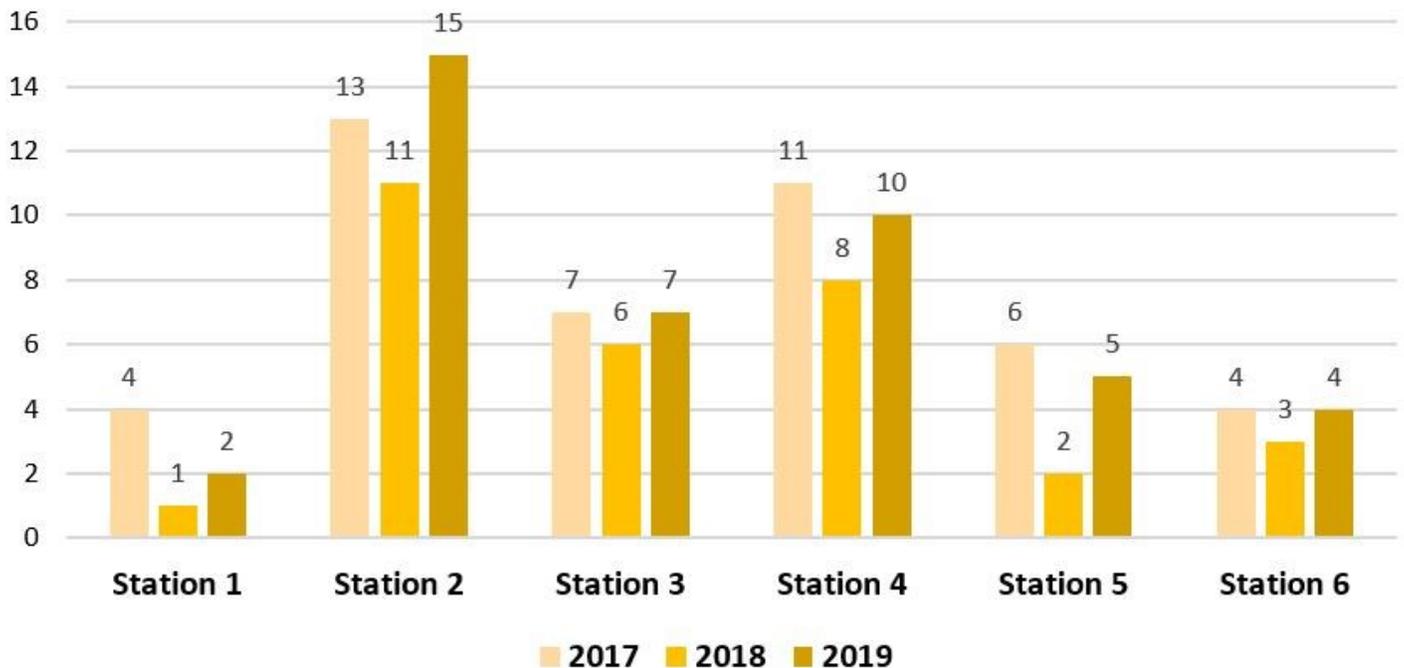
MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	2017	2018	2019	CHANGE
Fires	246	193	214	+21
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	11	12	7	-5
Rescue & emergency medical service	5201	5400	5518	+118
Hazardous condition (no fire)	276	217	247	+30
Service Call	273	297	312	+15
Good intent call	726	847	958	+111
False alarm & false call	401	414	517	+103
Severe weather & natural disaster	0	2	4	+2
Special incident type	5	7	8	+1
Total	7139	7389	7785	+396



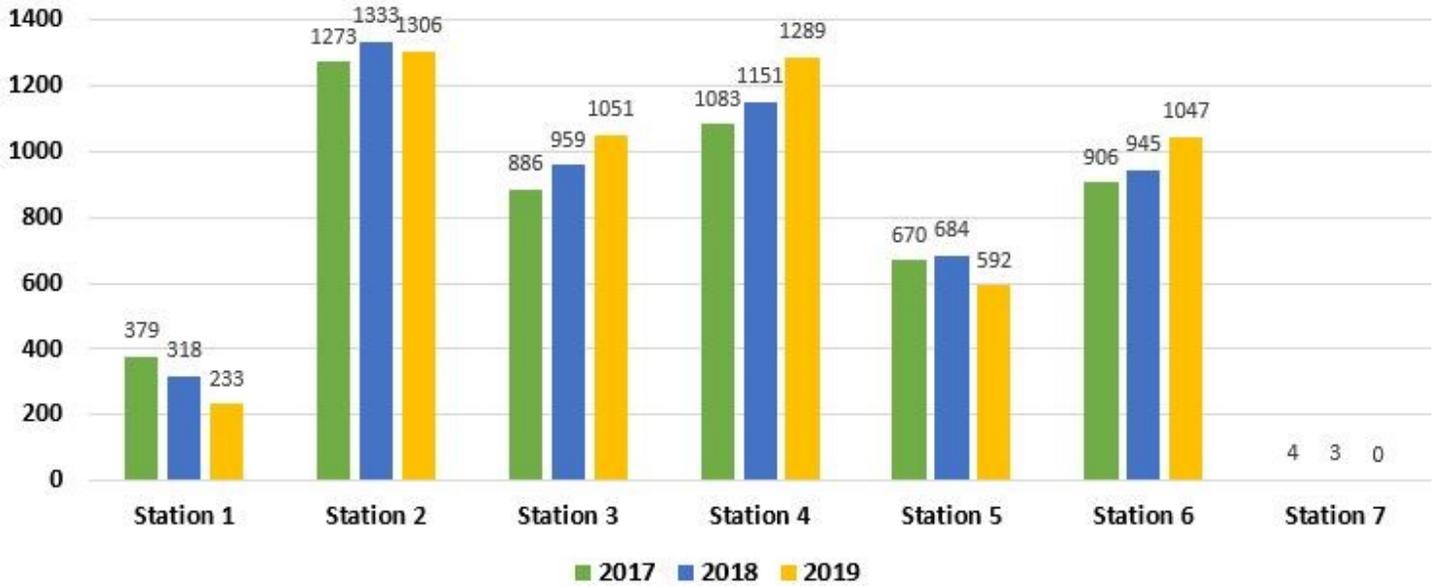
## STRUCTURE FIRES BY STATION (12% INCREASE FROM 2018)



## COOKING FIRES BY STATION (14% INCREASE FROM 2018)



### EMS AND RESCUE CALLS BY STATION (2.3% Increase from 2018)



### PERCENTAGE OF CALLS FOR 2019

■ EMS & Rescue Calls    ■ All Other Responses

