



Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL, STATE FIRE ACADEMY & THE STATE HAZ-MAT RESPONSE TEAM

2014



Annual REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



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www.firesafety.vermont.gov



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This report is also available in electronic format through the Division of Fire Safety webpage,
www.firesafety.vermont.gov





Dedication



Robert Patterson retired from State service Friday August 29, 2014. **Robert's passion for safety extended both in his career as former Chief of the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Department and his career with the Division of Fire Safety which started in 1982.**

Robert enjoyed being in charge of the Division's Fire Investigation Unit working alongside the Vermont State Police to bring fire investigation to a new level. The Fire Investigation Unit made significant progress increasing the percentage of arson arrest.

Robert was responsible for rule making and chaired several boards and was active with the National Association of State Fire Marshals. Robert worked effectively to bring all stakeholders to the table to work out solutions to complex and controversial problems with an emphasis on safety. Leaving close to 3000 hours of accumulated sick time on the books speak to his character.

If you were fortunate enough to have worked with Bob you would have been treated with respect, kindness and compassion.



IN MEMORY OF

**all firefighters who
answered their final
alarm in 2014**

To their families and friends, To their service and sacrifice

"We will never forget"

And In appreciation of our men and women
protecting freedom around the world



VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

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Mission

To protect life and property with coordinated efforts in Code Enforcement, Fire Service Training, Public Education, Hazardous Materials and Incident Investigation.



The Division of Fire Safety provides a number of services related to the safety of residents and guests of the State. The Division has four Regional Offices that provide the review of construction documents, permitting, inspections, safety education and training, data management, product or site investigation and response to emergencies. The Fire Academy provides training, certification, data management and training resources for the fire service,

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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, NFIRS is a voluntary system, and it includes data from only those fire and other incidents reported to the system by fire departments that participate. Additionally, not all fire departments that report to NFIRS report provide complete data or report all of their fire incidents. Also, fire departments that report in one particular year may not report the following year or report all of the months in the year. Thus, NFIRS is not complete representative of all incidents that occur statewide in a year.



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Report of the Fire Marshal – 2014

The Division of Fire Safety publishes the Report of the State Fire Marshal annually. The report is a statewide statistical analysis capturing fire and emergency incidents, fire prevention efforts, fire investigation, fire service training and hazardous material response. Information contained in the report is designed to provide the fire service, municipalities and others 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 adjustments in our fire safety public education efforts, code enforcement, building inspection, licensing, certification, fire service training, fire investigation, resource allocation, establishing priorities and recognizing the need to modify our Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code.

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 2014, 85% of the fire departments in Vermont participated in NFIRS reporting. On average, Vermont fire departments respond to an average of 3,750 emergency calls a month. The report provides a summary of fire loss, civilian fire injuries, fire fatalities, causes of fire, fire investigations, fire facts, fire service training programs, hazardous material response activities, public education and an overview of the Division of Fire Safety's code enforcement program. In 2014, there were 6 civilian fire fatalities with 4 of the fatalities linked to smoking materials as the ignition source.

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. Division staff continue to work hard accomplishing our mission of protecting the public and the fire service with coordinated efforts in code enforcement, fire service training, fire investigation, public education, hazardous materials response and incident investigation, thereby reducing the loss of life and property due to fire and other emergencies in the State of Vermont

The significant gains we have made would not have been possible without support from the Commissioner, the Administration, the Legislature and most importantly our staff and the Vermont Fire Service. 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



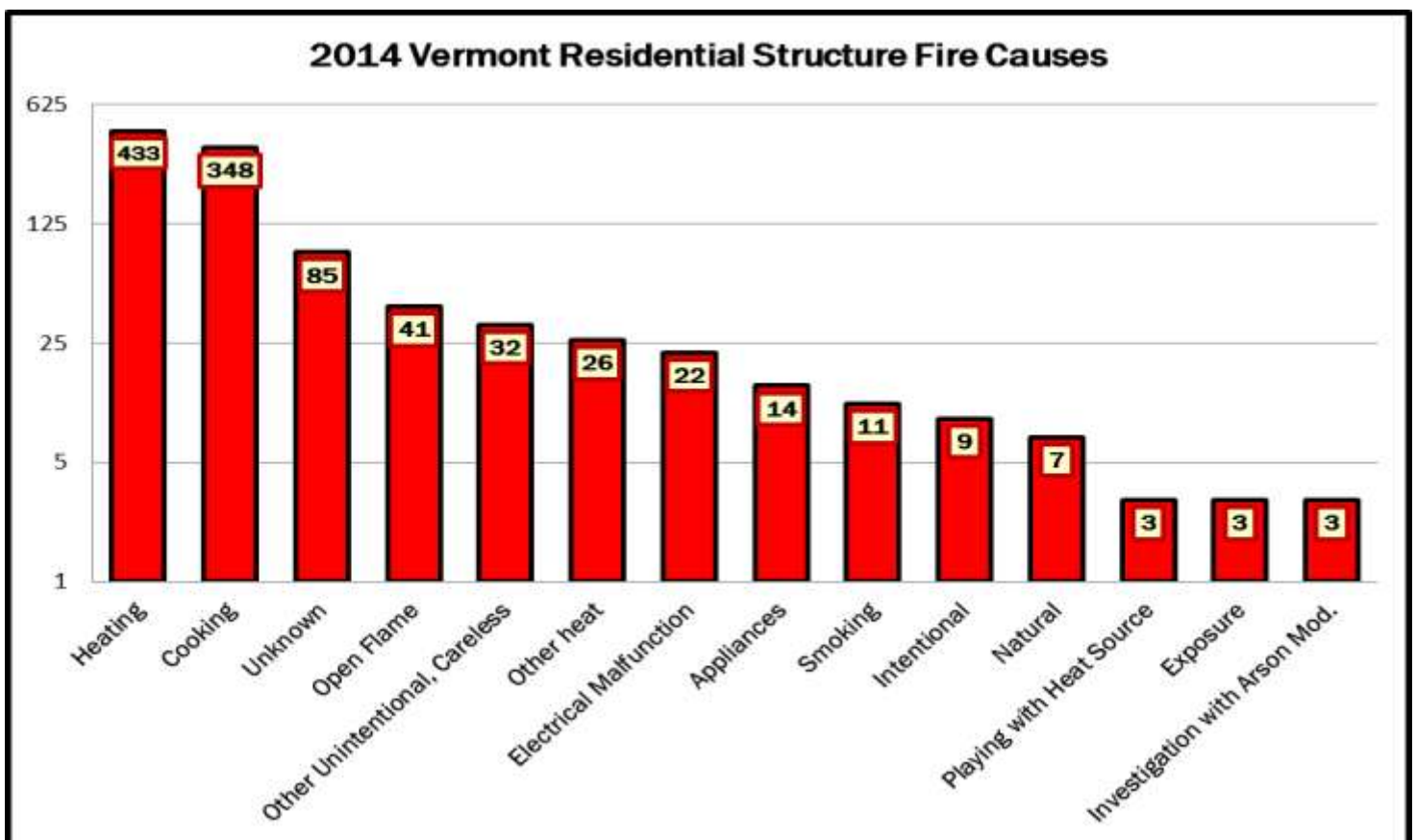


The Impact of Fire in Vermont

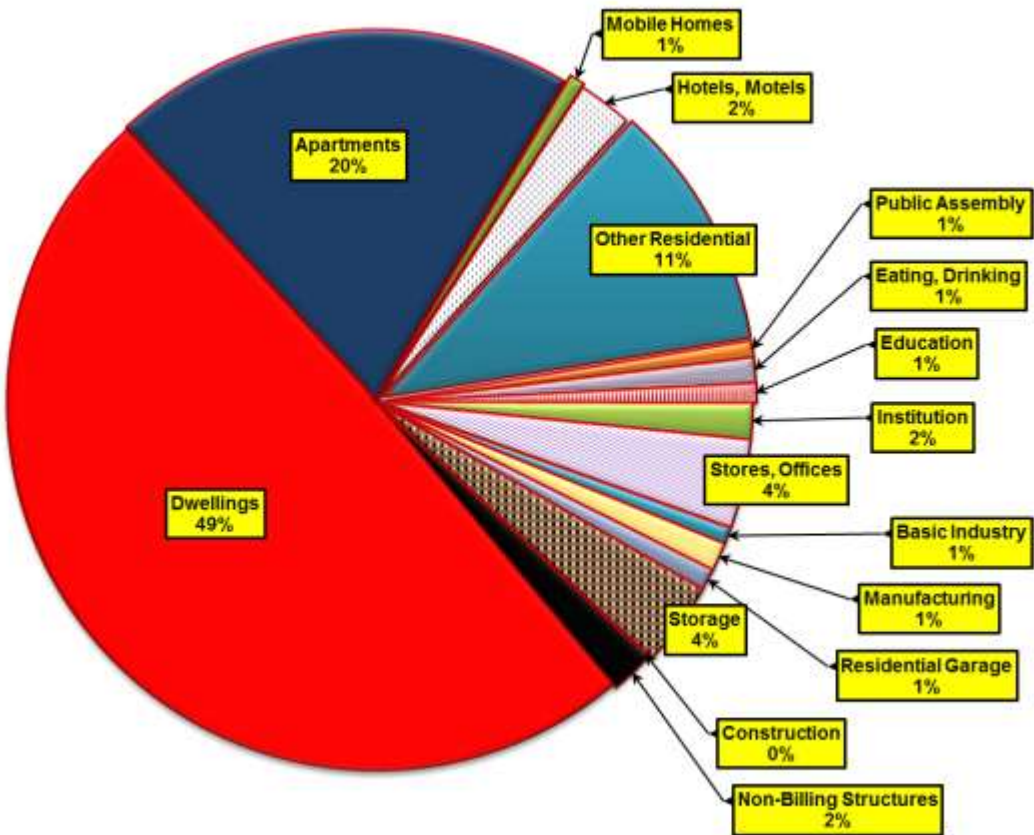
During 2014 fire departments in Vermont reported responses to over 45,000 emergency incidents. Residential properties account for the majority of Vermont structure fires and civilian fatalities. Nationwide the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates approximately 25 percent of all structures fires are in residential construction, and 83% of fire deaths and 77 percent of injuries.

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 impact the statistics. Unlike the rest of the country, heating appliance fires in Vermont continue to be the leading cause 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, higher 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.

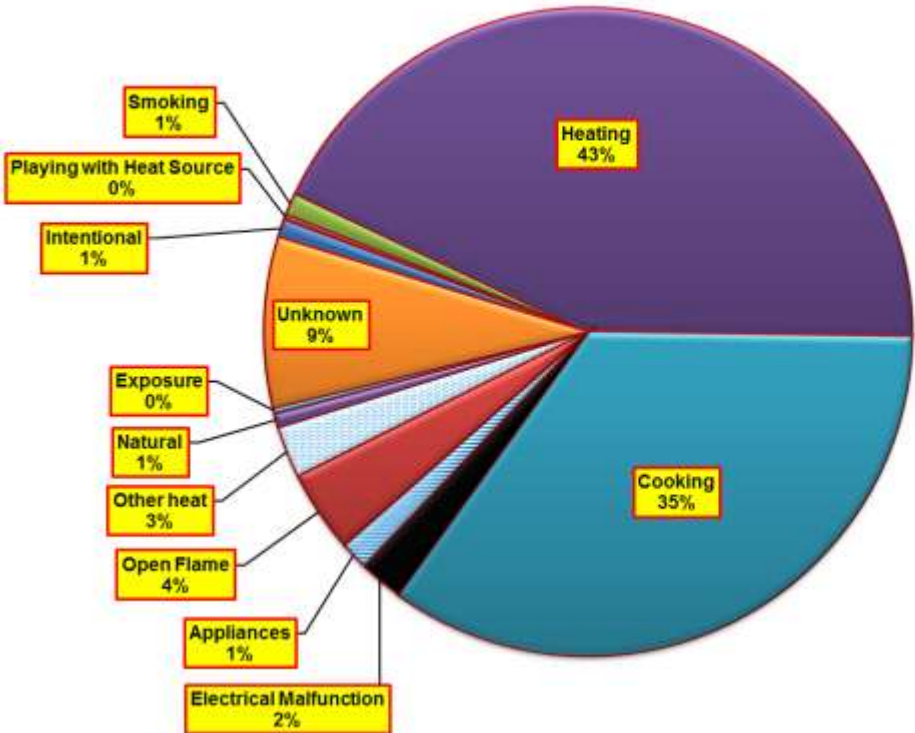
The percentage of U.S. households with at least one smoke alarm has been up around 94-96% for more than a decade. However, Vermont responders continue to find homes that have inoperable smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. An inoperable or missing smoke alarm significantly increases your risk of not being able to escape. Additionally, a delay in detecting a fire prevents timely notification to the fire department resulting in extensive damage to the property and putting first responders at a higher risk of injury. Properly installed photo-electric smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms save lives.



2014 Structure Fires By Property Use



Residential Structure Fire Causes 2014





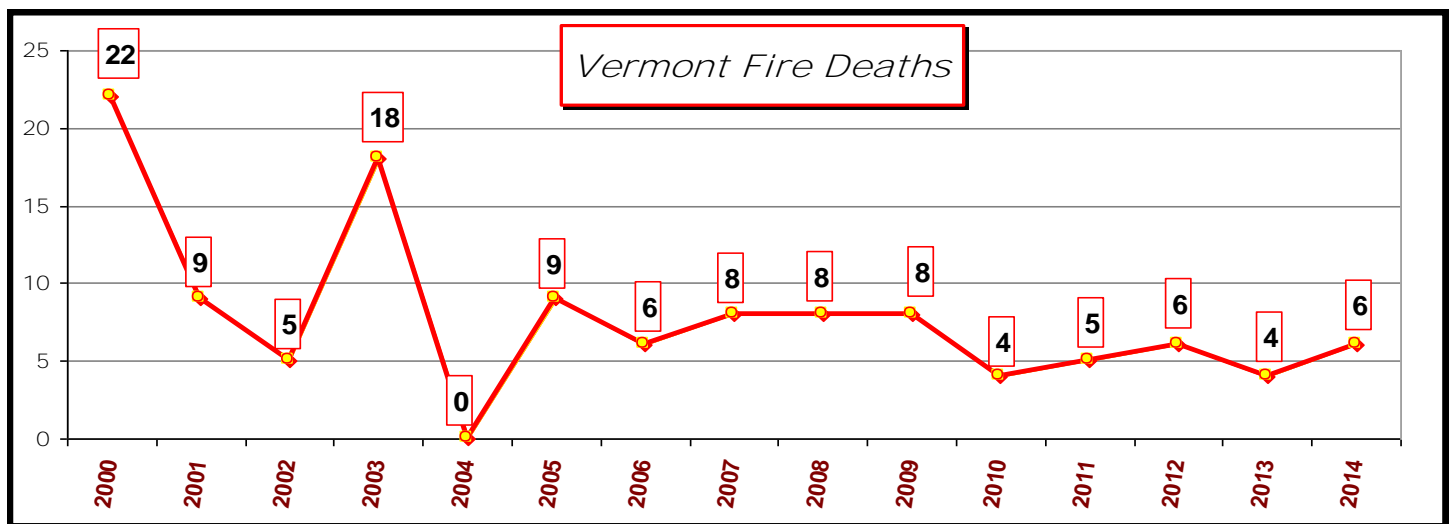
Vermont Civilian Fire Deaths and Injuries

Fire Deaths -

Trending back over 15 years, Vermont has had a disproportionately high fatality rate based on population. The chart below reflects substantial progress in the reduction of the fire fatality rate in Vermont. The reduction in fire deaths can be contributed to photoelectric smoke and carbon monoxide alarm laws, legislation requiring the sale of “fire safe” cigarettes, increased code enforcement, fire safety public education programs, fire service training and response.

Although the National and State fire death rate has decreased in the past few years, the elderly and young children are still the most vulnerable population. The elderly and young are 2.7 times likely to die in a fire and those over age 85 are even at a higher risk.

Older adults have a greater risk of fire death than the overall population. Over the last 4 years 68% of Vermont's fire deaths have been seniors over the age of 60. Young children were at greater risk of home fire death in the past than they are today. Vermont has not had a child die in a fire since 2005.



Some potential explanatory characteristics for fire loss in Vermont include the rural nature of the state. Vermont is listed as the most rural state in the nation with 61.8% Vermonters living in rural areas, delaying response time for emergency rescue and fire suppression activities.

Vermont Civilian Fire Deaths						
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	5 year Total
Heating Equipment	0	2	0	0	0	2
Cooking	1	0	0	0	0	1
Smoking Materials	1	1	3	0	4	9
Open Flame	1	1	2	1	0	5
Unintentional	0	0	0	0	0	0
Explosion	0	0	1	0	0	1
Electrical	0	0	0	1	0	1
Undetermined	1	1	0	2	2	4
Totals	4	5	6	4	6	25

Civilian fire deaths in Vermont and across the country occur most often in single family and multi-family dwellings. In Vermont 83% of the 2014 fire deaths occurred in single-family dwellings while only one occurred in a multi-family dwelling.

Vermont Fire Deaths 2014				
Incident Date	Age	Gender	Town	Notes
Jan	90	M	Dummerston, VT	Smoking Materials - single family dwelling
Jan	57	M	Dummerston, VT	Smoking Materials - single family dwelling
April	80	M	Fairfax , VT	Flammable liquids - Multi family dwelling
July	72	M	St. Albans, VT	Smoking w home O2 - single family dwelling
Nov	31	M	Halifax, VT	- single family dwelling
Dec	83	F	Corinth VT	Smoking w home O2 - single family dwelling

VERMONT CHARACTERISTICS and FIRE FACTS

- Vermont has 233 fire departments with over 5000 fire fighters of which 3241 are certified fire fighter 1 and 836 certified fire fighter 2 and 260 certified fire instructor 1.
- Vermont is considered 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. 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

- Vermont has the 2nd oldest median age in the nation. 42.3 years
- 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 45,700 Vermont emergency incidents were reported in 2014
- 85.4% of Vermont Fire Departments reported incidents to the NFIRS in 2014

Carbon Monoxide -

In 2005 the Vermont Legislators passed carbon monoxide (CO) alarm legislation requiring 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.

Common sources of carbon monoxide include; heating appliances, gas/oil fired hot water heaters, gas/oil fired clothes dryers, emergency generators, temporary cooking appliances, space heaters, gas/charcoal barbeque grills, and motor vehicles. Vehicles, barbeque grills, generators, lawn mowers, and tractors produce deadly levels of carbon monoxide. Do not operate inside or immediately adjacent to your home. To prevent accidental carbon monoxide poisoning, CO alarms need to be installed where people sleep.

Carbon Monoxide									
	Prior 1996-2004	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Deaths	11	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
FD Response to alarms	-	1046	1152	1044	1047	1612	1341	1338	1222
Incidents with high levels of CO	-	568	610	515	483	668	459	479	491

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, causes of fire, property loss, injuries and death.

NFIRS provides the big picture, but to obtain more specific information on property loss the division again conducted a separate survey to collect data from insurance companies.

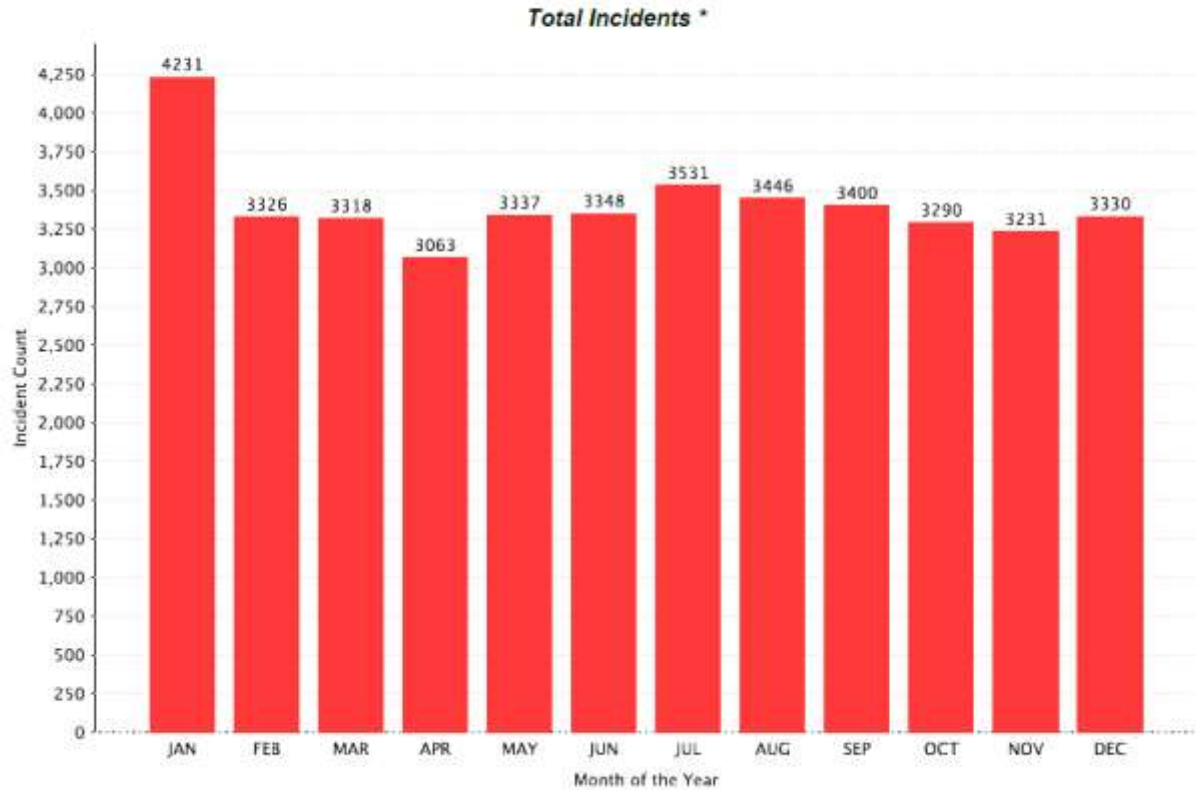
The NFIRS and insurance company data compiled in the table is for 2010 through 2013. It shows the significant impact of the property loss for Vermont. What the figures don't show is the additional loss in wages to employees who are out of a job after a fire, the loss in tax revenues to municipalities 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	Structure Fires Reported	Estimated Dollar Loss by Fire Departments	Insurance Companies Reporting/ Total	Fire Claims Reported	Reported Dollar Loss by Insurance Companies
2010	175	1,956	\$ 18,504,174	534	1175	47,286,258
2011	191	2,366	\$ 21,266,173	566	1127	87,575,447
2012	194	2,233	\$ 17,840,192	860	839	44,510,095
2013	194	2,116	\$ 24,797,552	615	878	50,911,724
2014	228	2,114	\$ 30,048,139	-	-	-

Incident By Time Series: Month of the Year

Report Period: From 01/01/2014 to 12/31/2014

Incident Total: 40,851

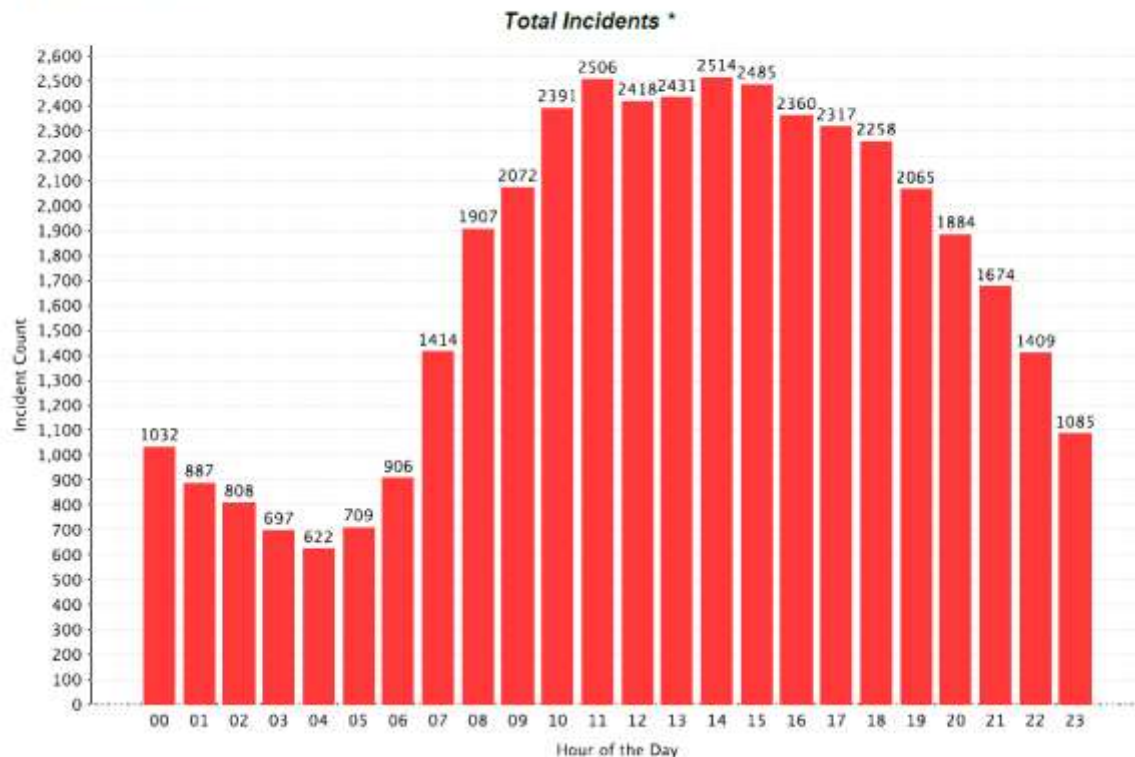


* - No Activity Incidents Evaluated

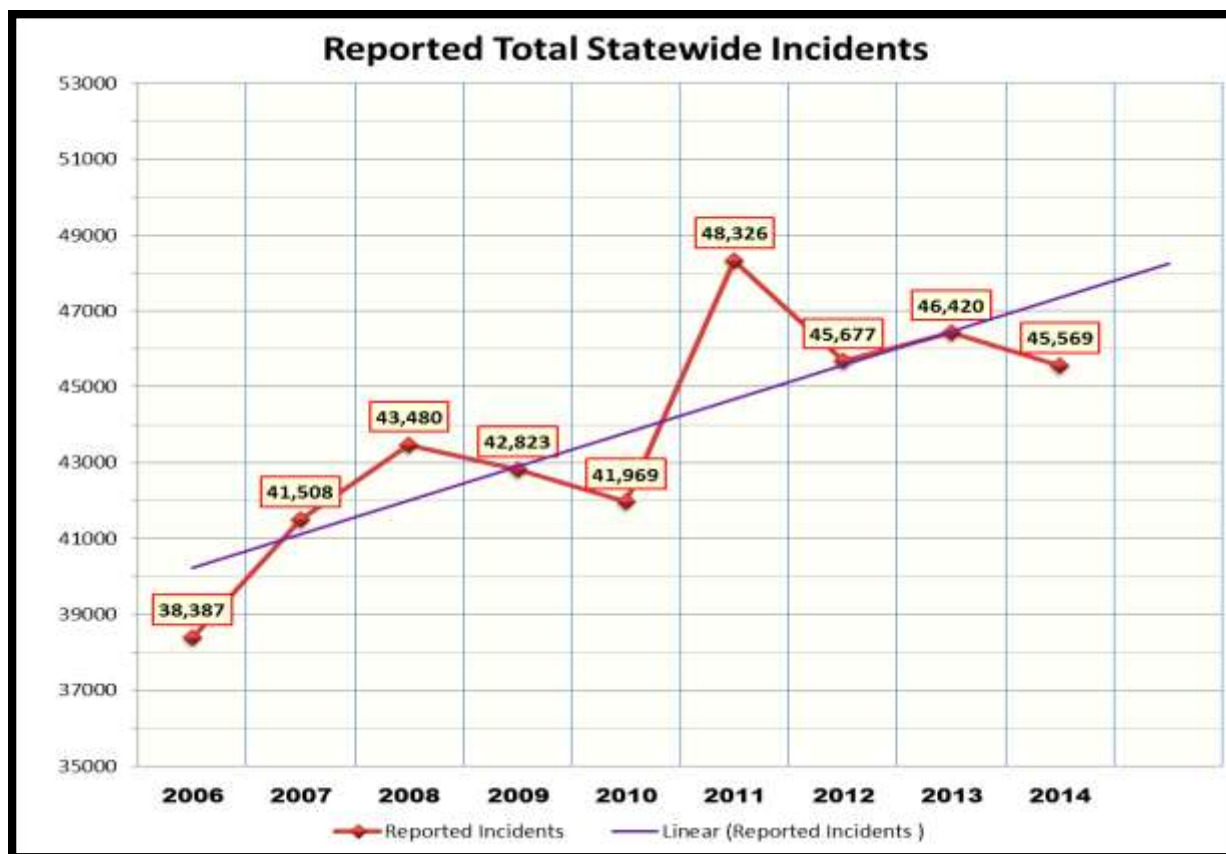
Incident By Time Series: Hour of the Day

Report Period: From 01/01/2014 to 12/31/2014

Incident Total: 40,851



2014 Detailed Selected Statistics — Statewide Reported Incident Types



	Code	2014 Top Incident types / description	Total 2012	Total 2013	2014 Total
1	321	EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	15,749	15,708	15,471
2	311	Medical assist, assist EMS crew	1,608	1,962	2,197
3	324	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	1,509	1,614	1,615
4	733	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	669	804	880
5	322	Vehicle accident with injuries	1,179	1,184	1,148
6	500	Service Call, other	1,286	1,176	1,073
7	733	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	669	804	880
8	735	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	648	604	639
9	600	Good intent call, other	827	913	847
10	745	Alarm system sounded, no fire unintentional	1,123	857	837
11	611	Dispatched & canceled en route	747	876	818
12	300	Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS) call, other	812	773	710
13	735	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	648	604	639
14	554	Assist invalid	567	521	581
15	700	False alarm or false call, other	464	524	534

2014 Selected Incident Types Statistics

Incident type / description	Amount
Building fires	396
Cooking fire, confined to container	408
Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	395
Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire	168
Search for person on land	43
Search for person in water	10
Extrication of victim(s) from building/structure	7
Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	136
High angle rescue	11
Water & ice related rescue, other	19
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	212
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	283
Chemical spill or leak	20
Carbon monoxide incident	469
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	870
Animal rescue	21
Assist police or other governmental agency	202

Incident type / description	Amount
Public service	415
Unauthorized burning	277
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	198
Hazmat release investigation w/ no hazmat	94
Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	173
Extinguishing system activation due to malfunction	10
CO detector activation due to malfunction	386
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	323
Severe weather or natural disaster, other	41
Flood assessment	31
Wind storm, tornado/hurricane assessment	18
Lightning strike (no fire)	16
Severe weather or natural disaster standby	5
Special type of incident, other	124
Citizen complaint	144
Undetermined incident type	6

GENERAL FIRE FACTS

Fires in the U.S.

- ◆ In 2013, there were 1,240,000 fires reported in the United States. These fires caused 3,240 civilian deaths, 15,925 civilian injuries, and \$11.5 billion in property damage
- ◆ **It's estimated (60%) of reported home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarm.**
- ◆ Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a reported home fire in half.
- ◆ **When smoke alarms fail to operate, it's usually because batteries are missing, disconnected, or dead.**
- ◆ In Vermont, smoke alarms are required to be of the photoelectric type because they typically respond to smoldering fires quicker than the ionization type.

The 2013 U.S. Fire Loss Clock

- A fire department responded to a fire every 25 seconds. One structure fire was reported every 65 seconds.
- One home structure fire was reported every 85 seconds.
- One civilian fire injury was reported every 33 minutes.
- One civilian fire death occurred every 2 hours and 42 minutes.
- One outside fire was reported every 56 seconds.
- One vehicle fire was reported every 167 seconds

GENERAL FIRE FACTS

Fire in general

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Home structure fires peaked around the dinner hours between 5:00 and 8:00 PM.

Chances are you will have a fire

- ◆ Number of home fires your household can expect in an average lifetime: 5
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Chances that someone in your household will suffer an injury in a reported fire in an average lifetime: 1 in 89

Chances are you will have a cooking fire

- ◆ Number of home cooking fires your household can expect in an average lifetime: 3
- ◆ Chances that someone in your household will suffer a fire injury in a home cooking fire in an average lifetime: 1 in 14
- ◆ Cooking and other kitchen activities account for two of every three unreported home fires

Fire costs you a bundle

- ◆ Cost per household of all property damage in fires (reported or unreported, direct or indirect, home or elsewhere) in 2006: \$120
- ◆ Cost per household of all human and property loss to fire in 2006: \$500
- ◆ "Total cost" per household of fire losses and expenditures to prevent greater losses in 2006: \$2,800

You probably have a home smoke alarm, but you probably do not have a carbon monoxide detector or fire sprinklers

- ◆ Chances of not having a home smoke alarm: 1 in 20 to 1 in 25
- ◆ The percentage of U.S. households with at least one smoke alarm has been up around 94-96% for more than a decade.
- ◆ Chances of having home fire sprinklers: 1 in 26
- ◆ Chances of having home fire sprinklers if you live in a single-family dwelling: 1 in 53
- ◆ Chances of having home fire sprinklers if you live in an apartment: 1 in 9
- ◆ Chances of having home fire sprinklers if you live in a building built no more than 4 years ago: 1 in 8
- ◆ Only 4% of homes had fire sprinklers in 2007, including only 2% of single family dwellings.
- ◆ Chances of having a working carbon monoxide detector: 1 in 3
- ◆ Chances of having a fire extinguisher that was purchased or recharged within the previous two years: 2 in 5

Someone you know is probably in the fire service

- ◆ Number of career and volunteer municipal firefighters in the U.S.: 1.1 million
- ◆ Chances that an adult is a firefighter: 1 in 200
- ◆ Estimate of (maximum) size of an adult's social network: 150
- ◆ Chances that a person living in the U.S. is an adult: 3 in 4

Sources :

Vermont Division of Fire Safety
U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)
and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) A Few Facts at the Household Level Report

Across Vermont, a continued decline in the number of firefighters, threatens the ability of many of our small departments to provide essential public service.

First responders throughout the State of Vermont answer the call for help 24/7 365 days a year. Many first responders answer the call voluntarily assisting those in crisis without asking for anything. Responding to emergencies is essential to any community and despite the dedication and professionalism of our first responders, the harsh reality is the number of volunteer fire fighters is declining. There are many contributing factors to the decline including; change in social patterns, cost of attending training, stringent training requirements, increased family responsibilities particularly both parents have to work, leadership challenges and time commitment to name a few.

For the first time in 28 years, the majority of volunteer firefighters in the U.S. are over the age of 50, according to a firefighter profile released by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). At the same time, the profile shows the cost of fighting fires steadily growing.



Retaining fire fighters we have today is challenging, however, finding young volunteers is proven to be more of a challenge. There are little incentives and at the end of the day it takes a special person with unique traits and dedication to care for others during their time of need. First responders risk their lives responding to serious incidents and they seldom ask for anything in return (service above self).

Nationally volunteers make up about 70% of the U.S. fire service while here in Vermont the percentage is much higher over 95%. Vermont is one of the leading states in the nation with the most fire departments per capita that are entirely volunteer or combination departments.

Today the dynamics of fire has significantly changed and the hazards first responders are exposed to pose a much greater threat to their health and welfare thus, the increased demand on training we must protect our own if we are going to be expected to save others.

The emergency services are the most demanding of volunteer activities today. The time demands associated with training; responding to incidents; maintaining facilities, apparatus, and equipment; fundraising; and administering a nonprofit corporation are grueling, if not managed properly. In today's hectic world, strong leadership is required to make emergency service organizations attract volunteers.

In spite of the best efforts of lots of people, Fire departments and local municipalities across the state continue to struggle with this difficult issue.



References Cited

Federal Emergency Management Agency and National Fire Protection Agency. A Needs Assessment of the U.S. Fire Service.

National Fire Protection Association

National Volunteer Fire Council and United States Fire Administration. Retention and Recruitment: Problems and Solutions—Final Report.

Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention in Rural Pennsylvania A report by Robert S. D'Intino, Ph.D. Pennsylvania State University Schuylkill

Emergencymgmt.com article by Kaitlin Schoeder Morning Sentinel



Firefighter Deaths and Injuries -

Vermont has not had a on-duty firefighter death since 2010

FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES IN THE UNITED STATES—2013 Issued: June 2014

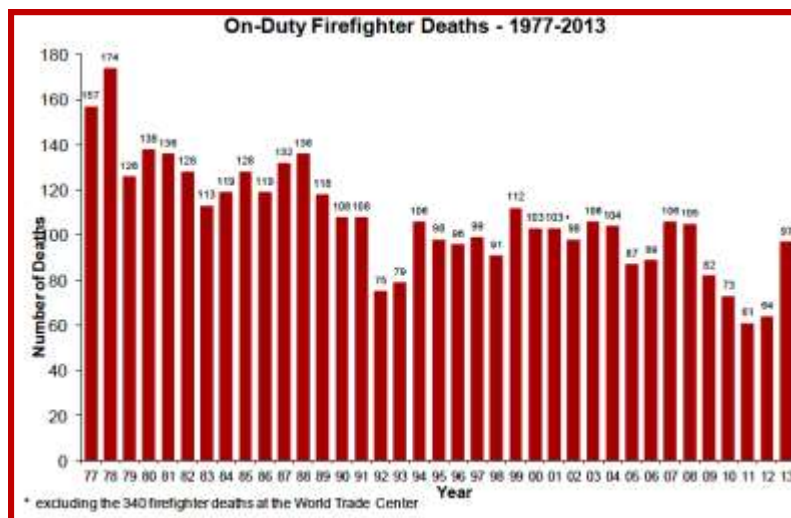
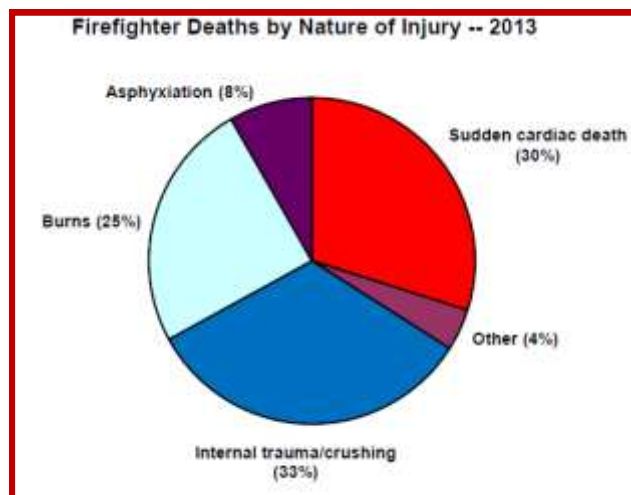
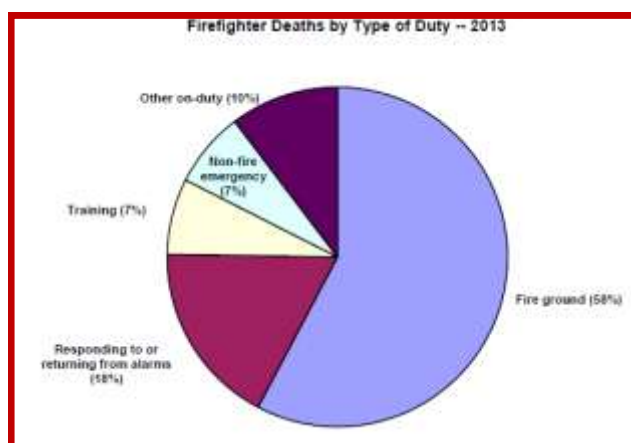
Report: NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA

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. They highlight deaths in intentionally-set fires and in motor vehicle-related incidents. Finally, the study summaries individual incidents that illustrate important concerns in firefighter safety.

Abstract

In 2013, a total of 97 on-duty firefighter deaths occurred in the U.S. This large increase over the total for the past few years is due almost entirely to two high-fatality incidents – the Yarnell Hill Fire that killed 19 wildland firefighters and the explosion in West TX that killed 9 responding firefighters (as well as an EMT and several local residents). Despite the large number of traumatic and burn injuries that occurred in those incidents, stress and other medical-related issues, which usually result in heart attacks or other sudden cardiac events, continued to account for the largest number of fatalities. One-third of the deaths resulted from overexertion, stress and related medical issues. Of the 32 deaths in this category, 29 were classified as sudden cardiac deaths (usually heart attacks), one due to a cerebral aneurysm, one to a stroke and one was a suicide.



National Fire Protection Association
Fire Analysis and Research Division

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) publishes several reports and standards, as well as a great deal of information related to firefighter safety issues. Additional details and this full report can be found by visiting the research section at www.nfpa.org

U.S. FIREFIGHTER INJURIES - 2013

Report: Report: NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy, MA
 Author: Michael J. Karter, Jr. / Joseph L Molis Issued: November 2014

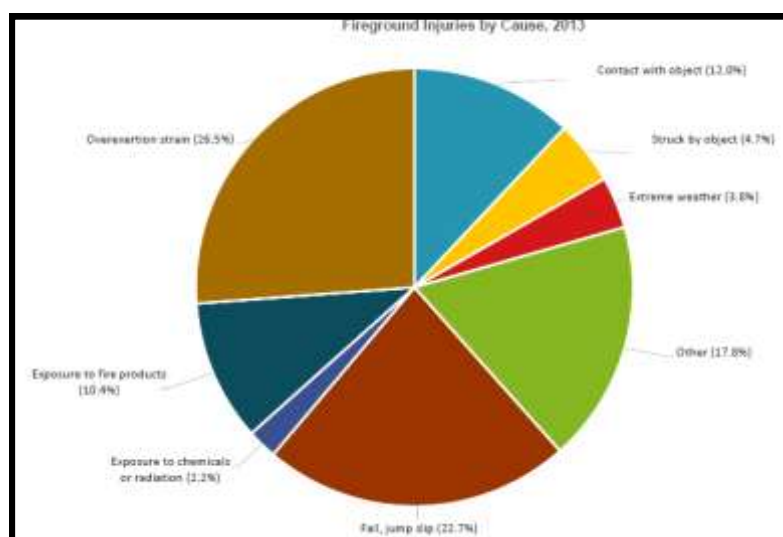
Report Abstract

Based on data the NFPA received from fire departments responding to the 2013 National Fire Experience Survey, the NFPA estimates that 65,880 firefighter injuries occurred in the line of duty in 2013.

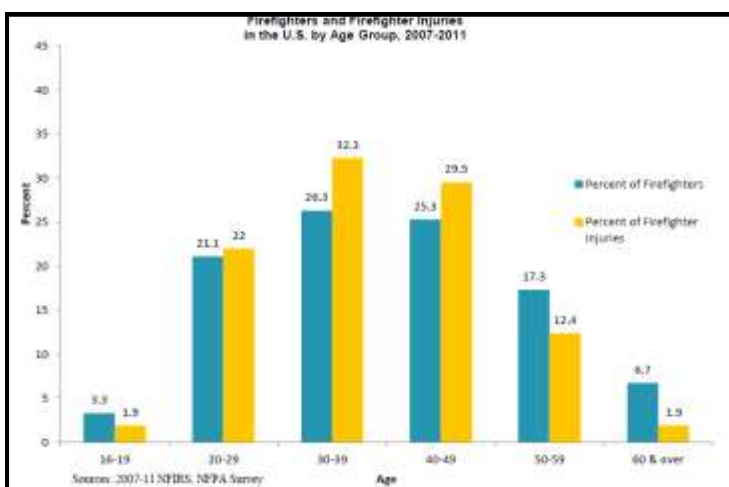
An estimated 29,760 (45.2%) of the all firefighter injuries occurred during fireground operations. An estimated 11,800 occurred during other on duty activities, while 12,535 occurred at nonfire emergency incidents. The leading type of injury received during fireground operations was strain, sprain or muscular pain (55.3%), followed by wound, cut, bleeding, bruise (13.8%). Regionally, the **Northeast had the highest fireground injury rate.**

Overview of 2013 Firefighter Injuries

- ◆ 65,880 firefighter injuries occurred in the line of duty in 2013, a decrease of 5.1%.
- ◆ In addition to injuries, there were 7,100 exposures to infectious diseases, and 17,400 exposures to hazardous conditions.
- ◆ 29,760 or 45.2% of all firefighter injuries occurred during fireground operations. An estimated 11,800 occurred during other on duty activities, 4,015 while responding/returning from an incident, 7,770 during training activities, and 12,535 occurred at nonfire emergency incidents.
- ◆ The Northeast reported a higher number of fireground injuries per 100 fires than other regions of the country.
- ◆ The major types of injuries received during fireground operations were: strain, sprain, muscular pain (55.3%); wound, cut, bleeding, bruise (13.8%); burns (5.1%) smoke or gas inhalation (5.0%). Strains, sprains, and muscular pain accounted for 58.4% of all non-fireground injuries.
- ◆ The leading causes of fireground injuries were overexertion, strain (26.5%) and fall, slip, jump (22.7%).



The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) publishes several reports and standards, as well as a great deal of information related to firefighter safety issues. Additional details and this full report can be found by visiting the research section at www.nfpa.org



Overview of Division Activities

The Division of Fire Safety through a coordinated effort in code enforcement, public education, licensing, certification, plans reviews, permitting, incident investigation, fire service training, and hazardous material deliver many services to protect Vermonters and guests.

2014 was again a busy year for the Division inspection and plan review staff. Inspection numbers were up again this year.

The numbers below reflect those efforts made by our dedicated staff. Our regional office support staff play a major roll in assisting our field staff, allowing inspectors to spend more time conducting field inspections.



2014 Statistics

2014 Activity:

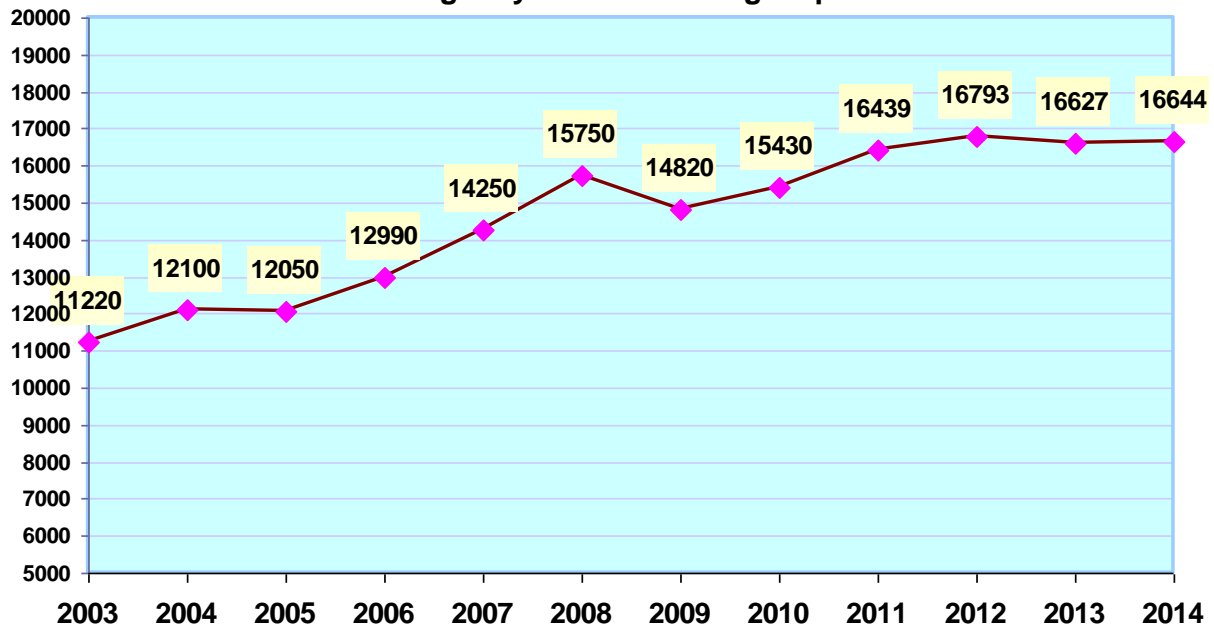
Plan Reviews: 2,719

Plumbing Inspections: 1,669

Electrical Inspections: 6,624

Fire/Building Inspections: 8,351

Non-Emergency Public Building Inspections



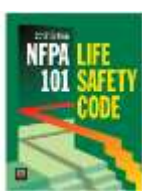
Rules and Adopted Codes, and Standards



In 2012 the division adopted the 2012 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code which incorporated updated editions of the NFPA & ICC codes.

Current adopted codes and standards

2012 Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code	2012 edition
NFPA 101 Life Safety Code - National Fire Protection Association	2012 edition
NFPA 1 Fire Code - National Fire Protection Association	2012 edition
IBC International Building Code – International Code Council	2012 edition
NBIC National Board Inspection Code , - National Board of Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspectors	2004 edition
Vermont Electrical Safety Rules	2014 edition
NFPA 70 National Electrical Code - National Fire Protection Association	2014 edition
ADA Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Standards	2010 edition
ASME A17.1 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators	2013 edition
ASME A17.3 Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators	2011 edition
ASME A18.1 Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts	2011 edition
Vermont Plumbing Rules	2012 edition
IPC International Plumbing Code – International Code Council	2012 edition



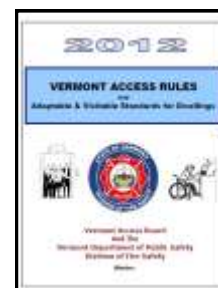
The Division of Fire Safety does not sell code books.
Please go to www.firesafety.vermont.gov for information on how to purchase the codes and standards.

Access for People with Disabilities

Since May 4, 1977 Vermont law has required new construction, additions and alterations in public buildings be accessible to people with disabilities. In Vermont the Division of Fire Safety enforces the provisions relating to facilities for persons with disabilities.

To meet the individual needs of Vermont, the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (2010 ADAAG) contained in federal law, revised September 15, 2010.

The Access Rules may be downloaded from our web page.
www.firesafety.vermont.gov



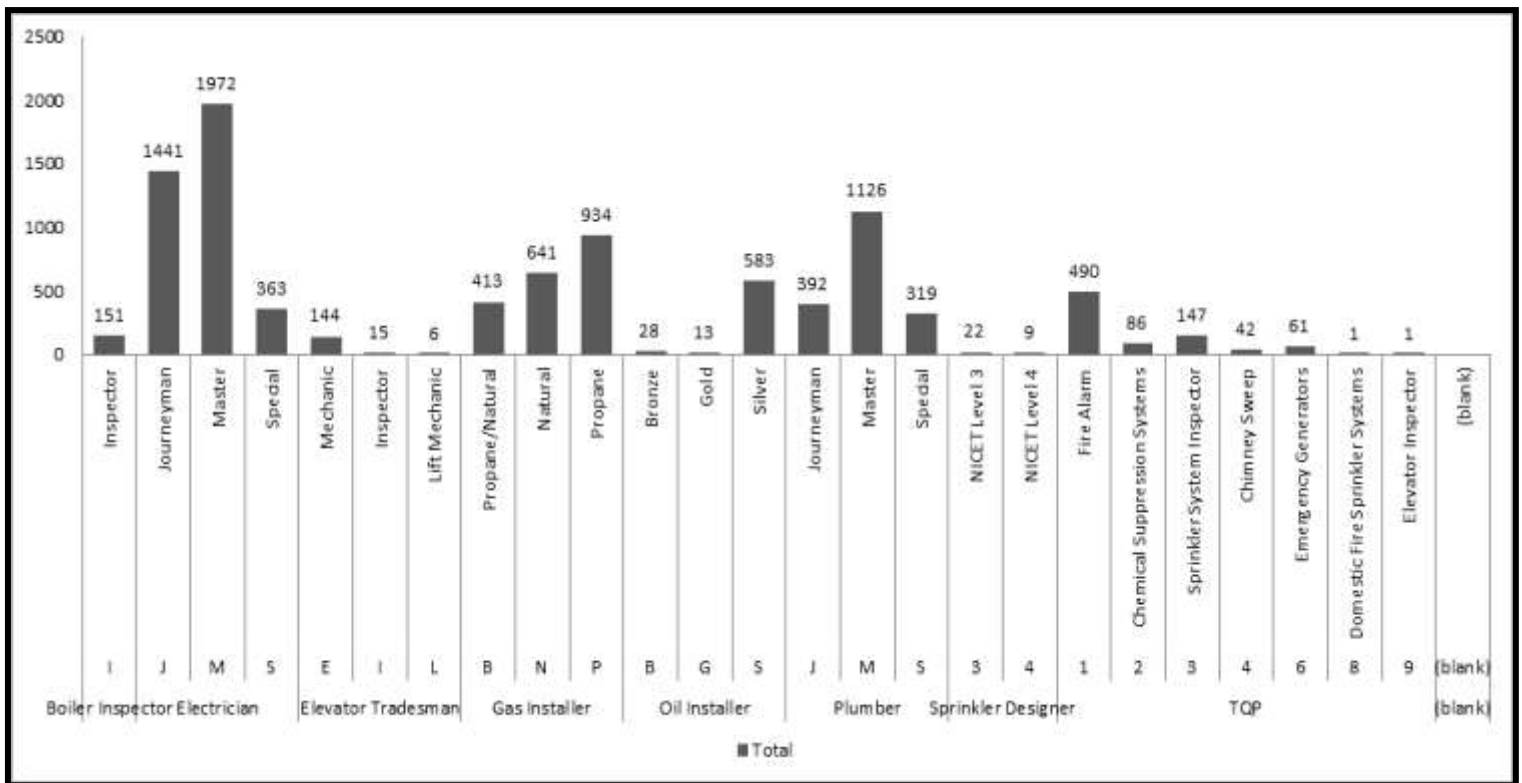
Licensing and Certification

The Division of Fire Safety is responsible for licensing trades people. Trades people are required to meet minimum qualifications in their respective field including obtaining continuing education for license and or certification renewal.

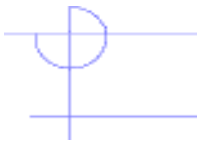
Licensed and certified trade professionals play a significant role in protecting Vermonters by following the adopted rules and standards. The collaborative working relationship between the trades and our division is represented by active participation on the plumbing, electrical, elevator, and access board.

Vermont Licenses and Certification Types

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



<p>For Assistance With :</p> <p>All Electrical, Plumbing, Elevator Licenses</p> <p>T1, T3, I3, I4, T8 TQPs</p> <p>Please Contact</p>	<p>For Assistance With :</p> <p>T2, T4, T6, TQPs</p> <p>OB, OS All Gas Certifications</p> <p>Please Contact</p>
<p>Trudy Thomas</p> <p>Central Office - Licensing Specialist</p> <p>802-479-7564 Trudy.thomas@state.vt.us</p>	<p>Debbie Moulton</p> <p>Springfield - Regional Assistant</p> <p>802-885-8883 debra.moulton@state.vt.us</p>



The State Fire Academy



Report from James Litevich, Vermont Fire Academy Chief of Training

The mission of the Vermont Fire Academy is to provide quality education and training to dedicated individuals of the Fire and Emergency Services. We are able to provide the vast majority of our certification training on location at local fire departments across the State, at no charge, with certified, compliant equipment, curriculums and fire service instructors on nights and weekends.

This past year, 13 nationally accredited Firefighter I, II and combination Firefighter I/II programs were presented to the Vermont Fire Service with 170 students becoming successfully certified as basic or advanced firefighters.

Training Programs Presented: 2014 Statistics

9 - Firefighter I
1 - Firefighter I/II combined
15 - Hazardous Material

3 - Firefighter II
1 - Fire Officer I / II comb.

8 - Advanced Fire Behavior
12 - Technical Rescue
3 - National Fire Academy

3,241 firefighters are Certified Firefighter I
87 Certified Driver Operator
148 Total Certified Fire Officer II

836 Certified Firefighter II
70 Certified Fire Officer I
260 are Certified as Fire Service Instructor I



Public Education and Information



Report from Public Education and Information Section Chief Micheal D. Greenia

One of the essential area of prevention is education and awareness. Fire safety education is designed to increase knowledge and to develop or change the attitudes and behaviors of men, women, and children toward fire. It encompasses a wide spectrum of program activities presented to diverse audiences.

Firefighters have known for years that the best fire protection is fire prevention. However, the role of fire safety educators is complex and each community in which they work is unique. Communities vary with respect to fire safety risk factors, target audiences, and resources available.

The division's Public Education & Information Section works hard to provide free technical assistance and fire safety teaching resources to local fire departments, educators, public health professionals, elder service providers, community and service organizations and others interested in fire safety education.

We use programs, campaigns, national initiatives, and other shared resources and props to teach Vermonters of all ages how to diminish risks that endanger lives, health, or property. Because we have limited staff, We rely heavily on the participation of volunteers, local emergency organizations, and other partners to help us attain our goals for fire safety public education.



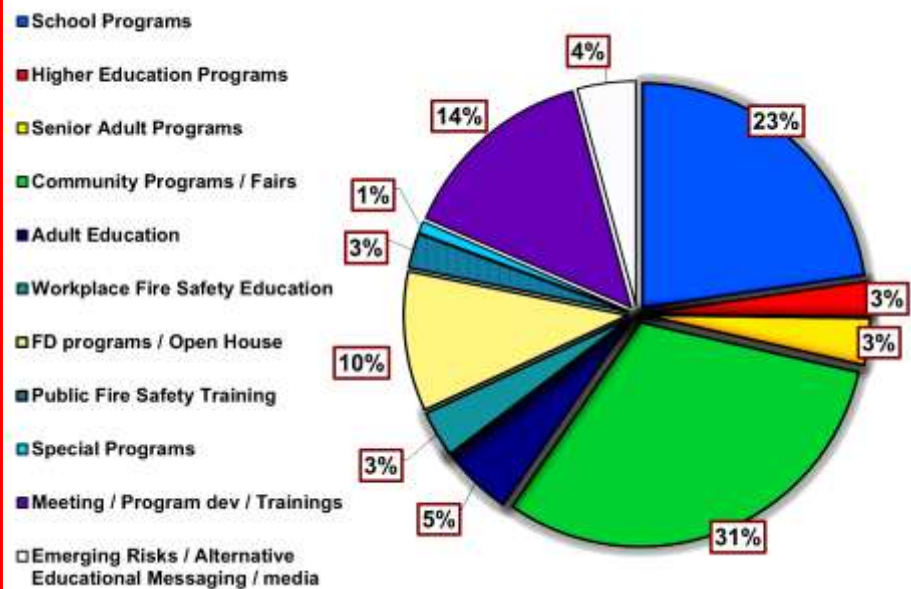
During 2014 a combination of new and established programs helped to meet the fire safety education needs of Vermonters of all ages. With the support of Fire Safety Education Specialist: Lexi Como, Amy McGann and Fire Marshal Patrick McLaughlin as well as other division staff, we presented over 119 local education programs at various events around the state including events at fire stations, schools, county fairs, community safety days, regional fire schools and farmers markets. These events provide a unique hands-on fire safety learning experience and has proven to provide the essential skills that people need during an emergency.



Another function of the Public Education and Information Section is to serve as the media's point of contact with the Division. We attempt keep fire safety messages fresh in the minds of Vermonters by providing a variety of seasonal fire safety topics in press releases and other informational resources. Personnel also respond to specific requests for information from the public and news reporters. Additionally, we take part in television and radio programs and partner with several other organizations to jointly prevent fire through education.



2014 DFS Public Education & Information Programs



If you have any questions about the program or to request equipment for your event contact:

Micheal D. Greenia
Chief—Public Education & Information Section

1311 U.S. Route 302, Suite 600
Barre, VT 05641-2351
Phone: 800-640-2106 or 802-479-7587
E-Mail: Micheal.Greenia@.state.vt.us

In 2014 we worked to develop a few new programs to help address our highest at risk populations in Vermont.

Fire Safe VT Children & Caregivers Program

This program was developed to teach children, and daycare providers fire safety awareness and safety skills.

VT Fire Safe Seniors Program

Over the last 4 years 15 adults over the age of 60 have died in fires. Representing over 68 % of all Vermont fire deaths. Using the NFPA's Remembering When and the USFAs Fire Safe Seniors programs the VT Fire Safe Seniors program is designed to help communities reduce fire and fall injuries and deaths among older adults.

VT Community Risk Reduction Assistance program

The fundamental mission of the fire department has always been fire suppression and rescue. Today many progressive fire departments are adopting a more comprehensive approach known as Community Risk Reduction, or CRR. CRR is a process to identify local risks, followed by the coordinated and strategic investment of resources to reduce their occurrence and impact.

The CRR approach is now being incorporated in to many of the new additions of the codes. The division is continuing to develop assistance and provide training to departments in how to implement CRR in their communities.

State Fire Safety Calendar program

Each year in recognition of fire prevention month, the Division of Fire Safety sponsors a statewide fire safety poster contest. This year marked the 24th year of the state Fire Safety Poster Contest and the state fire safety calendar program.

The poster contest is open to all third grade students. At the end of October panels of judges choose thirteen posters to appear in the next calendar. Thousands of calendars are printed and delivered to schools throughout the state.

Students can work on the posters before or during fire prevention week, depending on the schools schedule. Students should prepare posters on white paper not exceeding 12 by 20 inches in size with the students name, teachers name and school on the back. Posters must be submitted flat and delivered to the division of fire safety by the end of October, to be included in the judging for the next calendar.



This past year Over 20,000 calendars were delivered to Vermont's school children and used by families throughout the state.

The calendar project is primarily funded by donations from sponsors and Vermont's emergency service groups.

For additional information on the Vermont fire safety calendar program, or how your organization can help support this program, contact the Vermont Division of Fire Safety—Central Office



Fire Incident Reporting

Report from State NFIRS State Program Managers

The National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) program was established 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 also 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 that have not been accessed for at least 60 days 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.

The Division of Fire Safety continues to thank those departments that report valid incident reports on a timely bases. In 2014 we had 85% of Vermont's fire departments submit reports.

Additionally, we compile Insurance Company fire loss reports. All Insurance Companies providing fire insurance in Vermont, are required to report certain information on fire loss claims to the division of fire safety pursuant to state law. This information is very valuable and is used together to evaluate fire loss and trends.

An overview of 2014 reports for each department are assembled on pages 35–42 of this report. Insurance company loss information appears on page 10.

National Fire Incident Reporting System



State NFIRS Program Managers

The state program managers provide technical assistance, user training

Contact Information:

New Program Manager
Christopher Herrick
1311 U.S. Route 302, Suite 600
Barre, VT 05641-2351
Phone: 802-479-7586
Email: Christopher.herrick@state.vt.us

Micheal D. Greenia,
Phone: 800-640-2106 or 802-479-7587
E-Mail: micheal.greenia@state.vt.us

Outgoing Program Manager
Stanley Baranowski
Phone: 800-640-2106 or 802-479-7575
E-Mail: stanley.baranowski@state.vt.us

REQUESTS TO RESET AN ACCOUNT OR TO GET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Your VFIRS account will become inactive if you do not log in every 60 days. If this happens, please send an e-mail to vfirs@state.vt.us

OR

call the main office
800-640-2106

NFIRS ADMIN
Bridgette Hutchinson
Administrative Assistant

York, Nicole
Barre Office Regional Assistant

Fire Investigation

The Vermont Fire 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 the fire investigators for assistance The Fire Chief should call the nearest State Police barracks. The dispatchers have a call out list for the investigators.

There are five State Police and five Fire Safety investigators, each taking a week of on-duty call out. 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.



2014 Statistics and Highlights

Dummerston Fatal Fire – 1/6/2014

A father and son were killed in a fire that occurred at their residence. The fire is believed to have started on the couch where the father was sleeping. The son was sleeping in a chair in the living room. The son died as a result of smoke inhalation. The fire is believed to be the result of a cigarette.

South Burlington Fatal Fire – 1/17/2014

A female was distraught in her current relationship. When her partner went to the movies the female set fire to her apartment. The female stayed in the apartment and died as a result of the fire.

St. Micheal's College Apartment Fire – 2/17/14

Three males residing in college housing were alerted to a fire in their apartment. Two males were able to get out of the residence safely by using the stairs. The third male was able to exit the apartment via the stairs and had to jump out a second floor window. The cause of the fire is undetermined but the fire was not considered "suspicious".

Fairfax Fatal – 4/11/2014

An elderly male, using a kerosene spray bottle, to ignite the wood stove set his clothing on fire. The male was able to make it to the second floor where his wife attempted to put him in the shower. The wife was not able to extinguish the male's clothing that was on fire. The female was able to escape before the only set of stairs leading to the front door was fully involved.

Winhall Bed and Breakfast / Restaurant – 7/3/14

The fire began on the roof over a portion of the bed and breakfast. Because the fire started outside the building the smoke detectors were not a factor in alerting the occupants to the fire. The fire was called in by a passing motorist. When the fire department arrived the fire had extended into the roof of the dance hall. The building had been added onto several times and had a number of voids between the roof lines. The fire department was able to save the house but the rest of the structure was a total loss. The damages were estimated to be over 1 million dollars.



Continued on next page

St. Albans Fatal – 7/30/14

A male who was confined to a wheelchair was smoking in bed. The male was on oxygen and when he was alerted to the fire called 911. St. Albans Police Department responded to the scene and was able to pull the male out the front door but the male was severely burned. The male was transported to Fletcher Allen and passed away the following day.



Rutland Plywood Factory – 8/21/14

A fire was reported in one section of the complex and the Rutland Town Fire Department responded. The fire was extinguished and a fire watch was established. Several hours later a second fire was reported in the area of the “chipper room” ceiling/roof. The Fire department responded but was unable to extinguish the fire. The fire extended throughout the complex and the factory was a total loss. The fire unit was never contacted about the first fire. Based on interviews it is believed the second fire was most likely the result of embers falling onto the roof from the first fire. The chipper roof was reported to have approximately a foot of white birch bark on it.



Halifax Fatal – 11/13/14

A male sleeping in his bedroom was alerted to a fire on his bedroom wall. The male went to the opposite end of the house to alert his roommate to the fire. It is then believed the male victim went back to his bedroom to get his dog. The roommate made it out of the house and assumed his roommate was out. A short time later the roommate discovered the male victim was still inside. During a search of the residence the fire department found the male victim in the bedroom with his dog.

2014 Statistics

Total # of Fires responded to	151
Total # of Arson/suspected Arson fires	53
Arrest made	16
Total # of vehicle fires	17
Estimated \$ value of fires	over \$13 million
Fatalities	6 separate fires with total of 7 fatalities
Fires with injuries	1
Fire Investigation & Scene Preservation classes	5



1-800-32-ARSON

(1-800-322-7766)

The State Hazmat 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 20 years and over 3600 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. Previously, hazmat assets had been placed in twenty different departments strategically located to provide quick response for small to medium incidents.

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 twenty-eight Technicians are led by a Chief, a Deputy Chief and four Crew Chiefs. The team has a fleet of three HAZMAT Response Vehicles. These 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 serves as the “plume tracking team” should there be a radiological release at the VT Yankee Nuclear power facility in Vernon as well as the response arm of the State for any nuclear or radiological event. This ability has been enhanced through specialized training at the nuclear test site in Mercury Nevada and through the purchase of sophisticated nuclear detection and identification instruments.

Chief Herrick also collects and disseminates over 2300 Tier II reports required under the Community Right to Know Act. Additionally, He serves as the Chair of the State Emergency Response Commission.

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, Christopher Herrick.



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

800-641-5005

If you have any questions about the program contact:

Christopher Herrick
Vermont Haz-Mat Team Chief

1311 U.S. Route 302, Suite 600
Barre, VT 05641-2351
Phone: 802-479-7586.
Email: Christopher.herrick@state.vt.us

2014 Statistics

Responses—118

Team Training Hours - More than 3200 hours

Classes Taught to Local Agencies - 41

Meth Lab Awareness, Air Monitoring, Hazmat Refresher, Decontamination, Foam Operations

Division Special Operations

In recent years the state has witnessed an increasing series of natural disasters of historic magnitude, ranging from severe flooding, severe winter storms to high winds.

DFS Personnel respond to disaster events in a variety of ways, from working to mitigate the effects of flooding on populated areas to supporting the fire service in fire control, rescue and recovery efforts and working in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) as well as performing post-disaster building safety assessments and studying the aftermath for lessons learned to improve disaster operations and public safety.

To meet the operational and resource needs of Vermont's emergency services and local governments the division established a DFS special operations coordination team to coordinate division activities during an emergency or disaster response.

In 2014 Work continued to develop and improve the State Urban Search and Rescue Capabilities and to organize current capabilities into regional teams.

In 2014 the division took part in Vermont CAT2 a full scale exercise designed to assess capabilities in prevention, response, and recovery activities following a statewide catastrophic event.

The division deployed numerous building safety assessments teams and other division personnel to field locations to perform operations and the evaluation of simulated damaged buildings.

We continue to improve DFS special operations and develop operational support services to assist local departments during all hazards response operations and planned events.





HOT TOPICS

Vermont
STATE
FIRE MARSHAL



Home fires occur more in winter than in any other season. As you stay cozy and warm this winter season, **be fire smart!**

Half of all home heating fires occur in the months of



Heating equipment **1** in every **7** is involved in reported **home fires** and **1** in every **6** home fire deaths.

Keep anything that can burn at least **3** feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.

Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and **as far away as possible from your house.**

Install and **test** carbon monoxide alarms at least **once a month.**



Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents **every year.**

Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least **10** feet from your home and any nearby buildings.

Plug only **1** heat-producing appliance (such as a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.



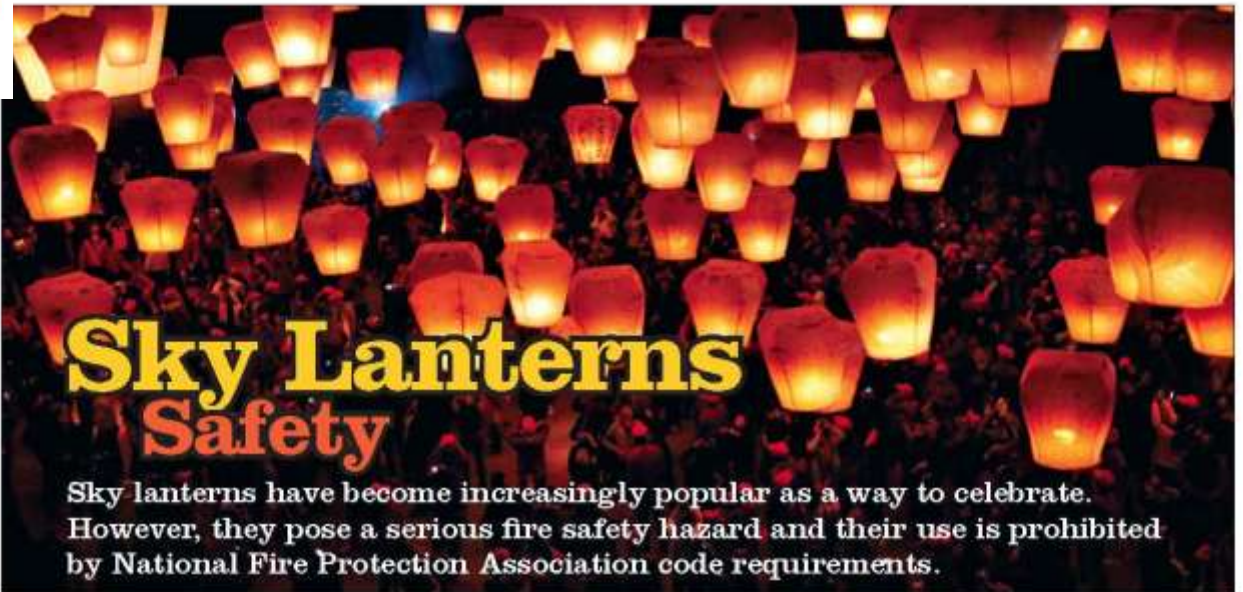
For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/winter/ and www.nfpa.org/winter/





HOT TOPICS

Vermont
STATE
FIRE MARSHAL



Sky Lanterns Safety

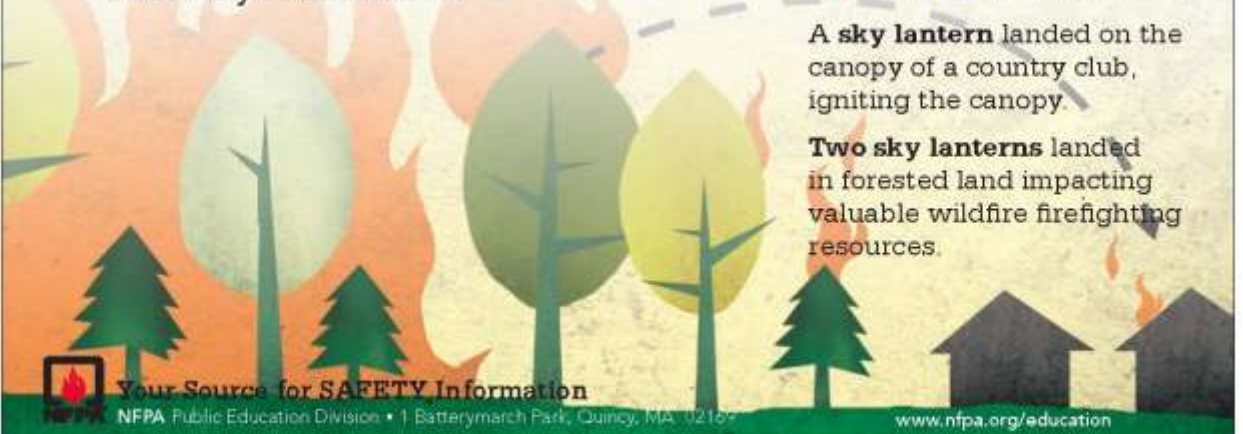
Sky lanterns have become increasingly popular as a way to celebrate. However, they pose a serious fire safety hazard and their use is prohibited by National Fire Protection Association code requirements.

- » The lanterns are made of oiled rice paper with a bamboo frame, materials that can easily catch on fire.
- » A candle or wax fuel cell is used with the device.
- » The lit flame heats the inside of the lantern, causing it to rise into the air.
- » Once lit and airborne, it can travel over a mile in distance.
- » Wind can affect the sky lantern, blowing the sides, forcing the hot air out and sending the flaming lantern back to the ground.
- » These lanterns have the potential to cause fires.
- » A flaming lantern can drop onto a rooftop, field, trees or power lines before the flame is fully extinguished.
- » A destructive fire can result when a flaming lantern reaches the ground during dry conditions.
- » Sky lanterns should not be used under any circumstances.

RECENT FIRES

A sky lantern landed on the canopy of a country club, igniting the canopy.

Two sky lanterns landed in forested land impacting valuable wildfire firefighting resources.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

www.nfpa.org/education

For more information please visit nfpa.org/safety-information/safety-tip-sheets

Firesafety.vermont.gov



HOT TOPICS

Vermont
STATE
FIRE MARSHAL

Medical Oxygen Safety



Portable medical oxygen in the home has grown over the past decade. Medical oxygen adds a higher percentage of oxygen to the air a patient uses to breath. Fire needs oxygen to burn. If a fire should start in an oxygen-enriched area, the material burning will burn more quickly.

Homes where medical oxygen is used need specific fire safety rules to keep people safe from fire and burns.

SAFETY TIPS

- » There is no safe way to smoke in the home when oxygen is in use. If a patient is on oxygen, they should not smoke.
- » Candles, matches, wood stoves and even sparking toys, can be ignition sources and should not be used in the home.
- » Keep oxygen cylinders at least five feet from a heat source, open flames or electrical devices.
- » Body oil, hand lotion and items containing oil and grease can easily ignite. Keep oil and grease away where oxygen is in use.
- » Never use aerosol sprays containing combustible materials near the oxygen.

FACTS

- ! Oxygen saturates fabric covered furniture, clothing, hair and bedding, making it easier for a fire to start and spread.
- ! Smoking materials is the leading heat source resulting in medical oxygen related fires, injuries and deaths.



Post **"No Smoking"** and **"No Open Flames"** signs in and outside the home to remind people not to smoke.



Your Source for
SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division | www.nfpa.org/education



 **Remembering When™** A FIRE AND FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

How to Prevent Fires



- 1**  **If you smoke, smoke outside.** Provide smokers with large, deep, sturdy ashtrays. Wet cigarette butts and ashes before throwing them out or bury them in sand. Never smoke in bed. Never smoke if oxygen is used in the home.
- 2**  **Give space heaters space.** Keep them at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from anything that can burn—including you. Shut off heaters when you leave or go to bed.
- 3**  **Stay in the kitchen when frying food.** Never leave cooking unattended. Wear tight-fitting or short sleeves when cooking. Use oven mitts to handle hot pans. If a pan of food catches fire, slide a lid over it and turn off the burner. Don't cook if you are drowsy from alcohol or medication.
- 4**  **Stop, drop, and roll.** If your clothes catch on fire stop (don't run), drop gently to the ground, and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth to put out the fire. Use cool water for 3-5 minutes to cool the burn. Get medical help right away.
- 5**  **Smoke alarms save lives.** Have smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, inside each bedroom, and outside each sleeping area. For the best protection, use interconnected alarms so when one sounds, they all sound. Make sure everyone in your home can hear the smoke alarms. Test the alarms monthly.
- 6**  **Plan and practice your escape from fire and smoke.** If possible, plan two ways out of every room in your home and two ways out of your home. Make sure windows and doors open easily. If the smoke alarm sounds, get outside and stay outside.
- 7**  **Know your local emergency number.** Your emergency number may be 9-1-1 or the fire department's phone number. Once you have escaped a fire, call the fire department from a neighbor's phone or a cell phone.
- 8**  **Plan your escape around your abilities.** Have a telephone near your bed in case you are trapped by smoke or fire. Have other necessary items near your bed, such as medications, glasses, wheel chair, walker, scooter, or cane.









For more information on this program please visit
<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-public-educators/education-programs/remembering-when>
[Firesafety.vermont.gov](http://firesafety.vermont.gov)



 **Remembering When™** A FIRE AND FALL PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

How to Prevent Falls



- 1**  **Exercise regularly** to build strength and improve your balance and coordination. Ask your doctor about the best physical exercise for you.
- 2**  **Take your time.** Get out of chairs slowly. Sit a moment before you get out of your bed. Stand and get your balance before you walk. Be aware of your surroundings.
- 3**  **Keep stairs and walking areas free** of electrical cords, shoes, clothing, books, magazines, and other items.
- 4**  **Improve the lighting** in and outside your home. Use nightlights or a flashlight to light the path between your bedroom and the bathroom. Turn on the lights before using the stairs. See an eye specialist once a year—better vision can help prevent falls.
- 5**  **Use non-slip mats** in the bathtub and on shower floors. Have grab bars installed on the wall next to the bathtub, shower, and toilet. Wipe up spilled liquids immediately.
- 6**  **Be aware of uneven surfaces** indoors and outdoors. Use only throw rugs that have rubber, non-skid backing. Consider non-skid rug pads under rugs. Always smooth out wrinkles and folds in carpeting. Be aware of uneven sidewalks and pavement outdoors. Ask a family member or friend to clear ice and snow from outside stairs and walkways and always use hand rails if available. Step carefully.
- 7**  **Stairways should be well lit** from both the top and the bottom. Have easy-to-grip handrails installed along the full length of both sides of the stairs.
- 8**  **Wear sturdy, well-fitting, low-heeled shoes with non-slip soles.** They are safer than high heels, thick-soled athletic shoes, slippers, or stocking feet.

For more information on this program please visit
<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-public-educators/education-programs/remembering-when>
Firesafety.vermont.gov

HOT TOPICS

Vermont
STATE
FIRE MARSHAL

2014

Statewide Emergency Incident Data

In 2014, Vermont fire departments responded to over 45,296 incidents as reported in the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) 2014 data.

Overview of emergency calls listed by county

	Service Good Intent	False Alarm	Hazard Cond	Structure Fire	Canceled	Wildland	Other	Vehicle	Outside	Other Fire	Explosion	Grand Total Fire	EMS call	Motor Vehicle Accident	Medical Assist	Extrications	Water Rescues	Other	Search	Electrical	Grand Total EMS	Grand Total Fire and EMS
ADDISON	211	117	118	106	74	30	11	25	19	8		719	50	129	136	11	7	5	5	4	347	1,066
BENNINGTON	176	416	185	96	16	22	19	11	6	16	2	965	87	117	16	32	3	1	6		262	1,227
CALEDONIA	305	270	234	201	60	25	13	16	9	7	3	1143	585	130	207	18	2	3			945	2,088
CHITTENDEN	2249	2517	881	375	280	92	87	46	76	34	28	6665	6009	545	662	137	31	25	8		7417	14,082
ESSEX	14	5	8	19	3	5		3	1	1		59	57	19	2						78	137
FRANKLIN	250	259	276	104	69	27	18	29	19	15	7	1073	70	168	116	15	17	3	4		393	1,466
GRAND ISLE	26	34	37	41	15	12	2	5	6	3	1	182	5	65	27		25		4		126	308
LAMOILLE	87	139	89	108	105	22	7	23	2	12	3	597	5	109	23	20	1		7		165	762
ORANGE	115	96	108	181	53	27	13	17	5	4	1	620	234	138	109	10		1	8		500	1,120
ORLEANS	36	96	81	97	14	24		13	5	8	1	375	10	58	69	11	3		1		152	527
RUTLAND	1162	557	343	278	73	43	101	31	16	12	4	2620	78	312	115	23	4	1	22		555	3,175
WASHINGTON	624	575	374	248	230	42	20	31	28	17	8	2197	3753	538	35	44		14	6	1	4391	7,196
WINDHAM	671	553	295	144	151	28	12	18	14	7	8	1901	1298	265	218	27		14	3	4	1829	3,730
WINDSOR	741	529	278	205	157	61	97	35	25	20	6	2154	3997	415	583	23	10	8	5	1	5042	7,196
No county given	465	297	86	29	13	10	4	10	2			916	735	122	42	5		1	3		908	1824
TOTAL	7132	6460	3393	2232	1313	470	404	313	233	164	72	22186	16973	3130	2360	376	103	76	82	10	23110	45,296

Cautions on interpretation

These estimates are based on data from the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA's) National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). The statewide reports were run on March 2nd 2015. Any department reports entered or corrected after that date will not be reflected in this report. The data in this section may not match other sources of data because of missing information, invalid or non-submitted reports, comparisons must be viewed with caution.

* Departments that are marked in black did not submit valid reports before the deadline. Those departments that have not submitted incident reports for 2012 must still do so even though the deadline for reporting has passed.

The term "Service / Good intent" refers to calls where after investigation, the department finds no problems or provides some type of other non emergency assistance.

FDID	FD Name	Service good intent	False alarm	Hazard cond	Structure fire	Canceled	Wildland	Other	Vehicle	Outside	Other fire	Explosion	Grand Total Fire	EMS call	Motor Vehicle Accident	Medical assist	Extrications	Water Rescues	Other	Search	Electrical	Grand Total EMS
1003	ADDISON	2	6	3	8		5		3	1			28		10	55		3		1		69
10006	ALBANY		1	1	7								9		2	1						3
07009	ALBURG	18	11	14	11	9	5	1	2	4		1	76		29	2		6		2		39
02015	ARLINGTON	23	29	13	9	4	4	3	4				89		26	4				2		32
14016	ASCUTNEY	32	12	9	15	7	2	2	2	1			82		49	115	1					165
6024	BAKERSFIELD	1	2	1	4	2	2			1	1		14		8							32
14030	BARNARD	2	3	2	6	4	3		1				21		5	38				1		44
3033	BARNET *																					
12036	BARRE CITY	134	108	95	42	33	3	7	3	11	5	3	444	2051	123	3	10		1	1		2189
12039	BARRE TOWN	25	28	62	28	13	5		4				165		9	8	7			1		25
10042	BARTON *																					
05044	BEECHER FALLS				1	1							2									
13045	BELLOWS FALLS	32	49	19	29	25	1	3	3				161	23	15	9	9		1			57
02051	BENNINGTON	45	90	23	18	4					3		183		15	1						16
02451	BENNINGTON RURAL	37	58	33	5	3	1	1	3		4		145		31	3	2					36
11054	BENSON	1	1	1	2	2	1		2				10		7							7
06057	BERKSHIRE		5	6	6		5				3		25		6	1						7
12060	BERLIN	31	72	33	28	24	5		5	5	3		206	270	57	3	4		1	1		336
14063	BETHEL	1	6	5	8		1		1	1			23	1	15	5		1		1		23
4069	BOLTON	7	11	10	2	1		2	4				37	1	17		1			1		20
9072	BRADFORD	33	19	8	20	12	4		3		1	1	101	1	19	30	1					51
11078	BRANDON	35	38	21	28		5	2	2				131		15	1	1			1		19
13080	BRATTLEBORO	503	299	163	53	84	12	8	4	6	1	3	1136	891	118	98	18		6	1	4	1136
14084	BRIDGEWATER	10	8	4	8		3			1			34	1	5	4						10
1087	BRIDPORT *																					
05090	BRIGHTON	1	2		1								4									
01093	BRISTOL	5	13	23	23	10	5		2	1			82		28	13	2					43
09096	BROOKFIELD	8		16	4		2		2				32									
04114	BURLINGTON	1075	1145	155	113	31	35	29	9	41	4	13	2650	4039	181	67	45	10	8	1		4351
12117	CABOT	7	6	2	7	13	4	1		1			41		9	1					1	11
08123	CAMBRIDGE	5	15	13	14	71	6	1	6		2	1	134	4	39	5		1				49
11129	CASTLETON	11	25	15	12	11	5	1	6	1		1	88	2	36	1	1					41
14132	CAVENDISH	7	4	9	9	5	2	1			1		38		7	2						9
13548	CHAMPION FIRE CO	6	17	2	10	5	3	1	1	1			46	1	1	2						4
10135	CHARLESTON		3	2	4		1		2				12	1	8	5						14
04138	CHARLOTTE	12	50	43	20	5	11	1	3	4		6	155	4	41	13	8	9	1	1		77

FDID	FD Name	Service good intent	False alarm	Hazard cond	Structure fire	Canceled	Wildland	Other	Vehicle	Outside	Other fire	Explosion	Grand Total Fire	EMS call	Motor Vehicle Accident	Medical assist	Extrications	Water Rescues	Other	Search	Electrical	Grand Total EMS
09141	CHELSEA	3	5	2	10	1	3	1		1			26		2	6	1			2		11
14144	CHESTER	22	21	30	18	13	7	3		2	2		118		29	5	5	1	1			41
11147	CHITTENDEN	9	12	4	3	1	2						31	1	4	1						6
11150	CLARENDON	21	9	9	10	5	2	2					58		19	1						20
04153	COLCHESTER	237	249	143	5	20	9		3	4	1	1	672	2	6	92	13		1			114
05156	CONCORD	11	1	7	13	2	4		2	1	1		42	57	15	2						74
01162	CORNWALL	3	7	9	3		6			2	1		31	2	11	27						40
10168	CRAFTSBURY	2	5	2	7	1	1				2		20	7	3	45						55
11171	DANBY / MT TABOR	7	8	7	16		2			2		1	43		22	3	1	1		3		30
03174	DANVILLE	19	12	23	16	2	1	1		1			75		16	6						22
10177	DERBY LINE		19	1	11		6		2				39		3		1			1		5
02180	DORSET	21	38	15	9		1	3					87		8	1	2					11
03199	EAST BURKE	5	11	6	13		1		3	1	3		43			1	6		1			8
9206	EAST CORINTH	8	6	6	19	7					1		47									
2193	EAST DORSET	5	53	6	8	1	1	12		3	6		95			1	27					28
13191	EAST DOVER	3	1		1		1						6	6	4	2						12
6194	EAST FAIRFIELD *																					
5192	EAST HAVEN		1		1				1				3									
12195	EAST MONTPELIER	92	27	13	19	24	1	2	3	1	4	1	187	254	89	3			10			356
9209	EAST RANDOLPH	2	2		10	1		1					16									
11196	EAST WALLINGFORD *																					
8201	ELMORE	5	17	7	9				1		1		40		6		3					9
06205	ENOSBURG	1	20	20	15	35	2		1				94		9	22				1		32
04207	ESSEX	158	135	53	24	78	4	21	4	3	4		484	94	46	247	7					394
04208	ESSEX JUNCTION	42	113	74	29	36	1	1	7	5	2		310	44	3	37	8					92
11216	FAIR HAVEN	9	12	29	20	1	7	1	6				85	1	3	5	1					10
06210	FAIRFAX	69	17	12	10	3	4	6	2	3	1	1	128	1	44	18	2			1		66
6213	FAIRFIELD *																					
09219	FAIRLEE *																					
01421	FERRISBURG	9	5	20	8	12	3		2	1	1		61			7	2			1		10
06234	FRANKLIN	2	1	1	4		4	1		1			14		8	1						9
06237	GEORGIA	14	11	60	10	10	1	2	5			2	115			6	2	3				11
05238	GILMAN *																					
10243	GLOVER	2	2		2		2						8		2	2						4
13249	GRAFTON	2	14	4	3	2			1		1		27									
07255	GRAND ISLE	4	18	10	18		4	1	2		2		59	1	22	1						39

FDID	FD Name	Service good intent	False alarm	Hazard cond	Structure fire	Canceled	Wildland	Other	Outside	Vehicle	Other fire	Explosion	Grand Total Fire	EMS call	Motor Vehicle Accident	Medical assist	Extrications	Water Rescues	Other	Search	Electrical	Grand Total EMS
01261	GRANVILLE	12	1	7	1	1	1	1	4	2			30	8	15					2	4	29
10264	GREENSBORO	5	6	12	7	2					1		33					2				2
3267	GROTON	1			7		1		1				10	1	2	2						5
13273	GUILFORD	18	16	25	11	6	5	1	3	4		1	90	94	29							123
13276	HALIFAX	3			1		1		1				6									
1179	HANDCOCK *																					
03282	HARDWICK	4	12	8	16		1	4	1				46		23	5						28
14285	HARTFORD	187	141	36	33	38	6	5	11	11	3	2	473	985	97	250	4	5	1	1		1343
14288	HARTLAND	11	6	6	2	3	7	1	1				37		13	1						14
6291	HIGHGATE *																					
04294	HINESBURG	33	19	66	5			27		5	2		157	278					10			288
11300	HUBBARDTON		2	3	1		1		1				8		6	19						25
04303	HUNTINGTON					5							5									
08306	HYDE PARK	30	18	8	17	5	6	1	1		2	1	89	1	9		3			2		15
04806	IBM			4	1							1	6	143	2							145
11309	IRA	3	1	1	5	2	1	2					15		7					2		9
10312	IRASBURG		2	4	11		2		1		2		22									
7318	ISLE LA MOTTE	1	1	6	6		2		1	2			19	3	4	23				2		32
13324	JAMAICA	3	4	9	7	2							25	25	8	1						34
10327	JAY	1	4	3	1								9									
08336	JOHNSON	20	24	10	24	21	3	4	5		3		114		18	2	6			3		29
11588	KILLINGTON	14	62	11	5	19		1				1	113	62	21							83
01354	LINCOLN	74	7	7	5	2	2		1	1	1		100	22	3	3				1		29
10360	LOWELL *																					
13357	LONDONDERY PHOENEX *																					
14363	LUDLOW	29	88	29	10	7	3	1	2	1			170	3	5		3					11
5366	LUNEBURG	2	1	1	3		1						8		1							1
03371	LYNDONVILLE	56	46	76	23	13	6		3		1	1	225			10			1			11
04808	MALLETS BAY	47	143	21	19	70	9		4	1	13		327	11	35	58	11	2	14			131
02373	MANCHESTER	21	110	40	22		3		1	1	3		201		19	4	2			1		26
13378	MARLBORO	10	32	3	1	2			1				49	36	18				1			55
12381	MARSHFIELD	3	14	12	12	1	7	1	1				51									
01387	MIDDLEBURY	17	25	15	6	4		5	3	1			76		2	2	1					5
12390	MIDDLESEX	4	3	5	8	17	4	1	1		1		44	1	33		1					35
11393	MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS	1											3		2	4						6
04396	MILTON	26	23	68	8	1	3	1	1	3	1		135									
01399	MONKTON *																					
6402	MONTGOMERY *																					

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12405	MONTPELIER	255	181	61	28	67		1	3	3	1	1	601	1174	76	11	10		1	1		1273
12408	MORETOWN *																					
8414	MORRISVILLE	19	53	29	21	3	3		5	2	3	1	139		37	13	5					55
11470	MT HOLLY	5	9	6	7	2	1					1	31		9	3				1		13
01432	NEW HAVEN	4	8	10	18	4	1	2	4	2	2		55	16	21	14		2				53
03423	NEWARK	4	6	2	7	1	1	1					22	40	3							43
13429	NEWBROOK -Newfane / Brook-line	27	20	35	10	20	2		1		1		116	52	13	48			2			115
09426	NEWBURY	7	3	2	13	2	2	2		1			32		7	1						8
10436	NEWPORT CENTER	2	4	2	7	1	1			2	2		20		10	2						12
10438	NEWPORT	22	36	23	29	8	4		7				129		14	10	6					30
02443	NORTH BENNINGTON	12	21	8	5	1	1						48		1							1
7444	NORTH HERO	2	1	2	5	1	1				1		13									
08448	NORTH HYDE PARK / EDEN	7	7	20	17	2	4	1	4	1	1		63			3	2			1		6
10445	NORTH TROY			3			2						5									
12440	NORTHFIELD	6	25	16	15	1	3	4	3	1			74		15	1						16
14450	NORWICH	26	25	19	9	24	2				1		106		37	82	1					120
10456	ORLEANS	2	12	25	4	2	2		1	1	1		50	1		3	2					6
1459	ORWELL	2	1	1	4	3	1		2				14		9							9
11465	PAWLET	10	1	3	5	1				1			21	2	7	3				1		13
3468	PEACHAM	9	3	4	8	9	1						34									
2474	PERU *																					
11477	PITTSFIELD	1	1	1	2	2	1		1		1		10	9	3							12
11480	PITTSFORD	6	6	9	11	3	2		1	1			39		8		2			2		12
12483	PLAINFIELD *																					
14486	PLYMOUTH	2	14	1	2	2	1						22	2	3							5
11492	POULTNEY	3	24	4	4		1	2					38									
2495	POWNA	8	15	11	3	1	1	1	2	1			43		28	1	1					30
2813	POWNA VALLEY	12	8	5			1	1					27	1	7				1			9
11498	PROCTOR	22	10	4	3	4	2	9	1				55									
14501	PROCTORSVILLE	12	5	10	16		5	2	2		1		53		3	16	1					20
13504	PUTNEY *																					
9509	RANDOLPH CENTER		2	4	7	1							14	2	28					1	2	33
09507	RANDOLPH VILLAGE	18	25	26	14		1		1				85	2	8	16	6	1		6		39
14510	READING	2	1		3	2							8		4	24				1		29
2513	READSBORO	1	1	3	4		4	1	1	1			15	9	4	23	1	1	1			39
06516	RICHFORD	7	24	4	13		2	3	2		3		58		5	16	4			1		26
4519	RICHMOND *																					

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1522	RIPTON	25	3	4	3	1			2				38	3	5					1		9
14525	ROCHESTER	1	7	2	7	2	2	1	4	2			28		1	8						9
13528	ROCKINGHAM	4	3	2	7	2							18	2	21	85						108
12531	ROXBURY *																					
02537	RUPERT	10	2	2	3		2		1			1	21		12							12
11540	RUTLAND CITY	916	235	145	71	7	3	76	6	11			1470		64	24	17	1	2			108
11543	RUTLAND TOWN	55	68	25	20	6		1	4		9		188		28	2	2			1		33
3544	RYGATE	5	3	1	8	15	3		1				36		12							12
01561	SALISBURY	1	6	4			1				1		13		2							2
13567	SAXTONS RIVER	5	11	2	8	1	3					2	32	89	8							97
02573	SHAFTSBURY	1	17	31	13	1	5		3				71			2	7					9
14576	SHARON	3	7	10	3	1	1	3	2		2		32		14	11	1					26
03579	SHEFFIELD / WHEELLOCK	3	3		9		1		3	1			20		20	3						23
04582	SHELBURNE	38	100	69	6	18	3	7	2	2	4	2	251		1	8	2	2				13
06585	SHELDON	5	1	5	7		3	2	4	3	4		34	16	20		1		3	1		41
01591	SHOREHAM	3		2	1								6		7			1				8
11594	SHREWSBURY	1	2	4	11		3						21		13							13
04600	SOUTH BURLINGTON	379	416	132	69	16	13	12	7	10	4	5	1063	1772	192	2	18	2	1	2		1989
07603	SOUTH HERO	1	3	5	1	5							15		3							3
13590	SOUTH NEWFANE *																					
14604	SO ROYALTON BROAD BROOK *																					
14606	SPRINGFIELD	226	78	50	22	19	12	72	5	5	5	2	496	1521	65	25	3		1			1615
06549	ST.ALBANS	36	78	63	14	2		1	3	5	1	3	206		2	17	2	1				22
06552	ST.ALBANS TOWN	36	57	22	10	3	3		5	2	1		139		34	1	1	1		1		38
03608	ST.JOHNBSURY	194	168	105	55	19	2	7	2	3	3	1	559	295	29	125	10		1	1		461
02609	STAMFORD	3	3	8	6	5	2		1			1	29	18	11	6				1		36
01615	STARKSBORO	2		3	12		1						18		10	2		1				13
14618	STOCKBRIDGE	1	4		3						1		9	5	1							6
08621	STOWE													2	12	1	3	3				21
09624	STRAFFORD	2	2	2	3								9	41	3							44
13627	STRATTON MTN *																					
03636	SUTTON	2	2	5	13		2		1			1	26		2	1						3
06339	SWANTON	79	43	82	11	14	1	3	7	4	1	1	246			9		4	1			14
14595	TEAGO - POMFRET FD														1							1
09462	THETFORD	12	13	17	8	16	6		2				74	115	17		6					138
11645	TINMOUTH *																					
13652	TOWSHEND *																					

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09730	TRI- VILLAGE *		2	3	4	1	3			2			15		5	2						7
10654	TROY		2	3	6	1	1						16									
09657	TUNBRIDGE	3	2	3																		
04660	UNDERHILL-JERICO	60	31	51	12	2	3	14					173	2	38	125	3	1		1		170
01663	VERGENNES	51	32	8	7	37	2	3	1	7	1		149	1		5	5		2			13
88888	VERMONT HAZ-MAT	5		21	1			1	1	1			29		2							2
13666	VERNON *																					
09669	VERSHIRE *																					
12675	WAITSFIELD / FAYSTON	20	31	14	11	2	2		3	2	2		87		23	1						24
03678	WALDEN														3							3
11681	WALLINGFORD	6	13	12	19	1	2	3					56	1	14	23				1		39
13687	WARDSBORO	12	5	5	2		1				1		26	3	1	3						7
12690	WARREN	10	26	10	9	5	1	1	1	1			64		4					1		5
09693	WASHINGTON	6	3	1	13	3	2	5	2	1			36	1	18	3						22
12698	WATERBURY	30	50	37	29	23	7	1	3	2		1	183	2	38		4	1				45
12698	WATERFORD	2	2	2	9	1	2			3			21	19	8							27
11708	WELLS	1	1	5	5								12	1	17	4				1		23
09711	WELLS RIVER	7	7	2	18	8	3	3	1				49		15							15
03713	WEST BURKE	1	2	2	17		3	1					26		3	4						7
13721	WEST DOVER	23	81	13	2	2			3	2		1	127		7	8				1		16
13722	WEST DUMMERSTON *																					
09714	WEST FAIRLEE	2	1	6	5								14	37	6	6						49
11723	WEST HAVEN	2	1	6	5								14									
09714	WEST NEWBURY	2	1	2	12	1	1			1			20		1	1						2
09725	WEST PAWLET	3			7						1		11	1	11	3				1		16
11735	WEST RUTLAND	22	17	24	9	6	2	1	1		1		83			1				2		3
14705	WEST WEATHERSFIELD	53	1	7	9			2					72	2	19	16	1					38
14738	WEST WINDSOR	13	11	14	8	3	1				1		51			2						2
4720	WESTFORD		3	7	2	2				1			15		7	1						8
13726	WESTMINSTER	23	18	13	8	5	2	1	1	1	3	1	75	115	37	4			5	1		162
10670	WESTMORE				3						1		4									
14732	WESTON *																					
01741	WEYBRIDGE	1	3	1	7		2	1	1	1	1		17		2	1	1					4
01750	WHITING			1									1		7	1						8
13753	WHITINGHAM	3		2	1					1			7									
09756	WILLIAMSTOWN	2	5	11	19		2	4	4		2		49		12	2				1		15
04759	WILLISTON	435	265	50	13	5	3	1	4	1			777	806	124	1	2		1			934
13762	WILMINGTON *																					

[illegible]

*** Departments that are marked in black did not submit valid reports before the deadline for this report.**

Those departments that have not submitted incident reports for 2014 must still do so even though the deadline for reporting has passed.

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
372 Hurricane Lane, Suite 102
Williston, VT 05495-2080
Phone: (800) 366-8325, Fax: (802) 879-2312

www.firesafety.vermont.gov

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



VERMONT HAZ-MAT HOTLINE - CALL 1-800-641-5005 (24HRS)

VT PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATION ASSISTANCE - 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 Officer contact number: **800-347-0488 (24hrs)**

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





Vermont Department of Public Safety

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

Central Office
1311 US Route 302—Suite 600
Barre VT 05641-2351

Make Everyday a Fire Safe Day

