



The City of

Reading

Fire Department

2019 Annual Report



Prepared by Paul M. Gallo
Assistant Fire Chief

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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

The following document outlines the response and accomplishments of the Reading Fire Department over the past year. As a department, we strive to provide the best possible service to the City of Reading and the Village of Arlington Heights. We work closely with the community, businesses and schools to make Reading and the Valley area a safe, comfortable place to live and work.

I would like to thank every member for their professionalism and dedication to the department. Our members continue to provide services above those typical of other departments, and are held in high regard among their peers. They are devoted and committed to providing the best care and service to our community. I would like to thank Assistant Chief Paul Gallo for compiling the data and providing the formatting for this report.

I wish to thank Mayor Bemmes, his administration, Reading City Council and the Village of Arlington Heights for their continued confidence and support of the department. This support is critical to our continual progression; making the Reading Fire Department one of the finest in the region.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd A. Owens
Fire Chief



MISSION

The mission of the Reading Fire Department is to protect life, property, and the environment.

We will accomplish this with professional, knowledgeable, and dedicated personnel, using the allocated resources efficiently.

We pledge to deliver the highest quality of emergency medical services, fire suppression, public education and fire prevention to meet the needs of our community.

VALUES

***Honor:* The honor to serve the community. Earning and maintaining the respect of the community- to be held in high regard; integrity; virtue; completeness; wholeness; honesty and sincerity.**

***Pride:* The satisfaction of being the best we can be; quality work and performance; customer satisfaction.**

***Teamwork:* Working together toward common goals; sharing responsibility; looking out for each other; respect; trust and cooperation. Developing ourselves individually for the benefit of the team.**

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Todd A. Owens, Fire Chief
Paul M. Gallo, Assistant Fire Chief

CAREER STAFF

SHIFT 1

Lt. Eric Fischesser
FF/P Tyler Strole
FF/P David Kimble
FF/P Brian Vaughn

SHIFT 2

Lt. Todd Burwinkel
FF/P Dan Kunkel
FF/P Dan Wattenhofer
FF/P Andy Dishon

SHIFT 3

Lt. Ryan Androne
FF/P Kit Kretschmar
FF/P Hunter Morgan
FF/P Bruce Thompson

PART-TIME STAFF

FF/E Chaz White
FF/E Brandon Hills
FF/E Christopher Poedtke
FF/P Joe Placke

FF/P Patrick Benson
FF/E Steven McCarnan
FF/P Kelly Stickney

FF/E Brayden Young
FF/P Jordon Duguid
FF/P Mark Pitocco
FF/E Paul Ulrich

FF/P Beatrice Simuelinate
FF/P Zach Booth
FF/P Robert Green

FF/E Erin Chuck
FF/E Caleb VonLehmden

FF/P Patrick Jennings

PAID ON-CALL STAFF

FF/E Rob Singer



Providing You Professional Service Since 1967

Customer Testimonials

"Thank you so much to the crew who came to help me last week. You did a great job!..."

-Reading Resident

"I am so thankful for the Reading Squad who showed up to my mom's house and took her to the emergency room. I want to thank them for the quick response and the loving way you treated my mom...You guys are the best!" -Reading Resident

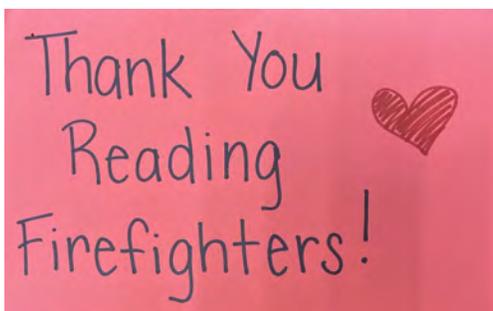
"They are the very best. Always kind and polite and know their job well." - Facebook Post

"Most of us were RN'S and we were pretty anxious about what to expect however, they made it easier and simple and gave us credit for our many years of experience and knowledge about the subject matter. It was an excellent review and update on the ratios that had changed. Thank you Reading Fire Dept. We appreciate you and thank you for your service to us." – CPR Class

"These men are so professional and great. They administer help in such a caring way. I am so appreciative of our Reading Fire Department and EMT's. They are the best." – Reading Resident

"Just want to give a big shout out to the Reading Fire and EMT services. My grandson fell and busted his head open last night. You guys were there very quickly and got him to the hospital. You guys rock. Keep up the good work. Thank you gentlemen. You guys are awesome." - Facebook Post

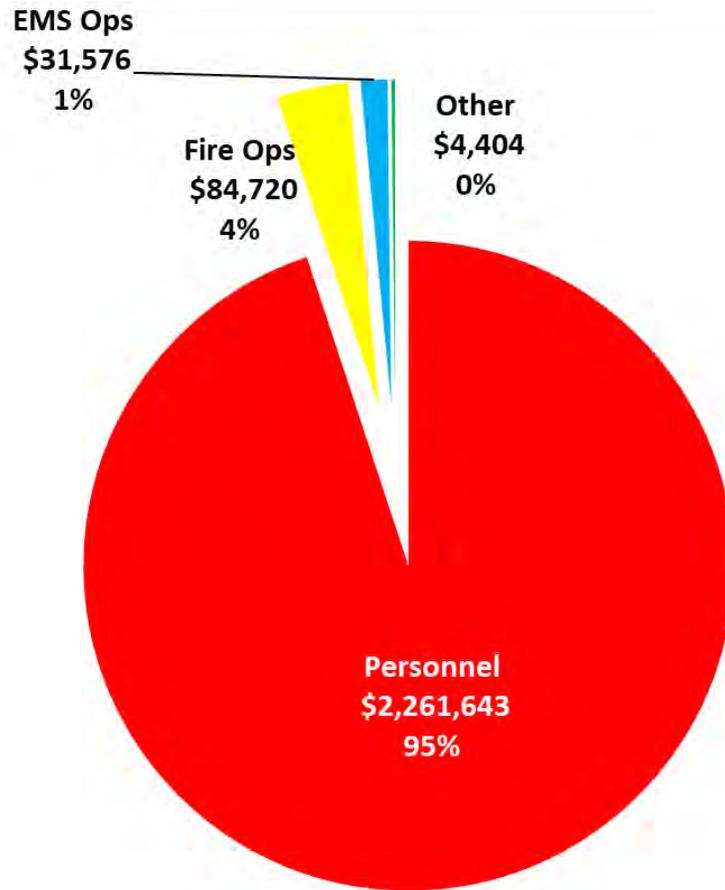
"The Reading Fire & EMS department has a special place in my heart...you brought me back to life after my cardiac arrest!" – Reading Resident



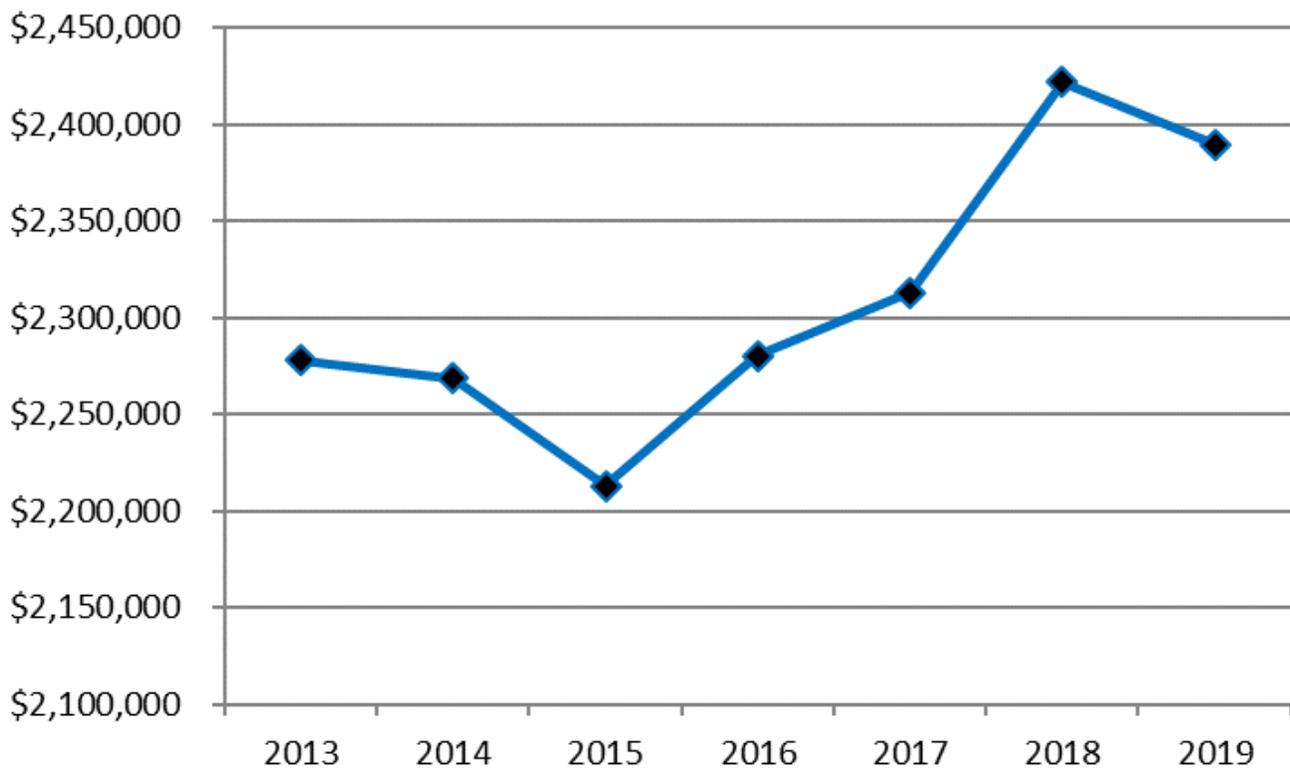
Accomplishments

- ◆ Received \$2,765 grant from the Ohio Department of Public Safety (EMS) for EMS supplies and equipment.
- ◆ Received \$3,000 grant from Factory Mutual for smoke detectors.
- ◆ Replaced mobile radio on L84 and purchased additional fitness equipment from FEMA AFG grant.
- ◆ FF/P Tyler Strole was awarded the Reading Chamber of Commerce Firefighter of Year.
- ◆ Received the Silver Plus award from the American Heart Association Mission Lifeline.
- ◆ Remained an ISO 2 class fire department.
- ◆ Logos for Reading High School and Mt. Notre Dame placed on the engine and ladder trucks.
- ◆ Purchased new ALS unit.
- ◆ Replaced 4 overhead door openers on the Valley Station.
- ◆ Full scale exercises conducted for Sts. Peter & Paul Academy and Mt. Notre Dame High School.
- ◆ First Arrival Dashboard installed for communication purposes.
- ◆ Participated in the following Community Activities:
 - ◆ Tree planting event at Koenig Park
 - ◆ Community Touch-a-Truck event
 - ◆ Clean-Up Reading
 - ◆ Memorial Day Parade
 - ◆ National Night Out
 - ◆ Reading Band Boosters Fundraiser —Ride on a fire truck to school
 - ◆ Christmas tree lighting

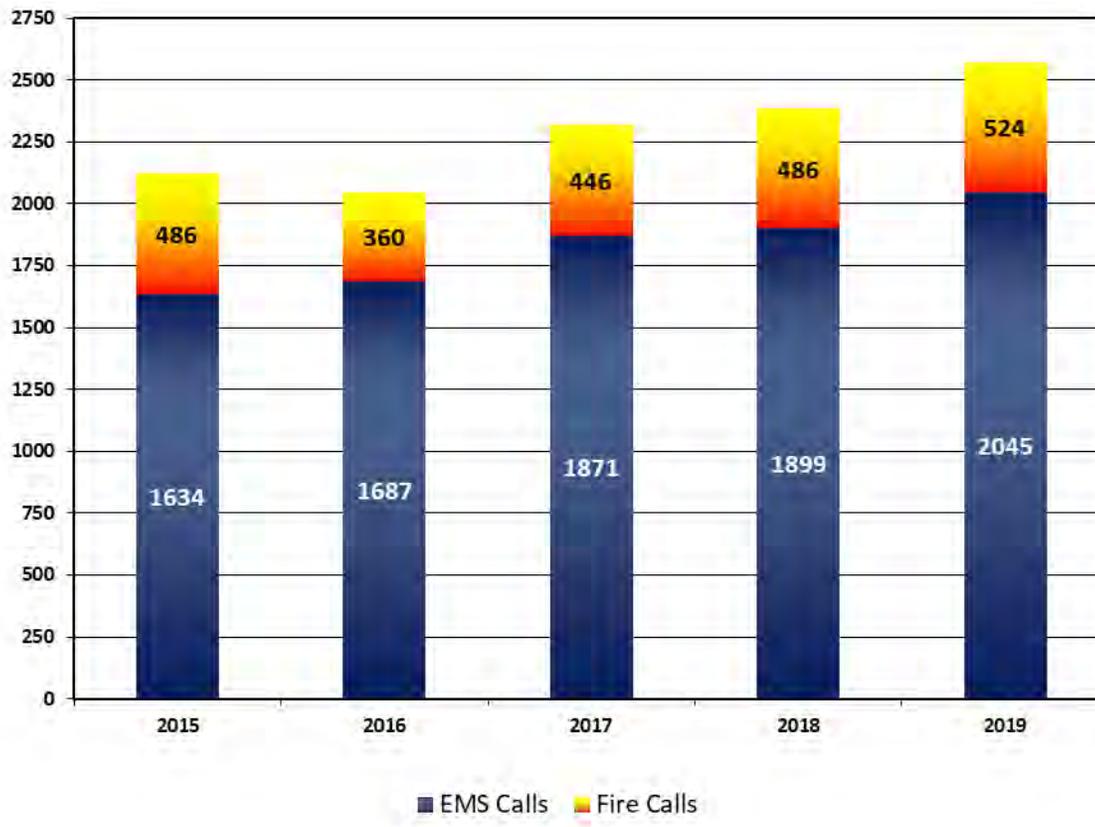




FD Expenses Trendline



Incidents by Year



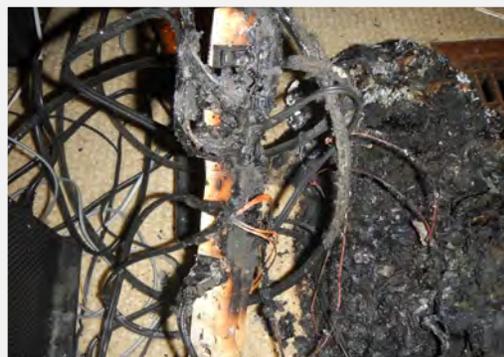
Call volume increased 7.7% from 2018. **2019 was a record setting year for the number of incidents.**

The average number of calls per day in 2019 was **7.0**. The busiest days in 2019 were 13 incidents which occurred on September 23rd and December 13th. There were 6 days with 12 incidents.

When 2019 is compared to 2015, total calls have increased 21.2%. When fire and EMS calls are calculated separately, fire calls increased 7.8% and EMS calls increased 25.2%. The average number of calls for this 5 year period is 2288.



Apartment fire on Reading Rd.



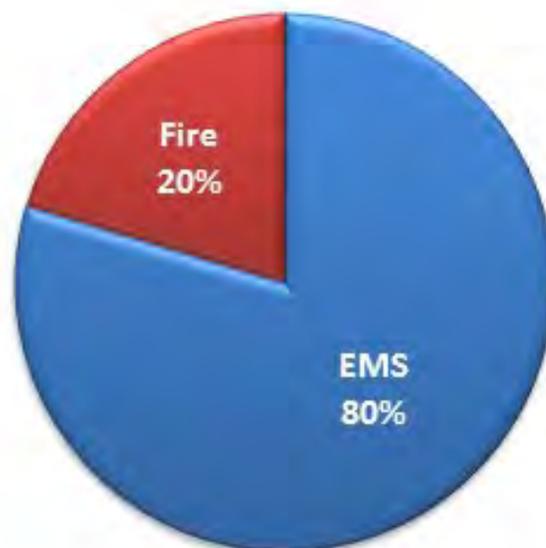
Fire on Olden Ave..

Type of Alarm Summary

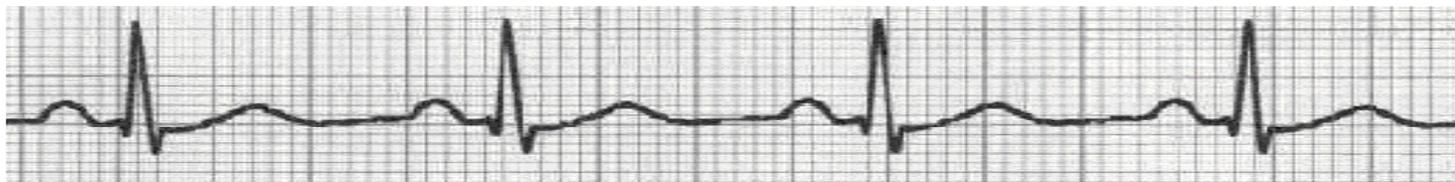
Our Fire Department takes great pride in being a progressive Advanced Life Support organization. Our paramedic unit, engine company, and ambulances all have Advanced Life Support capabilities. Our engine crew sometimes provides first response on EMS incidents to ensure rapid response and optimal care to our citizens.

The majority of our call volume is responding to emergency medical incidents. This accounts for **80%** of our run volume. Reading Fire Department employs 14 full-time firefighter/paramedics, 17 part-time firefighter/EMTs, and 1 paid-on-call firefighter/EMT's.

Type of Alarm



Approximately 80 percent of all calls are medical.



Fire on East Galbraith Rd.



Fire on Southern Ave.

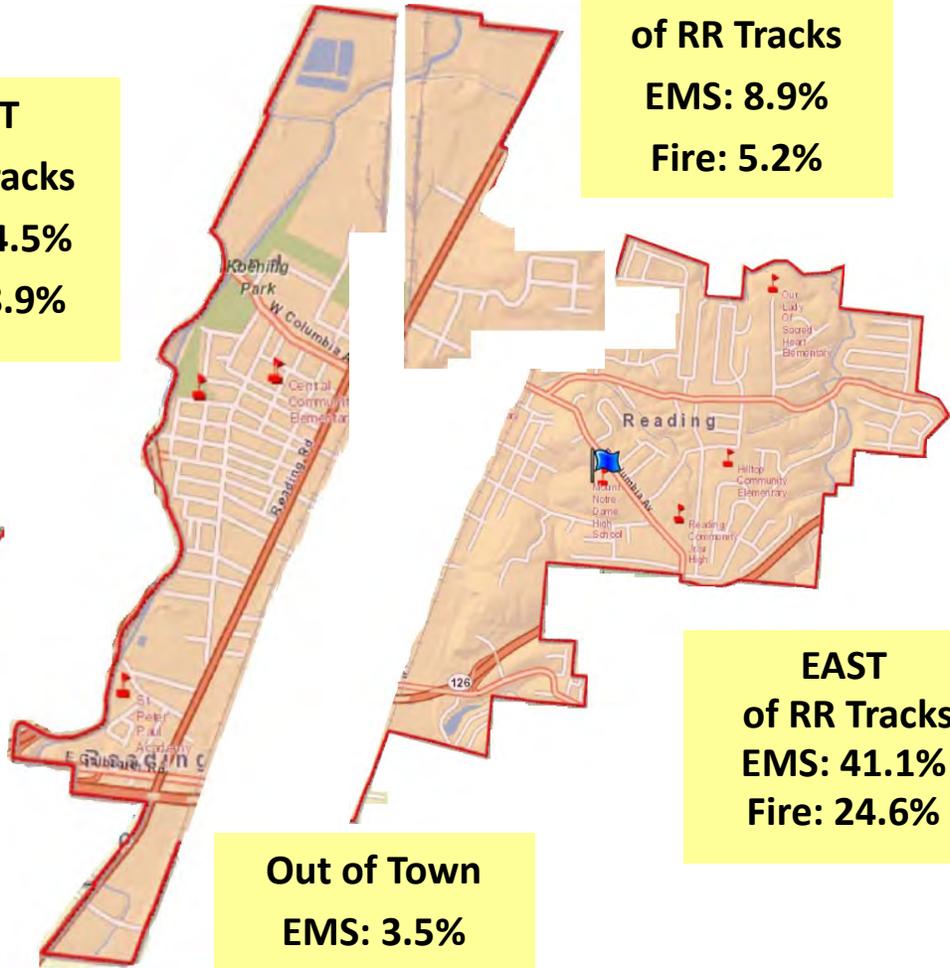
Incident Response Zone

**WEST
of RR Tracks
EMS: 34.5%
Fire: 18.9%**

**NORTH
of RR Tracks
EMS: 8.9%
Fire: 5.2%**



**Arlington Heights
EMS: 11.9%
Fire: 5.9%**



**Out of Town
EMS: 3.5%
Fire: 45.4%**

**EAST
of RR Tracks
EMS: 41.1%
Fire: 24.6%**

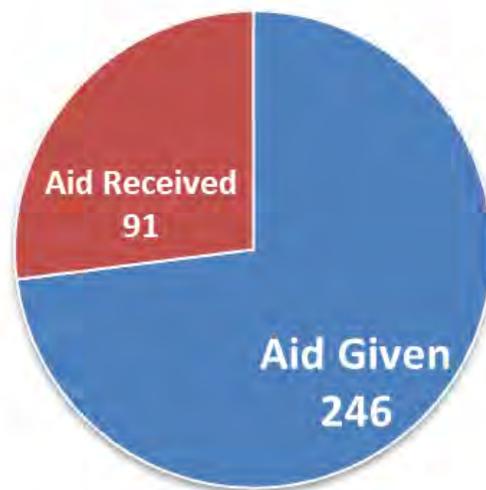


Mutual Aid - EMS



Reading gave mutual aid for EMS 17 times more than it received EMS aid. 45% of the aid given was coded “dispatched and cancelled enroute.”

Mutual Aid - FIRE



59% of the aid given is coded “dispatched and cancelled enroute.” This means a unit is dispatched, but is cancelled prior to arrival.

Fires and Fire Losses by Major Property Use

Property Use	2018			2019		
	# of Fires	Estimated \$ Loss	% of \$ Loss	# of Fires	Estimated \$ Loss	% of \$ Loss
Residential (single/multi, mobile, apartment)	9	123,850	66.9%	17	83,350	82.2%
Non Residential (school, church, business, restaurant, storage)	4	52,750	28.5%	3	5,500	5.4%
Vehicles (auto, truck, bus, construction)	6	8,100	4.4%	7	12,450	12.3%
Outside (brush, grass, rubbish, outside fires with value)	15	250	0.1%	31	0	0%
Other	1	0	0%	2	100	0.1%
Total	35	184,950	100%	35	101,400	100%

Fire Loss and Property Saved



Large Loss Fires			
Address	Dollar Loss	Shift	Alarms
8767 Reading Rd.	\$40,000	1	1
628 Harmes Ave.	\$15,000	1	1
735 Wachendorf Ave.	\$13,000	1	1



Structure fire on Harmes Ave.

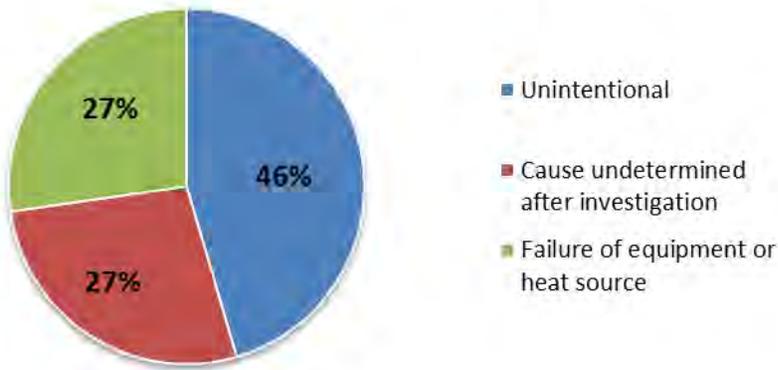
Structure Fires

Area of Origin and Cause of Ignition

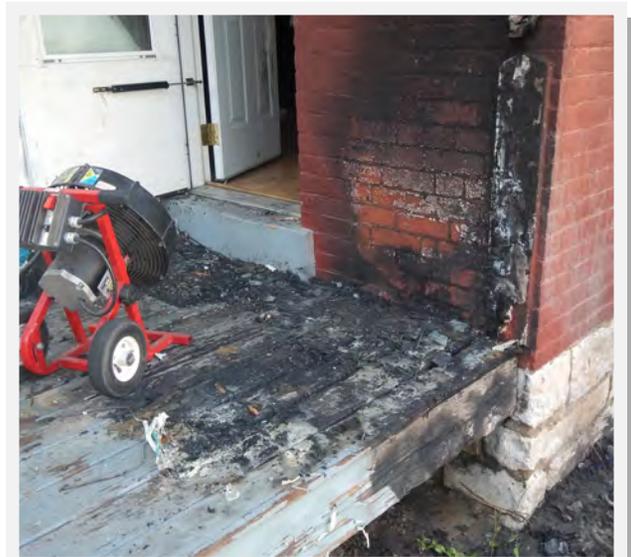
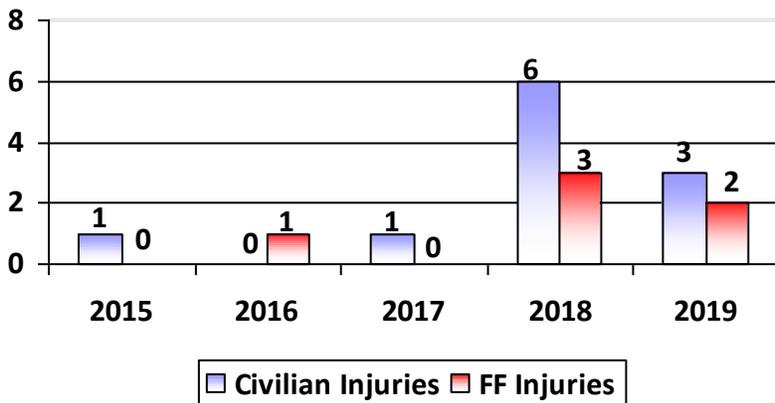
Structure fires originated in the following areas: family room, bedroom, laundry and exterior areas.

Unintentional fires was the greatest cause of ignition for structure fires at 46%.

Summary of Structure Fire Causes

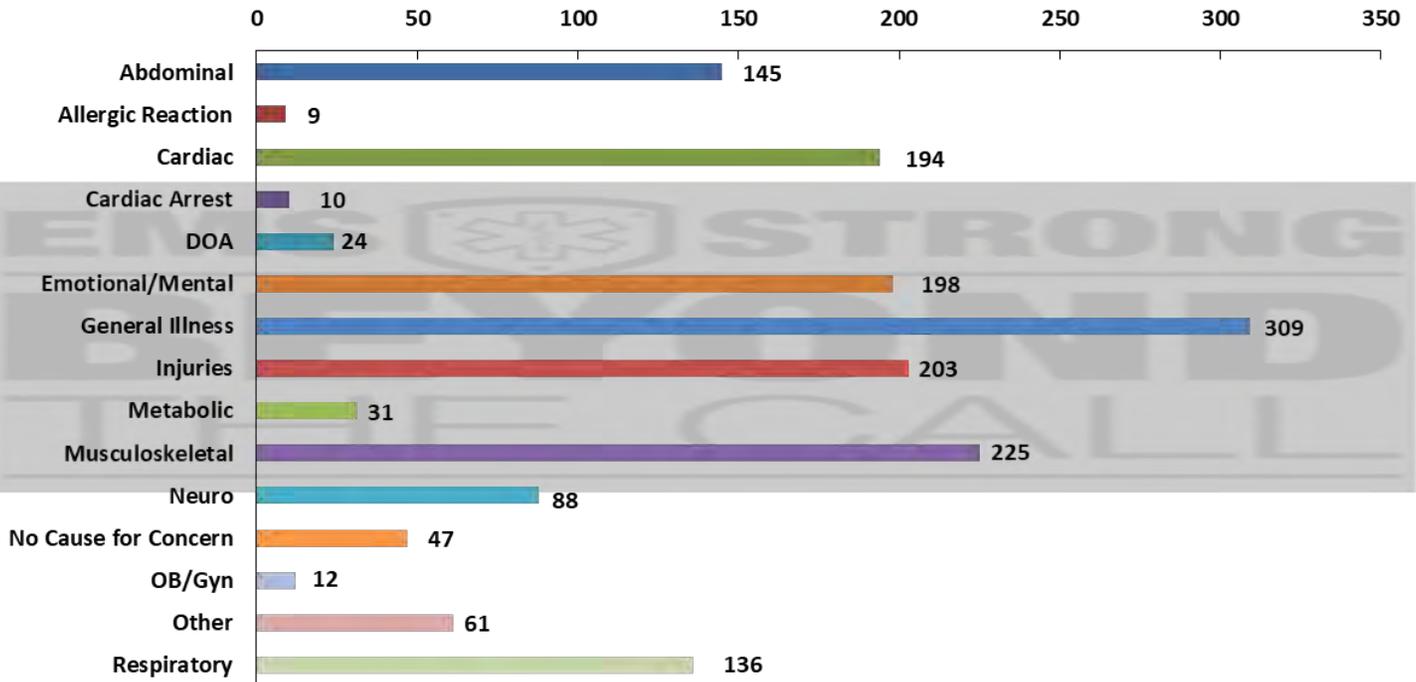


Civilian and Firefighter Injuries



Structure fire on Third St.

Provider Impression

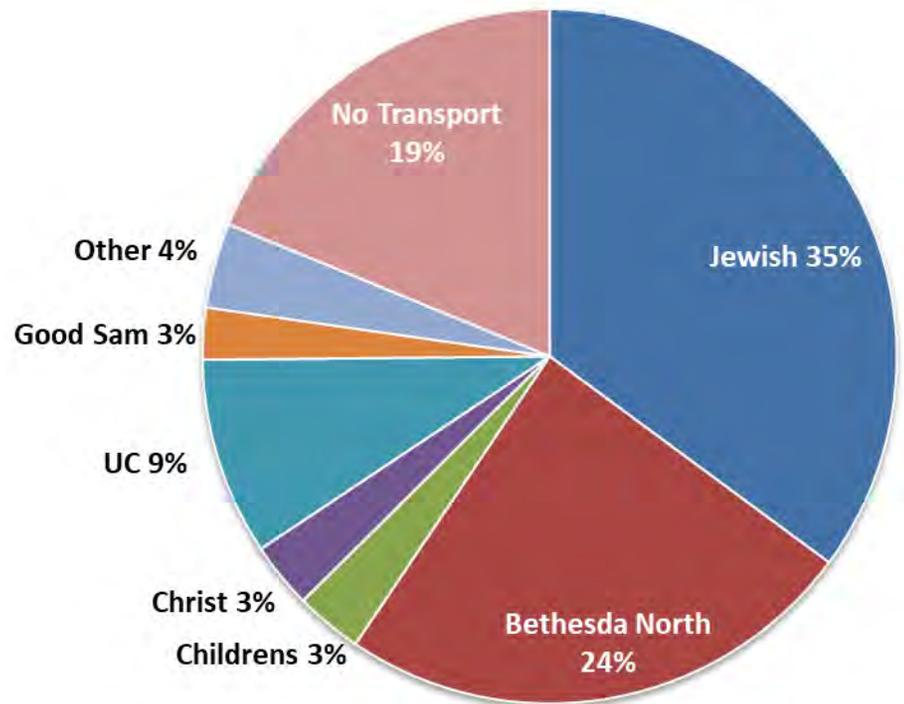


PATIENT AGE GROUP

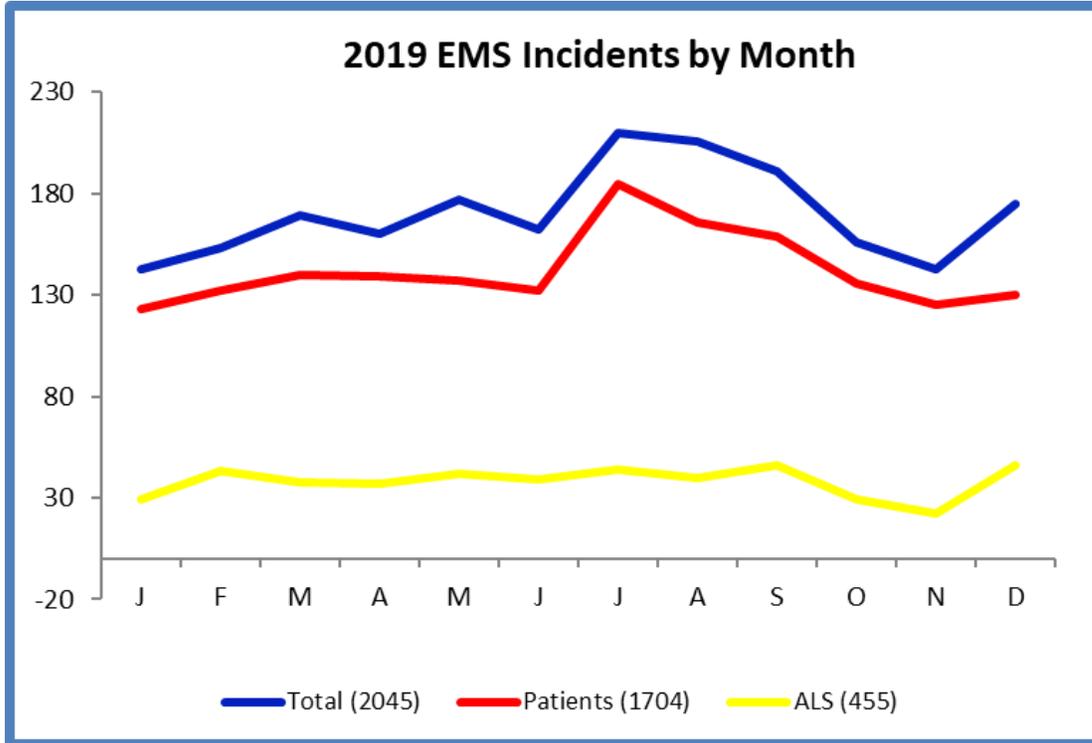
%

0 to 9	3.3%
10 to 19	4.0%
20 to 29	8.2%
30 to 39	13.5%
40 to 49	11.9%
50 to 59	14.6%
60 to 69	17.1%
70 to 79	12.5%
80 to 89	10.8%
90 to 100	3.9%

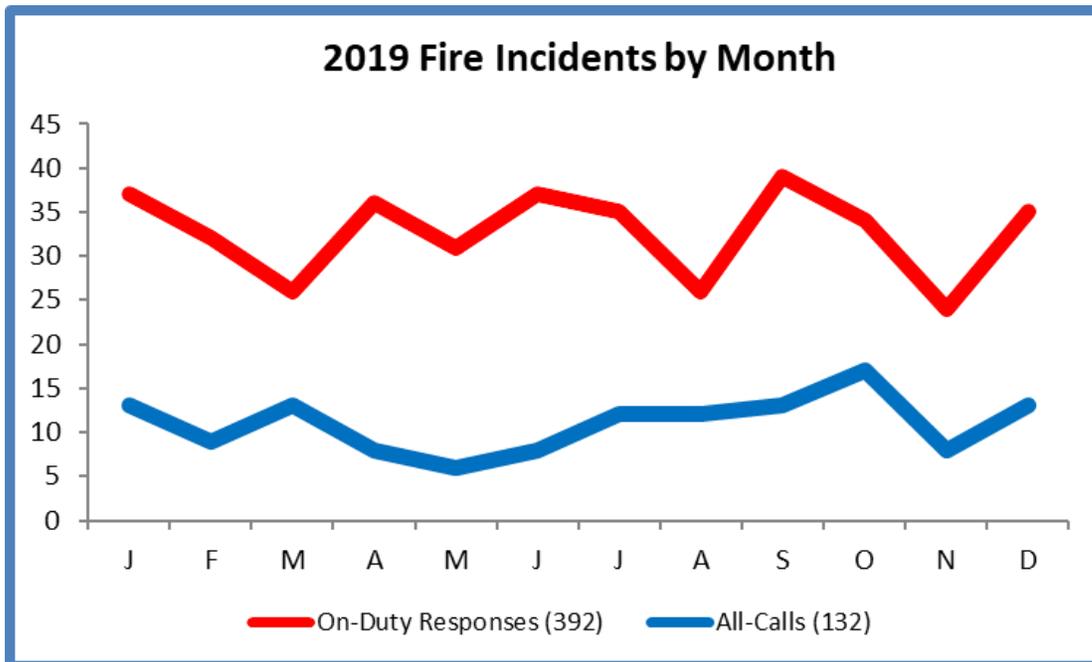
Transport Destinations



Calls by Month

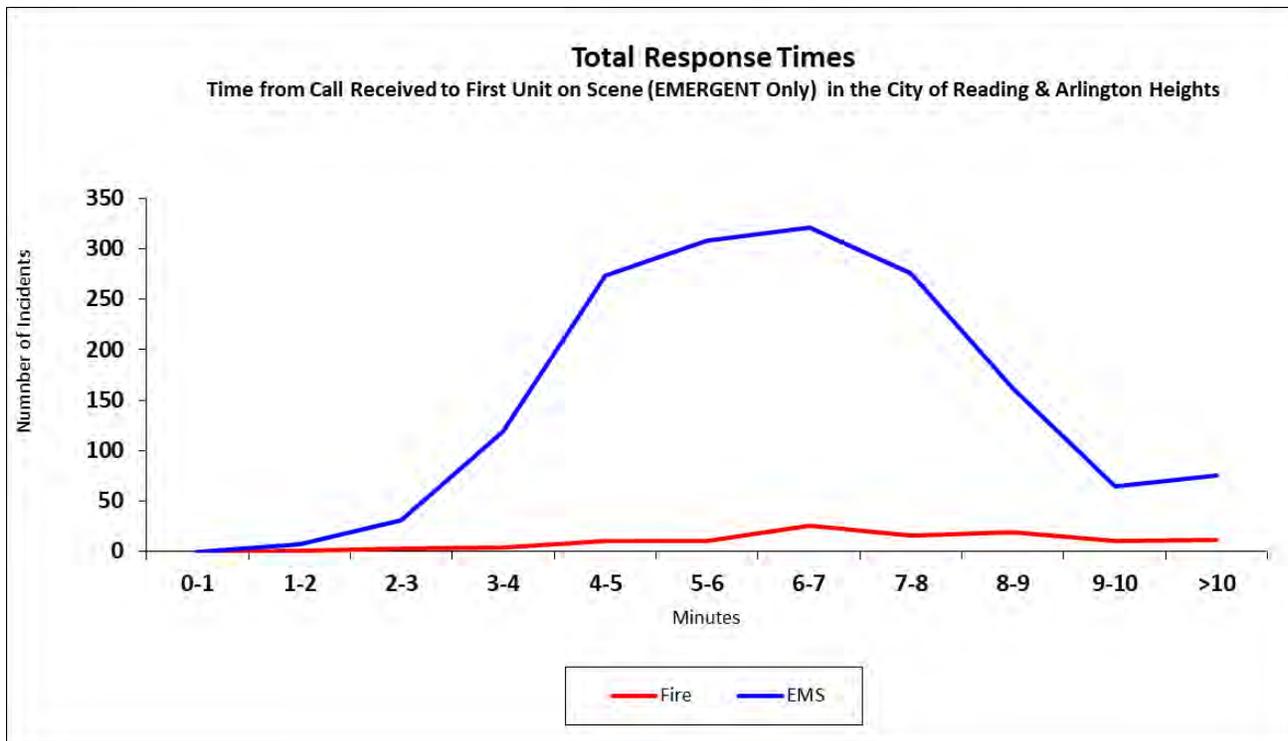


In 2019, the highest number of EMS incidents occurred in July (10.3%) followed by August(10.1%).

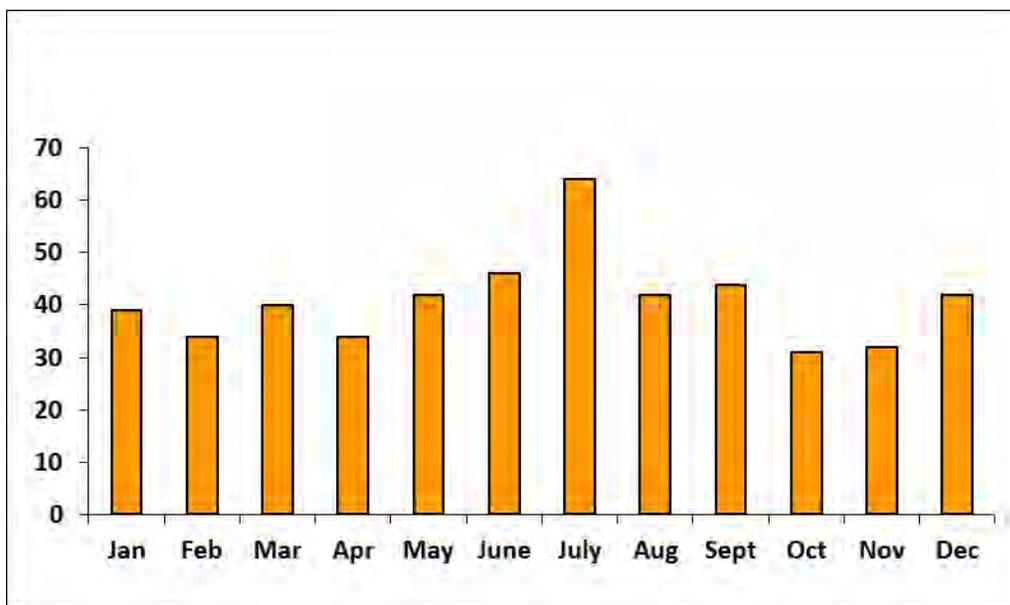


In 2019, the highest number of fire incidents occurred in September

Response Times

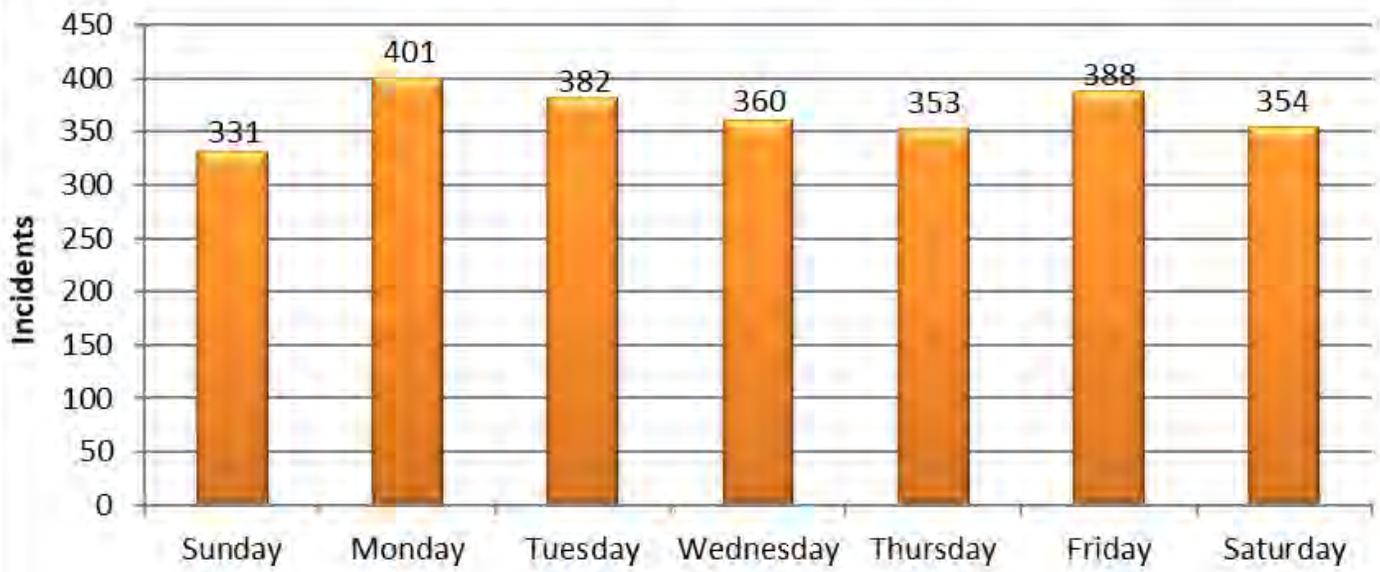


The Reading Fire Department Response Standards specify the minimum criteria needed to effectively and efficiently deliver fire suppression and emergency medical services. The Response Standard was updated in 2018 to 7 minutes and 30 seconds (1:30 for call handling, 2:00 for turnout and 4:00 for travel) for all EMERGENT responses within the response area. **82%** of the EMS responses and **63%** of the fire responses were made within 7 minutes and 30 seconds.

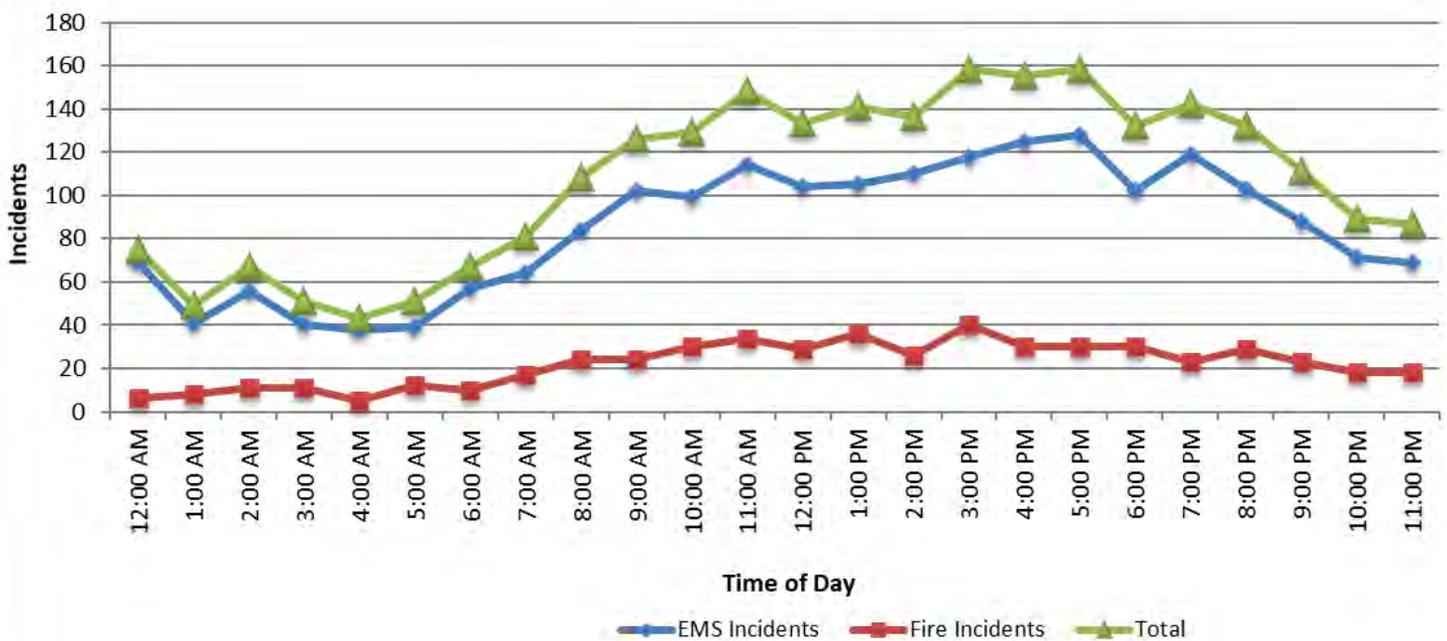


Overlapping incidents are when multiple incidents occur at the same time. This happened **19%** of the time during 2019. 17.6% of those were 2 overlapping incidents and 1.5% were 3 overlapping incidents.

Incidents By Day of Week



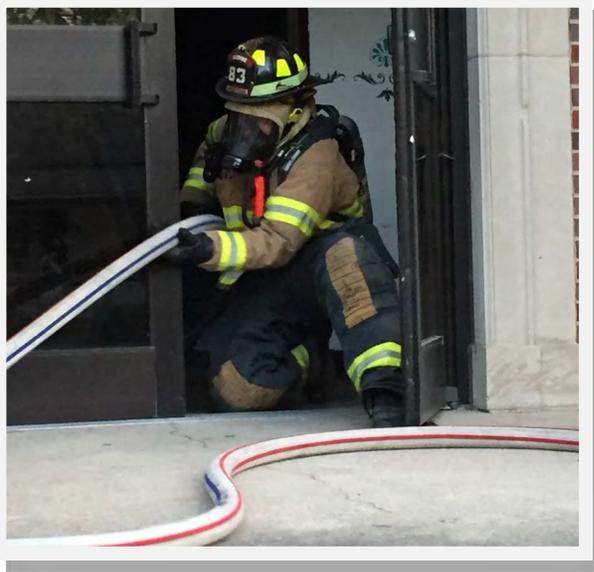
Incidents By Time of Day



Training

Reading Fire Department is committed to providing the citizens of the City of Reading and the Village of Arlington Heights with a highly trained fire and EMS department. Members are sent for specialized training regularly throughout the region.

On a regular basis, our firefighters train with other valley fire departments to maintain familiarity with each other and increase on-scene performance and safety. In 2019, the department’s personnel logged a total of **3268.3** hours of training, a increase of 21.1 percent from the previous year.



Firefighters participate in company level and multi-company training evolutions and exercises. This emphasizes teamwork and coordination during emergency incidents requiring multi unit responses.

Numerous personnel attained various certifications throughout the year:

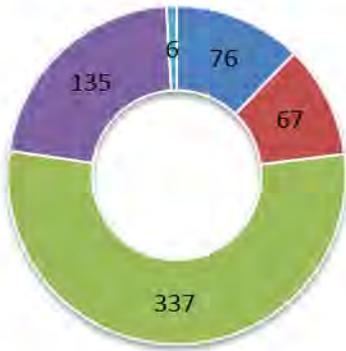
- Paramedic— 3
- EMS Instructor — 1
- Fire Instructor— 1
- Fire Officer III — 2
- Fire Officer IV — 2
- Fire & Life Safety Educator I — 2

2019 TRAINING SUMMARY

Training Sessions Held	457
Member Attendance	1895
Total Hours	3268.3



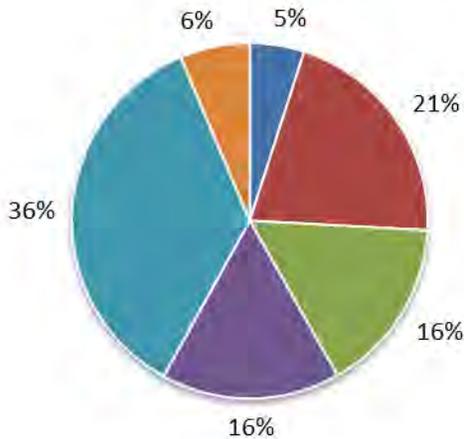
Inspections



- General Inspections
- General Reinspections
- Company Inspections
- Company Reinspections
- Misc Inspections

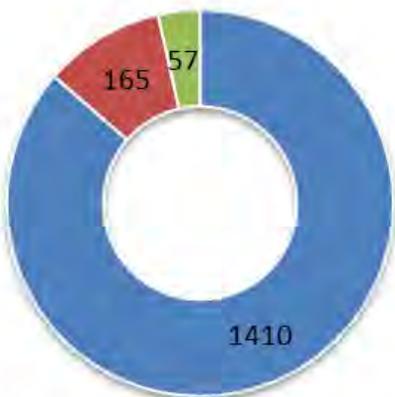


Violations Found



- Precautions Against Fire
- Fire Protection Systems
- Means of Egress
- Building Services
- No Violations Found
- Administration/Other

Public Education Contacts



- Safety Talks/School Visits
- CPR/First Aid Classes
- Station Tours



NEW MEMBERS

David Kimble and Hunter Morgan were hired as career firefighter/paramedics. Jordon Duguid, Brandon Hills, Steven McCarnan, Beatrice Simeliunaite, Chaz White and Joe Placke were hired as a part-time members.

RETIREMENTS



Mike Hardewig retired on June 8, 2019 after 38 years of service.



Paul Naehring retired on October 26, 2019 after 18.5 years of service.

OTHER PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Part-Time members resigning: Alex Wallace, Cory Barney and Anthony Dryden.

2019 Awards/Honors

***FIRE OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***

***CAREER FIREFIGHTER
OF THE YEAR***

***PART-TIME/PAID-ON-CALL
FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR***



**Lieutenant
Ryan Androne**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Dan Kunkel**



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Patrick Benson**