



The City of

Reading

Fire Department

2018 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 Paul Naehring
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 Mike Hardewig
FF/P Bruce Thompson

PART-TIME STAFF

FF/E Anthony Dryden
FF/E Robert Green
FF/E Christopher Poedtke
FF/E Caleb VonLehmden

FF/P Patrick Benson
FF/E Hunter Morgan
FF/E Kelly Stickney
FF/E Brayden Young

FF/E Cory Barney
FF/P David Kimble
FF/E Mark Pitocco
FF/E Paul Ulrich

FF/P Zach Booth
FF/E Alex Wallace

FF/E Erin Chuck

FF/P Patrick Jennings

PAID ON-CALL STAFF

FF/E Rob Singer



Providing You Professional Service Since 1967

Customer Testimonials

"A very big thank you to the Reading Ambulance team for getting me to Jewish Hosp. during my COPD episode..." -Reading Resident

"I am very thankful for the Reading Life Squad. They have saved my life on 2 occasions. They are very professional." -Reading Resident

"Big shout out to our fire chief (or whoever was driving the white fire SUV this morning) for stopping to talk to my three year old and giving him a fire hat while we were out on a walk. My son is obsessed with fire trucks and fire men and you made his day! He wore his hat the entire walk home and just now took it off! Thanks again for making his day!" - Facebook Post

"The Girl Scouts truly appreciate this class...Reading FD has always done a fantastic job. Thank you!" -CPR participant

"I just wanted to let you know what an amazing job Reading Fire Department did...they went above and beyond helping our staff in a very difficult and hectic situation." – Bethesda North nurse

"Just a note to say thank you for the help and care my husband received during his illness. It's a comfort knowing Reading has a great fire department and paramedic team like yours." – Reading Resident

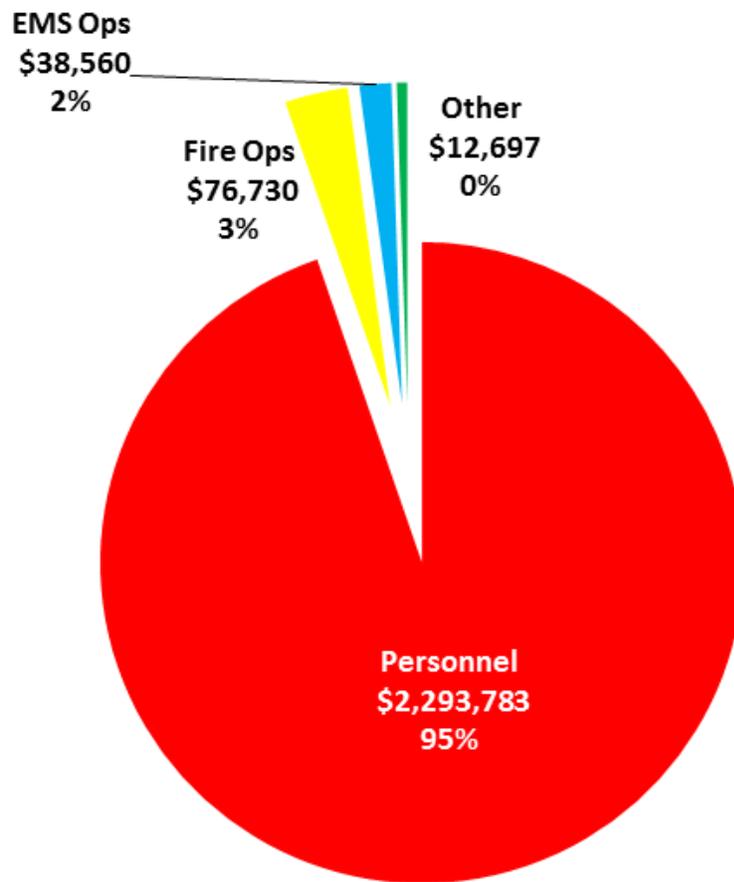
"We want to thank you so much for all of your help!" – Apartment Building Owner



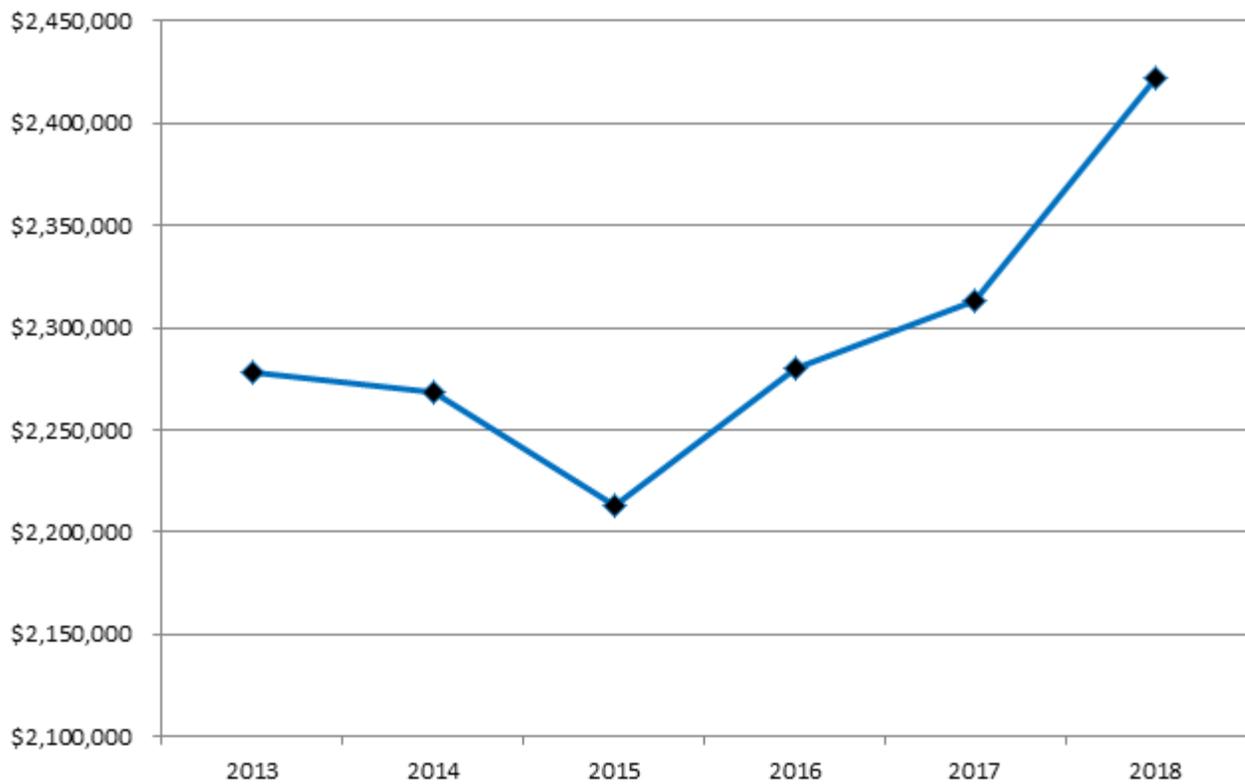
Accomplishments

- ◆ Received \$3,575 grant from the Ohio Department of Public Safety (EMS) for EMS supplies and equipment.
- ◆ Received \$11,836 grant from the BWC for firefighting hoods, gloves and turnout gear extractor.
- ◆ Received \$72,000 grant from FEMA AFG grant for two LP15's.
- ◆ FF/E Rob Singer was awarded the Reading Chamber of Commerce Firefighter of Year.
- ◆ Received grant from BWC for the purchase of a Stryker Power Cot.
- ◆ Purchased new portable radios and charger for L84.
- ◆ Purchased and installed automatic external defibrillators at the pool and Haffey Fieldhouse.
- ◆ Received new high-visibility coats for all members from Reading Fire Department Inc.
- ◆ Participated in the following Community Activities:
 - ◆ Clean-Up Reading
 - ◆ Memorial Day Parade
 - ◆ National Night Out
 - ◆ Reading Band Boosters Fundraiser — Ride on a fire truck to school
 - ◆ Christmas tree lighting

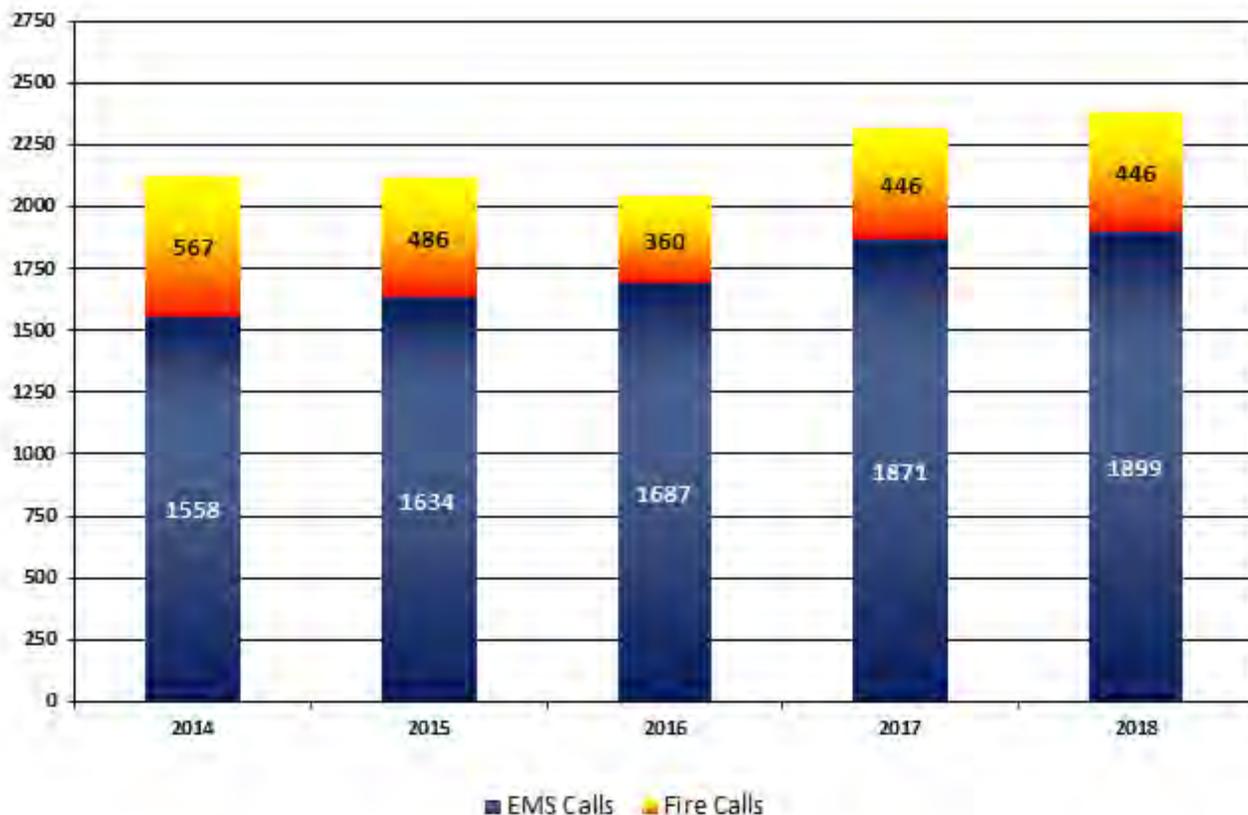




FD Expenses Trendline



Incidents by Year



Call volume **increased 1.2%** from 2017. **2018 was a record setting year for the number of incidents.**

The average number of calls per day in 2018 was **6.4**. The busiest day in 2018 was 15 incidents which occurred on June 27th. There were 4 days with 14 incidents.

When 2018 is compared to 2014, total calls have increased 12.2%. When fire and EMS calls are calculated separately, fire calls decreased 21% and EMS calls increased 22%. The average number of calls for this 5 year period is 2199.



Dryer fire on East Columbia Ave.



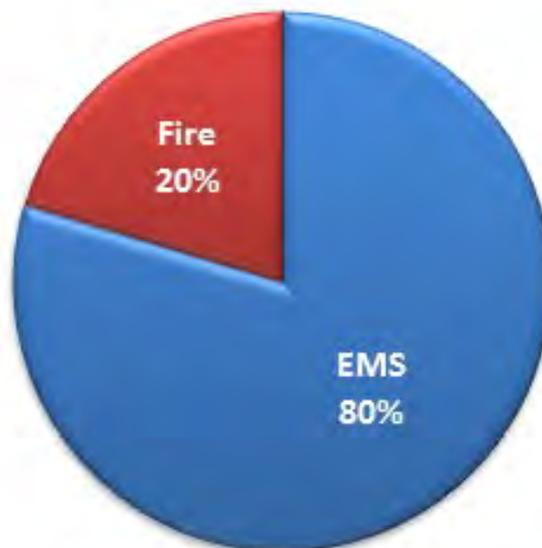
Stove fire on Koehler Ave.

Type of Alarm Summary

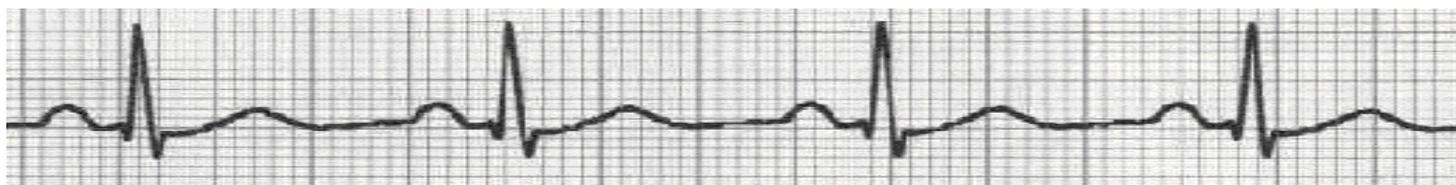
Our Fire Department takes great pride in being a progressive Advanced Life Support organization. Our paramedic unit, engine company, and ambulances all have Advanced Life Support capabilities. Our engine crew sometimes provides first response on EMS incidents to ensure rapid response and optimal care 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, 16 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 Columbia Ave..



Fire on Orchard Knoll Dr..

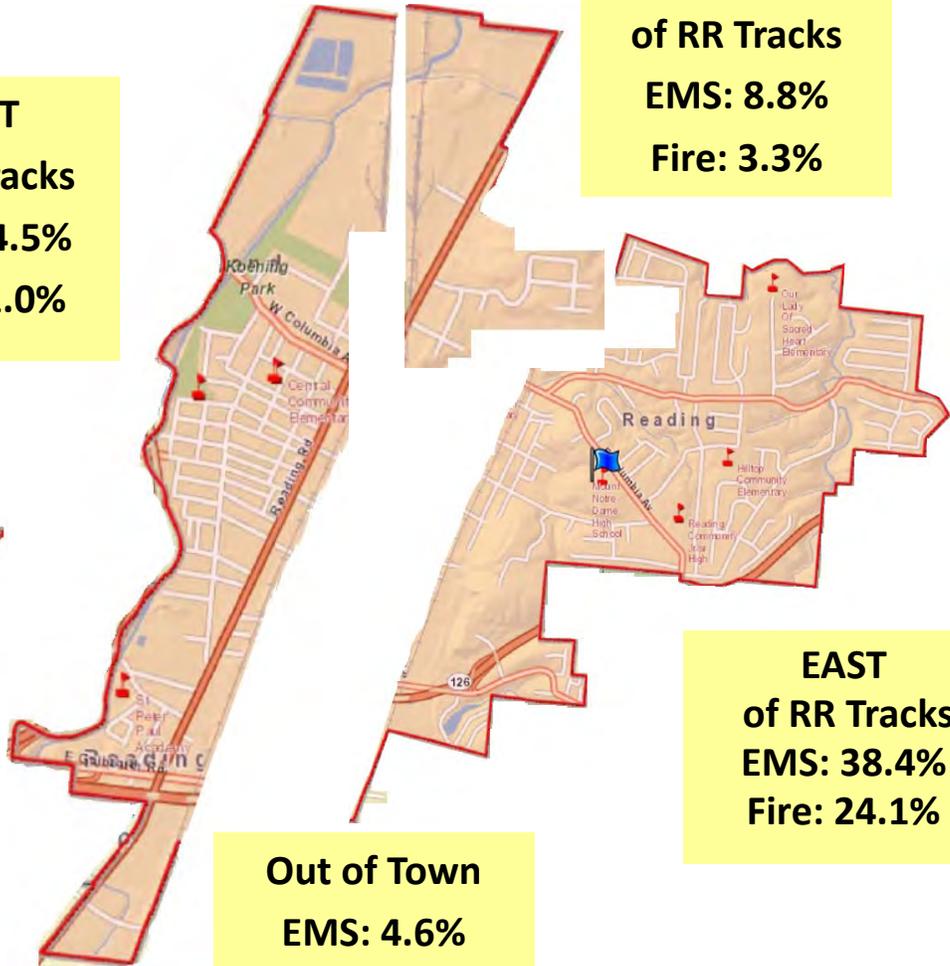
Incident Response Zone

**WEST
of RR Tracks
EMS: 34.5%
Fire: 21.0%**

**NORTH
of RR Tracks
EMS: 8.8%
Fire: 3.3%**



**Arlington Heights
EMS: 13.5%
Fire: 3.9%**



**Out of Town
EMS: 4.6%
Fire: 47.5%**

**EAST
of RR Tracks
EMS: 38.4%
Fire: 24.1%**



Mutual Aid - Fire



1. 59% of the aid given is coded “dispatched and cancelled enroute.” This means a unit is dispatched, but is cancelled prior to arrival.

Mutual Aid - EMS

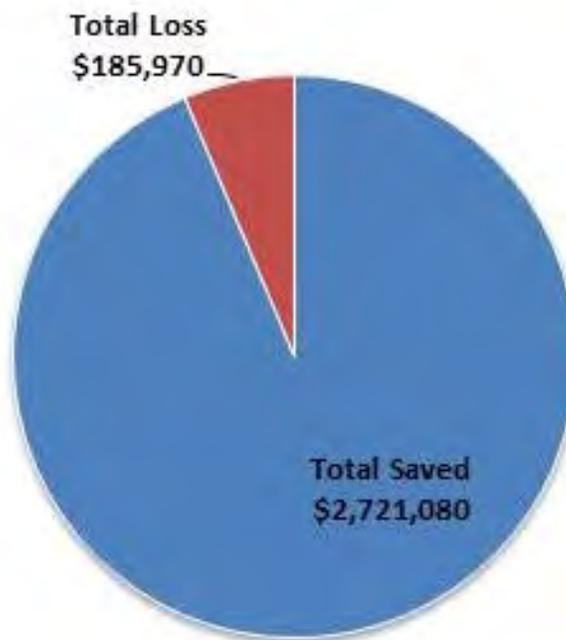


1. Reading gave mutual aid for EMS 32 times more than it received EMS aid. 26% of the aid given was coded “dispatched and cancelled enroute.”
2. S283 (back-up squad) was able to make 90% of its responses in 2018. This was up from 86% in 2017.

Fires and Fire Losses by Major Property Use

Property Use	2017			2018		
	# of Fires	Estimated \$ Loss	% of \$ Loss	# of Fires	Estimated \$ Loss	% of \$ Loss
Residential (single/multi, mobile, apartment)	6	30,800	68.8%	9	123,850	66.9%
Non Residential (school, church, business, restaurant, storage)	1	5,000	11.2%	4	52,750	28.5%
Vehicles (auto, truck, bus, construction)	4	8,200	18.3%	6	8,100	4.4%
Outside (brush, grass, rubbish, outside fires with value)	16	0	0%	15	250	0.1%
Other	2	800	1.8%	1	0	0%
Total	29	44,800	100%	35	184,950	100%

Fire Loss and Property Saved



Large Loss Fires			
Address	Dollar Loss	Shift	Alarms
2424 E Galbraith Rd.	\$85,000	2	1
8501 Reading Rd.	\$50,000	2	1
106 Koehler Ave.	\$33,000	2	1



Structure fire on Koehler Ave.

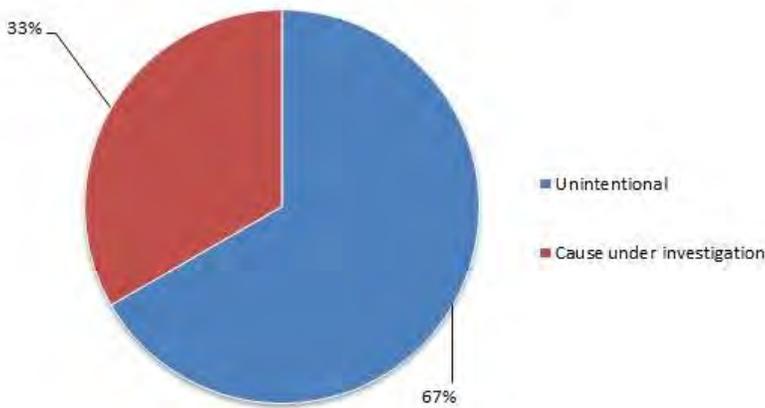
Structure Fires

Area of Origin and Cause of Ignition

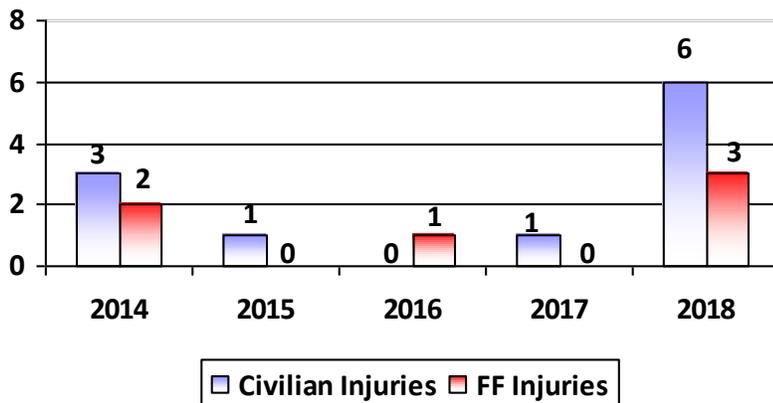
Structure fires originated in the following areas: cooking area, bathroom, laundry area, bathroom and sales area.

Unintentional fires was the greatest cause of ignition for structure fires at 67%.

Summary of Structure Fire Causes



Civilian and Firefighter Injuries

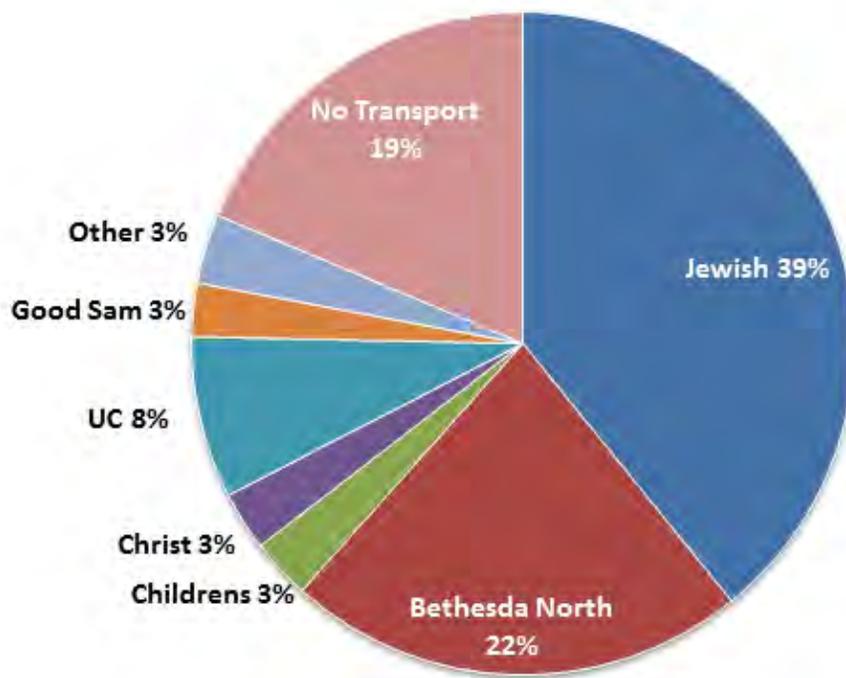


Structure fire on Reading Rd..

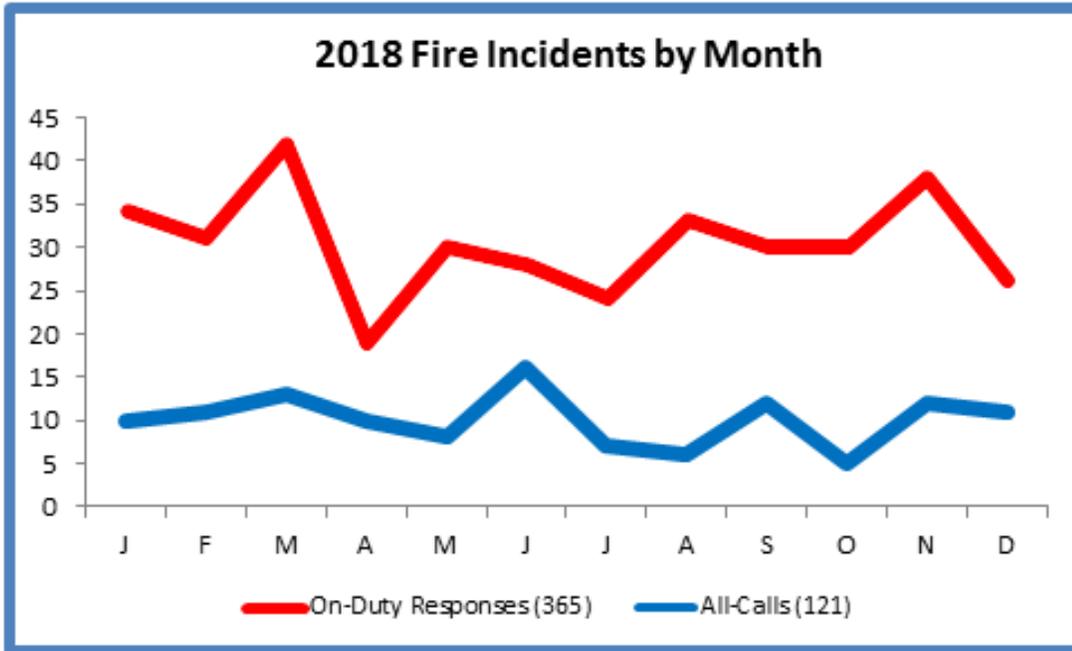


<u>PATIENT AGE GROUP</u>	<u>%</u>
0 to 9	2.0%
10 to 19	5.1%
20 to 29	10.7%
30 to 39	13.3%
40 to 49	12.0%
50 to 59	16.8%
60 to 69	15.6%
70 to 79	11.1%
80 to 89	10.5%
90 to 100	2.8%

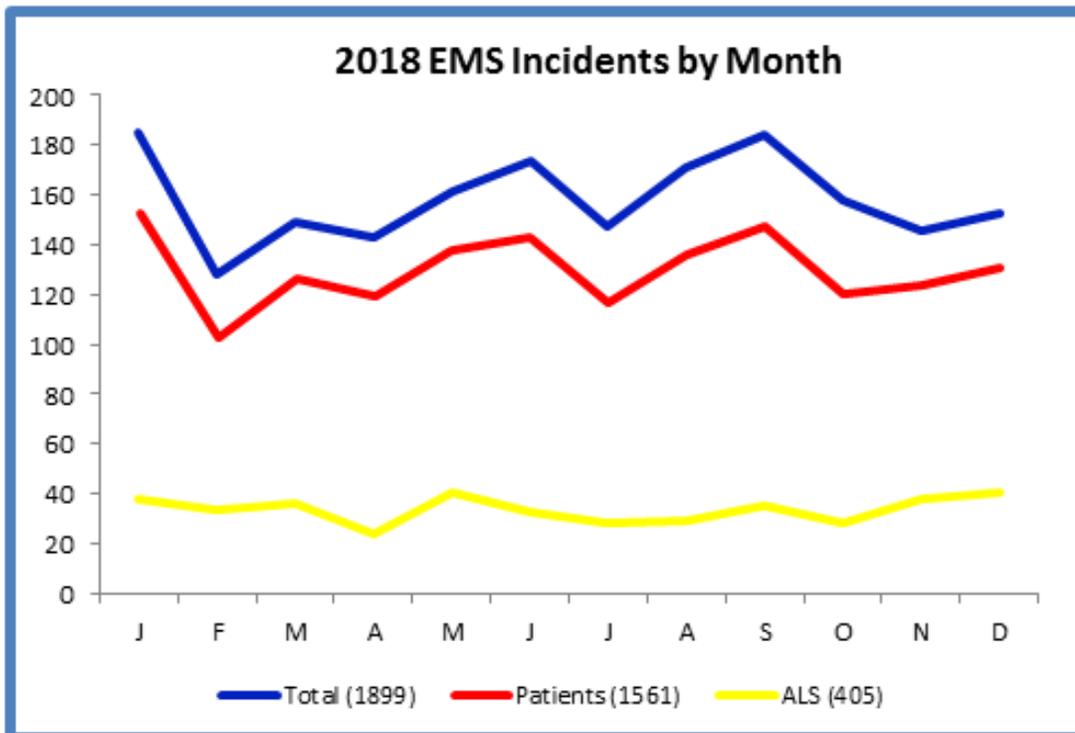
Transport Destinations



Calls by Month

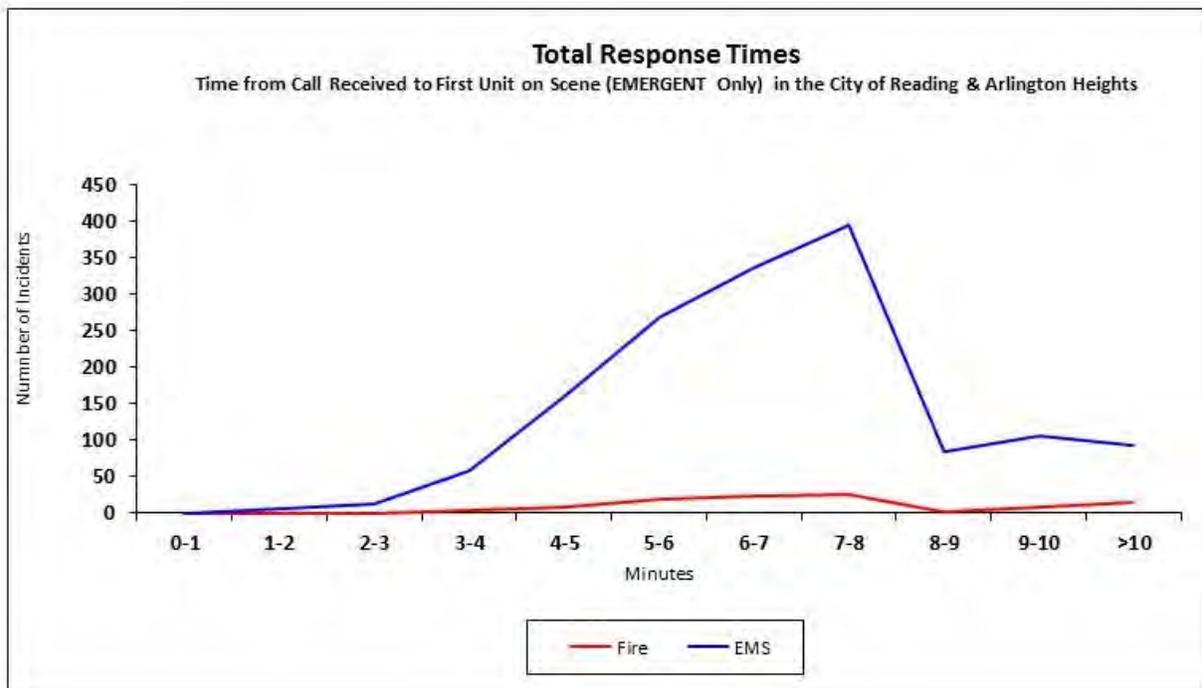


In 2018, the highest number of fire incidents occurred in August.



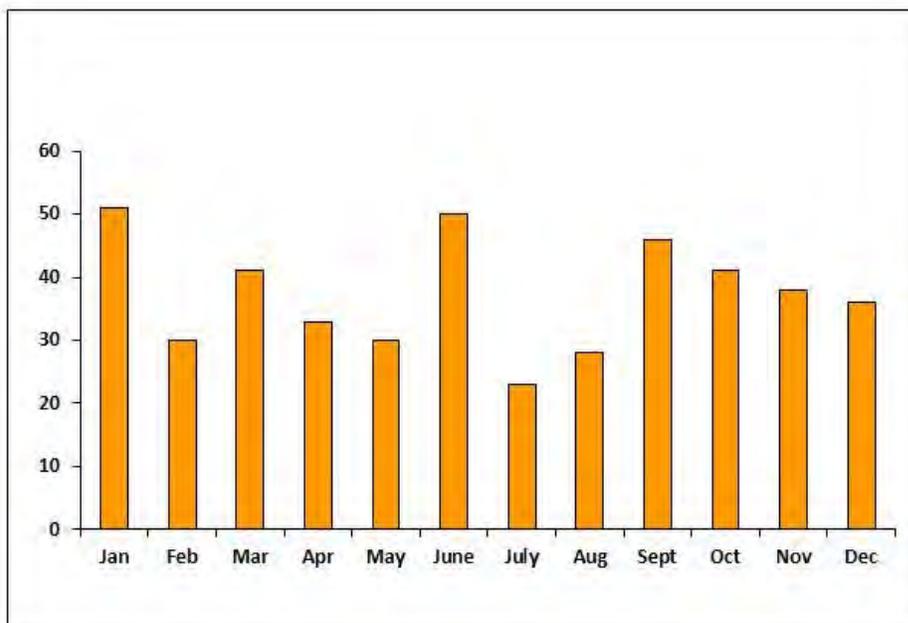
In 2018, the highest number of EMS incidents occurred in January (9.7%) followed by September (9.7%).

Response Times



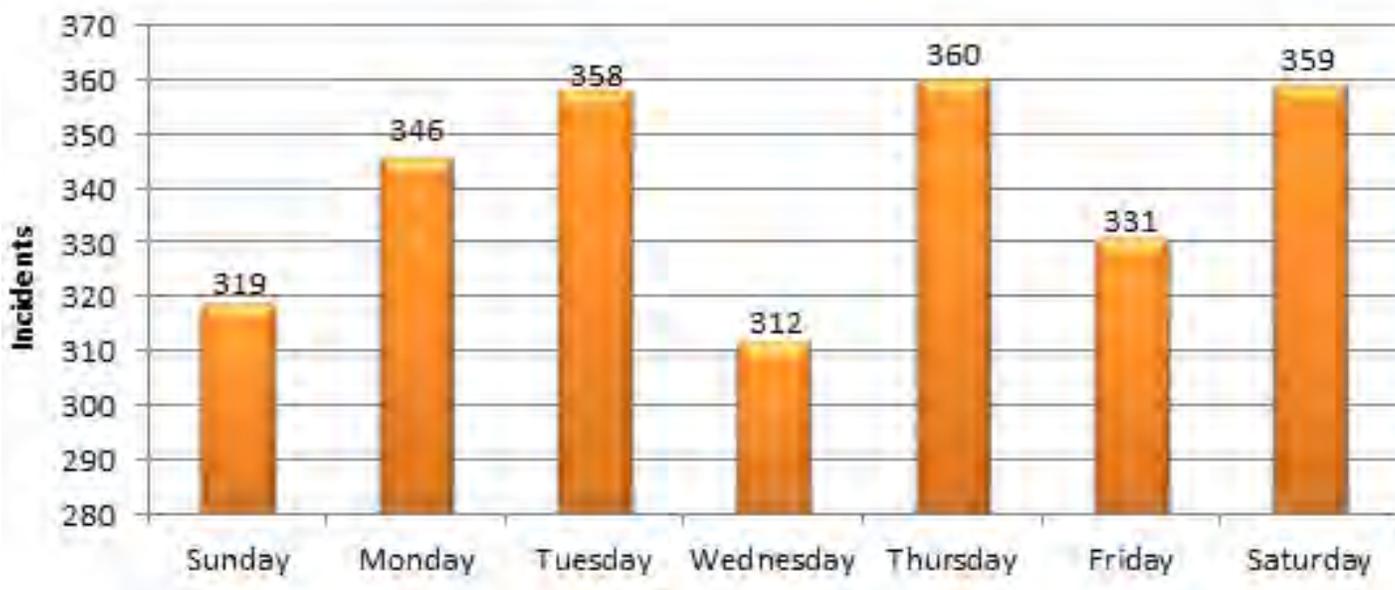
The Reading Fire Department Response Standards specify the minimum criteria needed to effectively and efficiently deliver fire suppression and emergency medical services. The Response Standard was updated in 2018 to 7 minutes and 30 seconds (1:30 for call handling, 2:00 for turnout and 4:00 for travel) for all EMERGENT responses within the response area. **81%** of the EMS responses and **76%** of the fire responses were made within 7 minutes and 30 seconds.

Number of Overlapping Incidents

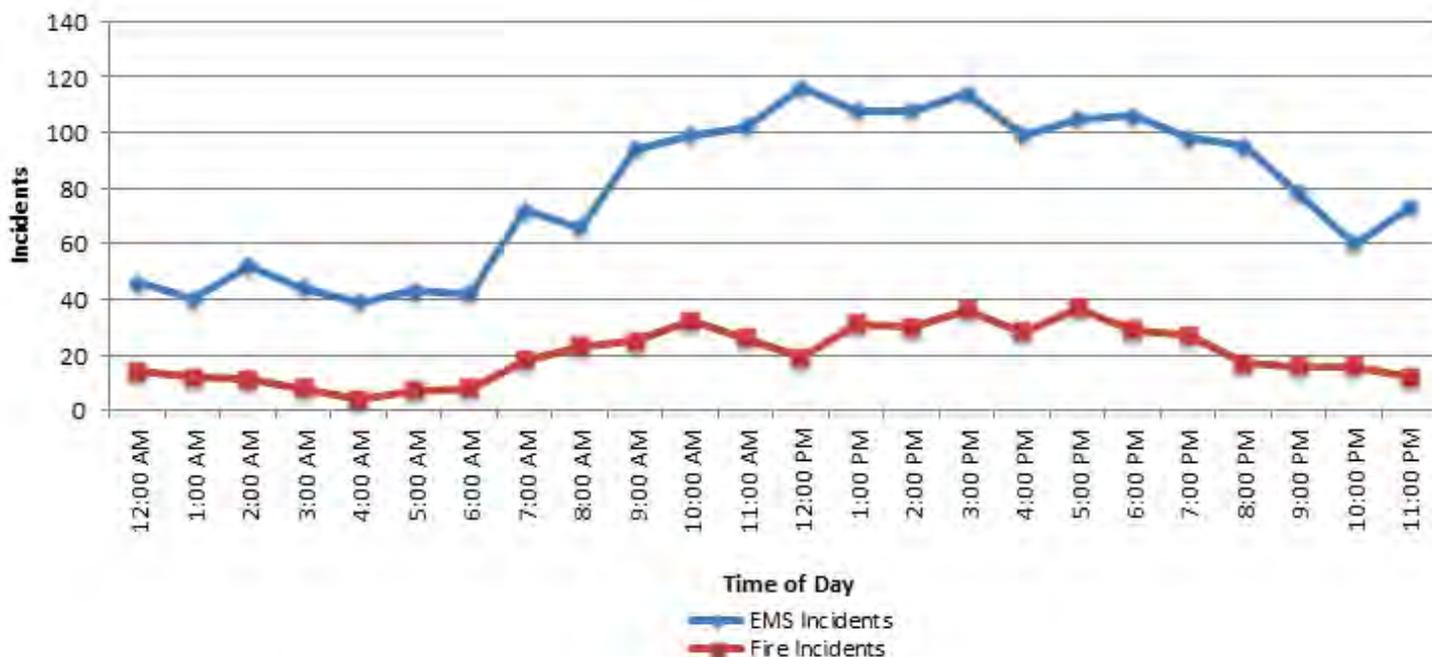


Overlapping incidents are when multiple incidents occur at the same time. This happened **19%** of the time during 2018. 17.2% of those were 2 overlapping incidents, 1.6% were 3 overlapping incidents and .2% were 4 overlapping incidents.

Incidents By Day of Week



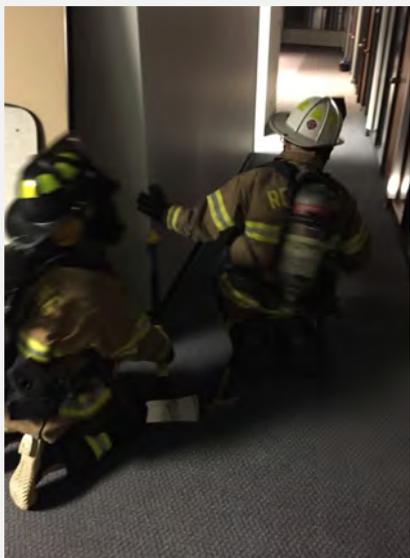
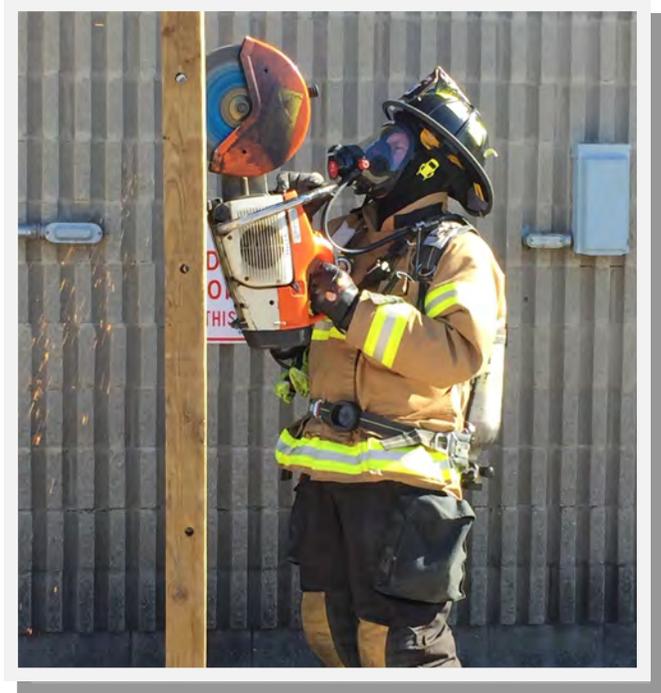
Incidents By Time of Day



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 2018, the department's personnel



logged a total of **2699.5** hours of training, a decrease of 23.6 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 from the State of Ohio:

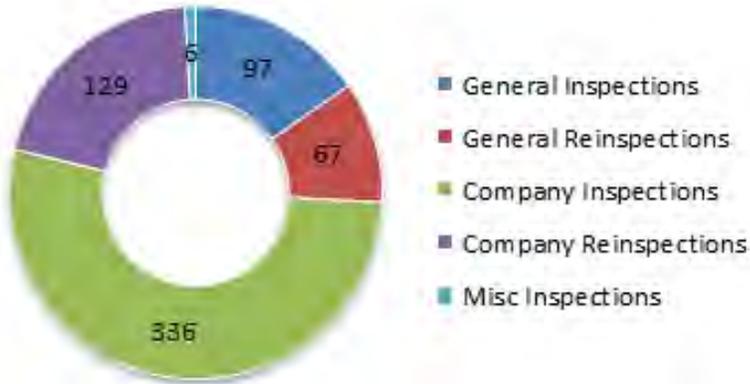
- Paramedic 2
- Firefighter II 1
- Live Fire Instructor 5



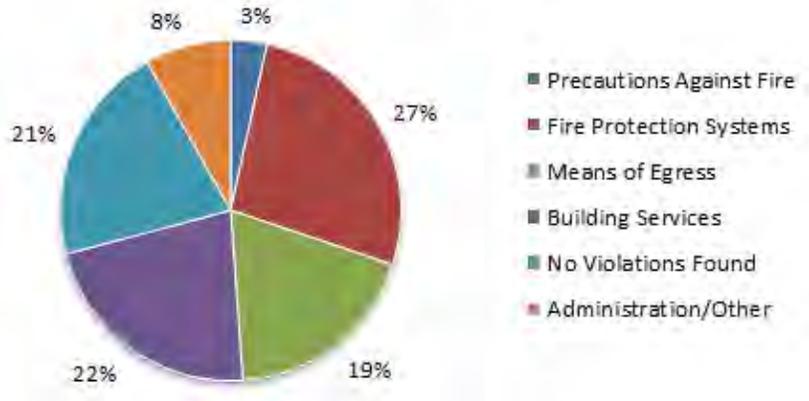
2018 TRAINING SUMMARY

Training Sessions Held	503
Member Attendance	1788
Total Hours	2699.5

Inspections



Violations Found



Public Education Contacts



NEW MEMBERS

Andy Dishon and Dan Wattenhofer were hired as career firefighter/paramedics. Michael Stickney and Brayden Young were hired as a part-time members.

PROMOTIONS

FF/P Todd Burwinkel was promoted to Lieutenant on May 13, 2018.

RETIREMENTS



Lt. Tom Grau retired on May 12, 2018 after 34 years of service.



Ed VonLehmden retired on September 29, 2018 after 18 years of service.

OTHER PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Part-Time members resigning: Eric Halpin, Lindsey Potter, Larry Reynolds, Paid On-Call members resigning : David Davis.

SERVICE AWARDS

FF/P Dan Kunkel —30 years

2018 Awards/Honors

***FIRE OFFICER
OF THE YEAR***



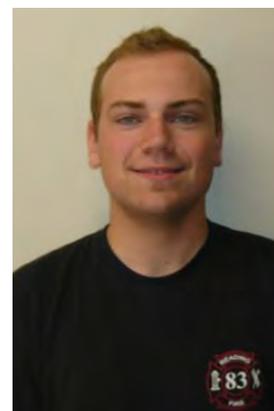
**Assistant Fire Chief
Paul Gallo**

***CAREER FIREFIGHTER
OF THE YEAR***



**Firefighter/Paramedic
Tyler Strole**

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



**Firefighter/EMT
Christopher Poedtke**