

WEST VIRGINIA STATE FIRE COMMISSION

ANNUAL REPORT

FY2013

State Fire Commission Annual Report

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State Fire Commission

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The Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor

Bob Sullivan
Chairman
Carl Sizemore
Vice Chairman
Larry Goodwin
Secretary

STATE FIRE COMMISSION

1207 Quarrier St, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301

Phone: (304) 558-2191
Fax: (304) 558-2537

September 25, 2013

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin Governor
of West Virginia State Capitol Building
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin:

On behalf of the members of the West Virginia State Fire Commission and in accordance with the West Virginia Code, I am pleased to submit to you the Annual Report for FY 2013.

The support you have shown for the entire Fire Service of West Virginia, the State Fire Commission, and the Office of the Fire Marshal is greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Commission if you or your Office should have any inquiries in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Sullivan".

Bob Sullivan
Chairman

BS/lar



**State of West Virginia
Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety**

Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

1207 Quarrier St, 2nd Floor
Charleston, WV 25301
Phone: (304) 558-2191
Fax: (304) 558-2537

September 25, 2013

The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin Governor
of West Virginia State Capitol Building
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Tomblin:

In compliance with the West Virginia Code, Chapter 5, Article 1, Section 20, the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2013 of the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office is hereby submitted for your review.

This report is a representative, but by no means complete, look at the myriad of services provided to West Virginia's citizens by the dedicated personnel of the West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office.

Since 1909, the State Fire Marshal's Office has consistently increased its level of public service to the State of West Virginia through emergency response, code inspection, licensing and regulatory enforcement, public fire education, fire investigation, and many other duties.

This report is in part also a reflection of the efforts of West Virginia's fire departments and the fire service organizations that represent full-time career, volunteer and part-paid departments. It should not be forgotten that on a daily basis, these brave men and women are ready to give their lives protecting their communities from fire and other emergency incidents.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony Carrico".

Anthony Carrico
Acting West Virginia State Fire Marshal
AWC/lar

State Fire Commission

Mission Statement

To provide, through leadership, the best possible fire prevention and life safety for our citizens by legislation, education, training, standards, and resource allocation.

COMMISSION REPRESENTATION

- 3 members.....full-time paid firefighters
- 1 member.....full-time paid fire chiefs
- 3 members.....volunteer firefighters
- 2 members.....volunteer fire chiefs
- 2 members.....business & industry
- 1 member.....fire insurance industry
- 1 member.....registered architects

STANDING COMMITTEES

Training

Fire Marshal Operations

Legislative, Codes and Regulations

Fire Department Services

Disciplinary

FIRE COMMISSION OFFICERS

CHAIRMAN: Bob Sullivan
6007 US Rt. 60 East, Suite 109
Barboursville, WV 25504
Represents: Insurance
Term Expires: 6/30/14

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Carl E. Sizemore
323 Price Road
Mineral Wells, WV 26150
Represents: Paid Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/13

SECRETARY: Larry Goodwin
700 27th St.
Vienna, WV 26105
Represents: Volunteer Firefighters
Term Expires: 6/30/15

FIRE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Michael Butcher

1704 25th Street

Parkersburg, WV 26101

Represents: *Business & Industry*

Term Expires: 6/30/12

Gary Bonnett

PO Box 7

Rock Cave, WV

Represents: *Volunteer Fire Chiefs*

Term Expired: 6/30/16

Larry Goodwin

700 27th Street

Vienna, WV 26105

Represents: *Volunteer Firefighters*

Term Expires: 6/30/15

Grant Gunnoe

20 Beech Hill Drive

Winfield, WV 25213

Represents: *Paid Firefighters*

Term Expires: 6/30/14

Thomas Keefer

54 Riverdale Estates

Winfield, WV 25213

Represents: *Business & Industry*

Term Expires: 6/30/16

Robert Miller

9940 Union Ridge Road

Glenwood, WV 25520-9630

Represents: *Volunteer Fire Chiefs*

Term Expires: 6/30/13

FIRE COMMISSION MEMBERS (Continued)

Doug Mongold
140 Rohrbaugh Lane
Moorefield, WV 26836
Represents: *Volunteer Firefighters*
Term Expires: 6/30/13

Rick Scott
PO Box 22
Lumberport, WV 26386
Represents: *Paid Fire Chiefs*
Term Expires: 6/30/15

Ted A. Shriver
1051 Shawnee Trail
Elkview, WV 25071
Represents: *Registered Architects*
Term Expires: 6/30/12

Virgil "Peanut" White
PO Box 18047
South Charleston, WV 25303
Represents: *Professional Firefighters*
Term Expires: 6/30/12

Bob Sullivan
6007 US Rt. 60 East, Suite 109
Barboursville, WV 25504
Represents: *Insurance*
Term Expires: 6/30/14

John Holstein
316 1st Street West
Madison, WV 25130
Represents: *Volunteer Firefighters*
Term Expires: 6/30/17

FIRE COMMISSION ACTIVITY

FY 2013

- Recognized a number of firefighters across the state for lifesaving actions.
- Several Fire Commission members assisted with the annual Junior Firefighter Camp at WVU Fire Service Extension.
- Fire Commissioners presented the West Virginia Fire Commission's report at the Mid-Atlantic Conference.
- Approved over 300 applications for Fire Officer Equivalency.
- Resolved several fire department boundary disputes.
- Recertified 99 fire departments.
- Completed work on Legislative Rules Volunteer Firefighter's Training Rule 87CSR8, Building Code 87CSR4, and Procedural Rule Administrative Procedures 87CSR9.
- Conducted two Administrative Hearings for licensure issues.
- Held 12 meetings both regular and special.

State Fire Marshal's Office

Administration Division

STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Vacant
CHIEF DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Anthony W. Carrico (Acting State Fire Marshal)
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ASSISTANT III	Melissa Hapney
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ASSISTANT I	Leslie Racine

Regulatory and Licensing Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:	Vacant
SECRETARY:	Tanya Bradshaw
OFFICE ASSISTANTS:	Valerie J. Lacy Shenandoah Gore

Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:

Clarence J. Leake

ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS:

Douglas E. Gregory

Allan Casto

Rudy L. Raynes

Mike Trabert

Charles Vannatter

Norm Fetterman

John Oliver

Bobby Light

Terry Rinehart

Robert Tribbie

Bryan Casto

Timothy W. Mouse

Mike Barrick

George Harms

Brian Whittington

Jeff Armentrout

Nathan Bushek

Nevin Kilmer

Bradley Scott

Mark Stewart

PLANS REVIEWER:

Clyde Cummings

Lara Neal

SECRETARY:

Debora Jean Hudson

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Monica J. Ingram

LaTara Seagraves

Fire Investigation Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:

Eugene R. Cook

ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS:

Mark R. Lambert

Robert S. Rodes, II

Ronald Ayersman

Patrick J. Barker

Bradley Hartley

Timothy Chastain

Jason Baltic

Josh Amos

Zach Bailey

Shawn Alderman

Ryan McFarland

SECRETARY:

Cathy Green

Public Education Division

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL:

Carol E. Nolte

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Heather Bostic

Fire Department Services Division

SUPERVISOR II:

Timothy S. Provaznik

OFFICE ASSISTANTS:

Alice Carpenter

Leanna Workman

Regulatory & Licensing Division Annual Report FY 2013

Vacant

Deputy State Fire Marshal

Regulatory & Licensing Division

STAFF

Division Director:	Vacant, DSFM
Secretary:	Tanya Bradshaw
Office Assistants:	Debbie Lucas until Oct 2012 Valerie Lacy Shenandoah Gore since March 2013

DIVISION OBJECTIVE

The Regulatory & Licensing Division aims to provide a better and safer standard of living for the citizens of West Virginia by ensuring only qualified applicants obtain licensure, by validating and referring customer complaints, by checking for compliance with all applicable codes and regulations and by providing citizens with information on State Laws and Regulations.

INTRODUCTION

The Regulatory & Licensing Division enforces and interprets laws, rules and regulations and issues licenses relating to the electrical industry, the explosive industry, the fireworks industry, Building Code Officials, Electrical Inspectors, Home Inspectors, and Fire Protection Workers.

As charged in State Code, the Licensing & Regulatory Division writes and updates in-house testing for 8 different classifications of Electrician exams as well as Indoor and Outdoor Pyrotechnician exams.

2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Fireworks:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Fireworks Display	302	\$ 16,999.00
Pyrotechnic Operator Licenses	356	\$ 7,186.00
TOTAL		\$24,185.00

(Up 20 % from previous year)

Explosives:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Manufacturing Permit	7	\$ 7,000.00
Black Powder Permit	7	\$ 350.00
Permit to Sell	18	\$ 9,280.00
Explosive Magazines	727	\$ 73,160.00
Individual Licenses	1, 265	\$ 73,509.00
TOTAL		\$ 163,299.00

(Up 10 % from previous year)

Inspectors, Code Officials & Fire Protection Workers:

Type of Permit	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Home Inspectors	146	\$ 15,300.00
Electrical Inspector	43	\$ 4,200.00
Building Code Officials	96	\$ 5,400.00
Fire Protection Workers	519	\$ 42,375.00
TOTAL		\$ 67,275.00

(down 15 % from previous year)

Electricians:

Type of License	Number Issued	Total Fees Collected
Issued	16,400	\$ 839,362.00
TOTAL		\$ 839,362.00

(Up 6 % from previous year)

Test Fees:

<u>Applicants</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Total Fees Collected</u>
Issued	2,138	\$ 35,150.00
TOTAL		\$ 35,150.00

(down 6 % from previous year)

Total Special Revenue Collected FY 13 - \$ 1,129,271.00

(up 5 % from previous year)

Received 24 valid complaints

Tested 2,213 Applicants for various licenses and certifications at 28 test sites and 55 test dates statewide

Fire Safety Inspection/

**Plans Review Division
Annual Report FY 2013**

*Clarence J. Leake
Deputy State Fire Marshal*

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION/PLANS REVIEW DIVISION

STAFF

Division Director: Clarence J. Leake, DSFM

Assistant State Fire Marshals:

Douglas E. Gregory

Allan Casto

Rudy L. Raynes

Mike Trabert

Charles Vannatter

Norm Fetterman

John Oliver

Bobby Light

Terry Rinehart

Robert Tribbie

Bryan Casto

Timothy W. Mouse

Mike Barrick

George Harms

Brian Whittington

Jeff Armentrout

Nathan Bushek

Nevin Kilmer

Bradley Scott

Mark Stewart

PLANS REVIEWER:

Clyde Cummings

Lara Neal

SECRETARY:

Debora Jean Hudson

OFFICE ASSISTANT:

Monica J. Ingram

LaTara Seagraves

I. INTRODUCTION

The Fire Safety Inspection/Plans Review Division staff consists of one (1) Field Deputy Fire Marshal, three (3) Field Supervisors, seventeen (17) Assistant Fire Marshals, two (2) Fire Safety Plans Reviewers, one (1) Divisional Secretary and two (2) Office Assistants. The Assistant Fire Marshals are assigned to a designated geographical territory ranging from three (3) to six (6) counties. Three (3) Divisional personnel also assist with the review of plans spending eight (8) days each in the Charleston Office per month in addition to their inspection duties. Two divisional personnel also serve double duty as they are also assigned a geographical to investigate fires in addition to their inspection duties. All Assistant Fire Marshals serve as liaison for all Fire Marshal services with the local fire departments and the general public.

The division's duties and responsibilities include:

- Inspection of all types of occupancies except one and two family dwellings.
- Issue citations for fire code violations.
- Assists the Licensing & Regulatory Division in the enforcement of the licensing programs, electrician, fire protection worker, fireworks, etc.
- Response to hazardous material incidents. Several members are also members of the Regional Response Teams.
- Enforcement of fireworks regulations; monitoring of display sites, investigation of complaints, seizure of illegal fireworks.
- Enforcement of blasting regulations and inspection of explosives magazines.
- Enforcement of forest fire burning laws
- Regulation of aboveground flammable liquid storage tanks.
- Conduct fire safety training educational seminars and public fire education.
- Provide assistance to the Fire/Arson & Explosives Division and other law enforcement agencies.
- Assist federal government in the implementation of the Federal Hotel/Motel Fire Safety Act.

- Response to disasters
- Administers licensing tests
- Administers the Certified Fire Inspector Program for NFPA
- Conduct fire department evaluation

This fiscal year, four thousand two hundred ninety-eight (4,298) fire safety inspections, consultations, and complaints were conducted by the division. This is an increase from the previous year. Inspections continue to be prioritized and limited to certain occupancies.

In September 2012 three agency personnel assigned to Fire Department Services Assistant Fire Marshals were transferred to this Division. Training these individuals will obviously require many hours before they will have the experience to conduct inspections without assistance.

In addition to fire safety inspections, a significant number of man-hours were expended conducting fire safety training and educational programs, complaint investigations, assisting the fire investigation division and department training. Additional educational programs include: in-service training to county school maintenance and educational staffs, presentations to the West Virginia Landlords Association, Department of Health and Human Services social workers, West Virginia Advocate employees day care and Residential Board & Care providers and the West Virginia Hospital Engineers Association.

Professional development of our divisional staff continues to be a high priority. Our focus on technology will continue to simplify our business processes, making our services more accessible to our customers. Our divisional personnel are constantly striving to improve their skills and knowledge by attending advanced educational programs. This fiscal year a total of three thousand three hundred fifty-one (3,351) hours was spent on training.

Twenty-two (22) citations were issued this past fiscal year for various fire code violations, ranging from locked exits, illegal storage of fireworks to illegal/improper explosives/blasting. One of our most high profile cases of the enforcement of blasting regulations occurred with the demolition of the Nitro-St. Albans Bridge.

The Plans Review Section dedicates a significant amount of time and research to telephone calls and walk-in consultations regarding code interpretations. These direct contacts assist designers and owners with proper code requirements during the early development of the project under consideration. These contacts are not a formal review of plans; however, this procedure has proven to eliminate costly and time-consuming changes during the design and construction phase of the project.

This section accomplishes a formal review of the plans when construction documents are submitted. This is an in-depth review of all architectural and mechanical plans for code compliance. Specialized systems such as fire alarms, automatic sprinkler systems, hood suppression and smoke management systems are reviewed at the time of submittal of the construction documents.

This fiscal year one thousand five hundred seventy-six (1,576) plans were reviewed. This is an increase over the previous year. Of these plans one hundred thirty-four (134) were projects that exceeded one million dollars. In the past five years we have reviewed and provided construction inspections for occupancy for over five billion dollars of construction. In an effort to become more efficient during the review, construction and final inspection for occupancy stages, on large projects both the reviewer and area fire marshal will conduct both the review process and inspection stages until the building is occupied.

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION DIVISION

LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS 2009 - 2013

OCCUPANCY	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
EDUCATIONAL	3609	2626	1509	1708
ASSEMBLY	323	296	366	369
HEALTH CARE	537	469	433	461
DETENTION	127	130	51	38
RESIDENTIAL	626	586	437	422

MERCANTILE	207	159	225	253
BUSINESS	737	818	795	808
INDUSTRIAL	50	43	51	79
STORAGE	62	57	84	41
HAZMAT	0	1	1	3
MISCELLANEOUS	3	13	6	116
	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL	5741	5198	3958	4298

2012-2013 LIFE SAFETY INSPECTIONS BY OCCUPANCY

	TOTAL	INITIAL	CONST	RE
	INSP	INSP	INSP	INSP
EDUCATIONAL				
Day Care	557	71	22	427
Schools	1040	22	335	476
Colleges	111	3	32	41

ASSEMBLY

Class A	83	2	58	5
Class B	40	0	28	2
Class C	246	25	138	18

HEALTH CARE

Hospitals	232	0	76	92
Nursing Homes	161	2	27	113
Personal Care	51	4	0	41
Ambulatory Care	17	0	6	7

DETENTION	38	2	3	24
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RESIDENTIAL

Hotel/Motel	95	4	59	9
Apartments	99	6	44	17
Dormitory	25	1	8	9
Rooming/Lodging	98	2	16	65
Dwellings	0	0	0	0
Board & Care	105	4	12	75

MERCANTILE	253	11	132	15
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BUSINESS	808	67	332	221
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INDUSTRIAL	79	2	44	7
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STORAGE	41	4	12	7
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	3	0	2	0
MISCELLANEOUS	116	60	5	5
(Includes Dilapidated Property/ Unusual Structures)				
TOTAL	4298	292	1391	1676

*Initial inspections include only the first visit to a building or site.

* Construction inspections include all visits to a newly constructed or renovated building or site except for the first and final visits.

* A re-inspection includes inspections for licensure or normal annual inspection for other reasons.

2012-2013 OCCUPANCY PERMITS, CONSULTATIONS, AND COMPLAINT
INVESTIGATIONS BY OCCUPANCY

	OCCUPANCY PERMITS	CONSULTS	COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS
EDUCATIONAL			
Day Care	23	13	1
Schools	39	156	12
Colleges	3	31	1
ASSEMBLY			
Class A	7	9	2
Class B	4	6	0
Class C	30	25	10
HEALTH CARE			
Hospitals	29	35	0
Nursing Homes	6	11	2
Personal Care	1	3	2
Ambulatory Care	1	3	0
DETENTION	1	8	0
RESIDENTIAL			
Hotel/Motel	9	6	8
Apartments	11	8	13

Dormitory	2	2	3
Rooming/Lodging	6	5	4
Dwellings	0	0	0
Board & Care	5	7	2
MERCANTILE	62	23	10
BUSINESS	115	59	14
INDUSTRIAL	10	8	8
STORAGE	12	4	2
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	0	1	0
MISCELLANEOUS	45	0	1
(Includes Dilapidated Property/ Unusual Structures)			
TOTALS	421	423	95

* A final inspection includes only the visit to a newly constructed or renovated building or site where a certificate of occupancy is issued.

* A Consultation is a visit to a building or site for discussion of problems and/or questions by the owner/occupant.

* The above complaints include life safety code violations only. Not included are hazardous Material, illegal fireworks, bomb threats, et.

PLANS REVIEW ACTIVITY 2009- 2013

OCCUPANCY – PLANS REVIEWED

	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
EDUCATIONAL	250	294	231	188
ASSEMBLY	223	235	325	315
HEALTH CARE	145	141	113	127
DETENTION	11	15	11	4
RESIDENTIAL	114	155	151	136
MERCANTILE	224	205	206	262
BUSINESS	213	300	355	356
INDUSTRIAL	61	32	47	71
STORAGE	50	56	72	63
DAY CARE	22	34	29	25

RB&C	18	21	19	29
	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTALS	1331	1488	1559	1576

PLANS REVIEW – TYPE OF PLANS – 2012-2013

TYPE OF PLANS – PLANS REVIEWED 2012 - 2013

ARCHITECTURAL	607
SPRINKLER SYSTEMS	238
HOOD SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS	169
FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS	479
FM 200 SYSTEMS	0
ABOVE GROUND STORAGE TANKS	43
CARPET	43
UNCLASSIFIED	0

TOTALS	1579

***PROJECTS OVER \$1 MILLION DOLLARS
PER FISCAL YEAR***

FY 2002-2003	64 Projects
FY 2003-2004	88 Projects
FY 2004-2005	130 Projects
FY 2005-2006	121 Projects
FY 2006-2007	134 Projects
FY 2007-2008	124 Projects
FY 2008-2009	140 Projects
FY 2009-2010	135 Projects
FY 2010-2011	106 Projects
FY 2011-2012	151 Projects
FY 2012-2013	134 Projects

MONIES COLLECTED FOR THE LAST FIVE (5) FISCAL YEARS

FY 2012/2013 INSP - \$117,687.00

 P&R – \$888,587.40

FY 2011/2012 INSP – \$113,541.00

 P&R – \$850,180.78

FY 2010/2011 INSP - \$129,052.00

 P&R - \$687,556.88

FY 2009/2010 INSP - \$112,119.00

 P&R - \$827,283.78

FY 2008/2009 INSP - \$132,165.00

 P&R - \$709,076.99

Fire Investigation Division Annual Report FY 2013

Eugene R. Cook
Deputy State Fire Marshal

STAFF

Division Director: Eugene R. Cook, DSFM

Assistant State Fire Marshals:

Shawn Alderman	Timothy Chastain
Josh Amos	Brad Hartley
Mackey Ayersman	Mark Lambert
Zach Bailey	Ryan McFarland
Jason Baltic	Scott Rodes
Patrick Barker	

Secretary: Cathy Green

I. INTRODUCTION

The Investigation Division currently authorized staffing level is one (1) Field Deputy State Fire Marshal, eleven (11) Assistant State Fire Marshals and one (1) Secretary.

Each Fire Marshal has a designated geographical territory ranging in size from four (4) to eight (8) counties. The Fire Marshals primary duties encompass all aspects of fire/arson identification and enforcement including determining fire origin and cause, fire death investigations, executing state or federal search/ arrest warrants and subsequently giving expert testimony in criminal or civil trials. In addition, each Fire Marshal is responsible for explosives related investigation/enforcement in their respective areas. Many non-arson related violations are identified during the course of an arson

investigation, and are generally referred to other federal, state or local law enforcement agencies for prosecution.

This fiscal year 868 investigations were conducted, compared to 954 for the same period in the previous year.

The diligent, professional work of the Division's Fire Marshals continues to give West Virginia an excellent arson case resolution record; however, the objective of a reduction in the total number of incendiary fires has not been achieved. The sustained operation of the Arson Hotline (1-800-233-FIRE) made possible by a generous grant from the WV FAIR PLAN continues to enable the State Fire Marshal to better define the scope and severity of the continuing arson problem in West Virginia, and providing quicker investigative response and making monetary rewards available for information leading to the arrest of arsonists.

II. FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

Requests for fire investigations from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 decreased by eighty-six (86) cases. This is directly attributed to increased direct positive interaction between Fire Marshals, fire service, law enforcement and better initial fire cause determinations being made prior to calling for assistance. This is also a direct result of Fire Marshals providing advanced in-service training classes to fire/law enforcement agencies and the insurance communities with more widespread use of the statewide toll-free "800" Arson Hotline.

CAUSE DETERMINATION	2012 – 2013
INCENDIARY	233
ACCIDENTAL	46
UNDETERMINED/ PENDING	569
NO INVESTIGATION	20
TOTAL	868

OCCUPANCY TYPE	2012 – 2013
ASSEMBLY	9
BUSINESS	42
CORRECTIONS	0
EDUCATIONAL	5
GRASSLANDS	4
INDUSTRIAL	5
MERCANTILE	0
RESIDENCE	680
STORAGE	55
VEHICLE	58
HEALTH CARE	1
UNUSUAL	9

III. FIRE-RELATED DEATH INVESTIGATIONS

This fiscal year 55 fire-related deaths in 45 fires have been investigated. It must be noted that West Virginia continues to experience a grossly unacceptable rate per capita. Only proactive statewide fire safety programs will begin to reduce these alarming statistics.

While many of these deaths were either directly or indirectly caused by alcohol/drug abuses, the majority were preventable through increased fire safety awareness by the public, use of smoke detectors, statewide fire code enforcement and increased media attention to fire safety as an important year-round topic.

Occupancy Type	2012 – 2013
Dwellings: One/Two Family	25
Dwellings: Multi-Family	2
Dwellings: Mobile Homes	9
Vehicle	2
Storage	1
Grasslands	2
Industrial	3
Motel	1

This fiscal year, Fire Marshals conducted (3) three fire death investigations where the fire was determined to be incendiary in nature therefore the manner of death was homicide or suicide. The breakdown of the disposition of investigations is as follows:

Cleared by arrest: Fire Marshals charging defendant(s) with First Degree Arson and/or other felony charges	1
Suicides, no other action taken	2
Unsolved, still pending	0
Total Number of Deaths Resulting From Arson Fires	5
Total Number of Deaths Resulting From Meth Related Fires	6

V. ARRESTS: TOTAL NUMBER OF ARRESTS	43
ADULT	41
JUVENILE	2
CHARGES	89

VI. TRAINING GIVEN

Fire Marshals continued to provide direct and in-direct training programs in the areas of fire/arson and explosives investigation training to fire service and law enforcement agencies of the state. This support primarily involved providing instructors for formal training programs for the Governor’s Committee approved law enforcement in-service training programs, and informal training classes at county fire schools, fire departments and task force meetings.

Listed below are all the classes this division teaches:

- Level I Fire Investigation
- Level II Fire Investigation
- Level III Fire Investigation
- Miscellaneous Training

(Training presented to fire and police departments, civic groups, insurance groups, etc.)

VII. TRAINING RECEIVED

All Fire Marshals continue to receive advance training from the National Fire Academy, Ohio Fire Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, The West Virginia State Police Academy and other nationally accredited training courses. Also, initiated a new Fire Marshal Academy of 200 hours for newly hired Assistant State Fire Marshal’s in-training.

Public Education Division Annual Report FY 2013

Carol E. Nolte
Deputy State Fire Marshal

Public Education Division

STAFF

Division Director: Carol E. Nolte, Deputy State Fire Marshal

Office Assistant: Heather Bostic

INTRODUCTION

The Public Education Division staff consists of one Field Deputy Fire Marshal and one Office Assistant (OA2).

The Public Education Division is responsible for duties which include, but are not limited to, fire and injury prevention education (primary); media communications; coordination of continuing training for deputized assistant fire marshals, SFMO sworn personnel and other code enforcement personnel; administration of the testing certification program for the sales of reduced ignition propensity cigarettes in West Virginia for tobacco manufacturers; and enhancement/upgrades to the SFMO website.

The Public Education Division promotes programs that aim to reduce loss of life and property through education, including but not limited to, the following:

- Fire and injury prevention for all groups, including high-risk (seniors, people with disabilities, young children)
- Train-the-trainer instruction in public fire/life safety education for firefighters and other emergency responders
- Fireworks law and safety for general audiences
- Smoke alarm education and distribution programs
- Fire safety and emergency planning for public facilities
- Public speaking for civic, governmental and advocacy organizations
- Participation in health and public safety fairs/seminars, and career days
- Membership and active participation in health/safety organizations
 - Press conferences, TV, radio interviews, media promotion of fire safety and related topics
 - Coordination of FEMA grant writing workshops for WV fire departments
 - Coordinating loan and distribution of educational materials to fire departments, safety groups, schools, businesses and the general public

Fire in West Virginia FY 2013

The fire problem varies from region to region in the United States. This can be a result of poverty, education, demographics and other causal factors. According to the National Fire Protection Association's Sept. 2007 publication "U.S. Unintentional Death Rates by State", West Virginia easily ranks among the top ten (10) states on three (3) of the major correlating factors for fire deaths: poverty level, education level, and percentage of smokers. Additional risk factors in West Virginia include a large rural population, and some of the largest populations of people with disabilities and senior citizens in the United States.

The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) recent report on "*Relative Risk of Dying in a Fire by State*" relates "In addition to the District of Columbia, the states with the highest relative risk in 2010 included West Virginia, Alabama and Mississippi. **The populace of West Virginia was 3.3 times more likely to die in a fire than the general population....**"

This risk rate again shows that West Virginia remains by far the deadliest state in terms of fire death rates.

Statistics reflecting smoke alarm use and operation for the state also continue to paint a disturbing picture in terms of inadequate residential fire protection.

Although the Public Education Division has significantly increased media outreach promoting public awareness of fire safety issues as well as the number of smoke alarms distributed over the past few years, much more needs to be done at the State, fire department, and community levels.

IDENTIFIED ON-GOING NEEDS FOR FIRE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION IN WEST VIRGINIA:

1. Critical Need for Increased Resources within the State Fire Marshal's Office Earmarked for Public Education Division.

Since 1997, staffing of specifically trained Public Education Officers within the SFMO remains at ONE person. Although other fire marshals conduct in-service type presentations from time to time for selected groups such as hospital engineers, Corrections personnel, code enforcement, etc., the SFMO Public Education Officer is charged with design, implementation and delivery of fire safety programs to a much wider audience, as well as continuity of those programs. This is virtually impossible with one person.

The Public Education Division is in serious need of strengthening and growing

as its own separate division, adding additional personnel who have been trained in best practices in fire service education (National Fire Academy courses and other academy-level courses, and regular participation in national conferences and seminars on safety).

Continuity in programs such as residential sprinkler education, juvenile fire setter intervention, injury prevention coalitions and programs assisting seniors and people with disabilities with fire safety in the home, as well as media outreach (TV, press, radio, billboards, Facebook, Twitter and other social media, and SFMO website enhancement) is essential but will not be realized without the State Fire Commission dedicating more resources to Public Education.

2. Critical Need for Mandatory Residential Fire Sprinkler Requirements

The above Risk Rate factors for West Virginia point to a critical need for increased fire protection in the home. Residential fire sprinklers, when used in conjunction with smoke detectors, can result in survival rates of over 90%. This would obviously be a tremendous boost to life safety, especially given the fact that most fire deaths continue to happen in the home. Legislation continues to be sought by the State Fire Marshal's Office to require these systems in all new residential construction, but much remains to be done regarding public awareness and education about the value and functioning of sprinkler systems, as well as dispelling misinformation about how sprinklers actually work, and expenses related to installation.

3. Critical Need for Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Network within West Virginia

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Fire and Explosives (BATF) reports that from 2000 to 2009:

- There were 1,637 juvenile-involved fire incidents reported in Bomb/Arson Tracking System (BATS).
- More than half of these fires (56 percent or 909 incidents) were classified as arson.
- Twenty-nine percent (or 476 incidents) were classified as accidental and 15 percent (or 251 incidents) were classified as undetermined.
- The total dollar damage reported for these fires estimated at more than \$75 million.

4. Need for Promotion of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1035, Professional Fire and Life Safety Educator Certification (including certified Juvenile Firesetter Interventionists) in West Virginia:

As to the capabilities of the State Fire Marshal's Office in providing leadership in public fire education, increased services such as long-term fire safety and prevention campaigns, smoke alarm programs, establishment of juvenile firesetter intervention programs, and other much-needed outreach measures will not become realities unless and until additional full-time, specifically trained Public Education Officers are added to the SFMO staff, which has since 1997 remained at only one (1) Public Education Officer for the entire state.

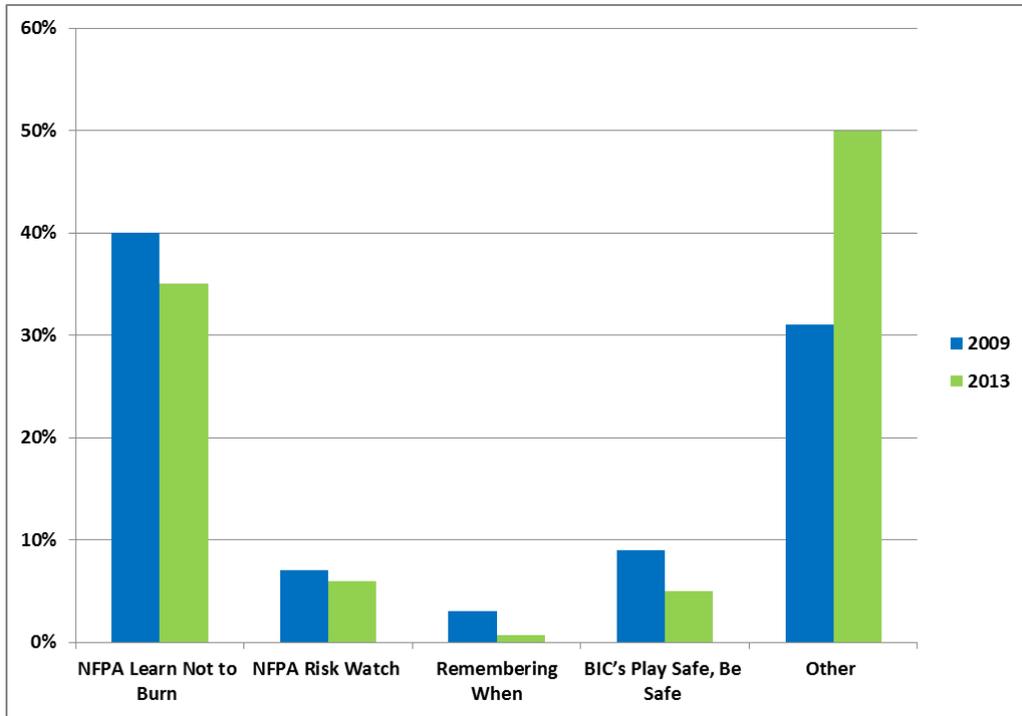
5. Need for Increased Collaboration on Safety Campaigns among Fire Service, Safety and Health Advocates and Civic Groups

A Fire Safety Survey was sent out by the Public Education Division to all WV fire departments in 2009 and 2013. These surveys asked fire departments if they offered different fire safety programs to their communities. (Please note that not all fire departments responded to the surveys each year.)

In 2009, of the fire departments that responded, 80% offered some kind of fire safety program(s) to their community. The 2013 survey showed that 94% of departments offered some kind of fire safety program(s) to their community.

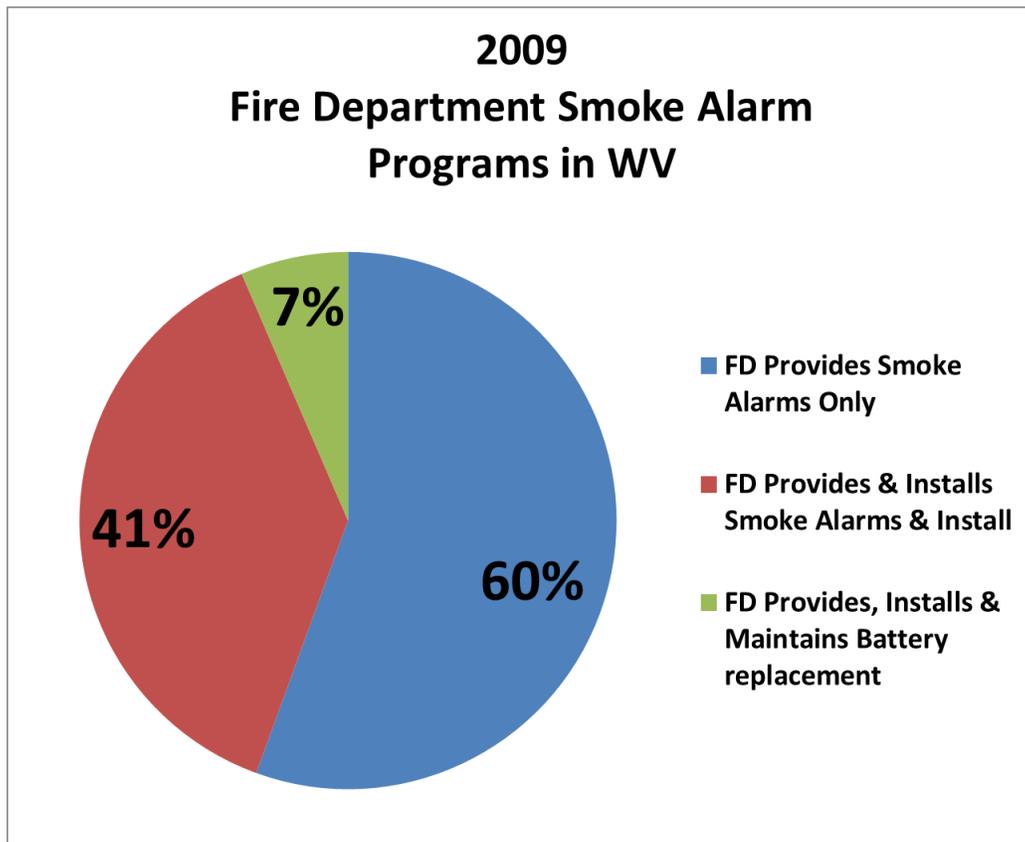
The chart below is a representation of some of the most well-known programs used for fire safety education. (Note that the percentages are based upon the fire departments that have responded each year listed.)

**Fire Department Surveys: Participation in Fire Safety Programs
2009 & 2013**

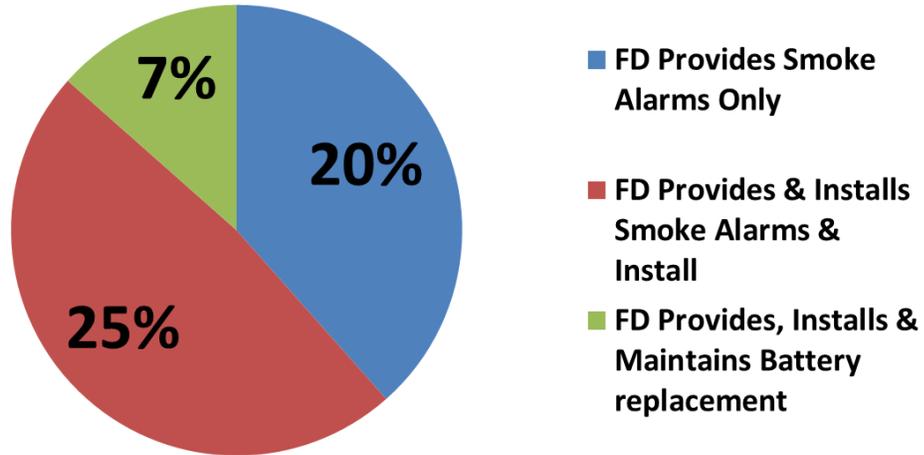


Fire Department Surveys Continued: Participation in Smoke Alarm Projects 2009 & 2013

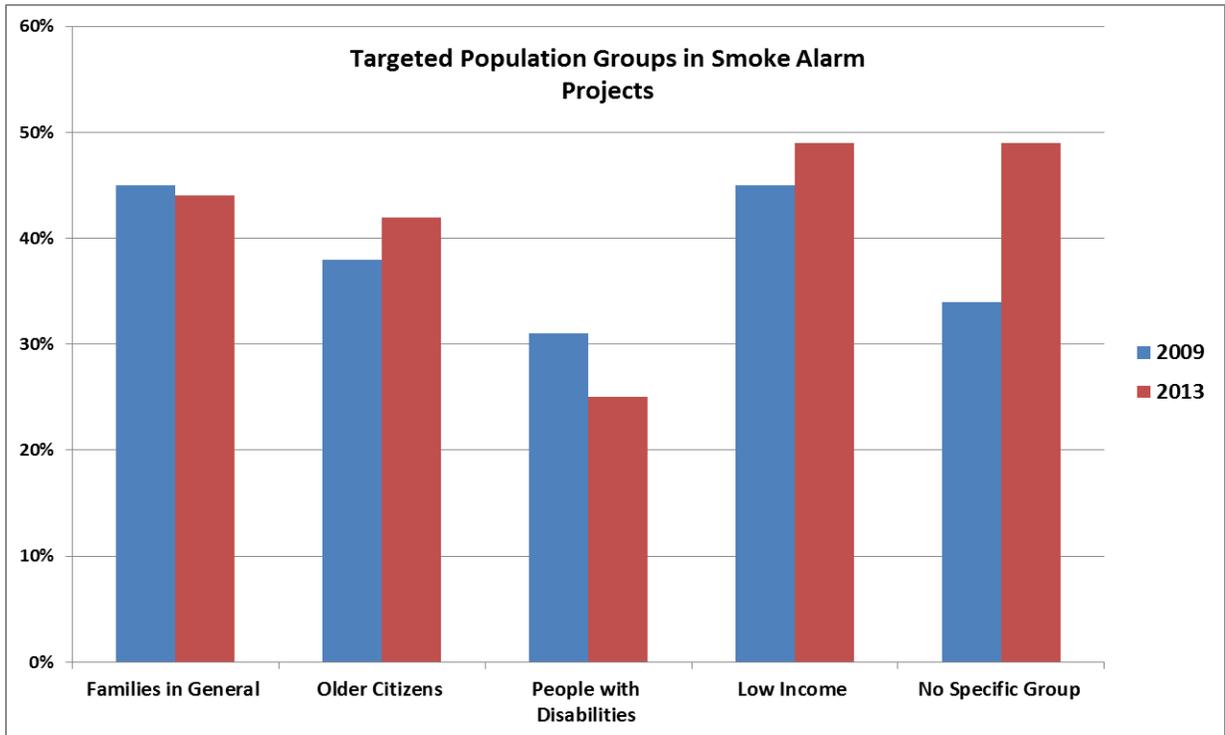
In 2009, 42% of the fire departments said they offer a smoke alarm program compared to 41% in 2013. The chart below is a representation of the different smoke alarms options offered in smoke alarms programs. (Note that the percentages are based upon the fire departments that have responded each year listed.)



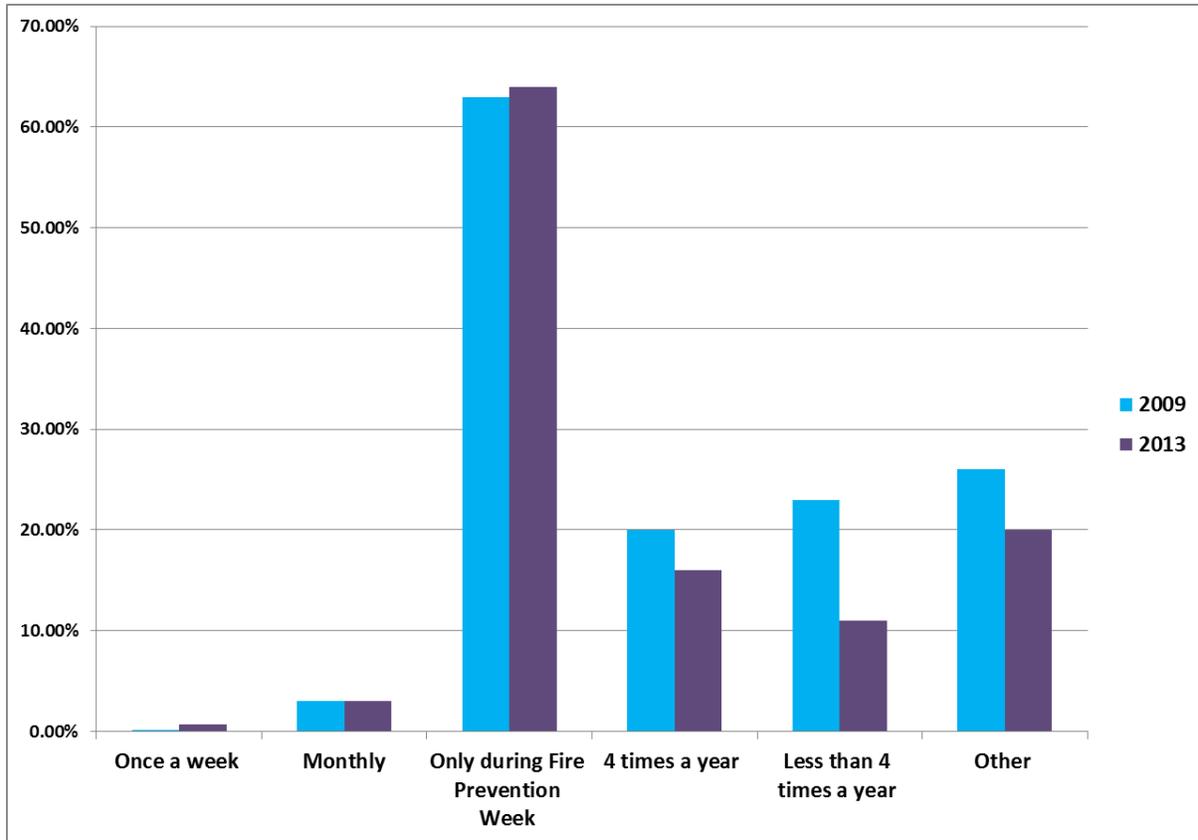
**2013
Fire Department Smoke Alarm
Programs in WV**



Fire Department Surveys Continued: Targeted Population Groups in Smoke Alarm Projects 2009 & 2013

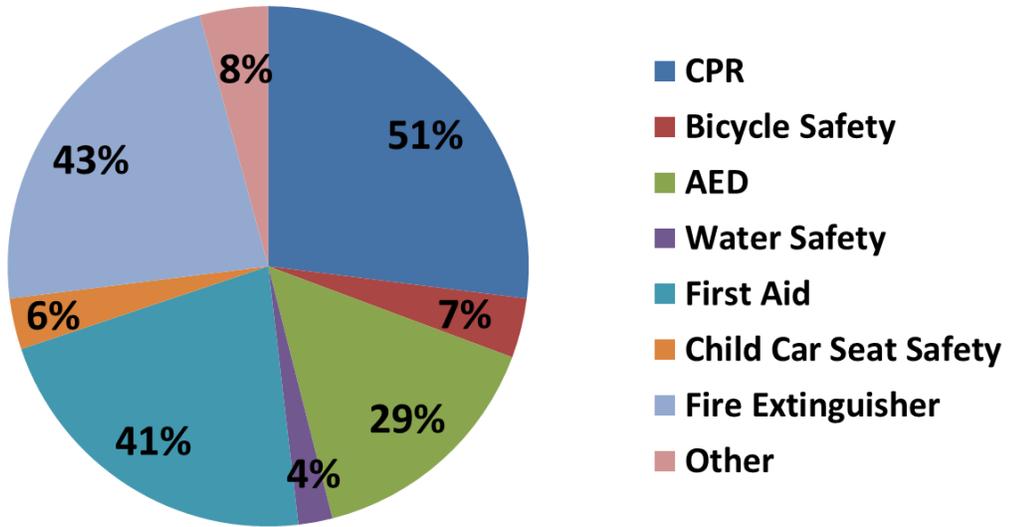


The chart below is a representation of the different percentages that fire departments present their fire safety programs during the year. Note that the percentages are based upon the fire departments that have responded each year listed.

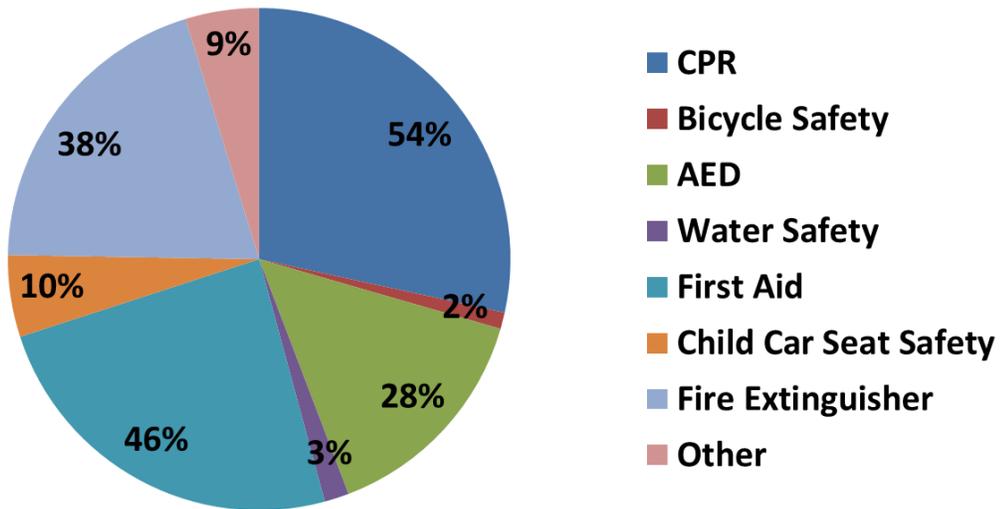


In 2009, 72% of fire department said they had five or more people on their fire safety programs. Only 28% said they had four or less. They also had 42% working with the media on safety messages and 15% on press releases. In, 2013, 46% of fire department said they had five or more people on their fire safety programs. However, 54% said they had four or less. Now numbers regarding fire departments the media on safety messages was 36% with 12% on press releases. We did receive information that 41% of the responding fire departments applied for a fire safety grant. However, only 19% received the fire safety grant. In the chart below is a representation of the additional different fire safety programs offered by fire departments. Note that the percentages are based upon the fire departments that have responded each year listed.

**2009
Other Fire Department Programs**



**2013
Other Fire Department Programs**



SPECIAL PROJECTS FY 2013:

- Residential Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board meeting to promote education among stakeholders and facilitate consumer choices in installing home sprinkler systems, July 2012.
- National Fire Prevention Week (October 7-13, 2012) Activities:
 - Smoke alarms and fire safety pamphlets were donated by the SFMO for distribution during National Fire Prevention Week by WCHS Talk Radio (Charleston-Metro News Radio).
 - Public Education Officer provided live interview with WCHS Talk Radio on smoke alarms and home fire prevention.
 - Press releases on Fire Prevention Week sent to all media contacts: TV, radio, newspapers, and other media partners.
 - Partnered with Charleston Newspapers for their "Newspapers in Education" Fire Safety program.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES FY 2013

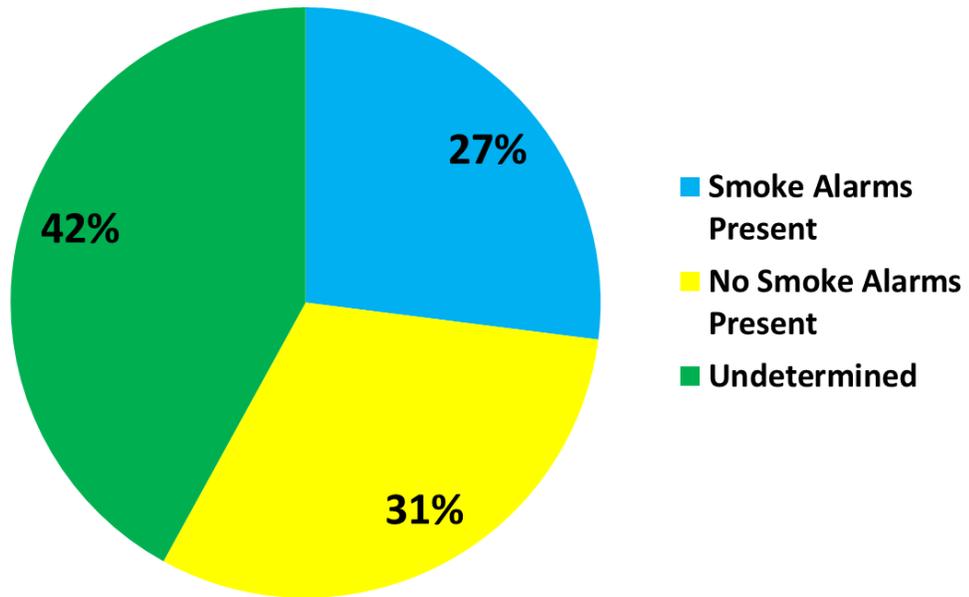
- TV, Radio and Newspaper Interviews (taped and live)
- Press Releases to television and radio stations, newspapers, fire departments and State agencies
- Coordinated SFMO participation at safety/health fairs/expos.
- Assisted in providing National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) class at State EMS Conference/Pipestem.
- Assisted in providing NFIRS class at Wood County Fire School.
- Participated in WV Violence and Injury Prevention Program conferences.
- Participated in WV Office of EMS Children's Advisory Board task force.
- Assisted in coordinating seminars for civilian fire wardens, fire service and code enforcement.
- Participated in Child Fatality Review Board meetings.
- Testing certifications issued to tobacco manufacturers under the Fire Safe Cigarette Certification program.

- Initiated portal development for on-line application process for cigarette manufacturers for reduced-ignition propensity cigarettes sold in-state.

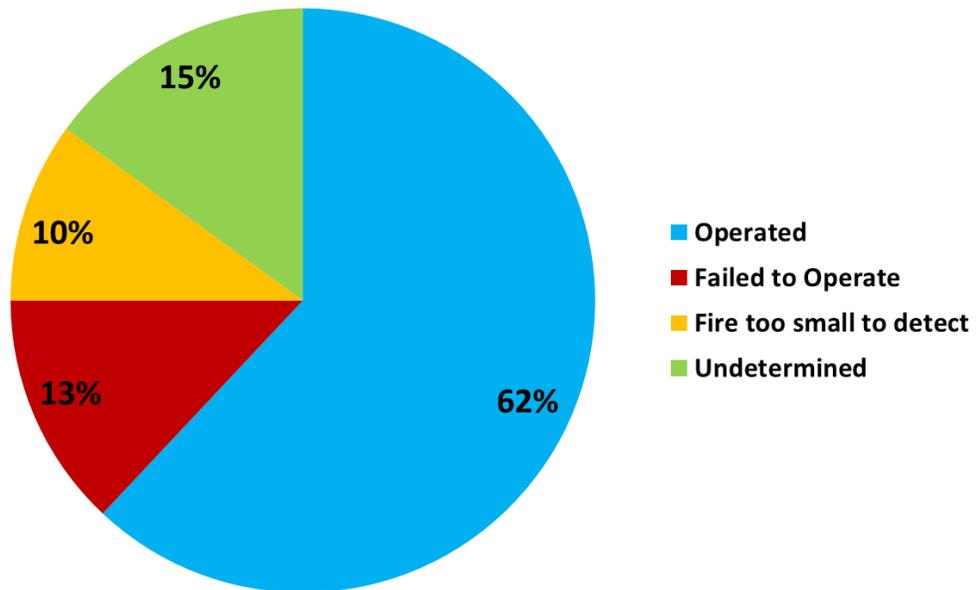
SMOKE ALARM PROJECTS FY 2013

- Smoke alarms were donated at the WV State Seniors' Conference at Cedar Lakes, Jackson County, in May 2013. All seniors attending received a free smoke alarm and a brochure on senior fire safety.
- Smoke alarms and educational materials donated to Girl Scouts of America, Kanawha County, for community smoke alarm project.
- Smoke alarm project continued with the Appalachian Center for Independent Living, which enables consumers with disabilities to live in their own homes. Through the ramp project, which assists consumers in providing accessibility for wheelchairs in their homes, smoke alarms are also being installed and educational materials distributed.
- Assisted in the development of a new smoke alarm project (Appalachian Smoke Alarm Project - ASAP) in partnership with the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Centers. This program provides specialized smoke alarms to consumers based on the degree of hearing impairment.

FY 2013 Smoke Alarms Present



FY 2013 Residential Smoke Alarm Operation



Fire Department Services Division Annual Report FY 2013

Timothy S. Provaznik
Supervisor

STAFF

Supervisor: Timothy S. Provaznik

Office Assistants: Alice Carpenter
Leanna Workman

The Fire Department Services Division is responsible for duties that include administration and oversight for all fire and non-fire data collected through the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and related data analysis and fire department training, evaluation of fire departments and the coordination and issuance of emergency vehicle permits for all West Virginia fire departments and certain other entities.

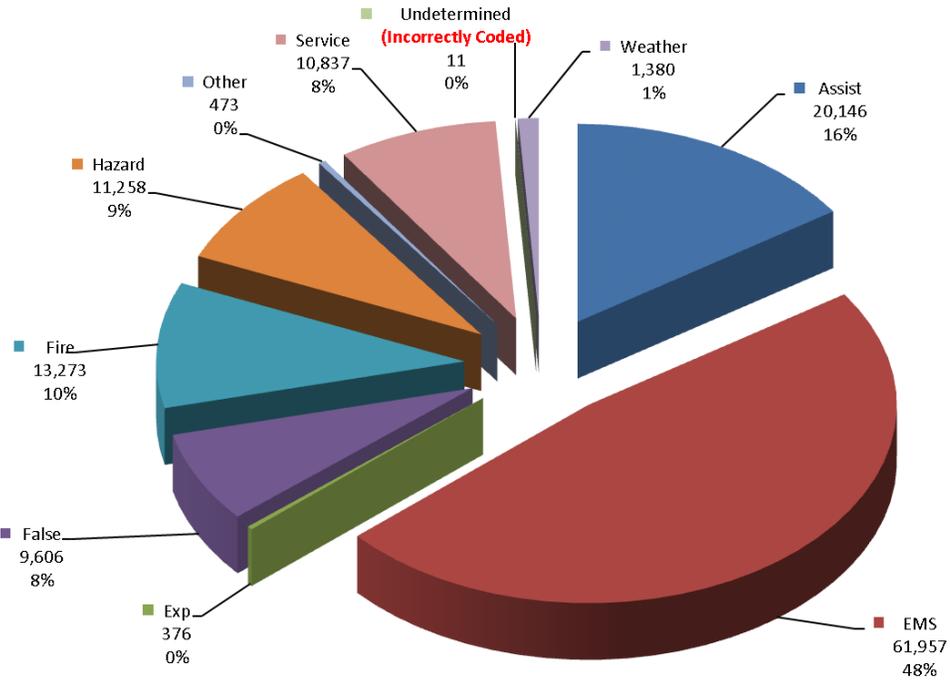
The Division also oversees, consults and assists all 442 certified fire departments in the State of West Virginia and provides information and guidance to new fire departments seeking certification.

During the fiscal year 2011-2012 the division has:

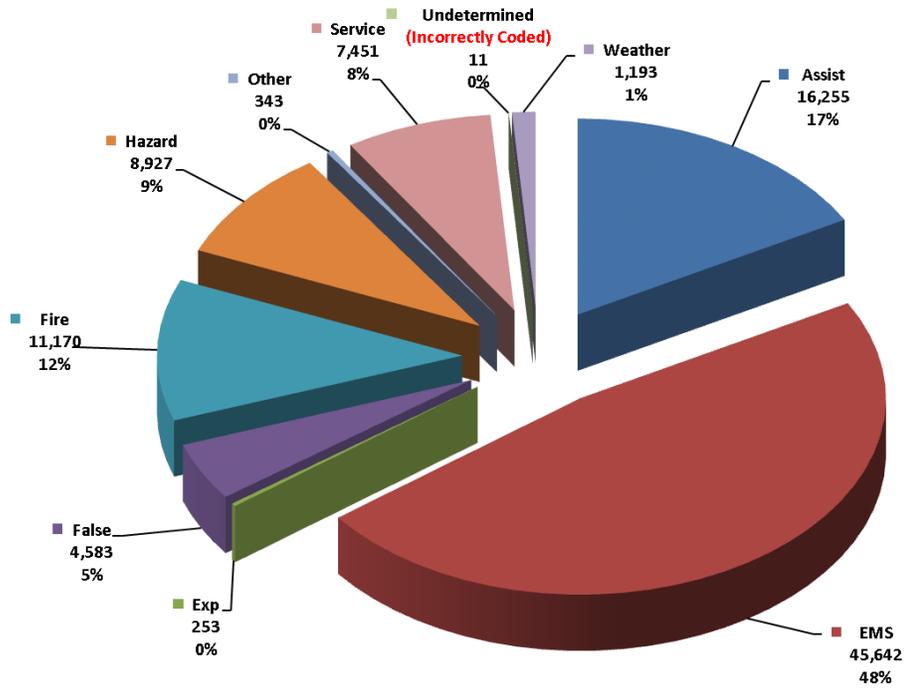
- Completed 12 evaluations of Fire Departments. This low number was due to the creation and filing of Legislative Rule Title 87-8 Volunteer Firefighter's Training Equipment and Operating Standards. This Rule went into effect September 06, 2013.
- All 12 of the Fire Departments were Re-Certified.
- Worked with the WV Division of Labor and Fire Departments concerning the safe operation of the Junior Firefighter program.
- Issued 628 Emergency Vehicle Permits (210 Apparatus and 418 Private).
- Inactivated 701 Emergency Vehicle permits (176 Apparatus and 525 Private).
- Total Active permits now stand at 6801 (3002 Apparatus and 3799 Private).
- The office staff has fielded approximately 2000 calls, with the majority of those asking for assistance with the National Fire Incident Report filing.

Due to Legislation allowing for a grace period for submission of fire loss data, Fiscal year 2012-2013 will not be available until after January 01, 2014. The following data is from Calendar year 2012 (January 01-December 31). A total of 129,317 responses were reported by all West Virginia Fire Departments. Attached are charts and graphs depicting a limited breakdown of those responses.

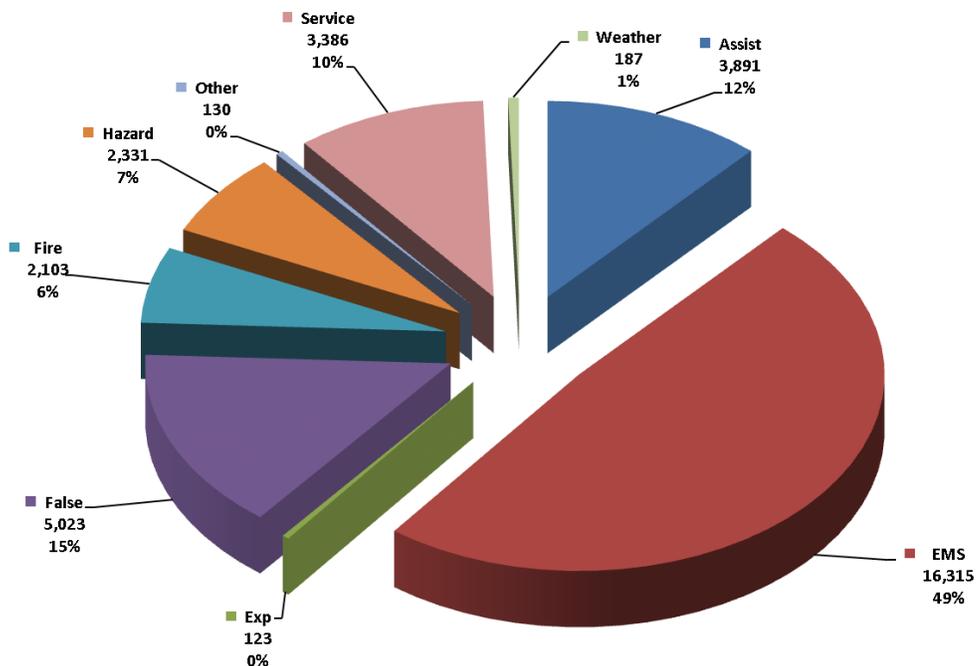
Types of Calls 2012 - All Departments
 (129,317 Total Calls)
 ALL CALL TYPES



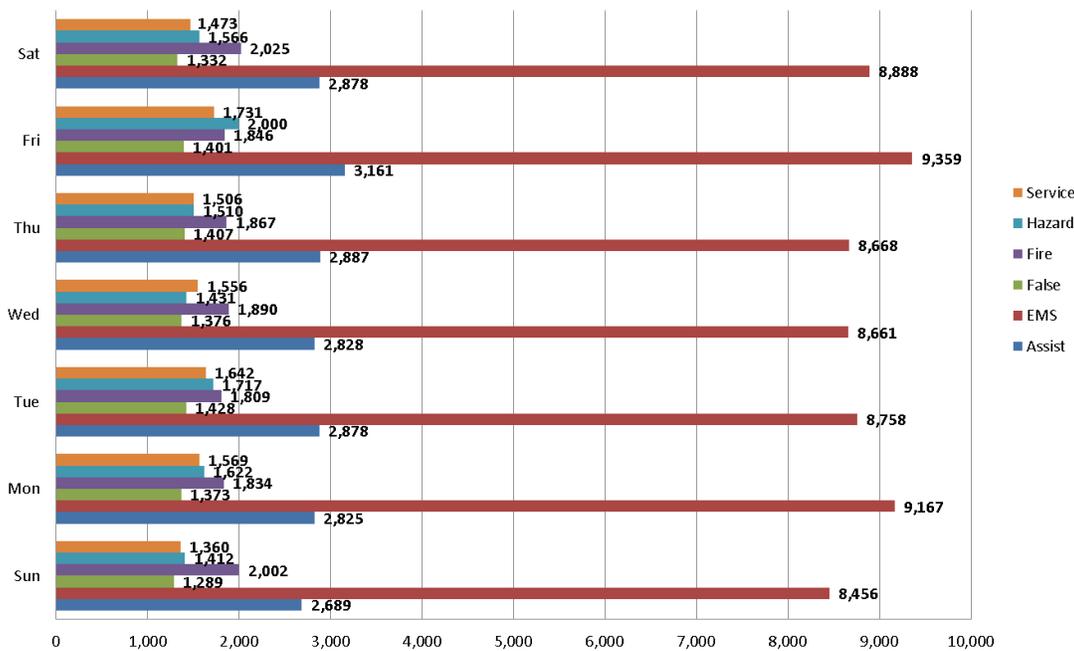
Types of Calls 2012 - Volunteer/Pt-Paid Departments
 (95,828 Calls out of 129,317 Total Calls)
 ALL CALL TYPES



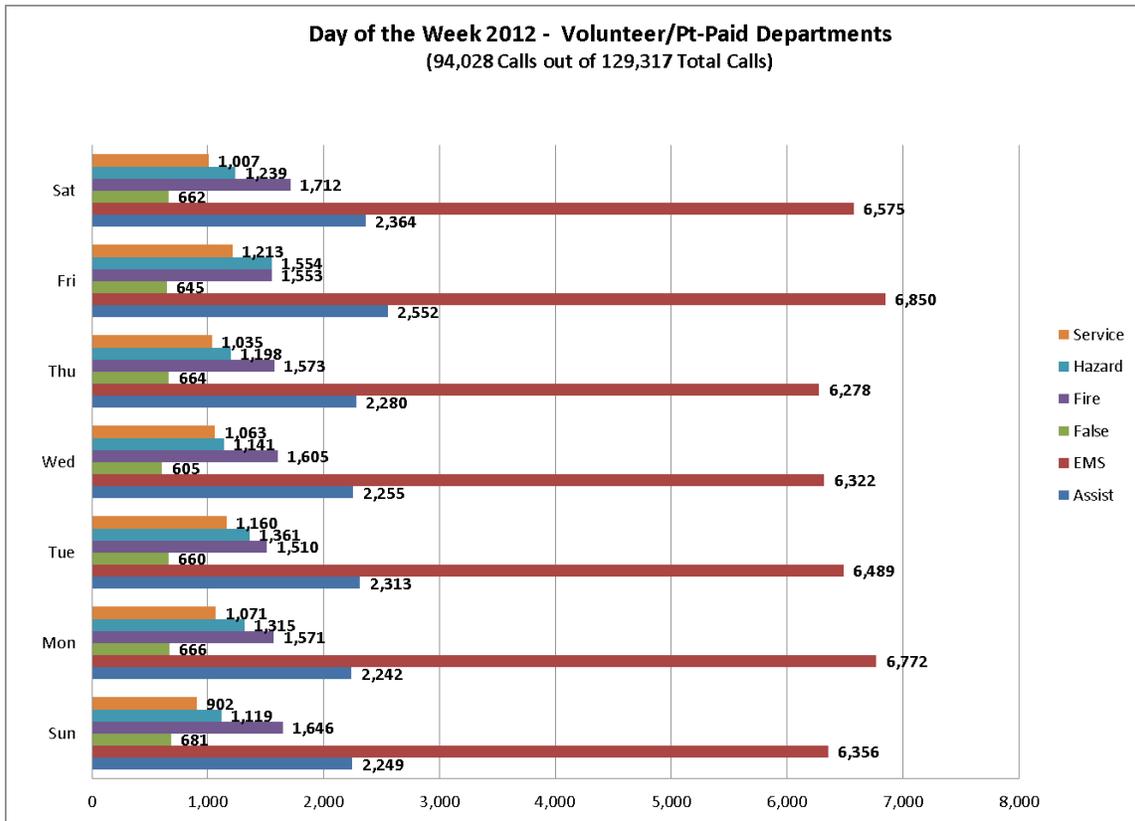
Types of Calls 2012 - Paid Departments
 (33,489 Calls out of 129,317 Total Calls)
 ALL CALL TYPES

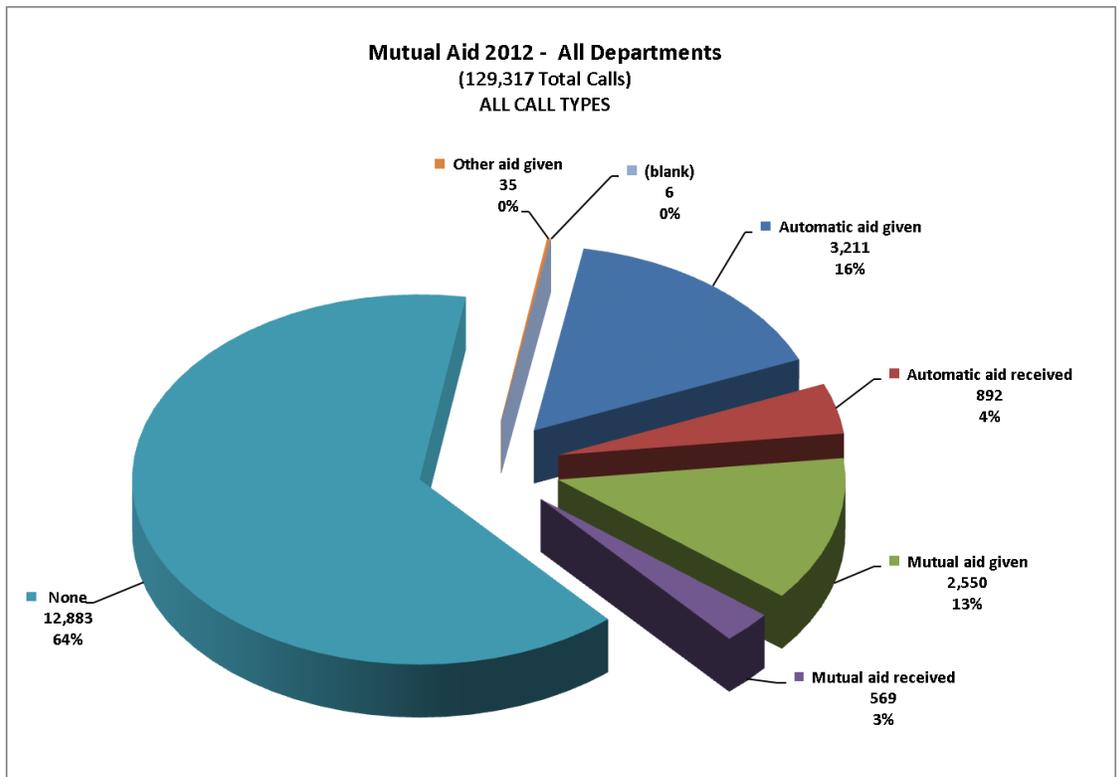
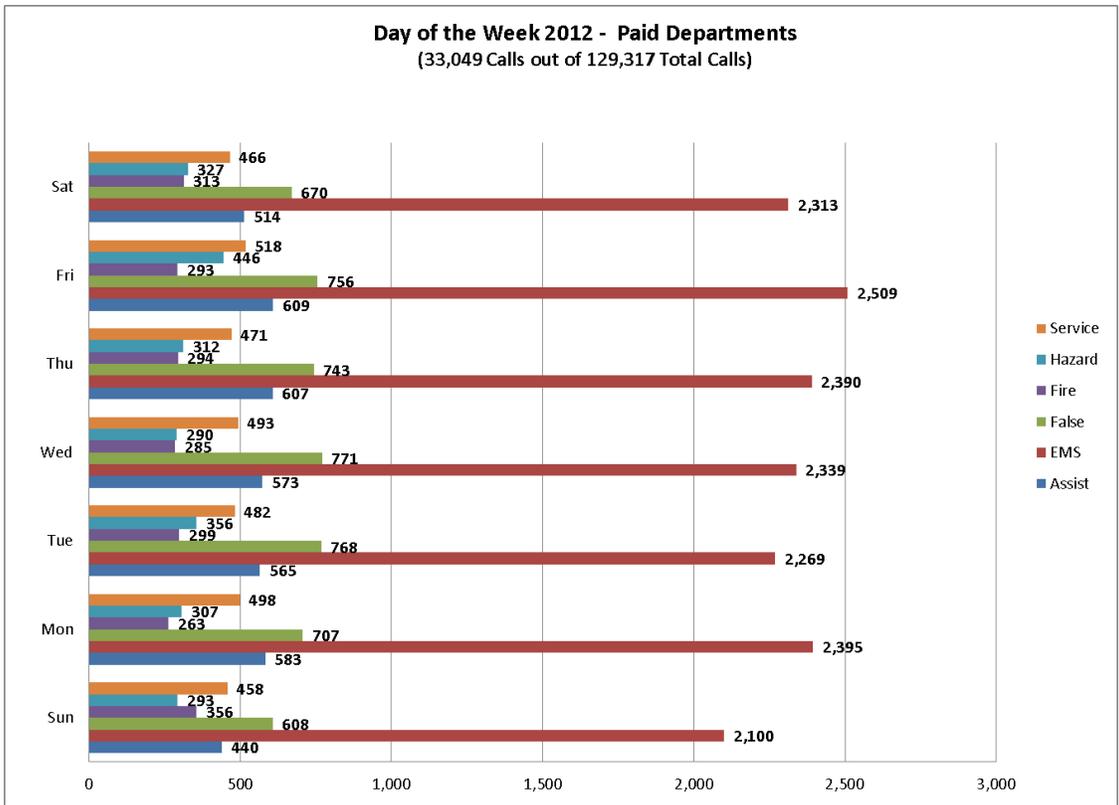


Day of the Week 2012 - All Departments
 (129,317 Total Calls)

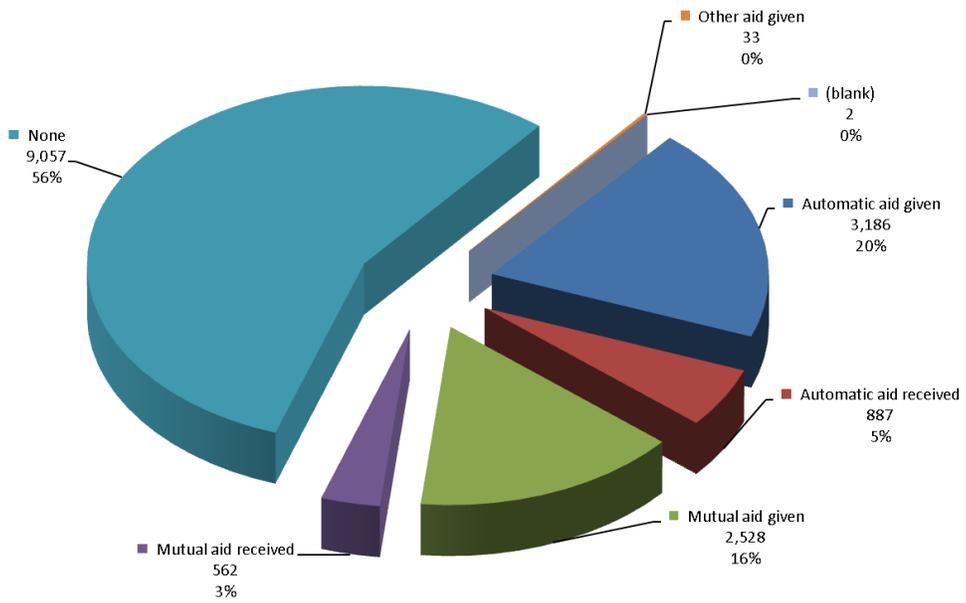


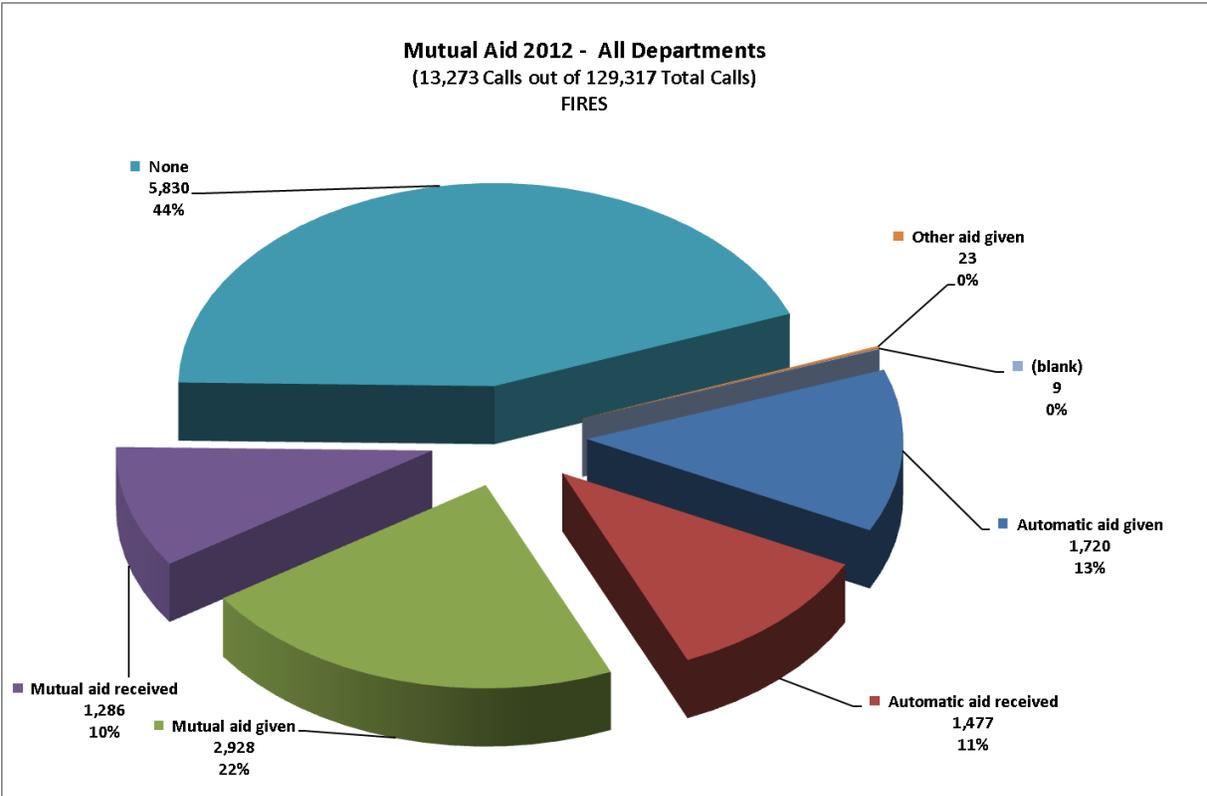
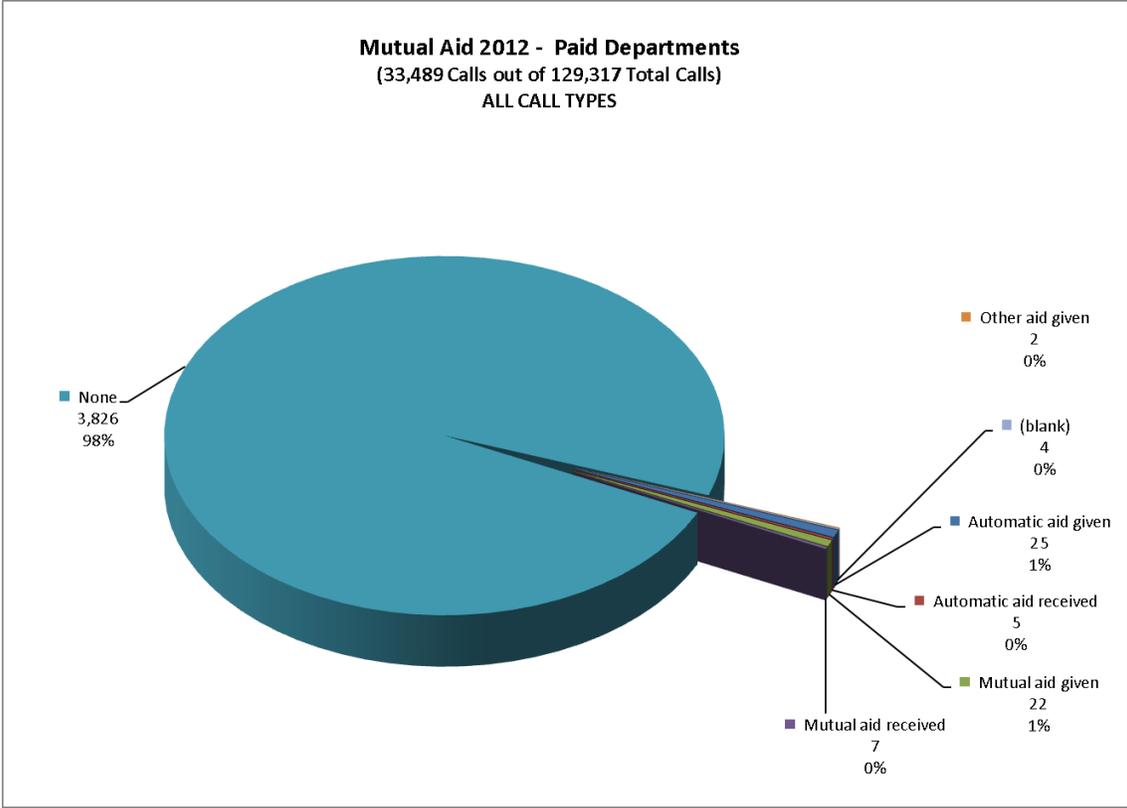
Day of the Week 2012 - Volunteer/Pt-Paid Departments
 (94,028 Calls out of 129,317 Total Calls)





Mutual Aid 2012 - Volunteer/Pt-Paid Departments
(95,828 Calls out of 129,317 Total Calls)
ALL CALL TYPES





Mutual Aid 2012 - Volunteer/Pt-Paid Departments
 (11,170 Calls out of 129,317 Total Calls)
 FIRES

