

FIRE DEPARTMENT PROFILES

By Kevin Roche and Elizabeth Friszell-Neroulas

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Twenty engines, nine trucks, a heavy rescue and two squads operated at a six-alarm fire in a 125-year-old six-story multiple dwelling. The fire started in the basement and extended to the fifth floor before being controlled. Firefighters from 12 departments battled the blaze. *Photo by John Cetrino*

Photo by Mike Meadows

PART 1

National Run Survey

For the 33rd year, the career fire service takes to the pages of *Firehouse® Magazine* to share and compare statistics about company and department activity levels, funding, staffing and pay. A total of 216 fire departments took part in this year's survey, representing 44 states and four Canadian provinces. The departments represented in this latest survey protect 83,129,549 people and they have budgets totaling nearly \$16 billion (budgets are listed in millions of dollars). They provide this service with 3,851 engine companies, 1,396 ladder companies, 2,099 ambulances and numerous specialized units. They responded to 1,802,243 fire calls, 8,566,617 EMS calls and 12,050,141 total calls last year.

DEPARTMENT	POPULATION	BUDGET IN MILLIONS	NUMBER OF ENGINES	NUMBER OF LADDERS	NUMBER OF AMBULANCES	NUMBER OF MEDICS	NUMBER OF CHIEFS	TOTAL STRENGTH
Anchorage, AK.....	298,610	90.7	14	5	9	9	4	315
Veteran's Affairs Fire, Tuskegee, AL	20,532	1.5	2	0	1	4	1	16
Fayetteville, AR.....	73,580	8.8	6	3	0	0	1	110
Little Rock, AR.....	196,537	44.4	21	8	0	0	4	420
Glendale, AZ.....	232,118	31.3	9	3	8	20	3	267
Lake Havasu City, AZ.....	52,506	10.2	5	1	2	8	2	85
Phoenix, AZ.....	1,500,000	298.0	65	14	34	102	11	1,924
Scottsdale, AZ.....	220,000	27.0	13	4	0	17	2	245
Sun City West, AZ.....	45,000	12.3	2	1	3	6	1	81
Tucson, AZ.....	525,000	87.0	23	8	18	28	4	753

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Bakersfield, CA	358,597	33.9	14	3	0	0	4	180
Chico, CA	87,714	11.4	4	1	0	0	1	59
Chula Vista, CA	248,000	23.6	8	2	0	6	2	126
Compton, CA	99,269	15.1	4	1	2	3	1	93
Fairfield, CA	106,502	14.4	5	0	0	0	1	52
Heartland Fire-Rescue, El Cajon, CA	184,529	NA	9	2	3	14	1	143
Kern County, CA	552,262	143.9	47	4	0	1	11	642
Lincoln, CA	48,000	1.4	2	0	0	0	1	29
Long Beach, CA	467,892	94.0	17	4	5	8	3	505
Los Angeles City, CA	3,792,621	550.2	91	42	141	177	16	3,641
Los Angeles County, CA	4,005,526	1028.0	163	32	2	101	23	4,713
Merced, CA	80,793	12.7	5	1	0	0	1	59
Modesto Regional Fire Authority, CA	240,000	31.9	10	2	0	3	1	161
Oakland, CA	390,720	108.5	26	7	0	28	3	507
Orange County, CA	1,712,234	341.4	64	15	1	28	9	1,174
San Diego, CA	1,300,000	201.6	47	12	0	60	8	863
San Francisco, CA	825,111	326.1	43	19	26	45	11	1,412
Santa Cruz City, CA	61,955	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Stockton, CA	350,000	41.9	12	3	0	13	2	209
Torrance, CA	146,860	37.4	7	2	0	5	3	164
Vista, CA	115,569	NA	5	1	3	9	1	NA
Aurora, CO	340,269	39.5	14	4	0	15	3	323
Colorado Springs, CO	436,354	55.9	21	6	0	23	3	427
Denver, CO	639,500	120.0	33	15	0	0	6	943
Grand Junction, CO	81,688	14.9	3	2	5	9	1	135
Greeley, CO	98,000	13.0	6	1	0	6	1	107
Littleton, CO	220,000	16.4	6	2	5	13	1	129
Danbury, CT	82,000	12.2	5	1	0	0	1	122
Meriden, CT	60,868	8.6	5	1	0	0	1	100
Stamford, CT	120,000	40.3	9	3	0	0	1	266
Washington, DC	646,449	197.9	33	16	39	42	8	1,998
Wilmington, DE	74,000	24.0	6	2	0	0	2	172
Brevard County, FL	547,307	71.1	18	5	29	53	5	613
Cocoa, FL	17,000	5.5	2	1	0	4	1	39
Dunedin, FL	45,000	6.0	3	1	0	3	1	55
Estero, FL	43,000	11.3	2	2	0	6	1	64
Fort Lauderdale, FL	167,000	65.5	12	3	14	26	5	382
Gainesville, FL	124,000	16.2	6	3	0	10	2	165
Hollywood, FL	142,000	37.9	6	3	7	7	1	213
Immokalee, FL	24,154	2.4	3	1	0	0	1	24
Jacksonville, FL	876,075	196.0	52	12	46	83	12	1,205
Lake County, FL	303,241	19.5	20	1	0	17	2	201
Martin County, FL	147,000	34.5	8	3	12	25	2	352
Miami, FL	399,457	99.6	11	6	24	25	3	772
Miami Beach, FL	90,588	61.6	4	2	6	12	1	202
Miami-Dade County, FL	1,900,000	361.9	55	8	54	101	14	2,431
Ocala, FL	60,000	13.0	6	1	0	10	2	131
Orange County, FL	924,643	151.7	38	6	39	82	7	1,157
Orlando, FL	237,000	93.4	17	7	11	14	6	521
Palm Bay, FL	106,950	13.1	6	1	0	7	2	117
Palm Beach County, FL	864,528	348.0	43	5	53	98	8	1,490
Panama City, FL	35,720	7.4	4	2	0	0	1	83
Pasco County, FL	470,391	49.0	20	3	21	44	4	473

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DEPARTMENT	POPULATION	BUDGET IN MILLIONS	NUMBER OF ENGINES	NUMBER OF LADDERS	NUMBER OF AMBULANCES	NUMBER OF MEDICS	NUMBER OF CHIEFS	TOTAL STRENGTH
Polk County, FL.....	602,095	70.0	27	5	31	41	4	545
Punta Gorda, FL.....	16,700	3.1	2	1	0	3	1	27
St. Petersburg, FL.....	249,704	45.2	13	4	10	22	2	303
Sanford, FL.....	53,570	7.2	3	1	3	3	1	83
Tampa, FL.....	347,645	72.0	22	5	14	36	4	628
Albany, GA.....	96,065	15.2	11	2	0	0	2	172
Athens-Clarke County, GA.....	117,000	12.8	9	3	0	0	2	185
Clayton County, GA.....	265,888	19.0	10	6	12	22	2	328
DeKalb County, GA.....	700,000	62.0	22	11	1	0	6	626
Gwinnett County, GA.....	855,459	81.7	30	10	23	25	6	844
Hapeville, GA.....	6,373	2.6	2	1	1	3	1	33
Pooler, GA.....	22,407	3.8	3	1	0	0	1	45
Sandy Springs, GA.....	93,853	10.9	2	4	0	4	2	140
Thomas County, GA.....	35,000	2.9	16	0	0	0	1	107
Honolulu, HI.....	983,429	95.6	43	13	0	0	5	1,089
Davenport, IA.....	99,164	16.5	8	3	0	11	2	140
Coeur D'Alene, ID.....	45,579	7.9	2	1	2	2	1	54
Acton, IL.....	28,000	7.6	1	1	0	2	1	48
Alton, IL.....	28,000	7.6	1	1	0	2	1	48
Berwyn, IL.....	57,000	13.1	3	1	3	3	1	81
Chicago, IL.....	2,700,000	564.0	97	61	75	128	40	5,141
East Peoria, IL.....	24,000	4.5	5	1	4	9	1	44
Glenview, IL.....	68,000	14.4	4	1	3	8	1	82
Joliet, IL.....	147,000	24.4	9	3	9	18	2	201
Mount Prospect, IL.....	55,000	12.6	2	1	3	7	1	91
Peoria, IL.....	116,000	18.5	11	4	0	3	3	205
Rockford, IL.....	152,871	40.8	9	4	7	22	2	260
Streamwood, IL.....	40,000	7.5	1	1	2	4	1	51
Waukegan, IL.....	89,078	17.9	4	1	5	5	1	120
Fort Wayne, IN.....	255,000	39.7	18	4	0	0	5	342
Plainfield, IN.....	35,000	6.8	3	1	3	6	1	72
South Bend, IN.....	101,120	23.0	11	4	7	7	2	251
Florence, KY.....	45,500	6.0	3	1	3	3	1	73
New Orleans, LA.....	369,250	85.4	30	7	0	0	7	677
Shreveport, LA.....	200,000	50.0	21	7	10	43	9	600
Boston, MA.....	645,169	189.1	34	22	0	0	12	1,460
Cambridge, MA.....	110,000	43.0	8	4	0	4	2	276
Fitchburg, MA.....	41,000	6.1	3	1	3	2	1	78
Lowell, MA.....	106,519	16.4	8	4	0	0	2	201
Lynn, MA.....	90,329	NA	6	3	1	0	1	196
Newton, MA.....	86,307	16.2	6	3	0	0	1	172
Somerville, MA.....	77,104	15.3	5	3	0	0	2	152
Springfield, MA.....	153,000	19.5	8	4	0	0	2	213
Baltimore City, MD.....	621,342	206.4	36	16	24	29	8	1,597
Prince George's County, MD.....	881,138	130.9	44	23	44	21	7	2,110
Portland, ME.....	67,000	16.0	5	4	5	8	1	234
Royal Oak, MI.....	57,236	9.5	3	1	2	3	0	56
Duluth, MN.....	87,000	14.0	6	3	0	0	1	134
Minneapolis, MN.....	382,578	54.0	19	6	0	0	6	388
St. Paul, MN.....	285,068	56.3	15	7	12	0	4	471
Columbia, MO.....	114,325	15.1	9	2	0	0	2	140
Independence, MO.....	116,800	18.2	10	2	0	10	7	170
Kansas City, MO.....	464,310	133.0	34	12	34	39	9	1,237

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St. Charles, MO.....	65,000	10.0	3	2	2	5	1	80
St. Joseph, MO.....	73,990	10.5	7	2	0	0	1	131
St. Louis, MO.....	319,294	46.6	29	5	13	13	8	823
Springfield, MO.....	162,191	19.1	10	4	0	0	2	227
Gulfport, MS.....	70,000	12.0	11	2	2	5	3	163
Helena, MT.....	30,000	3.9	0	0	0	0	1	36
Charlotte, NC.....	775,202	107.0	41	15	0	0	8	1,160
Durham, NC.....	239,358	24.5	16	4	0	0	3	316
Fort Bragg, NC.....	154,501	21.0	8	1	0	0	3	173
Greensboro, NC.....	277,080	43.1	23	10	0	0	6	554
High Point, NC.....	108,285	19.4	13	3	3	0	2	235
Kannapolis, NC.....	44,892	5.9	5	2	0	0	1	102
Lincoln, NE.....	265,404	30.0	14	4	6	22	1	302
Omaha, NE.....	409,000	72.0	24	8	15	24	8	650
Bedford, NH.....	21,893	3.1	4	1	2	3	2	38
Gilford, NH.....	7,500	1.7	3	0	2	2	0	40
Manchester, NH.....	110,000	19.1	10	5	0	0	1	223
Collingswood, NJ.....	13,869	1.2	1	1	1	0	1	17
Hackensack, NJ.....	46,000	NA	4	1	0	0	1	99
Passaic, NJ.....	71,000	10.5	4	2	0	0	1	93
Paterson, NJ.....	150,000	35.0	7	3	6	0	4	346
Trenton, NJ.....	84,000	22.0	7	3	0	0	2	224
Albuquerque, NM.....	555,417	70.0	22	7	0	20	4	668
Clark County, NV.....	914,563	188.2	27	5	22	54	3	639
Reno, NV.....	230,000	41.0	14	2	0	0	2	266
Albany, NY.....	97,904	33.6	8	4	0	4	2	245
Montrose Veteran's Hospital, NY.....	2,500	0.1	2	0	1	0	1	16
New York, NY.....	8,200,000	1,800.0	198	143	490	134	73	15,116
Newburgh, NY.....	28,866	10.0	2	1	0	0	2	56
Oneida, NY.....	11,000	1.7	3	1	0	1	1	25
Ridge Road Fire District, Rochester, NY.....	34,000	8.0	3	1	0	0	1	60
Rochester, NY.....	210,565	44.7	13	6	0	0	3	501
Schenectady, NY.....	66,135	10.6	4	2	0	7	1	120
Akron, OH.....	199,110	28.5	13	5	13	13	2	361
Canton, OH.....	75,000	14.7	6	8	4	4	1	140
Cincinnati, OH.....	296,943	80.0	26	12	12	39	4	779
Columbus, OH.....	809,798	220.0	34	15	32	66	8	1,544
Dayton, OH.....	141,527	35.6	8	4	7	15	2	330
Toledo, OH.....	284,012	63.3	17	3	10	0	3	539
Tulsa, OK.....	393,897	66.9	29	13	0	16	7	696
Bradford City, PA.....	23,000	1.2	2	1	4	5	1	21
Erie, PA.....	101,000	15.5	5	1	0	0	1	137
Philadelphia, PA.....	1,500,000	209.0	58	27	50	50	14	2,163
Pittsburgh, PA.....	300,000	56.2	28	11	0	0	5	608
Reading, PA.....	88,082	14.6	5	3	4	4	2	142
Myrtle Beach, SC.....	105,000	12.4	5	3	2	2	1	156
Bristol, TN.....	26,675	4.1	4	1	2	5	1	57
Johnson City, TN.....	64,528	9.0	9	3	0	0	0	122
Knoxville, TN.....	182,200	36.4	20	5	0	11	4	337
Memphis, TN.....	655,155	155.7	55	21	34	89	14	1,742
Nashville, TN.....	626,681	109.0	39	12	22	36	11	1,160
Shelby County, TN.....	119,503	20.0	5	3	0	10	2	163
Springfield, TN.....	17,595	2.3	3	0	0	0	1	33

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DEPARTMENT	POPULATION	BUDGET IN MILLIONS	NUMBER OF ENGINES	NUMBER OF LADDERS	NUMBER OF AMBULANCES	NUMBER OF MEDICS	NUMBER OF CHIEFS	TOTAL STRENGTH
Amarillo, TX.....	196,336	24.0	18	5	0	0	2	243
Arlington, TX.....	380,084	42.7	17	5	0	0	3	335
Austin, TX.....	830,278	148.8	42	13	0	0	8	1,119
Beaumont, TX.....	118,000	25.4	12	3	0	0	4	234
Corpus Christi, TX.....	312,195	49.1	16	5	11	33	3	414
Dallas, TX.....	1,241,162	NA	56	22	43	99	12	1,700
El Paso, TX.....	682,648	94.1	31	5	30	50	NA	1,092
Farmers Branch, TX.....	30,000	9.6	3	1	2	6	1	80
Fort Worth, TX.....	777,992	119.7	40	15	0	0	6	931
Frisco, TX.....	137,330	22.3	7	2	5	17	1	218
Grand Prairie, TX.....	180,000	24.5	9	3	9	21	1	205
Harlingen, TX.....	67,300	8.6	8	2	1	1	1	109
Houston, TX.....	2,160,821	447.4	87	37	56	46	23	3,736
Keller, TX.....	41,090	7.4	2	1	2	5	1	58
Lubbock, TX.....	236,065	41.7	18	4	0	0	3	387
Mansfield, TX.....	58,138	10.2	2	4	3	7	1	83
Midland, TX.....	111,147	20.9	8	1	6	7	1	190
Plano, TX.....	266,600	47.0	12	4	7	25	2	335
Port Arthur, TX.....	53,000	12.2	7	1	0	0	1	105
Round Rock, TX.....	106,573	14.3	4	3	0	0	1	130
San Antonio, TX.....	1,407,147	251.2	51	20	41	42	10	1,824
Chesapeake, VA.....	231,542	41.4	17	3	13	19	3	442
Chesterfield County, VA.....	323,000	51.2	21	5	17	38	5	442
Fairfax County, VA.....	1,114,500	175.2	38	14	42	80	8	1,836
Hampton, VA.....	137,436	18.0	11	2	9	22	2	284
Newport News, VA.....	180,966	27.9	11	7	12	12	2	360
Norfolk, VA.....	237,764	40.3	14	7	12	12	4	509
Richmond, VA.....	214,114	40.0	20	NA	0	1	4	427
Virginia Beach, VA.....	440,484	46.5	20	7	0	17	5	482
Burlington, VT.....	42,282	NA	5	1	2	0	1	80
Aberdeen, WA.....	16,860	5.1	1	1	4	4	1	35
Everett, WA.....	104,655	27.5	7	1	0	3	1	162
Renton, WA.....	123,602	24.6	6	1	2	0	2	138
Seattle, WA.....	626,600	166.3	33	11	7	7	6	1,150
Spokane, WA.....	211,000	46.3	14	3	0	11	2	307
Tacoma, WA.....	218,246	62.0	15	4	5	8	3	342
Vancouver, WA.....	248,930	33.4	10	2	0	12	2	198
Milwaukee, WI.....	598,916	104.5	32	14	0	12	6	938
Oconomowoc, WI.....	16,000	NA	1	1	3	1	1	53
Sheboygan, WI.....	49,000	7.9	3	2	3	3	1	72
Waukesha, WI.....	70,700	12.1	3	2	5	5	1	102
Charleston, WV.....	51,000	15.0	8	1	4	9	1	171
Wheeling, WV.....	28,213	7.7	6	2	3	3	1	94
Cheyenne, WY.....	61,537	9.2	5	1	0	5	1	92

CANADA

Vancouver, BC.....	620,000	89.9	18	21	0	0	3	812
St. John's, NL.....	150,000	25.4	7	2	0	0	2	220
Ottawa, ON.....	950,000	140.0	68	18	0	0	6	888
Toronto, ON.....	2,700,000	369.1	88	30	0	0	19	3,171
Montreal, QC.....	1,959,987	345.0	71	52	0	0	13	2,839