

City of Merced Fire Department Annual Report



2014

Proudly Serving Since 1873



A Message from Chief Shawn Henry



The Merced Fire Department (MFD) is organized to provide the resources necessary to respond efficiently to the needs of the community. Professional, quality, and caring are some of our trademarks of our MFD personnel, which build trust in our citizens in which we serve. We embrace the sentiment that at MFD, it is our family of firefighters, serving your family on a 24/7 basis.

2014 developed as a busy year for our organization, as we adapted to management turnover (our Fire Chief of three years resigned and the position was staffed with two different individuals serving as an Interim and Acting Fire Chief; the recruitment of a permanent Fire Chief; the continuation of brown-outs (when an engine company is taken out of service temporarily and its personnel redistributed to other companies for purposes of cost savings); the broadening of the fire investigation team's scope of work; and the arrival of a new fire engine.

Reflecting on the past year, I am pleased to say that despite the demands placed on us, our personnel banded together, adjusted to the adversities and achieved successes elevating your level of safety, health, and economic viability on a number of different fronts. Citizens and visitors to our community continued to experience short response times; your homeowners insurance rates remain low due to factors such as the number of firefighters on duty, training level of our firefighters, the amount and quality of equipment used (such as fire engines and hand tools), the amount of water, etc.; the community is safer with the vitality of the fire investigation team determining the cause of fires and how we can prevent them in our community; and the community's overall level of emergency preparedness was enhanced by the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program, whereby citizens are trained to assist others in the event of a wide scale disaster.

In 2014, a Fire Captain retired and the Fire Chief of three years resigned. The retirement and resignation allowed for existing personnel to promote from within the ranks, and through controlled succession planning, future Captains, Battalion Chiefs, and Fire Chiefs will be groomed to continue seamlessly serving the needs of the community.

With the efforts of our firefighters, we were able to save over \$12.5 million of the \$14.5 million in property, which was in danger of being destroyed by fire or other hazards this year. The Department began to heavily promote PulsePoint (a smartphone app designed to help save more lives from sudden cardiac arrest).

During the 2015 year, the Merced Fire Department will continue to maximize its financial resources to ensure that our personnel are highly prepared for all emergencies, while continually moving forward to meet any challenges that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Shawn Henry
Fire Chief

City of Merced & Fire Department Factoids

Land Area: 23.32 Square Miles
Incorporated: 1889
Population: 81,130
City Type: Charter

Fire Dept. Employees: 61 Sworn
3 Non Sworn

Facilities

Fire Station 51 & Headquarters
99 E. 16th Street
Merced, CA 95340

Fire Station 52
1400 Falcon Way
Merced, CA 95340

Fire Station 53
800 Loughborough Dr.
Merced, CA 95340

Fire Station 54
1425 E. 21st St.
Merced, CA 95340

Fire Station 55
3520 N. Parsons Ave.
Merced, CA 95340

Fire Annex
364 W. 27th St.
Merced, CA 95340

Apparatus

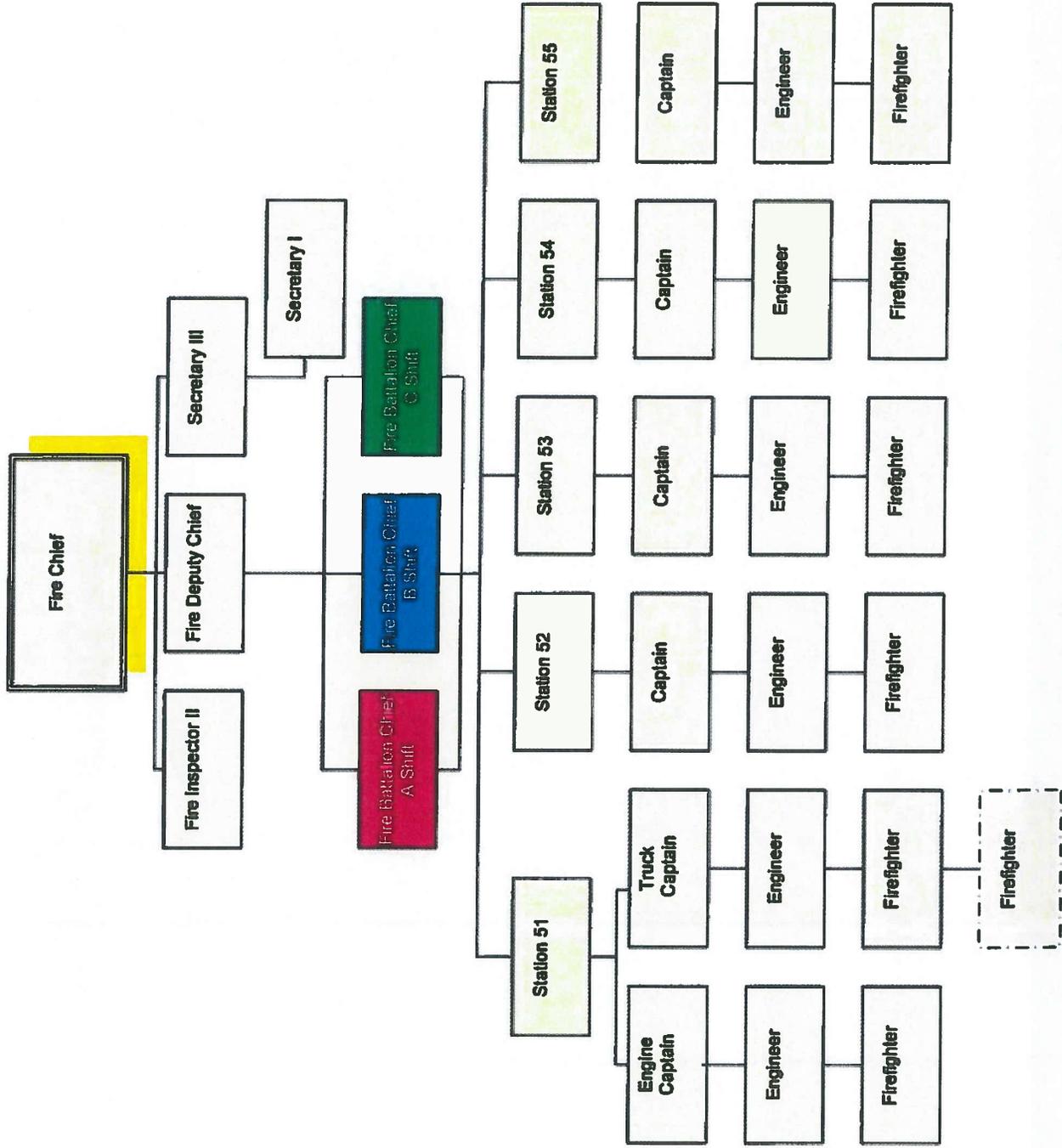
Front-Line Apparatus

Engines = 5
Office of Emergency Services Engine = 1
Aerial Ladder Truck = 1
Decontamination Trailer = 1
Rescue Trailer = 1
Public Education Trailer = 1
Airport Response Firefighting Vehicle = 1
Rehabilitation Squad = 1

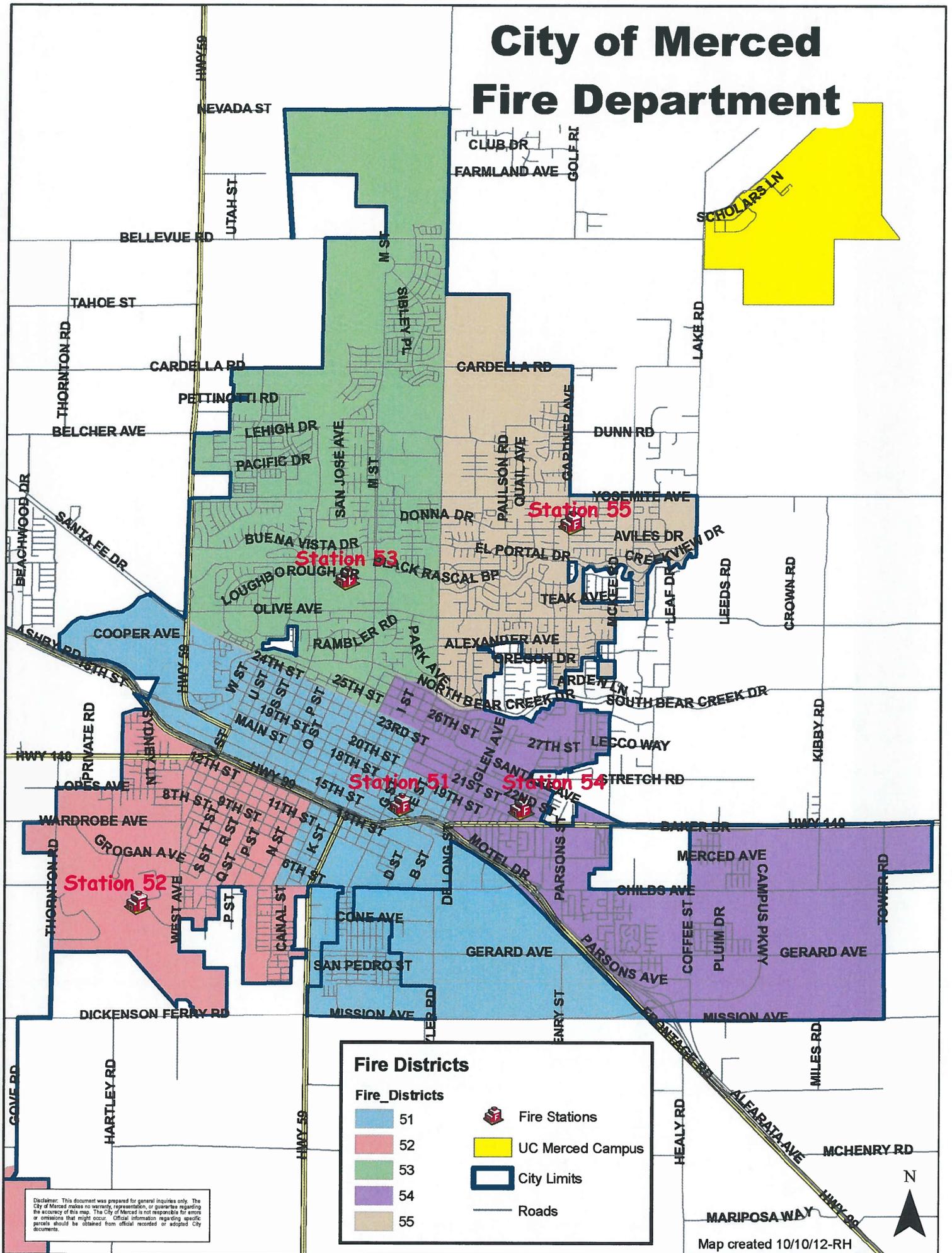
Reserve Apparatus

Engines = 3
Ladder Truck = 1

Merced Fire Department Organizational Chart 2014



City of Merced Fire Department



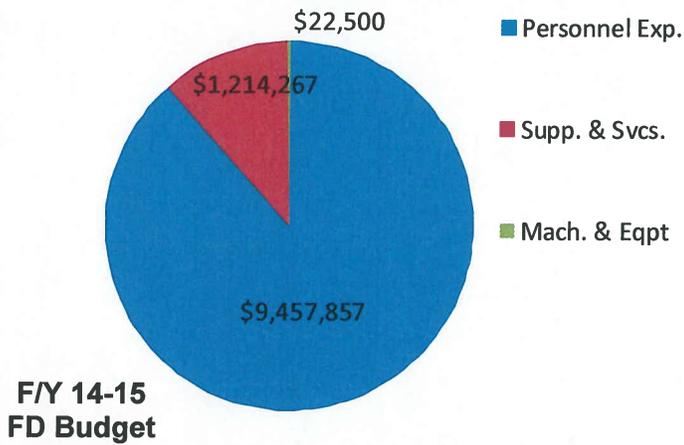
Fire Districts

Fire_Districts		
51		Fire Stations
52		UC Merced Campus
53		City Limits
54		Roads
55		

Disclaimer: This document was prepared for general inquiries only. The City of Merced makes no warranty, representation, or guarantee regarding the accuracy of this map. The City of Merced is not responsible for errors or omissions that might occur. Official information regarding specific parcels should be obtained from official recorded or adopted City documents.

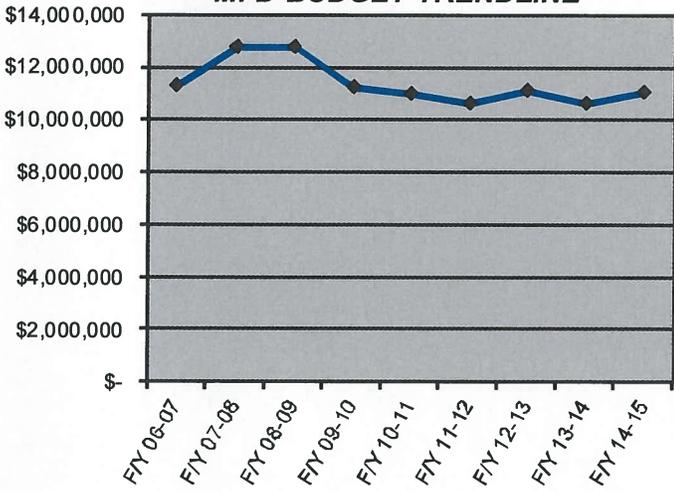
FINANCIAL & PERSONNEL FACTOIDS

FIRE PREVENTION FACTOIDS



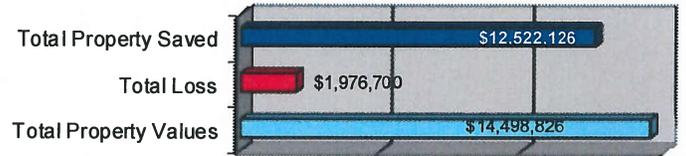
ACTIVITY	2013	2014
Total Business Inspected	1,472	2,752
Total Business Violations	3,942	3,060
Public Education Classes	149	125
Banners Hung Over G Street	17	18
Permits Issued	400	373
Fire Investigations Opened	62	10
Fire Investigations Closed	204	221
Environmental Hazardous Materials Investigations	8	2
Arsons	300	252

MFD BUDGET TRENDLINE



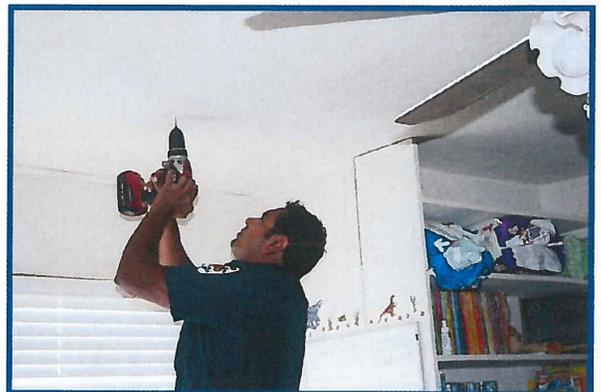
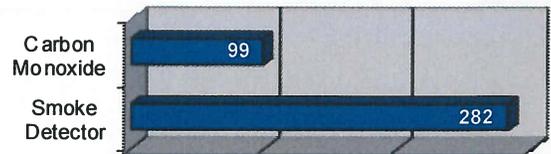
Spike in FY 13-14 is due to 10-yr loan for 5 new apparatus.

2014 PROPERTY VALUES/LOSS

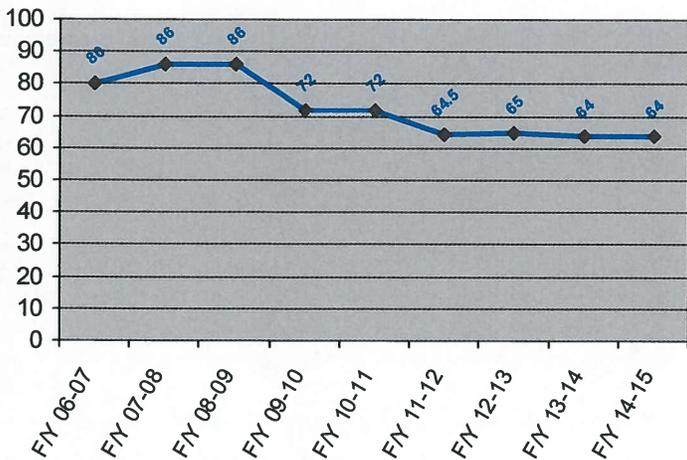


2014 CARBON MONOXIDE & SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATION

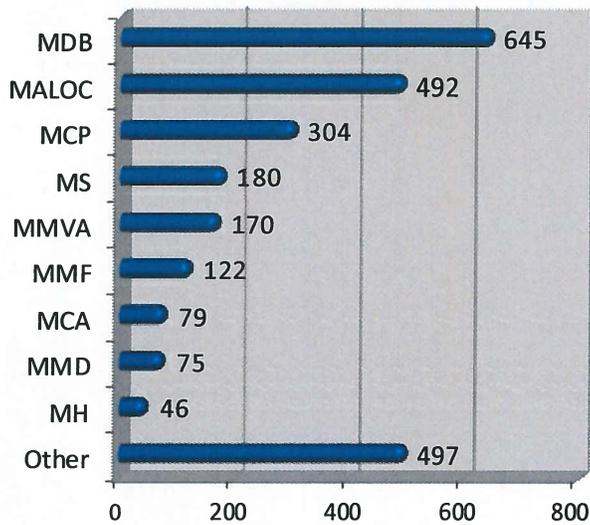
CARBON MONOXIDE & SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATIONS



PERSONNEL TREND ANALYSIS

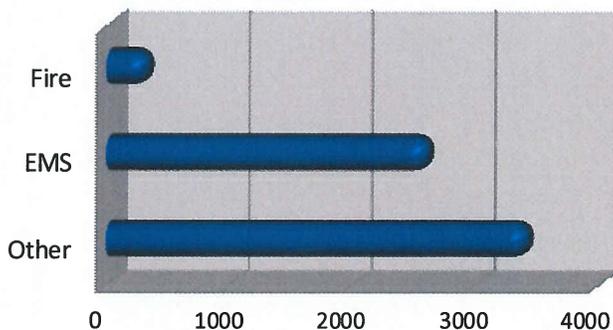


2014 Medical Assists by Emergency Medical Dispatch Types



Abbrev.	Emergency Medical Dispatch Definition
MDB	Difficulty Breathing
MALOC	Altered Level Of Consciousness
MCP	Chest Pain
MS	Seizures
MMVA	Motor Vehicle Accident
MMF	Fall
MCA	Cardiac Arrest
MMD	Man Down
MH	Hemorrhage
MO	Other

EMS Calls vs Non EMS Calls



Emergency Services

Calls By Type

Type of Call	2013	2014
Fire	420	330
Overpressure/Rupture (No Fire)	13	8
Rescue/EMS	3755	3831
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	169	156
Service Calls	477	505
Good Intent Calls	1330	1270
False Alarms/False Calls	282	256
Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	1	0
Special Incident Types	8	6
Total Calls	6455	6362

Call Activity By Shift

Shift	2013	2014
A-Shift	2112	2121
B-Shift	2181	2147
C-Shift	2160	2090
Other	2	4

Miscellaneous Statistics

Statistic	2013	2014
Avg Calls Per Day	17	17
Avg Response Time of First Unit	00:05:13	00:04:55
Injuries-Civilian & Fire Svc	11	4
Deaths-Civilian & Fire Svc	6	3
Mutual Aid Given	53	53
Mutual Aid Received	13	5

Fire Causes of Ignition

Ignition Cause	2013	2014
Act of Nature	0	0
Cause Under Investigation	35	9
Cause Undetermined After Invest.	123	103
Failure of equipment or heat source	15	21
Intentional	54	35
Unintentional	84	84
Other	109	78
Total	420	330

