

Van Wert Fire Department 2019 Annual Report

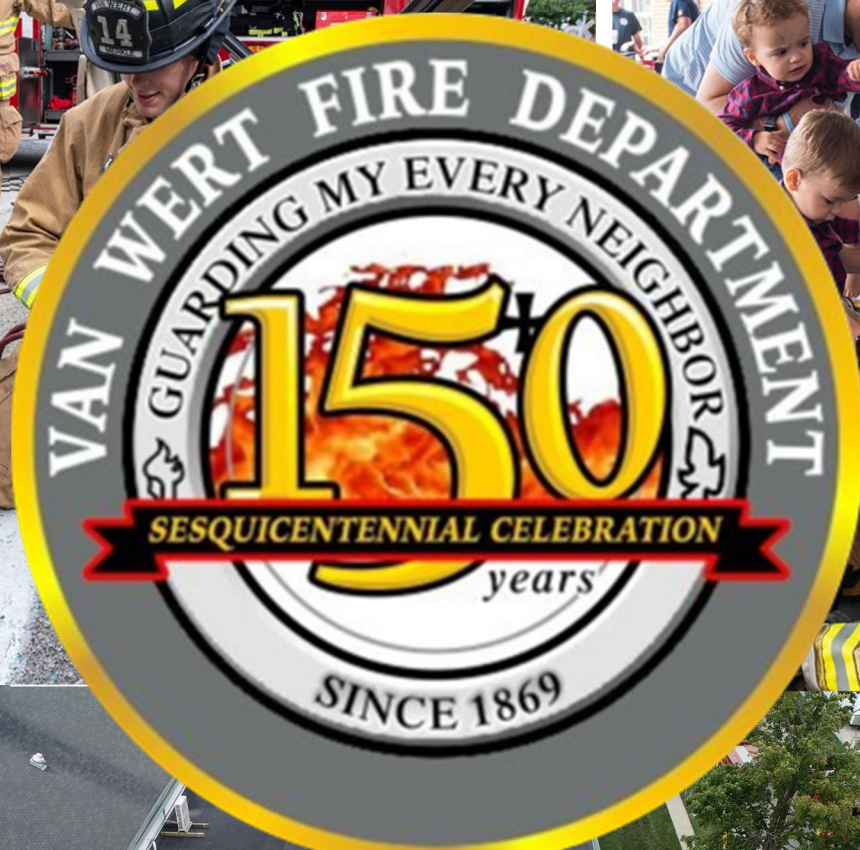




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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

2019 IN REVIEW

2019 was an exciting and busy year for the Van Wert Fire Department. The highlight of the year was celebrating our departments 150 years of service to Van Wert City! On Sept 15, 2019 the department held an open house and the turnout was amazing! It was estimated that over 1000 individuals attended the open house, more than we ever imagined. It was such an incredible opportunity for our personnel to highlight our services for our citizens. We, as a department, thank everyone for attending and supporting your fire department!

The department continues to remain busy with emergency responses. The department set astounding record of 2029 incident responses, 5.6 per day, in 2019. Of those responses 90% are Emergency Medical Responses which totaled 1815. We responded to 33 fire responses with 18 structure fires. The remaining 242 responses were hazardous conditions with no fire, service calls, good intent calls and false alarms.

The department continues to work with the community youth by participating in the school's CEO internship program and starting a departmental fire explorer program. Through the CEO program the department has hire 3 of the fire participants as reserve firefighters on our department. Along with emergency incidents our personnel completed 105 inspection activities, 48 public education/relations events, flowed and tested 566 water hydrants, tested 21,000 feet of fire hose, 34 station tours, 18 classroom presentations. Our personnel completed 4187 hours of training and, 488 hours of building maintenance/remodeling.

The department also began design on a new medic with Braun Ambulance. This unit will replace a 2004 Braun medic and we anticipate delivery in early 2020.

Additionally, the department has hired two new personnel in 2019. Brett Schumm and Ethan Fraker and both have completed their Firefighter 2 and EMTB. On our reserve list we added Dalton Yenser, Ryan Moody, Matt Saunier and Alexander Greutman.



A Message From the Chief

I am honored to submit the 2019 Annual Report for the Van Wert City Fire Department. This document is a snapshot of last years accomplishments and provides an overall view of the all-hazard emergency service organization that serves our great community.

Since 1869, our department mission of providing a professional emergency service for our community, protecting the lives and properties within it, remains our priority. Our highly trained and dedicated force of firefighters take pride in meeting that mission daily, in every possible way.

The Van Wert Fire Department is a full-service fire department that provides all hazard emergency services to over 11,000 residents in a 14 square mile area. This is accomplished with 19 fulltime firefighter/EMTs and 10 reserve firefighters. We are also the only fulltime paid department to provide Advanced Life Support for the entire county, encompassing 410 square miles. Our scope of responsibilities to our community include:


- Fire Suppression
- Emergency Medical Services
- Community Risk Reduction
- Special Rescue (Water, Ice, Confined Space, Grain Bin, High Angle, Haz Mat)
- Emergency Preparedness
- Terrorism/ Mass Killings
- Health/Infectious Disease

As we look forward to 2020, the department will continue to look forward to the annual increase in run volume, in just 3 years we have seen an increase of 10% over the 3 years. Studies are indicating there will be 20% increase in call volume over the next ten years due to the aging baby boomer generation. Just in the last 10 years, since 2009, we have seen an increase of 45% in run volume in our department. Due to the increased run volume, our department has made operational changes to maximize our efficiencies, but if no changes are made over the next ten years, the Fire Department will not be able to maintain its current levels of service to the City. To prepare for the potential increase in call volume, the Fire Department will continue to look at opportunities to enhance our services and ability to serve the public though technology, research and data. The Fire Department plans on developing and utilizing a strategic plan to meet the community expectations in the years to come.

On a personal note, I want to thank Van Wert City Council, City Administration, each member of our department, our business community, schools, neighboring public safety agencies and the citizens for their outstanding continued support. It is a privilege to serve as your Fire Chief!

The Van Wert Fire Department has a long-standing history of providing quality service and programs to our community. We stand committed to expanding on this tradition in our future endeavors through collaborative community interaction and the enhanced delivery of customer care services. We look forward to a positive and productive 2020.

Respectively Submitted,


Jon Jones
Fire Chief



Training and Fire Incidents



TRAINING

Personnel performed 4187 hours of training in 2019, an average of 155 per person.

Some of the major accomplishments were: Brett Schumm completed his Firefighter 2 at the Ohio Fire Academy.

Firefighter Gasser and Firefighter Ricker completed their EMT-Advanced.

Firefighter Gasser and Firefighter King completed the Certified Fire Instructor class.

A goal of 100 hours annually of physical fitness training was achieved by Captain Cummings, Lieutenant Ankney, FF Carter, FF Edelbrock, FF Merkle, FF Miller and Chief Jones.

4187
TRAINING



FIRE INCIDENTS

The fire department responded to 18 structure fires in 2019. The total value of structure fires was \$730,000.00 with a controlled loss of only \$173,650.00 for 2018.

A major goal set this last year was to decrease our out of the station time (turnout time) to under 2 minutes. This was not easily calculated until this year with the department moving to radio dispatching, due to the inability to record to the second, previously. Since the change we have achieved that goal and have an average turnout time of one minute forty-five seconds. This also reflects in the department's average response time to the scene of five minutes and forty three seconds.



18
**Structure
Fires**



273

Fire Incidents

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

In 2020 the department completed 105 inspections of all types. The Van Wert Fire Department provides annual, sprinkler, occupancy certification, fire alarm systems, home, plan review, pressure testing, assembly use and many other fire safety inspections.

The department continues to work on our community risk priorities for the City of Van Wert and our contractual area. This is a priority goal for our fire department in 2020. Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is used to prioritize local risk to allocated the needed resources, and prevention, to reduce the occurrence of emergencies and their impact.

Currently, the fire department accomplish inspections with our lieutenants and fire chief, along with staff personnel, when available.



The department completed its 6th year of the “No Child Sleeps Unprotected” in conjunction with the Van Wert County Fire Fighters Association on providing a 10 year smoke detector to every kindergartener.

NO CHILD SLEEPS **UNPROTECTED**

 **105**
Inspections completed



 **567**
FACILITIES THAT
REQUIRE INSPECTION

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency Medical responses continue to be the majority of the departments emergency responses at 90% of our runs.

EMS responded to 1374 Advanced Life Support and 45 Basic Life Support incidents. The department also gave mutual aid support on 73 incidents throughout Van Wert County.

We continue to be the primary ALS unit for the entire Van Wert County, encompassing 410 square miles.

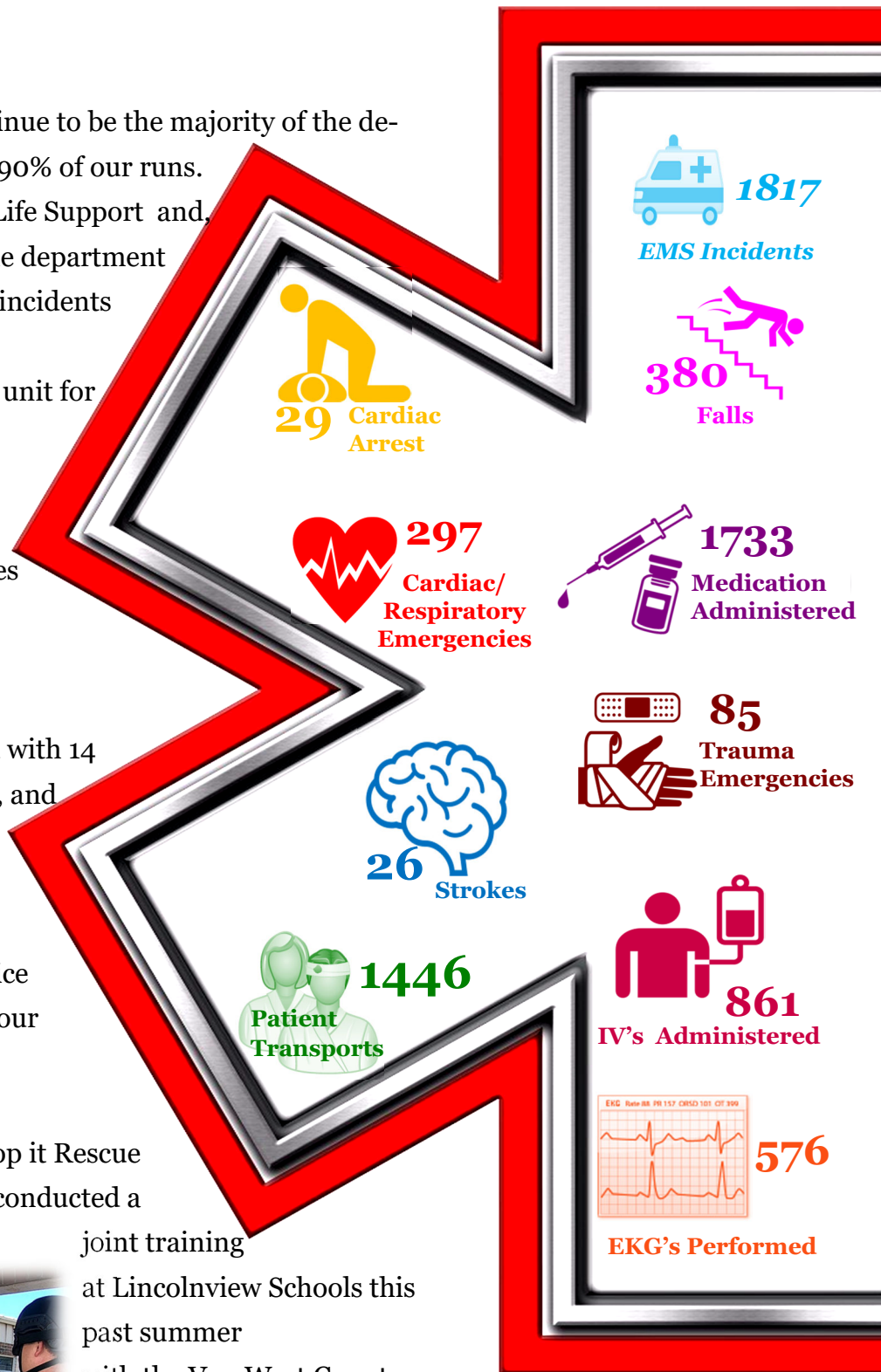
The department made 362 responses to incidents that the local private ambulance was unable to cover.

Presently, the department is staffed with 14 EMT Paramedics, 3 EMT advanced, and 7 EMT basic.

The department responded to 380 fall-lift assist in 2019. This is a service that is provided at no extra cost to our citizens.

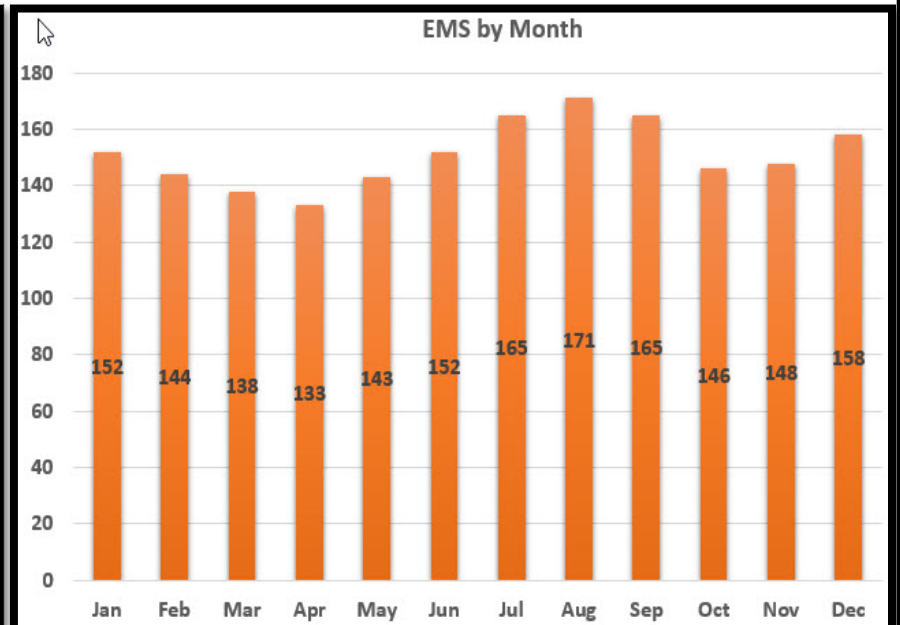
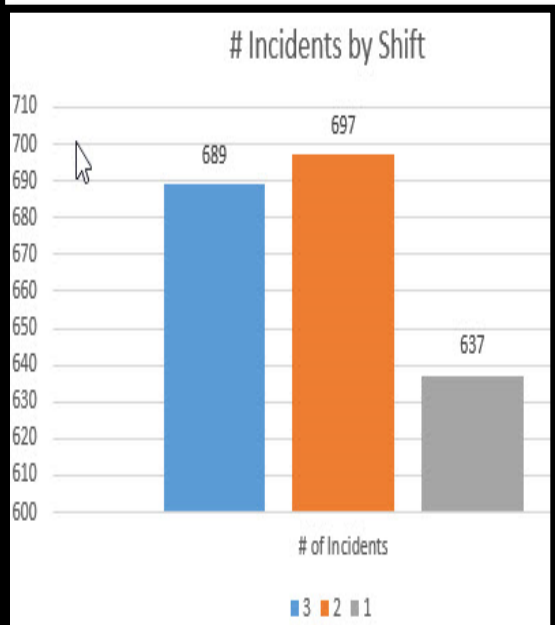
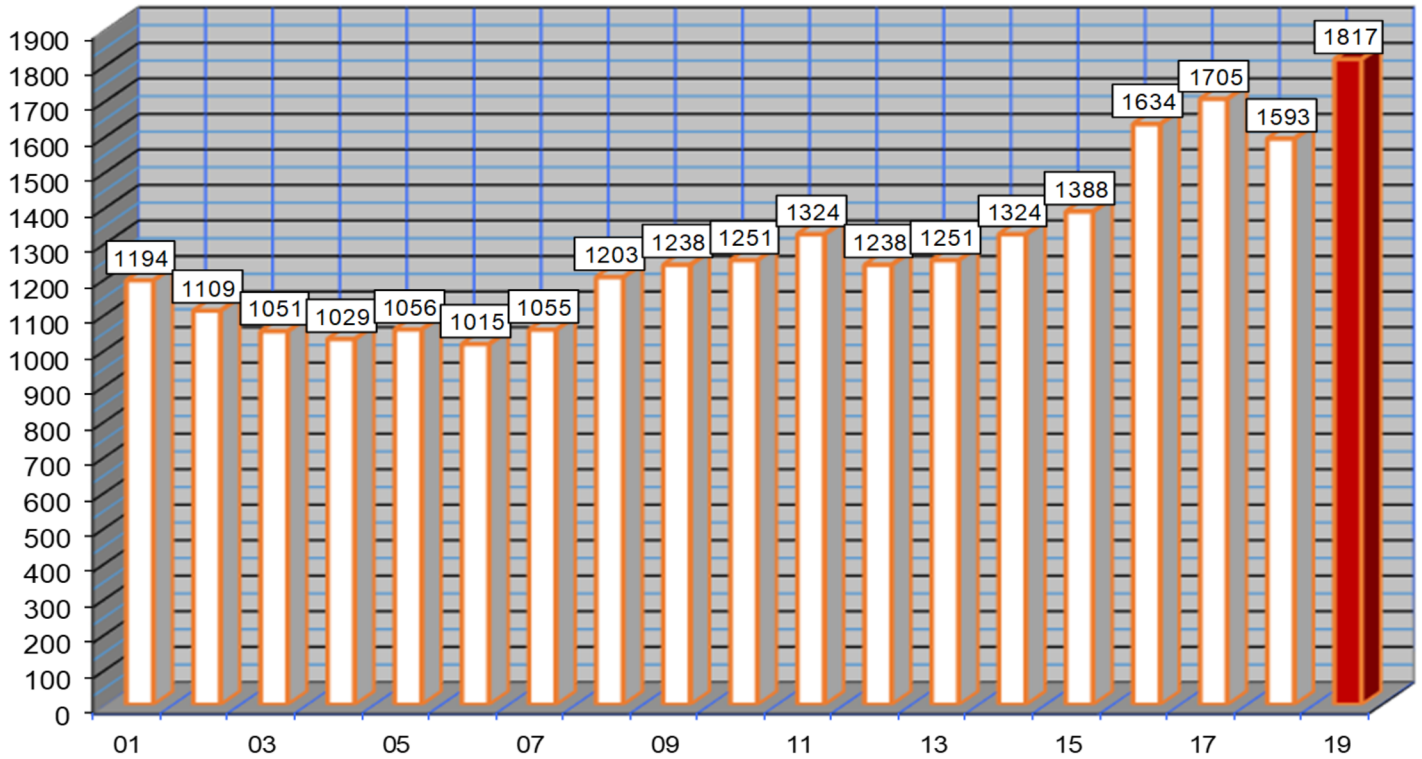
The department continues to develop its Rescue Task Force team. The department conducted a

joint training at Lincolnview Schools this past summer with the Van Wert County Sheriff. The safety of our schools remains a high priority.



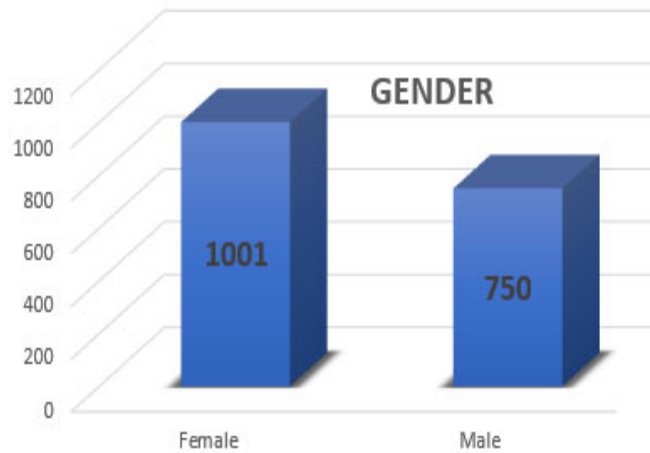
EMS STATISTICS

Total EMS Calls Per Year

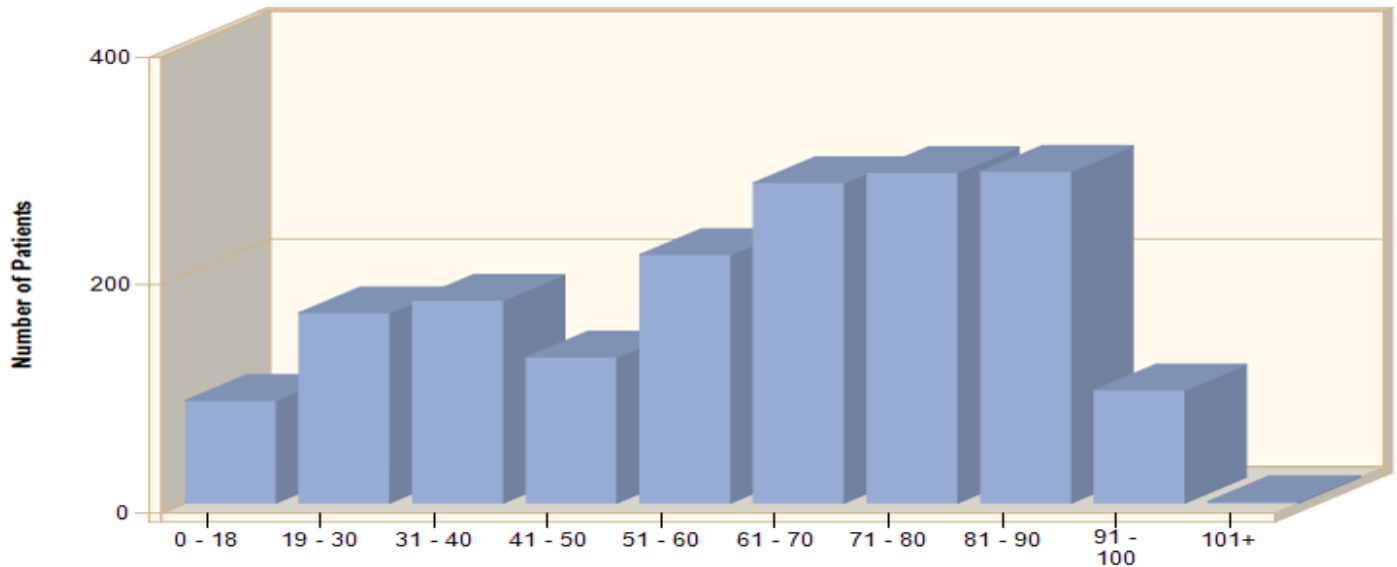


EMS STATISTICS

Month	% Procedures Successful
January 2019	81%
February 2019	79%
March 2019	83%
April 2019	90%
May 2019	85%
June 2019	83%
July 2019	86%
August 2019	89%
September 2019	92%
October 2019	80%
November 2019	82%
December 2019	81%



Patient Age Breakdown for Date Range (NEMIS 3 Incidents Only)



AGE RANGE	# PATIENTS
0 - 18	90
19 - 30	167
31 - 40	178
41 - 50	128
51 - 60	218
61 - 70	281
71 - 80	290
81 - 90	291
91 - 100	99
101+	1



DEPARTMENT GENERAL INFORMATION:



The Van Wert Fire Department is an ISO class 3 rated protection department; whose primary response district is the City of Van Wert and 6 square miles of contracted areas. The total area is approximately 14 square miles and protects a population of 10,969 (2017 US Census). We also respond to provide mutual aid services to all the government based Fire and EMS departments in the county upon their request.

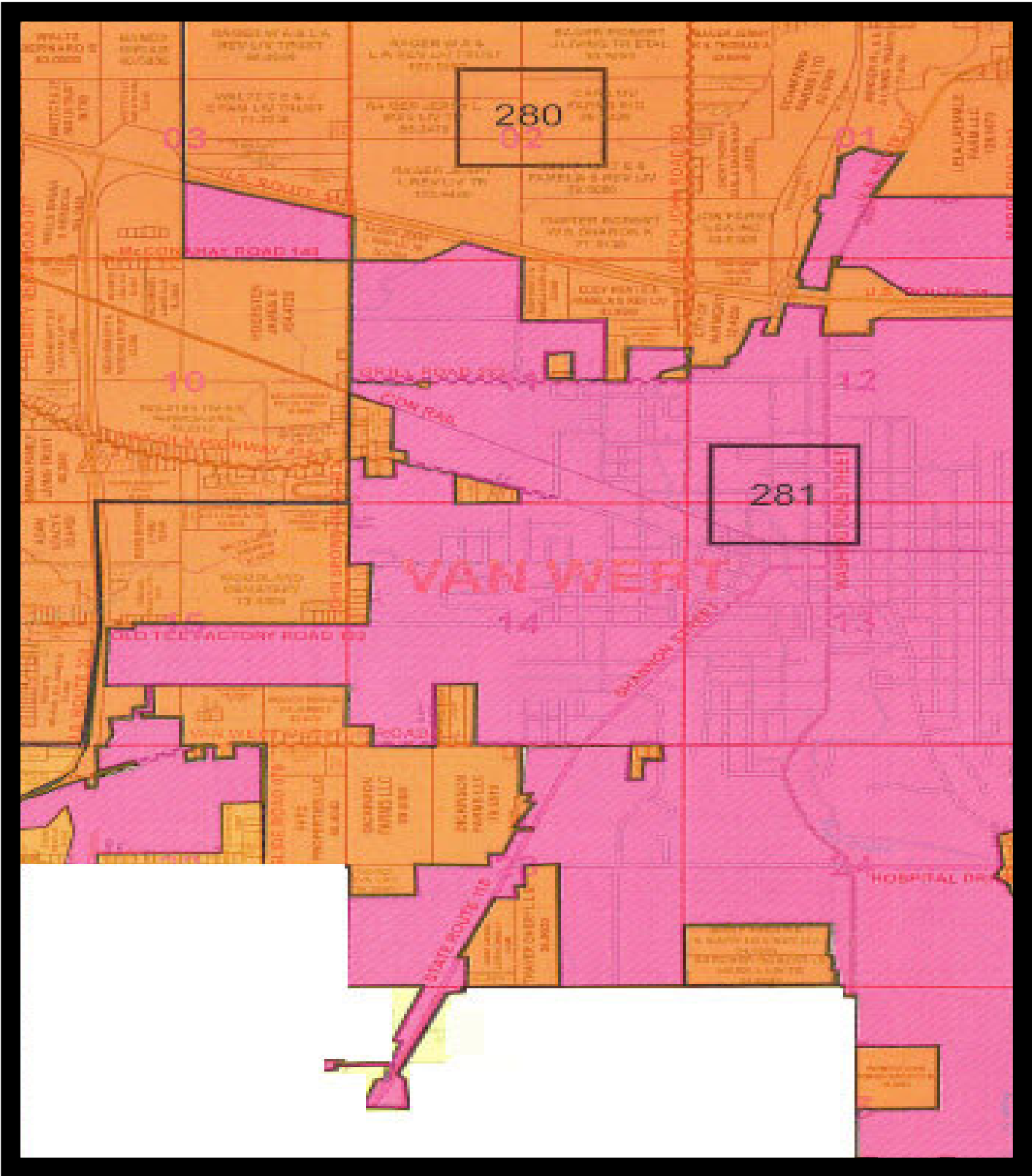
Our firefighters work in a three platoon system, with three shifts of six personnel. Each shift is staffed with one Captain and one Lieutenant. Fire personnel work a 24 hour on duty and 48 hours off duty schedule which is considered to be a 56-hour work week. The full time firefighters are augmented by paid on-call reserve force of ten firefighters. The average combined experience of all our personnel is 11.5 years. The average fire service experience of our officers is 25.0 years.

The Van Wert Fire Departments budget for 2019 was \$2,262,094.99 and includes revenue sources from local taxes, grants, EMS billing, fire protection fees, donations and false alarm billings. Specifically, EMS billing generated \$377,974.89 in 2019. The total budget reflects 90% dedicated to personnel, 10% operational cost from the general fund. The .22 capital fund provided \$305,462.33 for capital purchases including a 2019 Ford/Braun ambulance at a cost of \$243,640.00.

Looking forward to 2020 the fire department has some exciting challenges and goals. One of the most exciting is a collaboration with Vantage Career Center on the joint development of a fire service training grounds and facilities. The development of this training grounds is multi-beneficial for our community. It will provide a training area for Vantage, our department and surrounding fire departments, and provides additional scoring for our department to get closer to becoming an Insurance Service Office (ISO) rated 2 department. The department also looks at purchasing a new school car, and updating the diesel exhaust removal system in the department to meet the NFPA 1500 standard on 100% exhaust capture.

The department goals for 2020 are: Occupancy Vulnerability Assessment Profile (OVAP) score for all occupancies within our response area, 100 fire inspections, complete a preplan on all occupancies, train 1 hour per day minimum, and complete the fire stage of the training grounds.

2019 COVERAGE AREA



Van Wert City Corporation



Contractual Areas

STATION DETAILS



10,969
Daily Population



14
Square Miles



2029
Total Incidents

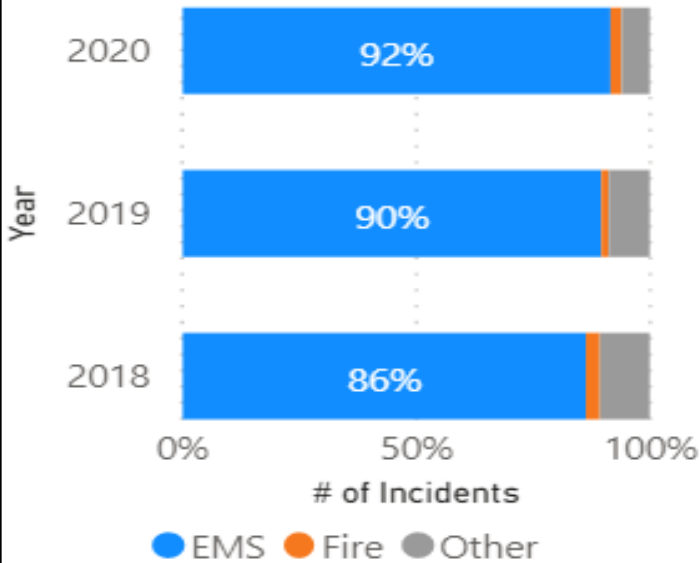


1817
EMS Incidents

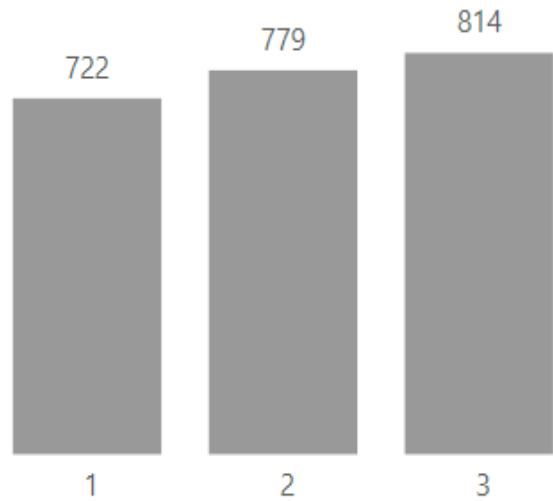


212
Fire Incidents

of Incidents by Category

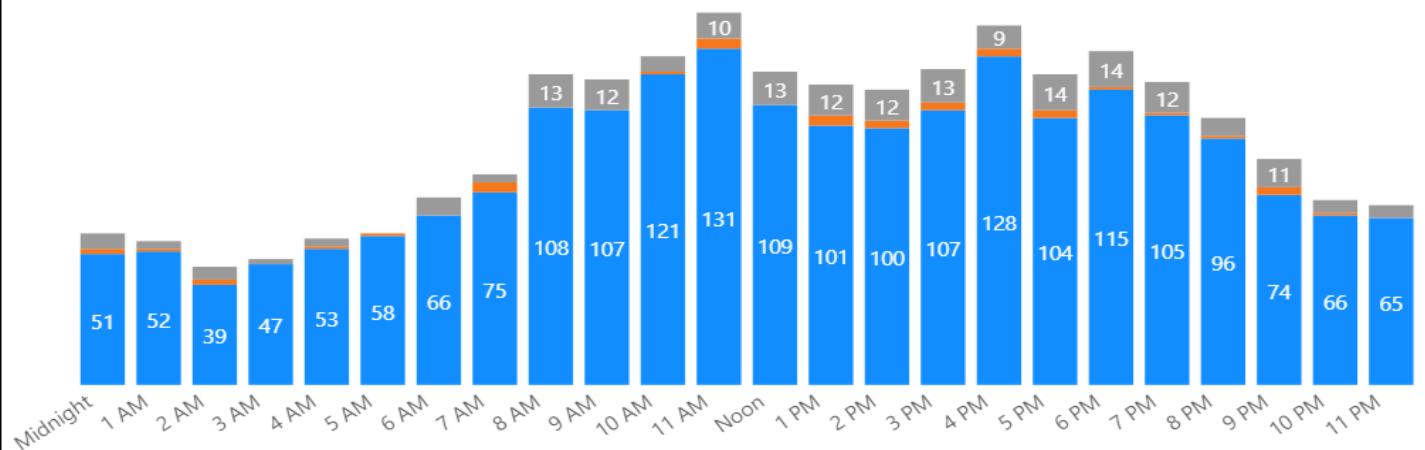


of Incidents by Shift



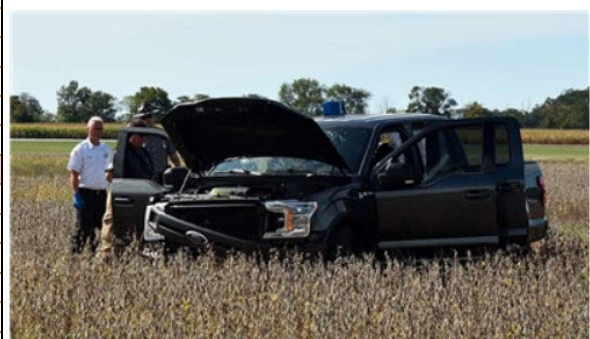
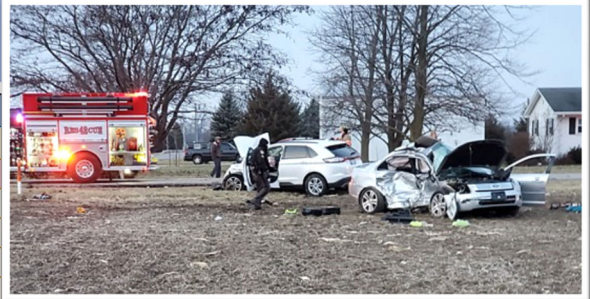
of Incidents by Hour of the Day

Incident Category ● EMS ● Fire ● Other

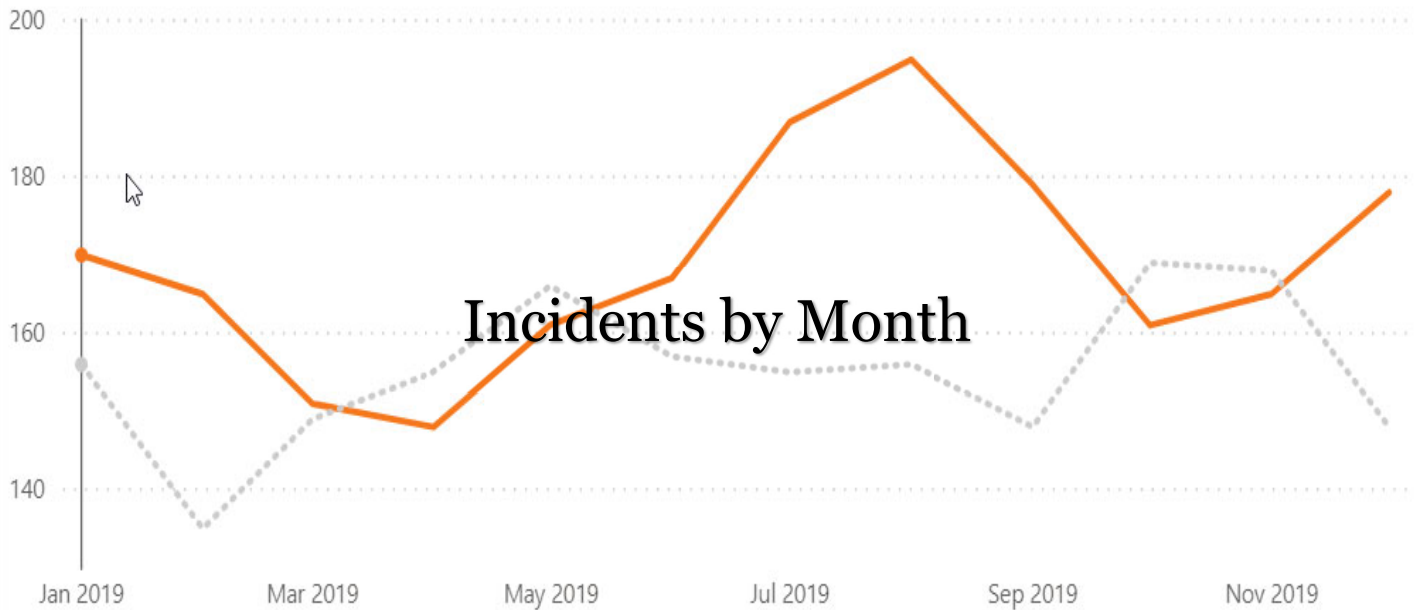


Incident Type Count per Station for 2019

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
Station: ST1 - MAIN STATION	
111 - Building fire	13
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	2
116 - Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	1
118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	2
130 - Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	5
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	1
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	2
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	2
160 - Special outside fire, other	1
161 - Outside storage fire	1
162 - Outside equipment fire	1
173 - Cultivated trees or nursery stock fire	1
240 - Explosion (no fire), other	1
251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	2
300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	1
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	2
320 - Emergency medical service, other	243
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	1508
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	46
323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	2
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	13
352 - Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	1
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	1
400 - Hazardous condition, other	1
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	5
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	34
420 - Toxic condition, other	1
422 - Chemical spill or leak	3
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	13
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	3
441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	1
442 - Overheated motor	1
444 - Power line down	1
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	2
500 - Service Call, other	4
510 - Person in distress, other	1
520 - Water problem, other	1
531 - Smoke or odor removal	2
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	2
554 - Assist invalid	1
561 - Unauthorized burning	11
600 - Good intent call, other	5
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	29
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	1
631 - Authorized controlled burning	1
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	7
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	1
700 - False alarm or false call, other	5
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	4
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	4
741 - Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	1
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	15
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	3
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	7
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1
900 - Special type of incident, other	1
911 - Citizen complaint	3
# Incidents for ST1 - Main Station:	2029



STATION DETAILS



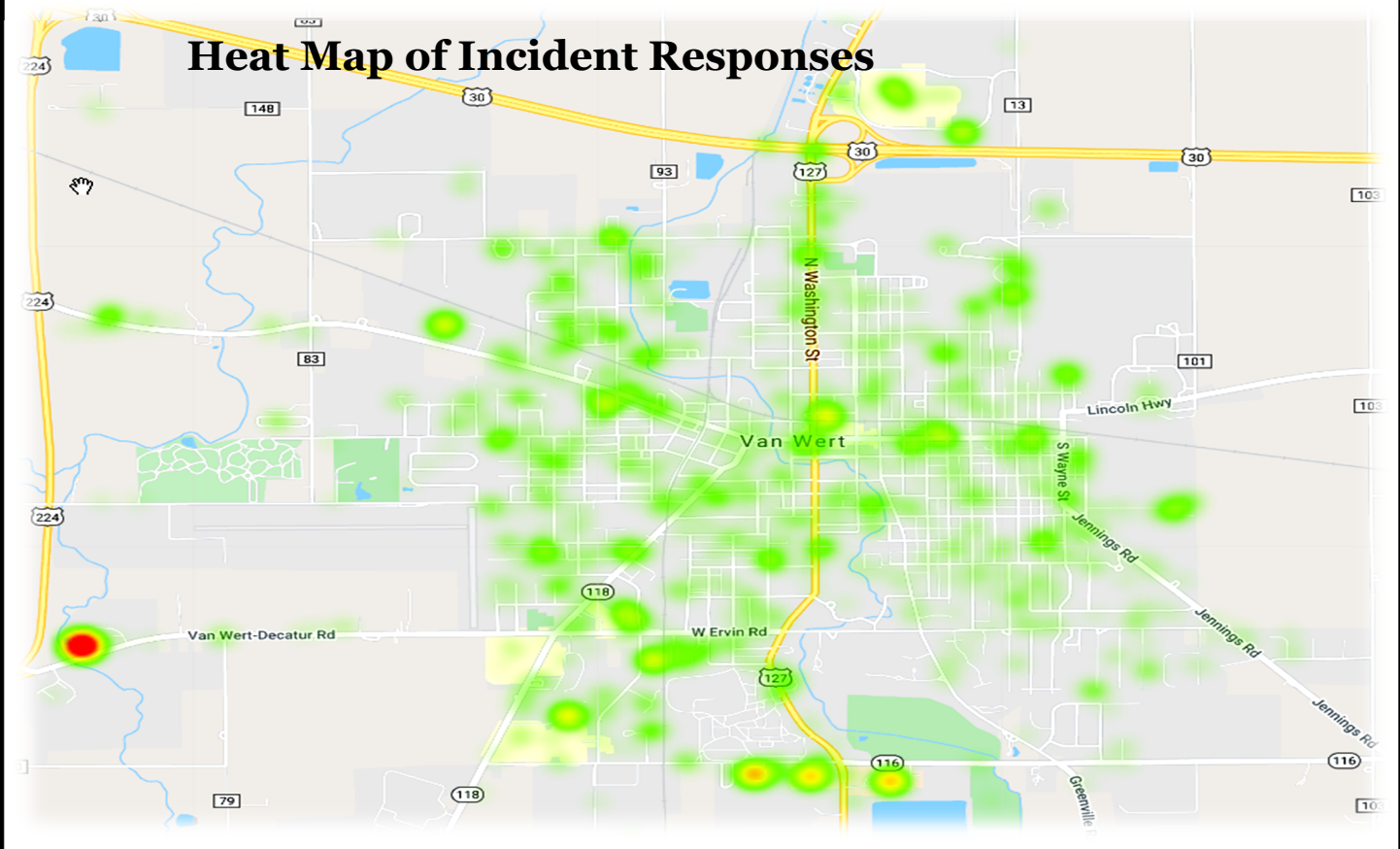
Response Times

Zone	Average Response Time in Minutes to Scene
OCL - Outside City Limits	10.56
CA - Contratual Area	6.94
W3 - Ward 3	5.44
W2 - Ward 2	5.4
W1 - Ward 1	4.57
W4 - Ward 4	4.38

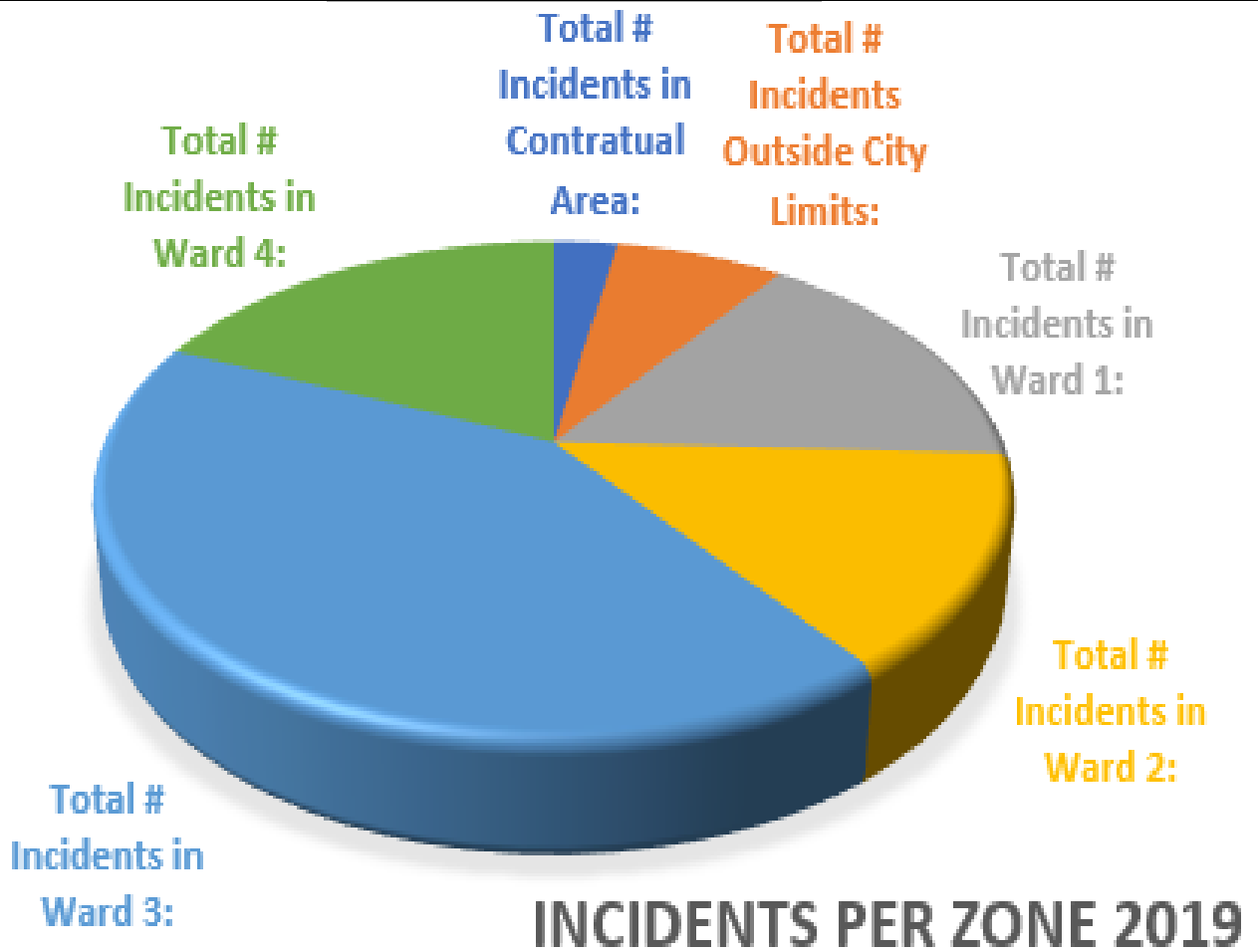
Shift	Average Out of Station Time from Time of Call
1	2:00
2	1:45
3	1:44

STATION DETAILS

Incident Title	# of Incidents	Percentage
Fires	33	1.60%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear - no fire	3	0.10%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1817	89.60%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	65	3.20%
Service Call	22	1.10%
Good Intent Call	44	2.20%
False Alarm & False Call	41	2.00%
Special Incident Type	4	0.20%

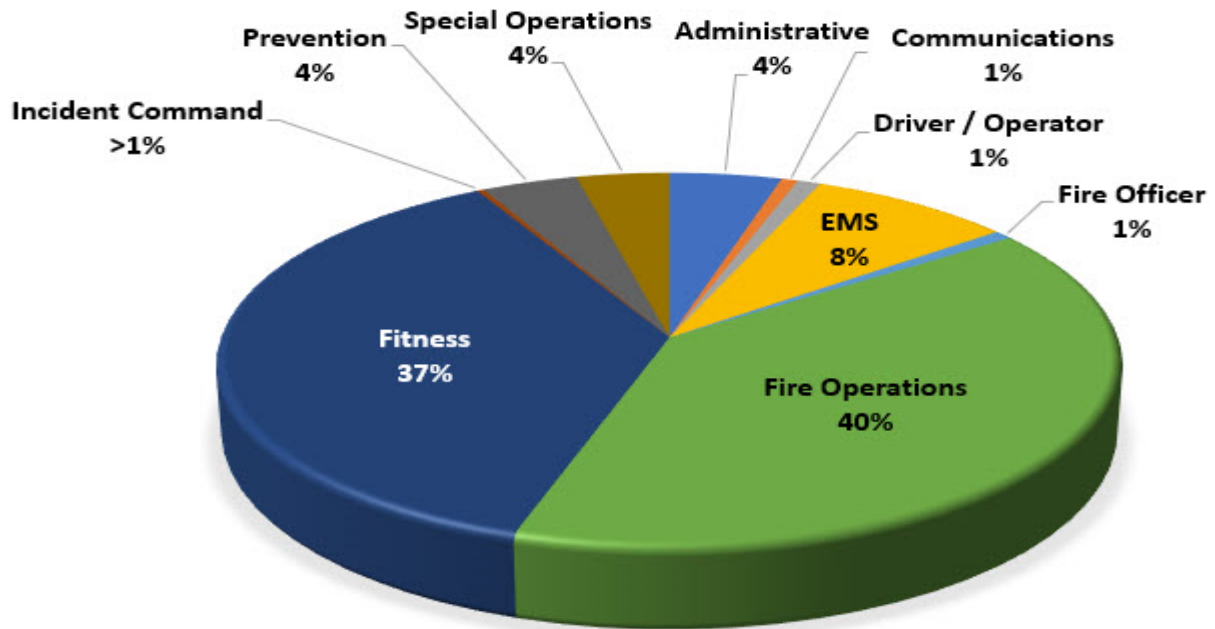


STATION DETAILS BY ZONE

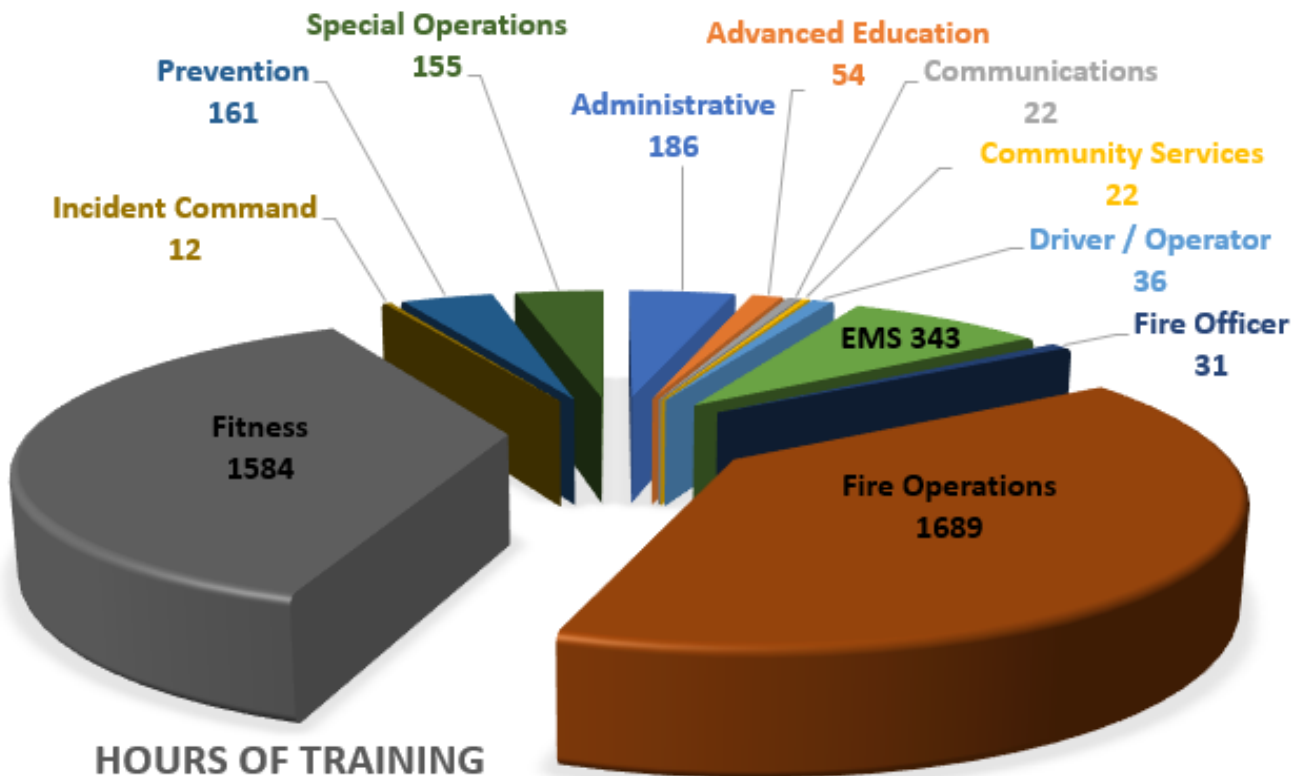


Area	# Incidents
Total # Incidents in Contratual Area:	55
Total # Incidents Outside City Limits:	146
Total # Incidents in Ward 1:	322
Total # Incidents in Ward 2:	285
Total # Incidents in Ward 3:	853
Total # Incidents in Ward 4:	371

TRAINING



TRAINING BY CATEGORY



HOURS OF TRAINING PER CATEGORY

VAN WERT FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Annual Awards Ceremony

Van Wert Fire Department held its Second Annual Awards Ceremony on March 1, 2020 at the Van Wert Fire Department. The ceremony was to summarize 2019's departmental highlights, including employee recognitions for years of service and many exemplary service and other departmental awards.

Years of Service Awards

30 Years– Jeff Henderson



5-Years– Zach Merkle



Awards

Training Award-Brett Schumm
624 hours



Fitness Award-Zach Merkle
202 hours



VAN WERT FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Awards

Leadership Awards

Brain Ankney



Efficiency Awards

Ed Carter



Busy Bee Company Award
14 responses in 24 hours

Shift Two

Captain Lahmon

Lt. Ankney

FF Henderson

FF Miller

FF Merkle

FF Gasser

Devoted Reserve Award
Matthew Saunier

VAN WERT FIRE DEPARTMENT FIREFIGHTER/EMT OF THE YEAR

Firefighter/EMT of the Year

The Firefighter of the Year is awarded to the firefighter/EMT that exemplifies the true meaning of commitment and pride in the organization for the current year. The award process is voted on by their peers in our organization. The selection is determined by being a team player, can-do attitude, Professional appearance, accepts responsibility, making the Department a better place, the respect of their peers, constantly improving themselves, involvement in extracurricular projects and routinely responding to emergency service calls. Last, but not least, they go above and beyond to give care and comfort to the patient.

Firefighter/EMT of the Year; FF/EMTP Austin Miller

FF/EMTP Austin Miller

Firefighter/Paramedic Austin Miller began his career with the Van Wert Fire Department as a reserve FF and was later hired full time on May 15, 2012.

Austin has achieved the Firefighter/EMT of the Year, two years in a row!

Austin specializes in technical rescue and has completed training as Rescue Technician in rope, water, grain bin, structural collapse and trench rescues. He is a member of the Ohio Task Force I team. He has acquired his Fire Officer 1 & 2, fire instructor certification, 1403 Live burn instructor and is Rescue Tech certified.

FF/EMTP Miller's hard work and dedication to this department and our community is greatly appreciated. He has earned the admiration and respect of our organization.

Austin brings laughter and fun to his shift on a daily basis and is always eager to help another person when he can.





CORE VALUES:

Professionalism – The Van Wert Fire Department is professional in all its actions by:

- Appearance and behavior
- Respectful attitude
- Concern and compassion for people
- Training, preparedness, readiness and response

Integrity – The Van Wert Fire Department demonstrates integrity by:

- Being loyal to the Department's vision and mission
- Conducting ourselves with a high level of morality
- Conducting ourselves with the utmost honesty at all times
- Showing self-respect and respect for others
- Taking responsibility for our actions

Teamwork—The Van Wert Fire Department demonstrates teamwork by:

- We each bring our own skills and experience
- Recognize that we are better together
- We support and depend on each other to achieve our goals

Compassion – The Van Wert Department demonstrates compassion to its members and the community it serves by:

- Reconciling differences with an open mind
- Showing kindness and concern to our employees and citizens
- Being sympathetic and displaying empathy for others
- Giving consideration to all facts surrounding issues

Honor – The Van Wert Fire Department demonstrates honor by:

- Being respectful of others at all times
- Ensuring actions are done with the goal of the department having the highest level of reputation
- Conducting ourselves so that we are admired by the community
- Acting with honesty, integrity and fairness at all times

VAN WERT FIRE DEPARTMENT

MISSION

Van Wert Fire Department is dedicated to providing a professional emergency service for our community, protecting the lives and properties within it.



VISION

Be leaders. Teach others. Be nice. Survive.