



RESEARCH

US Fire Department Profile – 2018

Supporting Tables

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US Fire Department Profile – 2018: Supporting Tables

The tables in this document are a companion to the report of the same name.

The report is based on two data sources: the annual NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience During 2018 and the NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018. See the [US Fire Department Profile – 2018](#) report for full methodology.

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Table 1. Career and Volunteer Firefighters by Gender in the US by Population Protected, 2018

Population Protected	Career			Volunteer			Total
	Male	Female	Sub-Total	Male	Female	Sub-Total	
1,000,000 or more	29,400	1,300	30,700	1,200	100	1,300	32,000
500,000 to 999,999	38,200	2,400	40,600	4,900	400	5,300	45,900
250,000 to 499,999	26,600	1,200	27,800	1,800	100	1,900	29,700
100,000 to 249,999	51,400	2,200	53,600	2,100	400	2,500	56,100
50,000 to 99,999	45,600	1,400	47,000	5,300	400	5,700	52,700
25,000 to 49,999	47,900	1,400	49,300	18,300	1,300	19,600	68,900
10,000 to 24,999	56,000	1,700	57,700	57,000	4,700	61,700	119,400
5,000 to 9,999	23,200	1,400	24,600	87,000	10,100	97,100	121,700
2,500 to 4,999	20,400	1,500	21,900	165,800	20,600	186,400	208,300
Under 2,500	16,000	800	16,800	323,200	40,400	363,600	380,400
	354,800	15,200	370,000	666,500	78,500	745,000	1,115,000

Note the number of volunteer firefighters for communities of 25,000 or more and the number of career firefighters for communities of less than 10,000 may change considerably from year to year because of their small size and sample variability.

Population protected is based on resident population and not daytime or seasonal populations.

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

See Appendix 3 for Bureau of Labor Statistics on career firefighters (2014-2018).

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 2. Number of Firefighters in the US, 1986-2018

Year	Total	Rate	Career	Rate	Volunteer	Rate
	Number	per 1,000 Population	Number	per 1,000 Population	Number	per 1,000 Population
1986	1,045,950	1.48	237,750	1.73	808,200	7.88
1987	1,060,000	2.57	243,200	1.73	816,800	8.05
1988	1,040,750	2.22	252,500	1.77	788,250	7.77
1989	1,020,700	3.05	250,600	1.75	770,100	7.45
1990	1,025,650	3.19	253,000	1.73	772,650	7.56
1991	1,033,600	6.22	261,800	1.73	771,800	7.61
1992	1,058,300	3.94	253,000	1.72	805,300	7.34
1993	1,055,050	4.09	259,650	1.73	795,400	7.25
1994	1,073,600	4.12	265,700	1.76	807,900	7.19
1995	1,098,850	4.18	260,850	1.70	838,000	7.42
1996	1,081,800	4.07	266,300	1.74	815,500	6.98
1997	1,079,050	4.03	275,700	1.73	803,350	7.12
1998	1,082,500	4.00	278,300	1.70	804,200	7.18
1999	1,065,150	3.90	279,900	1.69	785,250	6.93
2000	1,064,150	3.86	286,800	1.64	777,350	7.25
2001	1,078,300	3.85	293,600	1.70	784,700	7.04
2002	1,108,250	3.89	291,650	1.68	816,600	7.12
2003	1,096,900	3.77	296,850	1.67	800,050	7.05
2004	1,100,750	3.76	305,150	1.71	795,600	6.88
2005	1,136,650	3.82	313,300	1.68	823,650	7.30
2006	1,140,900	3.81	316,950	1.74	823,950	7.26
2007	1,148,000	3.81	323,350	1.74	825,450	7.29
2008	1,148,850	3.81	321,700	1.73	827,150	7.01
2009	1,148,100	3.81	335,950	1.72	812,150	7.27
2010	1,103,300	3.57	335,150	1.66	768,150	6.59
2011	1,100,450	3.54	344,050	1.69	756,400	6.37
2012	1,129,250	3.60	345,950	1.67	783,300	6.60
2013	1,140,750	3.60	354,600	1.67	786,150	6.68
2014	1,134,400	3.56	346,150	1.68	788,250	6.43
2015	1,160,450	3.36	345,600	1.54	814,850	6.71
2016	1,090,100	3.37	361,100	1.69	729,000	5.99
2017	1,056,200	3.24	373,600	1.80	682,600	5.80
2018	1,115,000	3.41	370,000	1.81	745,000	6.06

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience (1986-2018).

Table 3. Career Firefighter Rates by Population Protected, 2018

Population Protected	Career Firefighters Per 1,000 Population		
	Low	Median	High
1,000,000 or more	0.24	0.87	1.38
500,000 to 999,999	0.52	1.21	2.72
250,000 to 499,999	0.49	1.12	2.57
100,000 to 249,999	0.00	1.28	3.11
50,000 to 99,999	0.06	1.32	3.26
25,000 to 49,999	0.00	1.20	4.19

The rates listed above are based on data reported to the NFPA and do not reflect recommended rates or some defined fire protection standard.

The rates of a particular size of community may vary widely because departments face great variation in their specific circumstances and policies, including length of work week, unusual structural conditions, types of service provided to the community, geographical dispersion of the community, and other factors.

Career rates are shown only for communities with populations of 25,000 or more, where departments are comprised of all career or mostly career firefighters. Also, some of these departments have some volunteers, who are not reflected in these figures.

The low and high values are the lowest and highest values by size of community. The median value is chosen so that half the departments had higher values, and half had lower.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 4. Volunteer Firefighter Rates by Population Protected, 2018

Population Protected	Volunteer Firefighters Per 1,000 Population		
	Low	Median	High
10,000 to 24,999	0.00	0.96	13.51
5,000 to 9,999	0.00	3.41	20.47
2,500 to 4,999	0.00	6.43	26.00
Under 2,500	0.00	18.96	*

*Because there are a minimum number of firefighters to form even a single company, smaller communities of under 100 people can have very high rates.

The rates listed above are based on data reported to the NFPA and do not reflect recommended rates or some defined fire protection standard.

The rates of a particular size of community may vary widely because departments face great variation in their specific circumstances and policies, including structural conditions, types of service provided to the community, geographic dispersion of the community, and other factors.

Volunteer rates are shown only for communities under 25,000, where departments are comprised of all volunteer or mostly volunteers. Also, some of these departments, particularly those with population protected of 5,000 or more, have some career firefighters, who are not reflected in these figures.

The low and high values are the lowest and the highest values by size of community. The median value is chosen so that half of the departments had higher values, and half had lower.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

**Table 5. Career Firefighters per 1,000 People for all Career Departments
Work Week and Population Protected 2016-2018**

Population Protected	40-45 Hour	46-51 Hour	52-60 Hour
1,000,000 or more	*	1.53	0.9
500,000 to 999,999	2.3	1.83	1.17
250,000 to 499,999	1.89	1.94	1.18
100,000 to 249,999	2.07	1.47	1.28
50,000 to 99,999	2.02	1.58	1.39
25,000 to 49,999	2.01	1.62	1.62

*Insufficient data.

The rates listed above are based on data reported to the NFPA and do not reflect recommended rates or some defined fire protection standard.

The rates of a particular size of community may vary widely because departments face great variation in their specific circumstances and policies, including structural conditions, type of service provided to the community, geographic dispersion of the community, and other factors.

Career rates are shown only for communities over 25,000, where departments are comprised mostly of career firefighters.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018

Table 6. Median Rates of Career Firefighters per 1,000 People by Region and Population Protected, 2018

Population Protected	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
250,000 or more	2.28	1.33	1.33	0.86
100,000 to 249,000	1.98	1.18	1.51	0.95
50,000 to 99,999	1.80	1.09	1.64	0.99
25,000 to 49,999	1.77	1.00	1.56	0.97

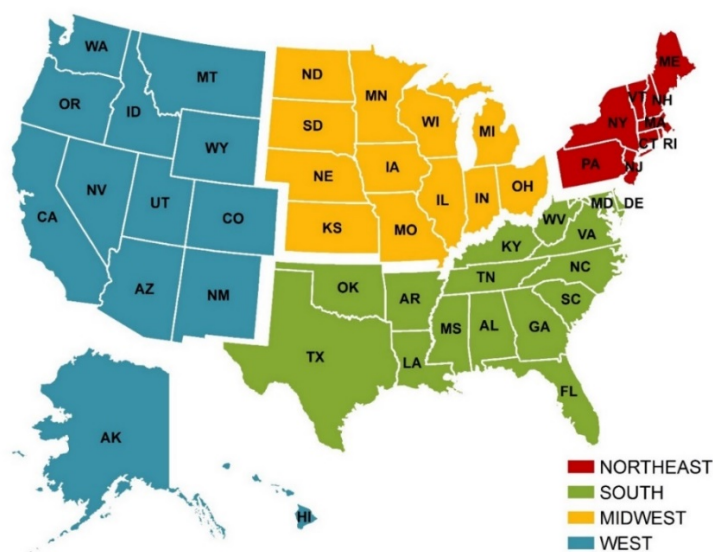
The rates listed above are based on data reported to the NFPA and do not reflect recommended rates or some defined fire protection standard.

The rates of a particular size of community may vary widely because departments face great variation in their specific circumstances and policies, including structures conditions, types of service provided to the community, geographic dispersion of the community, and other factors.

Career rates are shown only for communities over 25,000, where departments are comprised mostly of career firefighters.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

As defined by the US Bureau of the Census, the four regions are:



**Table 7. Median Rates of Volunteer Firefighters per 1,000 People
by Region and Population Protected, 2018**

Population Protected	Northeast	Midwest	South	West
10,000 to 24,999	1.27	1.21	0.52	0.74
5,000 to 9,999	4.71	3.47	2.45	3.49
2,500 to 4,999	7.79	6.45	5.86	6.37
Under 2,500	19.71	19.39	14.85	28.00

The rates listed above are based on data reported to the NFPA and do not reflect recommended rates or some defined fire protection standard.

The rates of a particular size of community department may vary widely because departments face great variation in their specific circumstances and policies, including structural conditions, types of service provided to the community, geographic dispersion of the community, and other factors.

Volunteer rates are shown only for communities under 25,000, where departments are comprised of mostly volunteer firefighters.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

As defined by the US Bureau of the Census, the four regions are:

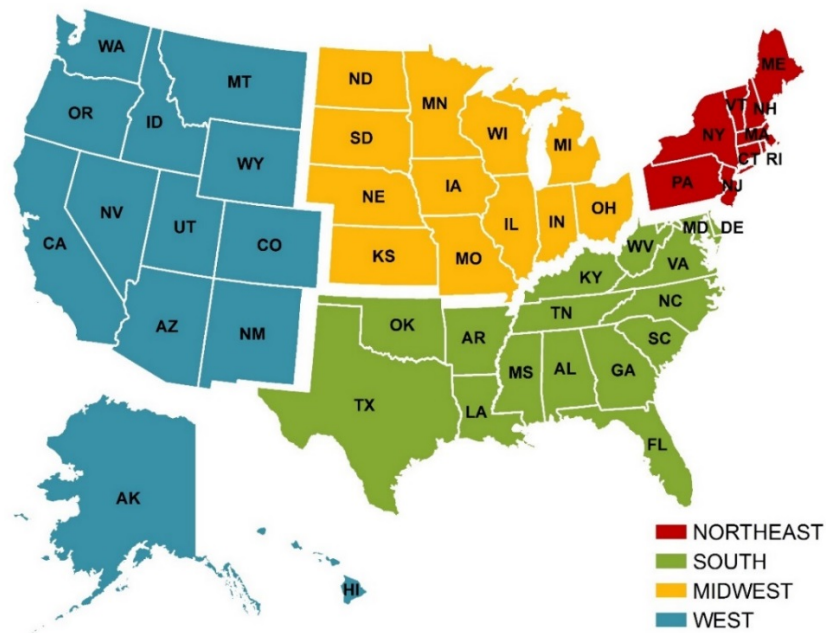


Table 8. Number of Firefighters in the US by Age Group, 2018

Age	Firefighters	
	Number	Percent
16–19	32,500	3%
20–29	231,600	21%
30–39	303,500	27%
40–49	258,900	23%
50–59	189,000	17%
60 and over	99,700	9%
Total	1,115,000	100%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 9. Age Profile of Firefighters by Size of Community, 2018

Size of Community	Percent Firefighters under Age 30	Percent Firefighters Age 30–39	Percent Firefighters Age 40–49	Percent Firefighters Age 50 and up	Total
Firefighters in Mostly Career Fire Departments					
1,000,000 or more	12%	30%	31%	26%	100.0%
500,000 to 999,999	16%	32%	32%	20%	100.0%
250,000 to 499,999	15%	33%	31%	20%	100.0%
100,000 to 249,000	17%	33%	30%	20%	100.0%
50,000 to 99,999	18%	33%	31%	18%	100.0%
25,000 to 49,999	22%	32%	27%	19%	100.0%
Firefighters in Mostly Volunteer Fire Departments					
10,000 to 24,999	27%	30%	24%	20%	100.0%
5,000 to 9,999	31%	26%	20%	23%	100.0%
2,500 to 4,999	29%	25%	22%	25%	100.0%
Under 2,500	22%	24%	20%	34%	100.0%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 10. Volunteer Firefighter Tenure Period by Number and Percentage, 2018

Tenure Active	Number	Percentage
Less than one year	72,300	10%
1–5 years	202,400	27%
6–10 years	163,000	22%
More than 10 years	307,400	41%
Total	745,000	100%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 11. Tenure Profile of Volunteer Firefighters by Size of Community, 2018

Size of Community	Percent of Firefighters less than 1 year	Percent of Firefighters 1–5 years	Percent of Firefighters 6–10 years	Percent of Firefighters more than 10 years	Total
1,000,000 or more	*	*	*	*	*
500,000 to 999,999	17%	52%	13%	18%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	38%	35%	10%	17%	100%
100,000 to 249,000	18%	43%	23%	16%	100%
50,000 to 99,999	19%	36%	16%	30%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	15%	32%	19%	33%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	12%	30%	21%	37%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	11%	29%	21%	39%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	10%	28%	22%	40%	100%
Under 2,500	8%	25%	23%	45%	100%
Total	11%	29%	21%	38%	100%

* Denotes insufficient data

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 12. Number of Departments and Percent of US Population Protected by Type of Department, 2018

Type of Department	Number	Percent	Percent of US Population Protected
All Career	3,009	10%	50%
Mostly Career	2,368	8%	19%
Mostly Volunteer	5,206	18%	15%
All Volunteer	19,122	64%	17%
Total	29,705	100%	100%

Department type is broken into four categories. All career departments are comprised of 100 percent career firefighters. Mostly career is comprised of 51 to 99 percent career firefighters, while mostly volunteer is comprised of 1 to 50 percent career firefighters. All volunteer departments are comprised 100 percent of volunteer firefighters.

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey 2016–2018 and NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Population Protected	Number of Fire Departments	Percentage
1,000,000 or more	15	<1%
500,000 to 999,999	43	<1%
250,000 to 499,999	66	<1%
100,000 to 249,999	288	1%
50,000 to 99,999	559	2%
25,000 to 49,999	1321	4%
10,000 to 24,999	3511	12%
5,000 to 9,999	4283	14%
2,500 to 4,999	5378	18%
Under 2,500	14242	48%
Total	29,705	100%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey 2016–2018 and NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 14. Department Type by Population Protected, 2018

Population Protected	All Career	Mostly Career	Mostly Volunteer	All Volunteer	Total
1,000,000 or more	56%	44%	0%	0%	100%
500,000 to 999,999	79%	17%	4%	0%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	84%	13%	3%	0%	100%
100,000 to 249,999	87%	10%	2%	1%	100%
50,000 to 99,999	73%	19%	8%	0%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	49%	25%	21%	4%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	26%	25%	36%	13%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	9%	12%	41%	39%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	2%	4%	22%	72%	100%
Under 2,500	2%	2%	5%	92%	100%
All Departments	10%	8%	18%	64%	100%

Department type is broken into four categories. All career departments are comprised 100 percent of career firefighters. Mostly career is comprised of 51 to 99 percent career firefighters, while mostly volunteer is comprised of 1 to 50 percent career firefighters. All volunteer departments are comprised 100 percent of volunteer firefighters.

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 2018.

Table 15. Average Apparatus and Station Rates per 1,000 Population by Community Size, 2016-2018

Population Protected	Pumpers per 1,000 Population	Other Suppression Vehicles* per 1,000 Population	Aerial Apparatus per 1,000 Population	Stations per 1,000 Population
1,000,000 or more	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.03
500,000 to 999,999	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.05
250,000 to 499,999	0.06	0.02	0.01	0.06
100,000 to 249,999	0.07	0.03	0.01	0.07
50,000 to 99,999	0.08	0.04	0.02	0.08
25,000 to 49,999	0.11	0.07	0.02	0.09
10,000 to 24,999	0.18	0.14	0.03	0.13
5,000 to 9,999	0.31	0.29	0.04	0.27
2,500 to 4,999	0.53	0.61	0.03	0.34
Under 2,500	1.13	1.84	0.04	0.91
National Average	0.21	0.23	0.02	0.17

*Other suppression vehicles include apparatus with pumps less than 1,000 gpm, hose wagons, brush fire vehicles, tankers, etc.

These results reflect average apparatus and station rates per 1,000 people by population protected reported to the NFPA. They do not reflect recommended rates or some defined fire protection standard.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

Table 16. Pumpers (1,000 gpm or greater) by Community Size, 2016-2018

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With						Total
	No Pumpers	1–5 Pumpers	6–9 Pumpers	10–19 Pumpers	20–39 Pumpers	40 or More Pumpers	
1,000,000 or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	80%	100%
500,000 to 999,999	2%	0%	0%	5%	64%	29%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	0%	0%	8%	55%	36%	2%	100%
100,000 to 249,999	1%	18%	41%	33%	6%	0%	100%

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With					Total
	No Pumpers	1 Pumper	2 Pumpers	3–4 Pumpers	5 or More Pumpers	
50,000 to 99,999	1%	2%	9%	35%	53%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	1%	6%	23%	46%	24%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	1%	9%	34%	47%	10%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	1%	15%	44%	36%	4%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	2%	23%	50%	23%	1%	100%
Under 2,500	11%	41%	39%	8%	0%	100%

Note that pumpers reported above had a capability of 1,000 gpm or greater. Note that many departments reported other fire suppression vehicles including apparatus with pumps less than 1,000 gpm, hose wagons, brush fire vehicles, tankers, etc.

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

Table 17. Other Suppression Vehicles by Community Size, 2016-2018

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With Other Suppression Vehicles							Total
	0	1-3	4-5	6-9	10-19	20-29	30 or More	
1,000,000 or more	0%	13%	0%	0%	20%	20%	47%	100%
500,000 to 999,999	7%	17%	10%	17%	24%	14%	12%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	16%	23%	14%	27%	11%	5%	5%	100%
100,000 to 249,999	21%	38%	13%	15%	9%	1%	3%	100%

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With Other Suppression Vehicles					Total
	None	1	2	3-4	5 or More	
50,000 to 99,999	31%	18%	15%	19%	18%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	28%	23%	19%	17%	14%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	24%	23%	20%	21%	12%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	17%	23%	25%	26%	10%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	11%	21%	28%	30%	10%	100%
Under 2,500	10%	23%	28%	29%	9%	100%

Other suppression vehicles include apparatus with pumps less than 1,000 gpm, hose wagons, brush fire vehicles, tankers, etc.

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

Table 18. Aerial Apparatus by Community Size, 2016-2018

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With					Total
	No Aerial Apparatus	1–5 Aerial Apparatus	6–9 Aerial Apparatus	10–19 Aerial Apparatus	20 or More Aerial Apparatus	
1,000,000 or more	0%	7%	7%	33%	53%	100%
500,000 to 999,999	7%	24%	29%	29%	12%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	3%	63%	23%	11%	0%	100%

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With					Total
	No Aerial Apparatus	1 Aerial Apparatus	2 Aerial Apparatus	3–4 Aerial Apparatus	5 or More Aerial Apparatus	
100,000 to 249,999	19%	28%	26%	17%	9%	100%
50,000 to 99,999	29%	41%	22%	8%	0%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	37%	50%	12%	0%	0%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	49%	47%	4%	0%	0%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	73%	26%	1%	0%	0%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	89%	10%	0%	0%	0%	100%
Under 2,500	96%	4%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

Table 19. Fire Stations by Community Size, 2016-2018

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With					Total
	1-5 Stations	6-9 Stations	10-19 Stations	20-29 Stations	30 or More Stations	
1,000,000 or more	0%	0%	0%	0%	100%	100%
500,000 to 999,999	0%	0%	5%	24%	71%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	0%	5%	50%	34%	11%	100%
100,000 to 249,999	13%	42%	38%	4%	2%	100%

Population Protected	Percentage of US Fire Departments With					Total
	No Stations	1 Station	2 Stations	3-4 Stations	5 or More Stations	
50,000 to 99,999	0%	3%	4%	15%	78%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	0%	14%	25%	28%	34%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	0%	45%	30%	14%	11%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	0%	69%	21%	6%	4%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	0%	77%	17%	4%	2%	100%
Under 2,500	0%	86%	11%	2%	1%	100%

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding errors.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

**Table 20. Departments Providing Emergency Medical Service
by Community Size (Percent), 2016-2018**

Population Protected	No EMS	BLS	ALS	Total
1,000,000 or more	0%	0%	100%	100%
500,000 to 999,999	0%	26%	74%	100%
250,000 to 499,999	2%	27%	72%	100%
100,000 to 249,999	3%	34%	63%	100%
50,000 to 99,999	6%	39%	55%	100%
25,000 to 49,999	17%	37%	46%	100%
10,000 to 24,999	27%	42%	32%	100%
5,000 to 9,999	38%	43%	19%	100%
2,500 to 4,999	41%	47%	12%	100%
Under 2,500	45%	49%	6%	100%
Nationwide	38%	45%	17%	100%

BLS refers to fire departments providing basic life support, and ALS refers to fire departments providing advanced life support.

Sums may not equal totals due to rounding error.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

Table 21. Direct Expenditures on Local Fire Protection

Year	Expenditures (in Billions)	Expenditures (in Billions) Adjusted for Inflation*	US Resident Population (in Thousands)
1980	\$5.7	\$17.0	227,225
1981	\$6.3	\$17.0	229,466
1982	\$7.0	\$17.8	231,664
1983	\$7.6	\$18.7	233,792
1984	\$8.2	\$19.3	235,825
1985	\$8.5	\$19.3	237,924
1986	\$9.6	\$21.5	240,133
1987	\$10.5	\$22.6	242,289
1988	\$11.8	\$24.5	244,499
1989	\$11.9	\$23.5	246,819
1990	\$13.2	\$24.8	249,464
1991	\$13.8	\$24.8	252,153
1992	\$14.4	\$25.2	255,030
1993	\$15.4	\$26.1	257,783
1994	\$16.1	\$26.6	260,327
1995	\$17.0	\$27.3	262,803
1996	\$17.7	\$27.7	265,229
1997	\$19.4	\$29.6	267,784
1998	\$20.3	\$30.5	270,248
1999	\$21.3	\$31.3	272,691
2000	\$23.1	\$32.9	282,172
2001	\$25.0	\$34.6	285,082
2002	\$26.0	\$35.4	287,804
2003	\$28.4	\$37.9	290,326
2004	\$30.7	\$39.9	293,046
2005	\$34.2	\$42.9	295,753
2006	\$34.2	\$41.6	298,593
2007	\$36.8	\$43.5	301,580
2008	\$39.7	\$45.2	304,375
2009	\$40.3	\$46.0	307,007
2010	\$42.6	\$47.9	309,326
2011	\$42.3	\$46.1	311,583
2012	\$42.5	\$45.4	313,874

Table 21. Direct Expenditures on Local Fire Protection. (Continued)

Year	Expenditures (in Billions)	Expenditures (in Billions) Adjusted for Inflation*	US Resident Population (in Thousands)
2013	\$43.4	\$45.6	316,129
2014	\$44.1	\$45.6	318,857
2015	\$45.8	\$47.4	321,419
2016	\$47.8	\$48.9	322,941
2017	\$50.4	\$50.4	324,986

*Adjustments were made to 2017 dollars using the Purchasing Power of the Dollar.

Source: US Bureau of the Census, *Economy-wide Statistics Division*.

Appendix A. Number of US Fire Departments

Year	Total	All Career	Mostly Career	Mostly Volunteer	All Volunteer
1986	29,840	1,999	1,044	3,640	23,157
1987	29,741	1,683	1,335	3,635	23,088
1988	30,245	1,729	1,405	3,908	23,203
1989	30,315	1,799	1,303	3,878	23,335
1990	30,391	1,949	1,338	4,000	23,104
1991	30,587	2,017	1,257	4,162	23,151
1992	30,562	1,843	1,217	4,377	23,125
1993	30,528	1,646	1,342	4,378	23,162
1994	30,495	1,778	1,448	4,400	22,869
1995	31,197	1,831	1,660	4,581	23,125
1996	31,503	1,872	1,380	4,863	23,388
1997	30,665	1,979	1,490	4,808	22,388
1998	31,114	2,028	1,602	4,848	22,636
1999	30,436	1,752	1,639	4,651	22,394
2000	30,339	2,178	1,667	4,523	21,971
2001	30,020	1,928	1,539	4,671	21,882
2002	30,310	2,044	1,480	4,886	21,900
2003	30,542	2,018	1,582	5,271	21,671
2004	30,400	1,917	1,242	4,084	23,157
2005	30,300	2,087	1,766	4,902	21,575
2006	30,635	2,321	1,731	5,134	21,449
2007	30,185	2,263	1,765	4,989	21,168
2008	30,170	2,315	1,790	4,830	21,235
2009	30,165	2,457	1,752	5,099	20,857
2010	30,125	2,495	1,860	5,290	20,480
2011	30,145	2,550	1,865	5,530	20,200
2012	30,100	2,610	1,995	5,445	20,050
2013	30,052	2,477	1,971	5,797	19,807
2014	29,980	2,440	2,045	5,580	19,915
2015	29,727	2,651	1,893	5,421	19,762
2016	29,710	2,775	2,048	5,451	19,436
2017	29,819	2,785	2,316	5,405	19,313
2018	29,705	3,009	2,368	5,206	19,122

A fire department is a public or private organization that provides fire prevention, fire suppression, and associated emergency and non-emergency services to a jurisdiction such as a county, municipality, or organized fire district.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Inventory and NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience, 1986-2018.

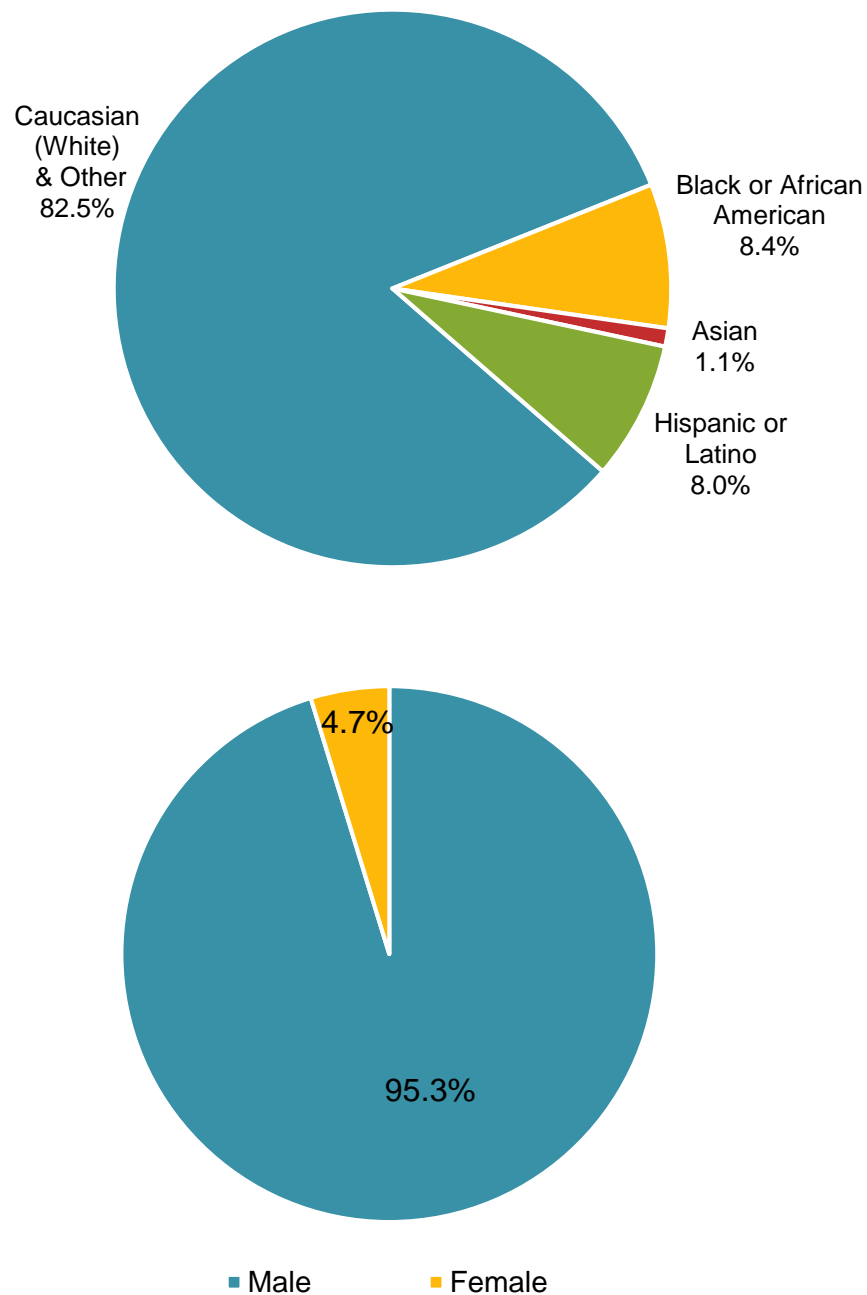
Appendix B. Number of Fire Stations, Pumpers, Other Suppression Vehicles, and Aerial Apparatus

Year	US Fire Stations	Pumpers >1,000 gpm	Other Suppression Vehicles*	Aerial Apparatus
1995-1997	48,850	68,300	---	6,450
1996-1998	51,000	69,150	---	6,450
1997-1999	52,100	69,000	---	6,300
1998-2000	49,200	68,200	---	6,400
1999-2001	51,500	68,000	---	6,500
2000-2002	50,900	67,950	---	6,300
2001-2003	51,650	68,950	---	6,500
2002-2004	51,450	67,800	---	6,500
2003-2005	52,950	68,950	---	6,600
2004-2006	53,200	69,300	---	6,700
2005-2007	51,900	68,050	74,350	6,750
2006-2008	52,400	68,200	75,300	6,725
2007-2009	52,050	68,400	74,250	6,750
2008-2010	51,300	66,800	72,800	6,800
2009-2011	55,400	67,000	73,800	6,900
2010-2012	51,650	66,900	74,000	6,900
2011-2013	51,150	69,150	76,300	7,000
2012-2014	58,150	70,550	81,000	7,200
2013-2015	58,750	71,800	79,050	7,300
2015-2017	51,000	66,400	71,900	7,200
2016-2018	57,500	72,100	80,900	7,400

* Other suppression vehicles include apparatus with pumps less than 1,000 gpm, hose wagons, brush fire vehicles, tankers, etc.

Source: NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018 and NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for the US Fire Experience, 2018.

Appendix C. Average Percentage of Career Firefighters by Gender, Race, and Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity (2014-2018)



*Note: These statistics do not include volunteer firefighters.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Annual Averages Tables Employment and Earnings
<https://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsaat11.htm>

Methodology

The report is based on two data sources: the annual NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience During 2018 and the NFPA Fire Service Survey, 2016-2018.

The NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience Survey utilizes a sample of fire departments in the United States to make national projections of the fire problem. The sample is stratified by the size of the community protected by the fire department. All US fire departments that protect communities with a population of more than 5,000 are included in the sample. The 8,854 departments in the eight highest strata protect a population of 283 million or 85 percent of the US population as of July, 2018.

The remainder of the sample included 14,338 randomly selected departments from strata 9 and 10 (less than 5,000 population protected), for a total sample size of 23,192 (78 percent) of all known fire departments to the NFPA in the United States.

A total of 2,631 departments responded to the NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience During 2018. The national projections are made by weighting sample results according to the proportion of total US population accounted for by communities of each size. Around any estimate based on a sample survey, there is a confidence interval that measures the statistical certainty (or uncertainty) of the estimate. We are confident the actual number of total firefighters falls within 5 percent of the estimate.

The NFPA Fire Service Survey is a 3-year cycle survey that attempts to survey about one-third of the states in the country each year. The survey includes questions on the number of career firefighters, the number of volunteer firefighters, length of work week, number of apparatus and stations, etc. In recent years, the survey has had a response rate of between 13–16 percent from departments.

The results in this report are based on local and municipal fire departments. State and federal firefighting entities were not included in this sample. No adjustments were made for private fire brigades, such as industrial or military installations.

Acknowledgements

The National Fire Protection Association thanks all the fire departments and state fire authorities who participate in NFIRS and the annual NFPA Survey of Fire Departments for US Fire Experience During 2018. These firefighters are the original sources of the detailed data that make this analysis possible. Their contributions allow us to estimate the size of the fire problem.

We are also grateful to the US Fire Administration for its work in developing, coordinating, and maintaining NFIRS. To learn more about research at NFPA visit nfpa.org/research.

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