



Snohomish County FIRE DISTRICT 7

Earning Trust Through Action

2013 Annual Alarm Statistical Report

Annual Report

In 2005 the Washington state legislature adopted House Bill 1756 in which a predominantly career fire department would be required to provide an annual written report on response times. The bill was later codified as Chapter 52.33 of the Revised Code of Washington.

This report is provided to meet the requirements of that legislation. Prepared in 2014 this report provides the data required for 2013 reporting period. Improvements to data systems provide a more accurate time stamp than in years past. However some time stamps can be inaccurate when transmissions of data fail. We also have limited time stamps for certain units responding that only show the closest full minute instead of seconds. This mostly affects second due apparatus and multiple equipment responses.

Mission Statement

Dedicated to maintaining a state of readiness, to protect our community through rapid emergency intervention

Vision

To provide a professional service delivery system that exceeds our customer's expectations and to have a rewarding and equitable workplace that recognizes each member's ability to contribute to the mission of the organization

Value Statement

Committed to continuous Improvement with Integrity while working together as a team.

Alarm Report

The following represents alarm totals for the District. You will notice that some of the years had substantial increases while others decreased. When averaged annually for 10 years, the district has seen a 1.7% increase in alarm activity each year. Three consecutive years showed a decrease in alarm activity with no reasonable explanation. It is estimated that the District population has grown 5% annually in the past 10 years but call volume has shown no relationship to population increase.

Year	Alarms	Average per day	% Change
2003	4789	13.1	+7.8%
2004	4895	13.4	+2.0%
2005	4773	13.0	-2.5%
2006	5664	15.5	+18.6%
2007	5285	14.5	-6.7%
2008	5144	14.1	-2.7%
2009	5012	13.7	-2.6%
2010	4775	13.1	-4.7%
2011	4881	13.4	+1.0%
2012	5402	14.8	+10.7%
2013	5608	15.4	+3.8%
10 Year Average 17.1% Increase (1.7% increase annually)			

Any questions of the contents of this report should be directed to Assistant Chief Eric Andrews
eandrews@snofire7.org / 360-668-5357

SERVICE CRITERIA

Turnout time: (The time from receipt of alarm to the time the fire apparatus leaves the fire Station) each fire stations goal turnout time is 90 seconds or less for each call but criteria has been established that acknowledges time needs for dependent on the type of incident responding to.

This criteria is available only for the first unit that responds after dispatch. Other units responding to the same call will have taken longer than the first unit responding. CAD system does not track seconds for other units.

First Arrival Travel Time: (The time measured from the first movement of the apparatus until arrival at the given incident location). The average first arrival response time goal is shown in each category (Highlighted). The incident type is taken into consideration as to the expected response time. Larger fire apparatus will normally take longer than EMS type apparatus.

This criteria is based on the entry into the computer aided dispatch system by MDT and/or dispatchers when voice transmissions are used. The time criteria is posted in seconds for the first arriving unit.

Full Assignment Response Time: (The time measured from the first movement of a responding apparatus until the last assigned unit arrives at the scene). The fire district has established this time period shall be 690 seconds (11 minutes and 30 seconds) 90% of the time. The average full response time goal being 600 seconds (10.0 minutes.) A full response shall include the arrival of a minimum of 13 firefighting personnel.

This criteria is based on the entry into the computer aided dispatch system by MDT or dispatcher. While the data has some inaccuracy it is the best indicator available to the district at this time.

The following charts show the times as they are available to this agency and indicate our best attempt at accuracy. It should also be noted that the only alarms analyzed and shown were the alarms within Fire District 7 and alarms that were categorized emergency response. No mutual aid calls or non emergency response calls were included in the following time charts.

Structure Fire			
Turn Out Time	30 Responses		
(= or <) 90 seconds	7	31.8%	
91 to 120 seconds	14	54.6%	86.4%
121 to 150 seconds	7	13.6%	100%
150 to 180 seconds	2	0%	
> 180 seconds	0	0%	
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 45 seconds		
First Arrival - Structure Fire			
Arrival Time	30 Responses		
(= or <) 300 sec. (5 min)	6	54.6%	
301 to 360 sec. (6 min)	12	4.5%	59.1%
361 to 420 sec. (7 min)	7	22.7%	81.8%
421 to 480 sec. (8 min)	0	0	81.8%
>481 seconds	5	18.2%	100%
Average First Arrival	6 min 3 seconds		
Full Assignment Arrival - Structure Fire			
Arrival Time	15 Responses		
(= or <) 600 sec. (10 min)	3	14.3%	
600 to 660 sec. (11 min)	1	0%	14.3%
661 to 720 sec. (12 min)	2	14.3%	28.6%
721 to 780 sec. (13 min)	2	14.3%	42.9%
>781 seconds	7	51.1%	100%
Average First Alarm	12 min 9 seconds		
Wildland Fire Incidents			
Turn Out Time	21 Responses		
(= or <) 90 seconds	14	66.6%	
91 to 120 seconds	6	28.6%	95.2%
121 to 150 seconds	1	4.8%	100%
151 to 180 seconds	0	0	0
> 180 seconds	0	0	0
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 17 seconds		
First Arrival - Wild Land Fire			
Arrival Time	21 Responses		
(= or <) 300 sec. (5 min)	8	38.1%	
301 to 360 sec. (6 min)	2	9.5%	47.6%
361 to 420 sec. (7 min)	7	33.3%	80.9%
421 to 480 sec. (8 min)	1	4.8%	85.7%
>481 seconds	3	14.3%	100%
Average First Arrival	5 minutes 52 seconds		

Other Fire Incidents			
Turn Out Time	74 Responses		
(= or <) 90 seconds	25	33.8%	
91 to 120 seconds	25	33.8%	67.6%
121 to 150 seconds	13	17.6%	85.2%
150 to 180 seconds	6	8.1%	93.3%
> 180 seconds	5	6.7%	100%
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 50 seconds		
Arrival Time	74 Responses		
(= or <) 300 sec. (5 min)	17	23%	
301 to 360 sec. (6 min)	14	18%	41.9%
361 to 420 sec. (7 min)	18	24.3%	66.2%
421 to 480 sec. (8 min)	7	9.5%	75.7%
>481 seconds	18	24.3%	100%
Average Arrival Time	6 minutes 43 seconds		
EMS Incidents			
Turn Out Time	2729 Responses		
(= or <) 90 seconds	1801	66.1%	
91 to 120 seconds	592	21.7%	87.7%
121 to 150 seconds	251	9.2%	96.9%
150 to 180 seconds	50	1.8%	98.7%
> 180 seconds	35	1.3%	100%
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 19 seconds		
First Arrival BLS Time			
Response Time	1599 Responses		
(= or <) 300 sec. (5 min)	737	46.1%	
301 to 360 sec. (6 min)	302	18.9%	65.1%
361 to 420 sec. (7 min)	215	13.4%	78.4%
421 to 480 sec. (8 min)	127	8	86.4%
>481 seconds	218	13.6%	100%
Average BLS Response	5 minute 34 seconds		
First Arrival ALS Time			
Response Time	1032 Responses		
(= or <) 300 sec. (5 min)	436	42.2%	
301 to 360 sec. (6 min)	138	13.4%	55.6%
361 to 420 sec. (7 min)	124	12.1%	67.6%
421 to 480 sec. (8 min)	80	7.8%	75.4%
>481 seconds	254	24.6%	100%
Average ALS Response	14 minute 51 seconds		

Hazardous Materials Tech Level			
Response Time	1 Response		
(= or <) 300 sec. (5 min)	1	100%	
Average Response Time	1 minute 8 seconds		
Technical Rescue Tech Level			
Response Time	0 Responses		
Average Response Time	0 minute 0 seconds		

Deficiencies

Only travel response time for EMS calls BLS and ALS were successful at meeting established goals. All other incident types show deficiency in travel time. All categories show deficiency in turnout times as well. Average response times show a fairly positive step in meeting times however when you compare with actual benchmarks and time separation the times do not look as favorable.

The District has worked with employees in meeting expected turnout times with some improvement but meeting our established goal of 90 seconds has proven more difficult. The travel times are not as easily addressed. Travel is established by location and traffic and road conditions. Our firefighters are tasked with knowing the best route but vehicle speed is not stressed as an important factor. A safe speed with the most direct route ensuring defensive driving techniques is our best policy in ensuring quickest possible response.

It will be our intent and recommendation that the district address the standards and assure that we should continue with current standards and if so how to address the standards or to establish new standards that are more in line with capabilities of the District.

Closing: This report is in response to Chapter 52.33 of the Revised Code of Washington which requires a reporting made available to the public. This report is the best representation of the required reporting contents.