

# SEATTLE FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Harold D. Scoggins, Fire Chief  
February 13, 2024



# AGENDA

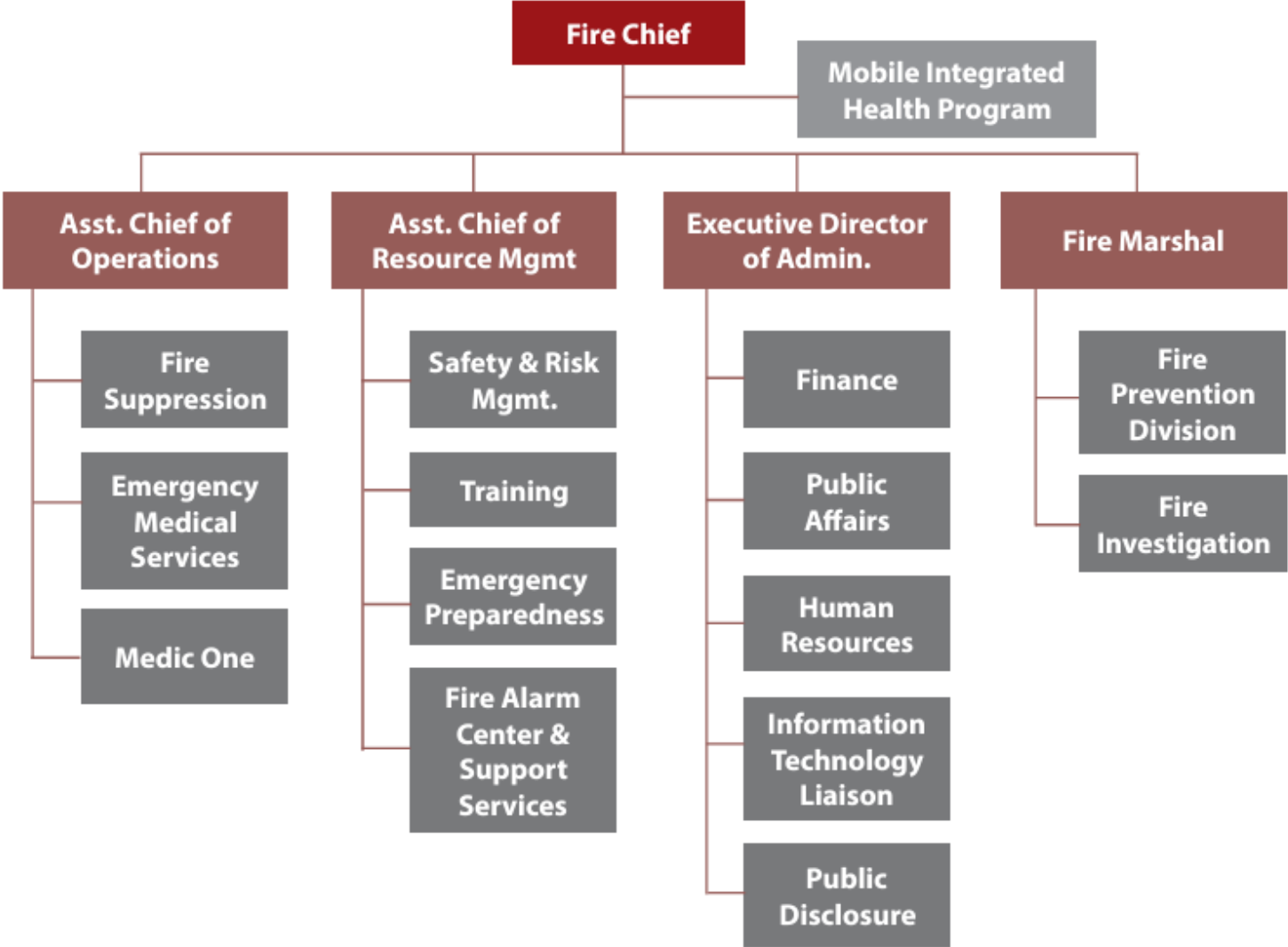
- Department Overview & Staffing
- Operations Overview
- Significant Responses
- Fire Prevention
- Mobile Integrated Health Updates
- Department Updates



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# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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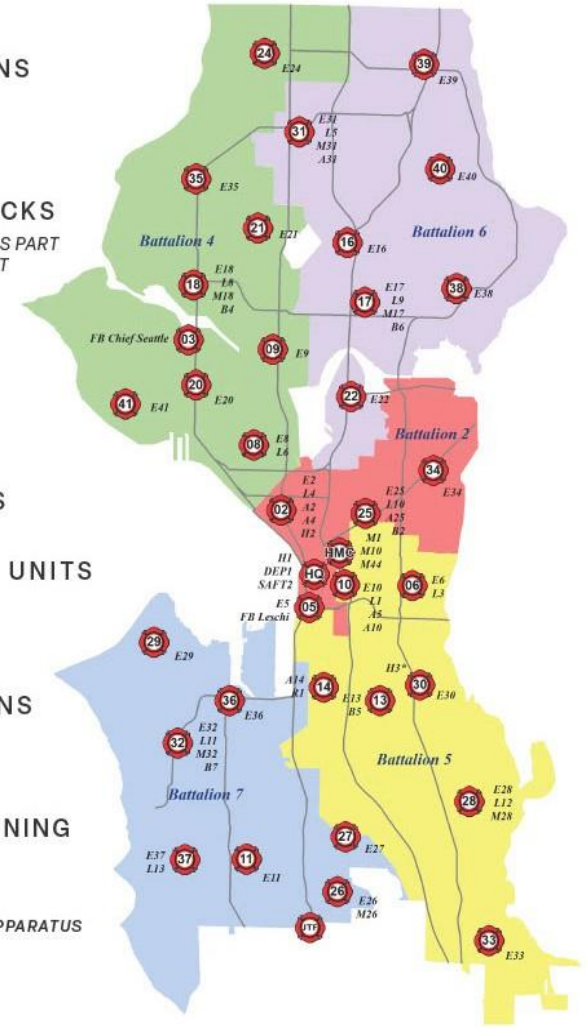


# STATION MAP & APPARATUS PROFILE



- 33** FIRE STATIONS
- 32** ENGINES
- 12** LADDER TRUCKS  
*ONE LADDER TRUCK IS PART OF THE RESCUE 1 UNIT*
- 5** AID UNITS
- 2** PEAK-TIME AID UNITS
- 8** MEDIC UNITS
- 3** HEALTH ONE UNITS
- 2** AIR TRUCKS
- 2** HOSE WAGONS
- 4** FIRE BOATS
- 1** SHARED TRAINING FACILITY (JTF)

ADDITIONAL SPECIALIZED APPARATUS



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# STAFFING LEVELS

- 1198 regular positions (1111 uniform, 87 civilian).
  - Current vacancies: 125 (120 uniform, 5 civilian)
  - 26 new positions were added Jan. 1, 2024 (Ladder 13, Medic 26, Paramedic Captain and Fire Prevention Inspector)

## In 2023

- 95 recruits hired; 59 successfully completed training
  - 59 retirements

## In 2024

- Recruit Class 120 starts Feb. 14 with 47 recruits
- Recruit Class 121 starts Aug. 7; planning in progress
- Entry-level firefighter application window opens in October

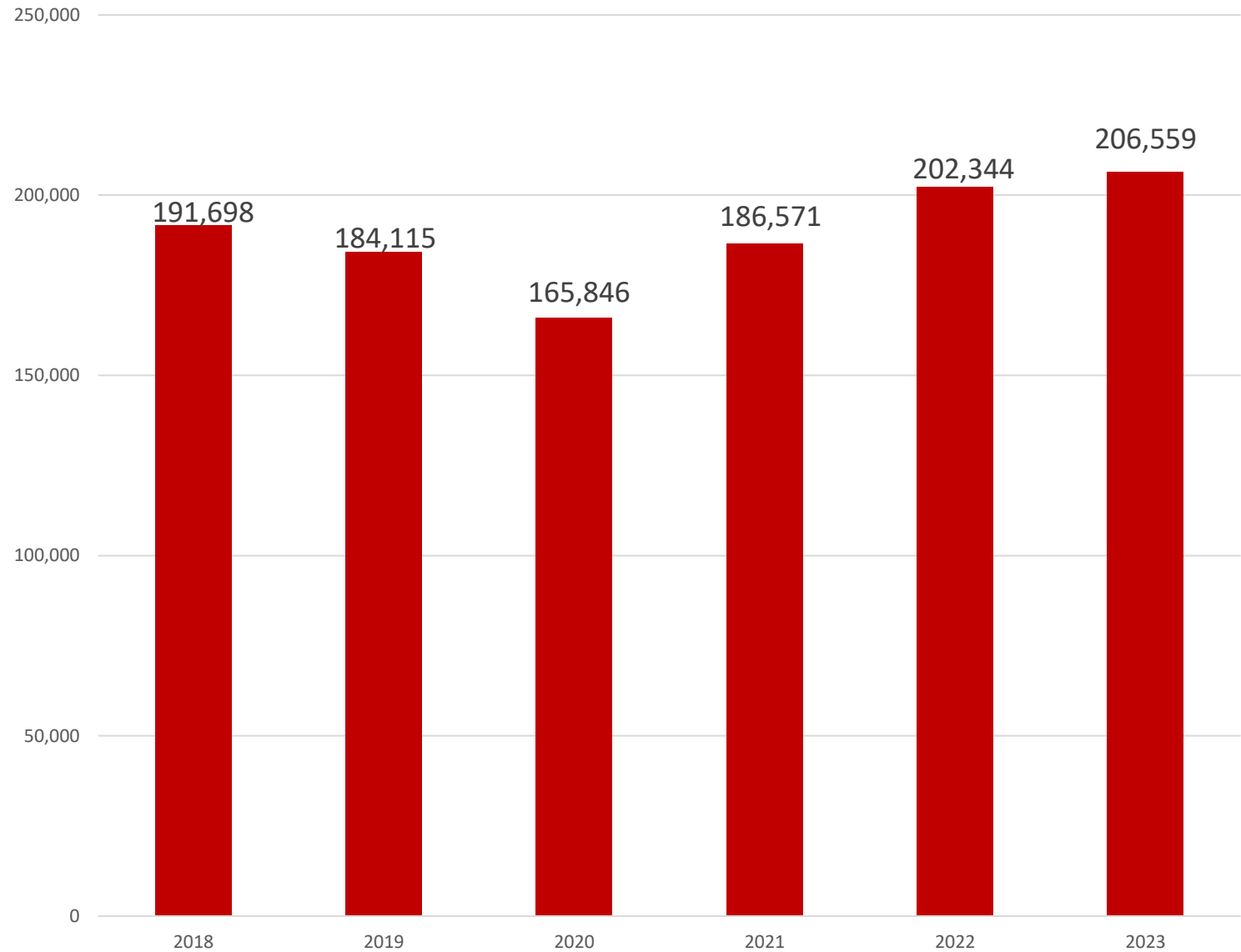


## FIRE ALARM CENTER WORKLOAD AND PERFORMANCE - CALL VOLUME

The Fire Alarm Center (FAC) handles upwards of 200,000 phone calls per year.

Call volume has been continuously increasing since 2020.

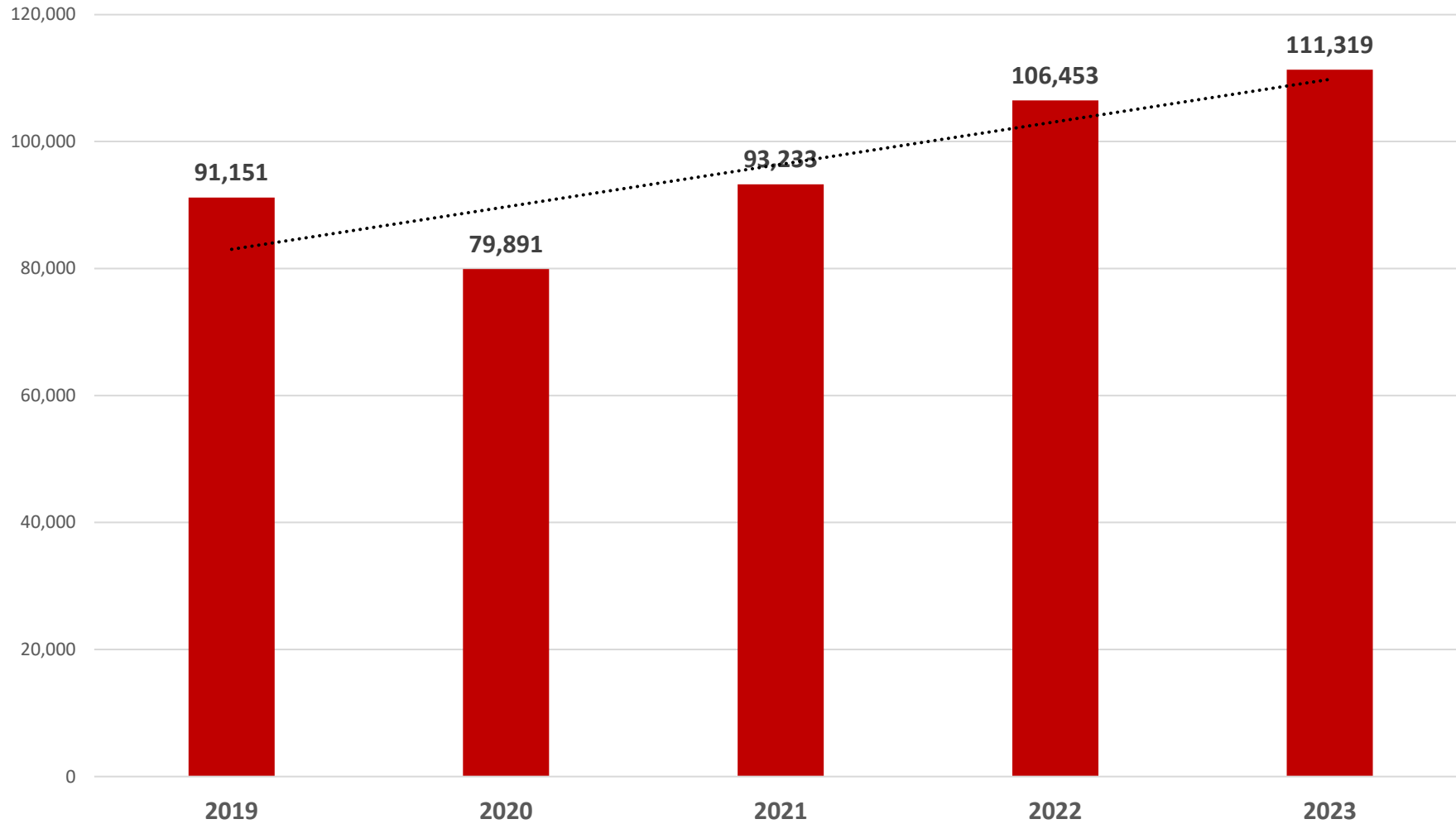
Total FAC Call Volume (SFD Dispatches, Transfers & Admin)



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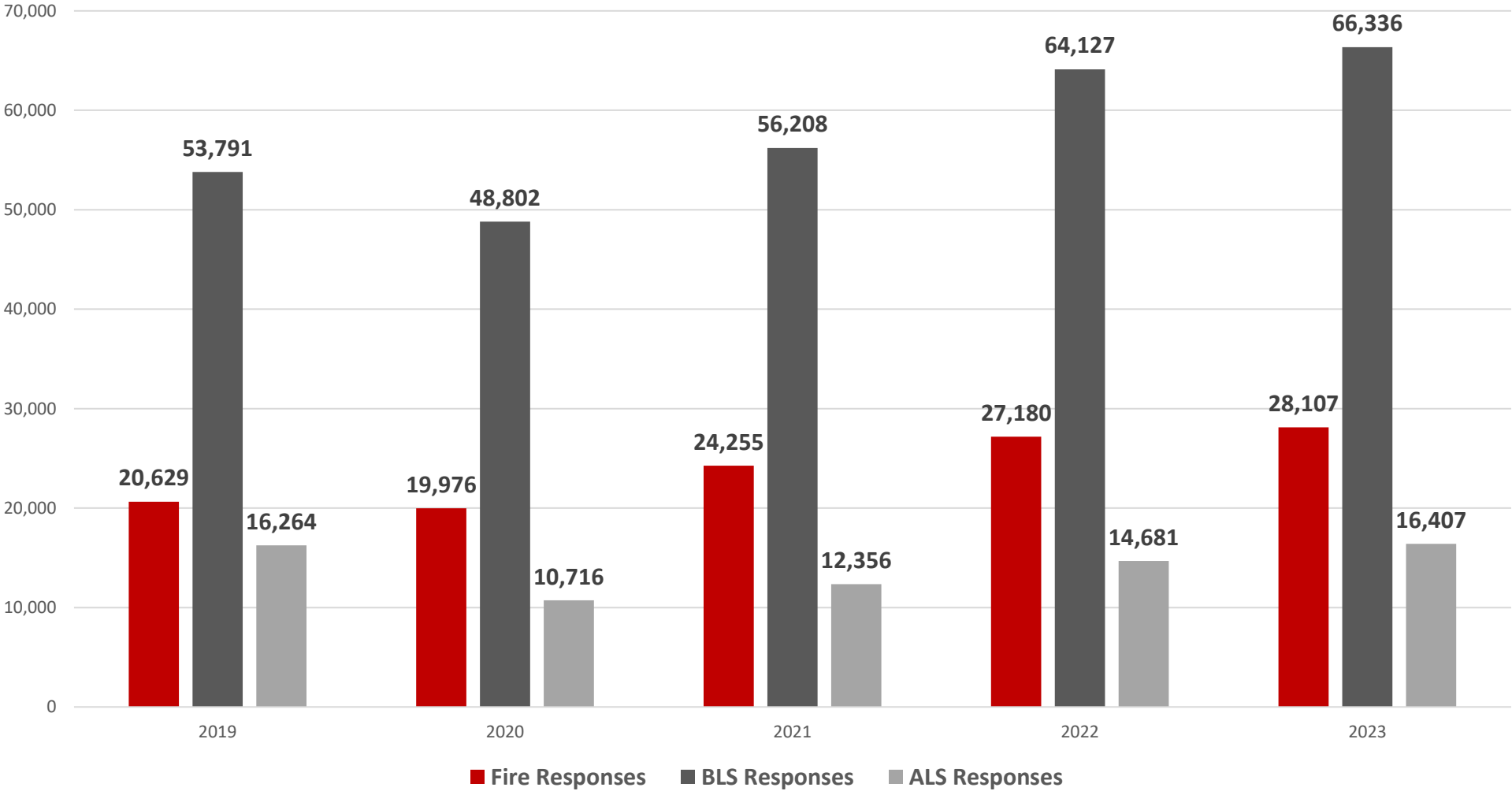
## 2023 Alarms Dispatched by Fire Alarm Center



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### 2023 Fire, BLS & ALS Responses



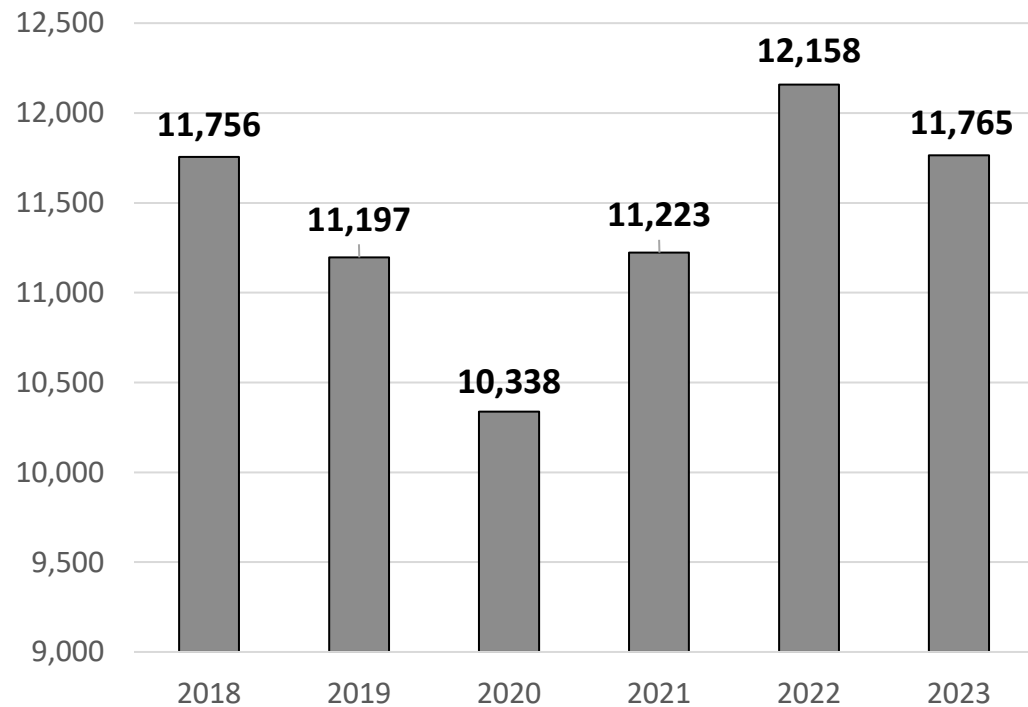
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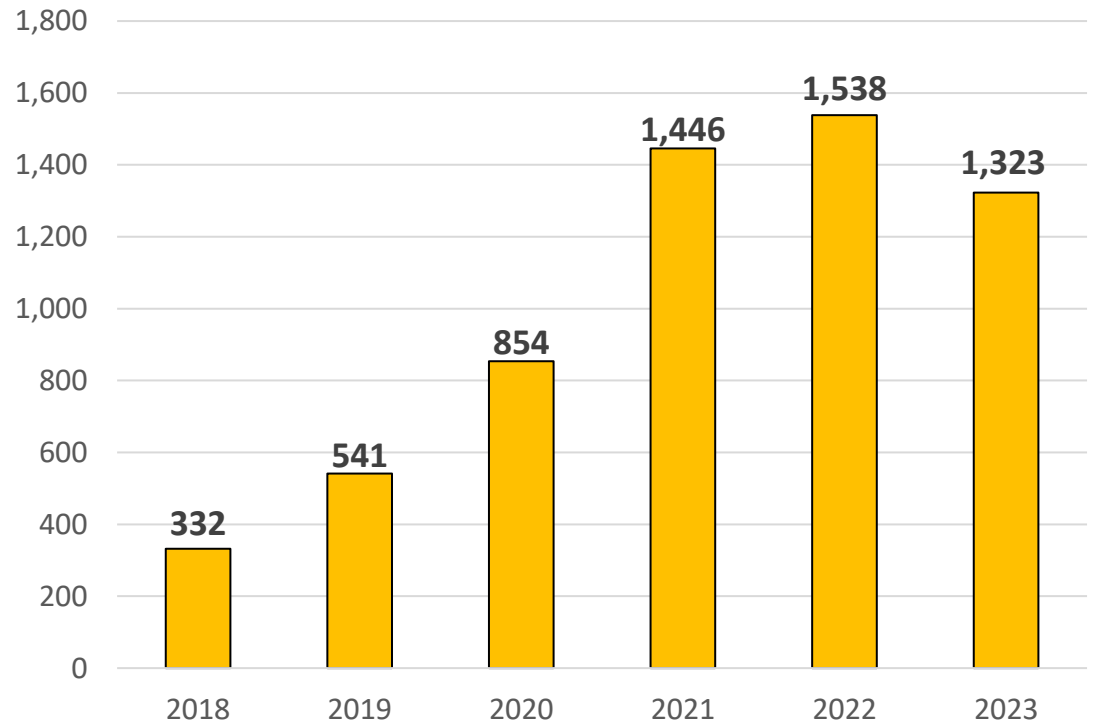


# EMS & FIRE HOMELESS RESPONSES

## EMS Encounters with Homeless



## Homeless-Related Fires

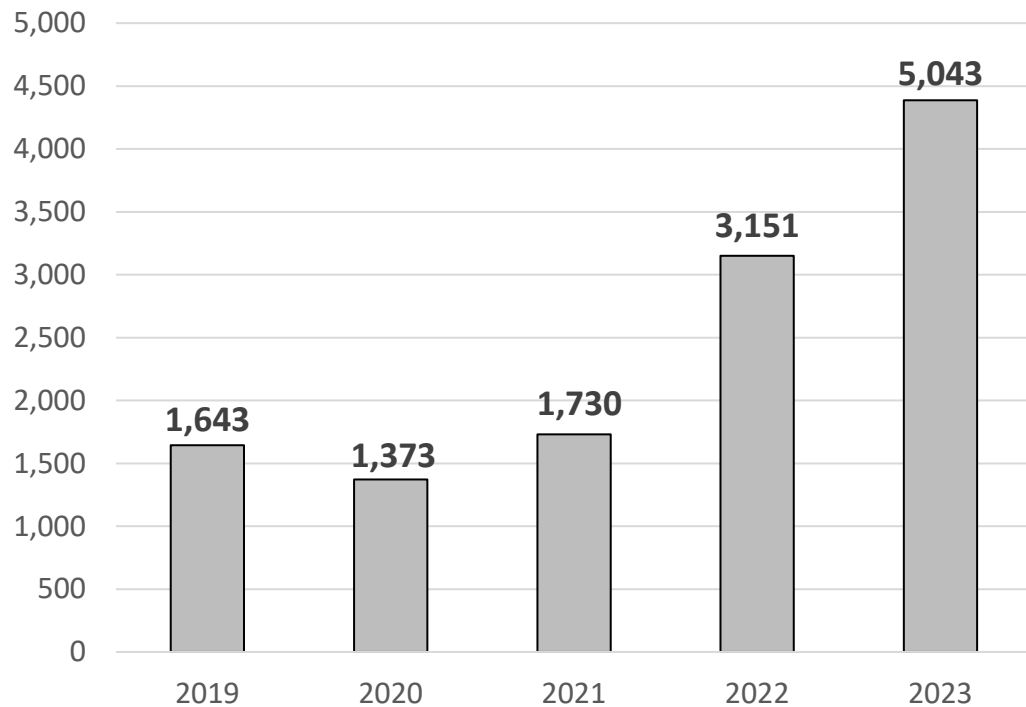


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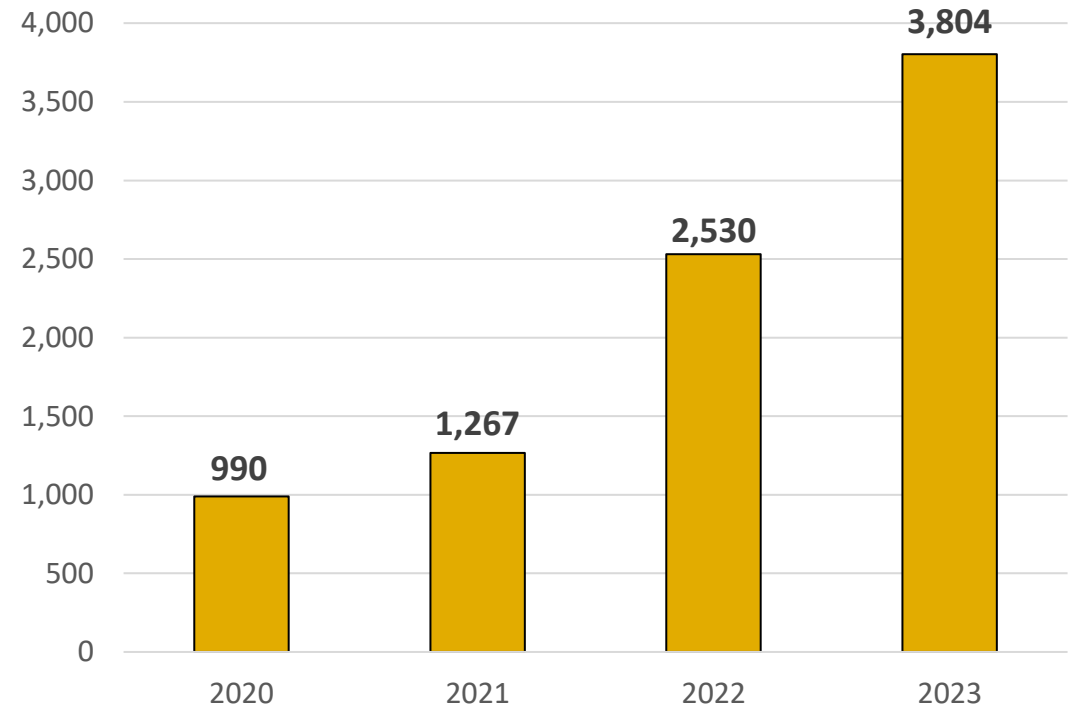
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# OVERDOSE EMERGENCIES

## Overdose Emergencies



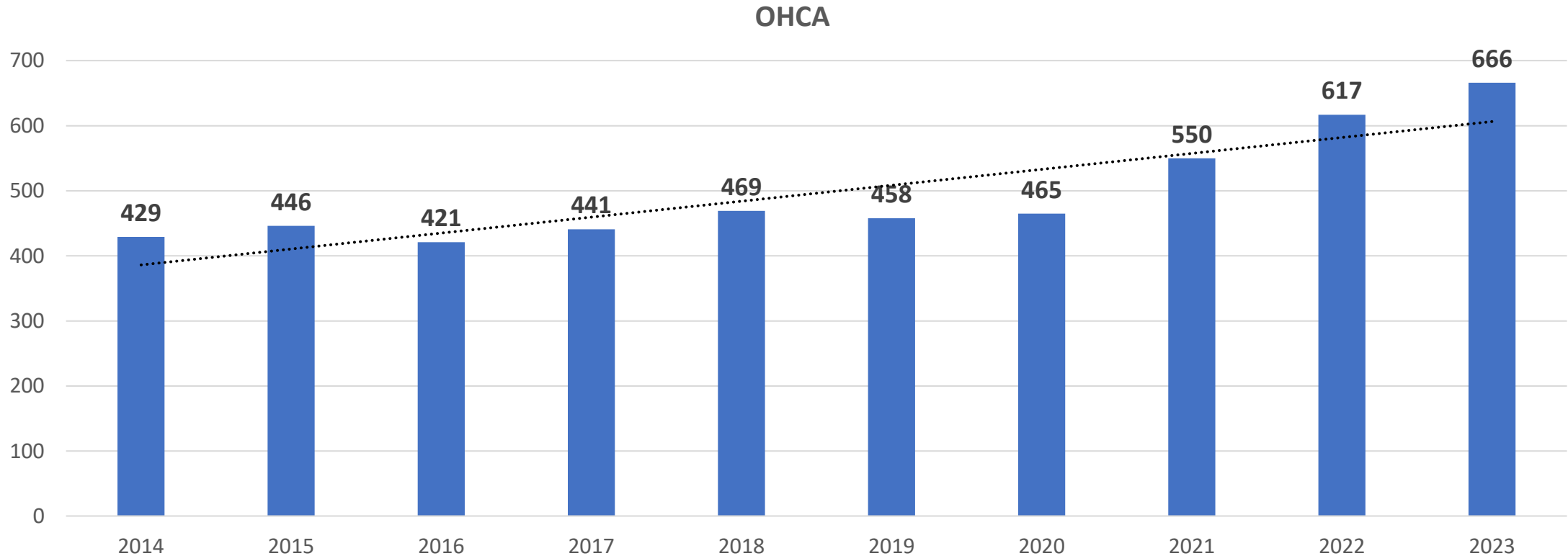
## Opioid-only Overdose Emergencies



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# OUT OF HOSPITAL CARDIAC ARREST

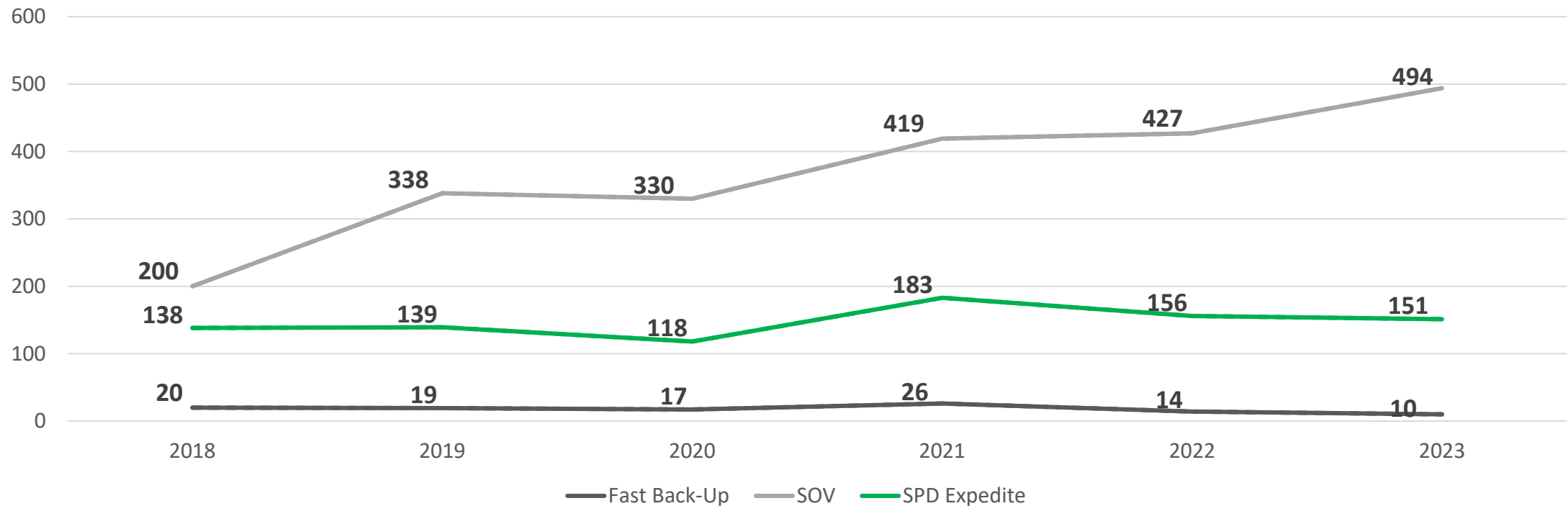


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# SCENES OF VIOLENCE | EXPEDITE | FAST BACK-UP

Scenes with Violence



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# 95 Significant Incident Reports

## Notable incidents:

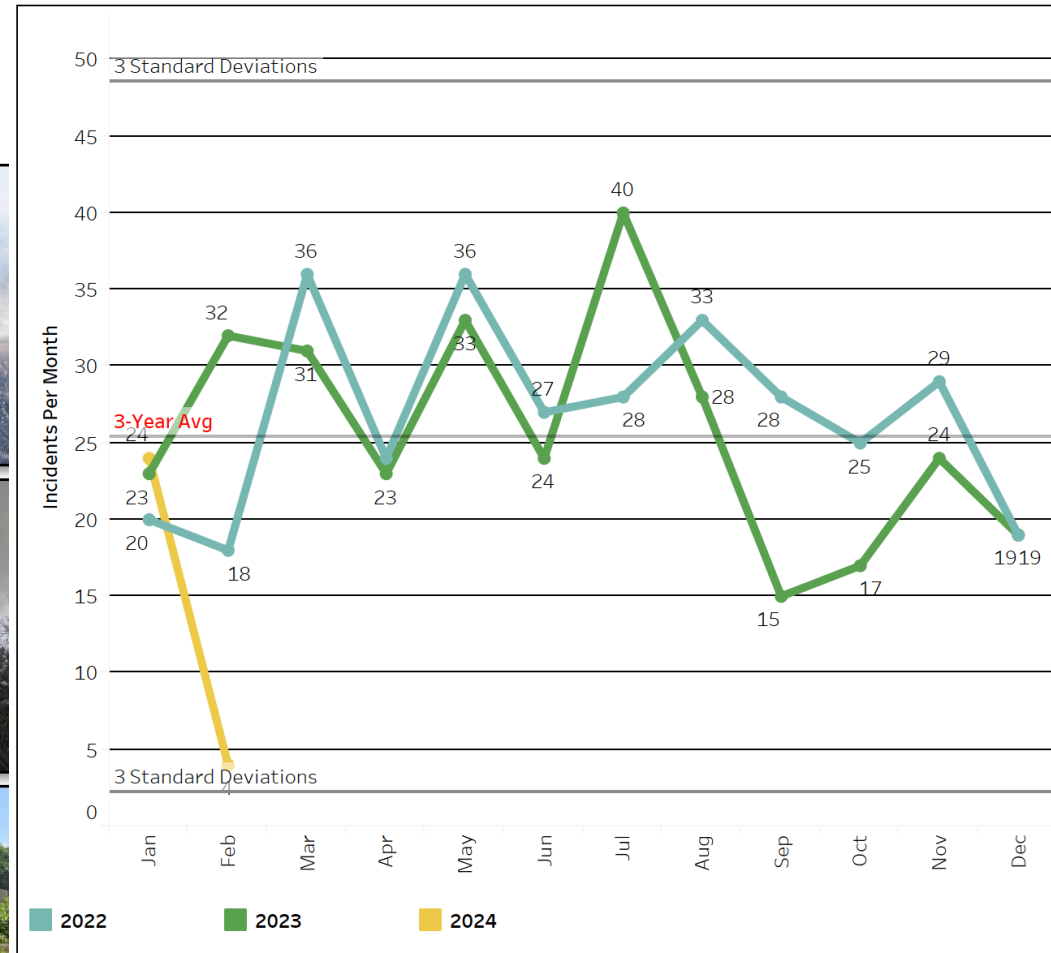
- Eleven 2-alarm fires
- Fire at Lake City doggy daycare
- Northlake Marina fire
- Carkeek Park rope rescue
- Belltown natural gas major
- Haller Lake wind driven fire
- First Hill derelict building fire



November 2023 issue of Fire Engineering Magazine featuring John Odegard cover photo



Clockwise from top left: Rescue Extrication - Salmon Bay Sand & Gravel, Feb. 2023; 2-11 Fire in Building - 300 block NE 133rd St., June 2023; Fire in Building - 6500 block 52nd Ave NE, March 2023; Brush Fire Major - 3100 block 12th Ave S. (behind), July 2023; 2-11 Fire in Building - 1000 block S. King St., July 2023.



Period	Year	Date Range	Records	Records/Month	% Change
<b>Year To Date</b>		1/1 to 2/6	28	14	-91%
<b>Last Year</b>		1/1 to 12/31	309	26	-4%
<b>2 years ago</b>		1/2 to 12/30	323	27	11%
<b>3 years ago</b>		1/4 to 12/31	290	24	0%
<b>4 years ago</b>		1/3 to 12/30	291	24	22%
<b>5 years ago</b>		1/2 to 12/29	238	20	-76%
<b>Null</b>		1/1 to 12/29	1,007	21	

Chart Type: Yearly  
Data Live As Of...

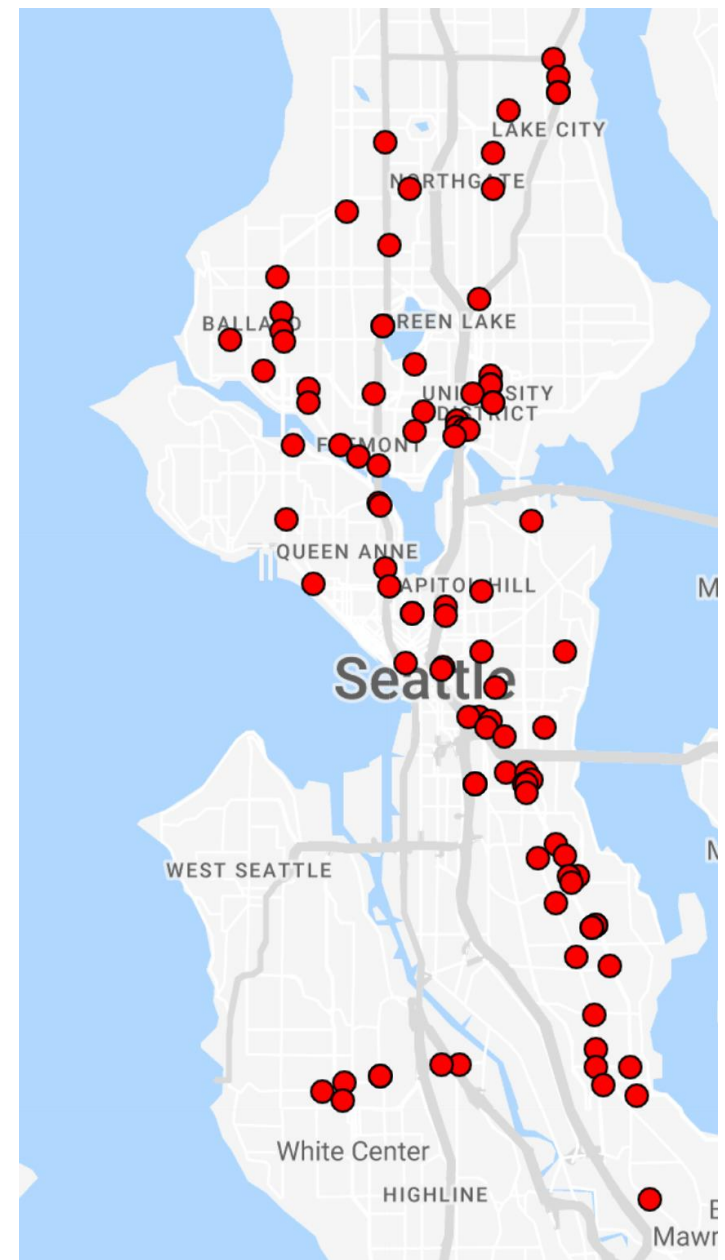
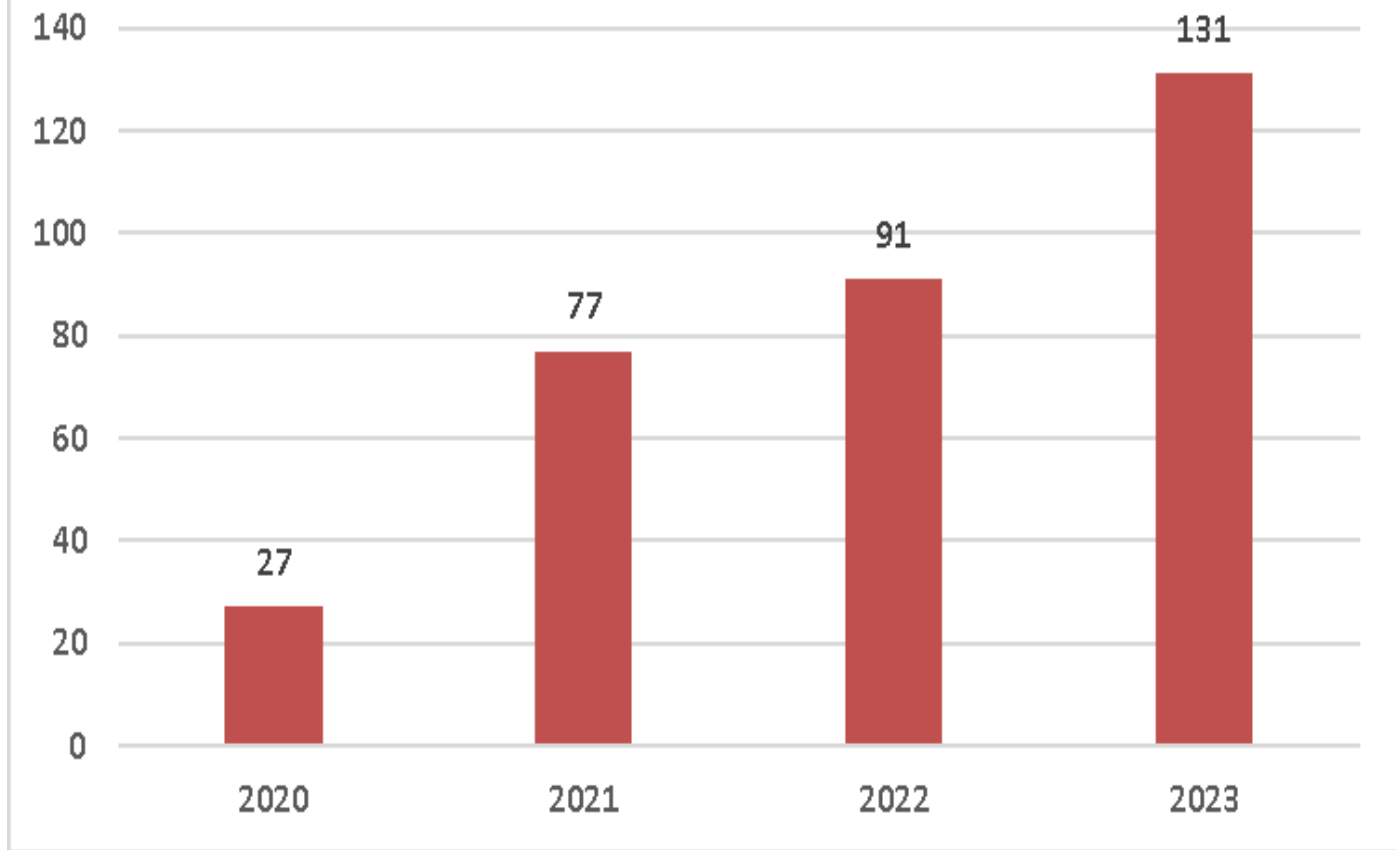


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## Derelict Building Fires



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# FIRE PREVENTION

## Fire Investigation Unit

- Investigated 293 fires including 127 arsons

## Special Hazards Unit

- Issued 5,578 HazMat permits
- Led efforts to modify the statewide Fire Code to provide additional safety provisions related to lithium-ion batteries

## New Construction and Plan Review Units

- Reviewed nearly 2,900 plans and performed nearly 4,000 inspections
- Work in progress to reduce wait times (hiring and process efficiencies)

## Compliance

- Resolved public reports of safety violations in neighborhoods
- Dangerous buildings, preventable alarms, resolution of persistent violations to promote safe buildings for Seattle residents



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# FIRE PREVENTION

## Special Events Unit

- Provided over 2,000 inspections
- Seafair, New Year's at the Space Needle, major concerts, sporting events

## High Rise Unit

- Annual inspections for approximately 500 high-rise buildings

## Systems Testing

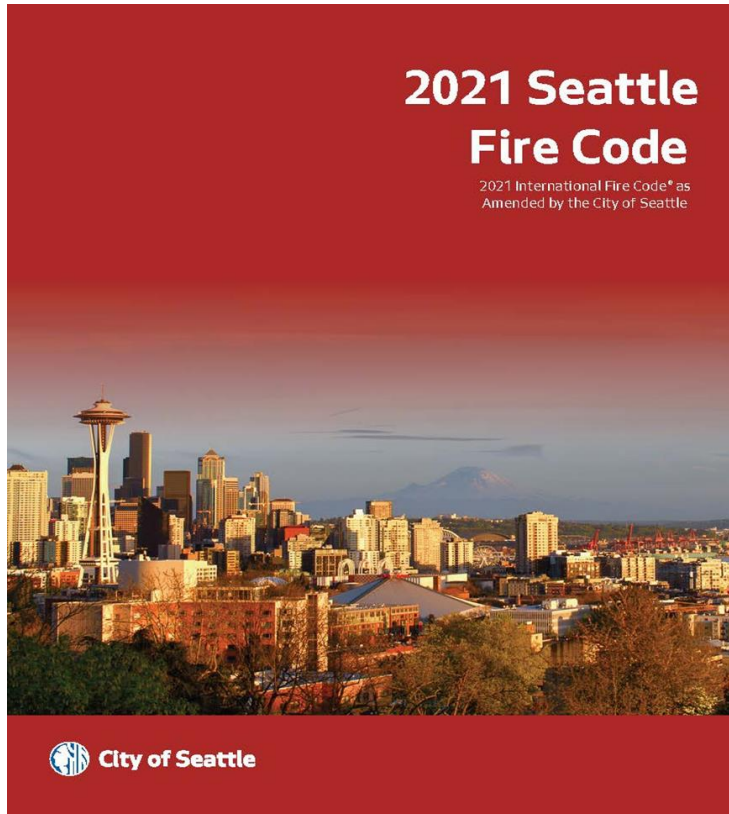
- Oversight to testing and repairs of 27,000+ fire protection systems in nearly 15,000 buildings
- 3,000 systems repaired during 2023, but 4,000 systems still have open deficiencies



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# 2021 SEATTLE FIRE CODE



- The Fire Code is based on national "model code." Currently USA is using 2021 codes
- Seattle Fire Code is reviewed by the Public Safety Committee
- For permitting, the Seattle Fire Code needs same effective date as other construction codes (building, energy, etc.)
- SFD works with the Seattle Fire Code Advisory Board (**FCAB**) to create Seattle amendments. This is a 15 Mayor/Council confirmed Board.
- The SFD recommendations and expertise for the FCAB.
- The 2021 Seattle Fire Code will be transmitted to Council in Q2 (est.)



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# BUILDING AND HYDRANT INSPECTIONS



## Building Fire Safety Inspections

Annual inspection program, buildings inspected: 11,987 (84%)

Buildings w/violations found: 1,006 (7%)

Total Operations inspections: 14,297

## Annual Fire Hydrant Inspection Program

Total hydrants: 17,300

Hydrants inspection completion: 99%



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# MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH



- Average on-scene time: 56 minutes (increase)
- Health One-unit responses (excluding Health 99): 1,115
- 2,968 submitted referrals
- 2,129 referrals accepted, 826 rejected.
- Top reasons for referral to MIH:
  - High utilizer (1,948)
  - Low acuity medical complaint (1,876)
  - Concerning living conditions (1,571),
  - Homeless (1,478)
  - Falls (1,428)
  - Neglect/abuse/no self-care (1,380)
  - Mental health/substance use (1,130)
  - Reported vulnerable adult (827)



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# HEALTH ONE

- 835 new enrollments created in 2023
- 1,064 clients additionally accepted for indirect case management or care coordination services
- 260 Health 99 responses
  - 57 follow-up
  - 203 direct overdose response
- Health 99
  - 94 doses of Narcan given out in Narcan kits to OD survivors and bystanders
- Staffing: 6 full-time case managers (soon to be 7), 36 firefighters in our pool



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# UPDATES & INNOVATIONS



Fire Station 31 groundbreaking

WA Task Force 1 deployments

Nurse Navigation first full year & Corti AI launch

Behavioral Health training

Suicide intervention training

Therapy Dog team

Resiliency coaching

Launched new LMS System – Vector Solutions

New Staffing and NFIRS Systems In Flight

SFD Class 1 Fire Department Rating!

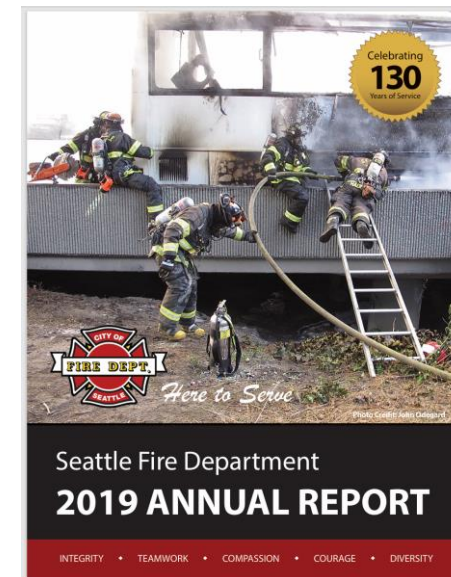
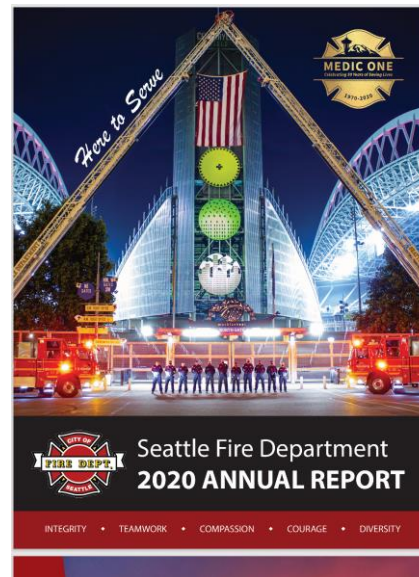
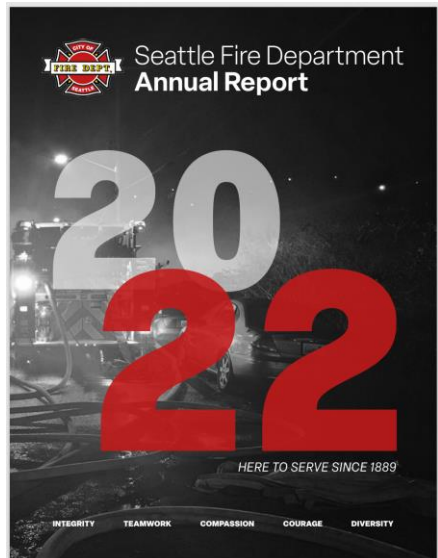


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# SFD ANNUAL REPORT LINK:

[2022 ANNUAL REPORT WEB.PDF \(SEATTLE.GOV\)](https://www.seattle.gov/fire/annual-reports/2022-annual-report-web.pdf)



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# Questions



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