

**2003**

# **Fire in Minnesota**

## **Fire Reporting System**



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**



**STATE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION**  
**Jerry Rosendahl**  
**State Fire Marshal**





# MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



## Office of the Commissioner

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The Honorable Tim Pawlenty  
Governor of the State of Minnesota  
And Members of the Legislature  
State Capitol Building  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Pawlenty:

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Division is pleased to present *Fire in Minnesota – 2003*.

The State Fire Marshal Division participates in the National Fire Incident Reporting System sponsored by the U.S. Fire Administration. Data from 715 of Minnesota's 788 fire departments reveal that a fire was reported every 26 minutes in 2003. Building and property losses due to fire exceeded \$154 million.

*Fire in Minnesota* provides the fire service, law enforcement, public officials and citizens with valuable information and statistics. We are proud of the fact that this report has become a nationwide model used by the U.S. Fire Administration for training purposes.

The Department of Public Safety is committed to protecting Minnesotans' lives and property. This enlightening report is created to that end by the dedicated members of the State Fire Marshal Division.

Sincerely,

Michael Campion  
Commissioner



# ***STATE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION MISSION STATEMENT***

*The mission of the State Fire Marshal Division is to protect lives and property by fostering a fire-safe environment through investigation, enforcement, regulation, data collection and public education.*



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## **From the desk of State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl**

The State Fire Marshal Division is pleased to present "Fire in Minnesota – 2003." This report summarizes and analyzes the data submitted by 715 of the state's 788 fire departments. Our goal is to have every fire department report through the Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS). The data in this report contributes to the prevention of future fires by providing a factual description of our fire history that can be used to create fire inspection and public education plans.



A brief summary of 2003 fire statistics includes:

- 46 civilian fire deaths were recorded this year; residential fire deaths represented 76 percent of Minnesota's fire fatalities. One firefighter died in the line of duty in 2003.
- In 2003, 160 civilian injuries and 317 firefighter injuries were reported.
- A fire was reported every 26 minutes, resulting in \$422,928 total fire dollar loss each day.
- Structure fires were at their highest since 1996. There were 4,858 residential structure fires in 2003, which is a 30 percent increase over 2002 figures. Residential fires accounted for 60 percent of total dollar loss and represented 70 percent of all structure fires in 2003.
- Cooking remained the leading cause of structure fires in 2003; 91 percent of those fires were confined to the container. Heating fires were the second leading cause of structure fires. Incendiary fires followed as the third leading cause.

The preliminary edition of Fire in Minnesota – 2003 was published in June, 2004. This brief overview of fire statistics from 2003 was made available earlier in the year than ever before, so you could incorporate the latest data into your public education and fire inspection plans prior to receiving the complete report in October. The preliminary report required considerable extra effort by our staff, so please let us know whether it was beneficial to you.

The division thanks you for your continued support. For more information or to provide feedback, please visit our Web site at [www.fire.state.mn.us](http://www.fire.state.mn.us).





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*If you would like a copy of this document in an alternate format, please contact: Pat Bell at 651-215-0504.*



**4,858**

## **RESIDENTIAL**

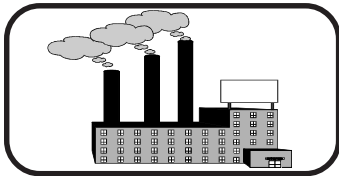
*(Single family dwellings, apartments, mobile homes, hotels, motels)*



**649**

## **PUBLIC AND MERCANTILE**

*(Stores, restaurants, institutions, churches, public facilities, education)*



**1,444**

## **INDUSTRIAL, MANUFACTURING, OTHER BUILDINGS**

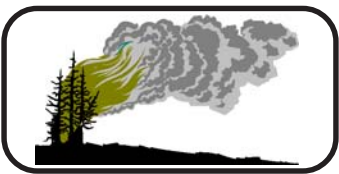
*(Basic industry, manufacturing, storage, residential garages,  
vacant buildings, unknown)*



**3,785**

## **MOBILE PROPERTY**

*(Automobiles, trucks, trains, buses, boats)*



**9,702**

## **OUTSIDE AND OTHER**

*(Dumpsters, trash, wildland, grass, trees)*

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**20,438**

## **TOTAL FIRES**

**\$154,368,807**

## **TOTAL DOLLAR LOSS**



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# TOTAL IMPACT



*Photo by Tom Linhoff*



*These figures represent the collective incidents reported by 715 of Minnesota's 788 fire departments.*

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*Ninety-one percent of the state's fire departments reported through the MFIRS program.*

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## OVERALL STATE TOTALS

In 2003, 715 fire departments (91%) reported through the Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) which provides information on fire incidents and related activities. Even though participation was slightly less than 2002, total fires numbers increased. See the section titled "Participation" for a breakdown of reporting and non-reporting departments.

2003 REPORTED FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES					
Incidents Reported	7 County Metro Area	% State Total	Balance of State	% State Total	State Total
Structure Fires	3,777	54%	3,174	46%	6,951
Vehicle Fires	2,005	53%	1,780	47%	3,785
Other Fires	4,153	43%	5,549	57%	9,702
<b>TOTAL FIRES</b>	<b>9,935</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>10,503</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>20,438</b>
<b>RESCUE/EMS CALLS</b>	<b>68,323</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>26,775</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>95,098</b>
<b>FALSE CALLS</b>	<b>17,963</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>6,746</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>24,709</b>
<b>MUTUAL AID GIVEN</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>3,561</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>5,161</b>
<b>OTHER INCIDENTS</b>	<b>23,606</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>11,194</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>34,800</b>
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>121,427</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>58,779</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>180,206</b>
<b>Estimated Direct Dollar Loss Due to Fire</b>	<b>\$78,733,407</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>\$75,635,400</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>\$154,368,807</b>

The total number of fire incidents reported by participating Minnesota fire departments in 2003 was 20,438, a 22% increase from 2002. The number of responses by the fire service increased 4% in 2003, for a total of 180,206.

Total dollar loss decreased by \$34.1 million from 2002.

Total dollar loss decreased by \$34.1 million from 2002. While the decrease in dollar loss seems encouraging, it must be recognized that the reluctance of fire departments to enter a dollar loss amount in their fire reports affects the accuracy of this number.

## FIVE-YEAR OVERALL INCIDENT COMPARISONS 1999-2003

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>02/03 Change + (-)</u>	<u>02/03 % Change + (-)</u>
<b>FIRES</b>							
Structure	5,533	5,020	5,800	6,760	6,951	191	3%
Vehicle	4,484	3,606	3,730	3,914	3,785	(129)	(3%)
Other Fires	<u>7,756</u>	<u>8,260</u>	<u>5,933</u>	<u>6,143</u>	<u>9,702</u>	<u>3,559</u>	<u>60%</u>
<b>TOTAL FIRES</b>	<b>17,773</b>	<b>16,886</b>	<b>15,463</b>	<b>16,817</b>	<b>20,438</b>	<b>3,621</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>OVERPRESSURE RUPTURES</b>	<b>825</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>(140)</b>	<b>(16%)</b>
<b>RESCUE/EMS CALLS</b>	<b>76,860</b>	<b>65,565</b>	<b>69,998</b>	<b>91,229</b>	<b>95,098</b>	<b>3,869</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>HAZARDOUS CONDITION CALLS</b>	<b>8,823</b>	<b>7,914</b>	<b>9,647</b>	<b>10,552</b>	<b>9,770</b>	<b>(782)</b>	<b>(7%)</b>
<b>SERVICE CALLS</b>	<b>7,411</b>	<b>7,269</b>	<b>7,512</b>	<b>8,711</b>	<b>9,464</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>GOOD INTENT CALLS</b>	<b>12,064</b>	<b>11,305</b>	<b>11,287</b>	<b>13,612</b>	<b>14,002</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>FALSE CALLS</b>							
Malicious	1,304	1,278	1,636	2,356	2,192	(164)	(7%)
Other False	<u>21,064</u>	<u>17,223</u>	<u>19,454</u>	<u>23,852</u>	<u>22,517</u>	<u>(1,335)</u>	<u>(6%)</u>
<b>TOTAL FALSE CALLS</b>	<b>22,368</b>	<b>18,501</b>	<b>21,090</b>	<b>26,208</b>	<b>24,709</b>	<b>(1,499)</b>	<b>(6%)</b>
<b>MUTUAL AID GIVEN</b>	<b>2,788</b>	<b>3,773</b>	<b>3,606</b>	<b>3,961</b>	<b>5,161</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>ALL OTHER</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>1,006</b>	<b>1,238</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>(395)</b>	<b>(32%)</b>
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>149,695</b>	<b>133,065</b>	<b>140,556</b>	<b>173,189</b>	<b>180,206</b>	<b>7,017</b>	<b>4%</b>
<b>TOTAL DOLLAR LOSS</b>	<b>\$139.3M</b>	<b>\$175.6M</b>	<b>\$174.3M</b>	<b>\$188.5M</b>	<b>\$154.4M</b>	<b>(\$34.1M)</b>	<b>(18%)</b>



*For each of the past five years, residential structure fires have occurred at the rate of one for every 1,222 Minnesotans.*

## STRUCTURE FIRES BY PROPERTY TYPE

Fires in structures continue to occur most frequently in residential property, including houses, apartments, boarding houses, dorms, hotels/motels, etc. In each of the past five years, an average of 4,026 fires have occurred in residential structures. These figures indicate that every year, one structure fire occurs for every 1,013 Minnesota residents.

Structure Fires by Property Type 1999 - 2003						
	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>% Increase (Decrease) 2002-2003</u>
<b>Residential</b>	3,493	3,169	3,912	4,698	4,858	3%
<b>Educational/ Institutional</b>	155	123	183	245	216	(12%)
<b>Public Assembly/ Commercial</b>	400	404	409	454	433	(5%)
<b>Industrial/ Manufacturing</b>	309	250	271	253	261	3%
<b>Storage</b>	944	792	771	799	847	6%
<b>Special/Other</b>	188	185	170	220	234	6%
<b>Unclassified</b>	44	97	84	91	102	12%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,533</b>	<b>5,020</b>	<b>5,800</b>	<b>6,760</b>	<b>6,951</b>	<b>3%</b>

*Structure fires are at their highest since 1994.*

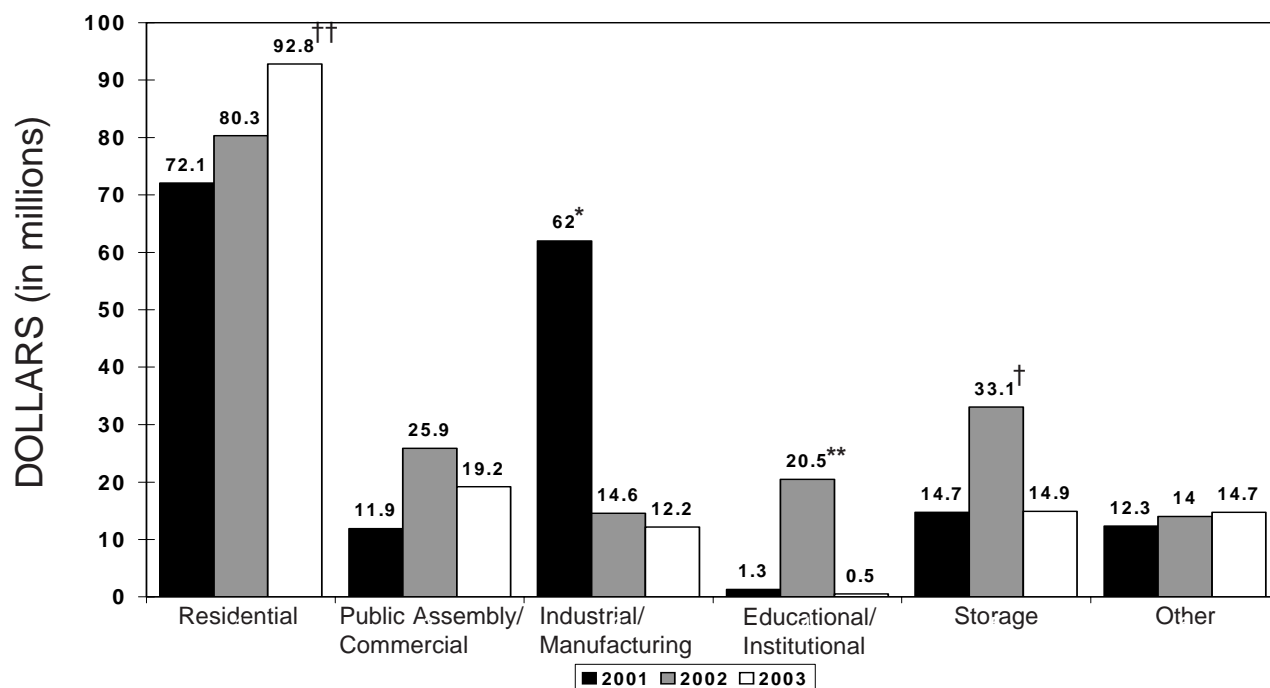
Residential fires, having increased by 3% from 2002, are at their highest since the first printing of "Fire in Minnesota" in 1989. Structure fires also increased by 3% from 2002.

Structure fires are at their highest since 1994. This increase and the increase in residential fires are partly due to reclassifying fire categories to include contained cooking fires.

Overall, average dollar loss per structure fire was almost \$20,000.

## OVERALL STATEWIDE DOLLAR LOSS

### DOLLAR LOSS BY PROPERTY TYPE



\*Includes \$40 million manufacturing plant fire and \$10 million wood-products mill fire

\*\*Includes \$19 million university fire

†Includes \$10 million historical building fire and \$5 million warehouse fire

††Includes \$5 million multi-family dwelling fire

Residential fires accounted for 60% of total dollar loss and represent 70% of all structure fires in 2003.

The 2003 dollar loss in residential property increased by \$12.5 million from 2002. Residential fires accounted for 70% of all structure fires and 60% of total dollar loss.

The average dollar loss per structure fire in 2003 was almost \$20,000 per incident. The average dollar loss per residential structure fire was nearly \$19,000 per incident.

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*In the past 15 years, residential dollar loss was more than \$950 million dollars.*

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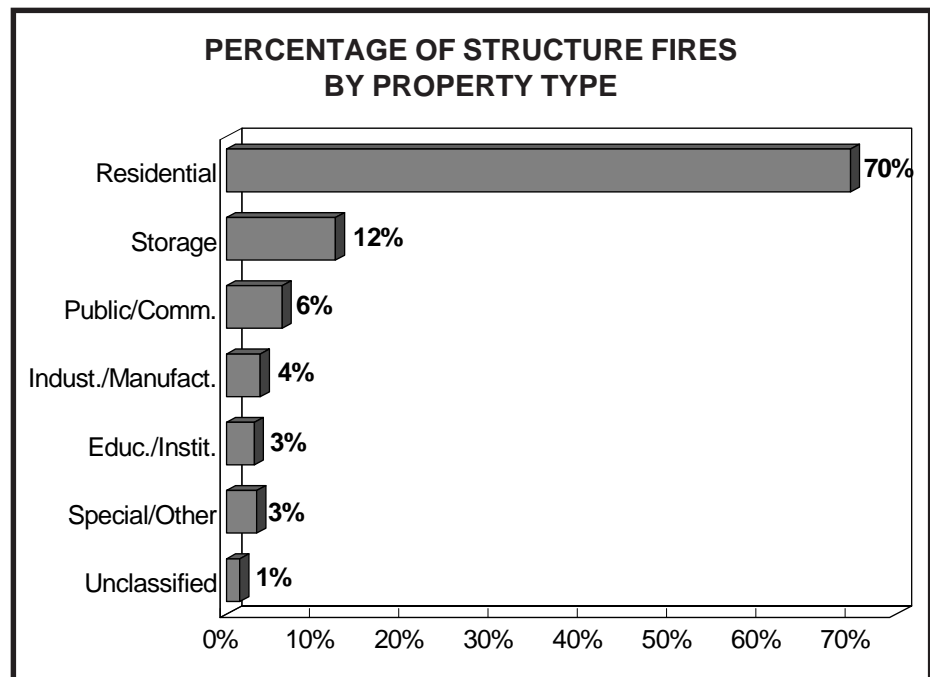
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## SUMMARY

Despite the slight decrease in departments reporting in 2003, fire incidents actually increased by 22%. Dollar loss was in excess of \$154 million, a \$34.1 million decrease from 2002.

Fires occurred most frequently in residential-type properties. Residential fires occurred in significantly higher percentages than the next most reported property type — storage facilities.

Residential fires accounted for 70% of all structure fires, 60% of total dollar loss, and 76% of all fire deaths. These statistics continue to identify the home as the most dangerous place to be.



In the last 15 years, more than **\$2 billion** in property was destroyed by fire. Forty-five percent (45%), or over \$950 million, occurred in residential property.

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*Seventy-six percent of all fire deaths occurred in residential properties.*

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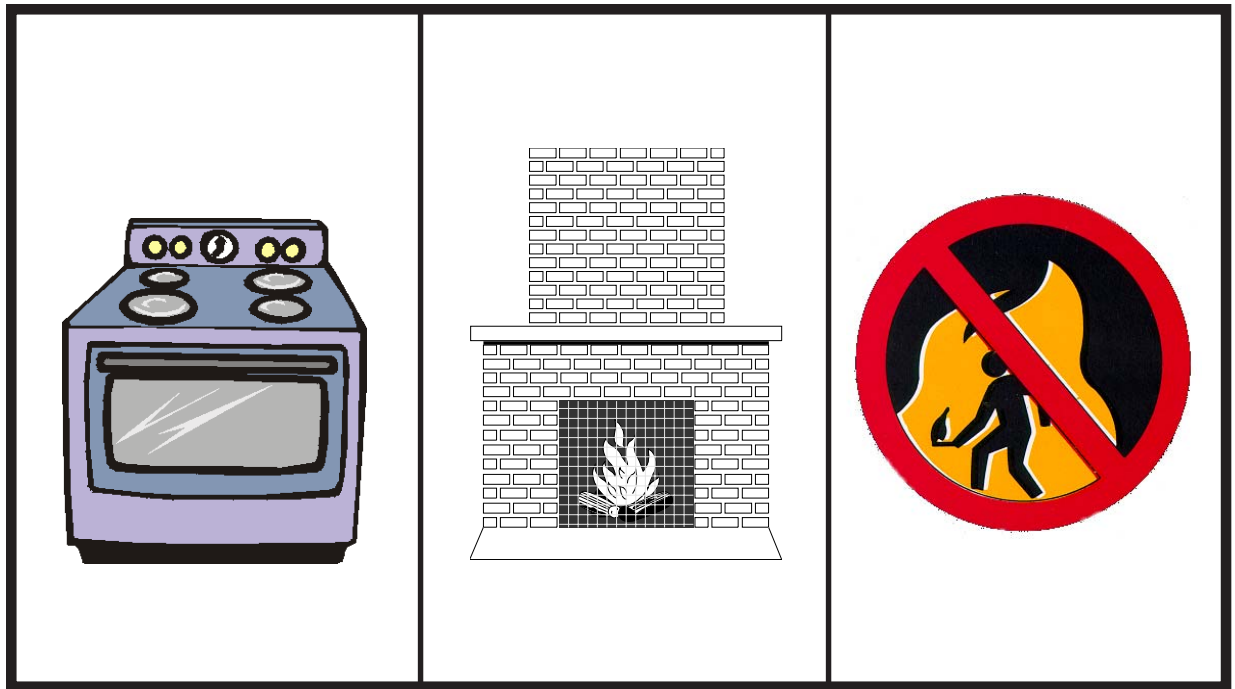
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Active participation by all citizens in public education and fire prevention is the only way to stop the loss of life and property from fire. A practical example of fire prevention efforts by civic groups or fire departments is the implementation of programs to distribute and maintain smoke alarms among local at-risk populations. Such efforts can result in saved lives and reduced property loss. The encouragement of fire sprinkler installation in homes and public buildings is another way of offering people tools to protect themselves from the dangers of fire. The fire service community has the responsibility to lead as well as respond.



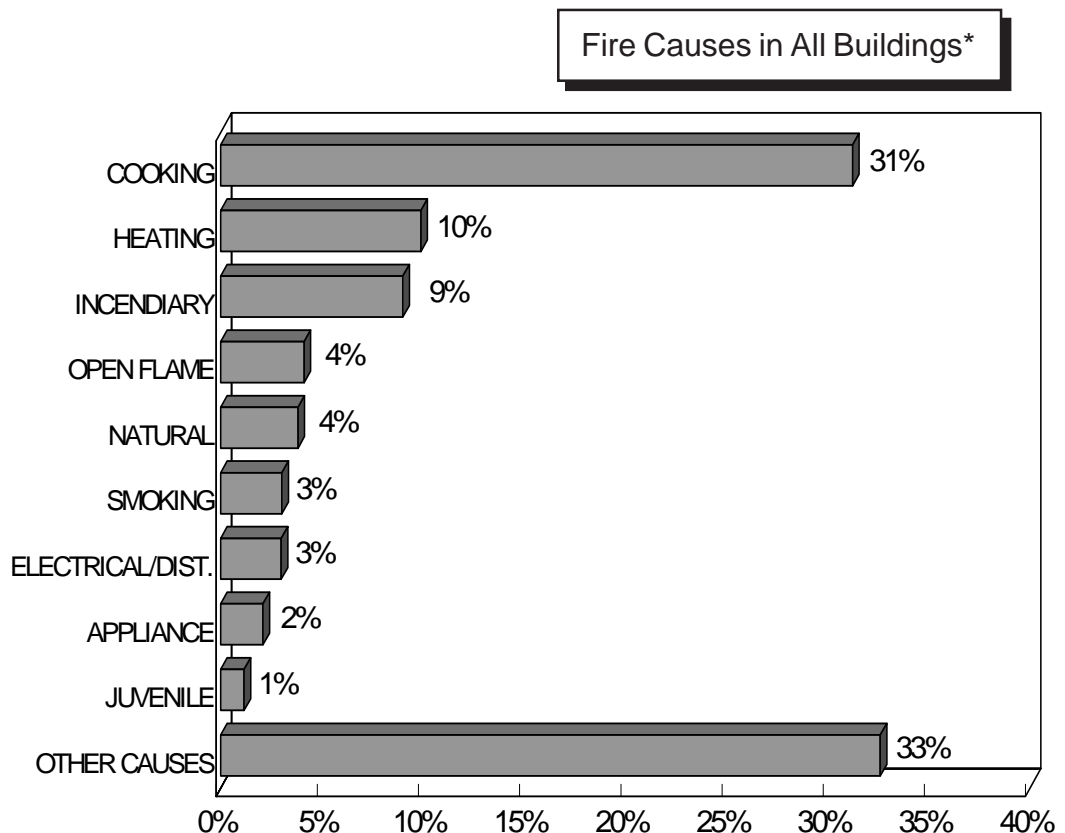
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# CAUSES



## CAUSES

*Cooking continues to be the leading cause of all structure fires with known causes. Heating follows as second and incendiary is third.*



*\*Based solely on reports from fire departments where fire causes were identified.*

When fire causes in all types of buildings are compared, cooking, heating and incendiary emerge as the top three causes. Cooking became the leading cause, mainly due to contained cooking fires. "Contained cooking fires" is a new category within the NFIRS 5 program.

Fires in residential property represented 70% of all structure fires, and 60% of the total dollar loss. Fifty-one percent (51%) of incendiary fires occurred in residential properties, causing \$6.9 million in property loss.

**The large number of "other" and "unknown" causes represent a recurrent frustration; MFIRS data must, in every reported fire incident, reflect the best judgment of the fire service as to cause and dollar loss. Only with this information can statewide data be complete and valid.**

*Cooking was the cause in 35% of residential fires. The dollar loss in all residential fires totaled over \$92 million.*

## A Closer Look at Major Fire Causes

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*Contained cooking fires are fires involving the contents of a cooking vessel without fire extension beyond the vessel.*

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### Cooking Fires

The leading cause of structure fires in 2003 was cooking. Ninety-one percent (91%) of those fires were contained cooking fires. The top three known factors in the remaining fires were: unattended equipment at 24%, accidentally turned on, not turned off at 6% and combustibles too close at 4%. There were two cooking-related civilian fire deaths and 44 civilian injuries, as well as four firefighter injuries. Dollar loss from cooking fires for 2003 totalled \$2,522,186.

### Heating Fires

The majority of 2003 heating-related fires (468) occurred in residential properties. These fires increased by 7% from last year (437 fires in 2002) and dollar loss increased by 30%.

HEATING FIRES IN RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES ONLY

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>No. of Fire Incidents</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Fireplace/Chimney	328	70%	\$1,263,732	27%
Fixed Heating Units	77	16%	1,470,452	32%
Central Heating Units	22	5%	161,500	3%
Portable Heaters	22	5%	667,950	14%
Water Heaters	15	3%	1,015,800	22%
Other	4	1%	47,401	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$4,626,835</b>	<b>100%</b>

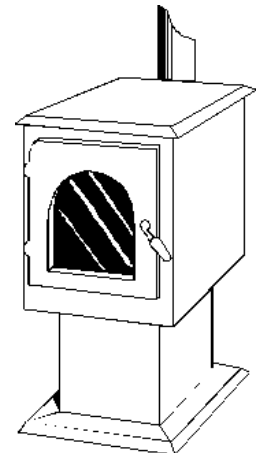
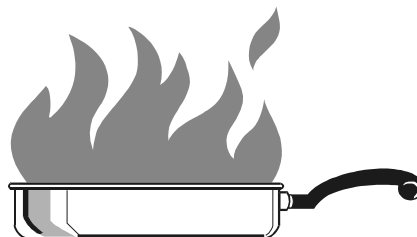
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*Seventy percent of all heating fires in residential properties occurred in the chimney/fireplace area.*

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*Total dollar loss in agricultural properties exceeded \$4.9 million.*

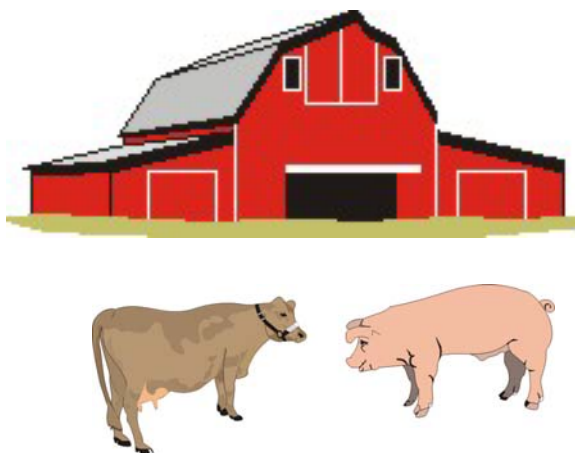
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## AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES

Agricultural properties are defined as those structures or open pieces of land on which the production of raw agricultural products and farming occurs. Agricultural production and storage properties do not include processing facilities. The NFIRS 5 reporting system has combined certain agricultural categories.

### AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND STORAGE

<u>Type of Facility</u>	<u>No. of Incidents</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>
Livestock Production	131	\$ 959,131
Crop/Orchards	210	476,220
Grain Elevators/Silos	72	799,670
Livestock Storage	118	2,753,250
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>\$4,988,271</b>



The total dollar loss for fires in agricultural properties exceeded \$4.9 million. Overall, the number of fire incidents decreased by 3% and dollar loss decreased by 47%.



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# Areas of Origin by Occupancy Class

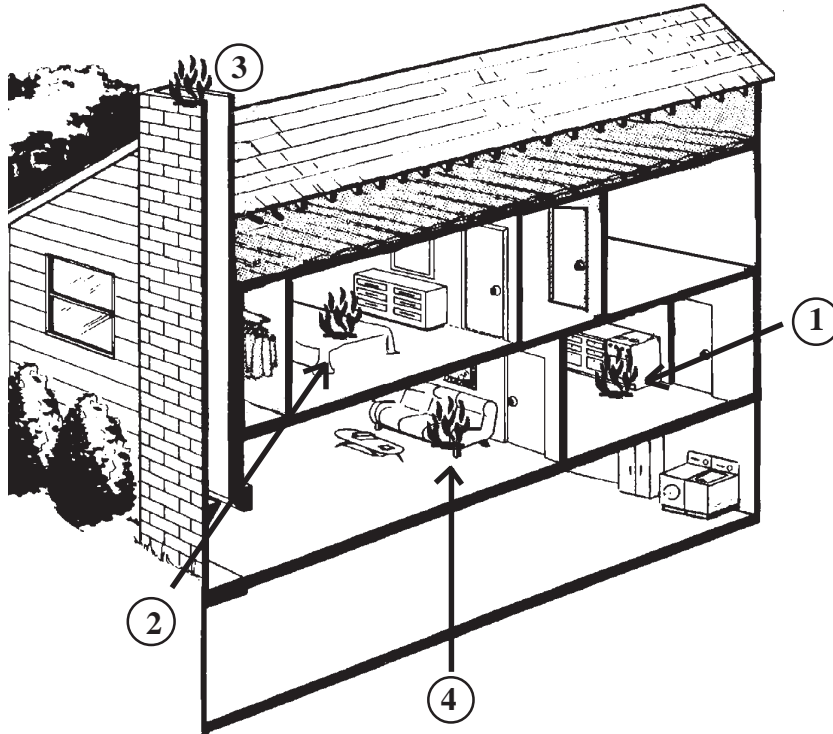
The following pages contain:

- Additional information on most common areas of fire origin
- Data on each type of structure (to the extent reported)
- Illustrations showing types rooms in which most fires originated.

Statistically, the kitchen was the most hazardous area in residential fires. Kitchen fires had a variety of causes.

# RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

(Single Family Dwellings, Apartments, Hotels)



## AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN

1. Kitchen/Cooking Area .....	40%
2. Sleeping Area .....	6%
3. Chimney .....	6%
4. Living Room .....	4%

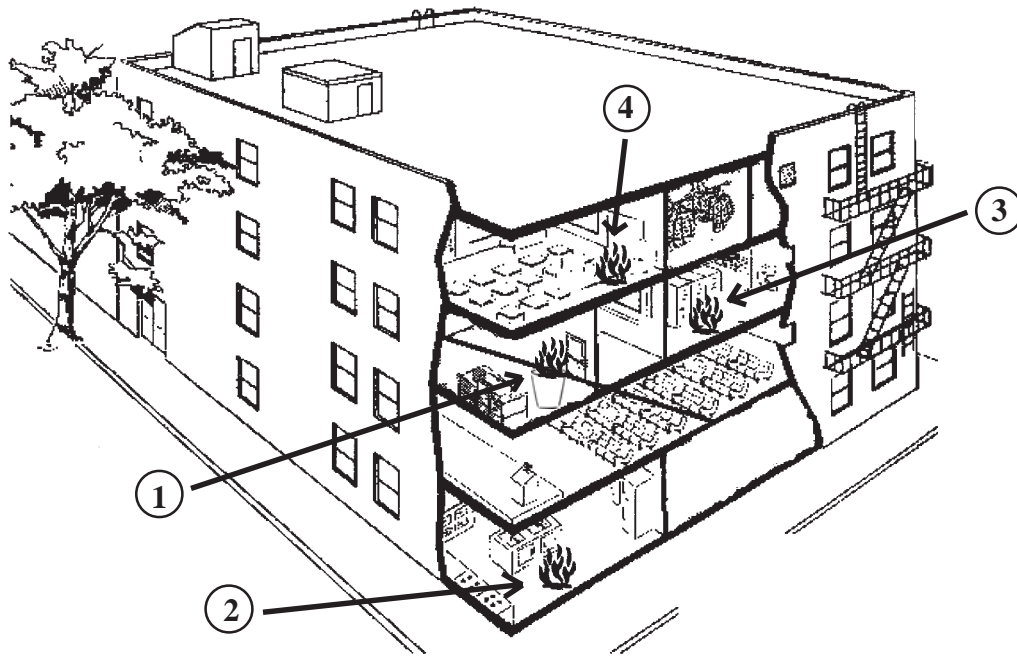
Other Areas of Fire Origin ..... 44%

	No. of Incidents	Firefighter Injuries	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Deaths	Civilian Deaths	Dollar Loss
	4,858	116	130	—	35	\$92,837,945
% of Total	70%*	60%	81%	—	76%	60%

\*Percent of structure fires

# EDUCATIONAL PROPERTY

(Colleges, Universities, Public/Private Schools)



## AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN

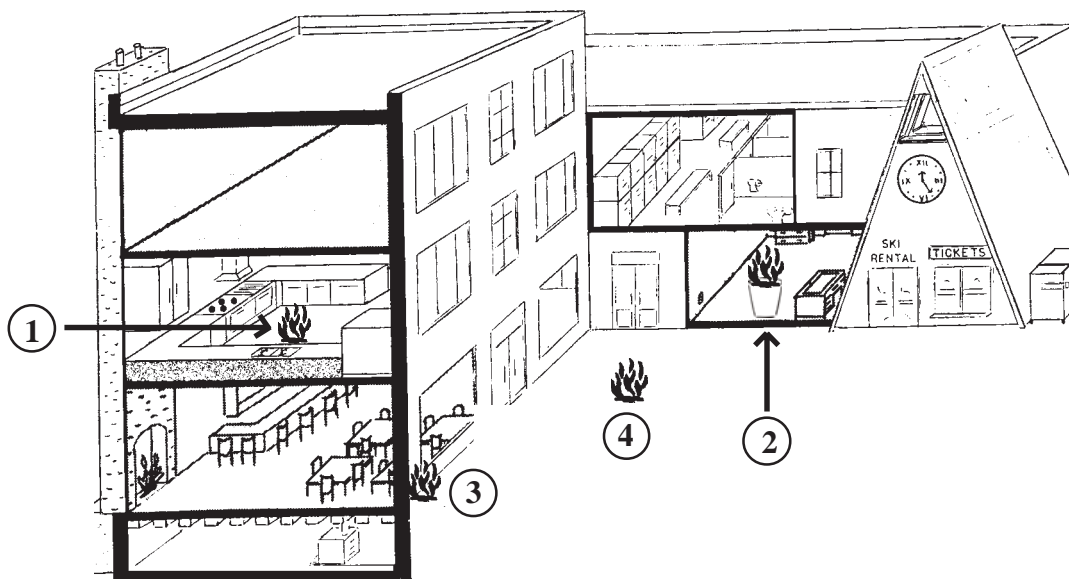
1. Trash Chute/Container .....	18%
2. Kitchen.....	14%
3. Lavatory/Locker Room .....	5%
4. Assembly Area – Under 100.....	3%
Other Areas of Fire Origin .....	60%

	No. of Incidents	Firefighter Injuries	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Deaths	Civilian Deaths	Dollar Loss
	216	–	–	–	–	\$382,675
% of Total	3%*	–	–	–	–	<1%

\*Percent of structure fires

# PUBLIC ASSEMBLY PROPERTY

(Restaurants, Arenas, Churches, Theatres)



## AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN

1. Kitchen/Cooking Area .....	31%
2. Trash Chute/Container .....	16%
3. Exterior Wall .....	4%
4. Outside Area, Other .....	4%

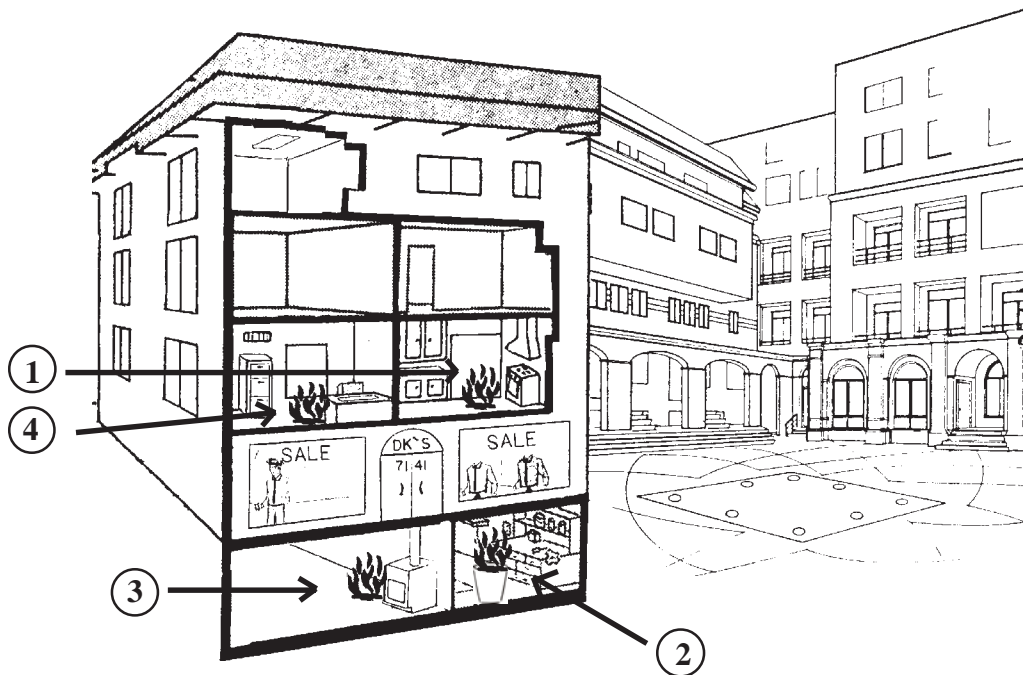
Other Areas of Fire Origin ..... 45%

	No. of Incidents	Firefighter Injuries	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Deaths	Civilian Deaths	Dollar Loss
	203	2	—	—	—	\$7,197,908
% of Total	3%*	1%	—	—	—	5%

\*Percent of structure fires

# STORE AND OFFICE PROPERTY

(Retail Shopping, Business Offices, Service Stations)



## AREA OF FIRE ORIGIN

1. Kitchen/Cooking Area .....	13%
2. Trash Chute/Container .....	10%
3. Heating Room/Area .....	7%
4. Office .....	6%

Other Areas of Fire Origin ..... 64%

	No. of Incidents	Firefighter Injuries	Civilian Injuries	Firefighter Deaths	Civilian Deaths	Dollar Loss
	230	5	3	—	—	\$12,041,120
% of Total	3%*	2%	2%	—	—	8%

\*Percent of structure fires

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

*Since 1925, the week containing October 9 has been designated Fire Prevention Week in the United States, in memory of the Great Chicago Fire on October 9, 1871.*

The official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week since its inception has been the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Each year, NFPA develops a theme for the week and makes materials available to fire departments all over the nation to assist in getting the fire safety message to the public. The theme for 2003 was **“When Fire Strikes, GET OUT AND STAY OUT!”** NFPA’s goal during this week-long event was to encourage families to make and practice escape plans, to be sure that all occupants to know how to get out alive if a fire should occur. Recent studies have shown that these messages become internalized, especially by children, only if the plan is actually practiced regularly.

The State Fire Marshal encourages fire service personnel to lead fire prevention efforts in their own communities. Further information about this annual event can be found on the NFPA Web page at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

## SUMMARY

In the year 2003, cooking fires caused the largest percentage of structure fires (31%), with heating and incendiary as second and third leading types. The most likely reason for the increase in cooking fires is a new reporting category which more accurately captures this information.

Cooking, heating and incendiary together accounted for 50% of total structure fires. Fires in residential spaces represent 70% of all structure fires and 76% of fire deaths. Eighty-one percent (81%) of civilian injuries occurred in residential fires.

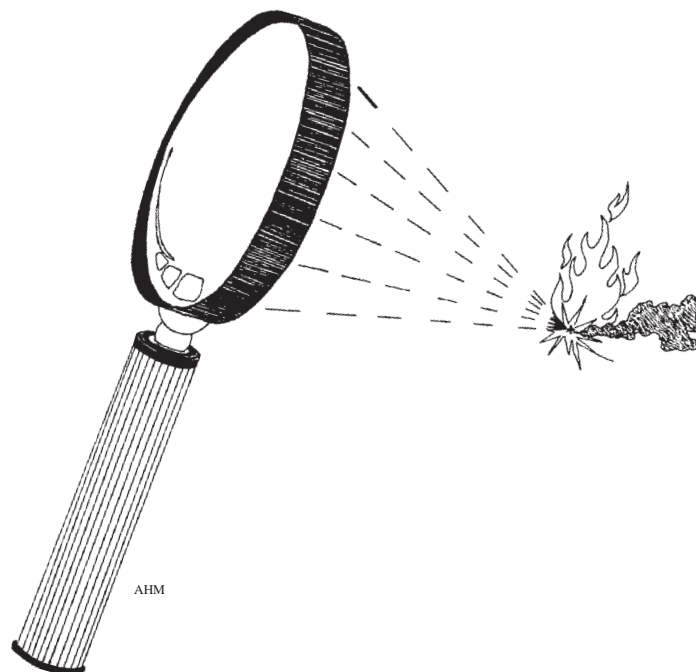
**While careless smoking accounts for only 3% of structure fires, it nevertheless caused 20% of all fire fatalities and 26% of residential fire deaths.**

In 2003, MFIRS data reported 33% of all structure fire causes as “unknown/other causes.” As fire departments become more familiar and comfortable with using NFIRS 5.0 software, they are also becoming more adept at entering only the minimum information needed for the computer to accept the report. This contributes to the number of incidents with “unknown/other” listed as cause. **In order to focus our fire prevention efforts where the greatest need exists, complete reporting of causes/ignition factors in the MFIRS program is absolutely essential.** Accurate data cannot be extrapolated from fields left blank on computer or paper forms!

As always, Minnesotans continue to be in the greatest danger from fire in their own homes. Fire prevention efforts in the areas of cooking and heating must continue to be a top priority for the fire service community.

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# INCENDIARY TRENDS



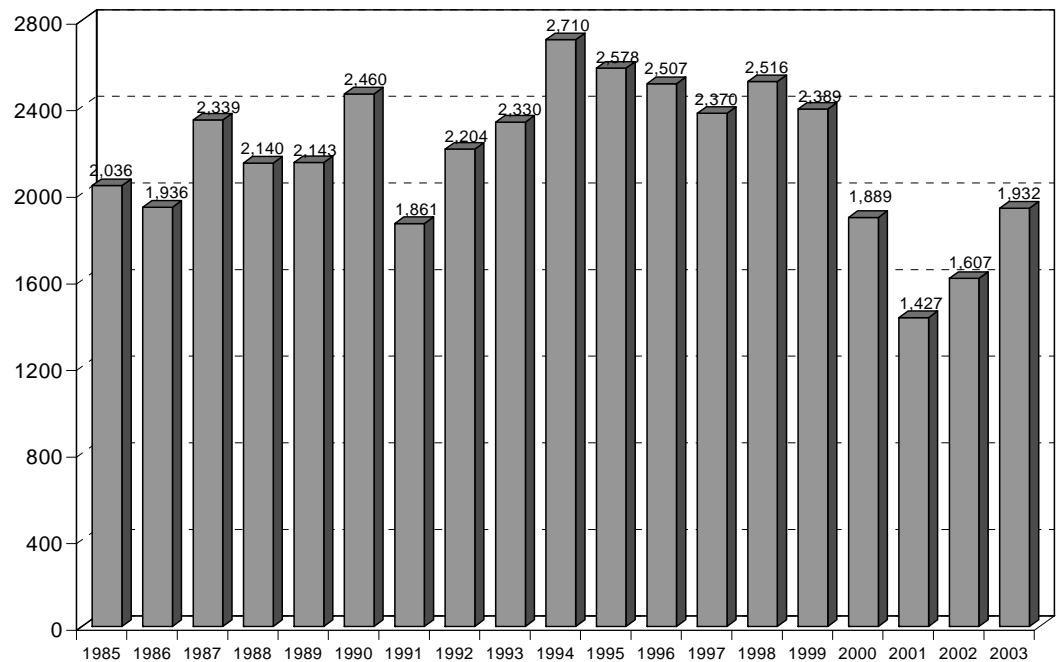
*Photo by Stuart Glaser*



Although incendiary fires increased 20% from 2002, the number of fires in this category remains fewer than during the 1990's. This figure is influenced, in part, by the different mode of reporting incendiary causes in the NFIRS 5 system.

## INCENDIARY TRENDS

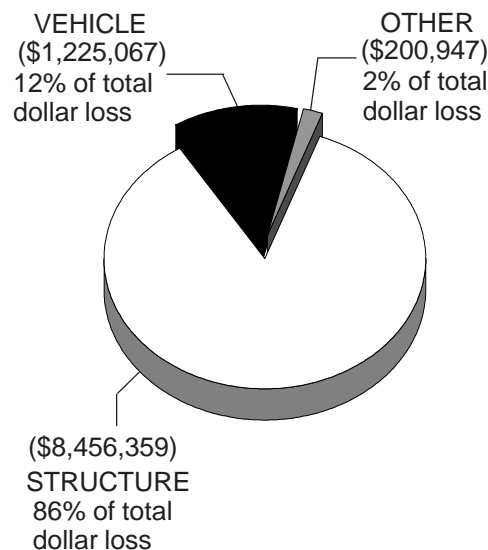
### INCENDIARY FIRES IN MINNESOTA



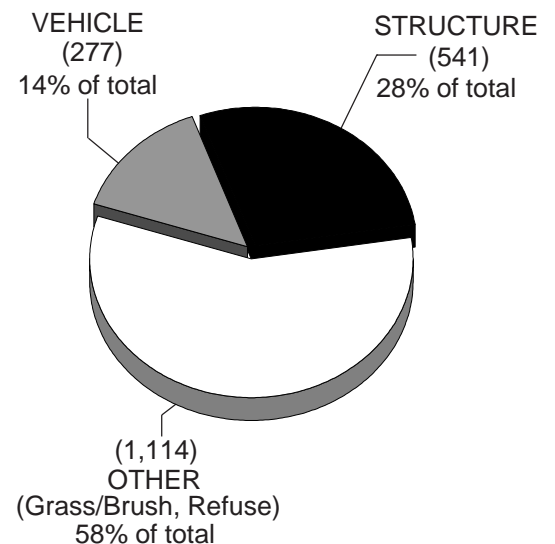
There was a total of 1,932 identified incendiary fires, a 20% increase from 2002. The value of property destroyed was estimated at nearly \$10 million, which is a 32% decrease from last year. One reason for the continued low numbers of incendiary fires (beginning in 2000) could be the reluctance of fire departments to report a fire as incendiary rather than suspicious. The "Suspicious" cause was eliminated in the NFIRS 5 program.

### INCENDIARY FIRES BY DOLLAR LOSS AND TYPE

#### DOLLAR LOSS

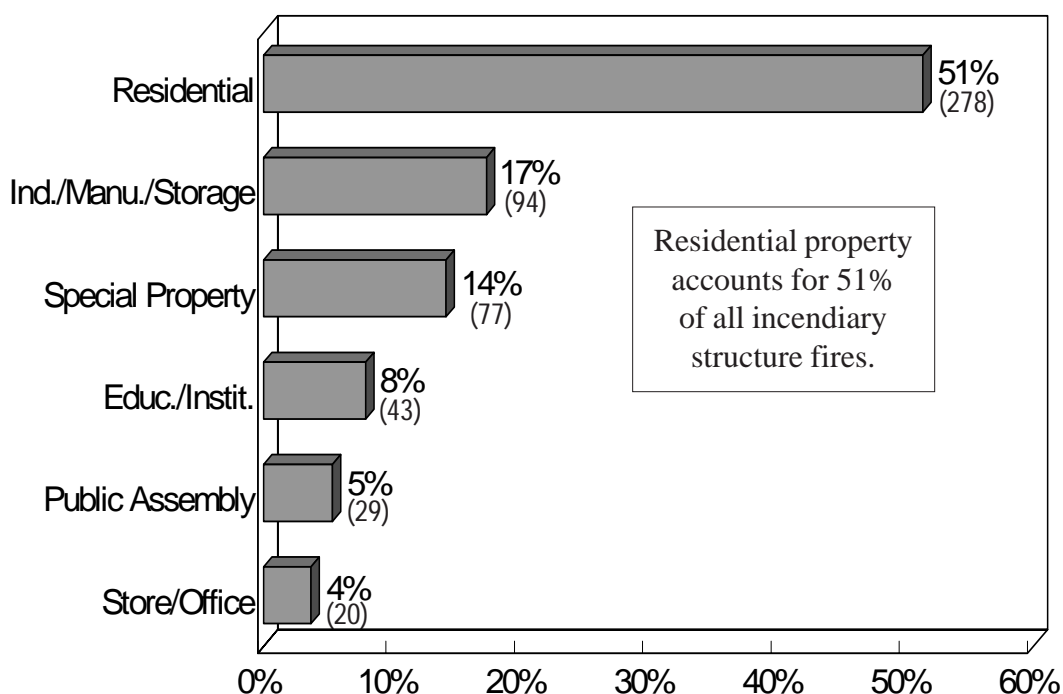


#### TYPE OF FIRES





## Incendiary Fire Incidents By Structure Type

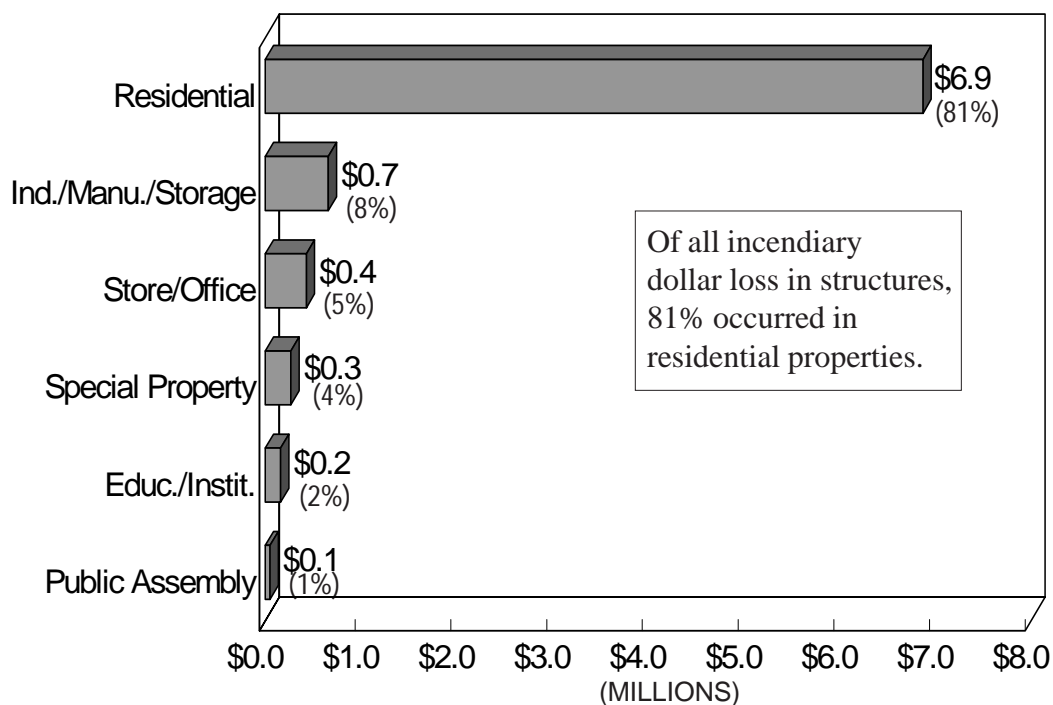


### Incendiary Fire Dollar Loss (In Millions)

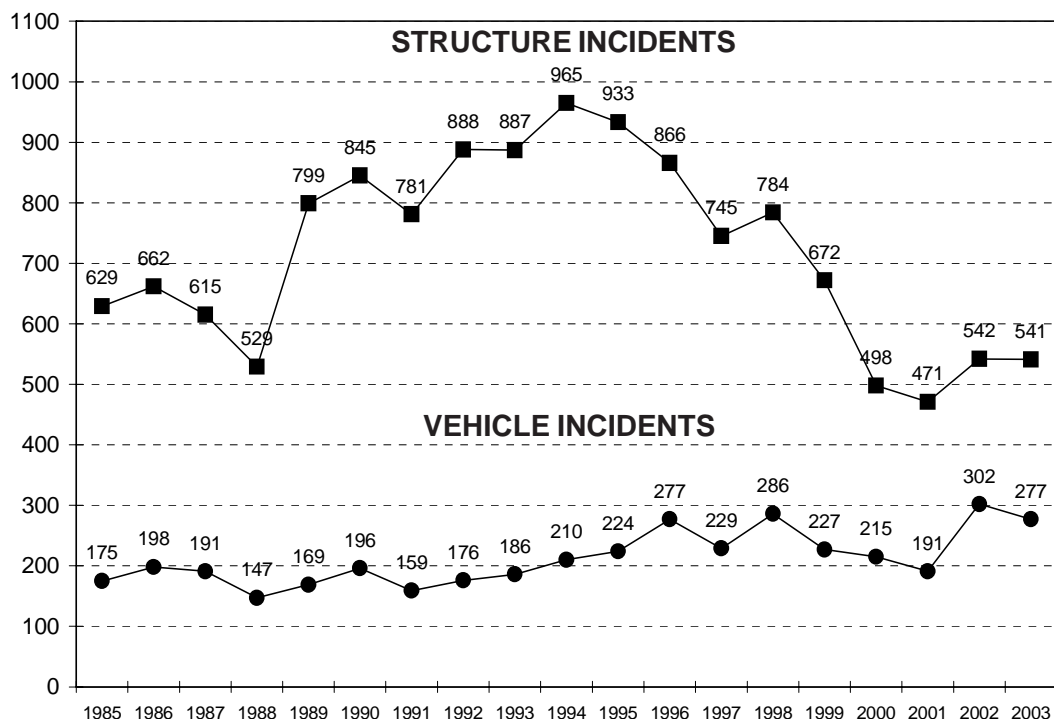
	Structure	Vehicle
1992	\$16.3	\$.5
1993	\$20.6	\$.8
1994	\$42.2	\$.8
1995	\$16.9	\$.9
1996	\$20.5	\$1.3
1997	\$13.8	\$.9
1998	\$11.1	\$1.3
1999	\$15.3	\$1.3
2000	\$8.1	\$1.1
2001	\$8.1	\$1.1
2002	\$12.9	\$1.4
2003	\$8.5	\$1.2

Over half of all incendiary fires reported in 2003 (51%) occurred in residential properties. Dollar loss in those properties totalled \$6.9 million, or 81% of total dollar loss in structures.

## Incendiary Fire Dollar Loss By Structure Type



### INCENDIARY TREND IN STRUCTURE AND VEHICLE FIRES, 1985-2003



In 2003, incendiary was listed as the cause of 9% of all reported structure fires with known causes and 7% of all reported vehicle fires in Minnesota. Vehicle incendiary dollar loss represented 10% of total vehicle fire dollar loss, with an average dollar loss per incendiary vehicle fire of \$4,245. Fire investigators agree that incendiary vehicle fires are under-reported and may not receive as much attention as structure fires receive.

### RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE INCENDIARY FIRES

Property Type	2002		2003		% of Total Dollar Loss
	Incidents	Dollar Loss	Incidents	Dollar Loss	
One-Two Family Dwelling	181	\$4.5M	186	\$4.2M	61%
Boarding/Rooming House	1	\$.005M	5	\$1.4M	20%
Apartment/Tenement/Flat	79	\$2.1M	73	\$1.3M	19%
Other Residential Occupancy	7	\$.200M	7	\$.012M	<1%
Hotel/Motel/Inn/Lodge	2	\$.011M	1	\$.001M	<1%
Dormitories	4	\$.016M	6	\$.001M	<1%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>\$6.8M</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>\$6.9M</b>	<b>100%</b>

Residential structures are at greatest risk from fire. These same structures are also at greatest risk from incendiary fires. The 278 residential incendiary incidents reported in 2003 accounted for 6% of all reported residential fires and 7% of the dollar loss for this property type.

## INCENDIARY FIRE INCIDENTS AND DOLLAR LOSS BY COUNTY\*

In some instances, the protection district of the reporting fire department goes beyond its county boundary, but the incident is recorded within the department's home county. Per capita data is calculated at a rate of incendiary fires per 100,000 people.

<u>County</u>	<u>Incendiary Incidents</u>	<u>Incend. Fires/ 100,000 Pop.</u>	<u>Incendiary Dollar Loss</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Incendiary Incidents</u>	<u>Incend. Fires/ 100,000 Pop.</u>	<u>Incendiary Dollar Loss</u>
Aitkin	5	33	\$0	Marshall	2	20	\$2,000
Anoka	110	37	\$328,150	Martin	9	41	\$61,485
Becker	26	87	\$0	Meeker	9	40	\$5,000
Beltrami	22	55	\$35,000	Mille Lacs	7	31	\$70,000
Benton	10	29	\$20,000	Morrison	7	22	\$1,600
Big Stone	1	17	\$0	Mower	14	36	\$15,300
Blue Earth	18	32	\$7,300	Murray	1	11	\$0
Brown	5	19	\$30,700	Nicollet	15	50	\$2,001
Carlton	6	19	\$87,000	Nobles	1	5	\$500
Carver	23	33	\$21,000	Norman	1	13	\$0
Cass	27	99	\$1,501	Olmsted	52	42	\$160,813
Chippewa	3	23	\$0	Otter Tail	15	26	\$14,100
Chisago	10	24	\$180,000	Pennington	9	66	\$0
Clay	14	27	\$23,200	Pine	11	41	\$70,300
Clearwater	5	59	\$0	Pipestone	0	0	\$0
Cook	0	0	\$0	Polk	35	112	\$0
Cottonwood	11	90	\$76,300	Pope	4	36	\$0
Crow Wing	22	40	\$256,000	Ramsey	298	58	\$1,245,825
Dakota	80	22	\$251,810	Red Lake	0	0	\$0
Dodge	12	68	\$2,000	Redwood	4	24	\$0
Douglas	22	67	\$19,000	Renville	3	17	\$0
Faribault	4	25	\$141,000	Rice	16	28	\$227,060
Fillmore	7	33	\$167,000	Rock	4	41	\$0
Freeborn	5	15	\$5,500	Roseau	10	61	\$0
Goodhue	28	63	\$120,000	St. Louis	84	42	\$311,286
Grant	3	48	\$85,000	Scott	32	36	\$199,500
Hennepin	445	40	\$5,072,732	Sherburne	27	42	\$0
Houston	3	15	\$0	Sibley	13	85	\$61,500
Hubbard	12	65	\$42,260	Stearns	39	29	\$56,200
Isanti	8	26	\$60,000	Steele	13	39	\$17,000
Itasca	35	80	\$13,000	Stevens	0	0	\$0
Jackson	2	18	\$0	Swift	10	84	\$0
Kanabec	2	13	\$2,250	Todd	7	29	\$0
Kandiyohi	14	34	\$30,500	Traverse	0	0	\$0
Kittson	4	76	\$0	Wabasha	2	9	\$750
Koochiching	2	14	\$200	Wadena	6	44	\$500
Lac Qui Parle	2	25	\$5,000	Waseca	5	26	\$0
Lake	8	72	\$22,550	Washington	64	32	\$138,900
Lake of the Woods	2	44	\$0	Watsonwan	5	42	\$26,900
LeSueur	5	20	\$0	Wilkin	2	28	\$10,000
Lincoln	1	16	\$0	Winona	8	16	\$2,500
Lyon	6	24	\$20,100	Wright	39	43	\$5,500
McLeod	8	23	\$2,000	Yellow Medicine	1	9	\$30,000
Mahnomen	10	193	\$17,800	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>\$9,882,373</b>

\* Based on data received from 715 departments. See pages 43-50 for MFIRS participation by county.

## **SUMMARY**

Incendiary fires and dollar losses increased in 2003, but are still less than the numbers in the 1990s. One possible reason for this decline was the change in the NFIRS reporting system. This change involved eliminating the option of a suspicious fire. It appears some fire departments may be reluctant to report a fire as incendiary rather than suspicious. Incendiary fires were the cause of 9% of structure fires with known causes.

Fifty-one percent (51%) of all incendiary structure fires were in residential property as well as 81% of all incendiary dollar loss.

In the past fifteen years, incendiary fires caused 38 deaths and over \$250 million in property loss. Incendiary fires must be addressed through such efforts as the Arson Reward Program, the Arson Suspect Pointer System, and the Juvenile Firesetter Intervention programs being established throughout the state. Arson is a crime against every Minnesotan.

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# CASUALTIES



*Photo by Tom Linhoff*

## ENJOY A FISH DINNER, OR LEARN HOW TO CATCH ‘EM?

Previous editions of Fire In Minnesota have focused on major issues of that particular year. We have illustrated the tragic results of non-working smoke alarms. We have promoted fire-safe behaviors with regard to cigarettes and alcohol use. We have encouraged family escape drills and residential sprinkler systems. We have emphasized the need for supervision and education of juveniles and disabled persons, and appropriate escape routes for the handicapped and the elderly. In short, we have spent the past fifteen editions of Fire In Minnesota reporting the efforts and concerns of the fire service community as it tries to instill personal fire and life safety behaviors in the people of Minnesota.

The results are steadily declining fire death numbers throughout the nineties. Although the number of fires in 2003 increased and dollar loss went up (as did the cost of real estate and other items destroyed in fires), the number of fire deaths decreased by 28%. The dollar loss for incendiary fires went down by 32% and there were no deaths from incendiary causes in 2003. Civilian injuries were fewer, as were firefighter injuries. Fire deaths from careless smoking decreased by 53%. Agricultural fires were also less common.

What should we conclude from these numbers? Have we, like Smokey Bear, done our job so well that our job security is threatened? Perhaps it simply means that education, enforcement and engineering are making a real difference in the lives of Minnesotans, and firefighters and investigators are doing their jobs well – but there will always be a need to educate and reeducate, enforce and enforce again.

When a fire department trains its members, it is not a one-time exercise. Fire department training is called “drill” for a reason. It is repetitive reinforcement of the techniques and information to be learned. Are we skipping Fire Prevention Week activities at our schools this year because we did it last year? Do we stop “Check Your Battery” campaigns because we have done them before? All the efforts we have made as a fire service community to reduce injury, death and property loss have been effective because the message has been repeated time after time, by fire departments and school teachers and social workers and senior centers.

The heart of our safety message is not to provide a “fish dinner” safety net of codes and technology for our citizens, but rather to teach them to “fish” – to be personally responsible for making safety behaviors a part of their daily lives. This is the work of the fire department and the community that occurs outside of the fire hall, long after the trucks are in their bays and the hoses hung up to dry. And we have done it well! To do otherwise, even in times of budget reductions, is to short-change our children and our communities.

In addition to reinforcing fire-safe behaviors in our communities, there are other loose ends to tie up. A prominent building at the University of Minnesota bears the caption: “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). A step toward freedom from fire loss requires diligent pursuit and reporting of causes and ignition factors. We need to report the facts about operating or non-operating smoke alarms in structure fires. If they are working, did people get out, and if not, why not?

To continue these professional tasks that only we can do, and, through repeated education, to make the citizens of Minnesota our full partners in keeping our communities safe from fire - that must be our mission, and the greatest fishing trip of all!

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*In 20% of fatalities in residential occupancies, smoke alarms were improperly maintained or absent.*

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## FIRE DEATHS AND SMOKE ALARM PERFORMANCE\*

In 2003, 46 civilians lost their lives in fires. While the total number of deaths is down by 28%, residential deaths increased by 4% in 2003. Residential fire deaths represent 76% of 2003 fire fatalities. In 20% of the casualties in structures, smoke alarms (required in every dwelling since 1993) were absent or non-operating. In another 34% of the dwelling cases, it was not possible to determine whether a smoke detector was present or operating.

### FIRE DEATHS IN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>% of Dwell. Fires</u>	<u>% of Total Deaths</u>
No Smoke Alarms Present	5	14%	11%
Inoperable Smoke Alarms Present	2	6%	4%
Working Smoke Alarms Present	7	20%	15%
Unk. if Alarms Present/Working	12	34%	26%
Not a Factor/Suicides, Explosions, etc.	9	26%	20%
<b>Total Deaths in Dwellings</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>76%</b>
Other Fire Deaths (Including vehicles, outdoors, other structures, etc.)	11	--	24%
<b>Total Fire Deaths</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>100%</b>

### SEVEN FATALITIES WHERE THERE WERE WORKING SMOKE ALARMS: WHAT HAPPENED?

	<u>Fatalities</u>
Blood Alcohol Level Above Legal Limit	2
Developmentally Delayed Adult	1
Young Child	1

The remaining 3 victims either had unusual circumstances surrounding the fire or there was not enough information to determine why they were not able to get out.

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*Since August 1, 1993, smoke alarms have been required in every dwelling in Minnesota that has a sleeping area.*

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\*All charts and information on this page have been taken from the State Fire Marshal Division's 2003 fire death database, which is based on fire death investigations done by this office and on MFIRS data.

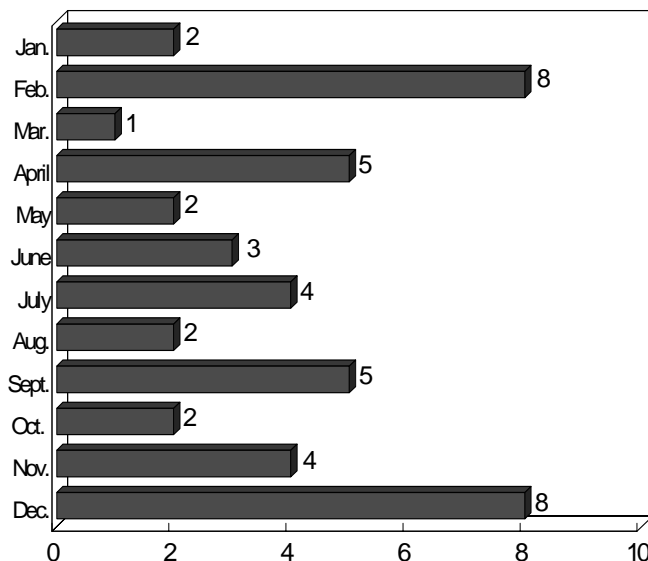
## CIVILIAN FIRE DEATHS: WHO AND WHEN

Almost 83% percent of fire deaths occurred between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. Forty-eight percent (48%) of all fire deaths in 2003 occurred during the winter months.

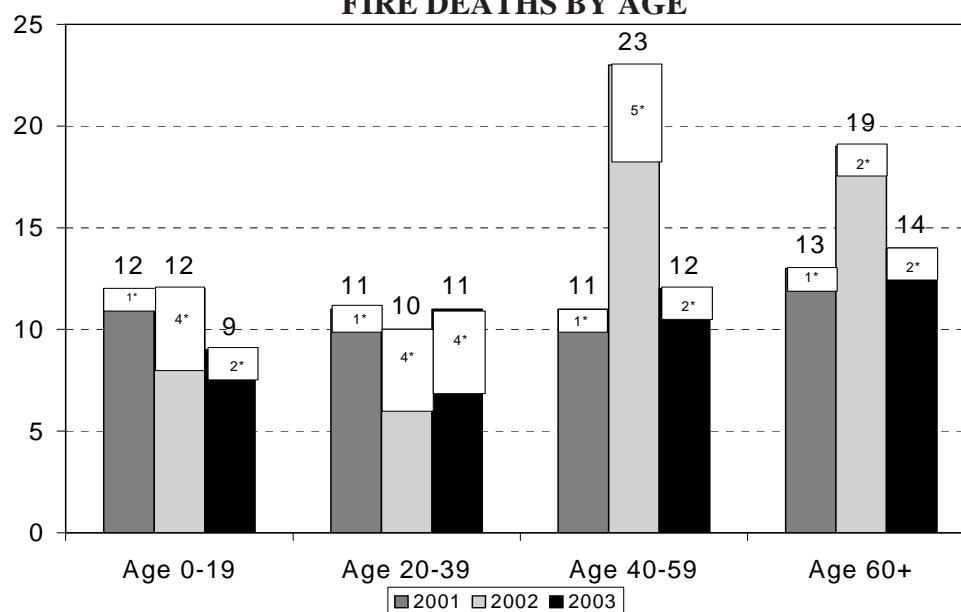
### FIRE DEATHS BY TIME OF DAY

	TOTAL	0000-0600	0600-1200	1200-1800	1800-2400
Careless Smoking	9	4	1	1	3
Collision	6	2	0	1	3
Combust. Too Close	4	0	1	1	2
Suicide	4	1	1	0	2
Cooking	2	0	0	0	2
Improper Candle Use	2	2	0	0	0
Explosion	2	1	1	0	0
Child Play	1	1	0	0	0
Other	2	1	0	1	0
Undetermined	14	12	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>14</b>

### FIRE DEATHS BY MONTH



### FIRE DEATHS BY AGE



\*Fire deaths listed as suicides or motor vehicle fire incidents.

*There were 28% fewer fire deaths in 2003 than in 2002.*

Fire deaths in every age category except the 20-39 age group went down significantly in 2003. There were 25% fewer deaths among the 0-19 age group; in the 20-39 age group, deaths went up by 10% (1 death). The 40-59 age category had 48% fewer fire deaths, and fatalities in the 60+ age group went down by 26%. Overall, in 2003, Minnesota lost 28% fewer citizens than in 2002.



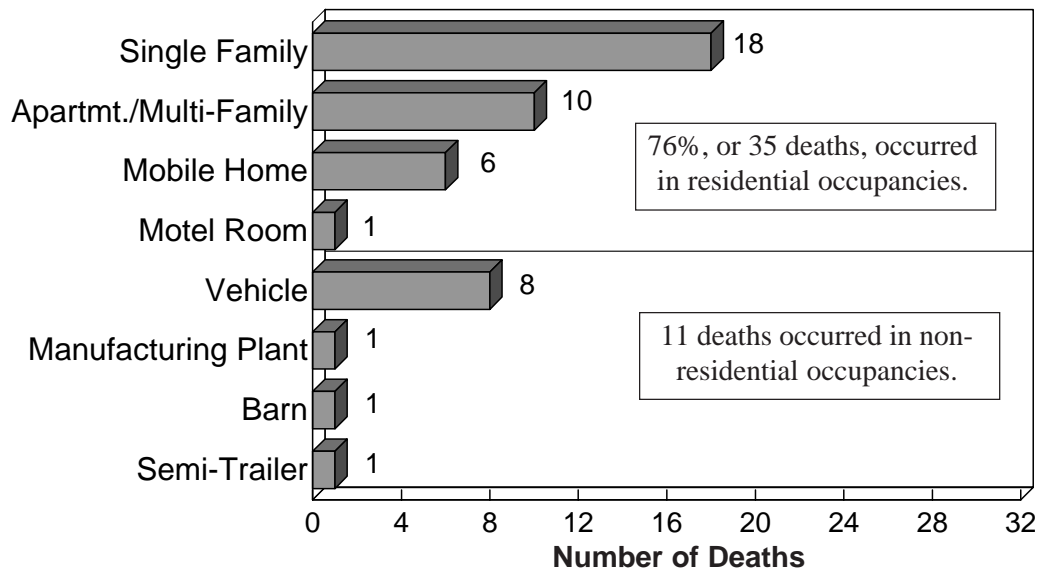
## CIVILIAN FIRE DEATHS: WHERE AND WHY

Seventy-six (76%) of fire deaths occurred on residential property.

Careless smoking was identified as the cause of 20% of all fire deaths. Thirty-three percent (33%) of those careless smoking deaths were alcohol or drug-related.

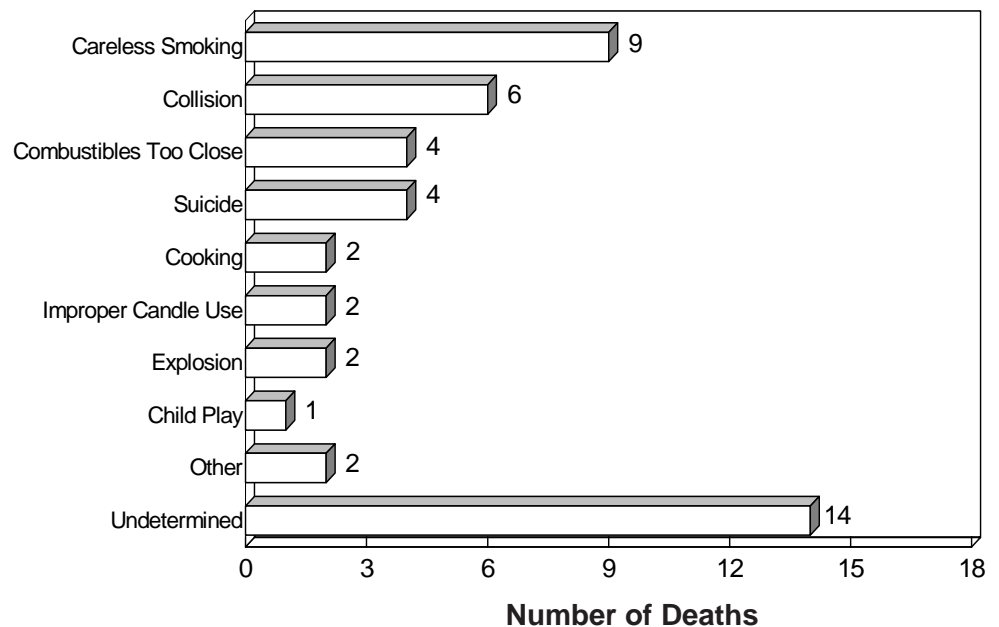
Alcohol/drugs was a factor in 37% of all fire deaths.

**Civilian Deaths By Location**



Seventy-six percent (76%) of 2003 fire deaths occurred where people generally feel safest — at home. This percentage increased from last year by 4%.

**Civilian Deaths By Cause**

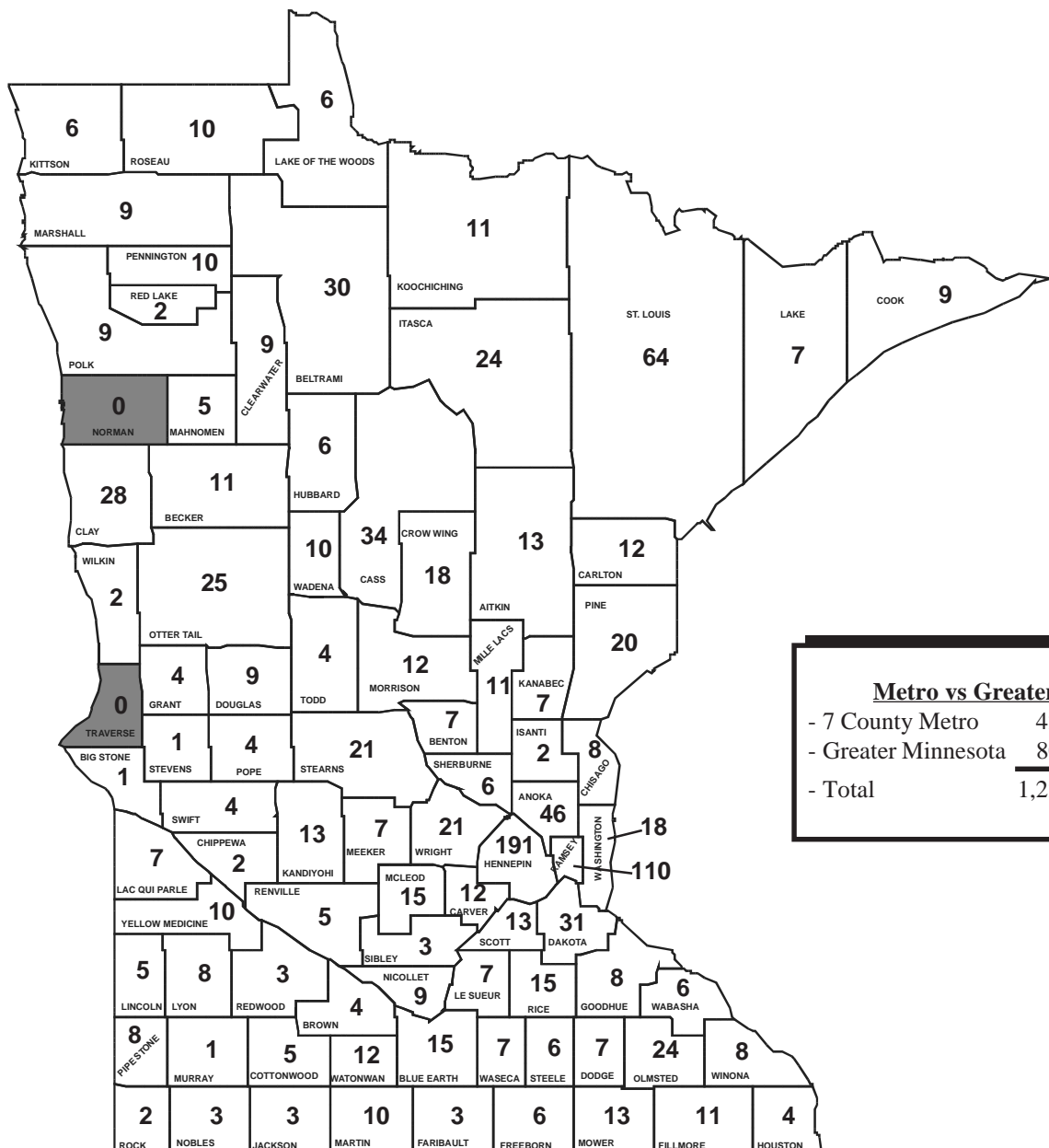


Careless smoking was the leading cause of civilian fire deaths in 2003, as it had been in most previous years. It was identified as the cause of 20% of all fire deaths. Alcohol or other drug use was present or identified as a factor in 17 of the 46 fire deaths and in one of three careless smoking fire deaths.

*Fire deaths in greater Minnesota outpace those in the seven-county metro area by a rate of two to one.*

## CIVILIAN DEATH RATES

In the past 20 years, 1,224 Minnesota civilians have died in fires (see distribution by county below). In 2003, 46% of our state's population lived in greater Minnesota, where the per capita death rate was 2.1 deaths for every 100,000 people. The per capita rate for the metro area in 2003 was 0.8 per 100,000, while the rate for the state as a whole was 0.9 per 100,000. The national per capita death rate for 2002 was 1.2 per 100,000. (The United States consistently has among the highest per capita death rates in the world.) Two counties in the state have remained fatality free for 20 years; they are Norman and Traverse.



### Metro vs Greater MN

- 7 County Metro	421	34%
- Greater Minnesota	803	66%
- Total	1,224	100%

## Minnesota's Fire Deaths

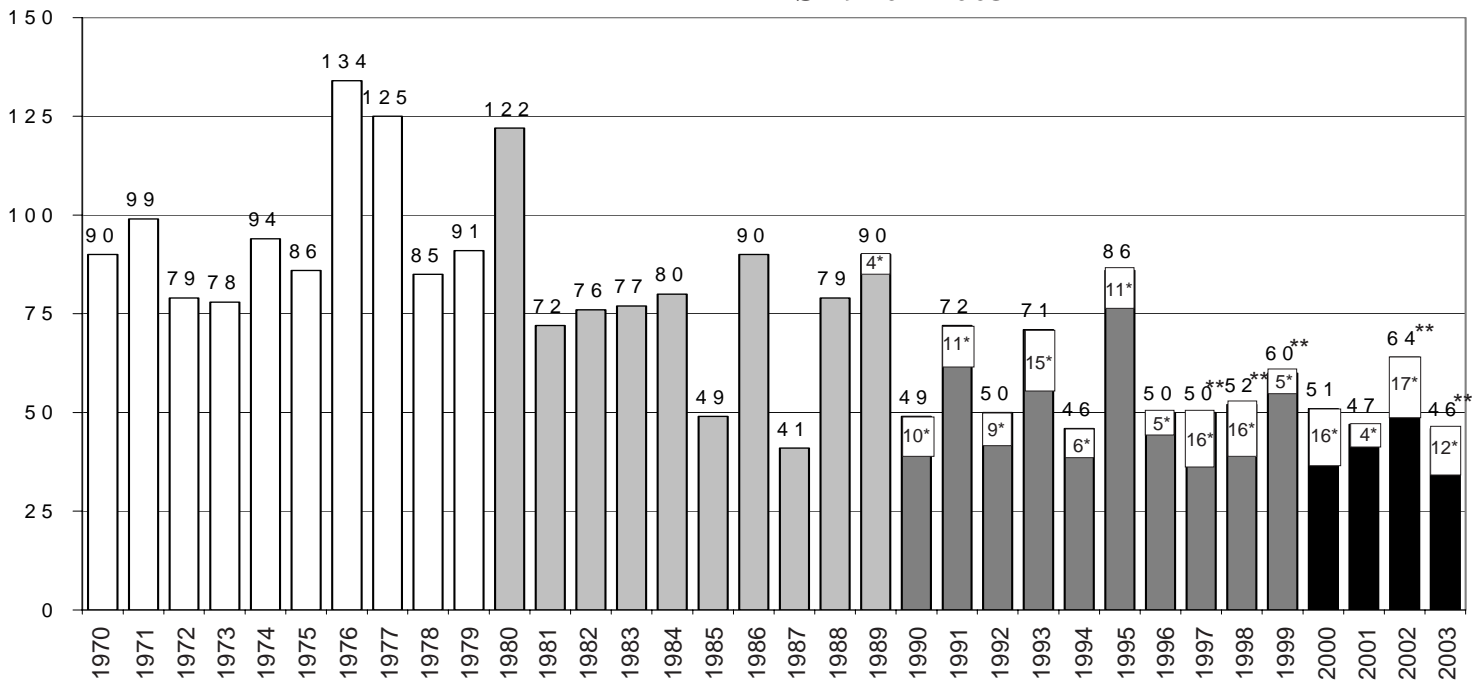
1970s	961 deaths
1980s	776 deaths
1990s	585 deaths
2000s	520 deaths (estimate)

## 30 YEARS OF FIRE DEATH HISTORY

As Minnesota's population has grown from 3.8 million in 1970 to 4.9 in 2000, fire deaths have decreased. During the 1980s, fire deaths in Minnesota dropped 19% from the levels of the 1970s. The 1990s show a further decrease of 25% from the levels in the 1980s.

Much of this decline in the fire death rate must be attributed to the fire service community. Since the mid-seventies, the promotion of fire protection technology (smoke alarms, sprinkler systems, etc.) has become widespread in Minnesota. Also during this time, the state has mandated new inspection/code enforcement programs targeting hotels, motels, schools, health care and day care facilities.

## FIRE DEATHS 1970 - 2003



\*Number of vehicle/suicide fires.

\*\*Does not include firefighter deaths.

## FIREFIGHTER DEATHS

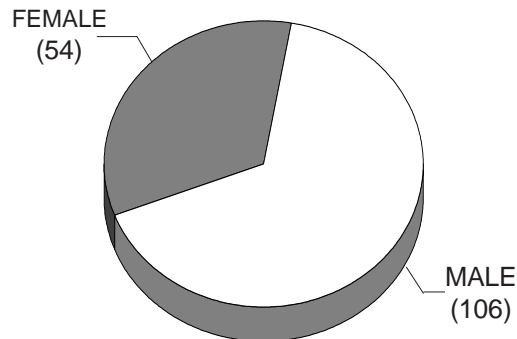
While responding to a fire at a construction site, Assistant Chief Donald J. Billig, St. Cloud Fire Department, was struck by a speeding motorist, carried for some 50 feet and pinned under the vehicle as it came to a stop.

As a fire service community, we mourn the loss of our fellow firefighter. He risked and gave his life in service, just as our brothers and sisters in military service have done. He is mourned and honored by a grateful state.

*In 2003, 160 civilians were injured in Minnesota fires. Sixty-six percent (66%) of those injured were males; thirty-four percent (34%) were females.*

## CIVILIAN INJURIES

In 2003, 160 civilian injuries were reported through the MFIRS system, a 8% decrease from 2002. The numbers do not represent the actual number of fire injuries occurring in the state, as it includes only those victims who have direct contact with the fire department. Many burn victims are taken to emergency rooms by private car or ambulance.



AGE OF VICTIM	NO. OF VICTIMS
0-19	30
20-39	61
40-59	34
60-OVER	19
UNREPORTED	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>160</b>

A breakdown of reported injuries by gender shows there were two-thirds more injuries to males than females.

## ACTIVITY AT TIME OF FIRE

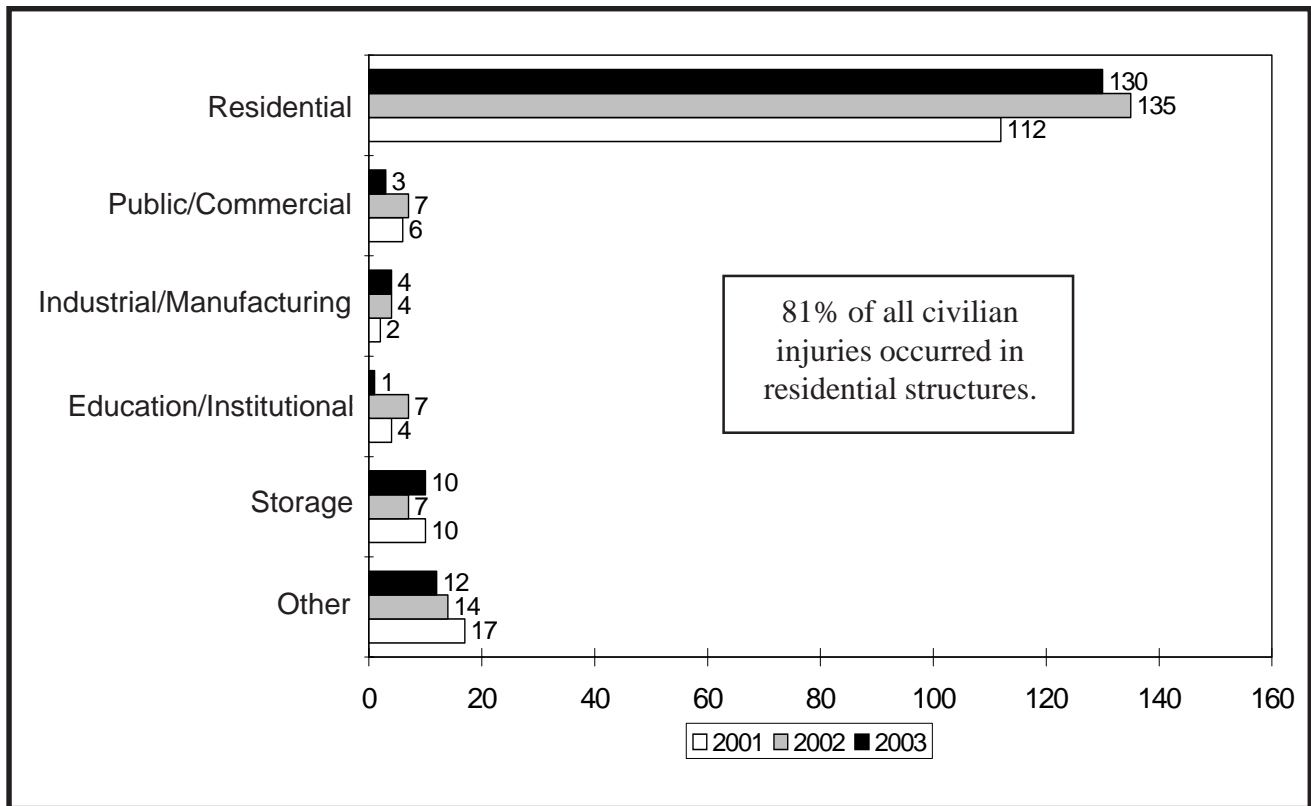
People trying to control a fire accounted for 29% of all civilian fire injuries; these numbers indicate an ongoing need to educate citizens of all ages on how to react to a fire. "Get Out and Stay Out" cannot be emphasized enough!

*Twenty-nine percent of all injuries were to people trying to control or extinguish a fire.*

### CIVILIAN INJURIES BY ACTIVITY

Activity	#	%
Fire Control	47	29%
Escape	24	15%
Sleeping	17	11%
Rescue attempt	8	5%
Unable to act	3	2%
Irrational act	6	4%
Other	8	5%
Unkn/Unrep	47	29%
	160	100%

## CIVILIAN INJURIES BY PROPERTY TYPE



Like fire fatalities, civilian fire injuries occur most frequently in residential structures.

## CIVILIAN INJURIES BY ACTIVITY AND STRUCTURE

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Pub/Comm</u>	<u>Indus/Manu</u>	<u>Educ/Inst</u>	<u>Storage</u>	<u>Other</u>
Fire Control	36	1	1	--	5	4
Escaping	22	2	--	--	--	--
Sleeping	16	--	--	--	--	1
Rescue Attempt	7	--	--	--	1	--
Irrational Action	5	--	--	--	--	1
Unable to Act	3	--	--	--	--	--
Other	11	--	--	1	1	4
Unknown	<u>30</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>

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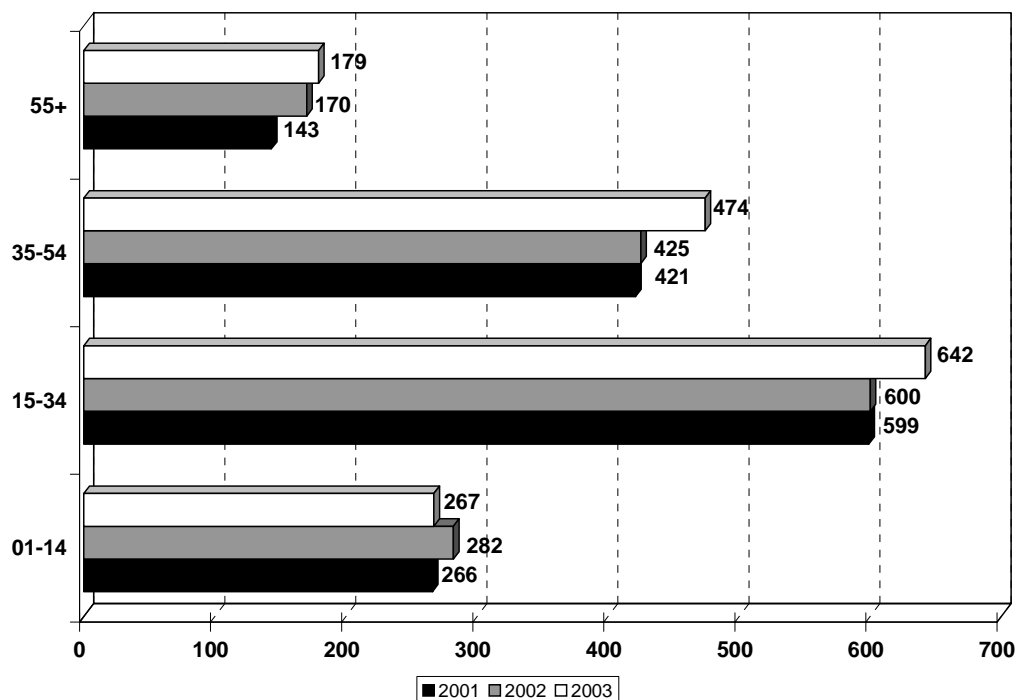
*Forty-one percent (41%) of 1,562 reported burn injuries (642) were in the 15-34 age group.*

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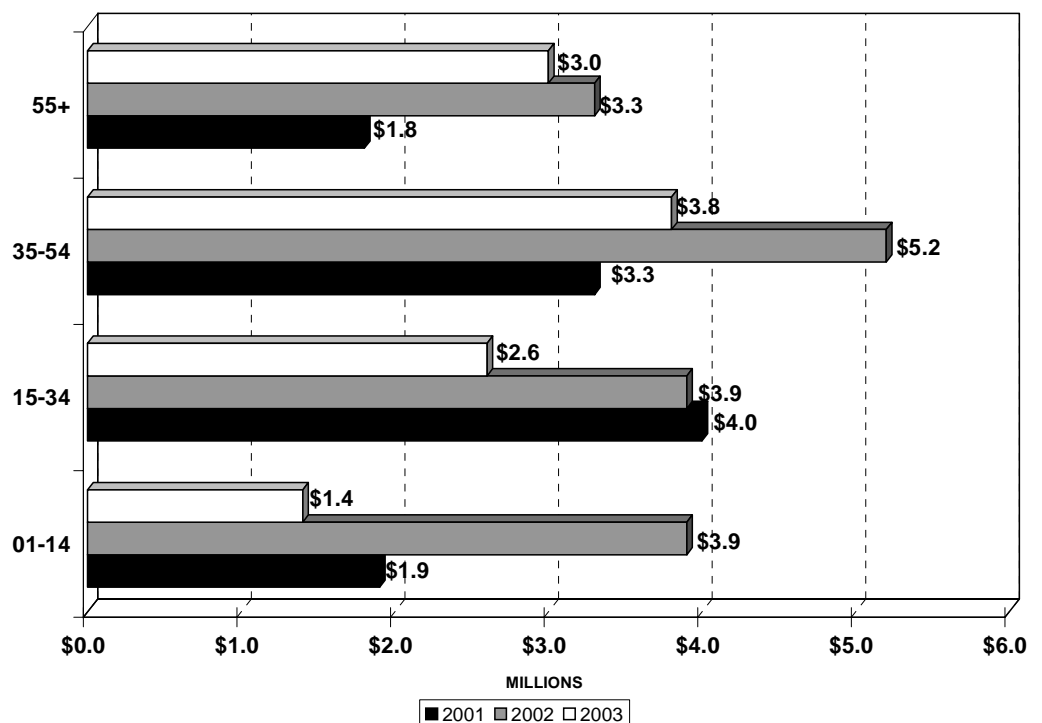
## BURN INJURIES REPORTED BY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

The charts and tables below and on the next two pages reflect civilian burn injuries that were reported to the Minnesota Department of Health by Minnesota health care facilities.

### CIVILIAN BURN INJURIES BY AGE



### CIVILIAN BURN INJURIES COSTS BY AGE



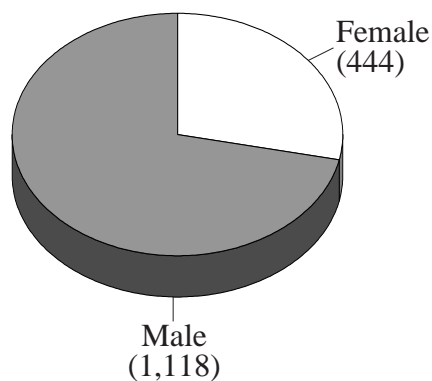

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*Total cost of reported burn injuries was nearly \$11 million.*

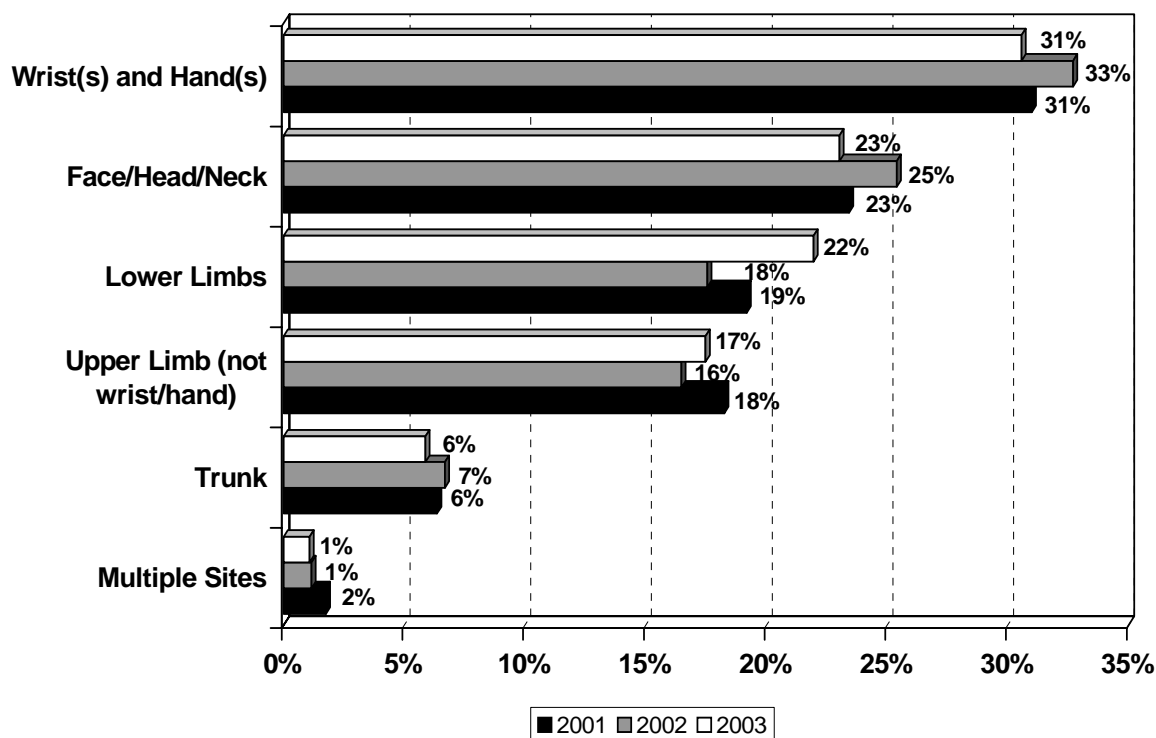
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Seventy-two percent (72%) of burn injuries were sustained by males and 28% by females.

### CIVILIAN BURN INJURIES BY GENDER



### CIVILIAN BURN INJURIES BY BODY AREA



Wrists and hands were the leading burn areas at 31%.

### CIVILIAN BURN INJURIES BY INCOME LEVEL

Income Level	No. of Injuries	Rate (Per 100,000 Pop.)	Percent. of Total
\$0-\$24,999	45	69	3%
\$25,000-\$49,000	953	35	61%
\$50,000-\$74,999	513	29	33%
\$75,000+	51	14	3%

## CIVILIAN BURN INJURIES AND COSTS BY COUNTY\*

(reported by health care facilities)

Per capita data is calculated at a rate of burn injuries per 100,000 people.

<u>County</u>	<u>Burn Injuries</u>	<u>Burn Injuries/ 100,000 Pop.</u>	<u>Burn Injury Costs</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Burn Injuries</u>	<u>Burn Injuries/ 100,000 Pop.</u>	<u>Burn Injury Costs</u>
Aitkin	4	23	\$22,400	Marshall	5	45	\$107,738
Anoka	89	27	\$585,551	Martin	8	41	\$10,083
Becker	10	34	\$2,788	Meeker	10	48	\$141,488
Beltrami	27	64	\$203,826	Mille Lacs	12	43	\$39,082
Benton	23	80	\$437,129	Morrison	26	86	\$165,824
Big Stone	5	96	\$1,318	Mower	7	19	\$64,462
Blue Earth	18	36	\$13,300	Murray	1	9	\$1,543
Brown	12	49	\$5,432	Nicollet	6	20	\$277,785
Carlton	9	27	\$11,191	Nobles	7	33	\$3,593
Carver	13	20	\$13,775	Norman	2	34	\$456
Cass	36	162	\$521,395	Olmsted	40	32	\$116,037
Chippewa	8	75	\$46,608	Otter Tail	19	31	\$13,746
Chisago	14	33	\$9,405	Pennington	0	0	\$0
Clay	4	7	\$440,648	Pine	17	56	\$112,031
Clearwater	0	0	\$0	Pipestone	4	44	\$2,048
Cook	0	0	\$0	Polk	8	27	\$93,011
Cottonwood	3	29	\$840	Pope	2	17	\$217
Crow Wing	28	49	\$90,642	Ramsey	160	31	\$1,766,321
Dakota	91	25	\$762,136	Red Lake	2	59	\$231
Dodge	16	94	\$551,835	Redwood	4	28	\$1,321
Douglas	7	24	\$6,139	Renville	4	28	\$87,897
Faribault	7	52	\$5,285	Rice	10	17	\$2,707
Fillmore	12	55	\$163,530	Rock	6	56	\$24,077
Freeborn	2	6	\$42,240	Roseau	2	12	\$215,932
Goodhue	17	39	\$126,271	St. Louis	65	34	\$174,152
Grant	3	53	\$3,818	Scott	42	42	\$77,595
Hennepin	241	21	\$1,604,171	Sherburne	46	56	\$85,777
Houston	0	0	\$0	Sibley	7	59	\$16,833
Hubbard	6	36	\$3,580	Stearns	22	15	\$10,422
Isanti	10	35	\$9,348	Steele	13	38	\$11,727
Itasca	25	68	\$96,473	Stevens	0	0	\$0
Jackson	2	24	\$1,104	Swift	6	53	\$2,707
Kanabec	12	92	\$15,421	Todd	12	54	\$10,953
Kandiyohi	31	75	\$46,794	Traverse	0	0	\$0
Kittson	0	0	\$0	Wabasha	3	14	\$972
Koochiching	5	45	\$35,943	Wadena	10	72	\$548,990
Lac Qui Parle	1	7	\$4,498	Waseca	8	41	\$46,492
Lake	3	33	\$18,516	Washington	53	26	\$271,999
Lake of the Woods	1	29	\$500	Watsonwan	5	46	\$177,656
LeSueur	19	90	\$117,204	Wilkin	1	13	\$67
Lincoln	0	0	\$0	Winona	13	23	\$19,766
Lyon	22	90	\$7,511	Wright	40	46	\$43,528
McLeod	12	33	\$14,115	Yellow Medicine	6	44	\$26,537
Mahnomen	0	0	\$0				
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1,562</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>\$10,816,487</b>	

\*If the number of burn injuries for a county is under 20, the rate is considered "unstable" and not necessarily accurate.



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*Of the 317 firefighter injuries, 194 (61%) occurred in the course of fighting fires.*

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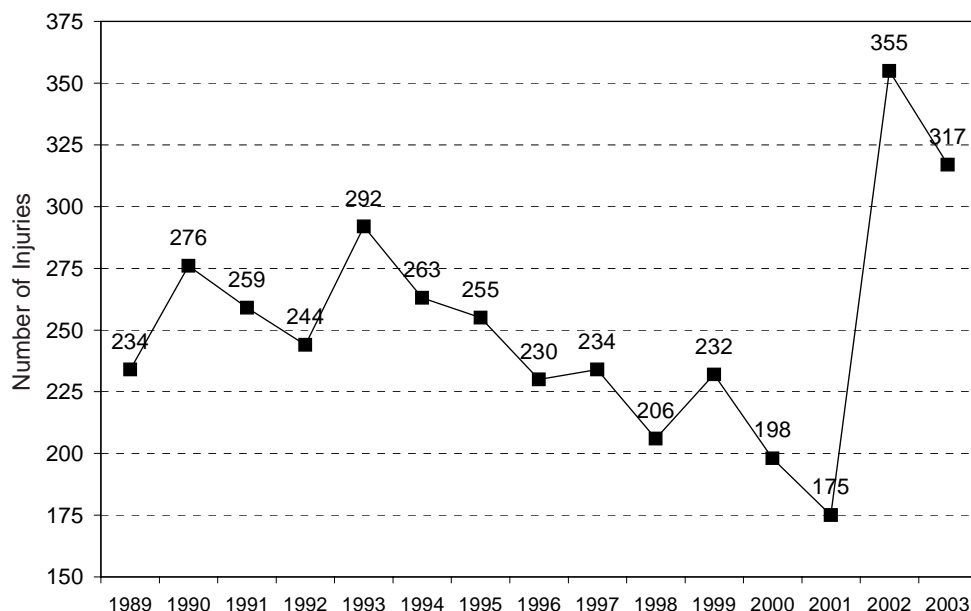


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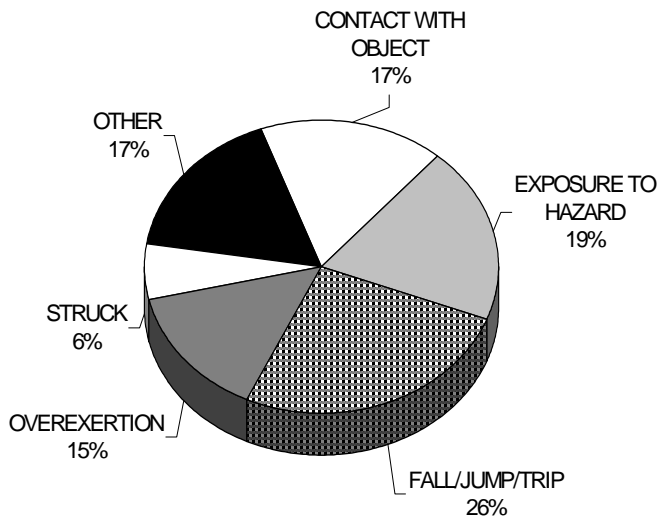
## FIREFIGHTER INJURIES

In 2003, 317 Minnesota firefighters were injured while responding to, involved in or returning from emergency situations – a decrease of 11%. Of the 317 injuries, 194 (61%) were directly fire related. (This does not include injuries that occur during training or at the stations.) Sixty percent (60%) of these fire-related injuries occurred while firefighters were fighting residential structure fires.

### FIFTEEN-YEAR HISTORY OF MINNESOTA FIREFIGHTER INJURIES



### MINNESOTA FIREFIGHTER INJURIES: CAUSES



The main injury cause category was "Fall/Jump/Trip" at 26% with "Exposure to Hazard" following at 19%.

## FIREWORKS INJURIES AND PROPERTY LOSS

The State Fire Marshal Division has gathered information about fireworks injuries and property damage since 1989. Minnesota's hospitals voluntarily report injuries treated in their emergency departments during the period of June 25 to July 15 each year. Property damage information is taken from the Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System. From 1989 through 2001, a total of \$1.6 million in property damage resulting from the use of fireworks was reported. Property damage reported during 2002 and 2003 totaled \$2.5 million, with \$2.3 million of that total reported in 2003.

Fireworks injuries most commonly occur to males between 1 and 19 years of age, with burns being the most common type of injury reported. Burn injuries include those to the extremities, eyes and face. It is impossible to know how many injuries occurred for which medical attention was not sought.

Prior to 2002, consumer fireworks were illegal in Minnesota. In 2002, certain types of non-aerial and non-explosive fireworks were legalized for use throughout the year. In 2002, a total of 92 injuries were reported between June 25 and July 15. In 2003, that number decreased slightly to 89 for the same reporting period, with a total of 91 injuries for the entire year.

### FIREWORKS INJURIES\* 1999-2003 (June-July) BY AGE

Years of Age	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-9	4	14%	8	24%	4	21%	21	24%	18	20%	55	21%
10-19	11	38%	13	39%	8	42%	28	32%	29	32%	89	35%
20-29	5	17%	6	18%	1	5%	18	21%	16	18%	46	18%
30-39	5	17%	2	6%	3	16%	14	16%	11	12%	35	14%
40-49	3	10%	2	6%	1	5%	4	5%	13	15%	23	9%
50 Plus	1	3%	2	6%	2	11%	2	2%	2	2%	9	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20†</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>92†</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>100%</b>
Male	21	72%	22	67%	15	75%	57	62%	62	70%	177	67%
Female	8	28%	11	33%	5	25%	35	38%	27	30%	86	33%

\*Information collected from survey conducted at Minnesota hospitals covering from June 25 through July 15 annually.

†One injury in 2001 and five injuries in 2002 listed age as "unknown" or "0".

### FIREWORKS INCIDENTS\* DOLLAR LOSS

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	TOTAL
<b>June-July</b>	\$9,001	\$2,400	\$90,750	\$112,177	\$623,150	\$837,478
<i>No. of Incidents</i>	7	16	36	97	76	232
<i>% of Total \$ Loss</i>	14%	5%	70%	51%	27%	30%
<i>Aver. Dollar Loss</i>	\$1,286	\$150	\$2,521	\$1,156	\$8,199	\$3,610
<b>Total/Year</b>	\$63,001	\$47,775	\$130,400	\$221,663**	\$2,340,731	\$2,803,570**
<i>No. of Incidents</i>	22	36	59	120	165	402
<i>Aver. Dollar Loss</i>	\$2,864	\$1,327	\$2,210	\$1,847	\$14,186	\$6,974

\*Information taken from the Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS).

\*\*2002 dollar loss does not include a \$1.7 million DNR wildland fire with 8 structure exposures in Brainerd in May, 2002.

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## SUMMARY

Historically, Minnesotans have been at greatest risk for fire death and injury in their own homes. In 2003, 76% of the state's fire deaths and 81% of civilian injuries occurred in residential settings. The presence or absence of a working smoke alarm is often a factor in fire fatalities. In 20% of fire deaths occurring in dwellings, no smoke alarms were present or they were present, but not working. In 34% of residential deaths, it was not known whether alarms were present or functioning.

Careless smoking was the most common cause of fire fatalities at 20%. Alcohol or drug use was an impairing factor in 37% of all fire deaths (17 deaths).

Fire deaths in every age category except the 20-39 yr. age group went down significantly in 2003 and Minnesota lost 28% fewer citizens than in 2002.

Twenty-nine percent (29%) of civilian fire injuries occurred during attempts to put the fire out, indicating a continuing need to educate our citizens in fire safe behaviors in the home. Getting out as quickly as possible, and not re-entering the home once outside, must be emphasized to all age groups.

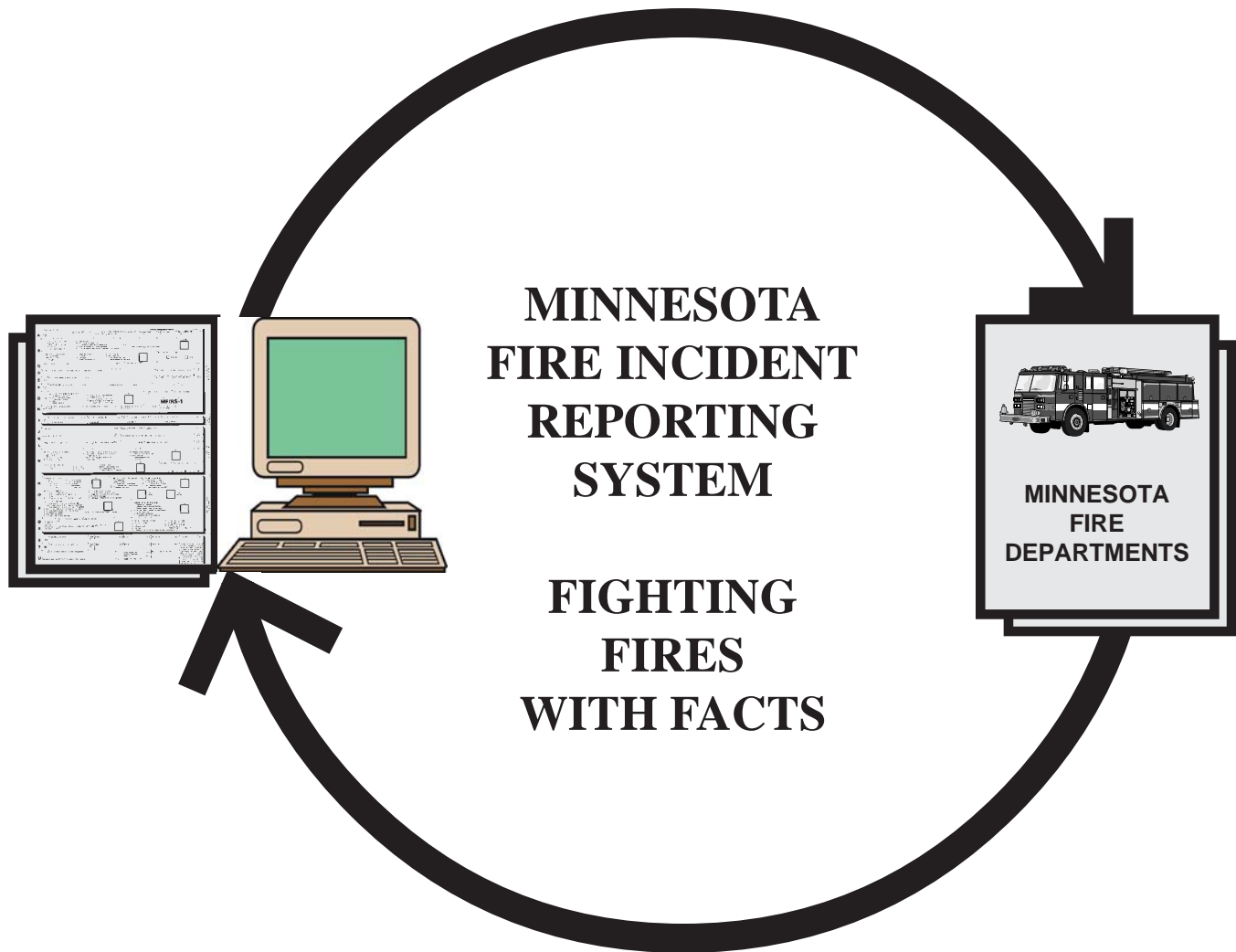
Sixty-one percent (61%) of firefighter injuries took place while fighting fires; 60% of these fire-related injuries occurred at residential structure fires.

Statewide, fire deaths have decreased over the past 23 years, even as Minnesota's population has grown. However, many preventable tragedies continue to occur. **Prevention efforts and education efforts, particularly those targeting vulnerable populations, are essential to reduce needless, tragic losses from fire.**



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# PARTICIPATION



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*Fire information is requested on a weekly basis by the media, the public, the fire service and the fire protection community.*

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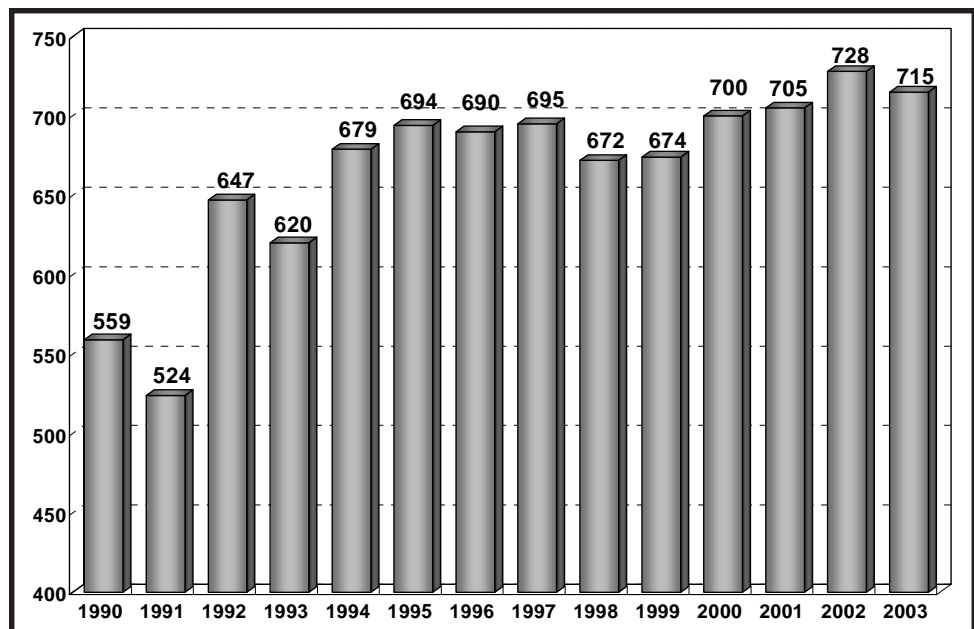
## PARTICIPATION - Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System

The Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division appreciates the efforts of the fire departments who submitted Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) reports in 2003. This information is essential if we are to understand and effectively combat the fire problem in Minnesota. It allows the division to focus on real fire problems, rather than popular perceptions. On the local level, this data provides information to help us focus on prevention efforts; it also assists with budget plans for staffing or equipment.

**Fire information is requested on a weekly basis by the media, the public, the fire service and the fire protection community. It is used to support legislative initiatives and to guide public fire safety campaigns.**

The reporting history of Minnesota fire departments from 1999-2003 is listed on the following pages. Reporting departments are listed by county. In 39 counties, 100% of the fire departments reported to the MFIRS system.

### FIRE DEPARTMENTS' MFIRS PARTICIPATION



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*Fifty-four percent of reporting departments reported electronically in 2003.*

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Not only the state, but also national organizations are requiring fire departments to report using their state's reporting system. There are a number of grants to fire departments with the requirement that they report their incidents, including fire grants from the United States Fire Administration (USFA) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) grants. For more information on reporting, call Nora Gierok at 651-215-0529.

## AITKIN COUNTY

(6) - 100% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* AITKIN  
\* \* \* \* \* HILL CITY  
\* \* \* \* \* JACOBSON  
\* \* \* \* \* MCGRATH  
\* \* \* \* \* MCGREGOR VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* PALISADE VOL.

## ANOKA COUNTY

93% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ANDOVER  
\* \* \* \* \* ANOKA-CHAMPLIN  
\* \* \* \* \* CENTENNIAL  
\* \* \* \* \* COLUMBIA HEIGHTS  
\* \* \* \* \* COON RAPIDS  
\* \* \* \* \* EAST BETHEL  
\* \* \* \* \* FRIDLEY  
\* \* \* \* \* HAM LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* LEXINGTON  
\* \* \* \* \* LINWOOD VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* OAK GROVE  
\* \* \* \* \* RAMSEY  
\* \* \* \* \* SPRING LAKE PARK  
\* \* \* \* \* ST FRANCIS  
\* Bethel

## BECKER COUNTY

78% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* CALLAWAY  
\* \* \* \* \* CARSONVILLE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* DETROIT LAKES  
\* \* \* \* \* FRAZEE  
\* \* \* \* \* LAKE PARK  
\* \* \* \* \* OGEMA  
\* \* \* \* \* WOLF LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* Audubon  
\* \* \* \* \* White Earth Vol.

## BELTRAMI COUNTY

83% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* ALASKA  
\* \* \* \* \* BEMIDJI  
\* \* \* \* \* KELLIHER VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* RED LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* SOLWAY  
\* \* \* \* \* Blackduck

## BENTON COUNTY

(3) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* FOLEY  
\* \* \* \* \* RICE  
\* \* \* \* \* SAUK RAPIDS

## BIG STONE COUNTY

(6) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BEARDSLEY  
\* \* \* \* \* CLINTON  
\* \* \* \* \* CORRELL  
\* \* \* \* \* GRACEVILLE  
\* \* \* \* \* ODESSA  
\* \* \* \* \* ORTONVILLE

## BLUE EARTH COUNTY

(12) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* AMBOY  
\* \* \* \* \* EAGLE LAKE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* GOOD THUNDER  
\* \* \* \* \* LAKE CRYSTAL  
\* \* \* \* \* MADISON LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* MANKATO  
\* \* \* \* \* MAPLETON  
\* \* \* \* \* PEMBERTON  
\* \* \* \* \* SKYLINE  
\* \* \* \* \* SOUTH BEND  
\* \* \* \* \* ST CLAIR  
\* \* \* \* \* VERNON CENTER

## BROWN COUNTY

80% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* COMFREY  
\* \* \* \* \* NEW ULM  
\* \* \* \* \* SLEEPY EYE  
\* \* \* \* \* SPRINGFIELD VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* Hanska

## CARLTON COUNTY

(13) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BARNUM VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* BLACKHOOF  
\* \* \* \* \* CARLTON VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* CLOQUET  
\* \* \* \* \* CROMWELL VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* KETTLE RIVER  
\* \* \* \* \* MAHTOWA  
\* \* \* \* \* MOOSE LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* PERCH LAKE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* SCANLON VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* THOMSON TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* WRENSHALL  
\* \* \* \* \* WRIGHT VOL.

## CARVER COUNTY

(11) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* CARVER  
\* \* \* \* \* CHANHASSEN  
\* \* \* \* \* CHASKA  
\* \* \* \* \* COLOGNE  
\* \* \* \* \* HAMBURG  
\* \* \* \* \* MAYER  
\* \* \* \* \* NEW GERMANY  
\* \* \* \* \* NORWD.-YNG.AMER.  
\* \* \* \* \* VICTORIA  
\* \* \* \* \* WACONIA  
\* \* \* \* \* WATERTOWN

### KEY

- \* Fire departments submitting MFIRS each year
- Fire departments that received USFA Fire Grant in 2003

## CASS COUNTY

80% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* BACKUS VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* CASS LAKE  
 \* \* \* \* \* CROOKED LAKE VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* HACKENSACK AREA  
 \* \* \* \* \* LONGVILLE VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* PILLAGER AREA  
 \* \* \* \* \* PINE RIVER  
 \* \* \* \* \* REMER  
 \* \* \* \* \* Federal Dam  
 \* \* \* \* \* Walker

## CHIPPEWA COUNTY

(5) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* CLARA CITY  
 \* \* \* \* \* MAYNARD  
 \* \* \* \* \* MILAN  
 \* \* \* \* \* MONTEVIDEO  
 \* \* \* \* \* WATSON

## CHISAGO COUNTY

91% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ALMELUND  
 \* \* \* \* \* CENTER CITY  
 \* \* \* \* \* HARRIS  
 \* \* \* \* \* LINDSTROM  
 \* \* \* \* \* NORTH BRANCH  
 \* \* \* \* \* RUSH CITY  
 \* \* \* \* \* SHAFER  
 \* \* \* \* \* STACY  
 \* \* \* \* \* TAYLORS FALLS  
 \* \* \* \* \* WYOMING  
 \* \* \* \* \* Chisago City

## CLAY COUNTY

(9) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BARNESVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* DILWORTH  
 \* \* \* \* \* FELTON COMM.  
 \* \* \* \* \* GLYNDON VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* HAWLEY  
 \* \* \* \* \* HITTERDAL  
 \* \* \* \* \* MOORHEAD  
 \* \* \* \* \* SABIN-ELMWOOD  
 \* \* \* \* \* ULEN

## CLEARWATER COUNTY

71% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* BAGLEY  
 \* \* \* \* \* BEAR CREEK  
 \* \* \* \* \* CLEARBROOK  
 \* \* \* \* \* GONVICK  
 \* \* \* \* \* SHEVLIN  
 \* \* \* \* \* Hangaard Twp.  
 \* \* \* \* \* Itasca Twp.

## COOK COUNTY

78% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* COLVILL AREA  
 \* \* \* \* \* GRAND PORTAGE  
 \* \* \* \* \* GUNFLINT TRAIL  
 \* \* \* \* \* HOVLAND  
 \* \* \* \* \* LUTSEN TWP VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* MAPLE HILL  
 \* \* \* \* \* TOFTE  
 \* \* \* \* \* Grand Marais Vol.  
 \* \* \* \* \* Schroeder

## COTTONWOOD COUNTY

(5) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* JEFFERS  
 \* \* \* \* \* MOUNTAIN LAKE  
 \* \* \* \* \* STORDEN  
 \* \* \* \* \* WESTBROOK  
 \* \* \* \* \* WINDOM

## CROW WING COUNTY

86% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BRAINERD  
 \* \* \* \* \* CROSBY VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* CUYUNA  
 \* \* \* \* \* DEERWOOD  
 \* \* \* \* \* EMILY VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* GARRISON  
 \* \* \* \* \* IDEAL TWP.  
 \* \* \* \* \* IRONTON  
 \* \* \* \* \* MISSION TWP.  
 \* \* \* \* \* NISSWA  
 \* \* \* \* \* PEQUOT LAKES  
 \* \* \* \* \* Crosslake  
 \* \* \* \* \* Fifty Lakes

## DAKOTA COUNTY

(13) - 100% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* APPLE VALLEY  
 \* \* \* \* \* BURNSVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* EAGAN  
 \* \* \* \* \* FARMINGTON  
 \* \* \* \* \* HASTINGS  
 \* \* \* \* \* INVER GROVE HTS.  
 \* \* \* \* \* LAKEVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* MENDOTA HEIGHTS  
 \* \* \* \* \* MIESVILLE VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* RANDOLPH  
 \* \* \* \* \* ROSEMOUNT  
 \* \* \* \* \* SOUTH ST. PAUL  
 \* \* \* \* \* WEST ST. PAUL

## DODGE COUNTY

83% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* CLAREMONT  
 \* \* \* \* \* HAYFIELD  
 \* \* \* \* \* KASSON  
 \* \* \* \* \* MANTORVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* WEST CONCORD  
 \* \* \* \* \* Dodge Center

## DOUGLAS COUNTY

(11) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ALEXANDRIA  
 \* \* \* \* \* BRANDON  
 \* \* \* \* \* CARLOS  
 \* \* \* \* \* EVANSVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* FORADA  
 \* \* \* \* \* GARFIELD  
 \* \* \* \* \* KENSINGTON  
 \* \* \* \* \* LEAF VALLEY TWP.  
 \* \* \* \* \* MILLERVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* MILTONA  
 \* \* \* \* \* OSAKIS



## **FARIBAULT COUNTY**

*82% Reporting*

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* BLUE EARTH  
\* \* \* \* \* BRICELYN  
\* \* \* \* \* EASTON VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* ELMORE  
\* \* \* \* \* FROST  
\* \* \* \* \* KIESTER  
\* \* \* \* \* WALTERS VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* WELLS  
\* \* \* \* \* WINNEBAGO VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* Delavan Vol.  
\* \* \* \* \* Minnesota Lake

## **FILLMORE COUNTY**

*91% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* CANTON  
\* \* \* \* \* CHATFIELD  
\* \* \* \* \* FOUNTAIN  
\* \* \* \* \* HARMONY  
\* \* \* \* \* LANESBORO  
\* \* \* \* \* MABEL VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* OSTRANDER  
\* \* \* \* \* PRESTON  
\* \* \* \* \* RUSHFORD  
\* \* \* \* \* SPRING VALLEY  
\* \* \* \* \* Wykoff

## **FREEBORN COUNTY**

*75% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* ALBERT LEA  
\* \* \* \* \* ALBERT LEA TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* ALDEN  
\* \* \* \* \* CLARKS GROVE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* CONGER  
\* \* \* \* \* EMMONS  
\* \* \* \* \* FREEBORN  
\* \* \* \* \* GLENVILLE  
\* \* \* \* \* HARTLAND  
\* \* \* \* \* HOLLANDALE  
\* \* \* \* \* MANCHESTER  
\* \* \* \* \* MYRTLE  
\* \* \* \* \* Geneva  
\* \* \* \* \* Hayward  
\* \* \* \* \* London  
\* \* \* \* \* Twin Lakes

## **GOODHUE COUNTY**

*(7) - 100% Reporting*

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* CANNON FALLS  
\* \* \* \* \* GOODHUE  
\* \* \* \* \* KENYON  
\* \* \* \* \* PINE ISLAND  
\* \* \* \* \* RED WING  
\* \* \* \* \* WANAMINGO  
\* \* \* \* \* ZUMBROTA

## **GRANT COUNTY**

*83% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* ASHBY  
\* \* \* \* \* BARRETT  
\* \* \* \* \* ELBOW LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* HOFFMAN  
\* \* \* \* \* WENDELL  
\* \* \* \* \* Herman Vol.

## **HENNEPIN COUNTY**

*97% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* BLOOMINGTON  
\* \* \* \* \* BROOKLYN CENTER  
\* \* \* \* \* BROOKLYN PARK  
\* \* \* \* \* DAYTON  
\* \* \* \* \* EDEN PRAIRIE  
\* \* \* \* \* EDINA  
\* \* \* \* \* EXCELSIOR  
\* \* \* \* \* GOLDEN VALLEY  
\* \* \* \* \* HAMEL  
\* \* \* \* \* HANOVER  
\* \* \* \* \* HOPKINS  
\* \* \* \* \* LONG LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* LORETTO VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* MAPLE GROVE  
\* \* \* \* \* MAPLE PLAIN  
\* \* \* \* \* MEDICINE LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* MINNEAPOLIS  
\* \* \* \* \* MINNETONKA  
\* \* \* \* \* MOUND  
\* \* \* \* \* MPLS/ST. PAUL INT'L  
\* \* \* \* \* AIRPORT  
\* \* \* \* \* PLYMOUTH  
\* \* \* \* \* RICHFIELD  
\* \* \* \* \* ROBBINSDALE  
\* \* \* \* \* ROGERS  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. ANTHONY  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. BONIFACIUS  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. LOUIS PARK  
\* \* \* \* \* WAYZATA

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* WEST METRO  
\* \* \* \* \* Osseo

## **HOUSTON COUNTY**

*(7) - 100% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* BROWNSVILLE  
\* \* \* \* \* CALEDONIA  
\* \* \* \* \* EITZEN  
\* \* \* \* \* HOKAH VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* HOUSTON  
\* \* \* \* \* LACRESCENT  
\* \* \* \* \* SPRING GROVE

## **HUBBARD COUNTY**

*60% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* LAPORTE/LAKEPORT  
\* \* \* \* \* NEVIS  
\* \* \* \* \* PARK RAPIDS  
\* \* \* \* \* East Hubbard Co.  
\* \* \* \* \* Lake George

## **ISANTI COUNTY**

*50% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* DALBO  
\* \* \* \* \* ISANTI VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* Braham  
\* \* \* \* \* Cambridge

## **ITASCA COUNTY**

*94% Reporting*

\* \* \* \* \* BALSAM VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* BEARVILLE TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* BOVEY  
\* \* \* \* \* CALUMET  
\* \* \* \* \* COHASSET  
\* \* \* \* \* COLERAINE  
\* \* \* \* \* DEER RIVER  
\* \* \* \* \* GOODLAND  
\* \* \* \* \* GRAND RAPIDS  
\* \* \* \* \* KEEWATIN VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* MARBLE  
\* \* \* \* \* NASHWAUK  
\* \* \* \* \* SQUAW LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* TACONITE  
\* \* \* \* \* WARBA  
\* \* \* \* \* Bigfork Vol.

## JACKSON COUNTY

(5) - 100% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* ALPHA  
 \* \* \* \* \* HERON LAKE VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* JACKSON  
 \* \* \* \* \* LAKEFIELD  
 \* \* \* \* \* OKABENA

## KANABEC COUNTY

(2) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* MORA  
 \* \* \* \* \* OGILVIE

## KANDIYOHI COUNTY

(11) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ATWATER  
 \* \* \* \* \* BLOMKEST  
 \* \* \* \* \* KANDIYOHI  
 \* \* \* \* \* LAKE LILLIAN  
 \* \* \* \* \* NEW LONDON  
 \* \* \* \* \* PENNOCK  
 \* \* \* \* \* PRINSBURG  
 \* \* \* \* \* RAYMOND  
 \* \* \* \* \* SPICER  
 \* \* \* \* \* SUNBURG  
 \* \* \* \* \* WILLMAR

## KITTSOON COUNTY

(5) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* HALLOCK  
 \* \* \* \* \* KARLSTAD VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* KENNEDY  
 \* \* \* \* \* LAKE BRONSON  
 \* \* \* \* \* LANCASTER

## KOOCHICHING COUNTY

(6) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BIG FALLS VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* BIRCHDALE RURAL  
 \* \* \* \* \* INTERNATIONAL FALLS  
 \* \* \* \* \* LITTLEFORK  
 \* \* \* \* \* LOMAN RURAL  
 \* \* \* \* \* NORTHOME

## LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY

(7) - 100% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* BELLINGHAM  
 \* \* \* \* \* BOYD  
 \* \* \* \* \* DAWSON  
 \* \* \* \* \* LOUISBURG  
 \* \* \* \* \* MADISON  
 \* \* \* \* \* MARIETTA  
 \* \* \* \* \* NASSAU

## LAKE COUNTY

75% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* FINLAND  
 \* \* \* \* \* SILVER BAY  
 \* \* \* \* \* TWO HARBORS  
 \* \* \* \* \* Beaver Bay Vol.

## LAKE OF THE WOODS COUNTY

67% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BAUDETTE  
 \* \* \* \* \* WILLIAMS  
 \* \* \* \* \* Northwest Angle

## LESUEUR COUNTY

88% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* CLEVELAND  
 \* \* \* \* \* ELYSIAN  
 \* \* \* \* \* KASOTA  
 \* \* \* \* \* LE CENTER  
 \* \* \* \* \* LESUEUR  
 \* \* \* \* \* MONTGOMERY  
 \* \* \* \* \* WATERVILLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* Kilkenny

## LINCOLN COUNTY

80% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ARCO  
 \* \* \* \* \* HENDRICKS  
 \* \* \* \* \* IVANHOE  
 \* \* \* \* \* LAKE BENTON  
 \* \* \* \* \* Tyler

## LYON COUNTY

90% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* BALATON  
 \* \* \* \* \* COTTONWOOD  
 \* \* \* \* \* GHENT  
 \* \* \* \* \* LYND  
 \* \* \* \* \* MARSHALL  
 \* \* \* \* \* MINNEOTA  
 \* \* \* \* \* RUSSELL  
 \* \* \* \* \* TAUNTON  
 \* \* \* \* \* TRACY  
 \* \* \* \* \* Garvin

## MCLEOD COUNTY

(8) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BROWNTON VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* GLENCOE  
 \* \* \* \* \* HUTCHINSON  
 \* \* \* \* \* LESTER PRAIRIE  
 \* \* \* \* \* PLATO  
 \* \* \* \* \* SILVER LAKE  
 \* \* \* \* \* STEWART  
 \* \* \* \* \* WINSTED

## MAHNOMEN COUNTY

(4) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ELBOW-TULABYLKS.  
 \* \* \* \* \* MAHNOMEN  
 \* \* \* \* \* TWIN LAKES VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* WAUBUN

## MARSHALL COUNTY

88% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ALVARADO VOL.  
 \* \* \* \* \* ARGYLE  
 \* \* \* \* \* GRYGLA  
 \* \* \* \* \* NEWFOLDEN  
 \* \* \* \* \* OSLO  
 \* \* \* \* \* STEPHEN  
 \* \* \* \* \* WARREN  
 \* \* \* \* \* Middle River

## MARTIN COUNTY

(9) - 100% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

*	*	*	*	*	CEYLON
*	*	*	*	*	DUNNELL
*	*	*	*	*	FAIRMONT
*	*		*	*	GRANADA
*	*	*	*	*	NORTHROP
	*	*	*	*	SHERBURN
*	*	*		*	TRIMONT
*	*	*	*	*	TRUMAN
		*	*	*	WELCOME

## MEEKER COUNTY

(6) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	COSMOS
*	*	*	*	*	DASSEL
*	*	*	*	*	EDEN VALLEY
*	*	*	*	*	GROVE CITY
*	*	*	*	*	LITCHFIELD
*	*	*	*	*	WATKINS

## MILLE LACS COUNTY

80% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	FORESTON
	*	*			ISLE
*	*	*	*	*	MILACA
*	*	*	*	*	PRINCETON
*	*	*			Onamia

## MORRISON COUNTY

90% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	BOWLUS
*	*	*	*	*	FLENSBURG
*	*	*	*	*	LITTLE FALLS
*	*	*	*	*	MOTLEY
*	*	*	*	*	PIERZ
*	*	*	*	*	RANDALL
*	*	*	*	*	ROYALTON
*	*	*	*	*	SWANVILLE
	*	*	*	*	UPSALA
*	*	*	*	*	Scandia Valley

## MOWER COUNTY

78% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

*	*	*	*	*	ADAMS VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	AUSTIN
*	*	*	*	*	BROWNSDALE
*		*	*	*	LE ROY
	*	*	*	*	LYLE
		*	*	*	MAPLEVIEW
*	*	*	*	*	ROSE CREEK AREA
		*	*		Dexter Vol
		*			Grand Meadow

## MURRAY COUNTY

88% Reporting

	*	*	*	*	AVOCA
*	*	*	*	*	CHANDLER
*	*	*		*	CURRIE VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	DOVRAY
*	*	*	*	*	FULDA
*	*	*	*	*	LAKE WILSON
*	*	*	*	*	SLAYTON
					Iona

## NICOLLET COUNTY

(5) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	COURTLAND
*	*	*	*	*	LAFAYETTE
*	*	*	*	*	NICOLLET
*	*	*	*	*	NORTH MANKATO
*	*	*	*	*	ST. PETER

## NOBLES COUNTY

80% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	ADRIAN
*	*	*	*	*	BREWSTER
		*	*		DUNDEE
*	*	*	*	*	ELLSWORTH
*	*	*	*	*	LISMORE
*	*	*	*	*	RUSHMORE
*	*	*	*	*	WILMONT
*	*	*	*	*	WORTHINGTON
*	*	*			Bigelow
					Round Lake

## NORMAN COUNTY

75% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

*	*	*	*	*	BORUP
*	*	*	*	*	GARY VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	HALSTAD
*	*	*	*	*	HENDRUM
*	*	*	*	*	SHELLY
*	*	*	*	*	TWIN VALLEY
*	*	*	*		Ada
*	*		*		Perley-Lee Twp.

## OLMSTED COUNTY

75% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	BYRON
*	*	*	*	*	DOVER
*		*	*	*	EYOTA VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	ORONOCO
*	*	*	*	*	ROCHESTER
	*	*	*	*	ROCHESTER ARPT.
*	*				Rochester Rural
*	*	*			Stewartville

## OTTER TAIL COUNTY

88% Reporting

			*		BATTLE LAKE
*	*	*	*	*	DALTON
*	*	*	*	*	DEER CREEK
*	*		*	*	DENT
*	*	*	*	*	ELIZABETH
*	*	*	*	*	FERGUS FALLS
*	*	*	*	*	HENNING VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	NEW YORK MILLS
*	*	*	*	*	OTTERTAIL
*	*	*	*	*	PARKERS PRAIRIE
*	*	*	*	*	PELICAN RAPIDS VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	PERHAM
*	*	*	*	*	UNDERWOOD
*	*	*	*	*	VERGAS
					Bluffton
*	*				Vining

## PENNINGTON COUNTY

(3) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	GOODRIDGE AREA
*	*	*	*	*	ST. HILAIRE
*	*	*	*	*	THIEF RIVER FALLS

# PINE COUNTY

91% Reporting

99	00	01	02	03	
*	*	*	*	*	ASKOV VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	BROOK PARK
*	*	*	*	*	BRUNO
	*	*	*	*	DUXBURY
*	*	*	*	*	HINCKLEY VOL.
	*	*	*	*	KERRICK
*	*	*	*	*	PINE CITY
*	*	*	*	*	SANDSTONE VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	STURGEON LAKE
*	*	*	*	*	WILLOW RIVER
*	*	*	*	*	Finlayson

# PIPESTONE COUNTY

83% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	EDGERTON
*	*	*	*	*	HOLLAND
*	*	*	*	*	JASPER
*	*	*	*	*	PIPESTONE
*	*	*	*	*	RUTHTON
*	*	*	*	*	Woodstock

# POLK COUNTY

92% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	BELTRAMI
	*	*	*	*	CLIMAX
*	*	*	*	*	CROOKSTON
*	*	*	*	*	EAST GRAND FORKS
*	*	*	*	*	FERTILE
*	*	*	*	*	FISHER
*	*	*	*	*	FOSSTON
	*	*	*	*	MCINTOSH
*	*	*	*	*	MENTOR
*	*	*	*	*	NIELSVILLE
*	*	*	*	*	WINGER
*	*				Erskine

# POPE COUNTY

67% Reporting

	*				CYRUS
*	*	*	*	*	GLENWOOD
*	*	*	*	*	LOWRY
*	*	*	*	*	STARBUCK
*	*	*	*	*	Sedan
*	*	*	*	*	Villard Vol.

# RAMSEY COUNTY

(11) - 100% Reporting

99	00	01	02	03	
*	*	*	*	*	FALCON HEIGHTS
*	*	*	*	*	FIRE MARSHAL
					CENTRAL OFFICE
*	*	*	*	*	LAKE JOHANNA
*	*	*	*	*	LITTLE CANADA
*	*	*	*	*	MAPLEWOOD
*	*	*	*	*	NEW BRIGHTON
*	*	*	*	*	NORTH ST. PAUL
*	*	*	*	*	ROSEVILLE
*	*	*	*	*	ST. PAUL
*	*	*	*	*	VADNAIS HEIGHTS
*	*	*	*	*	WHITE BEAR LAKE

# RED LAKE COUNTY

0% Reporting

*	*				Oklee
	*				Plummer
					Red Lake Falls

# REDWOOD COUNTY

93% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	BELVIEW
*	*	*	*	*	CLEMENTS
*	*	*	*	*	LAMBERTON
	*	*	*	*	LUCAN
*	*	*	*	*	MILROY
*	*	*	*	*	MORGAN
*	*	*	*	*	REDWOOD FALLS
*	*	*	*	*	SANBORN
*	*	*	*	*	SEAFORTH
*	*	*	*	*	VESTA
*	*	*	*	*	WABASSO VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	WALNUT GROVE
*	*	*	*	*	WANDA
*	*	*	*	*	Revere

# RENVILLE COUNTY

(10) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	BIRD ISLAND
*	*	*	*	*	BUFFALO LAKE
	*	*	*	*	DANUBE
*	*	*	*	*	FAIRFAX
*	*	*	*	*	FRANKLIN
*	*	*	*	*	HECTOR
*	*	*	*	*	MORTON
*	*	*	*	*	OLIVIA
*	*	*	*	*	RENVILLE
*	*	*	*	*	SACRED HEART

# RICE COUNTY

80% Reporting

99	00	01	02	03	
*	*	*	*	*	FARIBAULT
*	*	*	*	*	MORRISTOWN
*	*	*	*	*	NERSTRAND VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	NORTHFIELD
*		*			Lonsdale

# ROCK COUNTY

83% Reporting

	*	*			BEAVER CREEK
*	*	*	*	*	HARDWICK
*	*	*	*	*	HILLS
	*	*	*	*	KENNETH VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	LUVERNE
*	*	*	*	*	Magnolia

# ROSEAU COUNTY

(4) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	BADGER
*	*	*	*	*	GREENBUSH
*	*	*	*	*	ROSEAU
*	*	*	*	*	WARROAD

# ST. LOUIS COUNTY

96% Reporting

*	*	*	*	*	ALBORN
*	*	*	*	*	ARROWHEAD
*	*	*	*	*	AURORA
*	*	*	*	*	BABBITT VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	BIWABIK VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	BIWABIK TWP. VOL.
				*	BOIS FORTE
*	*	*	*	*	BREITUNG
*	*	*	*	*	BREVATOR
*	*	*	*	*	BRIMSON AREA VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	BUHL VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	BUYCK COMM VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	CANOSIA VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	CHERRY TWP.
*	*	*	*	*	CHISHOLM
*	*	*	*	*	CLIFTON TWP.
*	*	*	*	*	CLINTON VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	COLVIN TWP.
*	*	*	*	*	COOK
*	*	*	*	*	COTTON VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	CRANE LAKE
*	*	*	*	*	CULVER

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* DULUTH  
\* \* \* \* \* EAGLES NEST  
\* \* \* \* \* ELLSBURG  
\* \* \* \* \* ELMER  
\* \* \* \* \* ELY  
\* \* \* \* \* EMBARRASS VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* EVELETH  
\* \* \* \* \* EVERGREEN  
\* \* \* \* \* FAYAL  
\* \* \* \* \* FLOODWOOD  
\* \* \* \* \* FREDENBERG  
\* \* \* \* \* FRENCH VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* GILBERT  
\* \* \* \* \* GNESEN VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* GRAND LAKE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* GREANEY-RAUCH-  
SILVERDALE  
\* \* \* \* \* GREENWOOD TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* HERMANTOWN VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* HIBBING  
\* \* \* \* \* HOYT LAKES  
\* \* \* \* \* INDUSTRIAL VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* KABETOGRAMA  
\* \* \* \* \* KELSEY VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* KINNEY-GREAT SCOTT  
\* \* \* \* \* LAKELAND VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* LAKEWOOD TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* MAKINEN  
\* \* \* \* \* MC DAVITT  
\* \* \* \* \* MC KINLEY VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* MEADOWLANDS AREA  
\* \* \* \* \* MORSE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* MOUNTAIN IRON  
\* \* \* \* \* NORMANNA VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* NORTH STAR TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* ORR VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* PALO TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* PIKE-SANDY BRITT  
\* \* \* \* \* PROCTOR  
\* \* \* \* \* RICE LAKE VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* SILICA AREA  
\* \* \* \* \* SOLWAY RURAL  
\* \* \* \* \* TOIVOLA TWP.  
\* \* \* \* \* TOWER  
\* \* \* \* \* VERMILLION LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* VIRGINIA  
\* \* \* \* \* Central Lakes Vol.  
\* \* \* \* \* Northland  
\* \* \* \* \* Pequaywan Lake

## SCOTT COUNTY

(8) - 100% Reporting

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* BELLE PLAINE  
\* \* \* \* \* JORDAN  
\* \* \* \* \* NEW MARKET  
\* \* \* \* \* NEW PRAGUE  
\* \* \* \* \* PRIOR LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* SAVAGE  
\* \* \* \* \* SHAKOPEE  
\* \* \* \* \* SHAKOPEE MDEWAK.

## SHERBURNE COUNTY

(6) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BECKER VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* BIG LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* CLEAR LAKE  
\* \* \* \* \* ELK RIVER  
\* \* \* \* \* NE SHERBURNE  
\* \* \* \* \* ZIMMERMAN

## SIBLEY COUNTY

(7) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ARLINGTON  
\* \* \* \* \* GAYLORD  
\* \* \* \* \* GIBBON  
\* \* \* \* \* GREEN ISLE  
\* \* \* \* \* HENDERSON  
\* \* \* \* \* NEW AUBURN  
\* \* \* \* \* WINTHROP VOL.

## STEARNS COUNTY

(23) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* ALBANY  
\* \* \* \* \* AVON  
\* \* \* \* \* BELGRADE  
\* \* \* \* \* BROOTEN  
\* \* \* \* \* COLD SPRING  
\* \* \* \* \* ELROSA  
\* \* \* \* \* FREEPORT  
\* \* \* \* \* HOLDINGFORD  
\* \* \* \* \* KIMBALL  
\* \* \* \* \* LAKE HENRY  
\* \* \* \* \* MELROSE  
\* \* \* \* \* NEW MUNICH  
\* \* \* \* \* PAYNESVILLE  
\* \* \* \* \* RICHMOND  
\* \* \* \* \* ROCKVILLE  
\* \* \* \* \* SARTELL-LESAUK  
\* \* \* \* \* SAUK CENTRE  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. CLOUD

99 00 01 02 03

\* \* \* \* \* ST. JOHN'S UNIV.  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. JOSEPH VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. MARTIN  
\* \* \* \* \* ST. STEPHEN  
\* \* \* \* \* WAITE PARK

## STEELE COUNTY

75% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BLOOMING PRAIRIE  
\* \* \* \* \* MEDFORD VOL.  
\* \* \* \* \* OWATONNA  
\* \* \* \* \* Ellendale Vol.

## STEVENS COUNTY

(4) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* CHOKIO  
\* \* \* \* \* DONNELLY  
\* \* \* \* \* HANCOCK  
\* \* \* \* \* MORRIS

## SWIFT COUNTY

(7) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* APPLETON  
\* \* \* \* \* BENSON  
\* \* \* \* \* CLONTARF  
\* \* \* \* \* DANVERS  
\* \* \* \* \* DEGRAFF  
\* \* \* \* \* KERKHOVEN  
\* \* \* \* \* MURDOCK

## TODD COUNTY

88% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BERTHA  
\* \* \* \* \* BROWERVILLE  
\* \* \* \* \* CLARISSA  
\* \* \* \* \* GREY EAGLE  
\* \* \* \* \* HEWITT  
\* \* \* \* \* LONG PRAIRIE  
\* \* \* \* \* STAPLES  
\* \* \* \* \* Eagle Bend

## TRAVERSE COUNTY

(4) - 100% Reporting

\* \* \* \* \* BROWNS VALLEY  
\* \* \* \* \* DUMONT  
\* \* \* \* \* TINTAH  
\* \* \* \* \* WHEATON

**WABASHA COUNTY**

86% Reporting

99	00	01	02	03	
*	*	*	*	*	KELLOGG
*	*	*	*	*	LAKE CITY
*	*	*	*	*	MAZEPPA VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	PLAINVIEW
*	*	*	*	*	WABASHA
*	*	*	*	*	ZUMBRO FALLS
*	*	*	*	*	Elgin

**WADENA COUNTY**

(4) - 100% Reporting

	*	*		MENAGHA
	*	*	*	SEBEKA
*	*	*	*	VERNDALE
*	*	*	*	WADENA

**WASECA COUNTY**

(4) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	JANESVILLE
*	*	*	*	NEW RICHLAND
*	*	*	*	WALDORF
*	*	*	*	WASECA

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**

(14) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	BAYPORT
*	*	*	*	COTTAGE GROVE
*	*	*	*	FOREST LAKE
*	*	*	*	HUGO
*	*	*	*	LAKE ELMO
*	*	*	*	LOWER ST. CROIX VLY.
*	*	*	*	MAHTOMEDI
*	*	*	*	MARINE ON ST. CROIX
*	*	*	*	NEW SCANDIA
*	*	*	*	NEWPORT
*	*	*	*	OAKDALE
*	*	*	*	ST. PAUL PARK VOL.
*	*	*	*	STILLWATER
*	*	*	*	WOODBURY

**WATONWAN COUNTY**

75% Reporting

99	00	01	02	03	
*	*	*	*	*	DARFUR
*	*	*	*	*	LASALLE
		*	*	*	LEWISVILLE
*	*		*	*	MADELIA
*	*	*	*	*	ODIN
*	*	*	*	*	ST. JAMES
					Butterfield
	*				Ormsby

**WILKIN COUNTY**

67% Reporting

*		*	*	BRECKENRIDGE
	*	*	*	FOXHOME
*	*	*	*	ROTHSAY
*	*	*	*	WOLVERTON
*				Campbell
	*			Kent-Abercrombie

**WINONA COUNTY**

85% Reporting

	*	*	*	DAKOTA
*	*		*	GOODVIEW
*	*	*	*	LEWISTON
*	*	*	*	MINNESOTA CITY
*	*	*	*	NODINE VOL.
*	*	*	*	PICKWICK AREA
*	*	*	*	RIDGEWAY COMM.
*	*	*	*	ROLLINGSTONE
*	*	*	*	ST. CHARLES
*	*	*	*	WILSON VOL.
*	*	*	*	WINONA
	*	*		Altura
*				Hidden Valley

**WRIGHT COUNTY**

93% Reporting

99	00	01	02	03	
*	*	*	*	*	ALBERTVILLE
		*	*	*	ANNANDALE
*	*	*	*	*	BUFFALO
*	*	*	*	*	CLEARWATER
*	*	*	*	*	COKATO
*		*	*	*	DELANO VOL.
*	*	*	*	*	MAPLE LAKE
*	*	*	*	*	MONTICELLO
*	*	*	*	*	MONTROSE
*	*	*	*	*	ROCKFORD
*	*	*	*	*	SOUTH HAVEN
*	*	*	*	*	ST. MICHAEL
*	*	*	*	*	WAVERLY
*	*	*			Howard Lake

**YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY**

(8) - 100% Reporting

*	*	*	*	CANBY
*	*	*	*	CLARKFIELD
*	*	*	*	ECHO
	*	*	*	GRANITE FALLS
*	*	*	*	HANLEY FALLS
*	*	*	*	PORTER
*	*	*	*	ST. LEO
	*	*	*	WOODLAKE

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*Twenty-four fire  
departments began  
participating in 2003.*

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We welcome new and returning departments reporting in 2003:

Albert Lea Twp.	Grygla
Arco	Marine on St. Croix
Battle Lake	Northeast Sherburne
Bois Forte	Norwood-Young America
Clarks Grove Vol.	Orr Vol.
Crane Lake	Rice
Currie Vol.	Shakopee Mdewakanton
Cyrus	Squaw Lake
Dalbo	Tintah
Eitzen	Tofte
Felton Comm.	Trimont
Glenville	Waubun

We received no 2003 reports from the following departments and encourage them to report next year.

Ada	Kilkenny
Altura	Lonsdale
Audubon	Magnolia
Bigfork Vol.	Northland
Blackduck	Northwest Angle
Central Lakes Vol.	Pequaywan Lake
Delavan Vol.	Perley-Lee Twp.
Dexter Vol.	Plummer
Dodge Center	Revere
Eagle Bend	Scandia Valley
East Hubbard Co.	Schroeder
Elgin	Sedan
Federal Dam	Twin Lakes
Finlayson	Tyler
Garvin	Villard Vol.
Grand Meadow	Walker
Hangaard Twp.	White Earth Vol.
Hanska	Woodstock
Itasca Twp.	



## FIRE DEPARTMENT RUNS, DOLLAR LOSSES, AND FIRE DEATHS PER COUNTY IN ORDER OF TOTAL DOLLAR LOSS

In some instances, the protection district of the reporting fire department goes beyond its county boundary, but the incident will still be recorded within the department's home county. (*Fire rate = one fire for number of persons indicated. For example, in Hennepin County in 2003, there was one fire for every 252 people.*)

<u>County</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Total Co. Dollar Loss</u>	<u>Fire Rate</u>	<u>Average Dollar Loss/Fire</u>	<u>Fire Deaths</u>
Hennepin	1,116,200	4,648	56,819	\$40,790,357	252	\$9,224	9
St. Louis	200,528	1,343	12,232	\$10,996,981	177	\$9,689	3
*Dakota	355,904	1,130	10,007	\$10,364,114	332	\$9,677	2
*Washington	201,130	714	8,976	\$9,660,899	329	\$15,786	
*Ramsey	511,035	2,098	17,440	\$8,515,321	246	\$4,102	7
Anoka	298,084	1,191	13,179	\$4,548,985	271	\$4,139	2
*Stearns	133,166	681	2,817	\$3,858,050	223	\$6,462	
*Scott	89,498	497	1,674	\$2,850,480	200	\$6,377	
*Blue Earth	55,941	266	2,596	\$2,664,500	229	\$10,920	1
Olmsted	124,277	384	5,453	\$2,571,600	343	\$7,104	
Rice	56,665	213	592	\$2,566,680	281	\$12,706	
Crow Wing	55,099	350	767	\$2,266,975	184	\$7,582	
Lake	11,058	58	96	\$2,187,820	205	\$40,515	1
*Clay	51,229	187	2,228	\$2,172,920	298	\$12,633	
*Carver	70,205	264	2,791	\$2,003,251	338	\$9,631	1
*Sherburne	64,417	292	1,076	\$1,854,280	247	\$7,105	1
*Carlton	31,671	223	799	\$1,810,850	206	\$11,759	
*Benton	34,226	139	294	\$1,647,850	265	\$12,774	1
Pope	11,236	93	87	\$1,576,000	163	\$22,841	
Fillmore	21,122	130	141	\$1,507,300	177	\$12,666	
*McLeod	34,898	169	719	\$1,501,350	266	\$11,461	1
Otter Tail	57,159	404	630	\$1,468,200	176	\$4,531	1
Itasca	43,992	305	690	\$1,461,100	173	\$5,752	
Freeborn	32,584	126	490	\$1,345,950	316	\$13,067	
Wright	89,986	378	2,178	\$1,311,370	269	\$3,915	1
*Kandiyohi	41,203	248	424	\$1,200,000	203	\$5,911	
*Kanabec	14,996	50	26	\$1,122,050	319	\$23,873	
*Martin	21,802	109	114	\$1,116,925	227	\$11,635	
Chisago	41,101	234	424	\$1,114,600	222	\$6,025	
*Sibley	15,356	112	178	\$1,025,000	167	\$11,141	
Morrison	31,712	126	152	\$1,005,250	278	\$8,818	1
Pipestone	9,895	55	85	\$982,000	230	\$22,837	
*Aitkin	15,301	139	154	\$979,000	128	\$8,158	
*Douglas	32,821	240	284	\$908,500	152	\$4,206	
Winona	49,985	165	1,560	\$902,705	350	\$6,313	
Cass	27,150	209	382	\$902,101	152	\$5,040	1
*Renville	17,154	113	48	\$872,001	189	\$9,582	
*Goodhue	44,127	234	1,161	\$812,445	196	\$3,611	1
Mille Lacs	22,330	142	202	\$761,000	180	\$6,137	
*Swift	11,956	103	82	\$741,000	162	\$10,014	1
Lake of the Woods	4,522	23	2	\$740,400	215	\$35,257	
Watonwan	11,876	64	84	\$730,000	242	\$14,898	
*Pennington	13,584	105	107	\$728,410	133	\$7,141	
Steele	33,680	122	443	\$724,700	295	\$6,357	
*Nicollet	29,771	131	247	\$675,701	317	\$7,188	



<u>County</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Total Co. Dollar Loss</u>	<u>Fire Rate</u>	<u>Average Dollar Loss/Fire</u>	<u>Fire Deaths</u>
Mower	38,603	114	317	\$650,400	375	\$6,315	
Brown	26,911	97	106	\$602,716	296	\$6,623	
*Koochiching	14,355	76	24	\$520,350	218	\$7,884	
*Traverse	4,134	37	9	\$514,600	133	\$16,600	
Polk	31,369	222	1,321	\$504,065	149	\$2,400	1
*Cottonwood	12,167	57	28	\$500,470	221	\$9,099	
Dodge	17,731	75	61	\$495,780	257	\$7,185	
*Stevens	10,053	58	45	\$464,700	296	\$13,668	
Isanti	31,287	64	424	\$461,945	549	\$8,104	
Faribault	16,181	110	121	\$461,300	174	\$4,960	
Hubbard	18,376	78	32	\$455,060	283	\$7,001	1
*Waseca	19,526	93	231	\$449,500	247	\$5,690	
*Yellow Medicine	11,080	67	24	\$449,400	182	\$7,367	1
Grant	6,289	53	38	\$439,500	153	\$10,720	
Pine	26,530	228	125	\$437,650	150	\$2,473	4
Wilkin	7,138	46	56	\$426,200	188	\$11,216	
Redwood	16,815	117	52	\$420,565	162	\$4,044	1
Nobles	20,832	62	135	\$385,500	365	\$6,763	
*Wadena	13,713	68	15	\$337,500	218	\$5,357	
Wabasha	21,610	107	350	\$328,250	248	\$3,773	
Becker	30,000	320	322	\$313,020	113	\$1,181	
Marshall	10,155	81	56	\$304,900	129	\$3,859	
*Jackson	11,268	57	70	\$304,000	240	\$6,468	
*Big Stone	5,820	57	13	\$301,200	116	\$6,024	
*Lac Qui Parle	8,067	62	45	\$250,830	175	\$5,453	1
LeSueur	25,426	111	366	\$230,500	286	\$2,590	
Beltrami	39,650	194	783	\$228,750	212	\$1,223	1
Todd	24,426	108	86	\$227,000	370	\$3,439	
Lyon	25,425	143	131	\$226,700	235	\$2,099	
*Roseau	16,338	110	90	\$190,640	154	\$1,798	1
*Houston	19,718	89	338	\$158,700	318	\$2,560	
*Kittson	5,285	85	58	\$156,260	71	\$2,112	
Rock	9,721	38	53	\$123,000	304	\$3,844	
Murray	9,165	50	47	\$115,000	248	\$3,108	
*Meeker	22,644	133	291	\$109,750	212	\$1,026	
*Mahnomen	5,190	63	32	\$104,900	108	\$2,185	
Lincoln	6,429	42	15	\$45,250	161	\$1,131	
*Chippewa	13,088	56	39	\$42,500	257	\$833	
Norman	7,442	28	23	\$41,100	354	\$1,957	
Cook	5,168	18	12	\$25,300	304	\$1,488	
Clearwater	8,423	132	83	\$17,085	74	\$150	
Red Lake	4,299	0	0	\$0	0	\$0	
		22,813	157,397†	\$154,368,807	241	\$7,553	46

\*Indicates counties with 100% participation

†Total may not equal "other non-fire" run totals due to statistical inconsistencies in elements of the Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System

## FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSES AND DOLLAR LOSS AS REPORTED BY MFIRS DATA

<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>
ADAMS	11	19	\$9,500	BEARVILLE TWP.	12	0	\$0	BUFFALO LAKE	5	0	\$27,000
ADRIAN	9	32	\$0	BEAVER CREEK	3	5	\$0	BUHL	10	10	\$170,000
AITKIN	47	49	\$70,000	BECKER	57	235	\$293,000	BURNSVILLE	193	2,335	\$3,130,945
ALASKA	7	3	\$0	BELGRADE	22	11	\$295,100	BUYCK	2	0	\$0
ALBANY	16	92	\$0	BELLE PLAINE	26	46	\$0	BYRON	21	33	\$70,000
ALBERT LEA	45	355	\$684,900	BELLINGHAM	11	18	\$62,080	CALEDONIA	25	42	\$41,600
ALBERT LEA TWP.	11	3	\$158,400	BELTRAMI	2	12	\$51,200	CALUMET	23	65	\$0
ALBERTVILLE	22	236	\$103,000	BELVIEW	8	7	\$182,850	CANBY	9	0	\$39,900
ALBORN	9	26	\$198,000	BEMIDJI	142	776	\$186,750	CANNON FALLS	44	229	\$0
ALDEN	14	33	\$52,000	BENSON	33	40	\$613,000	CANOSIA TWP.	21	66	\$8,000
ALEXANDRIA	77	75	\$439,000	BERTHA	16	2	\$8,000	CANTON	3	0	\$2,500
ALMELUND	16	7	\$258,100	BIG FALLS	7	0	\$14,700	CARLOS	19	45	\$0
ALPHA	8	15	\$0	BIG LAKE	40	184	\$20,000	CARLTON VOL	27	35	\$20,000
ALVARADO	10	20	\$0	BIRCHDALE	1	0	\$0	CARSONVILLE	79	86	\$15,000
AMBOY	5	41	\$0	BIRD ISLAND	8	4	\$6,000	CARVER	18	100	\$24,000
ANDOVER	69	802	\$0	BIWABIK	1	14	\$200	CASS LAKE	68	42	\$1
ANNANDALE	23	81	\$214,500	BIWABIK TWP.	11	5	\$0	CENTENNIAL	58	885	\$80,000
ANOKA-CHAMPLIN	111	596	\$290,200	BLACKHOOF	9	0	\$0	CENTER CITY	6	18	\$170,000
APPLE VALLEY	93	979	\$192,350	BLOMKEST	25	0	\$0	CEYLON	8	0	\$81,000
APPLETON	27	17	\$110,500	BLOOMING PRAIRIE	16	18	\$95,100	CHANDLER	7	14	\$0
ARCO	4	0	\$1,250	BLOOMINGTON	218	992	\$1,297,505	CHANHASSEN	28	803	\$391,000
ARGYLE	11	6	\$0	BLUE EARTH	36	59	\$52,100	CHASKA	69	782	\$936,500
ARLINGTON	23	18	\$100,000	*BOIS FORTE	0	0	\$0	CHATFIELD	27	38	\$498,750
ARROWHEAD	8	26	\$3,005	BORUP	3	0	\$0	CHERRY TWP.	8	17	\$133,650
ASHBY	12	9	\$37,000	BOVEY	20	76	\$20,000	CHISHOLM	34	51	\$234,000
ASKOV	15	5	\$10,000	BOWLUS	6	0	\$8,400	CHOKIO	13	5	\$357,200
ATWATER	14	31	\$51,000	BOYD	11	11	\$21,000	CLARA CITY	15	4	\$32,500
AURORA	16	15	\$105,625	BRAINERD CITY	141	400	\$1,090,975	CLAREMONT	14	7	\$75,000
AUSTIN	78	231	\$519,900	BRANDON	19	28	\$0	CLARISSA	11	34	\$101,500
AVOCA	1	0	\$17,500	BRECKENRIDGE	22	8	\$310,000	CLARKFIELD	9	7	\$30,000
AVON	20	82	\$0	BREITUNG TWP.	2	4	\$56,000	CLARKS GROVE	2	0	\$0
BABBITT	19	26	\$41,100	BREVATOR TWP.	31	15	\$0	CLEAR LAKE	29	127	\$703,200
BACKUS	22	17	\$0	BREWSTER	15	30	\$0	CLEARBROOK	32	50	\$0
BADGER	16		\$14,400	BRICELYN	13	2	\$85,500	CLEARWATER	31	151	\$109,450
BAGLEY	39	25	\$0	BROOK PARK	8	6	\$0	CLEMENTS	3	0	\$0
BALATON	18	9	\$1,000	BROOKLYN CENTER	131	821	\$1,528,790	CLEVELAND	8	61	\$1,000
BALSAM VOL.	8	35	\$0	BROOKLYN PARK	324	1,059	\$2,231,135	CLIFTON TWP.	13	8	\$18,000
BARNESVILLE	27	26	\$1,000,000	BROOTEN	22	22	\$83,000	*CLIMAX	0	0	\$0
BARNUM VOL.	27	64	\$0	BROWERVILLE	18	15	\$101,500	CLINTON	15	0	\$0
BARRETT	6		\$0	BROWNS VALLEY	11	0	\$164,500	CLINTON TWP.	19	4	\$0
BATTLE LAKE	24	5	\$0	BROWNSDALE	12	43	\$1,000	CLONTARF	3	0	\$0
BAUDETTE	11	1	\$32,400	BROWNSVILLE	6	33	\$1,000	CLOQUET	38	361	\$228,500
BAYPORT	42	460	\$146,000	BROWNTON	19	63	\$0	COHASSET	31	138	\$44,500
BEAR CREEK	1	0	\$0	BRUNO	6	0	\$300	COKATO	32	52	\$0
BEARDSLEY	7	1	\$100,000	BUFFALO	45	187	\$249,000	COLD SPRING	24	45	\$0

<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>
COLERAINE	11	83	\$201,000	DUNNELL-LK. FREMONT	5	2	\$0	FORADA TWP.	12	27	\$31,300
COLOGNE	23	78	\$45,400	DUXBURY	1	0	\$18,500	FOREST LAKE	79	329	\$5,293,300
COLUMBIA HGTS.	62	2,021	\$572,665	EAGAN	145	661	\$2,065,151	FORESTON	11	29	\$0
COLVILL AREA	2	8	\$0	EAGLE LAKE	16	70	\$0	FOSSTON	40	48	\$0
COLVIN TWP.	4	0	\$0	EAGLES NEST	1	0	\$0	FOUNTAIN	5	5	\$0
COMFREY	8	13	\$2,000	EAST BETHEL	64	464	\$0	*FOXHOME	0	0	\$0
CONGER	4	0	\$111,500	EAST GRAND FORKS	27	878	\$63,650	FRANKLIN	17	2	\$72,400
COOK	33	31	\$300,000	EASTON	6	7	\$5,500	FRAZEE	44	27	\$0
COON RAPIDS	195	3,940	\$322,730	ECHO	2	1	\$0	FREDENBERG TWP.	9	27	\$0
CORRELL	4	0	\$0	EDEN PRAIRIE	112	1,114	\$3,260,335	FREEBORN	3	0	\$210,000
COSMOS	11	19	\$0	EDEN VALLEY	23	33	\$0	FREEPORT	2	0	\$266,000
COTTAGE GROVE	88	1,506	\$294,500	EDGERTON	9	6	\$3,000	FRENCH TWP.	5	5	\$35,500
COTTON VOL.	15	23	\$40,000	EDINA	95	3,998	\$971,050	FRIDLEY	134	2,418	\$694,215
COTTONWOOD	5	0	\$102,500	EITZEN	5	15	\$109,600	FROST	1	0	\$100,000
COURTLAND	12	22	\$113,900	ELBOW LAKE	19	13	\$258,000	FULDA	17	12	\$0
CRANE LAKE	1	1	\$16,000	ELBOW-TULABY LKS.	9	2	\$0	GARFIELD	10	2	\$0
CROMWELL VOL.	11	12	\$20,300	ELIZABETH	13	29	\$0	GARRISON	31	135	\$0
CROOKED LAKE TWP.	5	34	\$5,000	ELK RIVER	75	351	\$838,000	GARY	1		\$100
CROOKSTON	85	285	\$160,015	ELLSBURG VOL.	10	20	\$105,750	GAYLORD	22	19	\$0
CROSBY	33	36	\$454,500	ELLSWORTH	6	22	\$66,000	GHENT	5	12	\$0
CULVER	12	10	\$0	ELMER	2	0	\$0	GIBBON	10	2	\$7,000
CURRIE	4	1	\$0	ELMORE	12	0	\$35,600	GILBERT	2	0	\$0
CUYUNA	12	2	\$1,000	ELROSA	5	18	\$0	GLENCOE	34	89	\$271,500
CYRUS	7	2	\$1,000	ELY	26	23	\$294,500	GLENVILLE	17	57	\$11,000
DAKOTA	6	61	\$0	ELYSIAN	8	52	\$0	GLENWOOD	44	50	\$1,500,000
DALBO	14	50	\$85,000	EMBARRASS	15	48	\$25,000	GLYNDON	14	24	\$19,200
DALTON	22	30	\$0	EMILY	12	15	\$154,000	GNESEN TWP.	18	13	\$71,100
DANUBE	9	2	\$2,500	EMMONS	12	31	\$75,000	GOLDEN VALLEY	63	676	\$490,350
DANVERS	11	5	\$10,000	EVANSVILLE	17	43	\$7,000	GONVICK	43	1	\$0
DARFUR	5	7	\$72,500	EVELETH	26	59	\$63,200	GOOD THUNDER	18	58	\$10,000
DASSEL	34	161	\$0	EVERGREEN	4	0	\$0	GOODHUE	24	73	\$293,120
DAWSON	13	1	\$11,250	EXCELSIOR	47	647	\$2,000	GOODLAND TWP.		2	\$0
DAYTON	18	205	\$0	EYOTA	19	25	\$35,000	GOODRIDGE	17	1	\$38,050
DEER CREEK	11	29	\$10,600	FAIRFAX	19	4	\$104,001	GOODVIEW	6	20	\$5,000
DEER RIVER	57	31	\$207,000	FAIRMONT	62	97	\$882,925	GRACEVILLE	10	5	\$201,200
DEERWOOD	31	19	\$176,000	FALCON HGTS.	28	86	\$369,000	*GRANADA	0	0	\$0
DEGRAFF	9	0	\$7,500	FARIBAULT	114	419	\$1,533,680	GRAND LAKE TWP.	27	107	\$417,000
DELANO	31	349	\$74,000	FARMINGTON	32	126	\$0	GRAND PORTAGE	2	0	\$0
DENT	19	5	\$267,000	FAYAL	18	55	\$206,000	GRAND RAPIDS	80	131	\$534,600
DETROIT LAKES	101	193	\$17,500	FELTON	5	2	\$0	GRANITE FALLS	23	9	\$0
DILWORTH	31	14	\$29,000	FERGUS FALLS	72	165	\$596,500	GRENY.-RAUCH-SLVRD.	2	0	\$0
DONNELLY	14	6	\$94,000	FERTILE	23	10	\$46,000	GREEN ISLE	14	40	\$0
DOVER	17	19	\$2,000	FINLAND	7	5	\$2,000	GREENBUSH	27	8	\$86,140
DOVRAY	5	3	\$0	FISHER	4	4	\$6,000	GREENWOOD TWP.	3	0	\$0
DULUTH	449	6,566	\$5,854,951	FLENSBURG	1	0	\$0	GREY EAGLE	6	1	\$2,500
DUMONT	4	0	\$30,000	FLOODWOOD	9	11	\$527,350	GROVE CITY	17	5	\$0
DUNDEE	0	1	\$0	FOLEY	63	152	\$1,093,000	GRYGLA	5	0	\$51,500

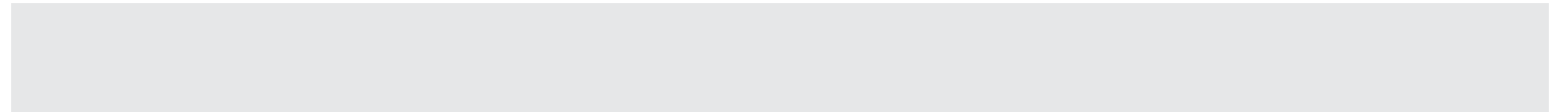
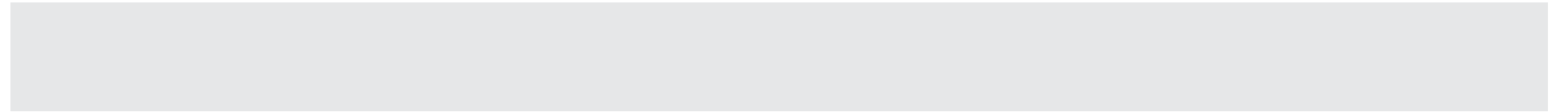
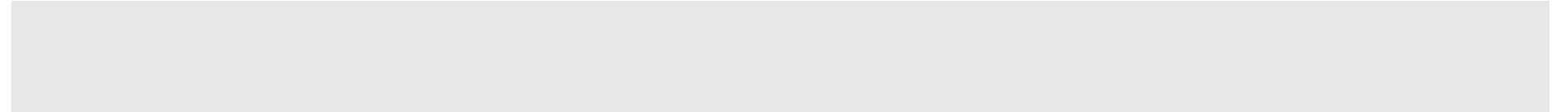
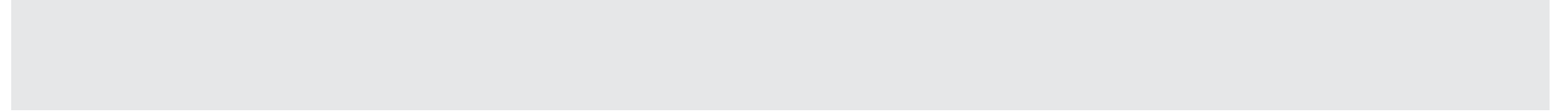
<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>
GUNFLINT TRAIL VOL.	2	2	\$20,800	ISLE	36	18	\$477,000	LASALLE	1	0	\$0
HACKENSACK	17	6	\$46,000	IVANHOE	9	0	\$0	LEAF VALLEY TWP.	10	1	\$156,200
HALLOCK	9	27	\$45,000	JACKSON	22	21	\$220,000	LECENTER	15	3	\$145,500
HALSTAD	6	6	\$0	JACOBSON	9	24	\$106,000	LEROY	9	15	\$110,000
HAM LAKE	65	291	\$0	JANESVILLE	15	122	\$2,000	LESTER PRAIRIE	15	68	\$757,350
HAMBURG	15	37	\$100	JASPER	12	7	\$8,000	LESUEUR	35	31	\$81,000
HAMEL	30	115	\$62,000	JEFFERS	6	0	\$14,820	LEWISTON	17	8	\$17,775
HANCOCK	14	14	\$13,500	JORDAN	40	65	\$433,000	LEWISVILLE	3	0	\$325,000
HANLEY FALLS	9	0	\$55,000	KABETOGE MA	7	1	\$50,000	LEXINGTON	10	116	\$6,100
HANOVER	28	106	\$0	KANDIYOHI	26	49	\$246,500	LINDSTROM	20	30	\$27,000
HARDWICK	2	0	\$12,500	KARLSTAD	35	14	\$0	LINWOOD TWP.	32	163	\$0
HARMONY	11	9	\$60,000	KASOTA	14	56	\$0	LISMORE	1	0	\$0
HARRIS	31	16	\$432,000	KASSON	7	3	\$300,650	LITCHFIELD	37	62	\$106,250
HARTLAND	2	0	\$500	KEEWATIN	17	72	\$10,000	LITTLE CANADA	33	151	\$42,550
HASTINGS	112	411	\$902,308	KELLIHER	16	3	\$27,000	LITTLE FALLS	10	0	\$96,000
HAWLEY	16	7	\$1,000	KELLOGG	13	18	\$50,000	LITTLEFORK	14	3	\$84,250
HAYFIELD	39	21	\$112,130	KELSEY TWP.	3	0	\$150,000	LOMAN	3	0	\$14,000
HECTOR	23	10	\$409,300	KENNEDY	4	4	\$30,000	LONG LAKE	40	322	\$10,000
HENDERSON	15	66	\$72,500	KENNETH	1	0	\$0	LONG PRAIRIE	10	11	\$0
HENDRICKS	10	2	\$0	KENSINGTON	17	6	\$275,000	LONGVILLE	25	13	\$0
HENDRUM	3	1	\$0	KENYON	16	2	\$179,325	LORETTO	29	91	\$0
HENNING	14	8	\$33,500	KERKHOVEN	13	18	\$0	LOUISBURG	2	0	\$0
HERMANTOWN	32	90	\$245,600	KERRICK	8	0	\$140,000	LOWER ST. CROIX VLY.	27	329	\$21,000
HERON LAKE	11	5	\$0	KETTLE RIVER	11	4	\$155,150	LOWRY	16	3	\$0
HEWITT	13	0	\$13,500	KIESTER	3	0	\$32,800	LUCAN	9	5	\$28,100
HIBBING	121	1,997	\$95,000	KIMBALL	21	127	\$178,000	LUTSEN	7	0	\$0
HILL CITY	20	28	\$150,000	KINNEY-GREAT SCOTT	11	1	\$0	LUVERNE	25	30	\$0
HILLS	7	18	\$110,500	LACRESCENT	9	217	\$2,500	LYLE	2	9	\$4,000
HINCKLEY	40	33	\$0	LAFAYETTE	13	9	\$101,000	LYND	12	2	\$0
*HITTERDAL	0	0	\$0	LAKE BENTON	19	13	\$44,000	MABEL	12	3	\$81,900
HOFFMAN	6	0	\$140,500	LAKE BRONSON	16	6	\$15,060	MADELIA	17	14	\$78,000
HOKAH	9	6	\$0	LAKE CITY	35	97	\$165,000	MADISON	16	15	\$16,000
HOLDINGFORD	20	55	\$35,000	LAKE CRYSTAL	16	58	\$190,700	MADISON LAKE	13	55	\$153,000
HOLLAND	10	4	\$0	LAKE ELMO	44	377	\$719,900	MAHNOMEN	31	25	\$89,000
HOLLANDALE	2	0	\$0	LAKE HENRY	1	0	\$0	MAHTOMEDI	37	517	\$15,000
HOPKINS	52	425	\$1,182,600	LAKE JOHANNA	117	435	\$953,741	MAHTOWA	8	4	\$10,500
HOUSTON	21	18	\$4,000	LAKE LILLIAN	3	1	\$0	MAKINEN	1	0	\$0
HOVLAND	2	1	\$0	LAKE PARK	33	9	\$150,000	MANCHESTER	1	0	\$0
HOYT LAKES	12	9	\$17,500	LAKE WILSON	5	1	\$2,000	MANKATO	144	2,116	\$2,249,800
HUGO	39	292	\$330,350	LAKEFIELD	13	29	\$44,000	MANTORVILLE	10	20	\$3,000
HUTCHINSON	40	373	\$418,500	LAKELAND TWP.	8		\$176,000	MAPLE GROVE	156	776	\$751,815
IDEAL TWP.	13	21	\$500	LAKEVILLE	102	662	\$558,850	MAPLE HILL	3	1	\$4,500
INDUSTRIAL	20	28	\$52,000	LAKEWOOD TWP.	21	52	\$450,000	MAPLE LAKE	27	99	\$452,500
INTERNATIONAL FLLS.	37	15	\$407,400	LAMBERTON	13	8	\$119,000	MAPLE PLAIN	31	239	\$16,200
INVER GROVE HGTS.	121	626	\$1,536,775	LANCASTER	21	7	\$66,200	MAPLETON	17	23	\$0
IRONTON	1	0	\$0	LANESBORO	10	8	\$13,000	*MAPLEVIEW	0	0	\$0
ISANTI	50	374	\$376,945	LAPORTE/LAKEPORT	6	6	\$31,000	MAPLEWOOD	122	2,755	\$30,700

<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Total Fire Runs</u>	<u>Total Other Runs</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>
MARBLE	3	32	\$0	MURDOCK	7	2	\$0	OTTERTAIL	23	60	\$0
MARIETTA	8	0	\$100,500	MYRTLE	13	11	\$42,650	OWATONNA	94	339	\$629,600
MARINE ON ST. CROIX	19	38	\$0	NASHWAUK	31	23	\$271,000	PALISADE	20	11	\$0
MARSHALL	53	83	\$0	NASSAU	1	0	\$40,000	PALO TWP.	9	30	\$101,750
MAYER	14	50	\$0	NERSTRAND	3	2	\$0	PARK RAPIDS	67	26	\$424,060
MAYNARD	4	66	\$0	NEVIS	5	0	\$0	PARKERS PRAIRIE	25	10	\$19,800
MAZEPPA	6	28	\$0	NEW AUBURN	13	15	\$0	PAYNESVILLE	33	19	\$164,000
MCDAVITT	14	0	\$24,500	NEW BRIGHTON	74	264	\$0	PELICAN RAPIDS	51	24	\$264,000
MCGRATH	1	42	\$40,000	NEW GERMANY	12	32	\$0	PEMBERTON	3	5	\$0
MCGREGOR	42	49	\$613,000	NEW LONDON	54	24	\$276,000	PENNOCK	20	13	\$130,000
MCINTOSH	18	1	\$117,200	NEW MARKET	32	178	\$469,500	PEQUOT LAKES	42	37	\$185,000
MCKINLEY	2	5	\$0	NEW MUNICH	0	12	\$0	PERCH LAKE TWP.	7	45	\$0
MEADOWLANDS	4	86	\$50,000	NEW PRAGUE	56	94	\$558,750	PERHAM	45	80	\$500
MEDFORD	12	18	\$0	NEW RICHLAND	13	23	\$29,000	PICKWICK AREA	6	9	\$0
MEDICINE LAKE	3	41	\$0	NEW SCANDIA TWP.	19	137	\$604,500	PIERZ	32	24	\$360,500
MELROSE	31	0	\$80,000	NEW ULM	44	67	\$502,916	PIKE-SANDY-BRITT	13	3	\$1,000
MENAHGA	6	0	\$17,000	NEW YORK MILLS	36	102	\$137,700	PILLAGER	28	123	\$339,000
MENDOTA HGTS.	48	200	\$713,550	NEWFOLDEN	25	6	\$13,200	PINE CITY	63	37	\$217,000
MENTOR	16	34	\$10,000	NEWPORT	25	77	\$216,000	PINE ISLAND	37	167	\$151,000
MIESVILLE	11	35	\$29,500	NICOLLET	25	66	\$0	PINE RIVER	33	132	\$234,100
MILACA	51	62	\$70,000	NIELSVILLE	3	1	\$40,000	PIPESTONE	14	66	\$926,000
MILAN	9	5	\$10,000	NISSWA	23	17	\$0	PLAINVIEW	19	26	\$62,500
MILLERVILLE	18	0	\$0	NODINE	9	61	\$140,400	PLATO	10	30	\$0
MILROY	9	0	\$29,515	NORMANNA TWP.	13	3	\$6,000	PLYMOUTH	149	1,144	\$987,345
MILTONA	11	35	\$0	NORTH BRANCH	56	65	\$0	PORTER	7	7	\$100,000
MINNEAPOLIS	2,211	30,819	\$22,335,170	NORTH MANKATO	47	111	\$336,201	PRESTON	12	12	\$115,050
MPLS./STP. INT'L. ARPT.	78	2,535	\$133,425	NORTH ST. PAUL	63	684	\$11,700	PRINCETON	44	93	\$214,000
MINNEOTA	14	11	\$41,700	NORTH STAR TWP.	2	3	\$0	PRINSBURG	12	5	\$163,500
MINNESOTA CITY	4	4	\$0	NE SHERBURNE	33	118	\$80	PRIOR LAKE	133	658	\$272,900
MINNETONKA	81	490	\$1,522,575	NORTHFIELD	86	171	\$763,500	PROCTOR	27	65	\$359,500
MISSION TWP.	11	85	\$205,000	NORTHOME	14	6	\$0	RAMSEY	106	153	\$0
MONTEVIDEO	24	30	\$0	*NORTHROP	0	0	\$0	RANDALL	11	5	\$10,000
MONTGOMERY	22	21	\$0	NORWOOD-YNG. AMER.	23	139	\$13,001	RANDOLPH	20	4	\$0
MONTICELLO	62	254	\$108,920	OAK GROVE	50	153	\$0	RAYMOND	4	0	\$261,000
MONTROSE	18	153	\$0	OAKDALE	95	1,409	\$294,000	RED LK.-BUR./IND. AFR.	21	0	\$15,000
MOORHEAD	72	2,142	\$1,051,620	*ODESSA	0	0	\$0	RED WING	70	658	\$169,000
MOOSE LAKE	37	72	\$631,000	ODIN	11	24	\$1,700	REDWOOD FALLS	28	20	\$0
MORA	29	19	\$756,750	OGEMA	21	3	\$0	REMER	11	15	\$278,000
MORGAN	5	3	\$10,000	OGILVIE	21	7	\$365,300	RENVILLE	12	13	\$75,500
MORRIS	17	20	\$0	OKABENA	3	0	\$40,000	RICE	14	9	\$6,500
MORRISTOWN	10	0	\$269,500	OLIVIA	12	11	\$165,000	RICE LAKE TWP.	32	7	\$0
MORSE TWP VOL.	4	1	\$1,200	ORONOCO	10	16	\$0	RICHFIELD	151	3,214	\$353,783
MORTON	3	0	\$1,000	ORR	5	1	\$0	RICHMOND	13	120	\$2,000
MOTLEY	28	103	\$0	ORTONVILLE	21	7	\$0	RIDGEWAY COMM.	12	18	\$0
MOUND	68	466	\$428,000	OSAKIS	30	22	\$0	ROBBINSDALE	84	267	\$540,950
MOUNTAIN IRON	15	28	\$93,000	OSLO	3	0	\$31,200	ROCHESTER	317	5,360	\$2,464,600
MOUNTAIN LAKE	4	0	\$113,000	OSTRANDER	6	0	\$178,300	*ROCHESTER ARPT.	0	0	\$0



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ROCKFORD	28	228	\$0	SPRINGFIELD	11	18	\$43,500	UPSALA	13	4	\$481,750
ROCKVILLE	18	90	\$0	SQUAW LAKE	3	0	\$54,000	VADNAIS HGTS.	39	625	\$75,000
ROGERS	50	348	\$0	ST. CLAIR	16	118	\$0	VERGAS	29	10	\$85,000
ROLLINGSTONE	6	34	\$12,500	ST. ANTHONY	47	853	\$35,975	VERMILLION LAKE	7	2	\$13,000
ROSE CREEK	2	0	\$6,000	ST. BONIFACIUS	14	128	\$0	VERNDALE	10	0	\$0
ROSEAU	32	44	\$90,100	ST. CHARLES	10	7	\$181,500	VERNON CENTER	7	31	\$0
ROSEMOUNT	4	64	\$10,000	ST. CLOUD	283	1,267	\$1,051,250	VESTA	7	3	\$0
ROSEVILLE	107	505	\$1,240,950	ST. FRANCIS	29	312	\$450,500	VICTORIA	16	184	\$162,250
ROTHSAY	18	43	\$116,200	ST. HILLAIRE	13	30	\$23,000	VIRGINIA	41	2,535	\$26,000
ROYALTON	14	16	\$0	ST. JAMES	27	39	\$252,800	WABASHA	15	55	\$5,000
RUSH CITY	17	45	\$22,000	ST. JOHN'S UNIV.	5	242	\$0	WABASSO	9	2	\$0
RUSHFORD	22	35	\$272,300	ST. JOSEPH	37	242	\$906,000	WACONIA	19	319	\$0
RUSHMORE	2	10	\$0	ST. LEO	1	0	\$11,000	WADENA	21	14	\$0
RUSSELL	8	0	\$0	ST. LOUIS PARK	179	3,590	\$335,525	WAITE PARK	18	92	\$317,000
RUTHTON	10	2	\$45,000	ST. MARTIN	4	18	\$0	WALDORF	9	20	\$23,000
SABIN-ELMWOOD	6	13	\$0	ST. MICHAEL	22	285	\$0	WALNUT GROVE	14	4	\$30,600
SACRED HEART	5	2	\$9,300	ST. PAUL	1,437	11,637	\$5,759,030	WALTERS	4	1	\$77,000
SANBORN	8	0	\$0	ST. PAUL PARK	36	47	\$25,000	WANAMINGO	20	8	\$0
SANDSTONE	40	35	\$36,000	ST. PETER	34	39	\$124,600	WANDA	4	0	\$20,500
SARTELL	26	100	\$18,000	ST. STEPHEN	19	64	\$223,700	WARBA-FEELEY-SAGO	8	2	\$0
SAUK CENTRE	41	58	\$239,000	STACY-LENT	36	31	\$0	WARREN	14	18	\$209,000
SAUK RAPIDS	62	133	\$548,350	STAPLES	34	23	\$0	WARROAD	35	38	\$0
SAVAGE	64	267	\$419,000	STARBUCK	26	32	\$75,000	WASECA	56	66	\$395,500
SCANLON VOL.	10	27	\$0	STEPHEN	13	6	\$0	WATERTOWN	27	267	\$431,000
*SEAFORTH	0	0	\$0	STEWART	13	1	\$54,000	WATERVILLE	9	142	\$3,000
SEBEKA	31	1	\$320,500	STILLWATER	92	1,099	\$1,292,000	WATKINS	11	11	\$3,500
SHAFER	6	36	\$0	STORDEN	2	1	\$0	WATSON	4	0	\$0
SHAKOPEE	136	359	\$691,850	STURGEON LAKE	18	2	\$15,850	WAUBUN	15	4	\$0
SHAKOPEE MDEWAK.	10	7	\$5,480	SUNBURG	13	8	\$0	WAVERLY	16	85	\$0
SHELLY	3	7	\$4,000	SWANVILLE	11	0	\$48,600	WAYZATA	44	217	\$179,000
SHERBURN	13	5	\$4,000	TACONITE	1	0	\$119,000	WELCOME	3	0	\$5,500
SHEVLIN	17	7	\$17,085	*TAUNTON	0	0	\$0	WELLS	18	24	\$3,500
SILICA AREA	1	3	\$0	TAYLORS FALLS	4	2	\$0	WENDELL	10	16	\$4,000
SILVER BAY	15	27	\$1,579,250	THIEF RIVER FALLS	75	76	\$667,360	WEST CONCORD	5	10	\$5,000
SILVER LAKE	18	62	\$0	THOMPSON TWP.	22	116	\$303,400	WEST METRO FIRE	115	1,144	\$2,134,829
SKYLINE	1	0	\$40,000	TINTAH	5	0	\$0	WEST ST. PAUL	103	2,196	\$1,165,685
SLAYTON	11	16	\$95,500	*TOFTE	0	0	\$0	WESTBROOK	7	12	\$51,000
SLEEPY EYE	34	8	\$54,300	TOIVOLA TWP.	0	1	\$0	WHEATON	17	9	\$320,100
SOLWAY	8	1	\$0	TOWER	1	0	\$1,000	WHITE BEAR LAKE	77	298	\$32,650
SOLWAY TWP.	22	52	\$160,000	TRACY	28	14	\$81,500	WILLIAMS	12	1	\$708,000
SOUTH BEND	10	21	\$21,000	TRIMONT	5	0	\$42,500	WILLMAR	61	266	\$72,000
SOUTH HAVEN	21	18	\$0	TRUMAN	13	10	\$101,000	WILLOW RIVER	29	7	\$0
SOUTH ST. PAUL	146	1,708	\$59,000	TWIN LAKES	8	1	\$15,900	WILMONT	2	0	\$7,500
SPICER	16	27	\$0	TWIN VALLEY	12	9	\$37,000	WILSON TWP.	12	27	\$500
SPRING GROVE	14	7	\$0	TWO HARBORS	36	64	\$606,570	WINDOM	38	15	\$321,650
SPRING LAKE PARK	206	865	\$2,132,575	ULEN	16	0	\$72,100	WINGER	4	0	\$10,000
SPRING VALLEY	22	31	\$285,500	UNDERWOOD	20	73	\$53,600	WINNEBAGO	17	28	\$69,300

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WINONA	77	1,311	\$545,030	WOOD LAKE	7	0	\$213,500	WYOMING	42	174	\$205,500
WINSTED	20	33	\$0	WOODBURY	72	2,359	\$409,349	ZIMMERMAN	58	61	\$0
WINTHROP	15	18	\$845,500	WORTHINGTON	27	40	\$312,000	ZUMBRO FALLS	19	88	\$45,750
WOLF LAKE	42	4	\$130,520	WRENSHALL	12	59	\$442,000	ZUMBROTA	23	24	\$20,000
WOLVERTON	6	5	\$0	WRIGHT VOL.	4	0	\$0				



## NON-REPORTING FIRE DEPARTMENTS

ADA	FEDERAL DAM	NORTHWEST ANGLE
ALTURA	FIFTY LAKES	OKLEE
AUDUBON	FINLAYSON	ONAMIA
BEAVER BAY VOL.	GARVIN	ORMSBY
BETHEL	GENEVA	OSSEO
BIGELOW	GRAND MARAIS VOL.	PEQUAYWAN LAKE
BIGFORK VOL.	GRAND MEADOW	PERLEY-LEE TWP.
BLACKDUCK	HANGAARD TWP.	PLUMMER
BLUFFTON	HANSKA	RED LAKE FALLS
BRAHAM	HAYWARD	REVERE
BUTTERFIELD	HERMAN VOL.	ROCHESTER RURAL
CAMBRIDGE	HIDDEN VALLEY	ROUND LAKE
CAMPBELL	HOWARD LAKE	SCANDIA VALLEY
CENTRAL LAKES VOL.	IONA	SCHROEDER
CHISAGO CITY	ITASCA TWP.	SEDAN
CROSSLAKE	KENT-ABERCROMBIE	STEWARTVILLE
DELAVAN VOL.	KILKENNY	TWIN LAKES
DEXTER VOL.	LAKE GEORGE	TYLER
DODGE CENTER	LONDON	VILLARD VOL.
EAGLE BEND	LONSDALE	VINING
EAST HUBBARD CO.	MAGNOLIA	WALKER
ELGIN	MIDDLE RIVER	WHITE EARTH VOL.
ELLENDALE VOL.	MINNESOTA LAKE	WOODSTOCK
ERSKINE	NORTHLAND	WYKOFF



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# STATE FIRE MARSHAL ANNUAL REPORT



## HISTORY MILESTONES OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION

- 1905** Legislation authorizing Governor to appoint State Fire Marshal for two-year term. Funding through tax levy on Insurance companies. (Town Mutuals Exempt)
- 1907** Amendment authorizing two deputy State Fire Marshals. Authorization to pay fire departments \$1 for reports submitted to the State Fire Marshal.
- 1913** All former acts repealed and new State Fire Marshal Department was created. Governor appointed Fire Marshal and two deputies.
- 1919** The Appointing Authority was given to the Commissioner of Insurance.
- 1925** Legislative action made the Commissioner of Insurance the Ex-Officio State Fire Marshal.
- 1937** Tax levy to fund the State Fire Marshal Department was raised to ½% of all insurance premiums to include Town Fire Insurance Company and Farmers Mutuals.
- 1941** Legislature directed all monies collected by the State Fire Marshal for tax and license fees, etc., to be turned over to the General Fund. Fire Marshal Department to be operated under an appropriation by legislative action.
- 1969** Legislative action created a Department of Public Safety.
- 1970** The State Fire Marshal Department moved into the Department of Public Safety to be known as the State Fire Marshal Division (SFMD).
- 1975** Legislature authorized adoption of the Minnesota Uniform Fire Code (MUFC).
- 1978-79** Legislative action enabled local fire departments to enforce the MUFC without local adoption.
- 1978** Ten positions added to implement hotel/motel/resort inspection program.
- 1980** Minnesota is the first state in the nation to require smoke detectors in new and rental residential properties.
- 1989** 1988 MUFC was adopted. Three more positions were added to the SFMD: Two day care inspectors and one public educator/data.
- 1990** Legislation added five new positions to the SFMD to conduct school inspections in Minnesota.
- 1992** New program added to license fire sprinkler contractors, designers, and fitters. New program to develop operation of Hazardous Material Response Teams.
- 1993** Legislative action updated arson statutes. Legislation requires a smoke detector in every dwelling.
- 1995** Licensing of operators of public fireworks displays. One fire investigator position added.
- 1996** The Attorney General formed a task force to study the crime of arson in Minnesota. The Division received a grant of \$400,000 to study arson as it relates to the criminal or abusive use of alcohol and/or drugs.
- 1998** As a result of the Arson Task Force, two new positions were added to the SFMD: One arson investigation trainer and one juvenile firesetter interventionist.
- 1998** One inspector for the Fire Protection Team was added to start July 1, 1998.
- 1999** The arson data specialist position was filled. Legislation added funding for a part-time code specialist position, to be hired in FY 01.
- 2000** Nationwide NFIRS 5 standard introduced in Minnesota and implementation begun.

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State Fire Marshal Division

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COMMISSIONER

Mary Ellison  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Tim Leslie  
ASST. COMMISSIONER

Jerry Rosendahl  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Patrick Sheehan  
BUREAU CHIEF

Bob Dahm  
BUREAU CHIEF

Jon Nisja  
SUPERVISOR  
SCHOOL  
INSPECTIONS

Glen Bergstrand  
SUPERVISOR  
RESIDENTIAL  
INSPECTIONS

Robert Imholte  
SUPERVISOR  
HEALTH CARE  
INSPECTIONS

CODE  
SPECIALISTS

Richard Kleis  
CHIEF  
INVESTIGATOR

DATA /  
SYSTEMS  
MANAGEMENT

Patricia Bell  
SUPERVISOR  
SUPPORT

David Stegura  
SUPERVISOR  
SPRINKLER  
LICENSING

PUBLIC  
EDUCATION

FIREWORKS  
OPERATOR  
CERTIFICATION

FIRE SAFETY  
INSPECTORS  
(4)

FIRE SAFETY  
INSPECTORS  
(5)

FIRE SAFETY  
INSPECTORS  
(7)

DEPUTY  
STATE FIRE  
MARSHALS  
(1)

FIRE/ARSON  
INVESTIGATORS  
(9)

FIRE INCIDENT  
REPORTING  
(MFIRS)  
(2)

SUPPORT  
STAFF  
(4)

PLAN  
REVIEWERS/  
INSPECTOR  
(2)

JUVENILE  
FIRESSETTER  
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(1)

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*Education continues to be a priority for the fire/arson investigator team.*

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*There were 475 fires investigated in 2003; 203 of those were determined to be incendiary.*

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## FIRE/ARSON INVESTIGATION TEAM

The Fire/Arson Investigation Team started the year with eleven investigators and one chief investigator. Each investigator works from a regional office located within the investigator's primary service area. The regional assignment area was established based on travel times and requests for assistance by local fire departments and law enforcement. Generally, response times average two to three hours and can be extended due to weather conditions and staff availability.

In February of this year, the investigator in the northwest region of Minnesota left state employment. This position will not be filled for this year based upon budget restrictions. As a result, 14 counties do not have an assigned investigator. All fire and law enforcement agencies in this area have been told to continue to make requests for investigative assistance by contacting BCA dispatch or the State Fire Marshal Division. Chief Investigator Rick Kleis will then assign investigators on a case-by-case basis, based on response time and availability of the appropriate investigator.

The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) arson series training, which is available to fire and law enforcement agencies, continues to be very well attended. Budget considerations limit the three-part arson training series to one complete class per year. This provides basic, intermediate, and advanced arson training to 25 fire and/or law enforcement personnel per year. Two deputy state fire marshals and other experts provide the training. Fire department and law enforcement personnel are encouraged to get additional fire/arson training through the National Fire Academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Academy and the Minnesota State College and University system (MNSCU).

Basic four-hour fire/arson training was also provided at the Minnesota Fire Department Conference and the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs' Conference. Throughout the year, different levels of fire/arson training are provided by deputy state fire marshals at the local level.

The Arson Pointer System Database continues to be updated based upon new information. The information received by the fire and law enforcement community is the basis of this program. All agencies are encouraged to provide information for input to the database. Questions about the system and how to submit information can be answered by Bureau Chief Bob Dahm at the St. Paul office. Call 651-215-0505 or contact other members of the investigative team.

The Minnesota State Fire Marshal office continues to provide an on-call investigator in the metro area on weekends and holidays. This program is based on population density and requests-for-assistance volume. Four investigators rotate through the weekend/holiday procedure.

To contact a fire/arson investigator or to request assistance for an investigation, please call:

**State Fire Marshal Division 651-215-0500**  
*Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.*

**BCA Dispatch 651-793-7000**  
*Holidays, weekends, and after 4:30 p.m.*

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*The average investigation fire dollar loss was \$156,289.*

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The Arson Tip Line (1-800-723-2020) is answered seven days a week, 24 hours a day. The Arson Tip Line provides assistance to investigative agencies in the pursuit of arsonists and often results in cases being closed, charged and prosecuted.

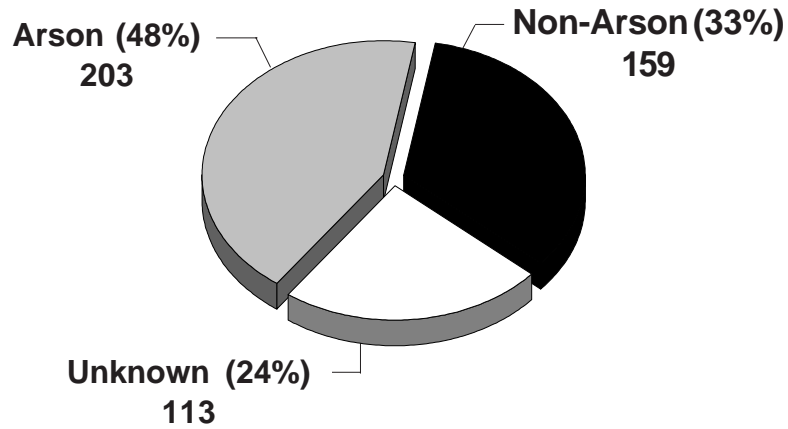
In 2003, state fire marshal investigators assisted fire officials and law enforcement agencies by investigating 475 fires that caused \$74.2 million in property loss. Arson dollar loss increased by 120%. For the first time since 1989, investigators determined that more fires were started by arsonists than by accidental causes. Of the 475 fires investigated, 203 were determined to be caused by arson.

#### **FIRE/ARSON INVESTIGATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE**

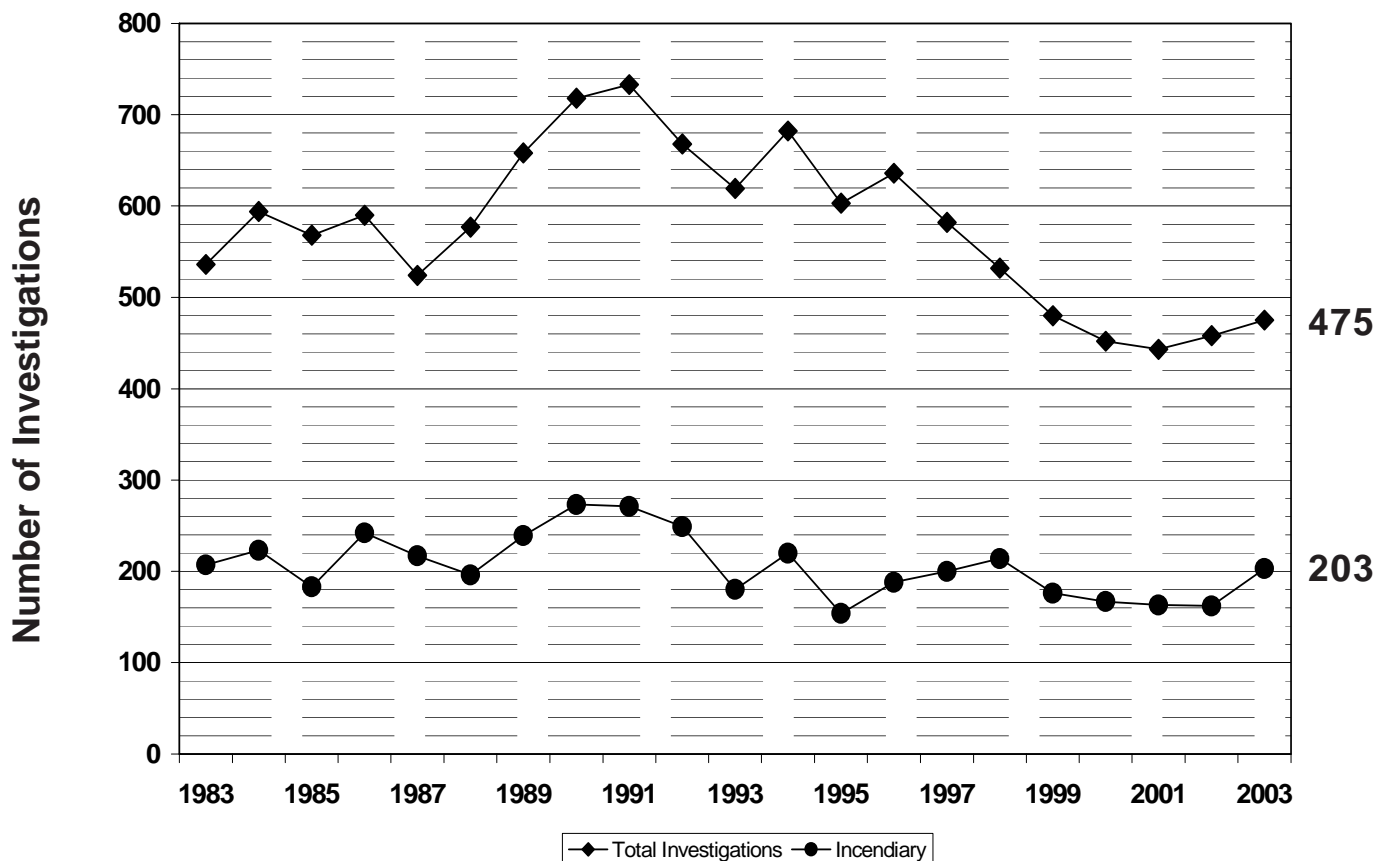
	2001 Causes		2002 Causes		2003 Causes			
	Total Fires	Total Arson	Total Fires	Total Arson	Total Fires	Total Dollar Loss	Total Arson	Arson Dollar Loss
One/Two Family Dwellings	257	77	242	72	260	\$27,931,743	110	\$10,373,465
Apartments	20	9	27	10	27	6,090,800	11	1,405,800
Hotels/Motels/Resorts	1	0	3	1	2	300,000	0	0
Dormitories	0	0	0	0	2	110,000	1	10,000
Other Residential Property	0	0	0	0	4	40,000	3	40,000
Institutional	3	1	3	1	1	2,000	0	0
Educational	6	5	1	0	6	510,500	5	10,500
Places of Assembly	16	9	15	9	10	2,825,000	6	1,225,000
Restaurants	7	2	8	1	13	4,975,000	5	2,235,000
Retail/Office	24	6	25	11	36	7,415,300	20	1,173,500
Industrial/Manufacturing	14	4	9	2	13	14,106,148	2	2,000,000
Agricultural	3	1	3	0	0	0	0	0
Storage Facilities	49	15	65	26	75	9,638,975	27	1,337,050
Special Structures/Other	4	4	13	10	26	291,650	13	62,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>\$74,237,116</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>\$19,873,165</b>

In 2003, the average investigation fire dollar loss was \$156,289. Time spent on each case is increasing; advanced technology and more in-depth investigations continue to increase the number of arson convictions.

## 2003 Fire Investigation Accidental vs. Incendiary



## Fire Investigation 1983 - Present





*12,076 violations were  
found in 5,174  
inspections in 2003.*

## FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS

Deputy State Fire Marshal Inspectors conducted a total of 5,174 inspections and follow-up inspections in 2003.

### 2003 SFMD FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS, BY TYPE OF OCCUPANCY

	<u>No. of Facilities</u>	<u>No. of Follow-ups</u>	<u>No. of Bldg. Inspections</u>	<u>No. of Orders</u>	<u>No. of Violations</u>
<u>CHILD CARE</u>					
Family child care	637	74	637	74	1,908
Foster child care	195	49	196	59	660
Child care centers	59	26	59	19	238
	<b>891</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>2,806</b>
<u>LICENSED HEALTH CARE FACILITIES</u>					
Nursing homes	598	49	613	17	370
Supervised living facilities >7	161	9	176	8	66
Adult foster care facilities	456	11	457	19	966
Class B nursing homes	52	5	55	4	24
Supervised living facilities <6	84	1	84	2	16
Group homes	2	0	2	0	0
Adult day care facilities	9	2	9	1	9
Hospitals	119	8	126	10	88
Surgical centers	14	2	14	2	5
	<b>1,495</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>1,536</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>1,544</b>
<u>HOTELS/MOTELS/RESORTS</u>					
Resorts	241	271	323	123	508
Motels	244	304	251	167	586
Hotels	76	116	76	54	455
	<b>561</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>1,549</b>
<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>					
Boarding/Lodging	27	24	30	10	90
Apartments	13	17	13	8	56
One/two family dwellings	2	4	2	1	4
Dormitories	14	18	23	10	14
	<b>56</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>164</b>
<u>EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES</u>					
Schools	<b>537</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>5,675</b>
<u>COMMERCIAL</u>					
Public assembly	25	35	25	17	174
Offices	24	3	32	4	17
Restaurants	6	5	6	4	41
Industrial/Manufacturing	0	2	0	0	0
Service stations	3	5	3	0	0
Retail	4	4	4	2	9
	<b>62</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>241</b>
<u>OTHER PROPERTY</u>					
Flammable/Combustible liquid	3	5	3	1	0
Prisons/Jails	51	14	117	14	63
Special properties	1	2	1	1	0
L.P. facilities	0	4	0	0	0
Other properties	58	35	62	9	34
	<b>113</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>TOTAL INSPECTIONS</b>	<b>3,715</b>	<b>1,459</b>	<b>3,937</b>	<b>1,092</b>	<b>12,076</b>

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*The vast majority of residential inspections are for day care and child care facilities.*

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## FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY INSPECTION

### • Residential Team

The “residential team” is responsible for fire safety inspections in hotels, motels, resorts, family day-care homes, day care centers and child foster care homes. They also respond to other special requests and fire safety complaints. Reduced staffing has almost eliminated investigation services to agencies other than the fire service or municipalities with special requests.

Deputies Dave Keepers and Robert Leger retired in 2003. Both were very experienced in fire safety technology and had profound knowledge of current and previous fire codes. Deputy Doug Ackerman transferred to the school inspection team to help with the budget dilemma. These three positions have not been filled. In previous years, there have been at least six other vacant positions not filled on the residential team because of reduced budgets. Budget complications are not new or unique to us. We will continue to work around these difficulties.

Staff on the residential team in 2004 are:

**Glen Bergstrand, Supervisor** 218-721-4447, Duluth, Carlton Co. Region

**Patti South** 218-732-9622 NW Region

**Skip Zielin** 218-736-6461 West Region

**Hal Hefti** 218-828-4076 Central Region

**Chris Watson** 763-754-0343 Metro & SE Region

**Forrest Williams** 218-724-5771 NE Region

In 2003, a task force of lodging industry experts, a fire service representative and a member of the Minnesota House of Representatives issued a residential investigation report to the state legislature. As a result, funding increases were proposed in both the House and the Senate, but failed to be enacted because the necessary special session was not held. We hope that funding will be granted during the next legislative session, which begins in 2005. Our most sincere thanks are given to those who served on this task force.

In 2003, the residential team conducted the following inspections:

Hotel, Motels and Resorts:

566 complete fire safety inspections

685 follow-up inspections

50 site visits to answer questions

2 complaint inspections

5 facility request inspections

Day Care and Foster Care Inspections:

923 complete fire safety inspections

269 follow-up inspections

39 complaint inspections

9 site visits

Total Inspections Conducted: 2,548

Fire safety violations most frequently cited at lodging facilities include the following:

Fire alarm and sprinkler systems not maintained.

Exit signs and emergency lighting not maintained in a working condition.

Penetrations and damage to fire resistive construction – allows for fire spread.

Storage in exits and stairway enclosure – can render the exits hazardous in fire conditions.

Sprinkler heads obstructed.

Lack of employee fire safety training on assistance in evacuating guests and use of fire extinguishers.

Electrical hazards.

Fact sheets on fire safety requirements in hotels, motels, resorts and child care facilities are available on our Web page at: [www.fire.state.mn.us](http://www.fire.state.mn.us).

When the public stay at any lodging establishment, it is advisable to check the smoke detector in your guestroom and check both the main and alternate exits.

- **Health Care Team**

The health care inspection team includes a fire safety supervisor and seven deputies who operate out of home offices located throughout the state, and a clerical support person in the headquarters office. The team began the year operating one person short until Kerry Queen was hired on July 2, 2003. Kerry lives in Faribault and covers the 15 counties in southeast Minnesota formerly assigned to Jerry White, who retired in November, 2002 after 35 years of service.

The health care team is responsible for conducting annual fire and life safety inspections of Minnesota's healthcare facilities (nursing homes, hospitals, surgical centers and supervised living facilities.) As requested by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Department of Human Services, the team also inspects adult foster care homes, adult day care centers, board and care homes, hospices, developmental achievement centers and outpatient treatment facilities (hemodialysis, chemical dependency and alcohol treatment facilities.) In addition, under contract with the Minnesota Department of Corrections, two members of the team are assigned responsibility for the state's 11 state-owned prisons and one privately-owned prison. County jails and the Waseca federal corrections facility are inspected by deputies in whose districts the facilities are located.

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*Every hospital, health care facility, and licensed residential group home in Minnesota is inspected annually.*

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The health care team conducts both state licensing and federal certification inspections of health care facilities. In addition to enforcing the Minnesota State Fire Code, the team enforces the 2000 *Life Safety Code* and related federal fire-safety regulations promulgated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in health care facilities participating in the federal Medicare/Medicaid programs. The federal inspections are conducted under a contract with MDH, which administers the federal enforcement program in Minnesota. Prior to September 11, 2003, health care facilities were allowed to comply with either the 1981 or 1985 editions of the *Life Safety Code*. In September, however, federal regulations began requiring that all facilities participating in the federal certification program be in compliance with the 2000 edition of the standard.

While state fire marshal inspectors do not typically inspect hospitals accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), CMS may request “walk-behind” inspections (called validation surveys) of these facilities. The team conducted nine such surveys in 2003.

Other important functions of the health care team are to provide fire safety in-service training to facility staff and give educational presentations to representatives of the health care industry, which means working very closely with such organizations as the Minnesota Health Care Engineers’ Association, Care Providers of Minnesota, and the Minnesota Health and Housing Alliance. Each member of the team provides ongoing consulting services to facility administrators and engineers, architects, and contractors to assist them in meeting applicable state codes and federal regulations.

Here’s a summary of the team’s inspection activities for 2003:

- Health care inspections – 937
- Follow-up inspections – 94
- Site visits/requests for assistance – 196
- Correctional inspections (jails/prisons) – 51
- Special request inspections (foster care, day care, etc) – 500

## **PUBLIC SCHOOL INSPECTION PROGRAM**

The Public School Inspection Program was established by the Minnesota state legislature in 1990 and requires state fire marshal inspectors to inspect each of the state’s roughly 1,900 schools once every three years. These inspections cover public elementary schools, secondary schools (middle schools, junior high schools and high schools), area learning centers, and charter schools.

The focus of this program is to eliminate fire and life safety violations in public school buildings. Emphasis is on the safety of students, teachers, staff, and community members.

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Due to the age, construction and use of many Minnesota school buildings, policies allow the use of automatic fire protection systems (primarily automatic sprinklers and automatic fire alarms) to compensate for fire and life safety deficiencies found in these buildings. The state fire marshal is proud to report that dozens of school fires have been detected early or extinguished by fire protection systems installed as a result of this program.

The 1990 legislation also allowed local fire departments to continue to inspect schools in their jurisdictions under a contract with the state fire marshal. In 2003, there were 12 fire departments that conducted their own school inspections.

The Public School Inspection Program is staffed by a fire safety supervisor, three field-based deputy state fire marshals, one school plan reviewer, and a part-time clerical support person. The program works closely with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). The program was funded under an inter-agency agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health until 2002, when the State Fire Marshal Office implemented a fee-based system based on the size of school buildings.

In the 2002-2003 school year, there were 345 school districts in Minnesota, 1,900 school buildings and about 76 charter schools providing education to almost 840,000 students in grades K-12. In addition, there are approximately 56,000 teachers and administrators and thousands of staff employees. Many school buildings also function as community education and recreation facilities after normal school hours. This program provides enhanced fire and life safety for almost two million students, staff, and citizens.

School inspections in 2003 revealed 5,631 violations in the 470 school facilities inspected. The following is a breakdown of the types of fire and life safety deficiencies observed:

Exterior Fire Safety Issues:	152
Exiting/Egress Deficiencies:	1,244
Construction-related Issues:	436
Storage Problems:	803
Building Utility Problems:	124
Electrical Hazards:	847
Fire Sprinkler Problems:	544
Fire Alarm System Concerns:	390
Fire Extinguisher Problems:	172
Other Fire Protection Concerns:	88
Flammable/Combustible Liquid Violations:	87
Hazardous Materials Problems:	94
Training/Drills/Operational Issues:	650

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*School inspections revealed 5,631 fire code violations in 470 schools in 2003.*

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In addition to conducting inspections, the school inspection team also conducted 343 follow-up inspections to ensure violations identified on previous inspections had been corrected. Another important function of the school inspection program is

performing plan reviews of major school construction and renovation projects. The State Fire Marshal Division works closely with MDE to ensure that appropriate fire safety features are being installed and that school districts are not paying for unnecessary fire protection. This program has saved districts hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

There were 205 plan reviews conducted during 2003; the majority of these were for remodeling projects in public schools. Additions to school buildings and projects to comply with fire code orders also generated a significant number of plan reviews. The school plan reviewer maintains a close working relationship with the State Building Codes and Standards Division and spends many hours each week consulting with school officials, architects, engineers and contractors.

<b>Total Plan reviews:</b>	<b>205</b>
Additions to School Buildings:	27
New School Buildings:	7
Remodeling of Existing Schools:	71
Review for Fire Code Orders:	104
Other:	1

NOTE: The totals add up to more than 205 because some plans included more than one category.

Almost all of the state's public schools have undergone two inspection cycles. As a result, school fire loss in Minnesota is less than half of the national average and the last major school fire in Minnesota (destroying a school completely) was in 1995. Historically, there were major school fires every 2-3 years in Minnesota.

During 2003, there were two school fires resulting in a loss of \$10,000 or more. None of these fires resulted in the loss of building use. This is the second year in a row that there has been no significant fire loss in a school inspected by state fire marshal inspectors. In 2003, fires in school buildings occurred in the following:

<u>Name of School</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Dollar Loss</u>
Blaine High School	Blaine	\$10,250
Park Place Early Childhood Family Development Center	Minneapolis	\$10,000

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## **FIRE CODE SPECIALIST**

The Fire Code Specialist section of the State Fire Marshal Division is staffed by one deputy state fire marshal fire code specialist. This position provides consultation and technical assistance in matters related to fire safety to state fire marshal staff, local fire and building officials, property owners/managers, architects, engineers, contractors and the general public.

In an average month, the fire code specialist will handle approximately 500 e-mail and telephone requests for information regarding fire safety inquiries, fire code requirements, National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and fire-safe practices.

In addition to the consultation duties, the fire code specialist conducts fire safety training for fire and building service groups, safety professionals, children's organizations and the general public. Each year, fire safety information is presented to hundreds of individuals through these fire safety presentations. The code specialist also interacts with other safety officials and represents the State Fire Marshal Division on committees and task forces.

## **FIRE PROTECTION SECTION**

The Minnesota Fire Protection Contractor Licensing Law (Minnesota Statute 299M.01-12) authorizes the state fire marshal to regulate the fire sprinkler industry. The law requires licensing of contractors and certification of sprinkler fitters. The rules require fees for licensing and permits for fire protection upgrades or repairs. The fire protection section also investigates complaints, inspects sprinkler installations and provides education and information services to the sprinkler industry, public officials and the public.

The fire protection section is headed by Bureau Chief Bob Dahm, supervised by Dave Stegura, and includes one plan review/code specialist, one field inspector and one clerical support person.

Licensing fire sprinkler contractors and certifying journeyman sprinkler fitters began in 1994. In 2003, 51 contractors and four design contractors were licensed, in addition to 568 journeyman sprinkler fitters and 35 limited journeyman sprinkler fitters.

The State Fire Marshal Division performs sprinkler system plan review and issues permits for 642 communities in Minnesota. Cities may issue fire protection system permits if they meet program and training documentation requirements. The division issues fire protection system permits for all installations not performed by cities and the State Building Codes Division. In 2003, the fire protection section performed the following activities:



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*The Fire Protection Program calls for licensing fire protection contractors who sell, design, install, modify, or inspect fire protection systems.*

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	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b><u>Licenses/Certificates:</u></b>						
Sprinkler Contractors	53	59	59	58	58	51
Design Contractors	7	8	4	4	4	4
Journeyman	481	508	519	530	551	568
Limited Journeyman	63	43	43	45	37	35
Permits Issued	364	386	427	457	518	616
Complaint Investigation	29	20	23	7	12	18
Field Inspections	38	142	298	281	354	246
<b><u>Generated Revenue:</u></b>						
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Permits	\$139,866	\$178,404	\$151,792	\$180,254	\$202,729	\$239,558
Surcharges	147,529	163,785	163,289	154,693	142,625	143,612
Licenses	76,000	79,600	79,525	76,950	78,650	78,800
Misc.	4,264	2,856	4,465	4,354	2,624	3,549
Escrow	--	775	371	(320)	203	60
Fines	5,000	7,600	750	1,500	--	--
Examination Fees						6,605
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$372,659</b>	<b>\$433,020</b>	<b>\$400,192</b>	<b>\$417,431</b>	<b>\$426,831</b>	<b>\$472,184</b>

## **PUBLIC DISPLAY FIREWORKS OPERATOR CERTIFICATION**

The Minnesota state legislature passed a law (MN Statute 624.22) effective January 1, 1996, requiring the State Fire Marshal Division to adopt guidelines relating to fireworks display safety and develop a process for certification of fireworks operators.

Under the law, fireworks displays in Minnesota must be supervised by a fireworks operator certified by the State Fire Marshal Division. Fireworks operators may become certified by documenting experience and passing a written examination administered or approved by the state fire marshal. This examination is based on statutes, codes and nationally recognized standards relating to the safe practices of storage, handling and display of fireworks. Examinations are conducted at state fire marshal headquarters in St. Paul.

Currently there are 307 certified fireworks display operators. Of those, 248 are certified for outdoor fireworks displays, four are certified for proximate (indoor) displays and 55 are certified to conduct both outdoor and proximate fireworks displays.

Following every fireworks display, the certified lead operator in charge of the display is required to submit a fireworks display report to the State Fire Marshal Division. In 2003, 617 display reports were submitted. These reports provide information on the type, size and quantity of pyrotechnic devices used, property

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*307 Fireworks Operators have been certified since the certification program began.*

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damage, injuries and product defects. This information is used to assess the impact of controlled fireworks displays and to help identify operational problems and defective products. These reports documented two injuries and 30 malfunctioning devices during 2003. Four incidents resulted in property damage.

## **CONSUMER (1.4g) FIREWORKS**

Prior to 2002, Minnesota's fireworks statute stated, "It shall be unlawful for any person to offer for sale, expose for sale, sell at retail or wholesale, possess, advertise, use, or explode any fireworks." The term "fireworks" included firecrackers, bottle rockets, roman candles, sparklers, party poppers, whipper snappers and snap-n-pops. The only legal items were fireworks for public display (for which a permit is required) and caps for toy guns.

Effective April 30, 2002, certain fireworks classified as 1.4g, commonly known as consumer fireworks, became legal in Minnesota. Items now classified as legal include wood or wire sparklers, fountains, ground spinners and other non-aerial / non-explosive devices. Novelty items such as party poppers and snakes were also legalized. Items that remain illegal include firecrackers, bottle rockets, roman candles and similar devices.

The new law allows 1.4g fireworks to be sold throughout the year. A person must be at least 18 years of age in order to purchase fireworks; however, there is no minimum age for their possession or use. Consumer fireworks may not be used on any public property.

## **FIRE DATA**

The fire data analysis team collects and analyzes approximately 180,000 incident reports annually. They provide technical assistance to 788 Minnesota fire departments and track major fire incidents as they occur. The team provides information on trends and similarities in fire data to local fire departments and the media.

Fire incident report statistics are used by the State Fire Marshal Division and local fire departments for comparative data for budget justifications, public education and/or community efforts to further the adoption of local codes and ordinances. Arson statistics compiled by this team are used to develop strategic plans and trend analysis for combating arson. Incidents in high-risk fire death groups (the elderly, disabled and young children) are monitored to determine the best way to address their fire safety concerns. Fire departments that use software for reporting incidents can access special report statistics instantly.

Data collection through the Minnesota Fire Incident Reporting System (MFIRS) is a major program in the division. Data is critical in determining where

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*MFIRS data collection is critical in determining where life safety efforts and resources are needed.*

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*Departments reporting by electronic means provided 95% of all reports in 2003.*

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efforts and resources are needed. The number of fire departments participating in MFIRS has increased significantly. The information provided from these reports has a major impact on the direction of statewide fire and emergency response efforts. There were 715 fire departments reporting in 2003. We have 91% of fire departments reporting; our goal is to have 95% to 100% participation. Of the departments who did report, 383 did so electronically and provided 95% of all reports in 2003. Electronic reporting represented 85% of the total fire dollar loss. We anticipate electronic incident reporting to increase with the continuing distribution of FIREHOUSE Software® in Minnesota.

**Fire incident reporting is mandated for all fire departments.** Please contact our office for assistance in getting started with MFIRS reporting; the fire data team members are always ready to help with technical or other reporting questions. Data team members are: Nora Gierok, 651-215-0529; Irene Moore, 651-215-0528; and Bob Dahm, 651-215-0505.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

For many years the State Fire Marshal Division has provided guidance and served as a resource to the Minnesota fire service in an effort to make fire and life safety a way of life for the citizens of our state. With the support and participation of fire departments throughout the state, our division has helped create a safer and healthier environment for Minnesotans.

The State Fire Marshal Division provides guidance and resources to the Minnesota fire service and messages to the general public in an effort to promote fire and life safety. With the support and participation of fire departments statewide, the division has helped create a safer and healthier environment for Minnesotans. A very significant accomplishment in 2003 was development of a process to certify fire service individuals as “Public Fire and Life Safety Educators.” The State Fire Marshal Division worked with safety and education experts to determine requirements, and the Minnesota State Fire Certification Board approved and established the training program. Certification training has begun across the state to assure that trainers will provide a focused and consistent safety message.

Fire and life safety educator training addresses topics such as cooperation among community agencies, using the legislative process and locating financial resources including grants and in-kind contributions. The course outlines the curriculum development process, educational materials selection, learning styles, technical content and program evaluation.

Every member of the fire service has a responsibility to save lives and property by providing citizens with fire prevention and fire response information. To that end, fire marshal personnel participated in these activities in 2003:

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*MFIRS participation is a requirement for Fire Act Grant eligibility. In 2003, 237 Minnesota fire departments received Fire Act Grants.*

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*The State Fire Marshal Division remains committed to public education efforts to reduce the Minnesota fire problem.*

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- Media events and press conferences throughout the year
- Promoting legislation supporting fire safety
- Public Fire and Life Safety Annual Conference
- Educational and clerical support to various fire service associations
- Presenting at State Fire Schools and State Conferences
- On-going smoke alarm and battery campaigns
- Assistance with local event planning and implementation efforts
- Securing grants and providing training for in-school curriculum
- Providing leadership and hands on support for public events

Throughout the year, the State Fire Marshal Division participates in events with pro-active members of the fire service, industry and concerned community groups to provide lasting messages to the public. Some examples include:

***Fire Safety with the Saints.*** At the third annual event, groups concerned with fire safety teamed up to educate citizens on camping safety, escape planning and practice, smoke alarm maintenance and home hazard inspections. Baseball fans enjoyed the chance to learn from our presentations and received a fun activity book filled with safety information to the theme of “Strike Out Fire” sponsored by Verizon Directories. The State Fire Marshal's office even threw out the first pitch!

***Fifth Annual Firefighter Night at the Races.*** Shakopee Fire Department hosted this event at Raceway Park with the assistance of many local fire departments and the State Fire Marshal Division. Lessons learned included the dangers of flammable liquids, the value of residential fire sprinkler systems and the importance of planning and practicing fire escape plans.

***Fifth Annual Governor's Fire Prevention Day...*** With the help and support of many major influences such as the Insurance Federation of Minnesota, American Red Cross, Hennepin County Medical Center, Regions Hospital, the National Fire Sprinkler Association, the Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Department of Building Codes & Standards, the FMAM, IAAI, MSFCA, MSFDA, MNSCU, and many more, this event continues to grow. In 2003, 51 fire departments from throughout the state sent 456 volunteers who shared of their talents, teaching fire and life safety to the over 127,000 fairgoers. An honor guard comprised of firefighters and military personnel dazzled and inspired teary-eyed crowds at the flag raising/memorial service that morning. Following the service, an entertaining and inspirational tribute to the fire service was sung by a popular local singing group. Educational opportunities spread to all corners of the fairgrounds included many unique firefighting apparatus displays, a seniors' fire safety program, a fire service history area with a functional 1906 hand pumper for the public to put to the test, safe escape trailers, the popular Fire Explorer Challenge, the “Are You a Survivor” game at the new Teen Fair, and many more exciting exhibits. This fire safety extravaganza has become touted as the single largest Fire Safety Education event in the world and promises to continue its growth.

***Burn Aid Golf Classic...*** Having raised more than \$350,000 in its previous 6 years, this 7th annual event added an additional \$55,000 to that amount. Co-hosted by the National Fire Sprinkler Association-Minnesota Chapter, the Regions Hospital Foundation, and the State Fire Marshal Division, the proceeds provide many services otherwise not available to burn survivors. State Fire Marshal Division staff conducted a Sprinkler Trailer demonstration to the group, demonstrating the effectiveness of sprinkler systems. Morning show host of K102, John Hines, was also on hand as Master of Ceremonies and provided “auctioneer” services.

In 2003, the State Fire Marshal Division chaired a state level team of professionals to act as a State Champion Management Team and submitted a proposal to the NFPA for 5 communities in the state to expand Risk Watch® communities. After receiving the grant, the team trained these communities in the implementation and evaluation of the Risk Watch® curriculum, an in-school all injury prevention program. The 5 communities include International Falls, Bemidji, Spring Lake Park, St. Paul, and the Fond-u-lac Reservation school systems. At the Fall Conference of the National Fire Protection Association, a State Fire Marshal representative joined Perham Fire Chief Randy Ebeling in showcasing the Perham Risk Watch Project. The commitment made by our division to this program will continue to grow with a goal of adding 200 classrooms per year until each student in Minnesota has had the benefit of this valuable education.

The State Fire Marshal Division continues to make educating the public a priority and to make a fire safe community for all who live, work, play, and worship in our great state, and would like to thank the Minnesota fire service and all dedicated community partners for their past, present, and future efforts in fire and life safety education.

For information or to share an idea on any fire and life safety issue, please feel free to contact Deputy State Fire Marshal Daniel Bernardy at (651)215-1754 or [daniel.bernardy@state.mn.us](mailto:daniel.bernardy@state.mn.us)

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*Children using fire  
inappropriately is still  
a major cause for  
concern.*

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## JUVENILE FIRE SETTING

Fire is enticing, alluring, appealing, attractive, captivating, interesting, and mesmerizing. It has been used throughout time as a tool of destruction and creation, a weapon to triumph over and defend us from our enemies. Fire holds a prominent place in our comfort, leisure, and is used for many of our cultural customs. Humans ability to control fire, natures most consuming and powerful element, has however, had mixed results. While the role of fire in our lives has changed dramatically in the last hundred years, the dangerous and unpredictable nature of fire has not.

There are many factors that have lead us to where we are today. Our own complacency and irresponsible use of fire as adults and caregivers is a major contributor. Today's media has had a profound impact on society, and as a result many people have little respect for the potential hazards of fire. Advertising tends to glamorize it, movies and television dramatize it minimizing the true consequences, while games and music make it seem magical, harmless, and even sensual.

To this end, there are few people, young people in particular, that have a realistic outlook on fire and it's uses today.

Children who start fires are categorized in one of four general areas. The areas begin with curiosity, a normal but still dangerous fascination with fire. Next is the crisis category; in this category a child is attempting to reach out due to some traumatic occurrence in his or her life. The delinquent category occurs when a child has set the fire with intent to draw attention from peers or authorities to his/her "power" through destruction. Finally, the pathological category is a truly psychological disorder with a variety of symptoms and other problems. No matter what the reason for this unlawful behavior, the result is the same — injury, death, and property loss.

Within which category they belong is determined through a structured interview and assessment process. It is extremely critical to perform a thorough and complete interview of the child and his/her parents, as well as to examine their environment, to come to an appropriate conclusion of their situation.



### Fires Involving Children Playing With Fire

	<u>2003</u>
Fires	219
Deaths	1
Civilians Injured	10
Firefighters Injured	6
Dollar Loss	\$1.6 Million

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*No matter what the reason for the behavior, the result is injury, death, and property loss.*

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What is principally important is that every child who has set a fire is identified, taken through a comprehensive fire safety program, is made accountable to the justice system, receives the appropriate referral, and complies with a restitution plan. Referral may be made to one of many agencies (mental health, social services, child protection, etc.). The available statistical data shows that up to 81% of the children who set fires will repeat this behavior if proper intervention is not attained. This leads us to conclude that early intervention and treatment will prevent future criminal behavior and save countless injuries, lives, and dollars of property loss.

The program developed by the State Fire Marshal Division has become a model for intervention replicated and/or used by several states and other nations. The program is designed to be a road map for all disciplines and experience levels, thus making it both user friendly and flexible. Additionally, the Juvenile Firesetter Interventionist of the State Fire Marshal Division was selected in 2002 to be a representative of the NFPA 1035 committee tasked with enhancement of the national standards for Juvenile Firesetter Interventionists for 2005.

This statewide program model is a step-by-step guide designed to assist with an intervention from identification through follow up. To completely understand the model and the process it provides, and to utilize it to its fullest potential, simply read the manual in its entirety. No experience or training is required to follow this model; however, attending training when the opportunity presents itself would certainly benefit your agency. Continuous contact efforts are bringing the mental health, juvenile justice, and social service systems into the cause by conducting presentations and training at conferences, one on one communication with discipline directors, and various association newsletter articles. Of course, feel free to contact the State Fire Marshal's office with any questions that may arise.

In 2003, in a cooperative effort between the Minnesota Fair Plan and the State Fire Marshals Division, a pair of :30 second PSA's were filmed bringing to the screen the issue of juvenile firesetting. These PSA's were distributed to the major networks throughout the state, and will also be distributed to local community access cable for airing. The PSA's are part of a larger marketing plan including billboards and brochures. The project will greatly enhance the identification of juveniles involved with fire and market the intervention programs well.

***What do I tell concerned caregivers before there is a problem?***

Teaching the child about his/her role with fire and the dangers of it must be done at the very earliest opportunity. Children usually begin to grasp this type of information at about age three. As children grow older, the messages will grow with them: Not touching matches and lighters, advancing to stop, drop & roll, crawling low under smoke, and home escape drills. Adults must take this initiative and not expect that a child will learn it somewhere else.



Taking responsibility by setting a good example is also very important. Using fire starting devices properly and controlling a child's access to these devices will greatly reduce the risk. Parents/Caregivers should point out how they use safety rules in everything they do; this will help to make fire safety "second nature" to the child.

Remember, a single match can be as deadly as a loaded gun in the hands of a child. It can destroy lives, property and dreams at an incredibly rapid speed.

***How do I get information on the program?***

Task Force information may be achieved by contacting the State Fire Marshal Division directly, or by visiting the Web site at [www.dps.state.mn.us/fmarshal/JFS/firejuven.html](http://www.dps.state.mn.us/fmarshal/JFS/firejuven.html). We have also incorporated a toll-free helpline for use by both professionals and the public to aid in getting the process moving as quickly as possible.

**Juvenile Firesetter Helpline  
1-800-500-8897**

For assistance with an intervention, or to receive materials, brochures, training, or support in organizing this important project in your community contact:

Daniel Bernardy, Deputy State Fire Marshal  
State Fire Marshal Division  
444 Cedar St., Suite 145  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
Office: 651-215-1754  
Fax 651-215-0525  
[daniel.bernardy@state.mn.us](mailto:daniel.bernardy@state.mn.us)



## ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

This dedicated group assures that the internal tasks of the office are performed effectively and efficiently. They provide exceptional support services to our staff, the fire service, and the general public. Persons responsible for specific programs are:

Pat Bell, Office Manager and Support Services Supervisor - Pat serves as support staff to the Management Team, as well as clerical support to the Fire/Arson Investigators. She keeps Division payroll records and is familiar with all office functions.

Andrew Voyer - is the main receptionist for the State Fire Marshal Division and Office of Pipeline Safety.

Randi Samuelson - generates inspection reports and corrective orders for the Residential and School Inspection Teams. She also provides support to the Governor's Council on Fire Prevention and Control and the Fire Marshal Code Advisory Panel.

DaNay Schuba - generates inspection reports and corrective orders for Residential Day Care inspections.

Marian Whitney - is responsible for clerical support for the Health Care Inspection Team.

The competent assistance of these exceptional employees allows the individual teams to complete their duties and assignments. Fire Marshal management and professional staff gratefully acknowledge our invaluable support staff.

## IN CONCLUSION...

*We hope this report will assist you in identifying the services, programs, and resources available through our division and encourage you to contact us with any comments or concerns.*

*We look forward to working with the fire service, law enforcement agencies, and other organizations as we continue to address the fire safety issues facing the citizens of Minnesota.*