



Snohomish County Fire District 7

2014 Annual Alarm Statistical Report

ANNUAL REPORT

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

This report is provided to meet the requirements of that legislation. Prepared in 2015 this report provides the data required for 2014 reporting period. Some time stamps can be inaccurate when transmissions of data fail. We also have limited time stamps for certain units responding that only show the closest full minute instead of seconds. This mostly affects second due apparatus and multiple equipment responses.

Vision

A trusted leader serving the community with a commitment to innovation and improvement.

Value Statement

- We seek feedback and learn and improve from experience.
- We are willing to take risks and make changes in order to improve service.
- We are committed to doing the work, and continuously improving the way work gets done.

Alarm Report

The following represents alarm totals for the District. You will notice that some of the years had substantial increases while others decreased. When averaged annually for 10 years, the district has seen a 1.5% increase in alarm activity each year. Three consecutive years showed a decrease in alarm activity with 2014 seeing a slight decrease. It is estimated that the District population continues to grow 5% annually in the past 10 years but call volume has shown no relationship to population increase.

Year	Alarms	Average per day	% Change
2004	4895	13.4	+2.0%
2005	4773	13.0	-2.5%
2006	5664	15.5	+18.6%
2007	5285	14.5	-6.7%
2008	5144	14.1	-2.7%
2009	5012	13.7	-2.6%
2010	4775	13.1	-4.7%
2011	4881	13.4	+1.0%
2012	5402	14.8	+10.7%
2013	5608	15.4	+3.8%
2014	5574	15.3	-0.61%
10 Year Average 15% Increase (1.5% increase annually)			

SERVICE CRITERIA

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

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

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

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

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

This criteria is based on the entry into the computer aided dispatch system by MDT or dispatcher. While the data has some inaccuracy it is the best indicator available to the district at this time. The following charts show the times as they are available to this agency and indicate our best attempt at accuracy. It should also be noted that the only alarms analyzed and shown were the alarms within Fire District 7 and alarms that were categorized emergency response. No mutual aid calls or non-emergency response calls were included in the following time charts.

Deficiencies

Some minor improvement in travel times have been seen with the exception of the category of other fire types. Average response times show a fairly positive step in meeting times however when you compare with actual benchmarks and time separation the times do not look as favorable.

2014 Annual Alarm Statistical Report

continued from page 1

The District has worked with employees' in meeting expected turnout times with some Improvement but meeting our established goal of 90 seconds has proven more difficult. We are using another software monitoring tool that more accurately tracks turn out times for each station and these are proving useful in showing where we can improve in turnout times. The travel times are not as easily addressed. Travel is established by location and traffic and road conditions. Our firefighters are tasked with knowing the best route but vehicle speed is not stressed as an important factor. A safe speed with the most direct route ensuring defensive driving techniques is our best policy in ensuring quickest possible response.

The county has worked on a new computer aided dispatch software solution for the last six years. It is only now in late 2015 that this system has been placed in service. Unfortunately this will not assist in the accuracy of this report until the 2016 report.

The following areas are deficient in the response times as established by the fire district.

STRUCTURE FIRE		
First fire unit arrival	69.6%	20.4% deficient
First alarm assignment arrival	62.8%	27.2% deficient
WILDLAND FIRE		
First unit arrival	80.0%	10.0% deficient
OTHER FIRE		
Turnout time	84.9%	5.1% deficient
First fire unit arrival	60.6%	29.4% deficient
EMS INCIDENTS		
Basic Life Support arrival	86.3%	3.7% deficient

The response time data shows a mix of improvements and deficiencies. The relatively low call volume in rural areas adds to the complexity of numbers. Significant changes in fire response times will be seen when relatively low numbers are used for these incident types. The EMS calls which make up the vast number of alarms see less changes in times. The one area of significant change that has no explanation is the response time to Other fire types normally single engine responses

Structure Fire			
Turn Out Time	33 Responses		
(=or<) 90 seconds	10	30.3%	
91 to 120 seconds	14	42.3%	72.6%
121 to 132 seconds	9	27.4%	100%
133 to 144 seconds	0	0%	
> 144 seconds	0	0%	
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 41 seconds		
First Arrival - Structure Fire			
Arrival Time	33 Responses		
(=or<) 300 seconds	8	24.2%	
301 to 345 seconds	11	33.3%	57.5%
346 to 390 seconds	4	12.1%	69.6%
391 to 435 seconds	5	15.2%	84.8%
> 436 seconds	5	15.2%	100%
Average First Arrival	6 minute 11 seconds		
Full Assignment Arrival - Structure Fire			
Arrival Time	22 Responses		
(=or<) 600 seconds	11	50%	
600 to 645 seconds	4	18.2%	58.2%
646 to 690 seconds	1	4.6%	62.8%
691 to 735 seconds	1	4.6%	67.4%
> 736 seconds	5	22.6%	100%
Average First Alarm	10 minute 45 seconds		
Wildland Fire Incidents			
Turn Out Time	25 Responses		
(=or<) 90 seconds	16	64%	
91 to 120 seconds	4	16%	80%
121 to 132 seconds	3	12%	92%
133 to 144 seconds	1	4%	96%
> 144 seconds	1	4%	100%
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 41 seconds		
First Arrival - Wild Land Fire			
Arrival Time	25 Responses		
(=or<) 300 seconds	13	52%	
301 to 345 seconds	5	20%	72%
346 to 390 seconds	2	8%	80%
391 to 435 seconds	2	8%	88%
> 481 seconds	3	12%	100%
Average First Arrival	5 minute 18 seconds		

2014 Annual Alarm Statistical Report

Other Fire Incidents			
Turn Out Time	99 Responses		
(=or<) 90 seconds	39	39.4%	
91 to 120 seconds	28	28.3%	67.7%
121 to 132 seconds	17	17.2%	84.9%
133 to 144 seconds	5	5.1%	90%
> 144 seconds	10	10%	100%
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 39 seconds		
Arrival Time	99 Responses		
(=or<) 300 seconds	31	31.3%	
301 to 345 seconds	14	14.1%	54.4%
346 to 390 seconds	15	15.2%	60.6%
391 to 435 seconds	12	12.1%	72.7%
> 436 seconds	27	27.3%	100%
Average First Arrival	6 minute 17 seconds		
EMS Incidents			
Turn Out Time	3185 Responses		
(=or<) 90 seconds	2168	68.1%	
91 to 120 seconds	605	19%	87.1%
121 to 132 seconds	347	10.9%	98%
133 to 144 seconds	14	98.4%	98.4%
144 to 156 seconds	51	1.6%	100%
Average Turn Out Time	1 minute 46 seconds		
First Arrival BLS Time	1631 Responses		
(=or<) 300 seconds	1194	73.2%	
301 to 345 seconds	123	7.5%	80.7%
346 to 390 seconds	92	5.6%	86.3%
391 to 435 seconds	70	4.3%	90.6%
> 436 seconds	151	9.3%	100%
Average BLS Response	5 minute 19 seconds		
First Arrival ALS Time	961 Responses		
(=or<) 300 seconds	720	74.9%	
301 to 345 seconds	70	7.3%	72%
346 to 390 seconds	39	4.1%	80%
391 to 435 seconds	55	5.7%	88%
> 480 seconds	77	8%	100%
Average ALS Response	5 minute 12 seconds		

Hazardous Materials Ops Level			
Response Time	3 Responses		
(=or<) 300 seconds	2	66.7%	
301 to 345 seconds	1	33.3%	100%
346 to 390 seconds	0	0%	100%
391 to 435 seconds	0	0%	100%
> 436 seconds	0	0%	100%
Average Response Time	4 minute 1 seconds		
Hazardous Materials Tech Level			
Response Time	0 Responses		
	0	100%	
Hazardous Materials Technical Rescue			
Response Time	0 Responses		
	0	100%	

Closing:

This report is in response to Chapter 52.33 of the Revised Code of Washington which requires a reporting made available to the public. This report is the best representation of the required reporting contents. We are continuing to work on more accurate information to be used the time reporting intent of the legislation. Newer computer aided dispatching software (CAD) is hoped to provide more accurate information for all responding apparatus.

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

Snohomish County Fire District 7



Headquarters:
 8010 180th Street South East
 Snohomish Washington 98296

Office Hours:
 Monday - Friday
 7:00am to 5:00pm

425-486-1217 or 360-668-5357
 Fax: 360-668-6234