

**A PROVISIONAL REPORT**  
**ON-DUTY FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES IN THE UNITED STATES**  
**Date Range 01/01/2003 to 11/30/2003**

**Number of On-Duty Firefighter Fatalities: 94**

**Classification:**

24 Career 25.5%  
4 Wildland Full-Time 4.25%  
0 Part-Time(Paid)  
3 Paid-on-Call 3.19%  
47 Volunteer 50%  
4 Wildland Part-Time 4.25%  
12 Wildland Contract 12.7%  
0 Other  
0 Industrial  
0 Unknown

Number of Multiple Firefighter Fatality Incidents: 7

Number of Firefighter Fatalities Related to Wildland Incidents: 29

**Type of Duty:**

19 Responding 20.2%  
9 Training 9.57%  
28 On-Scene Fire 29.7%  
8 On-Scene Non-Fire 8.51%  
3 After 3.19%  
18 Other On-Duty 19.1%  
9 Returning 9.57%  
0 Other  
0 Unknown

Percent of Fatalities Related to Emergency Duty: 59.5%

Number of firefighter fatalities associated with suspicious/arson fires: 7

**Type of Incident:**

24 Wildland 25.5%  
23 Structure Fire 24.4%  
10 MVA 10.6%  
1 Hazmat 1.06%  
2 Vehicle Fire 2.12%  
1 EMS 1.06%  
0 Tech Rescue

5 Outside Fire 5.31%  
0 Rescue/Extrication  
1 False Alarm 1.06%  
24 Not Incident Related 25.5%  
1 Other 1.06%  
2 Unknown 2.12%

**Cause of Fatal Injury:**

8 Caught/Trapped 8.51%  
5 Fall 5.31%  
44 Stress/Overexertion 46.8%  
0 Out of Air  
0 Exposure  
3 Collapse 3.19%  
3 Struck by 3.19%  
30 Vehicle Collision 31.9%  
1 Lost 1.06%  
0 Assault  
0 Other  
0 Unknown

**Nature of Fatal Injury:**

4 Asphyxiation 4.25%  
0 Fall  
1 Crushed 1.06%  
6 Burns 6.38%  
0 CVA  
38 Trauma 40.4%  
0 Drowning  
0 Electrocutation  
44 Heart Attack 46.8%  
1 Heat Exhaustion 1.06%  
0 Other  
0 Unknown

**Age of Firefighter When the Fatal Injury Was Sustained:**

6 - Under 21  
8 - 21 to 25  
4 - 26 to 30  
13 - 31 to 40  
27 - 41 to 50  
22 - 51 to 60  
11 - 61 and Over  
0 - Unknown

Percent of Firefighter Fatalities Under Age 40 - 31.9%

**Type of Activity:**

3 S&R 3.19%  
1 Setup 1.06%  
1 IC 1.06%  
12 Advance Hose Lines 12.7%  
0 Extrication  
0 Standby  
2 Ventilation 2.12%  
0 Forcible Entry  
19 Responding 20.2%  
3 Support 3.19%  
1 Pump Ops 1.06%  
0 Water Supply  
5 Scene Safety 5.31%  
16 Not Incident Related 17.0%  
11 Not On Scene 11.7%  
7 Other 7.44%  
0 EMS/Patient Care  
0 Unknown  
13 Unknown 13.8%

**Time of Fatal Injury:**

3 0100-0259  
2 0300-0459  
4 0500-0659  
10 0700-0859  
8 0900-1059  
14 1100-1259  
5 1300-1459  
7 1500-1659  
10 1700-1859  
7 1900-2059  
10 2100-2259  
2 2300-0059  
12 Unknown

**Month of the Year:**

10 January 10.6%  
5 February 5.31%  
11 March 11.7%  
9 April 9.57%

5 May 5.31%  
5 June 5.31%  
8 July 8.51%  
15 August 15.9%  
7 September 7.44%  
13 October 13.8%  
6 November 6.38%  
December  
0 Unknown

**Firefighter Fatalities by State by Location of Fire Service Organization:**

1 Alabama 1.06%  
1 Arkansas 1.06%  
3 Arizona 3.19%  
3 California 3.19%  
1 Connecticut 1.06%  
1 Florida 1.06%  
4 Georgia 4.25%  
1 Guam 1.06%  
1 Iowa 1.06%  
5 Idaho 5.31%  
3 Illinois 3.19%  
3 Indiana 3.19%  
1 Kansas 1.06%  
1 Kentucky 1.06%  
2 Massachusetts 2.12%  
1 Maine 1.06%  
1 Minnesota 1.06%  
2 Missouri 2.12%  
1 Mississippi 1.06%  
4 North Carolina 4.25%  
1 Nebraska 1.06%  
3 New Jersey 3.19%  
1 New Mexico 1.06%  
2 Nevada 2.12%  
3 New York 3.19%  
4 Ohio 4.25%  
13 Oregon 13.8%  
9 Pennsylvania 9.57%  
4 Tennessee 4.25%  
7 Texas 7.44%  
1 Vermont 1.06%  
1 Washington 1.06%  
3 Wisconsin 3.19%  
1 West Virginia 1.06%

1 Wyoming 1.06%  
0 Unknown

**Firefighter Fatalities by State by Location of Fatal Incident:**

1 Alabama 1.06%  
1 Arkansas 1.06%  
3 Arizona 3.19%  
5 California 5.31%  
1 Connecticut 1.06%  
1 Florida 1.06%  
4 Georgia 4.25%  
1 Guam 1.06%  
1 Iowa 1.06%  
5 Idaho 5.31%  
3 Illinois 3.19%  
3 Indiana 3.19%  
1 Kansas 1.06%  
1 Kentucky 1.06%  
1 Massachusetts 1.06%  
1 Maine 1.06%  
1 Minnesota 1.06%  
2 Missouri 2.12%  
1 Mississippi 1.06%  
1 Montana 1.06%  
4 North Carolina 4.25%  
1 Nebraska 1.06%  
3 New Jersey 3.19%  
1 New Mexico 1.06%  
3 New York 3.19%  
4 Ohio 4.25%  
12 Oregon 12.7%  
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