

# Fire and Rescue Department

**Mission** To provide the highest quality services to protect the lives, property, and environment of the community.

## Connection to the Countywide Strategic Plan

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted the first-ever Countywide Strategic Plan on October 5, 2021. The Countywide Strategic Plan serves as a road map to help guide future work, focusing on the 10 Community Outcome Areas that represent the issues of greatest importance to the community, and uses our One Fairfax equity policy to invest in people and places that have limited access to opportunity. On February 20, 2024, the second Annual Report on the work of the strategic plan was released to the public. The report contains point-in-time progress highlights for each of the community outcome areas, plus three data dashboards and data stories that are being replicated across all of the outcome areas, and a number of additional initiatives to embed the elements of the plan within department-level work. The report also includes a Year Three Implementation Model, which will engage hundreds of County subject-matter experts to identify and champion the specific strategies that will move forward to implementation under the guidance of the Board of Supervisors. For more information on the Countywide Strategic Plan, please visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategicplan](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/strategicplan). The Fire and Rescue Department primarily supports the following Community Outcome Areas:



Community Outcome Area	Vision Statement
<b>Effective and Efficient Government</b>	<i>All people trust that their government responsibly manages resources, is responsive to their needs, provides exceptional services and equitably represents them.</i>
<b>Safety and Security</b>	<i>All people feel safe at home, school, work and in the community.</i>

**Focus** The Fire and Rescue Department (FRD) currently operates 39 fire stations. Fire stations are staffed full time by County personnel with supplemental services provided by volunteers. The department operates from an “all-hazards” platform and serves Fairfax County and its residents by suppressing fires; providing advanced life support; pre-hospital emergency medical care; rescue operations (e.g. searching for and rescuing persons who become trapped in fires and extrication from vehicle accidents); and special operations, including the release or spill of hazardous materials, technical rescue (e.g. swift water rescue, building or trench collapse, high angle or rope rescue), marine operations (e.g. water rescue, boat fires, fuel spills) on the lower Potomac and Pohick Bay, and performing emergency planning. The Office of the Fire Marshal investigates fires, bombings, and hazardous material releases. The department also supports regional, national, and international emergency response operations during disaster situations through maintaining and supporting the Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Team (Virginia Task Force 1), the National Capital Region Incident Management Team, and other response groups. The US&R Team is one of only two teams in the United States federally sponsored for international disaster response.

Additionally, FRD provides critical non-emergency services to prevent a 911 call, such as community risk reduction, educating the public on fire and personal safety issues, providing public information and prevention education, and enforcing fire prevention and life safety codes in all public buildings. Robust life safety education programs, concentrated enforcement of fire prevention codes, and operational personnel dedicated to protecting lives are instrumental in the County maintaining a low fatality record.

FRD actively engages at local, regional, and national levels to meet the challenges of emergency response and prevention. Regionally, FRD has built collaborative relationships with surrounding localities and organizations necessary for responding to emergency incidents, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, and across public safety disciplines.

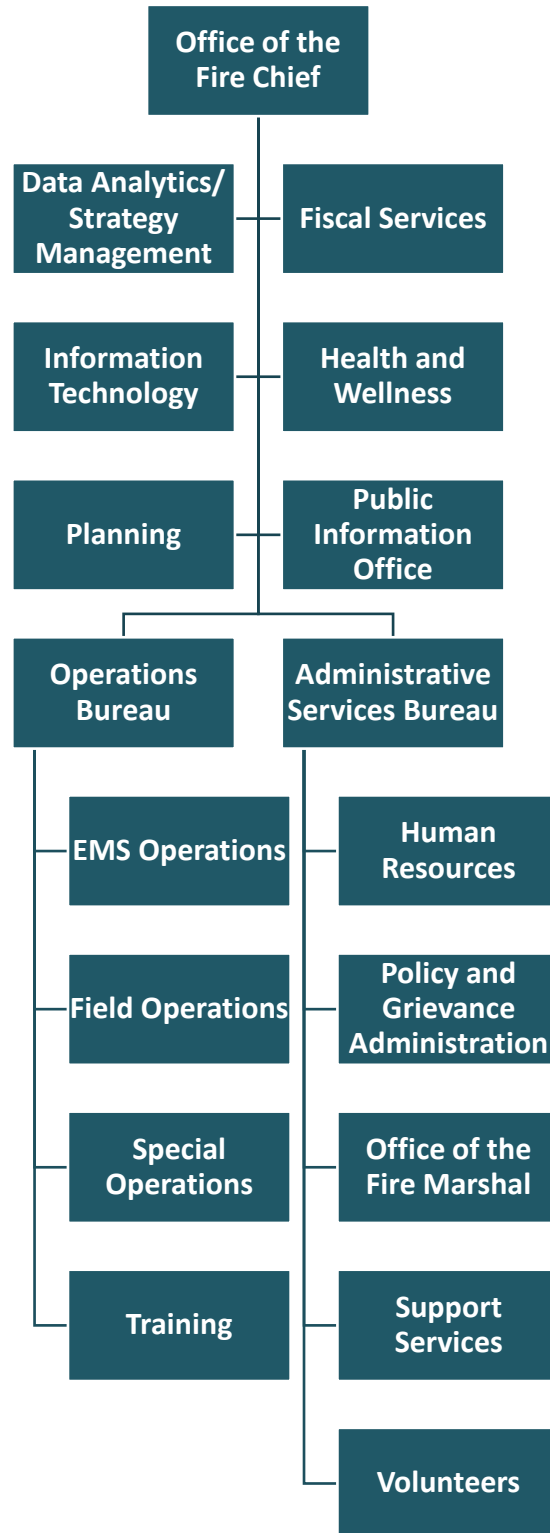
FRD also operates a number of facilities to ensure personnel are trained and prepared to perform the mission. The Fire and Rescue Academy provides firefighter, rescue, and emergency medical trainings and conducts resident emergency response training. Two apparatus shops are staffed to ensure emergency response vehicles are safe and service ready.

Despite high demands for emergency services (125,932 incidents in FY 2023) and tightened financial resources, FRD has maintained its ability to meet core responsibilities while remaining on the cutting edge of safety and technological advancements. The department continually seeks alternative funding sources to fund new and on-going initiatives. During FY 2023, FRD was awarded more than \$16.5 million in grant funds. Grant funding is used to support Urban Search and Rescue personnel, purchase personal protective equipment and emergency response vehicles, as well as to support firefighter training and education.

FRD is dedicated to being the best community-focused fire and rescue department and ensuring a safe and secure environment for all residents and visitors. To successfully meet challenges posed by increasing urbanization and a more densely populated response area, FRD will continue to be progressive in efforts to achieve economies of scale through regional cooperation, seek out innovative methods for keeping pace with technology, sustain programs to maintain a healthy workforce, and adjust staffing configurations to meet the needs of future growth in Fairfax County.

In August 2018, FRD became an accredited agency with the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). In August 2023, FRD was re-accredited with CFAI until 2028. FRD also holds a Class 1 rating from the Insurance Service Office (ISO). The department is one of only four agencies worldwide that serves a population greater than one million, is accredited by CFAI, and holds an ISO Class 1 rating. The other agencies include the City of Edmonton Fire Rescue Services, the Houston Fire Department, and the San Antonio Fire Department.

**Organizational  
Chart**



## Budget and Staff Resource

Category	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Adopted	FY 2024 Revised	FY 2025 Advertised	FY 2025 Adopted
<b>FUNDING</b>					
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
Personnel Services	\$204,031,008	\$220,081,093	\$222,336,563	\$233,663,317	\$233,663,317
Operating Expenses	32,532,806	33,318,118	37,555,361	35,464,700	34,244,606
Capital Equipment	0	0	14,964	0	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$236,563,814</b>	<b>\$253,399,211</b>	<b>\$259,906,888</b>	<b>\$269,128,017</b>	<b>\$267,907,923</b>
<b>Income:</b>					
Fire Prevention Code Permits	\$1,853,742	\$1,600,000	\$2,063,367	\$2,632,634	\$2,368,634
Fire Marshal Fees	3,582,398	3,632,063	3,632,063	4,830,704	4,365,704
Charges for Services	73,008	52,500	52,500	62,900	57,700
EMS Transport Fee	23,025,260	24,239,138	24,683,078	25,423,570	25,423,570
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$28,534,408</b>	<b>\$29,523,701</b>	<b>\$30,431,008</b>	<b>\$32,949,808</b>	<b>\$32,215,608</b>
<b>NET COST TO THE COUNTY</b>	<b>\$208,029,406</b>	<b>\$223,875,510</b>	<b>\$229,475,880</b>	<b>\$236,178,209</b>	<b>\$235,692,315</b>
<b>AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>					
Regular	1629 / 1629	1629 / 1629	1633 / 1633	1619 / 1619	1623 / 1623

This department has 20/19.5 FTE Grant Positions in Fund 50000, Federal-State Grants.

## FY 2025 Funding Adjustments

*The following funding adjustments from the FY 2024 Adopted Budget Plan are necessary to support the FY 2025 program. Included are all adjustments recommended by the County Executive that were approved by the Board of Supervisors, as well as any additional Board of Supervisors' actions, as approved in the adoption of the Budget on May 7, 2024.*

### **Employee Compensation \$1,837,133**

An increase of \$1,837,133 in Personnel Services includes \$339,033 for a 2.00 percent market rate adjustment for employees not impacted by the IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreement and \$237,321 for performance-based and longevity increases for non-uniformed merit employees, both effective July 2024. Funding of \$1,029,822 is attributable to the full-year impact of FY 2024 merit and longevity increases for uniformed employees, which were approved before the Collective Bargaining Agreement took effect, as well as FY 2025 merit and longevity increase for uniformed employees not impacted by the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Uniformed merit and longevity increases are awarded on the employees' anniversary date. The remaining increase of \$230,957 is included to support employee retention and recruitment efforts that will reduce pay compression and align the County's pay structures with the market based on benchmark data.

### **Collective Bargaining Agreement \$14,512,333**

On December 5, 2023, the Board of Supervisors adopted a three-year Collective Bargaining Agreement between Fairfax County and Local Chapter 2068 of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), the County's exclusive representative for the Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) bargaining unit. The members of IAFF ratified the agreement in November 2023. FY 2025 costs reflect an increase of \$14,512,333 in Personnel Services. Provisions in the agreement that contribute to this fiscal impact include but are not limited to revisions to the F scale to increase Firefighter starting salary, a 3.00 percent increase to the F scale pay plan effective July 2024, merit increases for uniformed employees awarded on the employees anniversary date, an additional half-day holiday, and four positions to support the contract which were approved as part of the FY 2024

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*Third Quarter Review.* It should be noted that an increase of \$6,270,192 in Fringe Benefits funding is included in Agency 89, Employee Benefits, for a total cost of \$20.8 million in FY 2025. For further information on Fringe Benefits, please refer to Agency 89, Employee Benefits, narrative in the Nondepartmental program area of Volume 1.

**Department of Vehicle Services Charges** **\$490,657**  
 An increase of \$490,657 in Department of Vehicle Services charges is based on anticipated billings for maintenance and operating-related charges.

**Contract Rate Increases** **\$348,499**  
 An increase of \$348,499 in Operating Expenses supports a contract rate increase for professional contract services and essential firefighter equipment.

**Planning and Land Use System (PLUS) Licenses** **\$239,978**  
 An increase of \$239,978 for PLUS licenses is based on anticipated billings for licensing costs associated with the agency’s utilization of the PLUS system. PLUS is a new multi-agency platform for Fairfax County customers to complete their zoning, building, permitting or other land development processes online. Through PLUS, customers can conduct online transactions such as creating and submitting building permit applications online, pay fees, track application status, receive electronic notifications and conduct searches.

**Reductions** **(\$2,919,888)**  
 A decrease of \$2,919,888 and 10/10.0 FTE positions reflects reductions utilized to balance the FY 2025 budget. The following table provides details on the specific reductions:

Title	Impact	Positions	FTE	Reduction
Implement Cross Staffing for Three Tanker Units	<p>The department identified three tanker units that are located throughout the County for reduction. These units are located in areas that have limited or absent water supply systems and currently provide water in urban areas when infrastructure failures occur to the water supply system. This reduction is expected to have limited impact on current services. Without permanent staffing, the Tanker Units will require “cross-staffing” from the engine which is also assigned to all stations and has four personnel assigned. Cross staffing means one of the assigned personnel on the engine will be responsible for driving and operating the tanker when it is dispatched to an incident. When the engine leaves the station, the tanker will accompany the engine everywhere, so it is available to respond if a dispatched on an incident. The department will maintain permanent staffing on three tanker units. These units have been identified based on data-informed decisions to minimize the impact of fire suppression services in the County. The impact from cross-staffing of these units will result in more apparatus responding to incidents to supplement staffing to assist in the primary tasks of the engine company that is normally handled by four personnel.</p> <p>Impacts on incumbents will have to be negotiated due to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.</p>	0	0.0	\$923,214

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Title	Impact	Positions	FTE	Reduction
Hazardous Materials Support Unit Staffing Adjustment	<p>The Hazardous Materials Unit (HMU) has assigned staffing of four personnel and responds to incidents such as residential carbon monoxide leaks, large fuel spills, chemical spills, train derailments, laboratory incidents, radiation incidents and biological hazards. Once on-scene, the unit is responsible for decontamination, detection and identification of unknown chemicals, containment of the hazardous materials and recovery/termination efforts as it relates to the clean-up at hazardous materials emergencies. The Hazardous Materials Support Unit (HMSU) has assigned staffing of two personnel and responds with the HMU to provide additional equipment and staffing. Eliminating the assigned staffing on the HMSU would require staff from the HMU to staff both units. This would reduce the total staff from six personnel to four. The reduction of this staffing would not delay the response of these apparatus but could potentially delay mitigation of emergencies as it will require staffing adjustments to include utilizing staff from other responding units.</p> <p>Impacts on incumbents will have to be negotiated due to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.</p>	6	6.0	\$549,427
Reduce Training Programs	<p>The Fire and Rescue Department will restructure training programs, limit the number of attendees to out-of-state conferences and maximize grant funding thus resulting in savings of \$494,733. Basic and volunteer training, professional certifications, and continuing education will not be impacted by this reduction. Uniformed personnel will continue to receive the necessary training to perform their jobs and maintain certifications; therefore, it is not expected that this reduction will negatively impact agency operations.</p>	0	0.0	\$494,733
Eliminate 2/2.0 FTE Safety Officer Positions	<p>The Fire and Rescue Department staffs three 24-hour field safety officers per shift who are dispatched to all active incidents. Field safety officers ensure the safety of both firefighters and residents at an incident. In addition, they also review personnel injuries and exposures, investigate vehicle accidents, and record facility issues. This reduction reduces coverage from three 24-hour safety officer positions to two 24-hour and one peak daytime hour coverage. This reduction shifts how active incidents are managed but does not impact the County's overall response. The current incumbents will be redeployed to support other field operations.</p>	2	2.0	\$313,324
Convert 3/3.0 FTE Battalion Chiefs to Management Analysts	<p>Savings of \$246,000 will be realized due to the reclassification of 3/3.0 FTE Battalion Chiefs to Management Analyst positions. The three Battalion Chiefs currently support the Apparatus, the Communications, and the Community Risk Reduction sections. It is not anticipated that this reduction will have a negative impact on agency operations or service levels and the current incumbents will return to support field operations.</p>	0	0.0	\$246,000

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Title	Impact	Positions	FTE	Reduction
Eliminate 2/2.0 FTE Vacant Positions	This reduction eliminates a Network Analyst I position that has been vacant for six months and a Data Specialist II position that has been vacant for more than one year. Given the length of time these positions have been vacant and the Fire and Rescue Department's ability to absorb the associated workload across the remaining staff, it is not expected that this reduction will adversely impact agency operations.	2	2.0	\$176,342
Reduce Operating Budget due to Efficiencies and Cost Savings	The Fire and Rescue Department has identified efficiencies and cost savings in general operating expenses such as membership dues and office supplies. It is not expected this reduction will have a negative impact on agency operations.	0	0.0	\$53,300
Reduce Public Outreach Activities	The Fire and Rescue Department provides extensive community outreach programs and education initiatives to the community. The department holistically reviewed all outreach programs and education initiatives and has identified efficiencies by consolidating or reducing duplicative programs and partnering with volunteers to help manage programs and initiatives; therefore, it is not anticipated that this reduction will impact the department's focus on maintaining public trust and promoting positive engagement between the department and the community.	0	0.0	\$50,000
Convert a Lieutenant to Management Analyst I to Better Address Workload Needs	Savings of \$47,057 will be realized due to the reclassification of a Lieutenant responsible for the compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) to a Management Analyst I to better align position duties and responsibilities to meet agency needs. It is not anticipated that this reduction will have a negative impact on agency operations; however, reassigning the incumbent to different job duties will have to be negotiated as part of the Collective Bargaining agreement.	0	0.0	\$47,057
Eliminate Accelerant Detection Canine Program	This reduction eliminates the Fire and Rescue Department's Accelerant Detection Canine Training program. When a Fire Investigator is called to investigate the cause of significant fires, the accelerant detection canine helps to detect any traces of ignitable liquids. This reduction can be taken with minimal impact on agency operations as the Fire Investigators are the primary locators and examiners of accelerants. Since the Canine is a donated asset from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), the canine will be returned to ATF for reassignment.	0	0.0	\$25,000
Eliminate Overtime Associated with Apparatus Committee Travel	The Fire and Rescue Department utilizes an Apparatus Committee to review department needs and vehicle specifications when purchasing new apparatus. This includes the committee traveling to the vendor site to evaluate the build out of new apparatus. This reduction eliminates the overtime associated with committee travel. It is not expected that this reduction will negatively impact agency operations or the purchase of new apparatus as the Apparatus Battalion Chief will still travel for onsite inspections.	0	0.0	\$23,375

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Title	Impact	Positions	FTE	Reduction
Reclass Two Positions to Better Address Workload Needs	Savings of \$18,116 have been realized due to the reclassification of a vacant Emergency Management Specialist III position and a vacant Engineer III position to Code Specialist positions to better align position duties and responsibilities to meet agency needs. It is not anticipated that this reduction will have a negative impact on agency operations.	0	0.0	\$18,116

## Changes to FY 2024 Adopted Budget Plan

The following funding adjustments reflect all approved changes in the FY 2024 Revised Budget Plan since passage of the FY 2024 Adopted Budget Plan. Included are all adjustments made as part of the FY 2023 Carryover Review, FY 2024 Third Quarter Review, and all other approved changes through April 30, 2024.

**Carryover Adjustments** **\$2,732,677**

As part of the FY 2023 Carryover Review, the Board of Supervisors approved funding of \$2,732,677 in Operating Expenses due to encumbered carryover.

**Third Quarter Adjustments** **\$3,775,000**

As part of the FY 2024 Third Quarter Review, the Board of Supervisors approved funding of \$3,775,000 which includes \$3,700,000 to support an increase in overtime costs and \$75,000 to purchase 2,000 alarms to install smoke alarms and carbon-monoxide alarms in vulnerable communities, particularly manufactured housing neighborhoods.

## Cost Centers

The three cost centers of the Fire and Rescue Department are the Office of the Fire Chief, the Operations Bureau, and the Administrative Services Bureau. The cost centers work together to fulfill the mission of the department and carry out key initiatives for the fiscal year.

### Office of the Fire Chief

The Office of the Fire Chief manages and coordinates all aspects of the Fire and Rescue Department which include directing overall policy, planning and management of the department. This office also includes the department's Data Analytics Strategy Management Division, the Fiscal Services Division, the Health and Wellness Section, the Information Technology Division, the Planning Section, and the Public Information Office. These divisions work together to ensure the Operations Bureau has the resources needed to respond to emergency incidents.

Category	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Adopted	FY 2024 Revised	FY 2025 Advertised	FY 2025 Adopted
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Total Expenditures	\$14,033,809	\$17,345,953	\$19,501,564	\$18,297,311	\$18,295,916
<b>AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>					
Regular	55 / 55	55 / 55	57 / 57	53 / 53	55 / 55



## Operations Bureau

The Operations Bureau is composed of the EMS Operations Division, the Field Operations Division, the Special Operations Division, and the Training Division. The goal of the Operations Bureau is to save lives and protect property by providing emergency and non-emergency responses to residents and visitors of Fairfax County. The Operations Bureau operates on three separate 24-hour rotating shifts. Each shift is led by two Deputy Fire Chiefs. The County is now separated geographically into eight battalions, each managed by a Battalion Fire Chief. The previous deployment model of one Deputy Fire Chief and seven battalions created a disparity in response times and call volume. The new deployment model will allow for desired span of control, reduced response times, and additional leadership and mentoring opportunities. Fire suppression personnel and paramedics work in tandem to ensure the highest level of safety and care for residents and visitors of Fairfax County. This bureau also provides basic and volunteer training, professional certifications, and continuing education.

Category	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Adopted	FY 2024 Revised	FY 2025 Advertised	FY 2025 Adopted
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Total Expenditures	\$197,381,209	\$209,057,346	\$212,638,408	\$222,479,661	\$221,284,580
<b>AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>					
Regular	1387 / 1387	1387 / 1387	1388 / 1388	1380 / 1380	1380 / 1380

## Administrative Services Bureau

The Administrative Services Bureau includes the Human Resources Division, the Office of the Fire Marshal, the Policy and Grievances Administration Division, the Support Services Division, and the Volunteer Liaison's Office. This bureau strives to provide a representative workforce through equal employment opportunity, active recruitment of qualified applicants and volunteers, overseeing the volunteer program, and maintaining professional standards for the department.

Category	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Adopted	FY 2024 Revised	FY 2025 Advertised	FY 2025 Adopted
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
Total Expenditures	\$25,148,796	\$26,995,912	\$27,766,916	\$28,351,045	\$28,327,427
<b>AUTHORIZED POSITIONS/FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>					
Regular	187 / 187	187 / 187	188 / 188	186 / 186	188 / 188

# Fire and Rescue Department

## Position Detail

The FY 2025 Adopted Budget Plan includes the following positions:

OFFICE OF THE FIRE CHIEF - 55 Positions			
1	Fire Chief	1	Geo. Info. Spatial Analyst IV
1	Assistant Fire Chief	1	Geo. Info. Spatial Analyst III
2	Battalion Chiefs	1	Geo. Info. Spatial Analyst II
2	Fire Captains	2	Financial Specialists IV
4	Fire Lieutenants	4	Financial Specialists III
1	Fire Technician	2	Financial Specialists II
1	Firefighter	3	Financial Specialists I
1	Program and Procedures Coordinator	1	Public Health Nurse III
1	Info. Tech. Program Mgr. I	1	Public Information Officer IV
3	Management Analysts IV	1	Public Information Officer III
3	Management Analysts II	1	Communications Specialist II
1	Programmer Analyst IV	0	Statistical and Data Specialists [-1]
1	Programmer Analyst III	1	Data Analyst II
1	Network Telecom. Analyst III	2	Data Analysts I
1	Network Telecom. Analyst II	1	Administrative Assistant V
2	Network Telecom. Analysts I [-1]	5	Administrative Assistants IV
2	Internet/Intranet Architects III		
OPERATIONS BUREAU - 1,380 Positions			
1	Assistant Fire Chief	3	Management Analysts I
9	Deputy Fire Chiefs	1	Emergency Management Specialist IV
32	Battalion Chiefs	1	Assistant Producer
23	Captains II	1	Material Management Specialist III
130	Captains, 1 AP [-2]	1	Material Management Specialist I
171	Lieutenants, 3 AP	1	Instrumentation Technician II
567	Fire Technicians, 4 AP [-6]	3	Administrative Assistants IV
428	Firefighters, 6 AP	1	Administrative Assistant III
3	Nurse Practitioners	3	Administrative Assistants II
1	Management Analyst III		
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU - 188 Positions			
1	Assistant Fire Chief	1	Internal Affairs Investigator
2	Deputy Fire Chiefs	1	Financial Specialist III
7	Battalion Chiefs	1	Financial Specialist I
5	Captains II	1	Emergency Management Specialist III
15	Captains	1	Business Analyst III
11	Lieutenants	1	Business Analyst II
7	Fire Technicians	1	Code Specialist IV
3	Vehicle Maintenance Coordinators	1	Code Specialist III
1	Fire Apparatus Supervisor	3	Code Specialists II
2	Assistant Fire Apparatus Supervisors	3	Fire Inspectors IV
8	Fire Apparatus Mechanics	5	Fire Inspectors III
1	Engineer V	38	Fire Inspectors II
1	Engineer IV	1	Contract Analyst II
13	Engineers III	1	Instrument Technician III
5	Engineering Technicians I	1	Inventory Manager
1	Management Analyst IV	2	Administrative Assistants V
2	Management Analysts III	5	Administrative Assistants IV
5	Management Analysts II	5	Administrative Assistants III
4	Management Analysts I	2	Administrative Assistants II
1	Human Resources Manager	4	Material Management Specialists III
3	Human Resources Generalist III	2	Material Management Specialists II
3	Human Resources Generalists II	2	Material Management Specialists I
3	Human Resources Generalists I	2	Material Management Drivers
1,421 Uniformed Positions/202 Civilian Positions			
	<b>Denotes Abolished Position(s) due to Budget Reductions</b>		
<b>AP</b>	<b>Denotes Alternative Placement Program</b>		

## Performance Measurement Results by Community Outcome Area

### Effective and Efficient Government

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) activities are designed to minimize property loss in commercial (non-residential) fires through effective and comprehensive inspections that enforce all applicable codes. In FY 2022, the OFM transitioned to the Fairfax County Planning and Land Use System (PLUS), the new system for residents/businesses to apply and pay permitting fees online. Implementation of the new PLUS system caused a delay in renewal notices for customers to pay fees from January 2022 to May 2022 which resulted in lower revenue collection for all inspection activities in FY 2022. In FY 2023, total revenue collected increased which positively impacted the net cost per inspection and the cost recovery percentage. FRD anticipates the total revenue collected in FY 2024 and FY 2025 will return to previous levels. The OFM continues to re-evaluate the revenue model for future inspections and system testing activities to improve the cost recovery percentage projections. Total fire loss for commercial structures was \$3.4 million primarily due to the total loss of \$2.8 million in one large commercial salon fire in March 2023.

### Safety and Security

Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has identified a four-pronged approach to a total community fire and life safety program:

- Prevent a 911 call through community outreach, education, and prevention programs including building inspections and code enforcement;
- Respond to structure fires to save lives and property;
- Respond to medical emergencies to save lives; and
- Respond to all hazards incidents to save lives, property, and the environment.

The overarching priority of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department is to "Prevent the 911 Call" to reduce the risk that any Fairfax County resident, business employee, or visitor will suffer a fire injury or death, and reduce the chances of fire-related property loss or damage. To achieve the goal of preventing a 911 call, FRD is committed to community risk reduction, and providing essential fire prevention and life safety education programs.

The objective of the Community Risk Reduction Section's Life Safety Education program is to educate 20,000 preschool and kindergarten students, 16,000 school-age children, and 10,000 older adults annually to eradicate fire deaths and burn injuries within these high-risk populations. Since the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, life safety education programs have not met projected estimates because schools and nursing homes have been slow to allow in-person educational programs. In FY 2024 and FY 2025 the number of life safety education programs presented to members of high-risk populations are projected to continue to increase. In addition, Community Risk Reduction is developing virtual presentations and partnering with other agencies on life safety outreach programs to reach the high-risk populations.

In FY 2023, Operations responded to 125,932 incidents and 62,592 patients were transported to local hospitals. In FY 2023, the total property value loss from fires was \$13.8 million which was lower than the previous year and below the department's performance objective for total property fire loss. One significant commercial fire in the Mason District resulted in a total fire loss of \$2.8 million. The total property value saved from fire suppression activities was \$2.1 billion.

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FRD reports cardiac arrest outcomes using the Utstein template, the international standard for cardiac arrest reporting, as it more accurately reflects the populations of patients for whom prehospital interventions are likely to have the most impact, i.e., those presenting in a shockable rhythm. In calendar year 2023, FRD attempted resuscitation for 605 patients found in cardiac arrest; of those, 603 were presumed to be of cardiac origin, and of those 61 met the Utstein criteria (witnessed arrest plus presumed cardiac origin plus presented in shockable rhythm). Thirty-five of those patients had sustained returned of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) meaning they had a pulse upon arrival at a hospital. Overall, 42 patients survived to admission and 28 survived to discharge (45.9 percent). All 28 patients had a cerebral performance category (CPC) of 1 or 2 at discharge, meaning they could resume activities of daily living. According to 2021 data from the American Heart Association, the survival to hospital discharge was 9.1 percent for all EMS-treated non-traumatic out of hospital cardiac arrests in adults.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), a standard-setting organization for fire departments, adopts standards regarding response time objectives and staffing levels. The Service Quality indicators reported by FRD track the percentage of time the department meets NFPA standards. NFPA response time standards for structure fires require the first engine company to arrive on the scene of a structure fire within five minutes and 20 seconds, and 15 firefighters to arrive on scene within nine minutes and 20 seconds, 90 percent of the time. In FY 2023, the department met these standards 58.3 percent and 91.10 percent of the time. NFPA response time standards for medical emergencies require an advanced life support (ALS) transport unit on scene within nine minutes and an AED on scene within five minutes, 90 percent of the time. In FY 2023, these response goals were met 76.07 percent and 58.47 percent of the time. The department's goal is to improve response times to both fire and medical incidents through increased staffing and emergency vehicle preemption on traffic signals.

Maintaining a well-trained fully staffed workforce is key to the department's ability to perform its mission. The Training Division graduated 104 career firefighters which is an 88 percent graduation rate from four recruit schools during FY 2023. This number was on track with the estimates for the year. In FY 2024 and FY 2025, FRD intends to hold four recruit schools per year to meet projected staffing needs.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Volunteer recruitment and retention has been a challenge resulting in lower membership in Volunteer Fire Departments. In addition, a Volunteer Fire School was not held in FY 2023. As a result, the total number of volunteer operational hours as well as the average number of volunteer units placed in service decreased in FY 2023. It is anticipated the Volunteer numbers will begin to stabilize in FY 2024 and FY 2025.

Community Outcome	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Estimate	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Estimate	FY 2025 Estimate
<b>Effective and Efficient Government</b>						
<b>Financial Sustainability and Trustworthiness</b>						
Percent of fire prevention services cost recovered	82.1%	47.0%	69.3%	70.6%	58.5%	55.9%
Revenue generated for all inspection activities	\$5,567,074	\$2,794,661	\$4,981,322	\$3,813,443	\$3,813,433	\$3,813,433
Transport billing (in millions)	\$19.6	\$21.5	\$21.5	\$23.0	\$24.2	\$24.2

# Fire and Rescue Department

Community Outcome	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Estimate	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Estimate	FY 2025 Estimate
<b>Safety and Security</b>						
<b>Safety-Related Prevention and Preparedness</b>						
Children (5 years and under) deaths due to fire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Children (5 years and under) burn injuries	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civilian fire deaths per 100,000 population	0.42	0.34	0.17	0.41	0.17	0.17
Civilian fire-related burn injuries	15	21	15	12	15	15
Civilian fire-related burn injuries per 100,000 population	1.3	1.8	1.3	12.0	1.3	1.3
Fire inspection activities conducted	29,960	25,210	25,000	25,169	25,000	25,000
Number of smoke alarms distributed and installed	235	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Number of File of Life used as resource in patient encounters	1,534	2,015	1,600	2,617	2,000	2,000
Preschool and kindergarten students served	1,096	21,000	24,000	7,850	10,000	12,000
Senior citizens served	694	10,500	15,000	4,033	5,000	7,000
Senior citizen (over age 60) deaths due to fire	2	1	1	2	0	0
Senior citizen (over age 60) burn injuries	4	6	2	0	2	2
Systems testing activities conducted	7,485	8,182	8,000	8,016	8,000	8,000
Total civilian fire deaths	5	4	2	5	2	2
<b>Timeliness and Quality of Emergency Response</b>						
AED response rate within 5 minutes	57.62%	58.30%	60.00%	58.47%	60.00%	60.00%
Fire loss (millions)	\$10.5	\$18.8	\$16.0	\$13.8	\$16.0	\$16.0
Fire loss as percent of total property valuation	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
Fire suppression response rate for the arrival of an engine company on a structure fire within 5 minutes and 20 seconds	55.15%	58.92%	55.00%	58.30%	55.00%	55.00%
Fire suppression response rate for 15 personnel within 9 minutes and 20 seconds	88.69%	87.59%	85.00%	91.10%	85.00%	85.00%
Percent ALS units on scene within 9 minutes	89.01%	85.17%	90.00%	76.07%	90.00%	90.00%
Percent arson cases closed	53.0%	44.0%	40.0%	73.0%	40.0%	40.0%
Percent hazardous materials cases closed	100.0%	100.0%	85.0%	100.0%	85.0%	85.0%
Percent of cardiac arrest patients arriving at the Emergency Department with a pulse <sup>1</sup>	10.3%	17.6%	20.0%	45.9%	20.0%	20.0%
Percent total fire investigation cases closed (fires, bombings, threats and arson)	72.0%	75.0%	85.0%	57.0%	85.0%	85.0%
Times volunteer-staffed emergency vehicles are placed in service annually	1,262	1,512	1,600	1,420	1,600	1,600
Total incidents responded to	102,802	118,752	110,000	125,932	120,000	120,000
Trained career firefighters added to workforce	42	91	109	104	90	112
Volunteer operational hours	63,723	74,133	75,000	63,000	70,000	70,000
<b>Following Laws and Regulations</b>						
Fire investigations conducted (including arson cases)	205	232	240	267	240	240
Hazardous materials cases investigated	30	21	30	10	30	30
<b>Reliable and Secure Critical Infrastructure</b>						
Total fire loss for commercial structures	\$1,635,253	\$1,170,778	\$2,000,000	\$3,400,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000

<sup>1</sup> The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department aims to meet or exceed the national average for out of hospital cardiac arrest, which ranges from 10 to 15 percent between the years of 2006 through 2016. As a result, the department expects at least 20 percent of cardiac arrest patients to arrive at Emergency Departments with a pulse in FY 2024 and FY 2025.

A complete list of performance measures can be viewed at  
<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/fy-2025-adopted-performance-measures-pm>