

2013
Annual
Year End Report

CITY
OF
MT MORRIS
FIRE
DEPARTMENT



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City of Mt Morris Staff and Elected Officials

On behalf of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department I respectfully submit the 2013 Annual Year End Report. The intent of this report is to provide a glimpse into the many diverse operations performed by the City of Mt Morris Fire Department during the calendar year of 2013.

This report will highlight certain divisions of the department as well as statistics relating to call volume, response time, and the location of the fire incidents in the City of Mt Morris. The report will also provide a short summary of all major incidents handled by the fire department during this time period. It is impossible to statistically report the intangibles that are expected of a fire department. The citizens demand and deserve their department to be professional, courageous, prideful, empathetic, and help them quickly resolve any situation of which they are called upon. These are the qualities that make up each member of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department. They have a willingness to serve anyone who needs their help whether it is a complete stranger or their closest friend. As you read the report you will quickly realize the citizens of Mt Morris have a professional and above standard fire department that exceeds expectations of a department its size. Our staff is comprised of trained professionals who are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They do not have a set schedule, but are always on guard to answer the call to help the citizens of their community in the event of an emergency. Our department staff prides themselves in upholding personal integrity, department integrity, volunteering countless amounts of hours towards the success of the department, and enhancing the quality of living for the citizens in the response area of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department.

On behalf of the firefighters and officers of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department we would like to acknowledge our sincere appreciation to our city leaders and the citizens of which the area we serve for always supporting our goals and allowing us to help them in a time of an emergency. Should you have any questions or comments about this report, the department's activity, or how we can better serve the community, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please feel free to visit us on the web at www.mtmorriscityfd.org.

Respectfully;

Damon Tobias
Fire Chief
City of Mt Morris Fire Department

Michael Vogt
Assistant Fire Chief
City of Mt Morris Fire Department

City of Mt Morris Fire Department Mission Statement

The mission of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department is to enhance the quality of living in our community by preventing or minimizing the loss of life or property resulting from fire or other emergencies, natural, or human caused, that occur within the jurisdictional boundaries of the fire district we serve.



CITY OF MT MORRIS FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF FOR 2013

<u>Name</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Richard Ballance	Firefighter	1 Year
David Black	Sergeant	5 Years
Michael Kidd	Firefighter/Engineer	14 Years
Andrew Kohn	Firefighter	1 Year
Callahan Mauter	Firefighter	1 Year
Scott McFarlin	Lieutenant	6 Years
Russell Minge	Firefighter/Engineer	3 Years
Matthew Moshier	Firefighter	3 Years
Ryan Quackenbush	Firefighter	5 Years
John Reardon	Firefighter/Engineer	3 Years
Todd Rockwell	Lieutenant	24 Years
Richard Saunders	Firefighter/Engineer	6 Years
Damon Tobias	Fire Chief	18 Years
Michael Vogt	Assistant Fire Chief	13 Years
Kent Wallace II	Firefighter	2 Years
Jonathan Yettaw	Sergeant	2 Years
James Young	Lieutenant	4 Years

Donald Buchler *Captain*
Kenneth Warren *Firefighter/Engineer*

Italicized staff members are no longer employed with the City of Mt Morris.

TRAINING DIVISION

The City of Mt Morris Fire Department has a strong commitment to proactive preparation for their personnel in any type of emergency they may encounter. The Training Division is head up by Assistant Chief Michael Vogt. Chief Vogt along with all the training officers believe in a life like approach to training to give their members the most realistic training experience possible helping them succeed on the fire ground. It has been proven that proper training is the number one reason for the successful outcome of any incident that a fire department handles.

The personnel of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department participated in approximately 1,235 hours of training for the year 2013. This was an increase from the 433 hours of training for the year of 2011. The training includes: classroom lecture, practical exercises, departmental meetings, and departmental work details. This averages out to approximately 24 hours of training activity per week for the calendar year of 2013. It is important to realize how high of a level of training hours this is for an on call fire department. Full time departments strive to achieve the average hours that our members commit towards the department and the community. This is one of the main reasons the City of Mt Morris Fire Department is a premiere fire department and is leading the way in progressive style training.

FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION

The City of Mt Morris Fire Departments prides itself in having one of the most successful and proactive Fire Prevention programs in the area. This division is supervised by Lt James Young. The fire prevention program focuses on educating young people in the community on the dangers of fire and other hazardous materials. This is accomplished by visiting the local schools, fire station tours, and many other community activities. It should also be noted all fire prevention activities are on a volunteer basis.

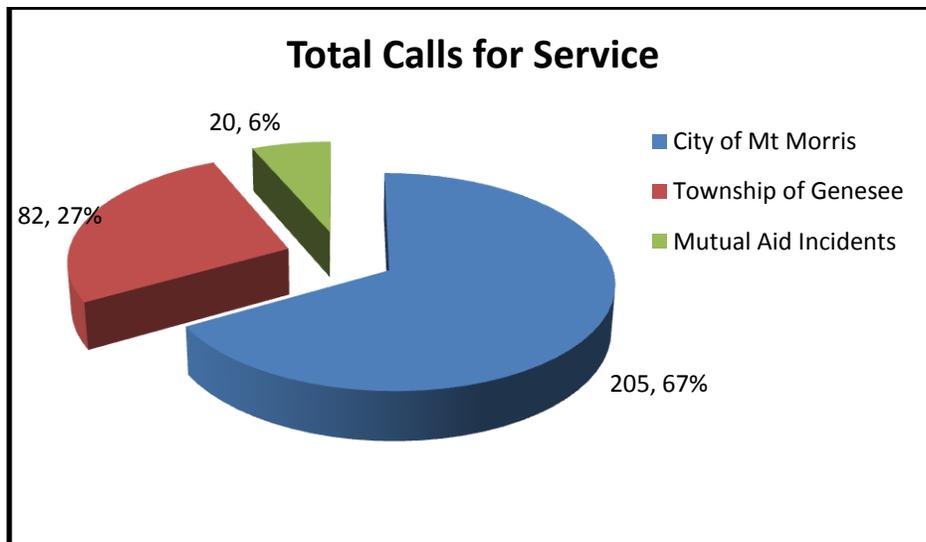
In 2013 the Fire Prevention Division taught approximately 20 individual classroom sessions in local schools in the City of Mt Morris Fire Department response area. The grades ranged from pre-school through second grade. Firefighters educated the students in a 30 to 45 minute lecture style sessions with some hands on exposure. Children were allowed to see firefighters in their full protective clothing and take a tour of the fire engine. These classroom sessions alone accounted for over 60 hours of fire prevention education. In addition to the classroom sessions several groups such as the SKIP program, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and local private pre-schools toured the fire station and received a valuable lesson in fire safety. The fire department also conducted monitored fire drills in all schools in the response district to ensure the children were exiting the building safely and answering any questions the staff members had to better prepare them for an emergency. Firefighters volunteered in many community events such as the annual Memorial Day and Homecoming Parades, Octoberfest, several ice cream socials, honored our fallen soldiers by place flags at the local cemeteries, and much more. The Fire Prevention Division logged over 190 hours of service to the community.

PRE-PLAN TASK FORCE

The City of Mt Morris Fire Department is committed to pre-planning for potential emergencies within its response district. Pre-planning allows the emergency to be more quickly and effectively mitigated by obtaining building layout and construction, egress points, utility shut offs, after hour contacts, and potential mutual aid companies. The Pre-Plan Task Force is supervised by Lt James Young. The Pre-Plan Task Force has pre-planned all major commercial buildings as well as 30 additional businesses within our response area. The Pre-Plan Task Force will continue to prepare for future emergencies to better protect the citizens in the response district of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

The City of Mt Morris Fire Department responded to 153 emergency and non-emergency incidents during the year of 2011. The calls for service are broken down into three categories: 1) Incidents within the City of Mt Morris. 2) Incidents within the Township of Genesee. 3) Mutual Aid Emergency Incidents.

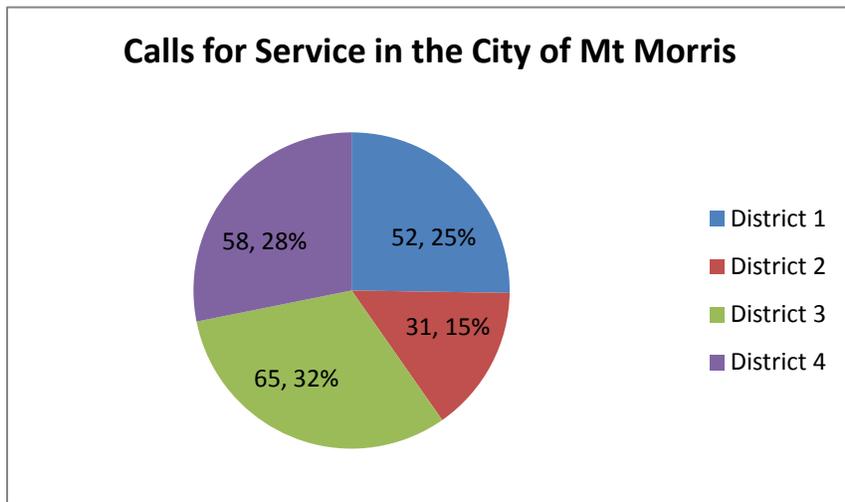
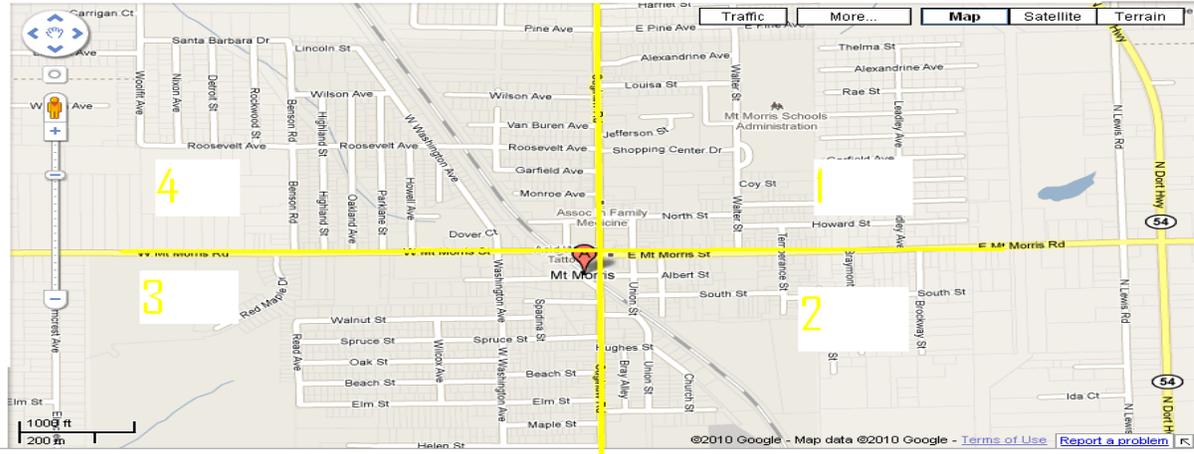


City of Mt Morris – 205 calls for service.
Township of Genesee – 82 calls for service.
Mutual Aid Incidents – 20 calls for service.

Calls for Service Comparison

	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008
City of Mt Morris	66	70	61	65	55
Genesee Township	65	63	56	43	50
Mutual Aid Incidents	17	20	19	19	18

Calls within the city limits are broken down into four different districts. N. Saginaw St. and Mt Morris Rd are the dividing lines as illustrated below. District 1 is the Northeast sector. District 2 is the Southeast sector. District 3 is the Southwest sector (including Rosewood Apartments). District 4 is the Northwest sector.



- District 1 – 52 incidents**
- District 2 – 31 incidents**
- District 3 – 65 incidents**
- District 4 – 58 incidents**

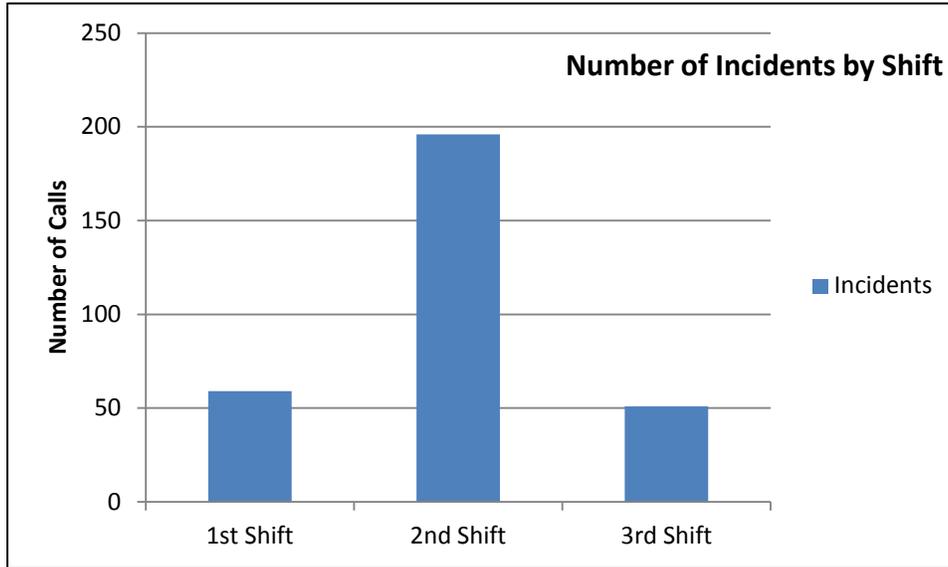
District 3, more popularly known as the “tree streets,” encompassed the majority of calls for service as illustrated in the above graph. It should also be noted any calls along N. Saginaw St and Mt Morris Rd were sorted into districts depending on which side of the road the incident occurred.

Calls are also broken down and studied according to the time of day the incident occurred. These times are divided as follows:

Shift 1 – 7:00AM – 3:00PM

Shift 2 – 3:00PM – 11:00PM

Shift 3 – 11:00PM – 7:00AM

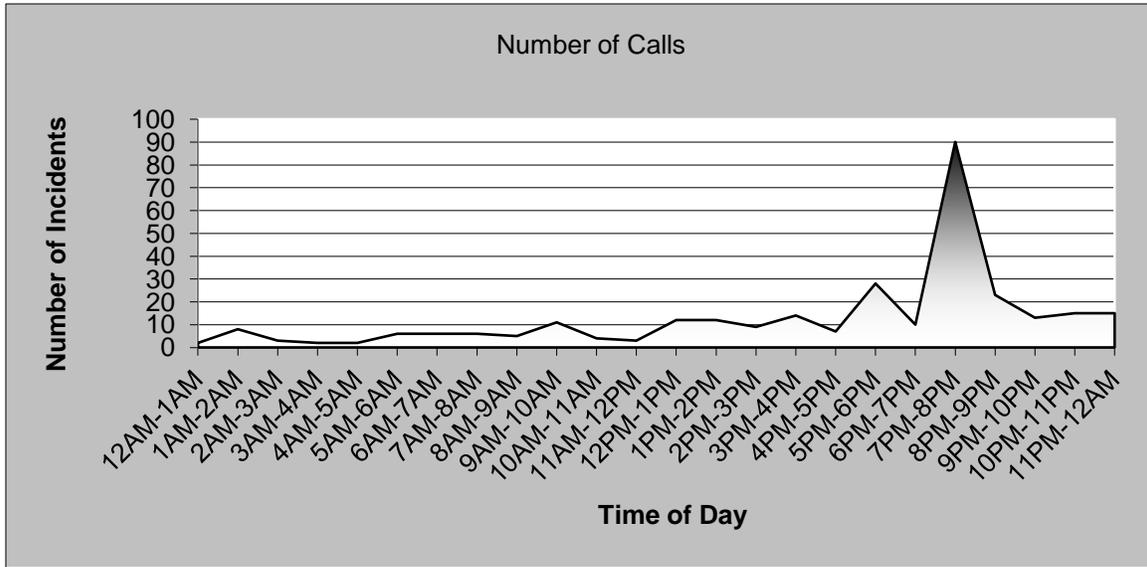


1st Shift – 59 calls for service

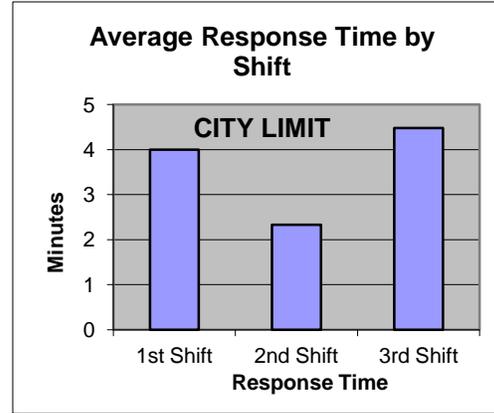
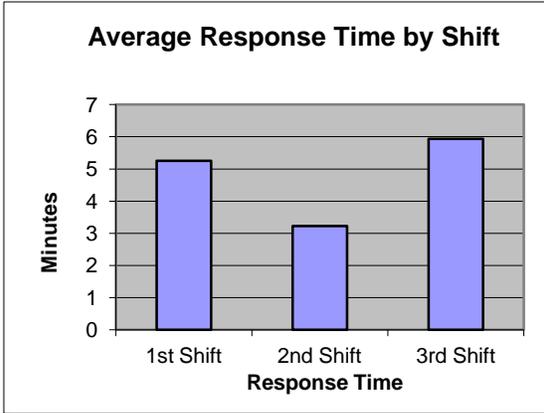
2nd Shift – 196 calls for service

3rd Shift – 51 calls for service

It is common across the nation for the majority of emergency and non-emergency calls to occur within the second shift time period. The City of Mt Morris Fire Department is no exception with the majority of calls falling between the hours of 3:00PM and 11:00PM. The graph below illustrates incident occurrence during each hour time period of the day.



According to the shift time table described above the average response time is calculated per shift. Keep in mind the time is recorded from the moment Genesee County Central Communications dispatches the City of Mt Morris Fire Department to the arrival of the first fire responder. The average response time for all three shifts combined is 4.07 minutes which has been reduced from previous times of 4.57. **Breaking down the times even further for responses within the City of Mt Morris the average response time is 2.82 minutes which has been reduced from previous times of 2.92.** This means on average there is a City of Mt Morris Fire Department emergency responder on-scene mitigating the emergency under five minutes from the time we were dispatched and for incidents inside the city limits there is a fire department emergency responder on-scene under three minutes. This is by far one of the best response times in Genesee County. We pride ourselves as a department in our response time so the public receives the quickest and best service possible. It is important for a timely response for all emergency and non-emergency incidents. Time is critical when responding to a building fire, especially if people are trapped inside. The size of fire doubles every 30 seconds; consequently a time period of 30 seconds can make the difference between a person sustaining only minor injuries, to a person perishing in a fire. A quick response is also critical when trying to protect and preserve the fire building or neighboring buildings that may be threatened by a fire.



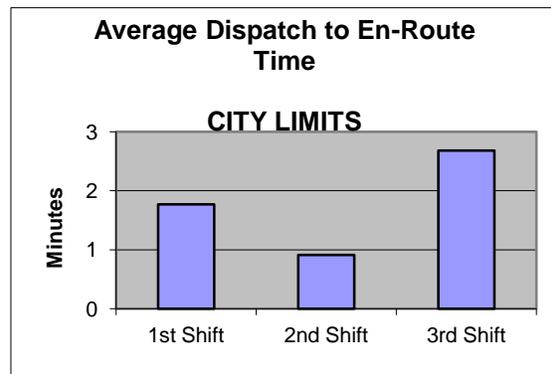
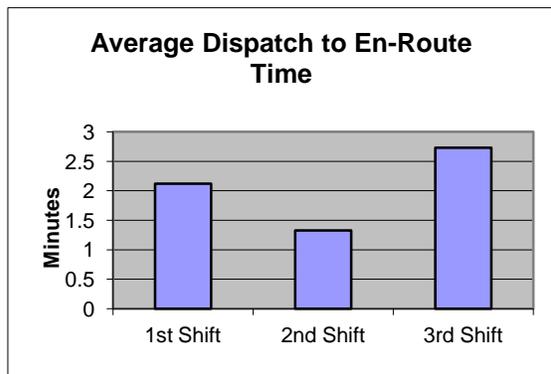
All Incidents

1st Shift – 5.25 minutes
2nd Shift – 3.22 minutes
3rd Shift – 5.94 minutes

Incidents inside the City limits

1st Shift – 4.00 minutes
2nd Shift – 2.33 minutes
3rd Shift – 4.48 minutes

The City of Mt Morris Fire Department also studies the time it takes for the first command officer to acknowledge the call for service or the first company officer to respond on the fire engine. The average dispatch to en-route time is 2.08 minutes. **Breaking down the times even further for responses within the City of Mt Morris the average dispatch to en-route time is 1.39 minutes.** This time is very quick if you factor all the variables the firefighters face when having leave their personal lives and respond to the incident.



All Incidents

1st Shift – 2.12 minutes
2nd Shift – 1.33 minutes
3rd Shift – 2.73 minutes

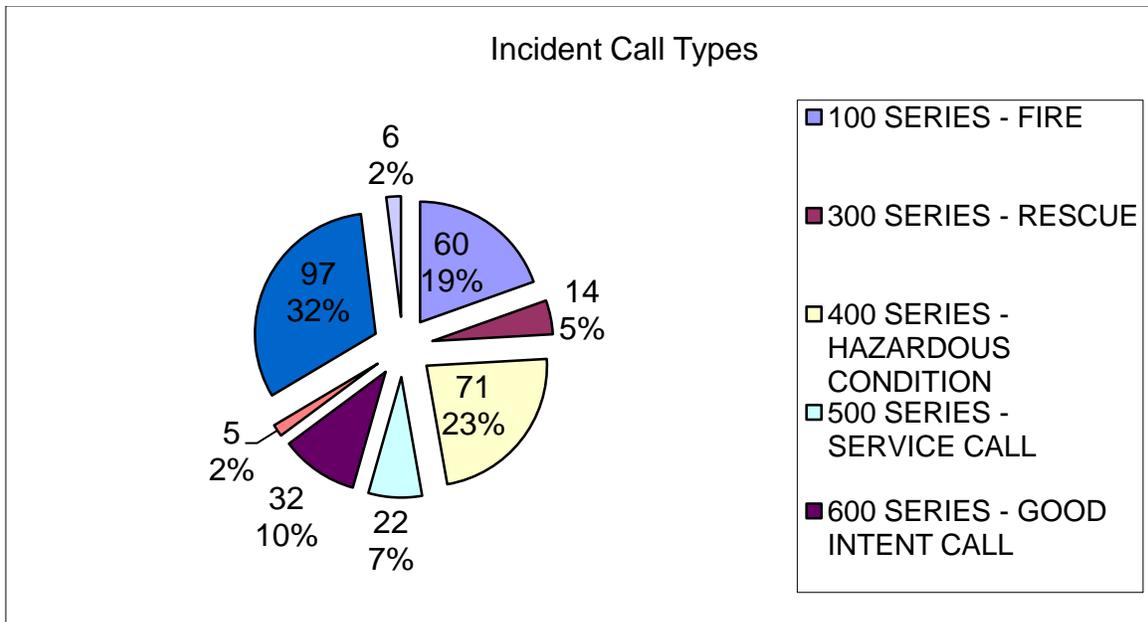
Incidents inside the City limits

1st Shift – 1.77 minutes
2nd Shift – 0.91 minutes
3rd Shift – 2.68 minutes

The City of Mt Morris Fire Department handles various types of emergency and non-emergency incidents. They range from a building fire to an illegal open burn and everything in between. The calls are broken down and formatted into a series of numbers to comply with the State of Michigan and national reporting systems. Listed below are the number series (please note call totals also reflect mutual aid incidents):

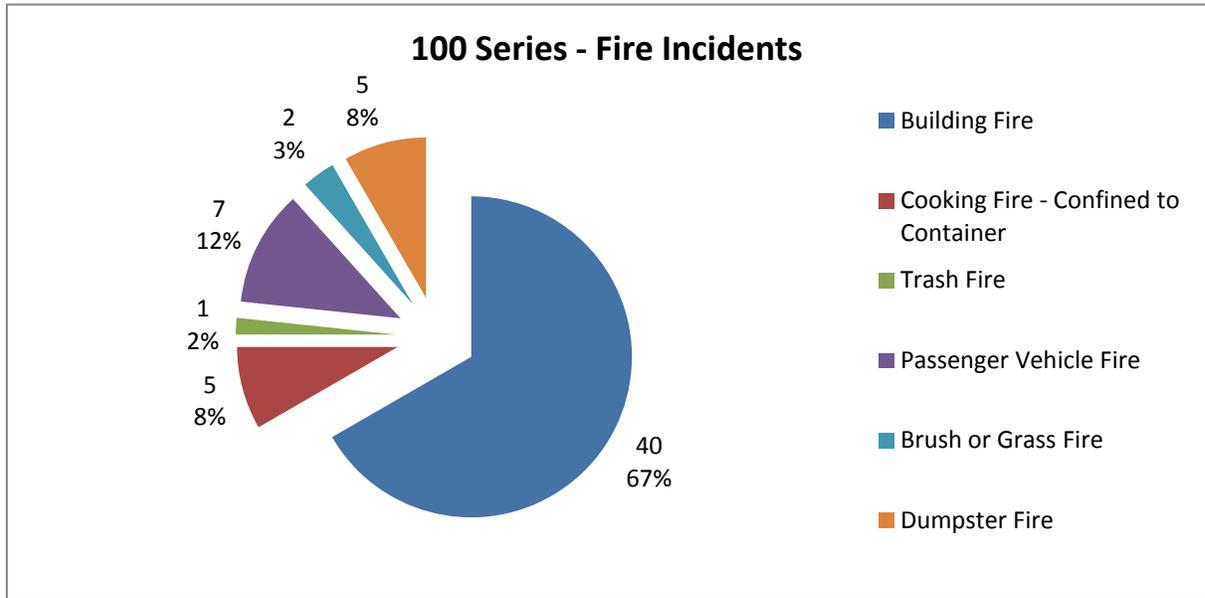
- 100 SERIES - FIRE
- 300 SERIES - RESCUE
- 400 SERIES - HAZARDOUS CONDITION
- 500 SERIES - SERVICE CALL
- 600 SERIES - GOOD INTENT CALL
- 700 SERIES - FALSE ALARMS/FALSE CALLS
- 800 SERIES - SEVERE WEATHER INCIDENTS
- 900 SERIES - SPEICAL INCIDENT TYPE

These series will be detailed and explained further down in the report.



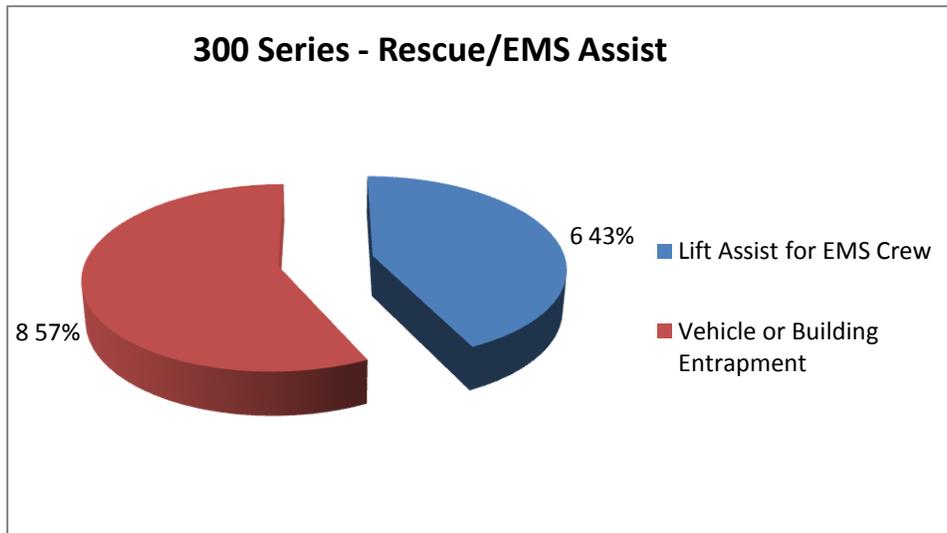
100 Series

The 100 series incorporates any type of actual fire related incident except open burn type calls. This includes building fires, vehicle fires, cooking fires, and other outside fires. This can be referred to as the “bread and butter” operations of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department. This series usually accounts for the highest amount of incidents that the fire department handles with the exemption of this year.



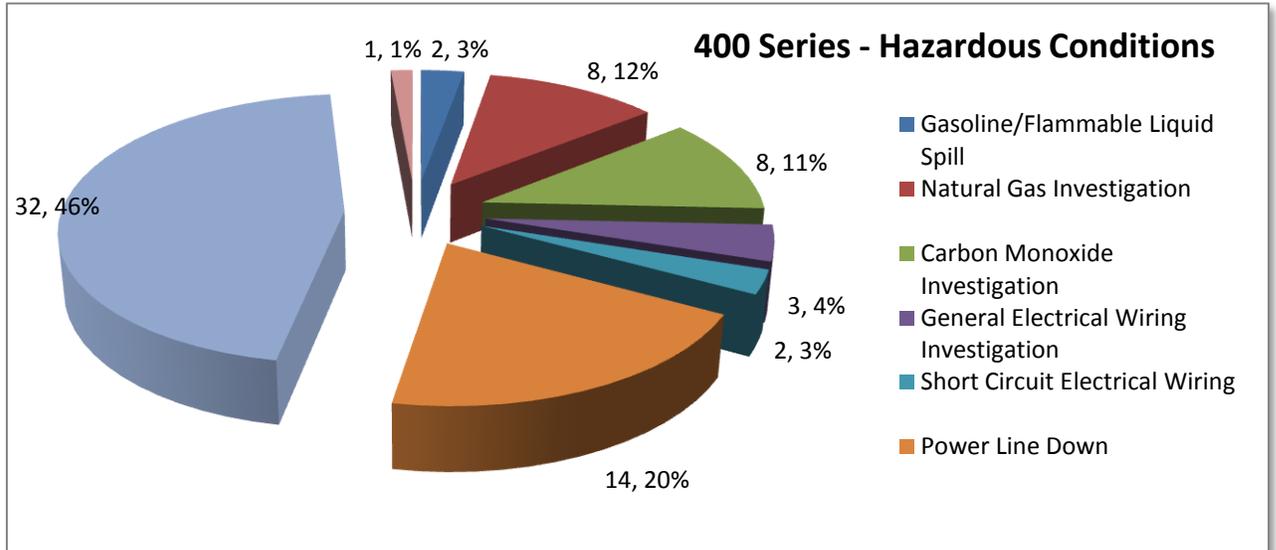
300 Series

The 300 series represents any type of rescue or medical assist calls handled by the fire department. This includes any type of lift assist when requested by an ambulance company, vehicle entrapment, or any general rescue.



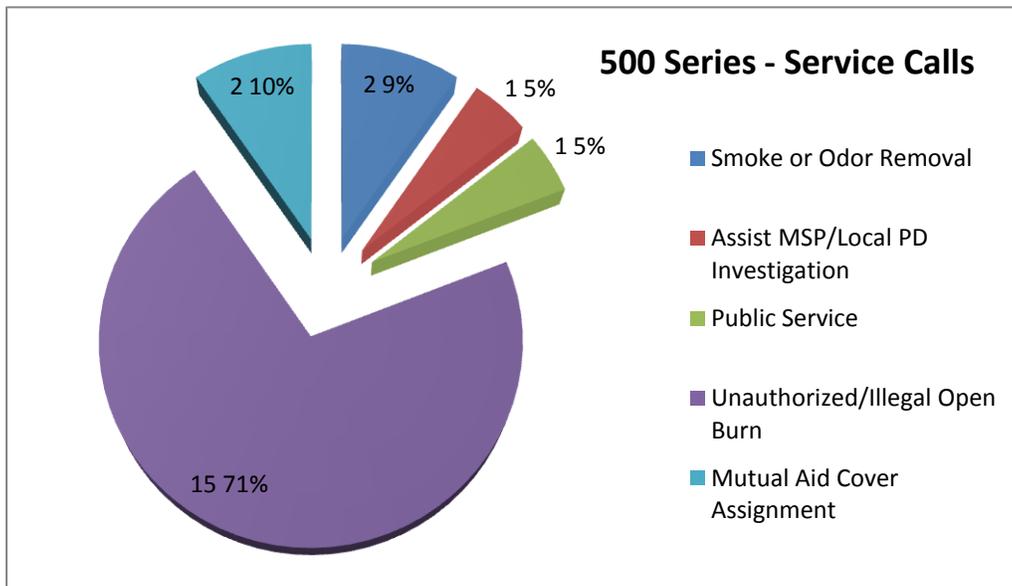
400 Series

The 400 series relates to any type of hazardous condition that the public requires assistance. This includes any type of HAZMAT incidents, natural gas leaks, fluid spills that may cause environmental damage, and utility line incidents.



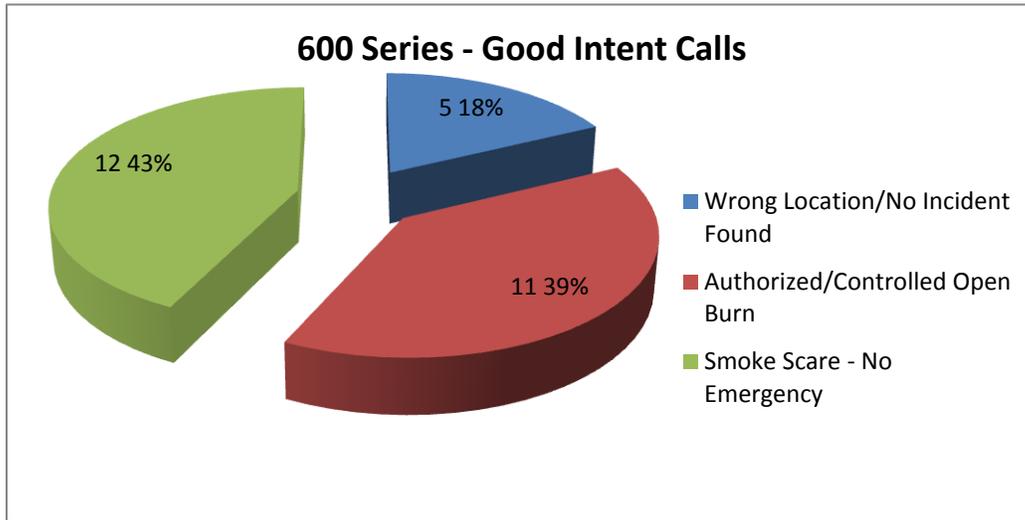
500 Series

The 500 series relates to any type of non-emergency service related calls. This mainly consists of unauthorized/illegal open burns and move up assignments when providing mutual aid to other fire departments in time of need.



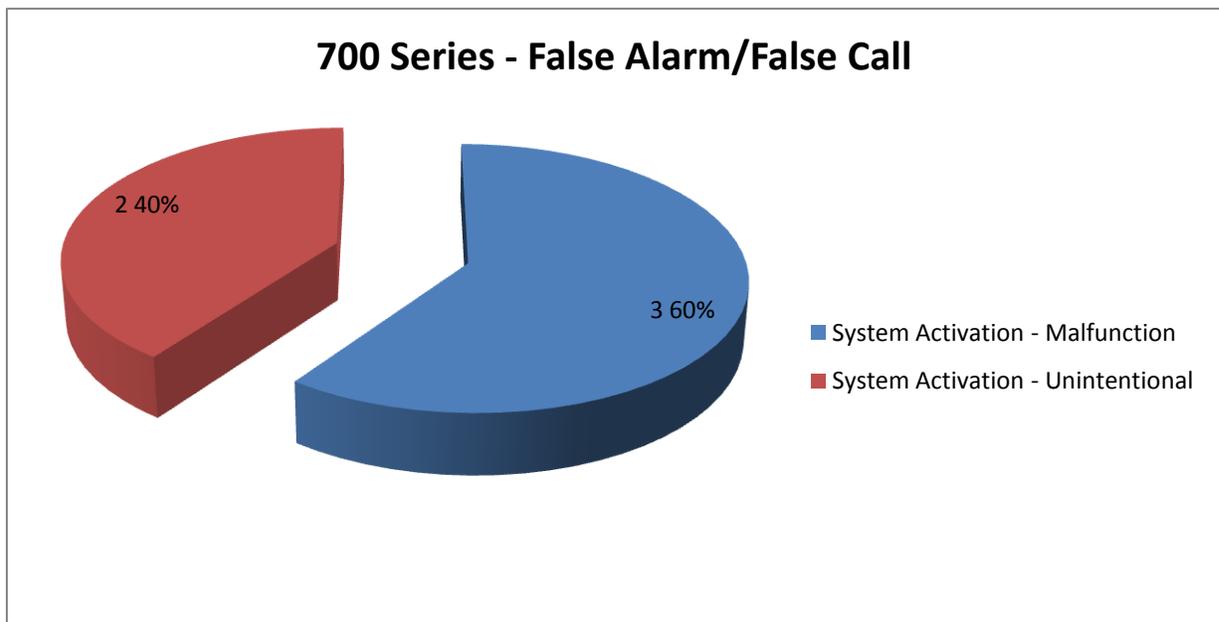
600 Series

The 600 series refers to incidents where the fire department was dispatched for an emergency but after the course of the investigation it was determined to be a false call or a non-emergency call of some type or another. This usually refers authorized/legal open burning, odor of smoke with no fire present, or any type of vapor that was thought to be smoke but in reality was caused by current weather conditions.



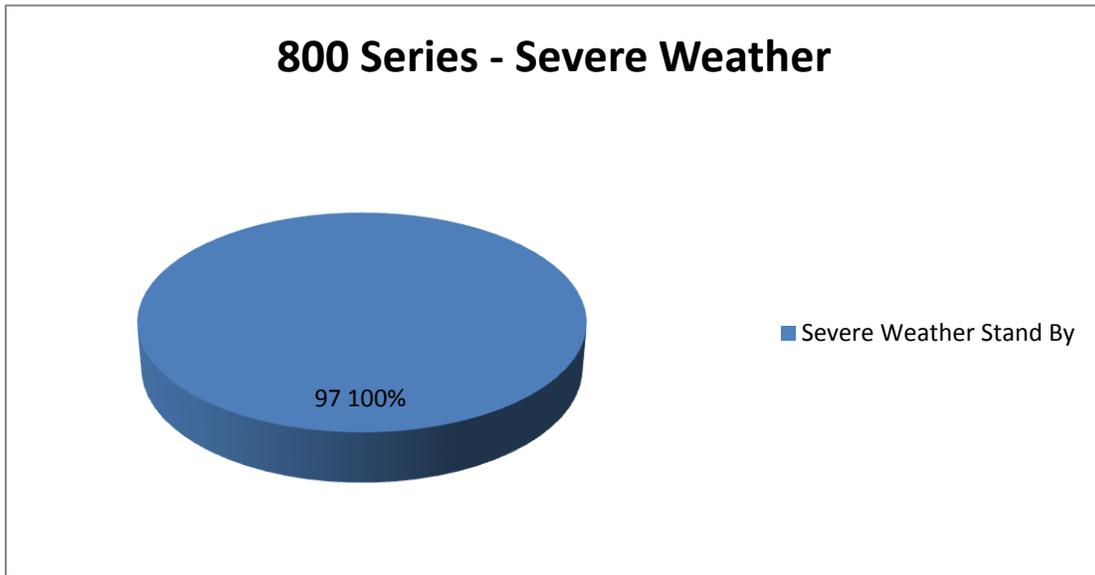
700 Series

The 700 series is referred to as the false alarm and false call section. This section encompasses any type of fire alarm system activations where there was no emergency found after the course of the investigation and any type of false bomb scare incidents.



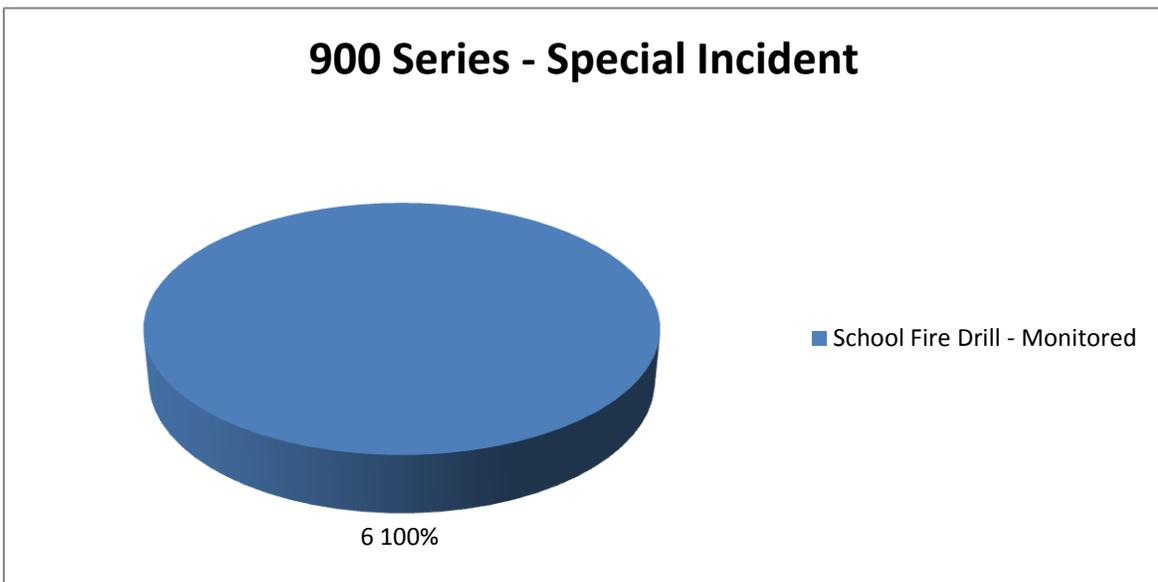
800 Series

The 800 series refers to incidents pertaining to severe weather or natural disaster. The most common types of incidents generated by severe weather are potential lightning strikes, dangerous and hazardous storm debris removal, and tornado warnings.



900 Series

The 900 series relates to any type of call that is a special incident. This is most commonly used for any type of police related emergency assist and when the City of Mt Morris Fire Department conducts monitored fire drills of the local schools.



Major Incident Case Review

The following incidents were determined to be major emergency incidents that fell within the response area of the City of Mt Morris Fire Department or any mutual aid incident where the City of Mt Morris Fire Department played a key role. The incidents will be highlighted below with a summary of events that took place.

Major Incident List

1. March 19, 2013 – Dwelling Fire
2. May 28, 2013 – Beecher Tornado
3. June 17, 2013 – Severe Storm

10000 Block of Katazafogle Dr

Date of incident: March 19, 2013

Time of incident: 5:09PM

Incident Summary – The City of Mt Morris Fire Department was dispatched to the report of a residential structure fire in Dutch Village Mobile Home Park with a possible victim trapped inside.

All equipment responded to this incident with then Assistant Fire Chief Damon Tobias as the incident commander. The City of Mt Morris crew worked aggressively to search the interior of the dwelling for the reported trapped victim. Shortly after arrival the victim was located and rescued from the building. The victim was worked on by EMS crews but later perished from their injuries at Hurley Medical Center. Mutual aid was received from the Genesee Township Fire Department.

This Michigan State Police Fire Investigation Division investigated the fire and was unable to determine a cause.

Beecher District

Date of incident: May 28, 2013

Time of incident: 9:18PM

Incident Summary – The City of Mt Morris Fire Department was dispatched to assist with victim rescue from the tornado that touched down in the Beecher District.

All equipment responded to this incident with then Captain Michael Vogt as the team leader who reported to the incident commander Fire Chief Steve McClain from the Genesee Township Fire Department. City of Mt Morris crews worked hand in hand with crews from Genesee Township assisting with rescue victims trapped in their homes and ensuring all medical personnel could reach victims. This was a great team effort which many thanks were given by the citizens and fire personnel from Genesee Township. Fortunately the City was spared from any significant damage.

Entire Response Area

Date of incident: June 17, 2013

Time of incident: 7:00PM

Incident Summary – The City of Mt Morris Fire Department was dispatched for numerous power lines down, trees down, and dwellings with structural damage.

All equipment responded to this incident with Assistant Fire Chief Michael Vogt as the incident commander. It was quickly recognized the vast size and complexity of this incident and fire department headquarters was established as the command post. The department along with assistance from the Genesee Township Fire Department responded to over 100 calls for service in a four hour time frame. This was one of the largest severe storms to hit the City in some time. Within two hours all trees that were down making roadways impassable were opened to allow emergency vehicle traffic. By the completion of the incident fire personnel made hundreds of resident contacts ensuring they were okay and offered them Red Cross or medical services.

The City of Mt Morris Fire Department strives to be the best of the best. Day in and day out this department sets the tone of professionalism and integrity for all those in the fire service. This department will continue to be one of the most progressive fire departments in the area by protecting and minimizing the loss of life and property, educating the public to the dangers of fire related incidents and responding to any call of service that is required.

Respectfully submitted;
Assistant Chief Michael Vogt #108
City of Mt Morris Fire Department