

**A PROVISIONAL REPORT**  
**ON-DUTY FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES IN THE UNITED STATES**  
**Date Range 1/1/2008 to 12/31/2008**

**Number of On-Duty Firefighter Fatalities: 114**  
**Count of Hometown Heroes: 9**

**Classification:**

56 Volunteer 49.1%  
30 Career 26.3%  
13 Wildland Contract 11.4%  
4 Part-Time(Paid) 3.50%  
4 Paid-on-Call 3.50%  
4 Wildland Part-Time 3.50%  
3 Wildland Full-Time 2.63%

**Number of Multiple Firefighter Fatality Incidents: 5**  
**Number of Firefighter Fatalities Associated with Wildland Incidents 26**

**Type of Duty:**

31 On-Scene Fire 27.1%  
29 Other On-Duty 25.4%  
19 Responding 16.6%  
12 On-Scene Non-Fire 10.5%  
11 After 9.64%  
9 Training 7.89%  
2 Returning 1.75%  
1 Other 0.87%

**Percent of Fatalities Related to Emergency Duty: 64.9%**  
**Number of firefighter fatalities associated with incendiary fires: 2**

**Type of Incident:**

37 Not Incident Related 32.4%  
31 Structure Fire 27.1%  
22 Wildland 19.2%  
12 MVA 10.5%  
4 EMS 3.50%  
4 Other 3.50%  
2 Vehicle Fire 1.75%  
1 Tech Rescue 0.87%  
1 Rescue/Extrication 0.87%

**Cause of Fatal Injury:**

50 Stress/Overexertion 43.8%  
29 Vehicle Collision 25.4%  
14 Struck by 12.2%  
10 Caught/Trapped 8.77%  
3 Fall 2.63%  
2 Collapse 1.75%  
2 Unknown 1.75%  
1 Lost 0.87%  
1 Assault 0.87%  
0 Terrorist Attack  
1 Contact with 0.87%  
1 Other 0.87%

**Nature of Fatal Injury:**

47 Trauma 41.2%  
46 Heart Attack 40.3%  
7 Asphyxiation 6.14%  
4 Burns 3.50%  
4 CVA 3.50%  
2 Violence 1.75%  
2 Unknown 1.75%  
1 Electrocution 0.87%  
1 Other 0.87%

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

6 - Under 21  
13 - 21 to 25  
9 - 26 to 30  
23 - 31 to 40  
28 - 41 to 50  
15 - 51 to 60  
20 - 61 and Over

**Percent of Firefighter Fatalities Under Age 40: 41.2%**

**Type of Activity:**

50 Not On Scene 43.8%  
19 Responding 16.6%  
14 Advance Hose Lines 12.2%  
7 Other 6.14%  
5 Unknown 4.38%  
5 Unknown 4.38%  
4 Scene Safety 3.50%  
3 S&R 2.63%  
3 IC 2.63%  
2 Support 1.75%  
1 Extrication 0.87%  
1 Ventilation 0.87%

**Time of Fatal Injury:**

4 0100-0259  
1 0300-0459  
11 0500-0659  
9 0700-0859  
9 0900-1059  
12 1100-1259  
8 1300-1459  
13 1500-1659  
11 1700-1859  
18 1900-2059  
4 2100-2259  
4 2300-0059  
10 Unknown

**Month of the Year:**

13 January 11.4%  
12 February 10.5%  
11 March 9.64%  
10 April 8.77%  
6 May 5.26%  
7 June 6.14%  
11 July 9.64%  
15 August 13.1%  
7 September 6.14%  
4 October 3.50%  
10 November 8.77%  
8 December 7.01%

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

2 Alabama 1.75%  
1 Arkansas 0.87%  
2 Arizona 1.75%  
8 California 7.01%  
3 Colorado 2.63%  
1 Delaware 0.87%  
2 Florida 1.75%  
2 Georgia 1.75%  
6 Illinois 5.26%  
2 Indiana 1.75%  
1 Kentucky 0.87%  
3 Louisiana 2.63%  
3 Maryland 2.63%  
1 Maine 0.87%  
2 Michigan 1.75%  
1 Minnesota 0.87%  
6 Missouri 5.26%  
3 Mississippi 2.63%  
5 Montana 4.38%  
11 North Carolina 9.64%  
2 New Jersey 1.75%  
1 New Mexico 0.87%  
7 New York 6.14%  
6 Ohio 5.26%  
1 Oklahoma 0.87%  
9 Oregon 7.89%  
9 Pennsylvania 7.89%  
2 Rhode Island 1.75%  
1 South Carolina 0.87%  
4 Texas 3.50%  
1 Virginia 0.87%  
1 Virgin Islands 0.87%  
2 Washington 1.75%  
2 Wisconsin 1.75%  
1 West Virginia 0.87%

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

2 Alabama 1.75%  
1 Arkansas 0.87%  
2 Arizona 1.75%  
18 California 15.7%  
4 Colorado 3.50%  
1 Delaware 0.87%  
2 Florida 1.75%  
2 Georgia 1.75%  
6 Illinois 5.26%  
2 Indiana 1.75%  
1 Kentucky 0.87%  
3 Louisiana 2.63%  
3 Maryland 2.63%  
1 Maine 0.87%  
2 Michigan 1.75%  
1 Minnesota 0.87%  
6 Missouri 5.26%  
3 Mississippi 2.63%  
1 Montana 0.87%  
11 North Carolina 9.64%  
2 New Jersey 1.75%  
1 New Mexico 0.87%  
3 Nevada 2.63%  
7 New York 6.14%  
6 Ohio 5.26%  
1 Oklahoma 0.87%  
1 Oregon 0.87%  
9 Pennsylvania 7.89%  
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4 Texas 3.50%  
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2 Wisconsin 1.75%  
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