



Wausau Fire Department 2021 Annual Report

“I didn’t get a chance to thank the paramedics and firefighters that helped my dad. You guys do excellent work and I thank you so much for saving my dad.”

- Grateful Resident

City of Wausau
Katie Rosenberg, Mayor
Becky McElhaney, Council President

Wausau City Council

PATRICK PECKHAM
First Aldermanic District

MICHAEL MARTENS
Second Aldermanic District

TOM KILIAN
Third Aldermanic District

TOM NEAL
Fourth Aldermanic District

JIM WADINSKI
Fifth Aldermanic District

BECKY MCELHANEY
Sixth Aldermanic District



LISA RASMUSSEN
Seventh Aldermanic District

SARAH WATSON
Eighth Aldermanic District

DAWN HERBST
Ninth Aldermanic District

LOU LARSON
Tenth Aldermanic District

DEBRA RYAN
Eleventh Aldermanic District

WAUSAU POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

William Harris, Chair (4/26)
Cheryl Bahr, Commissioner (4/23)
William Graef, Commissioner (4/24)
Michael Loy, Commissioner (4/25)
Kathy Strasser, Commissioner (4/27)



**WAUSAU FIRE FIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
LOCAL 415**

Adam Rahn, President
Maxxwel Nowitzke, Vice-President
Cody Wiesman, Secretary/Treasurer
Shahn Kariger, Member at Large

Wausau Fire Department Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Wausau Fire Department to provide rapid, professional, emergency services to protect and enhance our community.

Wausau Fire Department Vision Statement

Excellence in service to our community through best practices, innovation, and a positive attitude, the Wausau Fire Department strives to operate under these guiding principles:

- ❖ *Our philosophy is excellence in every aspect of our work. We strive to be a positive role model and leader in the fire service as well as maintaining community involvement.*
- ❖ *Our employees are inspired to cultivate a lasting and rewarding career. This is accomplished through recognition of outstanding contributions made by employees. In addition, every employee has the opportunity to develop and thrive professionally and personally.*
- ❖ *Community partnerships are vital to short and long term success. We will nurture and develop constructive relationships with business owners, residents, and officials, as well as our public safety partners.*
- ❖ *Every day, and at every opportunity, we will be THE positive influence in the lives of others.*
- ❖ *We are a highly effective, efficient, and adaptive organization. We are responsible, make a difference, and will contribute our efforts toward building a sustainable community.*
- ❖ *We will serve our community with pride, which is reflected in our high quality service and commitment to excellence.*

Wausau Fire Department Values

- Professionalism – We choose to take pride in our work, communicate effectively, project a positive image, and deliver service at the highest standards every time, in every situation.
- Accountability – We accept responsibility and take ownership of our actions.
- Integrity – We act ethically, honestly and lead by having our actions reflect our word.
- Respect – We choose to treat everyone the way we would like to be treated.
- Compassion – We recognize individuals stricken by misfortune and take actions to alleviate their pain as we serve them with kindness and understanding.





Wausau Fire Department

2021 BY THE NUMBERS

POPULATION 38,735	AREA SERVED 18.9 Sq. Miles	CALL VOLUME 6,490	UNIT RESPONSES 10,055	FIRE STATIONS 3	TOTAL PERSONNEL 54 Ops / 8 Admin
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STRUCTURE FIRES 47 VEHICLE FIRES 10 BRUSH/GRASS FIRES 14 FIRE ALARM ACTIVATIONS 262 ELECTRICAL CALLS 35	MEDICAL/1ST RESPONDER 5,782 TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS 152 EXTRICATIONS 5 HAZMAT SPILLS/LEAKS 47 PUBLIC ASSISTANCE 114	COMMUNITY IMPACT 4,304 Adults & 4,937 Children TOTAL INCIDENT HOURS 5336:07:23 TRAINING HOURS 13,917.94 Hours #1 MEDICAL DISPATCH Falls – 781 Incidents MUTUAL/AUTO AID GIVEN 307 MUTUAL AID RECEIVED 14	BUSIEST STATION Station 1 – 2,667 Calls BUSIEST CREW C Crew – 2,272 Calls BUSIEST UNIT Med 1 – 1,939 Calls BUSIEST MONTH December – 590 Calls BUSIEST DAY Wed – 1,021 Calls BUSIEST TIME 12 PM (Noon)
UNIT TURNOUT TIME PERFORMANCE (STATION NOTIFICATION – UNIT ENROUTE) 2 Minutes 18 Seconds / 90% OF THE TIME	UNIT TRAVEL TIME PERFORMANCE (UNIT ENROUTE – UNIT ARRIVAL) 6 Minutes 28 Seconds / 90% OF THE TIME		
SAVE CALCULATION (WHAT IS AT RISK – WHAT IS LOST – WHAT IS SAVED) \$4,828,020 – \$485,371 = \$4,342,649	PERFORMANCE CALCULATION (SAVED / RISK / SAVE PERCENTAGE) \$4,342,649 / \$4,828,020 = 89.95%		

MISSION

It is the mission of the Wausau Fire Department to provide rapid, professional, emergency services to protect and enhance our community.

CORE VALUES

Professionalism - We choose to take pride in our work, communicate effectively, project a positive image, and deliver service at the highest standards every time, in every situation.

Accountability - We accept responsibility and take ownership for our actions.

Integrity - We act ethically, honestly, and lead by example by having our actions reflect our word.

Respect - We choose to treat everyone the way we would like to be treated.

Compassion - We recognize individuals stricken by misfortune and take action to alleviate their pain as we serve them with kindness and understanding.



2021 Fire Chief Report

We are proud to present the 2021 annual report of the operations and activities of the Wausau Fire Department. 2021 was a challenging and rewarding year for our organization. We continued to navigate a second year of the pandemic and found the new normal for EMS operations within the constraints of safety protocols. Despite the ongoing pandemic and recruitment difficulties, the department continued to improve the quality of care and timely response.

Following the retirement of Chief Tracey Kujawa on April 1st, I was honored to be appointed as Interim Fire Chief. The Police and Fire Commission conducted a nationwide search for the next Chief. I was humbled to be chosen as the 12th Fire Chief in the department's history and was appointed on June 2nd. This opened the Deputy Chief position, and Jeremy Kopp was chosen. This caused a series of promotions within the department through all the ranks. With many new leaders in the organization, it has been an exciting year.

Once appointed to Chief, I began studying our operations and measuring against national fire and EMS service benchmarks. I also met with all the staff to learn their greatest needs and areas on which I need to focus my attention. Through that process, I have identified three areas of concern that we are focusing our work on: staffing, mental health/wellness of the staff, and aging infrastructure (stations). We continue to work on these three areas of concern and have progressed in all three areas.

2021 was the busiest year in the department's 153-year history, and this report provides insight into many data points that we monitor. EMS remains the bulk of the department workload, and EMS Division Chief Jared Thompson provides some interesting data in his portion of this report. The department also had an uptick in structure fires last year, which Deputy Chief Jeremy Kopp lays out in the operations data. Training Division Chief Dave Briggs continues to find new ways to improve our training and preparedness and details many of the successes in his portion of this report. Under the leadership of Fire Marshal Brian Stahl, the Prevention Division continues to work collaboratively with community business leaders to ensure code compliance.

The continual climb in organizational excellence is not easy. Despite the hurdles in our path with the ongoing pandemic, short staffing, and aging infrastructure, the men and women of this department remain steadfast in their commitment to selfless service and stand ready to meet the community's needs.

In closing, I want to thank the Wausau community for their continued support of our organization. Every day we received thank you notes, baked goods, and other expressions of appreciation for our organization. This means a great deal to our staff and motivates us to continue our organizational mission.

Thank you,

Robert Barteck – Fire Chief

Fire Chief Tracey Kujawa

In January of 2021, Fire Chief Tracey Kujawa announced her retirement would be April 1st. Her impact on this department and the community is monumental. In 2014 when she took over as Chief, she began the long and arduous job of rebuilding a department. At that time, the department needed strong leadership to set a clear vision for the future and bring up operational standards to acceptable benchmarks. Her hard work and dedication to continuous quality improvement will forever benefit the Wausau community.



Hired 05/12/2014
Retired 04/01/2021

2021 Deputy Chief's Operations Report

Personnel:

In 2021 the Wausau Fire Department has seen a lot of changes in personnel with promotions, retirements, and new hires.

Retirements

Lieutenant James Whitehead	2/6/2021
Chief Tracey Kujawa	4/1/2021
Lieutenant Christopher Barber	7/6/2021

Promotions

Firefighter/Inspector Brad Ludwig	1/11/2021
Lieutenant Brian Bauknecht	2/7/2021
Chief Robert Barteck	6/8/2021
Lieutenant Shane Woller	9/7/2021
Battalion Chief Timothy Bingham	9/10/2021
Lieutenant Chad Eberle	9/10/2021
Deputy Chief Jeremy Kopp	9/13/2021
Engineer Jerrod Christensen	9/17/2021
Engineer Mark Koepke	9/21/2021

Years of Service Milestones

Lieutenant Patrick Moucha	30 Years
Engineer William Resch	25 Years
Engineer Robert Rode	25 Years
Engineer Thomas Hanke	25 Years
Fire Marshal Brian Stahl	20 Years
Lieutenant Chad Eberle	20 Years
Engineer Nicholas Gehring	15 Years
Lieutenant of Inspections Shahn Kariger	10 Years
Lieutenant Shane Woller	10 Years
Lieutenant Quinn Ambrosius	10 Years
Firefighter/Paramedic Corey Parsch	5 Years
Firefighter/Paramedic Dylan Pries	5 Years
Firefighter/Paramedic Austin Kraimer	5 Years
Firefighter/Paramedic Adam Rahn	5 Years

2021 Deputy Chief's Operations Report

New Hires

Firefighter/Paramedic Nathan Clark	6/4/2021
Firefighter/Paramedic Collin Elertson	6/4/2021
Firefighter/Paramedic James Truckey	6/4/2021
Firefighter/Paramedic Tanner Bemke	8/9/2021
Firefighter/Paramedic John Hamann	10/18/2021

Fleet:

In 2021, we retired Engine 3 and Engine 4 while taking delivery of two brand new Sutphen Engines. The two new engines arrived in April and were quickly put in service and training went out to the entire department on the operations of these engines. The new design and configuration of these engines help with maneuverability on city streets as well as deployment of tools and handlines on fire scenes. These engines are also equipped with many more features for the safety of our personnel as well as meeting national standards. Some of these features are brighter LED lighting and reflective markings for visibility. Integrated air bags, ergonomics and cameras to name a few.

We also saw the decommissioning of Truck 2 which was a 1984 Pierce aerial truck for safety concerns. While we are thankful for the many good years of service these vehicles rendered us, we are even more excited for the future with an expected delivery of a Sutphen quint ladder truck in spring of 2022. This truck will be stationed at station 2 and will serve as a much needed second ladder truck serving the west side of the city. All three of these rigs are much needed in the aspect of meeting NFPA guidelines as well as maintaining our ISO 2 rating and working towards our goal of an ISO 1 rating.

Buildings and grounds:

Spring and fall maintenance on heating and cooling systems is done every season in conjunction with Leo Gau and the other city buildings. This also includes maintenance of the emergency generators and sprinkler system at station 2. Station 2 has a snow plowing and removal contract with Revi Design. Station 2 was also used as a community warming shelter for a few nights following a snow/windstorm that knocked out power to many city residents. Central fire received a much-needed remodel in the 2nd floor dorm and locker room as well as some office updates. Station 1 and station 3 were upgraded to the new G2 alerting system putting them in line with station 2.

Station Information

Central Fire Station

2,667 Incidents

Central Fire Station is located at 606 E. Thomas Street, Wausau, WI. It houses Car 1 (Chief's vehicle), Car 2 (Incident Command), Car 6 (Deputy Chief's vehicle), Truck 1, Engine 1, Med 1, Rescue 1, Med 4, Med 5, Car 5, three Inspection vehicles, Utility 1, Water Rescue Boat, Airboat, and Inflatable Rapid Deployment Craft.



Of the 18 line crew on each of our 3 crews, 10 of those are stationed at Central Fire. This includes, one Battalion Chief, one Lieutenant, 2 Engineers, and six Firefighter/Paramedics.

Wausau Fire's Administrative staff is also stationed at Central Fire and includes the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, Training Division Chief, EMS Division Chief, Lieutenant of Inspections, Firefighter/Inspector and one Administrative Assistant.

Station Information

Station 2

1,832 Incidents

Station 2 is located at 3017 Seymour Lane, Wausau, WI. It houses Engine 2, Med 2, Engine 4, and the Hazardous Materials Truck and Trailer.



Of the 18 line crew on each of our 3 crews, 4 of those are stationed at Station 2. This includes one Lieutenant, one Engineer, and two Firefighter/Paramedics.

Station 3

1,991 Incidents

Station 3 is located at 800 E. Bridge Street, Wausau, WI. It houses Engine 3, and Med 3.



Of the 18 line crew on each of our 3 crews, 4 of those are stationed at Station 3. This includes one Lieutenant, one Engineer, and two Firefighter/Paramedics.

2021 Training Division Chief's Report

"It's all to do with the training; you can do a lot if you are properly trained." – Queen Elizabeth II

Before we get to the year in review, I would like to thank our members for their selfless dedication and effort to serve the community. In 2021, our members logged 10,296 hours of fire and rescue specific training. This does not include EMS training covered in the EMS report. The time invested is tremendous as a measurement; however, it does not even begin to depict the all-in effort and lessons learned throughout the year.

Thank you.

TDC Dave Briggs

2021 was a year of incredible growth, development, and training within the Wausau Fire Department. This was our first full year with a position dedicated to fire and rescue training to ensure safety, compliance, and consistency in our efforts. An annual training calendar that met our community and organizational needs, Wisconsin statute SPS 330, and National Fire Protection Association standards was implemented and followed to ensure we serve to the best of our abilities.

A new software program was purchased and implemented in April of 2021 to assist in the delivery of training. Vector Solutions learning management software allows us to create, schedule, assign, track, and report our training activities. Prior to this, training was recorded in a fire/rescue report software and was not fully functional for training. Vector Solutions has revolutionized how we are able to provide/record training and improve consistency throughout the organization

NAME	DUE DATE
Officer ISO Compliance	Dec 31, 2022
Emergency Services Instructor I (Hours) WI State Fire Certification Hours (License)	Dec 31, 2022
WI - Paramedic EMS	Jun 30, 2023
Annual Respiratory Protection Fit Testing Assignment	Jan 31, 2022
Drill - Air Management Assignment	Jan 31, 2022
Engineer Drill - Emergency Vehicle General Requirements Assignment	Jan 31, 2022
WFD Drill - Minor Equipment Maintenance Assignment	Jan 31, 2022

"Unmatched Dedication"

[Intellitime Calendar](#)

RECORD ACTIVITIES BELOW

If none of the following quick links apply, use Self-Assign and select the appropriate activity.

- Station Maintenance
- VEHICLE / EQUIPMENT CHECKS
- Vehicle / Equipment Maintenance
- FIREFIGHTER FITNESS
- MEETINGS
- RECORD INSTRUCTOR HOURS
- PUBLIC EDUCATION
- INSPECTIONS
- POST INCIDENT ANALYSIS
- WATER USE LOG
- OTHER ACTIVITIES

RECORD TRAINING BELOW

2021 Training Division Chief's Report

Partnerships

A great deal of training wouldn't be possible without partnerships in the city and throughout the community. The following entities provided either supplies, buildings, or other support functions for fire and rescue training: the Wausau Police Department, Wausau Community Development, Northcentral Technical College, Kolbe & Kolbe, Wausau Chemical, and others. Thank you so much for supporting the Wausau Fire Department and our mission.

Recruit Academy

When vacancies are created in the organization, new members are hired through our posted hiring process. Five new members were hired to fill vacancies in 2021. When these new hires begin employment, they undergo a training process we term the "recruit academy." This academy includes fire and EMS training that takes firefighters from their basic state certification and licensures and introduces them to policies, procedures, and practices used in Wausau. As part of the process, new hires begin to learn about the community, how we respond, our mission, and our core values. Each new hire is mentored in all aspects of the profession from their first day through the station doors.

An incredibly notable aspect of a recruit's training starts with a meeting with the chief staff to talk about personal health, growth, leadership, and followership. Part of the probationary period (first year) includes a reading assignment of two books to help recruits form a perspective of the profession. The first book is *Pride and Ownership* by Rick Lasky. This book describes the intense devotion to serve and live with integrity in all aspects of life, not just in the workplace. The second book is *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie. In Mr. Carnegie's book, the reader is given instruction on how to lead through respectful, intentional, interactions. Growth as a person and responder is at the foundation of our mission to serve.



2021 Training Division Chief's Report

Firefighting (Suppression)

Fire suppression training involves dozens, if not hundreds, of skills coming together to prepare for the event of fire. This training is currently difficult to perform without a facility in which to use. Other training consisted of training-in-context such as: pumping operations with our new engines, relay pumping between fire engines, aerial operations, high-rise hose training, vehicle fires, forcible entry, ground ladders, firefighter rescue, and our annual Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC). Each of these skills and more are needed to provide the highest level of service while keeping ourselves safe.



Driving the EVOC Course



Vehicle Fire Training



Firefighter MAYDAY and Rescue



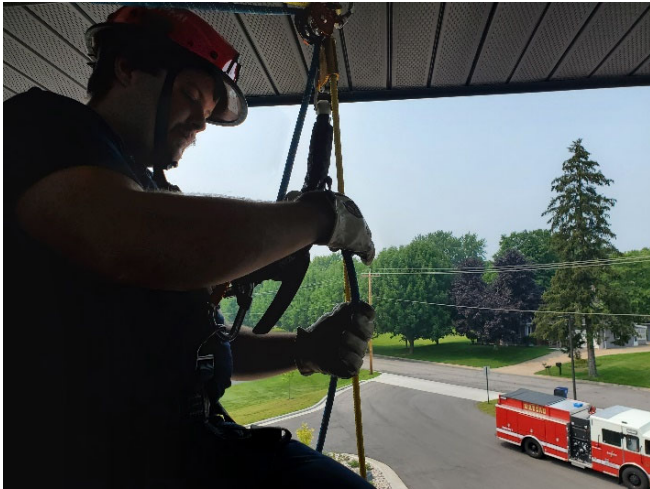
Ground Ladder Training

2021 Training Division Chief's Report

Technical Rescue

Technical rescue is a classification of rescue that involves multiple very different subsets. Each of the subsets require specialized equipment and highly individualized skills. In 2021, training was conducted in each of the following disciplines to improve upon current knowledge and skill. During the training, room for improvement was identified and a grant has been submitted for and received to train fifteen members to the Technician Level in Confined Space rescue in the first quarter of 2022. The Wausau Fire Department currently performs the listed rescue disciplines to a high level of skill with numerous other disciplines to a varying degree.

- Vehicle Extrication
- Rope Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Ice Rescue
- Surface Water Rescue



Rope Rescue



Rescuing a victim from a treestand fall



Airboat Operations



Rapid Deployment Craft Ice/Water Rescue

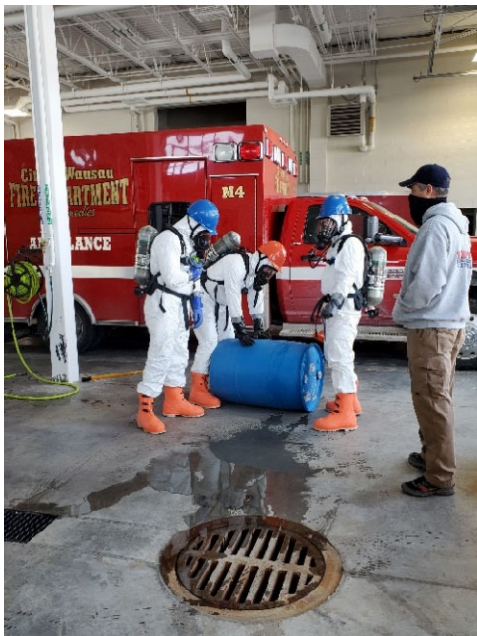
2021 Training Division Chief's Report

Haz-Mat

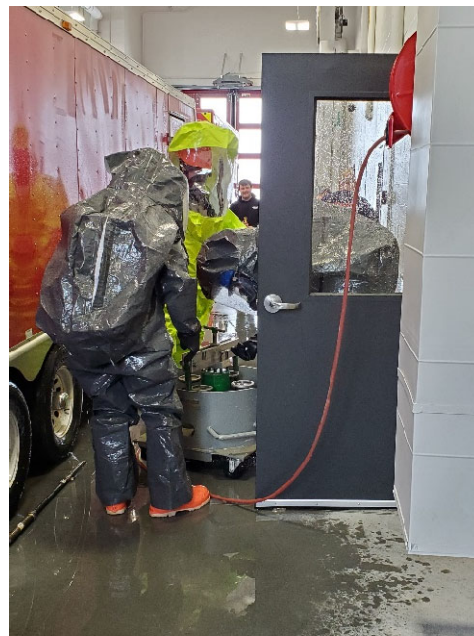
Hazardous Materials response training is an essential aspect of our annual and ongoing training. The City of Wausau Fire Department is the Technician-level team for the City of Wausau, Marathon County, and we are a Tier Two team deployable throughout the State of Wisconsin. With this type of response need, we train on Operations and Technician-level tasks throughout the year. A need was identified that due to retirements, additional trained Technicians were needed. In February, thirteen Wausau Firefighters and three Marathon County Deputies were trained to the Technician level through a Haz-Mat and Emergency Preparedness grant that was obtained from the State of Wisconsin.

Upon completion of the class, only two members in the department were not trained to the Technician level. One was on medical leave and the second member was soon trained through an alternative class. All new hires are trained to the Operations level and will be trained to the Technician level as funding and opportunities arise.

Part of the annual training plan is to ensure all members are proficient in responding to, assessing, and mitigating hazardous materials releases wherever they may be. Haz-Mat training in 2021 included substance identification and analysis. Due to the vast array of substances in the world, we focused each drill on different major categories such as: Solids, Liquids, Gases, and Radiological in nature. We also utilized a military grade device to identify unknown substances. For example, this device can be used to identify “white powder” if we are called to an office building or the US Post Office.



“Level B” substance containment



“Level A” substance containment

2021 Training Division Chief's Report

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Although not specifically training related, Personal Protective Equipment is essential to safe operations within the fire department. Since PPE is imperative to functionality as a firefighter, it is only natural that the Training Division plays a key role in the selection, inspections, and maintenance of our PPE.

In 2021, we made an unplanned move back to a prior brand of PPE due to fit and function issues with another brand/vendor. Although this return is slightly more costly, the fit of the PPE is essential to safe and efficient scene operations.

Each year, every responder must inspect their PPE for damage and compliance with applicable National Fire Protection Association standards. Every set of Wausau Fire Department PPE was inspected, and a schedule of repairs was initiated. Another change implemented this year was in who repairs our PPE. Our vendor suggested a third-party, factory authorized, repair service to perform PPE alterations and repairs. While this sounded more costly than going through the manufacturers, it ended up being less-costly due to lower shipping costs and less expensive costs per repair. As such, switching back to our prior vendor/brand ended up being a wash with the return to the prior PPE brand and the new repair vendor.



2021 Training Division Chief's Report

Conclusion

2021 was a banner year when it comes to lessons learned during fire and rescue training. New equipment and new techniques, along with our exceptional members contributed to a more effective and safer service to our community. At times, it is difficult to gauge the impact of certain educational endeavors. It is through observation of our members working on scenes that we see the full impact training has had on operations. I cannot stress enough that the members are the key to this year's success and continued exceptional service to the community.

Type of Training	# of Hours -YTD
Company Training	6,788.55
Officer Training	861.59
Driver/Operator Training	796.20
Hazardous Materials Training	1,032.09
Specialty Training	772.00
Facilities Training	43.00
Misc Training	3.00
Total	10,296.43

Training Categories:

Company Training – General firefighting training

Officer Training – Included leadership, management, supervision, and tactical considerations

Driver/Operator Training – Operation of fire apparatus

Hazardous Materials Training – How to mitigate the leak or spill of hazardous substances

Specialty Training – Rope, confined space, trench, collapse, ice, water, and other special rescues.

Facilities Training – Training at a live-burn facility (may include off-duty time)

Misc Training – Any other training category such as software, administrative, etc.



2021 Fire Prevention/Inspection Report

The Fire Prevention division is responsible for many services pertaining to Fire Department functions and obligations. The predominate obligation is performing annual and biannual inspections for all businesses within the City of Wausau limits.

Inspections: The Prevention Division completed a total of 3514 inspections for 2021. Of those inspections, 474 businesses had a violation during the initial inspection. All of the initial violations have been corrected prior to the ending of the calendar year. This number will also include 18 Consultation inspections. Consultation Inspections consist of new construction and remodeling projects within the City of Wausau.

We also have a contract with the Town of Wausau where we will do their biannual inspections. In the Town of Wausau there were a total of 69 inspections that we performed. In a collaborative effort with the Fire Chief from Town of Wausau, these inspections were completed over the course of two days each inspection round.

Technology and Software: We upgraded our APX Data software to utilize their SmartMap feature for our Preplan software beginning Jan 1. This allows fire and ambulance crews to view all inspected occupancies through an interactive portal to see the building Preplan including contact information, fire protection systems, building layout and nearest hydrant locations. We also entered into an agreement with Riverside FD to share Preplan information within the platform since they use APX Data software as well.

We also transitioned the inspection software from Firehouse to APX SmartInspect in an effort to keep both inspections and preplans in the same application using our current iPads. This gives the Inspector an opportunity to complete a fire inspection while also updating the preplan as needed, without switching to another software.

The Wausau Fire Department entered into an agreement with The Compliance Engine (TCE) on January 15, 2021, at no cost to the City. TCE is a proactive compliance solution application and service which will help Inspectors reduce time spent in administering fire code requirements. This will increase our ability to enforce and verify compliant fire protection systems and strengthen the protection for citizens and visitors. The Prevention Division received and reviewed 702 inspection and repair reports during 2021 from fire protection contractors which will be stored in TCE's electronic database.

In March of 2021, the Prevention Division successfully wrote a grant with TC Energy to procure a 3D Spatial Camera along with a virtual tour software platform. This addition will allow us to encapsulate and present our Fire Investigations precisely where photos alone cannot.

Investigations: The Prevention Division performed a total of 15 Fire Investigations for 2021. Although the Fire Department responded to a much larger number of fires, 15 were deemed unknown or suspicious by the responding Incident Commander leading to further investigation.

Education: Firefighter/Inspector Brad Ludwig attended and passed the Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Specialist program at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Public Outreach: The Prevention Division performed 13 Smoke and CO detector installs for 2021. Reaching a total of 26 people. This "install" program is a collaboration between The Wausau Fire Department, The American Red Cross and the City of Wausau's Community Development. Each household has the detectors installed by the Prevention Division for them and they receive a 20-minute fire safety talk and Safety inspection of their homes.

2021 Fire Prevention/Inspection Report

In a typical year, the Prevention Division would also perform “meet and greets” with multiple community organizations. These organizations include the United Way, Neighbor to Neighbor, Noon Optimists and elderly communities throughout the City of Wausau. These meetings consist of discussions ranging from Fire Safety & Prevention to day-to-day Fire Department operations. Unfortunately, in the last two years, these have been suspended due to the Covid outbreak.

Problem properties: The Prevention Division is also on joint task force within the City of Wausau that presents Problem Properties to the committee for remediation. Typically, these properties deal with problem landlords and blight or dilapidated buildings.

Continuing Education: The prevention Division attended two International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) conferences and one Wisconsin State Fire Inspector (WSFIA) conference for our required continuing education with Certifications.

School Programs: While working in conjunction with the Wausau School District it was determined that we would not be going into the schools this year. An instructional learning plan was developed that could be shared with each school by way of a flash drive. These lessons were a combination of Websites and Videos that pertain to Fire Safety. A syllabus was developed for grades 1, 3 and 5 correlating between the lesson plans and the applicable age groups.



2021 EMS Division Chief's Report



2021 has been one of the busiest years to date in the EMS Division of the Wausau Fire Department while in the midst of a global pandemic. Everyday residents of the City of Wausau and the surrounding townships call 911 due to illnesses and injuries that require immediate medical care by our paramedics. Despite the challenges our paramedics face, they continue to press on to provide rapid, professional emergency medical services to protect and enhance our community.

Thank you,

EMS DC Jared Thompson

Leading Dispatched Complaint

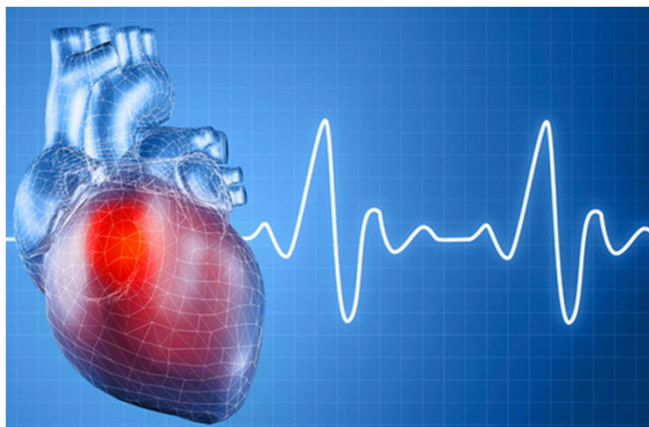
The leading request for an ambulance in 2021 was due to falls. Every day our paramedics respond to injuries, or the lack thereof associated with a fall from standing height. Most of these incidents only require assistance with helping the patient up off the floor and require no further medical attention. Requests for these types of incidents could account for up to six to seven ambulance calls between our three stations in a 24-hour shift. Over the 2021 year, the Wausau Fire Department performed roughly 569 lift assists, lifting a patient off the floor to the standing position. Our paramedic have the ability to submit electronic referrals to the Central Wisconsin Aging and Disability Recourses Center (ARDC) to receive additional assistance to prevent future falls that may result in an injury.



2021 EMS Division Chief's Report

Specialized Care

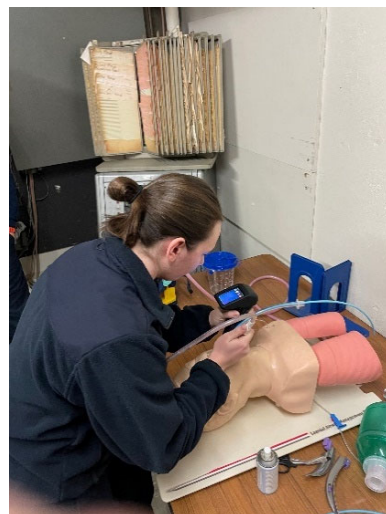
One of our major highlights that the EMS Division would like to shine a light on is our cardiac care. Here at the Wausau Fire Department, our paramedics pride themselves on their ability to treat and care for patients suffering a wide array of cardiac emergencies ranging from cardiac arrests to heart attacks. Our paramedics obtained 1487 diagnostic 12 Lead ECGs to assess for and rule out any life-threatening dyshythmias including myocardial infarctions. With our current technology, Wausau Fire paramedics have the ability to send patient 12 Lead ECGs electronically to the emergency department so they can be further interpreted by a cardiologist even before the patient arrives in the emergency department. Our goal is to obtain a 12 Lead ECG within ten minutes of patient contact. For the 2021 year, we achieved this goal 97% of the time for patients with a complaint of chest pain. Another goal of the Wausau Fire Department is to administer Aspirin within 5 minutes of patient contact for patients who are experiencing signs and symptoms of a heart attack. For the 2021 year, we achieved this goal 81% of the time.



Training

The Wausau Fire Department's total EMS training hours for 2021 were 2,338.25 hours department-wide covering topics such as airway management, medical, cardiac, and trauma emergencies. This past year, the strong emphasis was placed on endotracheal intubation and successful placement on the first attempt. For 2021, Wausau Fire paramedics performed 59 endotracheal intubations with 73% of those intubations successful on the first attempt.

Recruit Academy Airway Training



2021 EMS Division Chief's Report

Compliance

The EMS Division completed its second external compliance review performed by Strategic Management and Consulting. Some comment that was included in their report was “I am extremely happy to report that there has been a marked improvement since the original review and subsequent training” and “compliance has become a major issue in the EMS world, and I believe you are ahead of most in the industry. The fact that you are taking steps to educate your staff on proper documentation skills illustrates your concern for getting it right.”

Continued Struggles

Did you know that the City of Wausau has one of the highest percentages of patients that are transported to the hospital that either receives benefits from Medicare or Medicaid? Both total just under 80% of our patient transports. Medicare and Medicaid have the most stringent reimbursement requirements versus private insurances which only account for 8% of our patient transports, well under that state average of 17%. Because of continual documentation and compliance training, the City of Wausau was able to collect all but 3% of claims that our billing company submitted on our behalf to Medicare and Medicaid. We have improved from 2018, where our billing company was able collect all but 10% of claims submitted compared to 3% for 2021.



A two time out-of-hospital cardiac arrest survivor stopped by Station 1 to meet some of the paramedics that were involved in his prehospital care on both occasions. It is always an honor to meet patients who have overcome such tremendous medical emergencies and are able to walk out of the hospital vibrant and full of life!

2021 EMS Division Chief's Report

Type of Training	# of Hours -YTD
ARV – Other	26
ARV – Oxygenation	18.5
ARV – Simulated Intubation	80.25
ARV – Ventilation	85.75
CARDIO – Acute Coronary Syndrome	1
CARDIO – Cardiac Arrest	491.25
CARDIO – Congestive Heart Failure	6
CARDIO – Other	132.5
CARDIO – Pediatric Cardiac Arrest	2
CCP – Cardiovascular System	7
CCP – Diagnostics: Lab Interpretation, Radiology	3
CCP – Other	9
CCP – Pharmacology	2.5
CCP – Respiratory	4
CCP – Vascular Access, Fluid & Blood Admin	1.5
Protocol Study/Review	3
ACLS	282.75
EMS Conferences	2
PALS	377.5
PHTLS	48
TEMS Training	101
MCI – Mass Casualty Incident	1.5
MED – Medication Delivery	10.5
MED – Other	22
MED – Pain Management	.75
OPS – Crew Resource Management	103
OPS – Culture of Safety	1
OPS – Documentation/HIPAA/Compliance	329.5
OPS – EMS Hygiene, Safety & Vaccinations	72.5
OPS – Other	15
OPS – Pediatric Transport	3
PED – Handtevy	17
TRAUMA – Central Nervous System (CNS) Injury	10
TRAUMA – Hemorrhage Control	2
TRAUMA – Other	66
TOTAL	2,338.25

ARV = Airway, Respiration and Ventilation
 CARDIO = Cardiovascular
 CCP = Critical Care Paramedic
 ACLS = Advanced Cardiac Life Support
 PALS = Pediatric Advanced Life Support
 PHTLS = Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support

TEMS = Tactical EMS
 MCI = Mass Casualty Incident
 MED = Medical
 OPS = Operations
 PED = Pediatrics
 TRAUMA = Trauma

Financial Report 2021

2021 Actual Budget

Organization	Personnel	Operating	Total
Administration	\$ 649,047.75	\$ 196,174.22	\$ 845,221.97
Maintenance	\$ 23,765.44	\$ 475,116.06	\$ 498,881.50
Inspection	\$ 318,835.01	\$ 6,544.39	\$ 325,379.40
Firefighting	\$ 2,504,819.02	\$ 28,732.20	\$ 2,533,551.22
Ambulance	\$ 3,138,527.13	\$ 290,765.63	\$ 3,429,292.76
Training	\$ 154,343.71	\$ 13,402.08	\$ 167,745.79
Capital (240)	\$ 0.00	\$ 35,200.38	\$ 35,200.38
Capital (150)	\$ 0.00	\$ 313,242.05	\$ 313,242.05
Total	\$ 6,789,338.06	\$ 1,359,177.01	\$ 8,148,515.07

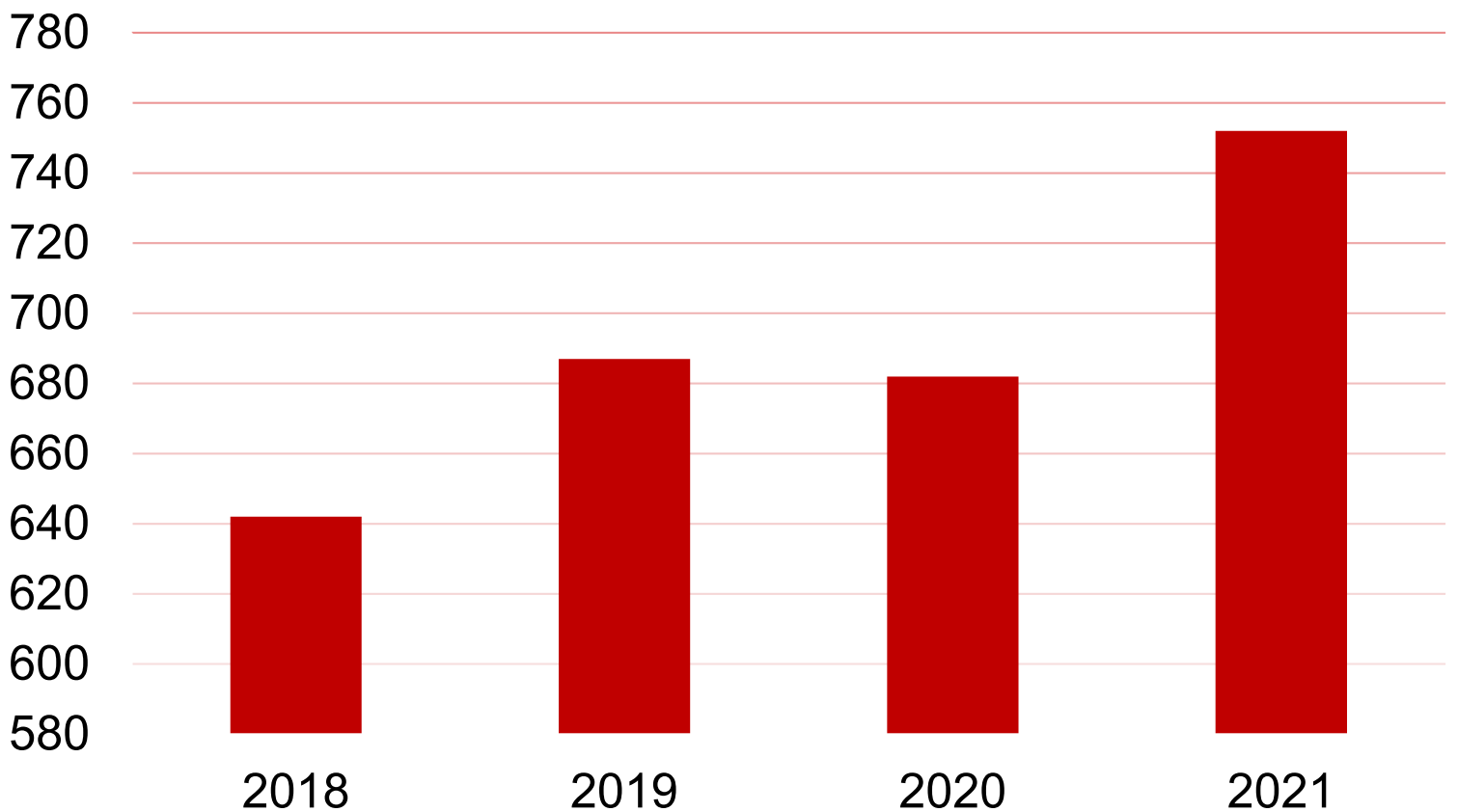
2021 Revenues Collected

Administration	\$ 153,245.66
Ambulance	\$ 1,523,407.48
Unaudited Balance as of 12/31/21	\$ 1,676,653.14



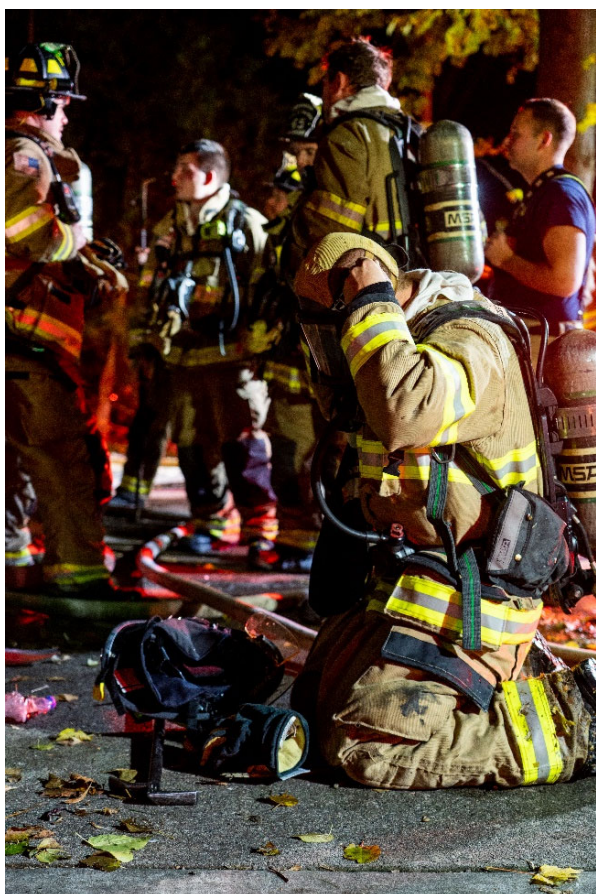
Yearly Fire Response Comparison Chart 2018-2021

Year	Total
2018	642
2019	687
2020	682
2021	752



Summary by Incident Type

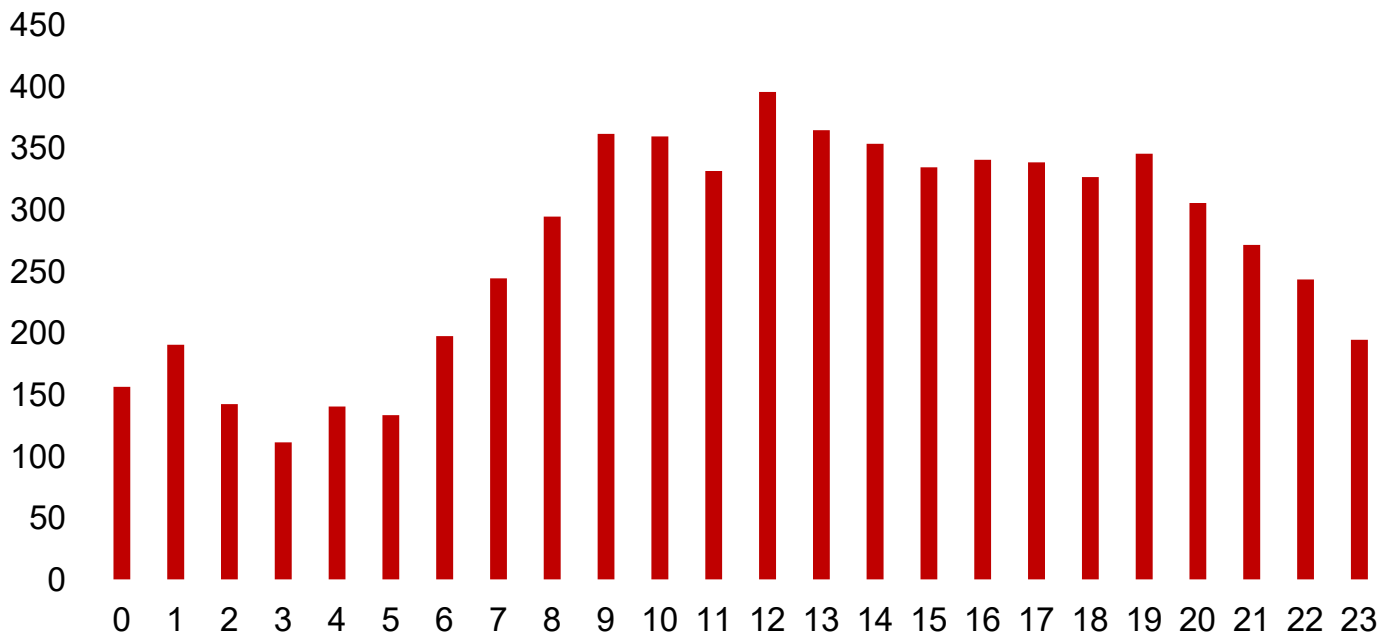
Calls By Incident Type	Freq.	% Of Total Calls	Mutual Aid None	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Rec'd	Exp.	Total Incidents
FIRES							
Structure Fires (110-118, 120-123)	35	0.57%	34	10	1	0	45
Vehicle Fires (130-138)	10	0.16%	10	0	0	0	10
Other Fires (100, 140-173)	15	0.24%	14	0	1	0	15
Total Fires	60	0.97%	58	10	2	0	70
Pressure Ruptures, Explosion, Overheat (200-251)	3	0.05%	3	0	0	0	3
RESCUE CALLS							
Emergency Medical Treatment (300-323)	5,300	85.7%	5,291	270	9	0	5,570
All Others (331-381)	26	0.42%	26	1	0	0	27
Total Rescue Calls	5,326	86.14%	5,317	271	9	0	5,597
Hazardous Condition Calls (400-482)	111	1.80%	111	3	0	0	114
Service Calls (500-571)	173	2.80%	173	2	0	0	175
Good Intent Calls (600-671)	237	3.83%	237	20	0	0	257
Severe Weather or Natural Disaster Calls (800-815)	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0
Special Incident Calls (900-911)	12	0.19%	12	0	0	0	12
Unknown Incident Type (UUU)	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0
FALSE CALLS							
Malicious Calls (710-715, 751)	13	0.21%	13	0	0	0	13
Other False Calls (700, 721-746)	249	4.03%	249	0	0	0	249
Total False Calls	262	4.24%	262	0	0	0	262
TOTAL CALLS	6,184	100.00%	6,173	306	11	0	6,490



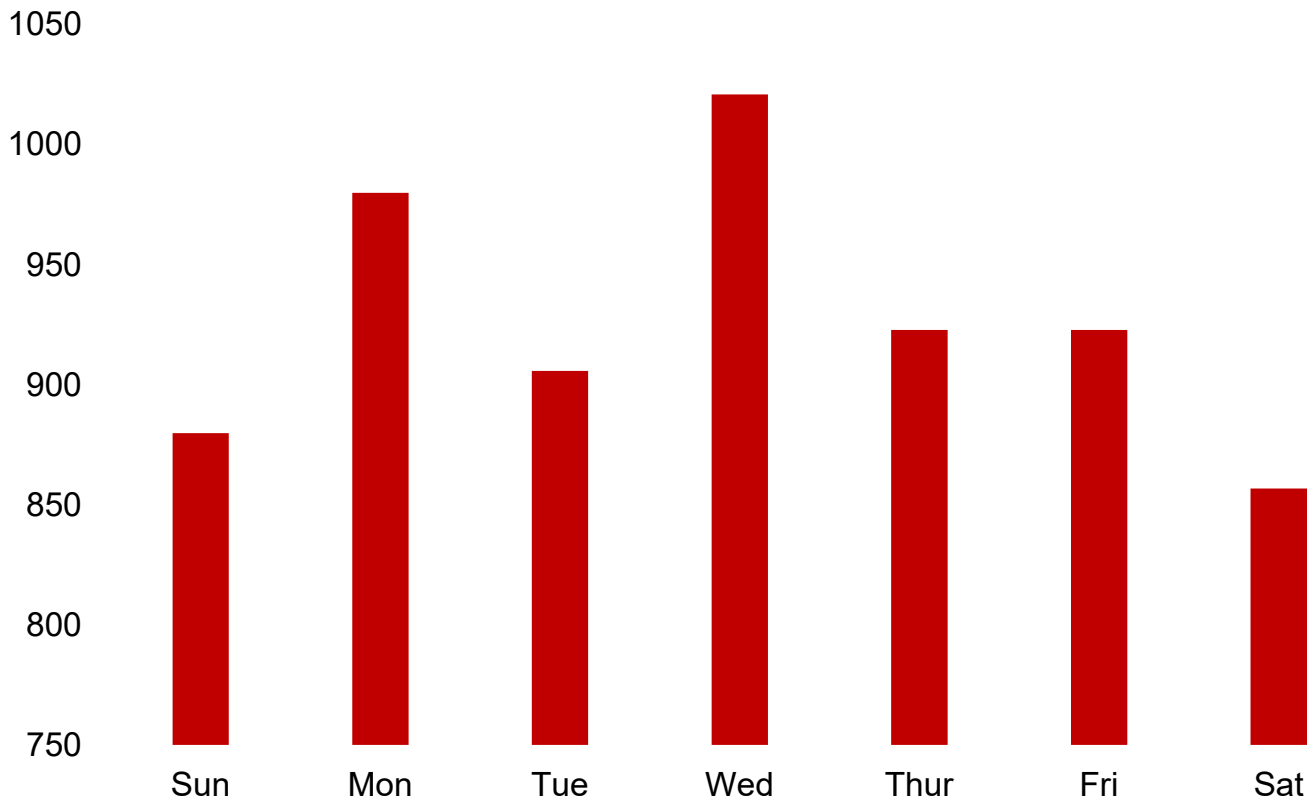
Structure
Fire at 419
N. 11th
Street,
Wausau



Incidents by Hour of Day



Incidents by Day of Week



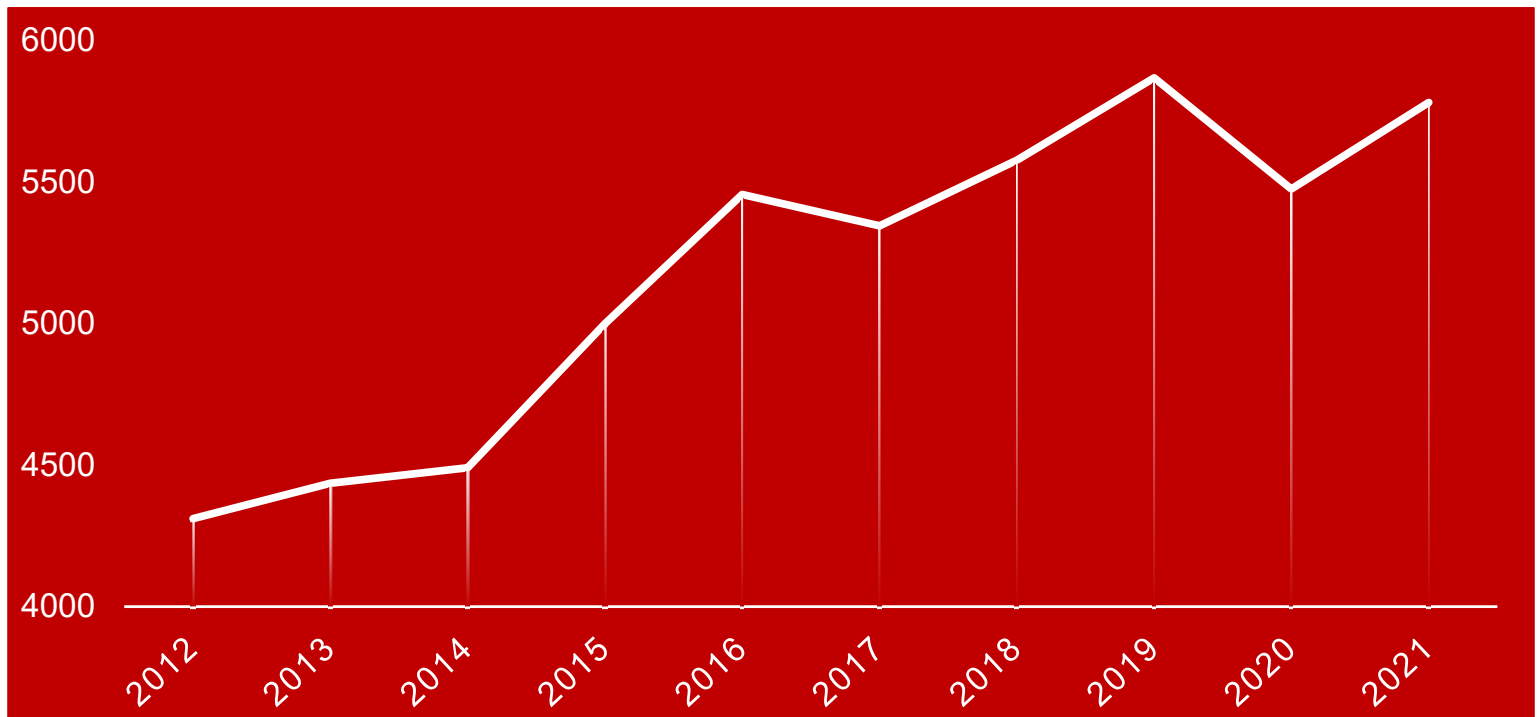


Contracted Response Territory and Population

City of Wausau	19.2 square miles	39,994
Town of Berlin	34.7 square miles	949
Town of Hewitt	43.5 square miles	636
Village of Maine	43.1 square miles	2,613
Town of Texas	44.9 square miles	1,611
Town of Wausau	32.2 square miles	2,161

Patient Care Reports 2018 - 2021 (by month)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Tot	% of Chg
2018	441	474	463	438	517	456	445	456	439	469	443	537	5,578	+4.34%
2019	484	449	524	514	464	457	546	469	496	479	480	507	5,869	+5.22%
2020	468	451	433	330	409	463	483	454	473	539	466	507	5,476	-6.69%
2021	453	404	439	443	487	526	496	515	484	495	515	525	5,782	+5.59%



Township Ambulance Responses 2018 through 2021

Township	2018	2019	2020	2021
City of Merrill				2
City of Mosinee				3
City of Schofield				1
Clark County				1
Other/Interfacility	24	15	30	1
Intercept	3	5	22	50
Town of Berlin	25	17	29	27
Town of Cassel				10
Town of Easton				
Town of Elderon				1
Town of Emmet				3
Town of Hewitt	21	33	16	14
Town of Marathon				1
Town of Mosinee				2
Town of Rib Falls				7
Town of Rib Mountain				3
Town of Rietbrock				2
Town of Stettin	1	1	3	5
Town of Texas	38	55	54	79
Town of Wausau	56	59	77	89
Town of Wien				4
Village of Athens				1
Village of Brokaw	3			
Village of Edgar				5
Village of Kronenwetter				1
Village of Maine	89	115	80	109
Village of Marathon City				16
Village of Rothschild				1
Village of Stratford				1
Village of Weston	31	13	9	12
Total	291	313	320	451

Contact Information



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