



2024



**Statesboro Fire
Department**

Annual Report

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

The Statesboro Fire Department is proud to present our 2024 Annual Community Report. This report serves as a transparent summary of our department's activities, accomplishments, and ongoing efforts to provide exceptional fire and emergency services. Our commitment to protecting lives and property remains unwavering as we continue to enhance our capabilities and adapt to the growing needs of our community.

While 2024 was a year of many accomplishments for our department, one of the most impactful was the acquisition of property for a third fire station, a major step in enhancing resource distribution and improving emergency response times across the Statesboro Fire Service Area. This new station will help us better serve our growing community and ensure that we can respond quickly and efficiently to emergencies.

Additionally, we made significant investments in our operational capabilities with the purchase of two new aerial apparatus, which will greatly strengthen our ability to manage structural fires and complex incidents that require elevated access. Recognizing the ongoing need for professional development, we also began expanding our training facilities to provide our firefighters with the state-of-the-art resources and infrastructure they need to remain well-prepared and equipped for any situation.



These initiatives are critical to our mission of delivering exceptional fire protection and emergency services to our community.

This year also brought several challenges, with the most significant being Hurricane Helene and Tropical Storm Debbie. These storms tested our department's ability to respond to large-scale emergencies. Both storms brought severe weather conditions, including extensive flooding, high winds reaching damaging speeds, and widespread power outages. These conditions created hazards for both residents and first responders alike, requiring an all-hands-on-deck response from the department. Our personnel were

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

on the front lines, working around the clock to ensure emergency services were maintained.

Despite the challenges, our firefighters remained determined and focused on our core mission of protecting life and property. The coordination between local agencies, including law enforcement, EMS and emergency management, was crucial in ensuring a unified response. Together, we conducted evacuations, provided shelter, and responded to countless calls for assistance, all while maintaining the ability to deliver emergency services despite the widespread disruptions. We are deeply grateful to the local businesses, organizations, and residents who worked alongside us to support these efforts. Their resilience and collaboration were essential in the recovery process.

As Statesboro continues to experience growth, we are proactively planning for the future to ensure our fire and emergency services meet the increasing demand. The addition of a third fire station is part of our strategic approach to maintaining rapid response times and operational efficiency, ensuring that all residents receive the highest level of protection. Alongside these infrastructure improvements, we are working diligently to maintain and enhance current service levels within our growing community while remaining responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars.

These advancements would not be possible without the support of our community leaders, elected officials, and, most importantly, the residents of Statesboro and Bulloch County. Your trust and partnership enable us to continuously improve and adapt in ways that strengthen public safety. We deeply appreciate the collaboration and advocacy that help us fulfill our mission.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to providing the highest standard of fire protection, prevention, and education. We encourage community members to engage with us, whether through fire safety programs, public education initiatives, or simply staying informed about the services we offer. For more information, we invite you to visit our website at www.statesborofd.com or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/statesborofiredepartment.

Thank you for your continued support and for allowing us the privilege to serve you. We are honored to protect and safeguard this great community, and we look forward to another year of dedication, growth, and service.



Timothy E. Grams
Fire Chief
Statesboro Fire Department



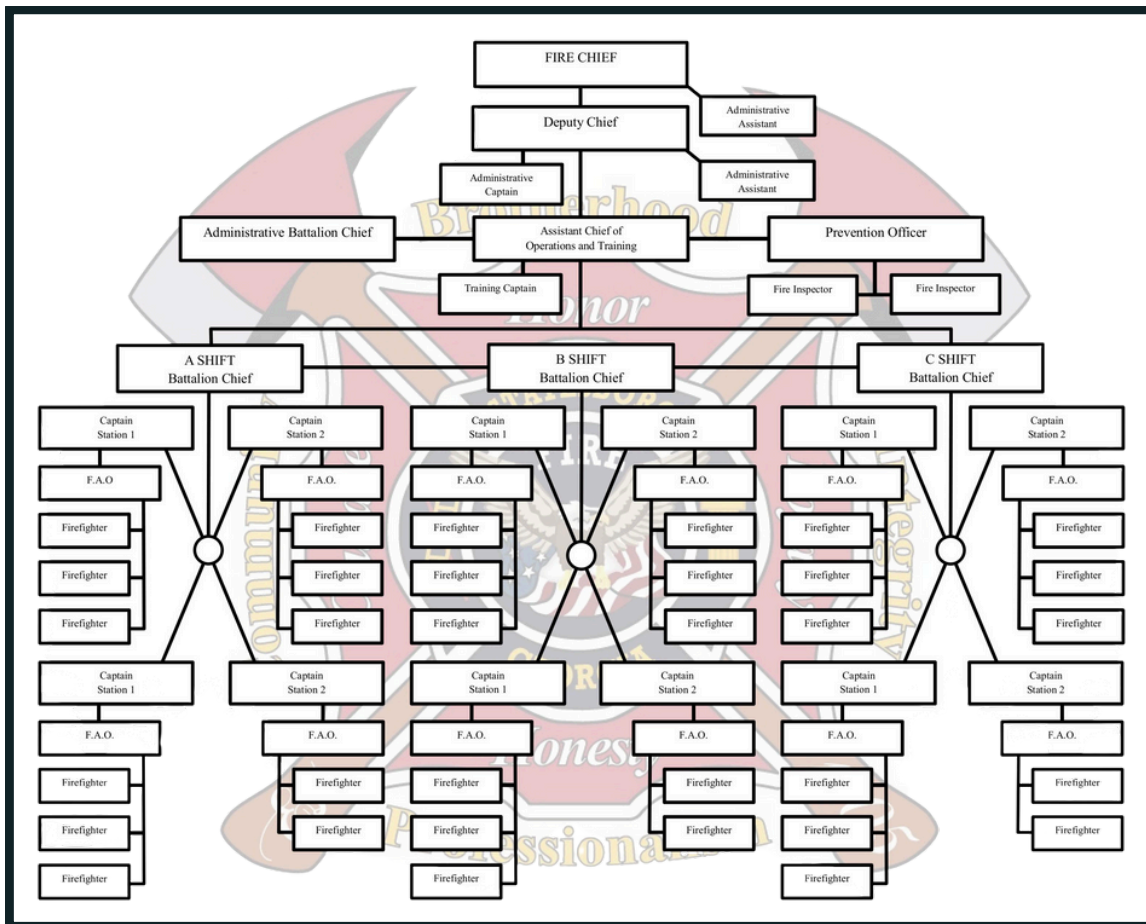
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Statesboro Fire Department is to protect the lives and property of the citizens of our community by providing a modern, highly trained and well equipped Fire Department while ensuring the most current practices and principles of Fire and Life Safety Education and Fire Safety Code Enforcement are utilized in an effort to provide the very best Fire Protection Services.

CORE VALUES

Brotherhood	Honor
Integrity	Loyalty
Professionalism	Honesty
Community	Courage

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE





ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Reduce Fire-Related Fatalities and Injuries: Strive to minimize fire-related fatalities and serious injuries by implementing proactive education, prevention programs, and delivering efficient, high-quality emergency services.

Limit Property Losses: Work to limit fire-related property losses to no more than 5% of the pre-incident appraised value within the Statesboro Fire Service Area through rapid response, effective fire suppression, and proactive prevention measures.

Enhance Fire Protection: Promote fire prevention by prioritizing public education, fire code enforcement, and other proactive initiatives aimed at reducing fire risks across residential, commercial, and industrial settings.

Ensure Operational Readiness of Equipment: Maintain a fleet of modern, well-maintained firefighting equipment, vehicles, and technology, ensuring they are always operationally ready to serve the community.

Develop Leadership and Career Growth: Foster a culture of leadership development and career growth within the department, providing opportunities for professional advancement to build a capable and motivated workforce.

Prioritize Firefighter Health and Wellness: Continue to support the physical and mental well-being of firefighters by maintaining and expanding programs focused on fitness, stress management, and PTSD support.





GENERAL OVERVIEW

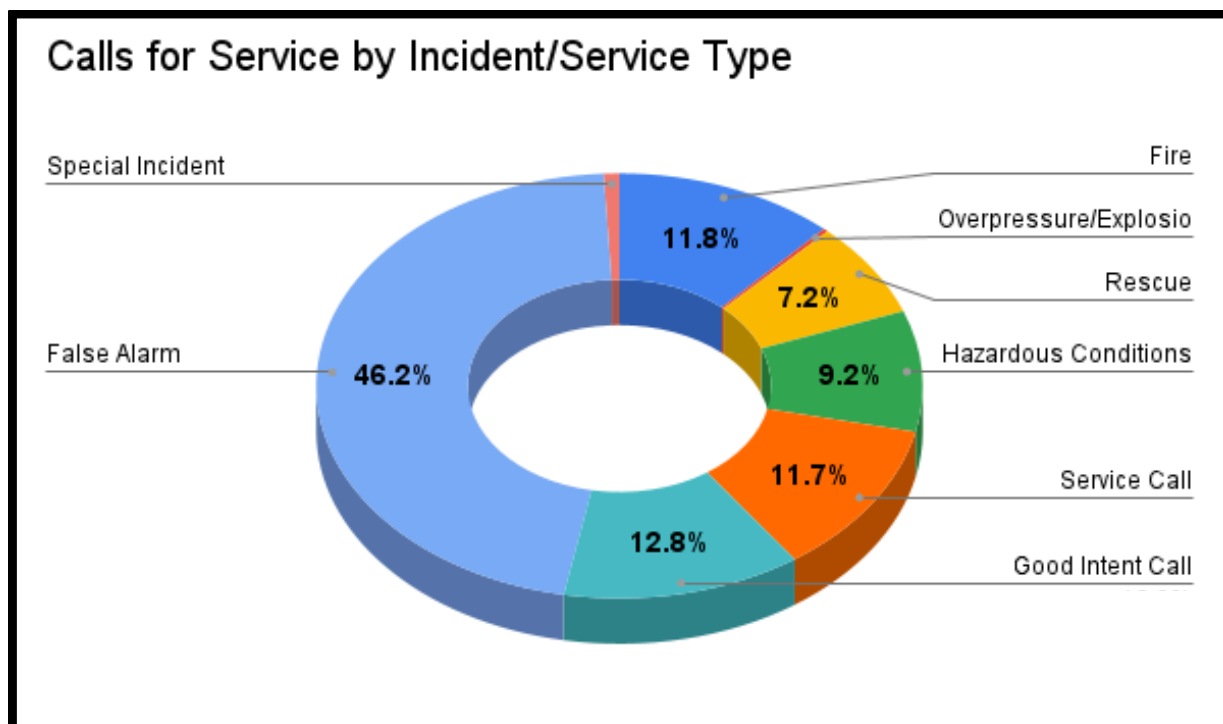
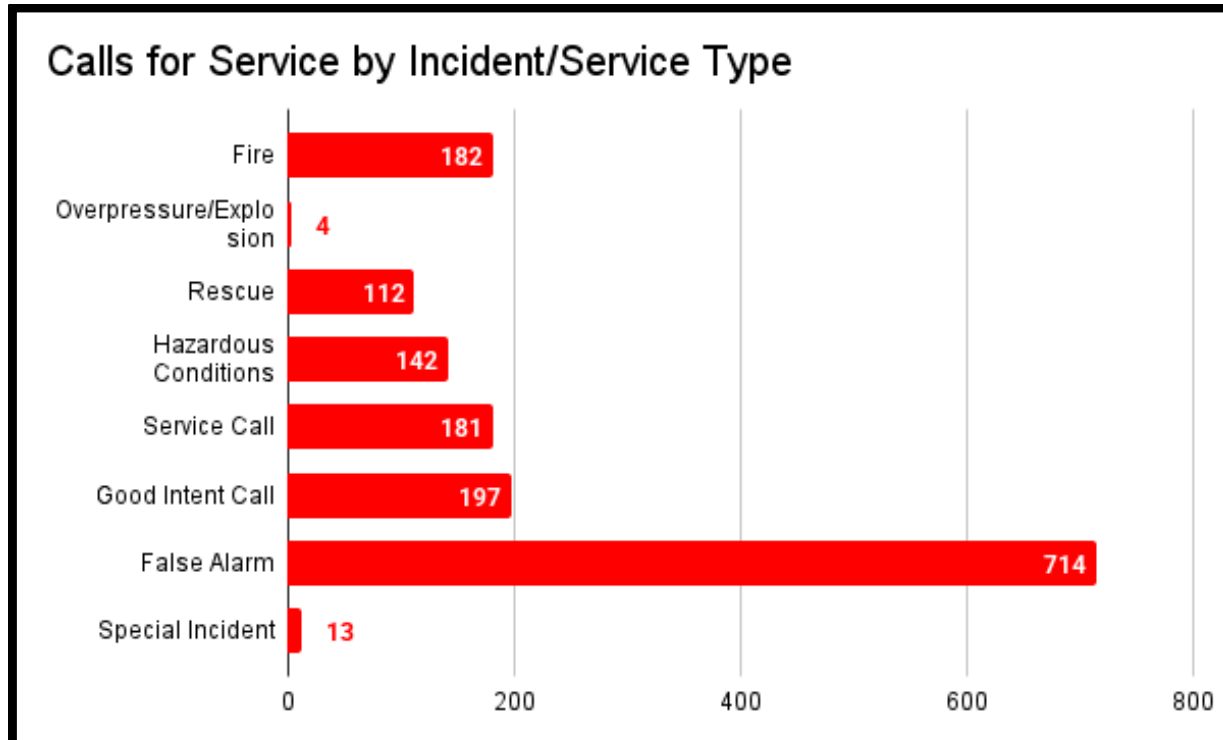
Total Calls for Service	1545
Calls for Service – City	1091
Calls for Service – Fire District	398
Calls for Service Outside Primary Response Area (Mutual/Auto Aid)	56
Average Response Time (Dispatch to Arrival) - City	5 min & 36 sec
Average Response Time (Dispatch to Arrival) - Fire District	8 min & 30 sec
Average Time On-Scene	20 min & 11 sec
Number of Overlapping Incidents	314
Percentage of Overlapping Calls (Total Calls for Service)	20.07%
Investigations	10





OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

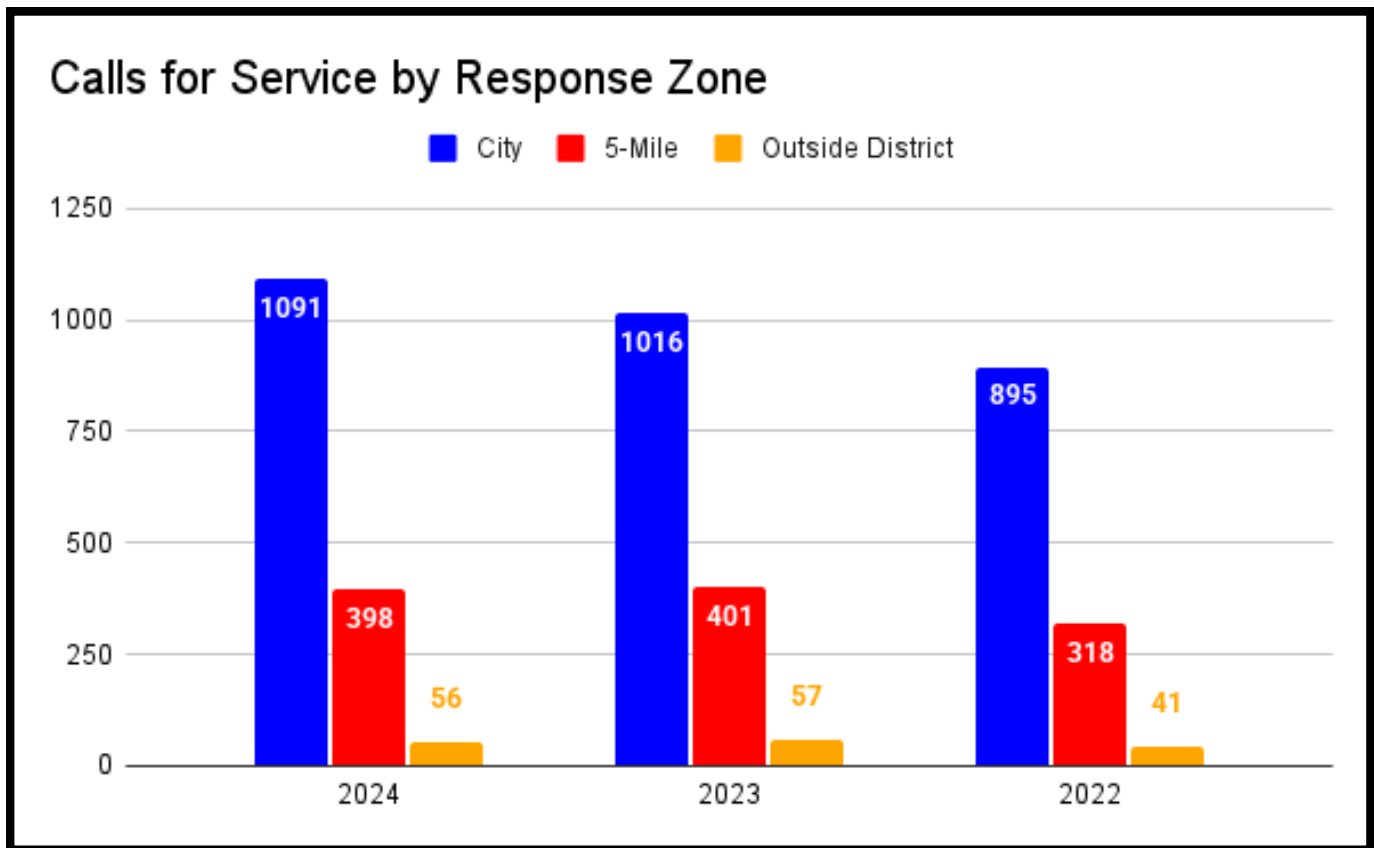
The Statesboro Fire Department responded to **1,545 calls for service in 2024**. These incidents are broken down into eight categories: Fire, Overpressure/Explosion, Rescue, Hazardous Conditions, Service Call, Good Intent Call, False Alarm, and Special Incident.





OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

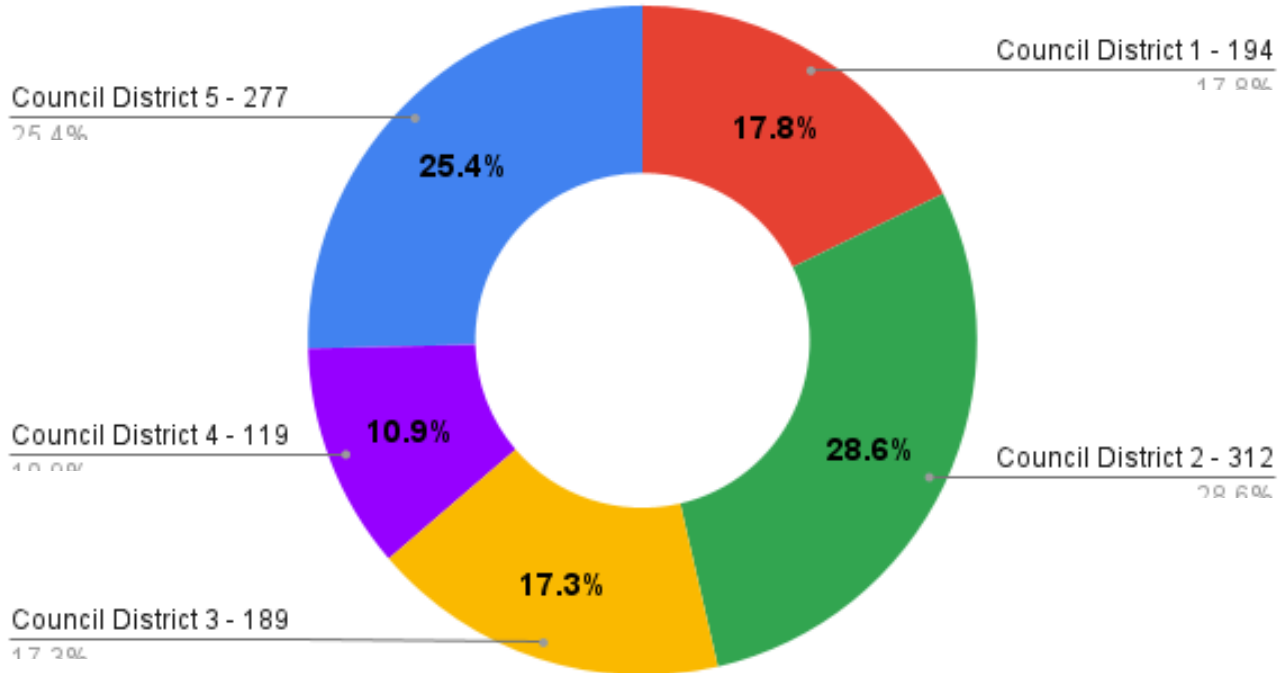
The “Calls for Service by Response Zone” graph highlights a steady increase in emergency calls across all response areas from 2022 to 2024. The **City** consistently had the highest call volume, reflecting a 22% growth over three years. The **5-Mile District** experienced minor fluctuations, indicating relatively stable demand. Calls **outside the district**, while significantly lower, showed a gradual increase from 41 in 2022 to 56 in 2024, a 36% rise.



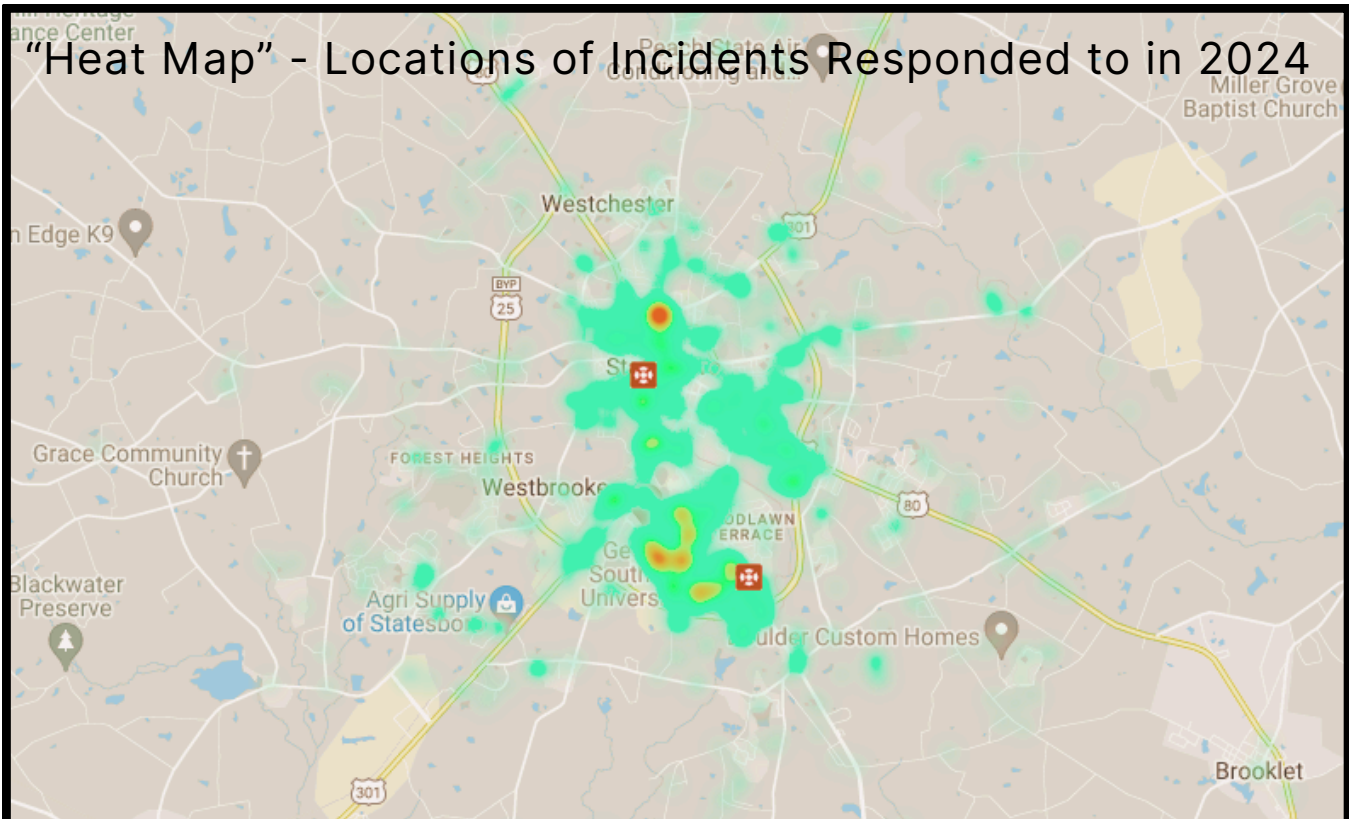


OPERATIONS / RESPONSE

Calls for Service by Council District

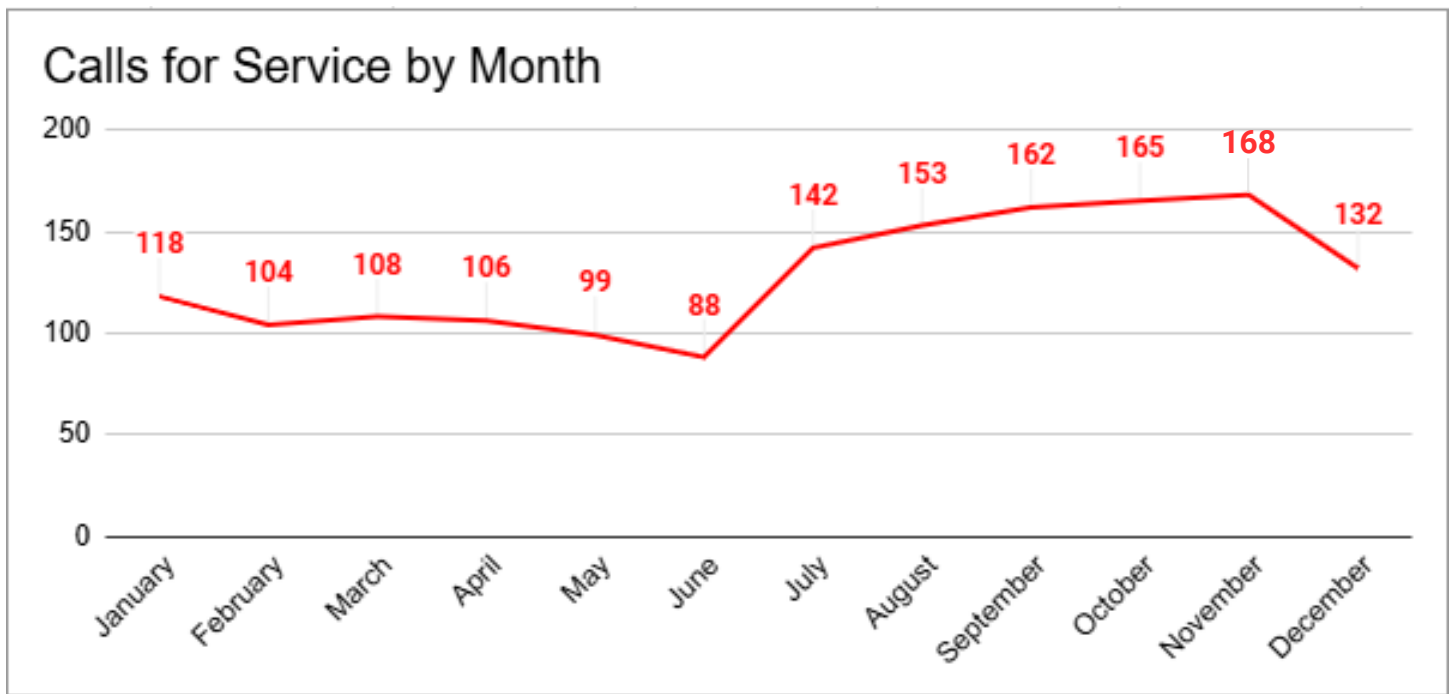


"Heat Map" - Locations of Incidents Responded to in 2024





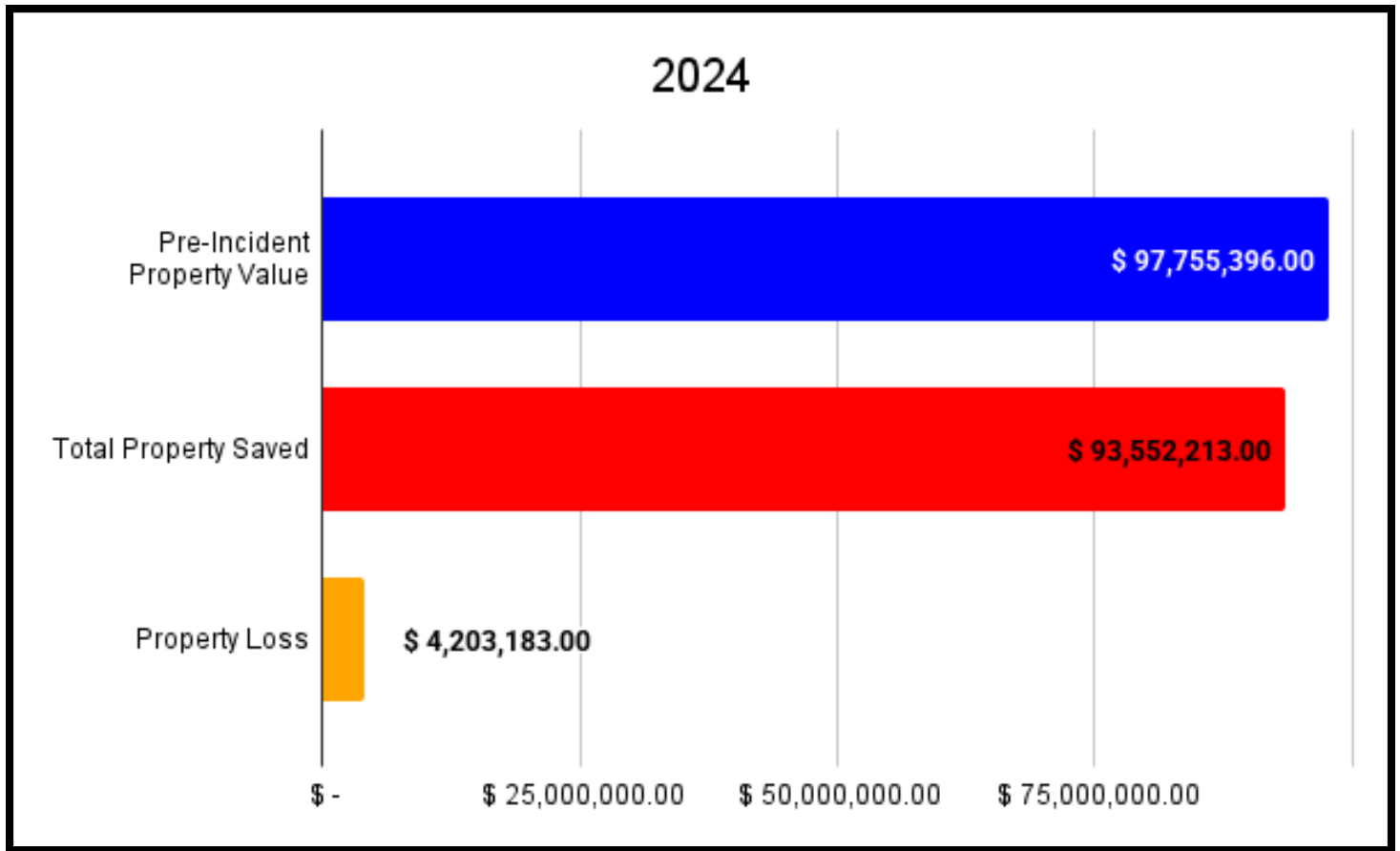
OPERATIONS / RESPONSE



The “Calls for Service by Month” graph shows fluctuations in call volume throughout the year, with a decline in the first half followed by a sharp increase in the latter months. Calls for service start at **118 in January** and gradually decrease, reaching a yearly **low of 88 in June**. A significant surge occurs from July to September, peaking at 162 in September, indicating heightened activity. Call numbers remain high in **October and November** before slightly dropping to **132 in December**. This pattern suggests a seasonal influence, with fewer calls in the first half of the year and a spike in late summer and fall. To optimize response efficiency, the Statesboro Fire Department strategically allocates resources to manage the late-year surge.



PROPERTY LOSS



The “2024 Property Loss and Savings” graph illustrates the effectiveness of fire response efforts in mitigating financial damages. The Pre-Incident Property Value was **estimated at \$97,755,396**, representing the total value of properties at risk before intervention. Through emergency response efforts, **\$93,552,213** worth of property was **successfully saved**, leaving an actual Property Loss of **only \$4,203,183**. This data highlights the significant impact of fire suppression and emergency response in minimizing financial losses, with the majority of at-risk property being preserved.



APPARATUS



ENGINES

- Basic response unit and the backbone of the department.
- Respond to all incidents
- Carry up to 1,000 gallons of water
- Perform suppression functions as well as extrication of victims of vehicle accidents.



SERVICE APPARATUS

- Can hold up to 3,000 gallons of water
- Primarily delivers water to areas without an ideal water supply.



AERIALS

- Respond to structure fires and commercial fire alarms
- Can hold up to 300 gallons of water
- Have an elevated platform to allow firefighters to extinguish fires in multi-story buildings.



ISO RATING

Fire departments undergo evaluations by the **Insurance Services Office (ISO)** to receive a **Public Protection Classification (PPC)** rating. This rating assesses a community's fire protection capabilities and its ability to mitigate risks. The ISO scores departments based on three main criteria: communications (10 points), fire department operations (50 points), and water supply (40 points). Additionally, community risk reduction efforts can earn up to 5.5 bonus points, which would make a perfect score 105.5. Insurance companies use these ratings to help determine homeowners' insurance premiums.

The ISO assigns ratings on a scale of 1 to 10, with 1 being the best and 10 indicating limited coverage or high risk. The **Statesboro Fire Department holds a Class 2 rating**—an achievement shared by only 61 of the 742 (8.2%) fire departments in Georgia.





TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division of the Statesboro Fire Department is composed of one Assistant Chief of Operations and Training, one Training Captain, and various supplemental captains who assist. The training program **includes**, but is **not limited to** the following areas: Company Training, Hazardous Materials Awareness Training, Hazardous Materials Operations Training, Officer Training, Driver Training, New Driver Training, Facility Training, and New Recruit Training.

ISO Training Category	Required Hour Per Firefighter	Statesboro Average Per Firefighter	Hours Completed
Company Training	192	261.7	14,656
HazMat Training	6	9.4	526
Officer Training	12	37.7	452
Driver Training	12	14.7	383
New Driver Training	60	87.2	436
Facility Training	18	22.4	1,252
Other (Recruit, Tech Rescue, etc.)	N/A	N/A	1,843
19,548 Total Training Hours in 2024			





TRAINING DIVISION

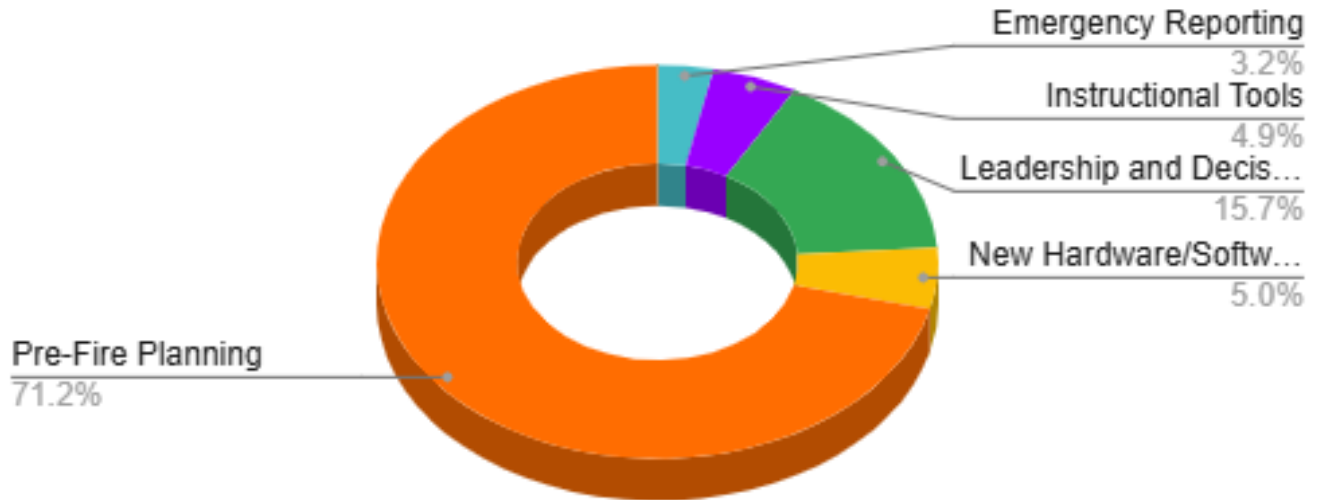
In the Summer of 2024, the Statesboro Fire Department facilitated a **recruit class** that successfully resulted in the hiring of **five** new firefighters. Recruits came out of the eight-week program with the following certifications and qualifications: Firefighter I, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operations, CPR and AED, Incident Command System Training, and Vehicle Extrication. Recruit training alone consisted of the **standard 280** hours, however, the five recruits averaged **314 training hours** by the end of 2024.



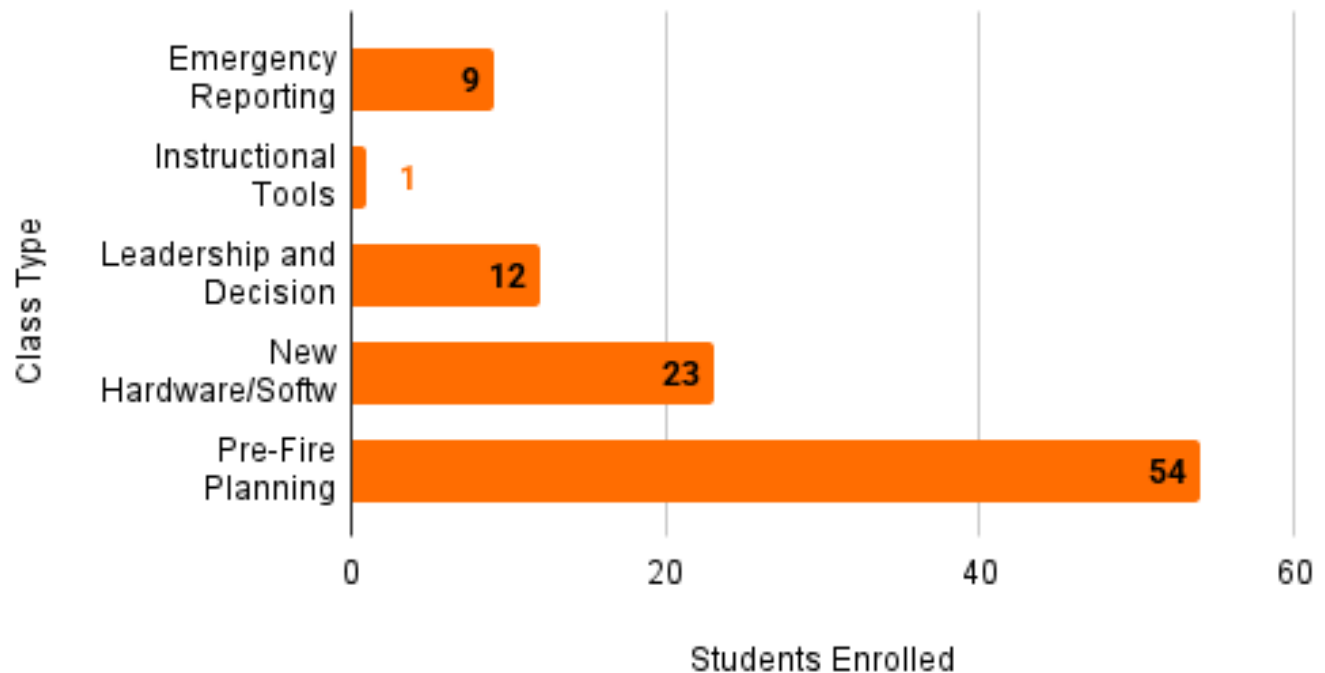


TRAINING COURSE PARTICIPATION

Administrative Training: 617 Hours



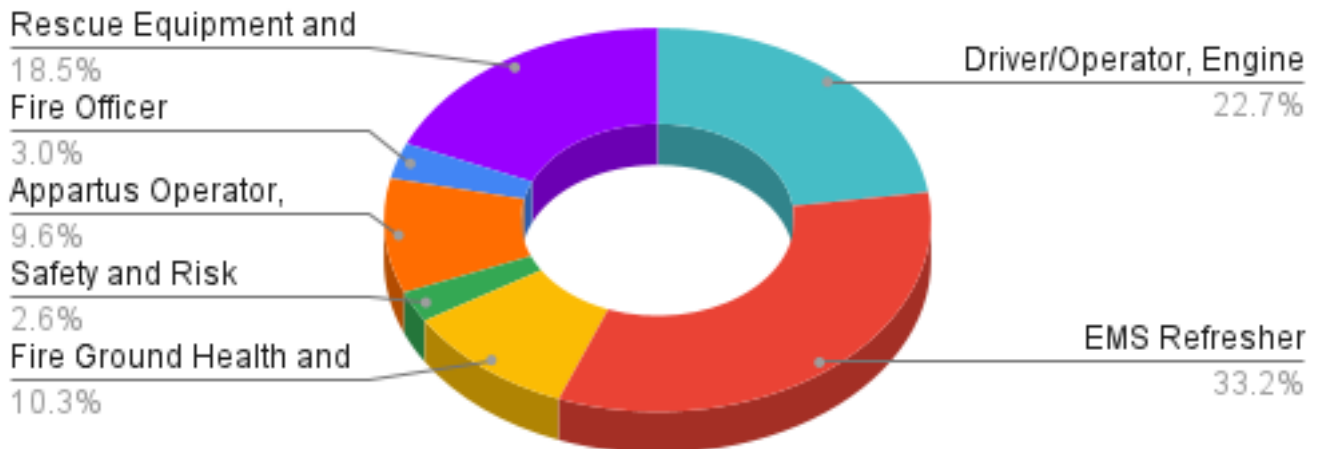
Students Enrolled per Class Type



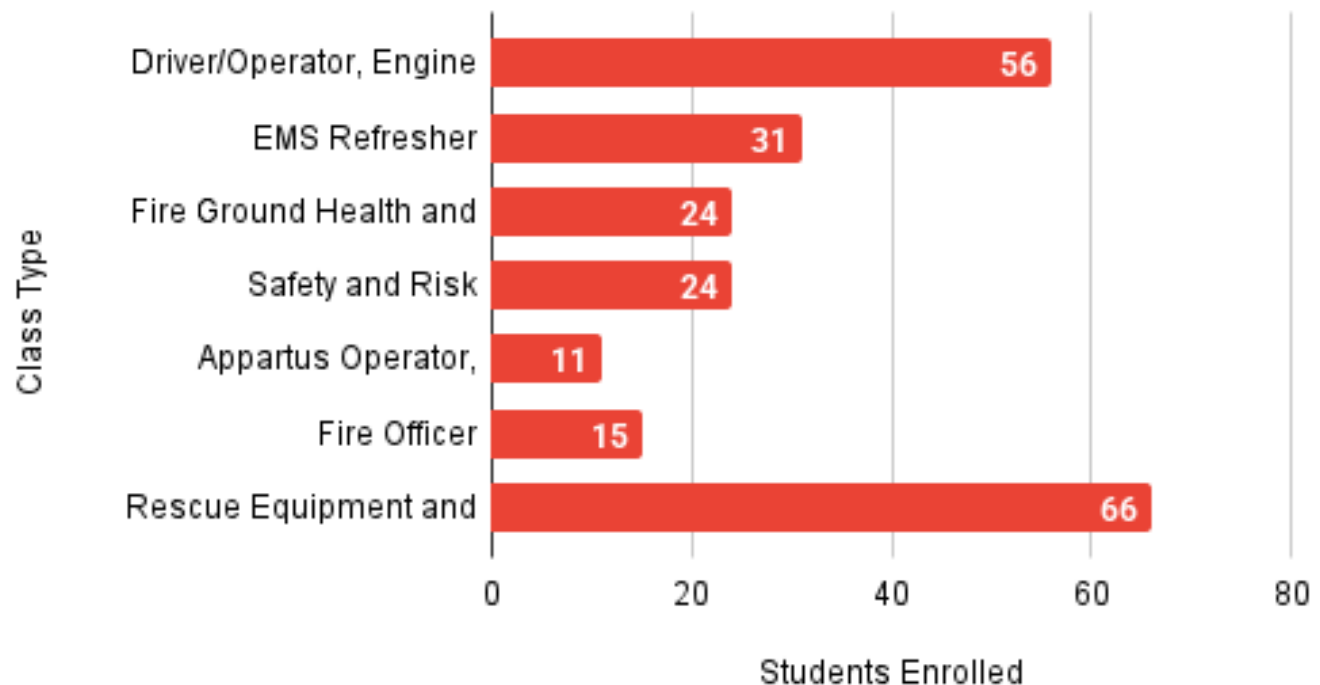


TRAINING COURSE PARTICIPATION

Operational Training: 5,290 Hours



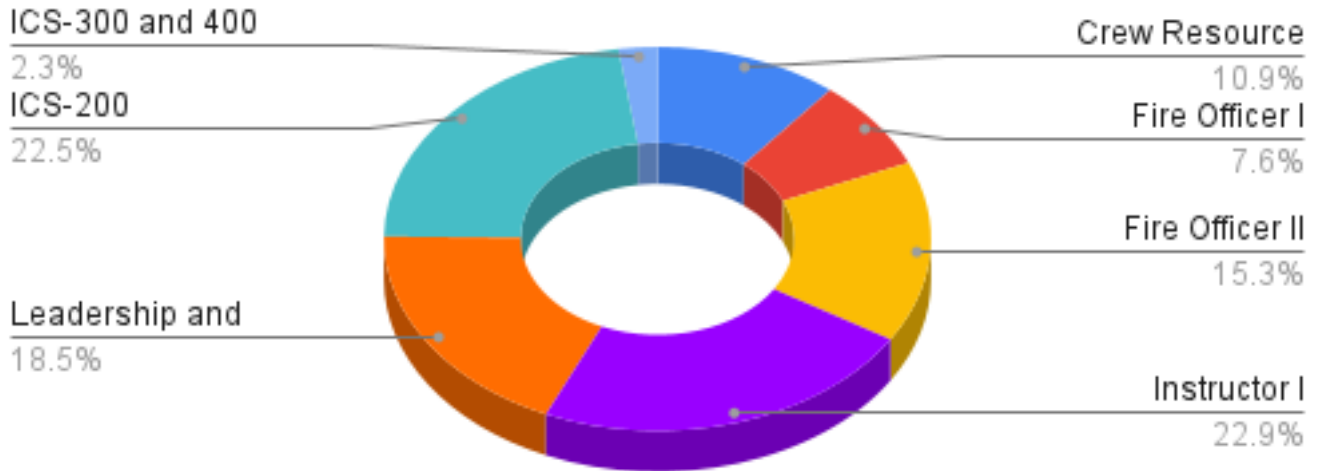
Students Enrolled per Class Type



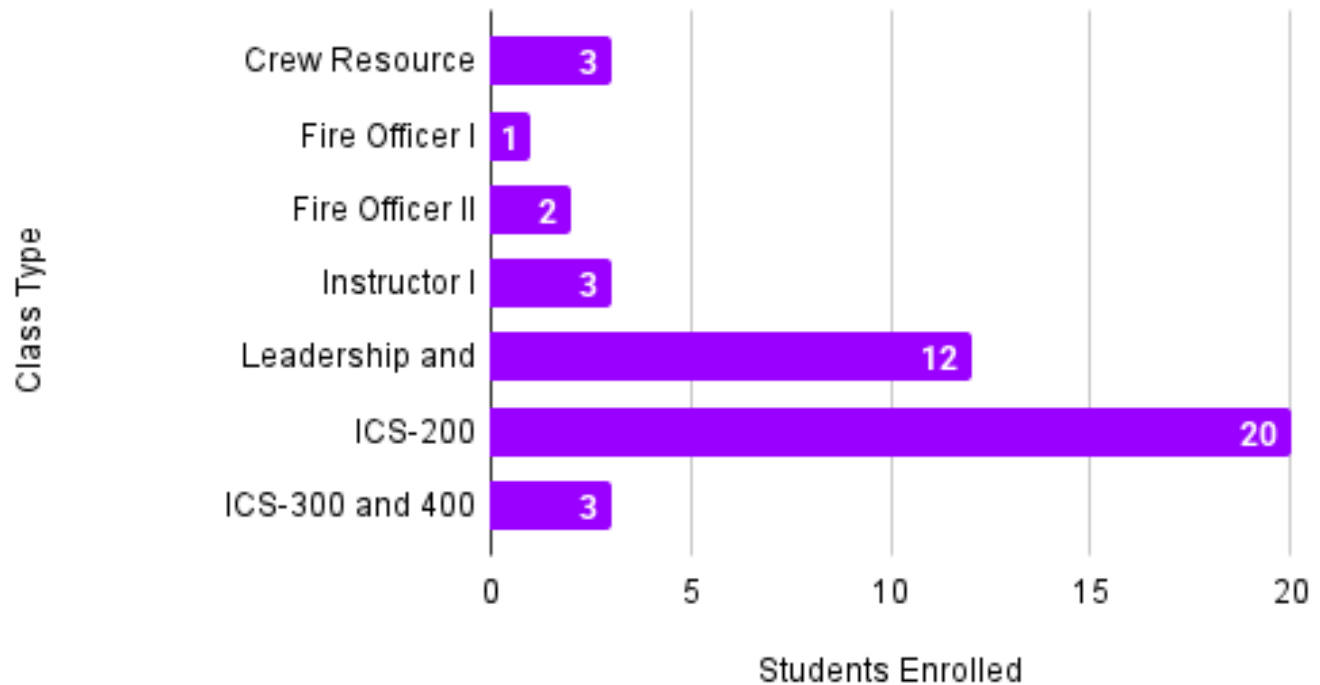


TRAINING COURSE PARTICIPATION

Fire Officer Development Training: 691 Hours



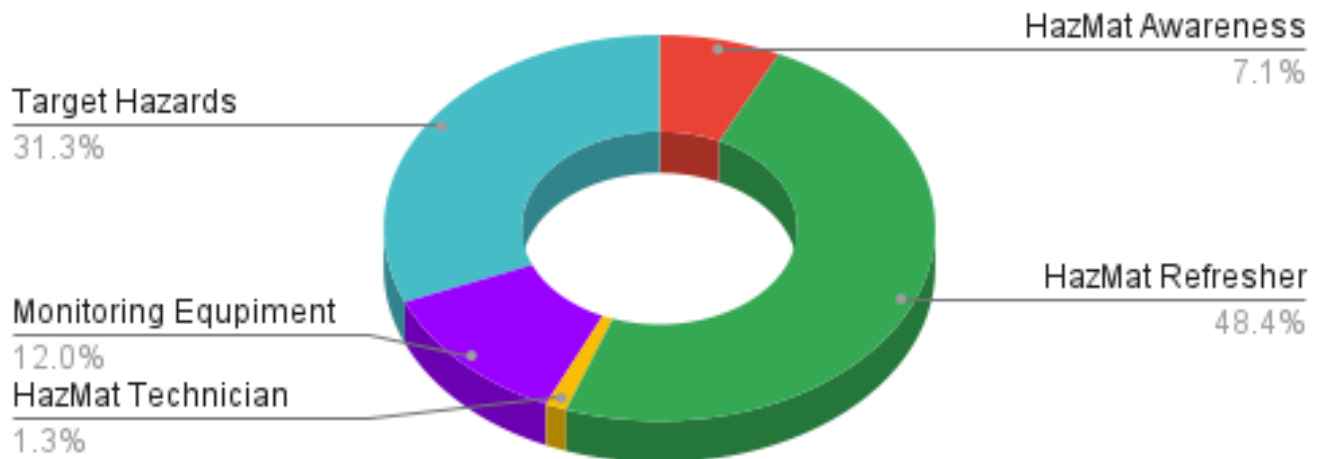
Students Enrolled per Class Type



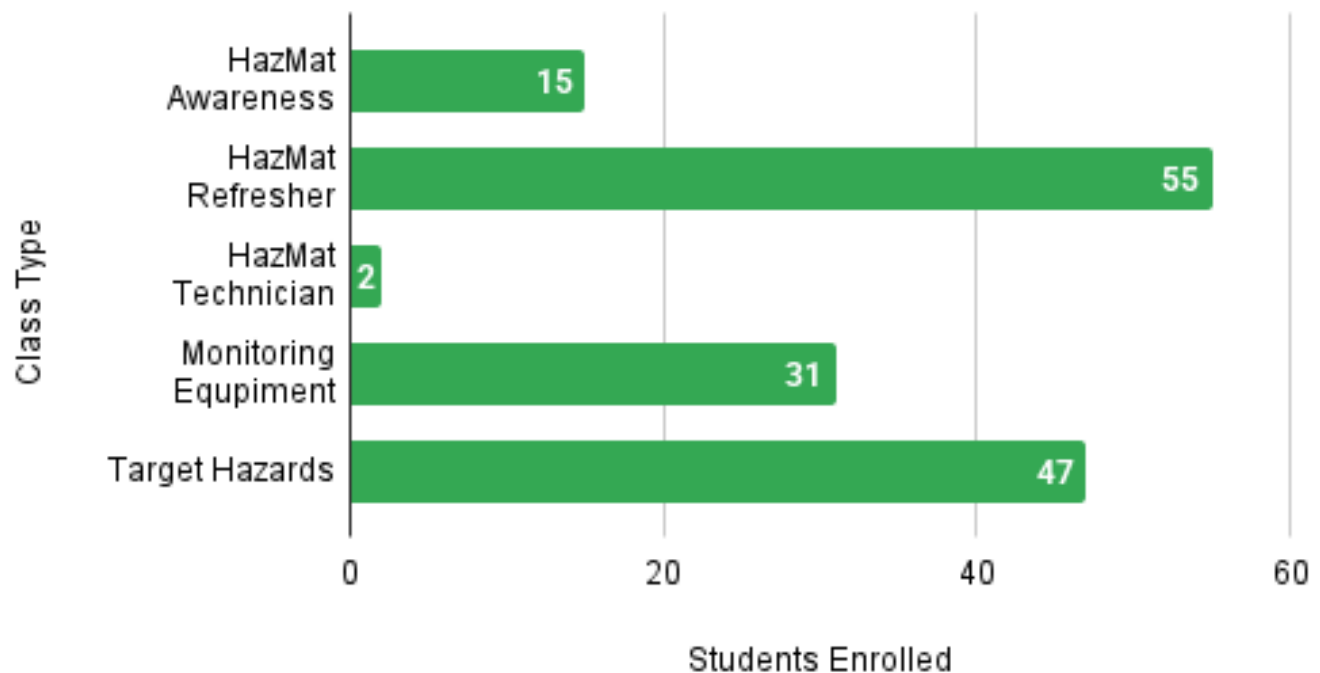


TRAINING COURSE PARTICIPATION

Hazardous Materials Training: 1,036 Hours



Students Enrolled per Class Type





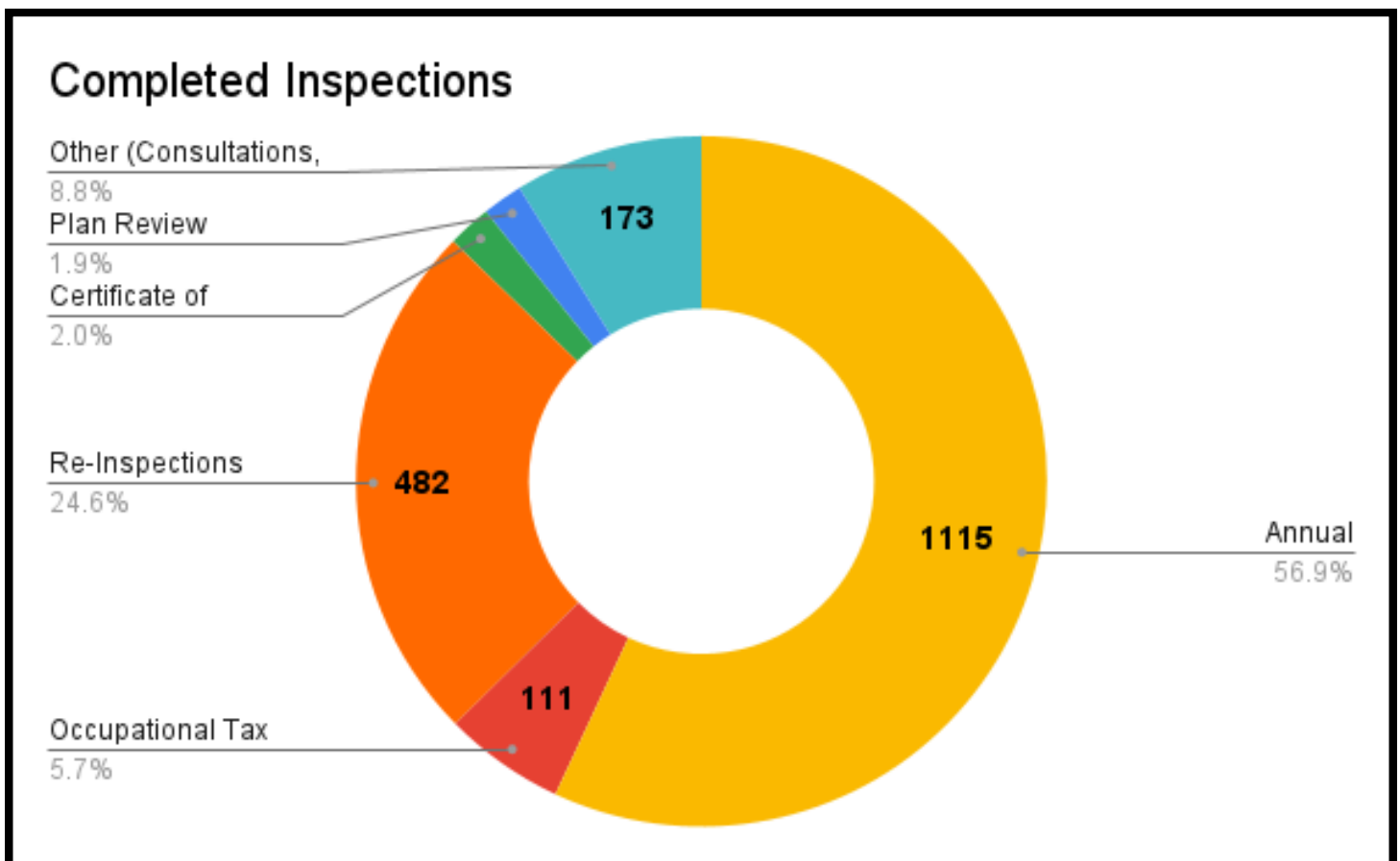
TRAINING DIVISION





PREVENTION DIVISION

The Prevention Division continues to play a crucial role in preventing and mitigating fire risks by conducting fire and life safety inspections. In 2024 a total of **1,958 inspections** were conducted throughout commercial properties located within the City of Statesboro. Fire and life safety inspections aim to identify and address fire hazards within a building or facility. Routine inspections ensure that fire safety systems (alarms, sprinklers, extinguishers, etc.) are compliant with adopted fire codes and in working order. The Prevention Division conducts a variety of inspections which include **Annual Fire and Life Safety, Occupational Tax Certificates, and Certificate of Occupancy**, along with many others.





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Community Risk Reduction (CRR) programs are proactive initiatives implemented by the Statesboro Fire Department to enhance public safety, reduce the risk of emergencies, and minimize the impact of incidents.

This year we had direct **CRR interactions** with **3,913** citizens including the following: installed **56 smoke alarms**, visited over **1,300** during **school visits**, **2,400** during **community events**, and **63** from **station tours**.

The Statesboro Fire Department employs a variety of strategies to accomplish its goal of a safer, more prepared community.





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION



One of the primary ways we promote **CRR** is by providing a variety of educational materials tailored to different safety concerns. We offer **brochures, flyers, and other printed resources** covering topics such as fire safety, home escape planning, smoke alarm maintenance, and disaster preparedness. These materials are designed to be informative, easy to understand, and accessible to all members of our community.

In addition to brochures, we also supply **hands-on learning tools and interactive educational supplies** that cater to different age groups. Our department frequently partners with local schools, businesses, and community organizations to distribute these resources and conduct safety presentations. Whether through community events, open houses, or direct requests, we ensure that vital safety information reaches as many people as possible.

To make these resources readily available, we maintain educational displays at our fire stations and collaborate with local establishments such as libraries, and schools. **Residents can pick up brochures and other safety materials** at their convenience, helping to reinforce critical fire prevention and emergency preparedness strategies in their daily lives.



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Fire Prevention Week - Kiwanis Ogeechee Fair





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Action Pact



Compassion Christian Church





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Bethany



Community Helpers Day at Mattie Lively





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

First Baptist Church Preschool



“Up In Flames”





COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Camp RAD





GRANTS

The Statesboro Fire Department continues to seek opportunities that supplement its operational budget by applying for grants at the local, state, and federal levels. In 2024 grant funding provided to the department at the federal level totaled **\$581,107**.

Federal funding was utilized to enhance the department's operational and fire prevention capabilities. **Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) provided \$45,000** which was utilized to continue the department's **Health and Wellness initiative** via the retention of departmental physicians. The **Fire Prevention & Safety Grant (FP&S) provided \$8,500** in funding to purchase an **Inflatable Fire Safety Education House** to further strengthen the Statesboro Fire Department's CRR initiatives. In 2023, the **Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) provided \$2,108,938.32 for staffing** an additional 12 operational personnel. During 2024 the Statesboro Fire Department received **\$527,607 in funding from SAFER** for those additional personnel's salaries. The SAFER grant will continue to fund the salaries for these additional personnel through 2026.





2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Completed Station 2 renovations.
- Began the process of constructing additional training facilities.
- Acquired property for a third station.
- Purchased two new aerial apparatus.
- Introduced a Peer Counseling Program to the Department's Health and Wellness program.
- Received a total of \$3,271, 152.30 in grant funding in 2024.

MOVING FORWARD

- New aerial apparatus (platform expected in March of 2025).
- Construction of Station 3.
- Working with consultants to study the feasibility of implementing a fire service fee.
- Continue to evaluate departmental services, processes, procedures, and programs to ensure excellent service delivery is maintained.



As we reflect on the past year, the Statesboro Fire Department remains steadfast in our mission to protect, serve, and support our community.

Through emergency response, fire prevention efforts, and public education, we have worked tirelessly to enhance safety and preparedness for all.

Our success is made possible by the dedication of our firefighters, the collaboration of city leaders, and the unwavering support of the community we proudly serve. Looking ahead, we are committed to advancing our services, embracing innovation, and strengthening our partnerships to ensure a safer future for Statesboro.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. Together, we make Statesboro stronger and safer.



"Serving Statesboro and the surrounding community since 1905"