



GIG HARBOR FIRE & MEDIC ONE

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

ACCOUNTABILITY • CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT • CUSTOMER SERVICE • EXCELLENCE • INTEGRITY • SAFETY • TEAMWORK

DEPARTMENT HISTORY

In the spring of 1944, a devastating fire in north Gig Harbor destroyed several shoreside businesses, including a restaurant, barber shop, Johnson Motors, post office and shipyard. Meeting in Honest John's Café, known today as Anthony's, John Finholm and several friends and neighbors discussed setting up a fire department. In the fall, a petition signed by 15% of the qualified voters living in the Gig Harbor community was presented to the Board of Commissioners of Pierce County to request permission to form a fire protection district for the Peninsula. A formal "Notice of Hearing on Petition for the Formation of a Suburban Fire District" was published for three weeks in October 1944 in the Tacoma Daily Index. Formal hearings for public comment were held, and on January 6, 1945, Pierce County Fire District 5 was created as a volunteer fire department. In 1973, the first paid personnel were hired by the district. Beginning in March of 1974, the first three paid firefighters began working 24-hour shifts.



MISSION STATEMENT

Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One will provide exceptional service to our citizens and our members with dedication, compassion, and respect, while continually striving for improvement.

VISION STATEMENT

Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One will be an innovative leader in providing emergency medical services, fire suppression, and injury reduction and prevention services. We will lead by responding quickly to our community's needs, acting compassionately, and performing superbly.

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF



Greetings from your local Fire District - As Fire Chief, I am proud to present our 2023 Annual Report. We are committed to the safety and well-being of our community. It is my duty to ensure that our team of dedicated firefighters and paramedics is prepared to respond to emergencies with professionalism and excellence. We continuously train and adapt to the evolving challenges of fire safety and emergency response. Our mission extends beyond responding to calls; we are here to educate, engage, and work collaboratively with the community to prevent emergencies and build a safer environment for all. I am proud to lead a department that is not only responsive but also proactive in its approach to protecting our citizens. Thank you for your trust and support as we continue to serve you with unwavering commitment.

I am so honored to be Fire Chief of Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One. More so, I am proud of all the great people I get to work with each day. From our uniformed personnel to our fleet, facilities, and administrative staff. Each individual who works at Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One provides excellent customer service to our community members daily.

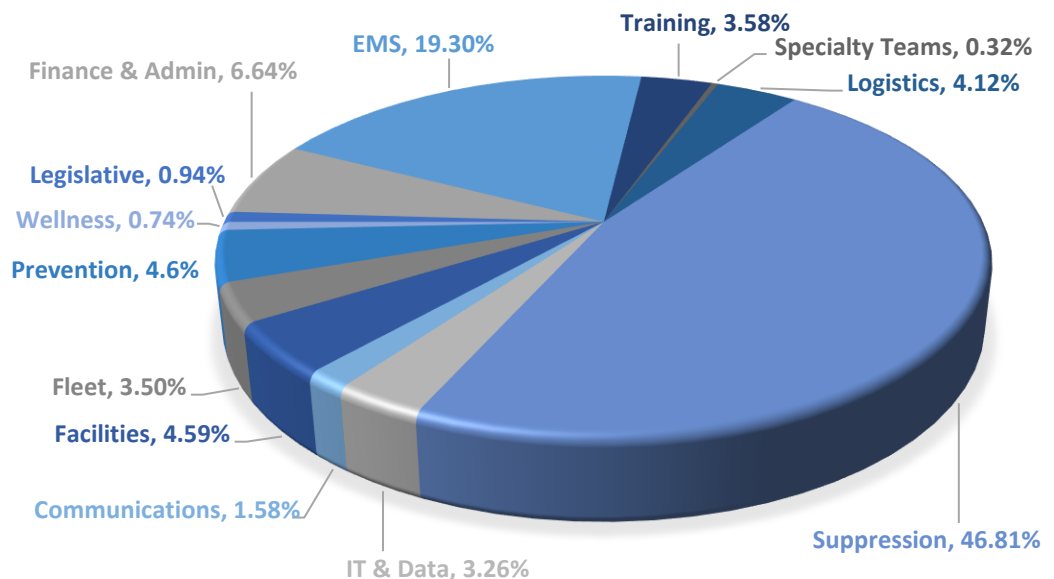
I welcome questions any time at (253) 851-3111 or ddoan@gigharborfire.org. Thank you for your continued support.

BUDGET & FINANCE

2023 BUDGET SUMMARY \$35,395,779

The District is primarily funded by two voter-approved tax levies, a General Fire levy and an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy. These levies are based on the assessed value of property within the jurisdiction.

These two levies contributed to 90.8% of the overall budget in 2023.



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One operates under a chain-of-command that has been established by the Board of Fire Commissioners, which are elected to represent the public they serve. A five-member Board governs the District, each representing the entire District and elected in a staggered term of office.

The Board meets twice per month to set budgets, establish policy, and provide administrative oversight. Regular board meetings are scheduled on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00pm. These meetings take place in person at District headquarters, with the option to attend virtually. Virtual meeting links, meeting minutes, agendas, and resolutions can be found at www.gigharborfire.org.



FIRE COMMISSIONERS

JOE URVINA

Chairman

ALEX WILSIE

Vice Chairman

KEVIN ENTZE

Commissioner

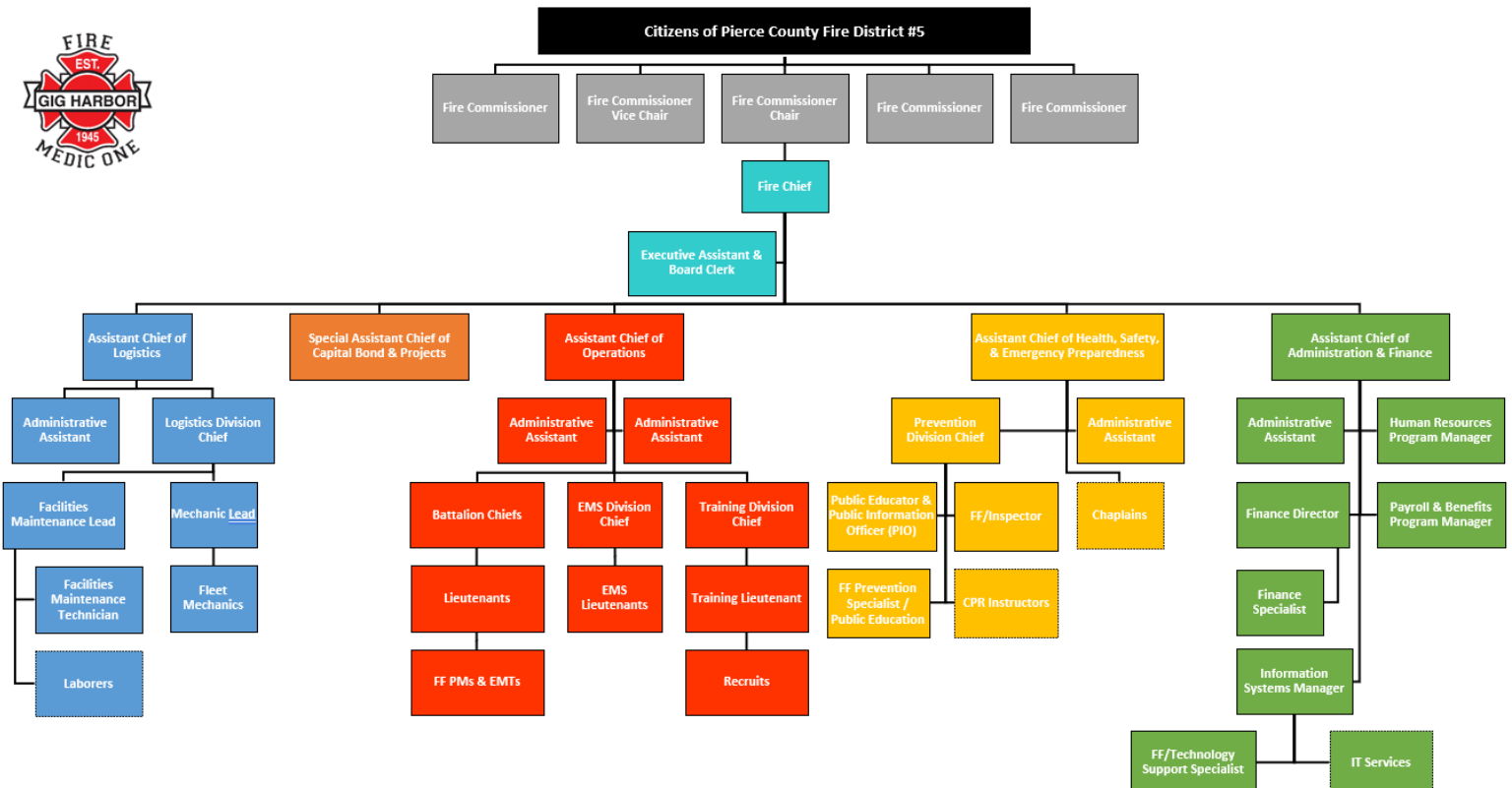
TOM SUTICH

Commissioner

BRYCE NELSON

Commissioner

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One offers a variety of services such as fire suppression, emergency medical services, fire prevention, community risk reduction, public education, technical rescue, and wildland firefighting. In addition to 9-1-1 responses, we have provided our community the following services and programs in 2023:

- ♦ **Community Risk Reduction:** A program that uses a data driven approach to identify risks within the community and apply mitigation efforts through education and interventions to reduce the impact of that risk to the community in the future.
- ♦ **Emergency Preparedness, Planning and Response:** A program that works collaboratively with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management for planning and preparedness.
- ♦ **Public Education:** A program that provides the foundation of fire safety information for the community.
- ♦ **Technical Rescue:** Services include advanced rescue functions such as high angle, confined space, vehicle and machinery, swift water, trench rescue and structural collapse.
- ♦ **Wildland Fire:** Services include fires originating in wooded or non-built upon areas.



2023 TRAINING HOURS BY CATEGORY

TRAINING

FIRE SUPPRESSION
8,359

EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICES
3,967

SPECIAL
OPERATIONS
1,956

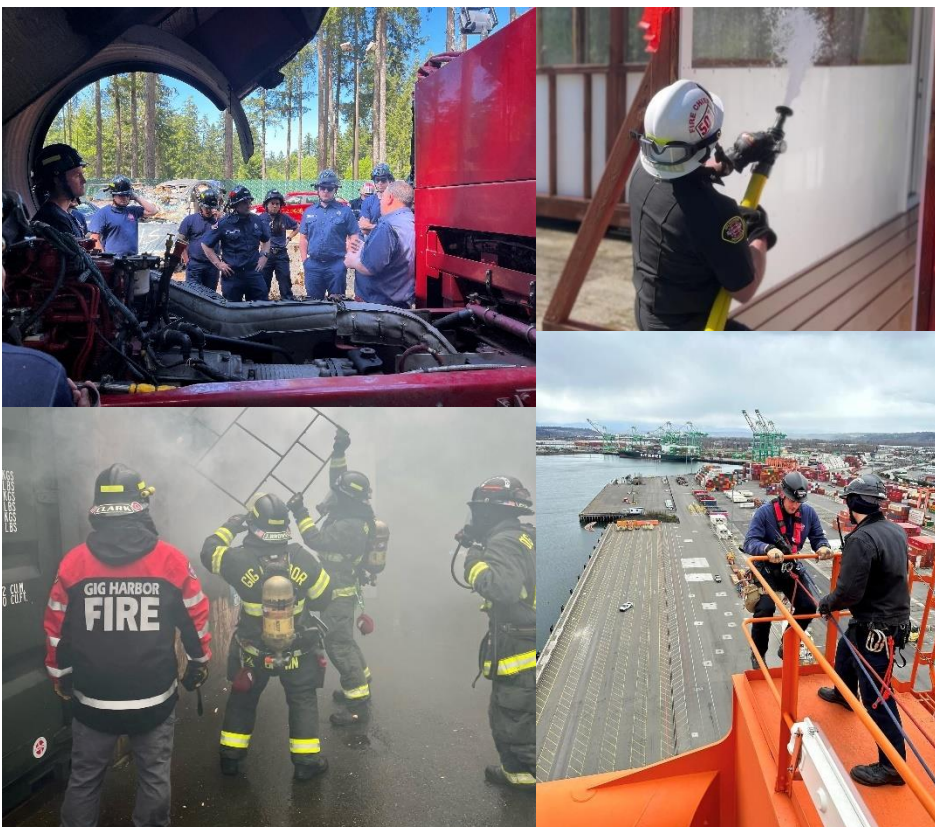
OFFICER
DEVELOPMENT
1,410

DRIVER/OPERATOR
1,146

ADMINISTRATIVE
NFPA/NIMS
577

At Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One, our training division is tasked with developing training practices and establishing standards to evaluate proficiency levels. Training and education in the fire service contributes to the overall effectiveness and safety of firefighters and the communities that they serve. By equipping our firefighters with the necessary skills, knowledge, and a proactive mindset, training enables them to effectively respond to emergencies, protect lives and property, and serve our community with professionalism and dedication.

In addition to continuously training our firefighters to maintain and improve their skills and abilities, our training division manages several key programs. These include driver operator certification, development and certification for acting officers, special operations program management, recruitment programs, and conducting promotional processes. At Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One, we strive to fulfill our core value of continuous improvement, therefore train to optimize our firefighters' preparedness to respond to the community's emergency needs.

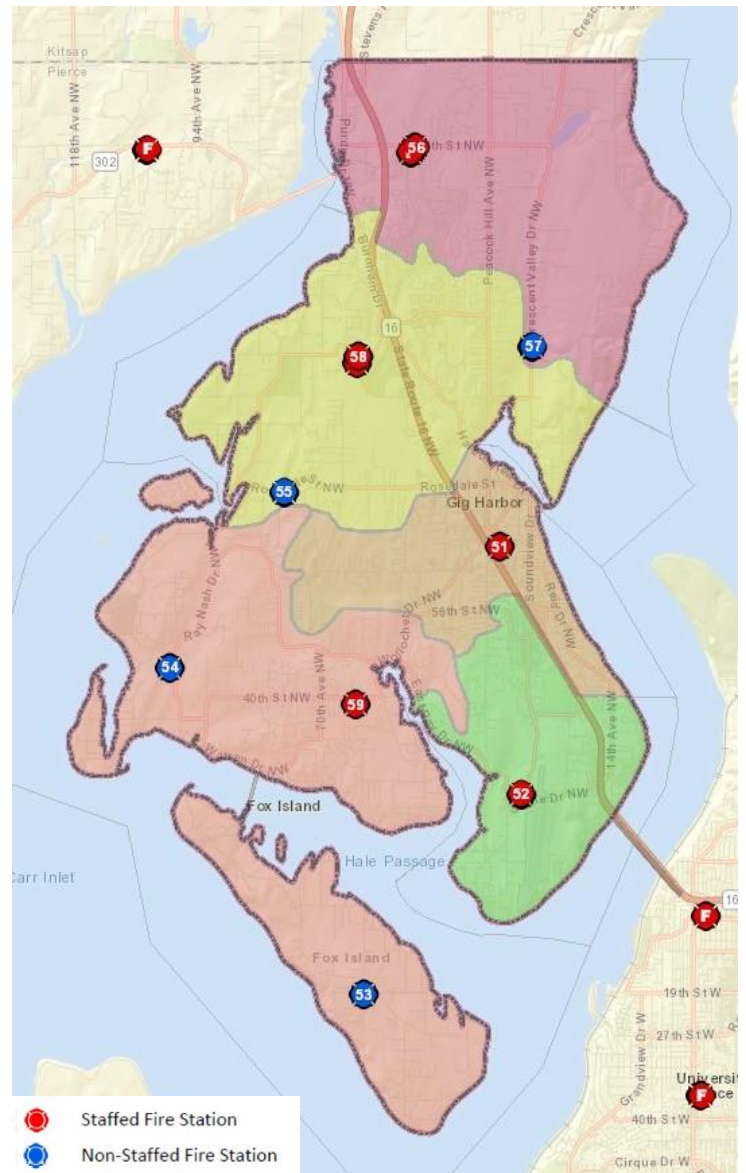


STATIONS AND STAFFING

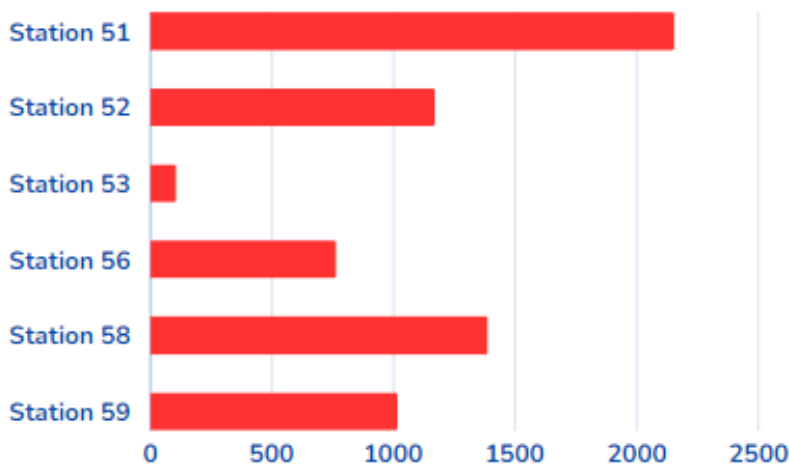
Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One serves approximately 54 square miles in suburban and rural areas. The district serves an estimated population of 51,354, with 12,484 of its residents within Gig Harbor city limits.

In 2023, the department employed 121 uniformed firefighters and paramedics. Each full-time firefighter holds a certification as either an emergency medical technician (EMT) or paramedic, enabling them to respond to medical emergencies and fires.

Emergency response coverage is maintained throughout the district with five fully staffed stations operating 24/7, supported by four rotating shifts. Additionally, the District has four stations that are not staffed. In 2023, when additional staff were available, Station 53 was staffed for 175 shifts, or 47.9% of the year.



TOTAL 911 CALLS BY STATION



STATION STAFFING

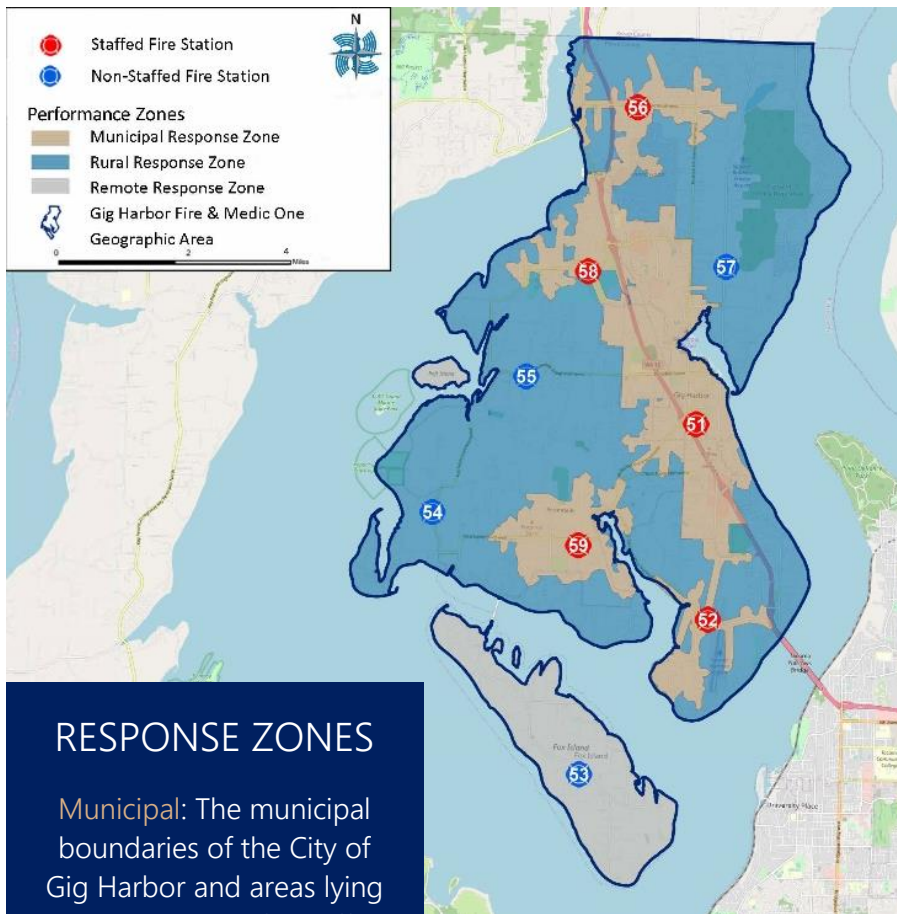
STATION 51 – 6711 KIMBALL DR
ENGINE: 3 | MEDIC UNIT: 2 | BATTALION CHIEF: 1

STATION 52 – 2217 POINT FOSDICK DR
ENGINE: 3

STATION 56 – 5210 144TH ST NW
ENGINE: 3

STATION 58 – 10302 BUJACICH RD NW
ENGINE: 3 | MEDIC UNIT: 2

STATION 59 – 3828 62ND AVE CT NW
ENGINE: 3 | MEDIC UNIT: 2



RESPONSE ZONES

Municipal: The municipal boundaries of the City of Gig Harbor and areas lying within 1.5 miles of a staffed station.

Rural: All other areas outside of the Municipal Response Zone and connected to the Kitsap Peninsula.

Remote: Fox Island, Raft Island and Tanglewood Island.



RESPONSE AREA

The Gig Harbor Peninsula spans approximately 7 miles at its widest and stretches 13 miles in length, presenting both advantages and challenges. Situated on three sides by 59.2 miles of shoreline, with multiple large bays and inlets, the area boasts stunning natural beauty.

However, these intricate waterways, some extending nearly 2 miles into the peninsula, pose significant obstacles to efficient emergency responses.

Compounding the issue, our roadways are problematic, as the system was originally designed to accommodate a fishing village and seasonal residences before World War II. The current roadways provide scarce direct access, hampering efficient navigation. Additionally, a 10-mile segment of Washington State Highway 16 bisects the District, with few places for fire apparatus to cross. This limited access frequently slows our ability to respond with multiple engine companies. As a result, response times to Rural and Remote zones are notably affected by this unique geography and routing challenge.

As Gig Harbor's population continues to grow, we anticipate a sustained increase in demand for department services. Performance will be continually evaluated to enhance response times, and we will set realistic goals based on our current level of resources and the district's unique geographic and road network challenges.

2023 TOTAL CALLS



FIRE - 95

Fire responses are higher risk, though lower frequency, and many require additional resources.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES – 5,560

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) calls are for medical aid responses that include caring for a patient by providing Basic Life Support (BLS) or Advance Life Support (ALS) services.

HAZARDS - 64

Hazard responses includes combustible/flammable liquid spills and leaks, structural collapse, powerline down and explosions call types.

SERVICE CALLS - 331

Service calls may include patient assists, water problems, smoke/odor problems, and public agency assistance.

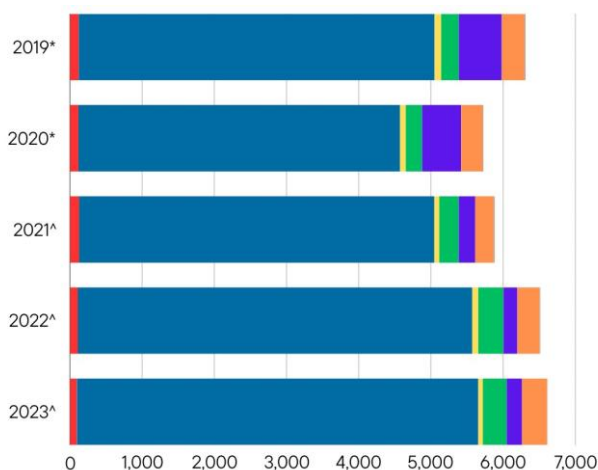
GOOD INTENT - 213

Good intent calls include responses when a potential hazard or concern is reported, and it is determined to be safe upon investigation by the responding units.

FALSE CALL AND OTHER - 354

False calls include responses that are determined to be unfounded.

ANNUAL SERVICE DEMAND



*Data source for 2019-2020 is 2021 Standard of Cover.

^Data source for 2021-2023 is Intterra.

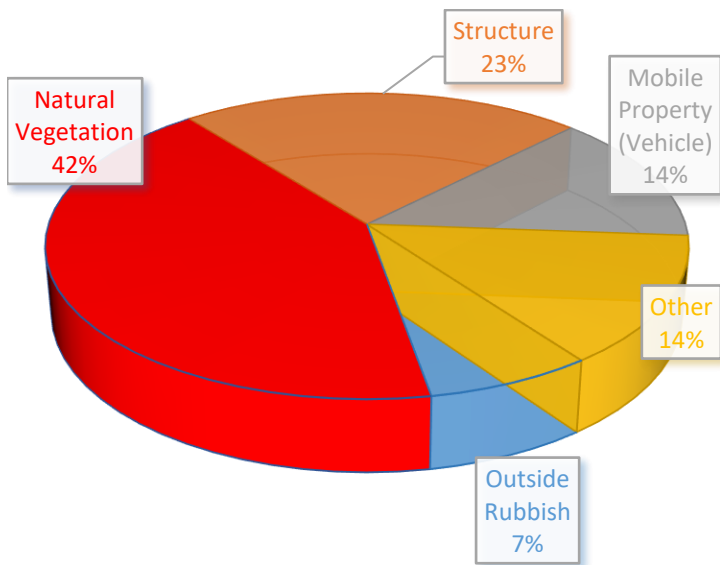
FINAL SITUATION	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
FIRE	121	117	127	109	95
EMS	4,929	4,455	4,919	5,462	5,560
HAZARDS	92	80	70	84	64
SERVICE CALL	244	226	270	350	331
GOOD INTENT	596	540	227	191	213
FALSE CALL/OTHER	331	309	273	320	354
TOTAL	6,313	5,727	5,886	6,516	6,617

Non-emergency call types, such as cancelled enroute or assist other agency have been removed from these service call totals, as these call types are typically non-emergent and not representative of true emergency responses.

2023 RESPONSES

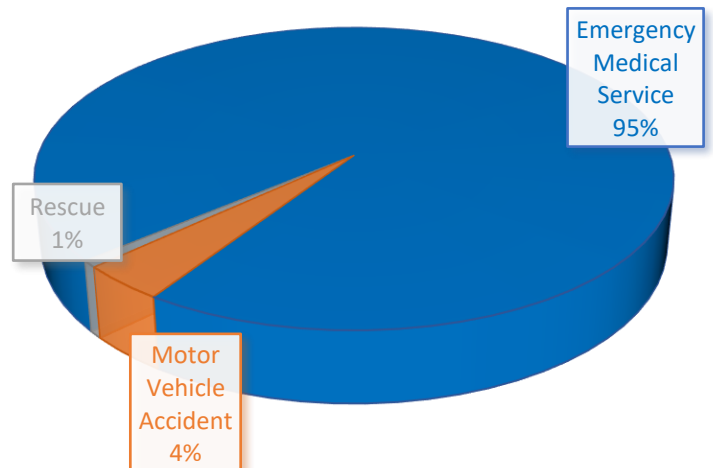
FIRE RESPONSES

These types of responses place responders in dangerous situations, require more resources and pose significant risk to the community. Many of these calls require specialized training to mitigate them safely.



EMS RESPONSES

As an emergency transport agency, the majority of Gig Harbor Fire's service demand is for EMS response. Emergency Medical Services includes out of hospital emergency medical care.



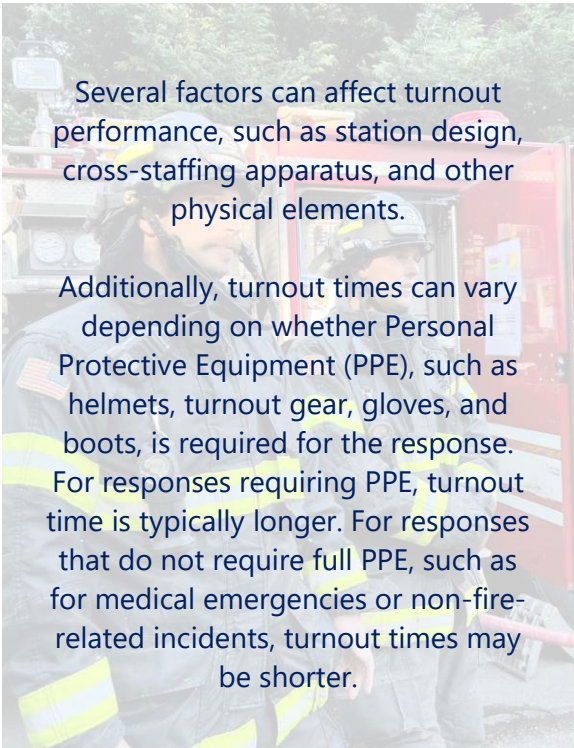
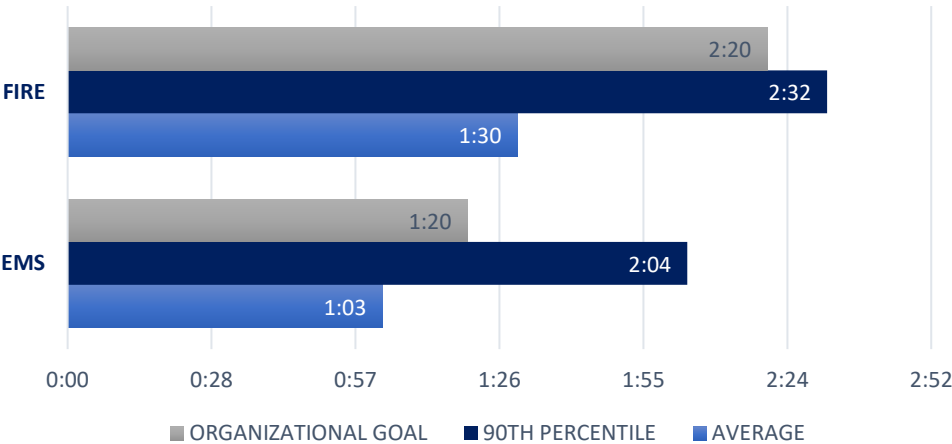
2023 PERFORMANCE FOR EMERGENT CALLS

TURNOUT TIME

Turnout time measures how quickly crews can respond to the initial notification of an incident and begin traveling to the scene.

TURNOUT TIME	AVERAGE	90TH PERCENTILE	DISTRICT GOAL	ACHIEVED GOAL
FIRE	1:30	2:32	2:20	88.9%
EMS	1:03	2:04	1:20	75.8%

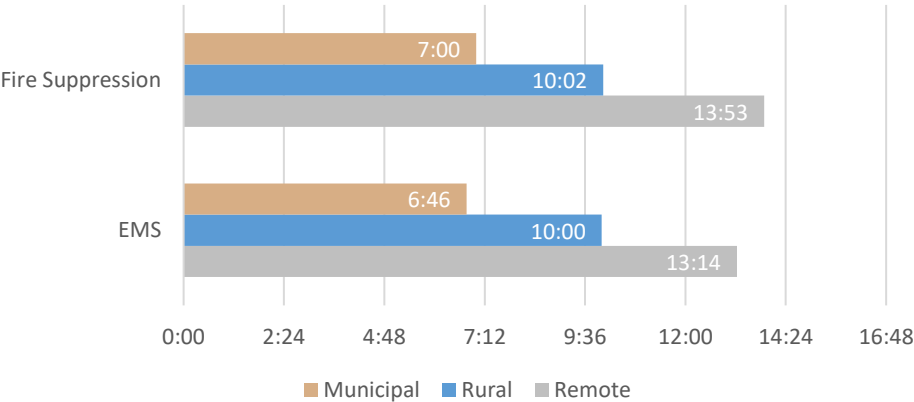
TURNOUT TIME



TRAVEL TIME

Travel time is the elapsed time from when a unit begins to respond until it's arrival on scene.

FIRST ARRIVER TRAVEL TIME AT 90TH PERCENTILE



Emergency response to the scene can vary depending upon how far the emergency is from the fire station.

Response times for the fire service are essential for two reasons:

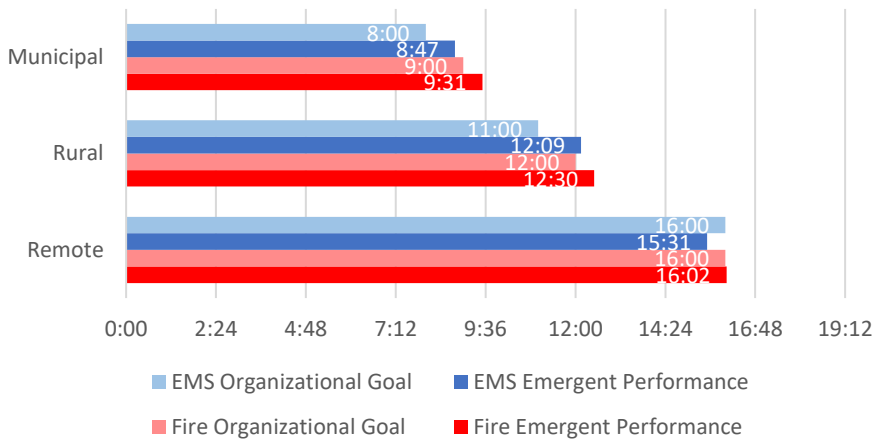
- saving lives
- reducing property damage caused by fire.

RESPONSE TIME

Response time is the combined total of turnout and travel time.

R E S P O N S E	FIRE	MUNICIPAL	RURAL	REMOTE
	EMS			
	AVERAGE	5:56	9:10	11:29
		5:45	8:02	10:21
	90TH PERCENTILE	9:31	12:30	16:02
		8:47	12:09	15:31
	DISTRICT GOAL	9:00	12:00	16:00
		8:00	11:00	16:00
	ACHIEVED GOAL	86.10%	83.90%	83.30%
		88.90%	87.80%	94.20%

FIRE & EMS RESPONSE TIMES



Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One's organizational goals specify the minimum criteria needed to effectively and efficiently deliver fire suppression and emergency medical services. These response objectives are designed to protect the community members of Gig Harbor and ensure the occupational safety and health of our firefighters.

In accordance with our core value of continuous improvement, Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One will continue to actively evaluate additional opportunities and strategies to lower response times to high-risk incidents in rural and remote areas of our response district. PulsePoint Verified Responder and Community CPR are examples of ongoing programs that the department is utilizing to aid in lowering response times.

We also prioritized managing our resources in the most efficient manner. Our intent is to optimize the allocation and utilization of department resources, including personnel, equipment, and vehicles, to maximize effectiveness and efficiency in our emergency responses.





GIG HARBOR FIRE & MEDIC ONE

10222 BUJACICH RD NW

GIG HARBOR, WA 98332

(253) 851-3111

www.gigharborfire.org

