



# Florida Fires

*State Fire Marshal Annual Report*

**1998**



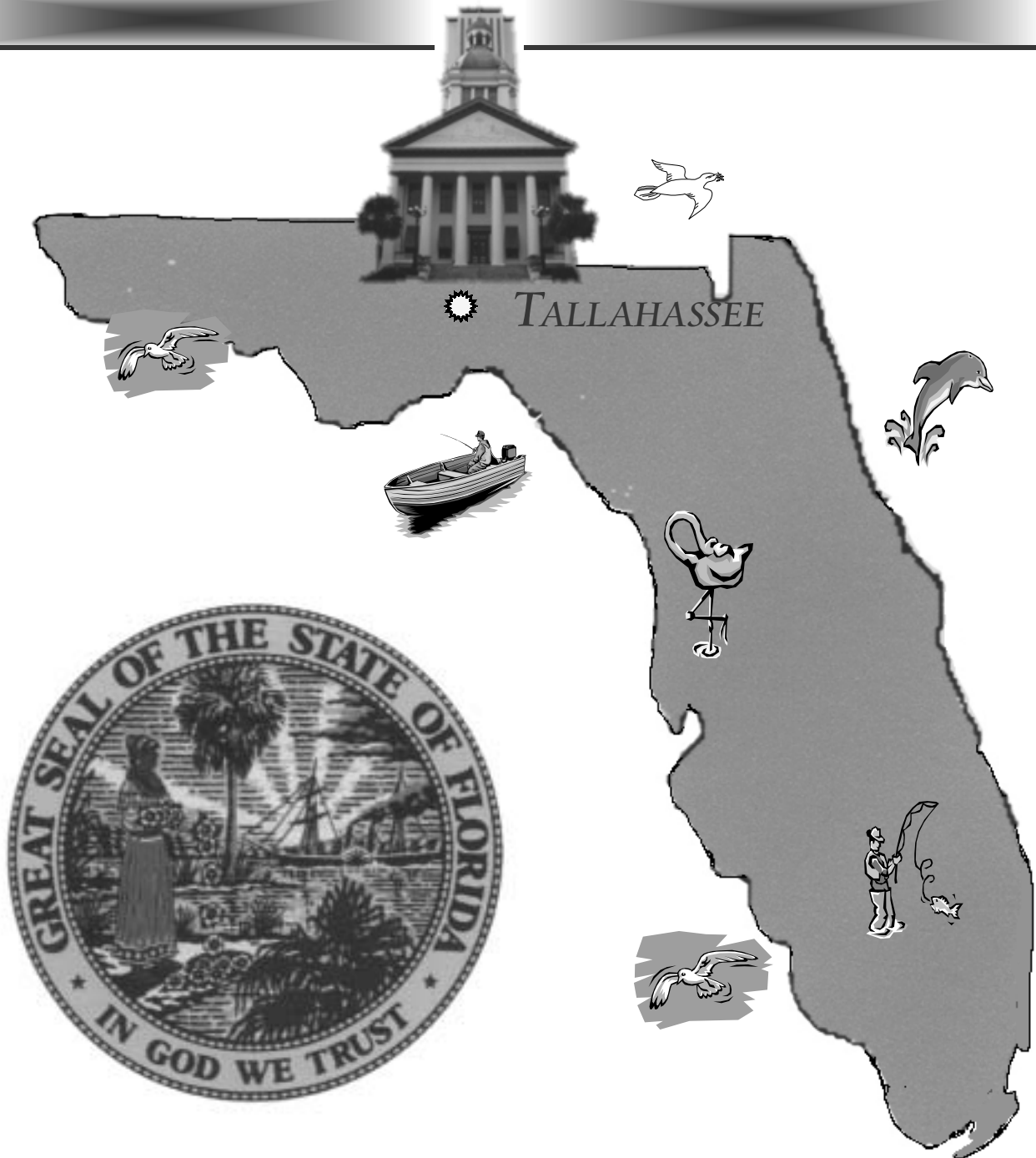


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# FLORIDA FIRES 1998

The Florida Department of Insurance



*This report is also available in electronic format through the  
State Fire Marshal section of  
the Florida Department of Insurance.*

**WEBSITE ADDRESS:**

***www.doi.state.fl.us***

*A Message From:*

# *State Fire Marshal Bill Nelson*

*The Division of State Fire Marshal publishes Florida Fires 1998 as a record of the effort across the state to protect the lives and property of Florida's citizens. The statistics inside are provided by fire departments throughout Florida. It is our hope that by sharing this information we can identify ways to improve our service, education and training.*

*Among our most important tasks during the past year has been the development of Florida's first statewide fire prevention code. Over the past several months, representatives from the Division of State Fire Marshal along with fire service personnel, architects, engineers, and others from throughout Florida, have been hammering out a draft of a unified code.*

*In South Florida, construction is completed on the state's first "hurricane house," a state-of-the-art facility that will demonstrate building techniques and features designed to make homes sturdier and safer. The 3,100-square foot facility in Ft. Pierce, though open for viewing to the public, is geared toward training for fire personnel, architects and builders. Other facilities are scheduled for construction in Dade, St. Johns and Escambia counties.*

*In 1998, we gave away 50,000 smoke detectors to low-income families and residents. Nearly half of the state's fire departments assisted by identifying qualified recipients and installing the detectors.*

*The State Fire Marshal's Office is committed to continually improving our service to the state. If you have any questions or comments regarding this publication, please feel free to contact my office. Thank you for your continued support.*



*Sincerely,*

*Bill Nelson*

*A Message From:*

## *Division Director Charles Clark*



*As we prepare to leap into the new millennium, we know that for our organizations to be successful we must make full use of available information. The statement "information is power" is more true now than it has ever been. Information technology is evolving at lightening speed.*

*Our vision is to have all of Florida's fire and emergency services organizations connected to an electronic information network which provides complete, accurate and timely information including trends and conditions which our leaders can use to build the finest emergency services delivery systems in the world. I know all of you share in this vision and to make it a reality I ask that departments not currently participating in the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System (FFIRS) contact me or Joe Furiato at 850/413-3728 to join.*

*The Division of State Fire Marshal is committed to assisting the public and private organizations that provide fire, emergency medical, hazardous materials, and disaster management services to the citizens and visitors of our great state. Through partnerships such as the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System we will achieve our mutual goal of protecting lives and property.*

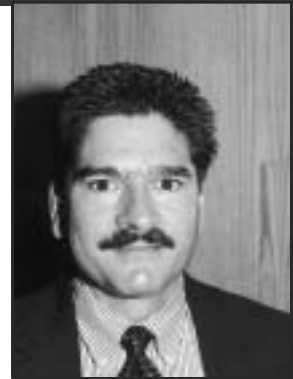
*We appreciate your continued support and assistance and look forward to working with you in the coming year.*

*Sincerely,*



# BUREAU OF FIRE STANDARDS AND TRAINING

*Firmly rooted in a seven-decade legacy but with its eye on the 21st Century, the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training, and particularly the Florida State Fire College, is rebuilding itself to improve the vital training it provides to the statewide fire service.*



*Randy Napoli, Bureau Chief*

*Key to the development of higher education programs is a new partnership between the state university system and the Florida State Fire College (FSFC). The University of Florida in Gainesville is working with the FSFC on the development and implementation of new interdisciplinary bachelor's and master's degree programs in fire and emergency services management, offered as distance learning via the Internet. Students enrolled in these courses are finding the classes challenging and on the cutting edge of current knowledge in emergency services.*

*The Bureau of Fire Standards and Training has established itself on the Internet at its new home page <http://www.fsfc.ufl.edu> in partnership with the University of Florida. From this website, Florida's fire service can receive information on upcoming programs offered by the Florida State Fire College and various fire service organizations, link to other fire agencies and research centers, and take college credit courses through their home or station PC. There is also an extensive section devoted to children with fun learning activities, fire prevention and home safety games, and fascinating information about the history of fire service. The children's website is available at <http://www.fsfckids.ufl.edu>. It is suitable for children of all ages and has been used in elementary school programs.*

*To help make these innovative programs available to even the smallest Florida fire departments, the State Fire Marshal's Office has obtained over \$800,000 in special appropriations from the Legislature. This was used as a grant-in-aid program to departments in need of computers, software, and training to connect with the FSFC education and information network. Now, 227 multimedia, Internet-ready computers are in place at 222 different fire-rescue agencies, representing 67 counties in this 21st century network.*

*The Bureau and the college it administers are responsible for not only the statewide training program, but also the vital function of maintaining Florida's high professional standards for fire service. In its dual capacity, the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training*

*prepares the fire and emergency services community for its duties, but also ensures the citizens of the state the highest possible quality and professionalism from its service professionals.*

*In the current reporting year, the training section conducted 149 separate courses on campus and, in the field, an additional 30 courses were held, serving 3,619 members of the statewide fire-rescue service (not counting 69 special symposia and conferences which served an additional 1,992 members).*

*In the most current annual reporting period, the standards section administered state examinations to 3,295 firefighters, officers, and recruits, and issued 5,226 certificates, which included triennial renewals of existing certifications. This check-and-balance system between the two sections ensures the highest caliber instruction and unsurpassed integrity of the testing process. In addition, the standards section processes the statewide Firefighter Supplemental Compensation Program which awards incentive pay to firefighter's who obtain job-related college degrees. In the current reporting year, 4,076 firefighters were participants in the system; up seven percent in just one year.*

*With a statewide mandate, FSFC benefits from its centralized location in Ocala, where it has operated since 1949. In 1989, the college moved to its current 37.5 acre campus just north of the city, where it functions as a nearly self-sufficient facility. With its own dormitories, cafeteria, bookstore, library, classrooms and training grounds, the Florida State Fire College can provide completely for its students' needs. This level of service is so high that the fire college's logistics section has received a prestigious Davis Productivity Award for its efficiency over the past reporting year.*



*The campus has been nearly rebuilt, updating facilities to provide the highest quality learning environment possible. The dormitories' new hotel-style lodging and the dining hall's increased seating capacity adds to the quality of student life. The William E. Clark Assembly Hall, named in honor of the former FSFC superintendent and founder of*



*the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, uses audio-visual systems that have been updated to state-of-the-art technology for seminars. Lastly, the Fire College library is a “virtual reality” learning resource center with on-line global access to a variety of coverage reference materials via the World Wide Web. This is in addition to numerous reference books, technical and trade journals, audio-visual materials, and new learning aids on CD-ROM.*

*The Florida State Fire College’s picturesque campus, located in the rolling hills of Central Florida’s horse country, is a “must see” item on the itinerary of visiting firefighters from all over the United States. Additionally, FSFC’s reputation has garnered a great deal of international interest. In the past few years, high-level delegations from Israel, Spain, Poland, Thailand, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Greece, Morocco, Canada, and Great Britain have come to the FSFC to learn more of American firefighting techniques.*

*As part of the fire college’s new approach, it continues to expand upon field training. With 67 counties to serve and a student base from Pensacola to Key West, instructors from the training section and examiners from the standards section log tens of thousands of miles each year, delivering courses and administering various state examinations, respectively.*



*To increase the college’s effective reach, the FSFC utilizes qualified part-time faculty from around the state to augment its professional staff. To increase the overall level of training in Florida, the Fire College also hosts a rigorous series of Train-the-Trainer programs to increase the state’s qualified instructor base.*

*New large-scale programs are also a hallmark of the Fire College’s activities. The FSFC has conducted major statewide conferences on hazardous materials, terrorism, and arson investigation, hosted the first statewide fire and life safety fair for the public, and developed intensive regional fire schools for various locations. As part of the State Fire Marshal’s disaster response effort, personnel from the Ocala campus are equipped and trained for a variety of emergency functions.*

*The Fire College's industrial fire training programs lead the way into new partnerships between government and business. The FSFC provides up-to-date training on fire prevention and suppression techniques, and other industrial safety practices. The college's Tank Farm Simulator/Flammable Liquid Pit has been the site of several training programs conducted for industrial fire brigades, and emergency response teams from the corporate world.*

*A five-acre hazardous materials and transportation emergency training facility opened this fall, which was made possible through the efforts of numerous corporate sponsors from the railroad, trucking, and chemical industries and a state grant from the "Investments in Innovation" program.*

*Further, the Fire College's students benefit from exposure to the latest firefighting technology presented by various factory representatives. Many of these fire prevention devices have been concentrated in one classroom devoted to portable and fixed extinguisher systems. A functional sprinkler system is installed in the college's drill tower for practical training activities in this area.*



*The training field also boasts propane fueled simulators; a 250-gallon propane tank which simulates a ruptured fill valve, a horizontal and vertical ruptured pipe that impinges on a vertical surface, and a horizontal and vertical pipe rupture with the isolation valves on fire. These simulators are used for training in suppression of low and high-pressure gas fires.*

*Not content to merely teach and certify firefighters, the College and Bureau also maintains a strong operational capability as well. As part of the State Fire Marshal's disaster response effort, personnel from the Ocala campus are equipped and trained for a variety of emergency functions. Over the past year, the Fire College has hosted three courses from the National Association for Search and Rescue to establish a 36-person wilderness rescue team, comprised of personnel from all three SFM bureaus. Further, management personnel from the Bureau Chief's office participate in the coordination of firefighting and search and rescue activities from the State Emergency Operations Center, in concert with other state and federal agencies.*

Another area of partnership is inter-agency as the Florida State Fire College takes the point for the Division of State Fire Marshal in many joint training activities relative to emergency management, hazardous materials, incident command and other such issues. FSFC works closely with the state's Division of Emergency Management, the State Emergency Response Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Councils around the state, and the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture, as well as other such entities.

The fire college also has strong working relationships with the Florida Fire Chief's Association, the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors, the Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention, the Florida Fire Marshals' Association, the Florida Firemens Association, and the Professional Firefighters of Florida, as well as every fire-rescue department statewide. With the guidance of the Florida Firefighters Standards and Training Council, the FSFC receives representative input from fire service organizations, higher education, and the private sector.

For a profession as technically diverse and demanding as the fire service, moving into the future is a huge undertaking. To maintain its leadership position, the FSFC continually revises and updates its curricula, and submits itself to the highest standards of regional and national accreditation. Further, broad-based student and customer input from strategic planning to cafeteria selections, ensures that the Florida State Fire College will always be a responsive institution, dedicated to the highest levels of professionalism and quality on behalf of the statewide fire service.



# BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION



Jim Goodloe, Bureau Chief

*The Bureau of Fire Prevention is the regulatory and code enforcement bureau of the Division of State Fire Marshal. The Bureau consists of four distinct sections, each assigned duties under Florida Statutes. The sections are: Boiler Safety, Inspections, Plans Review and Regulatory Licensing. Each section is managed by a program manager and essential support staff.*

*The Bureau is tasked to manage twenty-six fire safety rules which include workshops, public hearings and appropriate modifications to reflect the changing environment in which Florida's citizens live and work. Each staff member has specific duties assigned in an emergency management capacity in the event of a natural or man-made disaster threatening the State. The ability of the Bureau's staff to respond anywhere within Florida's shores on a moments notice is most important. Periodic training and continuously evolving emergency plans attribute to the success of this effort.*

*The administrative offices are located in Tallahassee and staff members are in nine strategically located field offices around the state. Each office is managed by a Fire Protection Specialist Supervisor.*

## ***Boiler Safety Section:***

***Mohammad Malek, P.E.: Chief Boiler Inspector***

*The Bureau is charged with the administration and enforcement of Florida Statute 554, "The Boiler Safety Act." By Rule Chapter 4A-51, Florida Administrative Code, the department adopted the "State Boiler Code." The law regulates the construction, installation, maintenance, repair and inspection of boilers located in public assembly locations.*

*The Boiler Safety Program issues Certificates of Competency to qualified boiler inspectors and Certificates of Compliance to boilers meeting state requirements. Boilers are inspected by the deputy inspectors employed by the state, and special inspectors employed by insurance companies. A Certificate of Compliance is valid for one year for a high pressure boiler and two years for a low pressure boiler. This section issued 145 Certificates of Competency and 10,200 Certificates of Compliance during 1998. This section also investigated boiler accidents during 1998.*

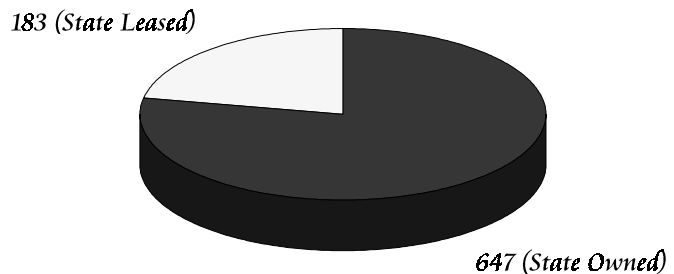
Five boiler inspectors located in field offices in Jacksonville, Tampa, West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Fort Walton Beach support the Boiler Safety Program.

### **Plans Review Section:**

*Rick Seidel, Engineer III*

The Plans Review Section is tasked to review construction documents for new construction, alterations and renovations to state-owned and leased properties. The section's diverse staff includes backgrounds in engineering, construction and fire protection systems design. The chart indicates the number of plans submitted during the FY 98/99 and a slight increase is expected in the next fiscal year.

*Plans Submitted for Review 98/99*



The section's staff provides code specific construction information to architects, engineers and other design professionals. Each project must meet Life Safety Standards, which are mandated by Florida Statutes and Florida Administrative Codes. Achieving code compliance in the project's design phase enhances the field inspection process required during construction, and may assist in the cost-effective value engineering of the project. Our staff also provides assistance in the field during preliminary and final inspections.

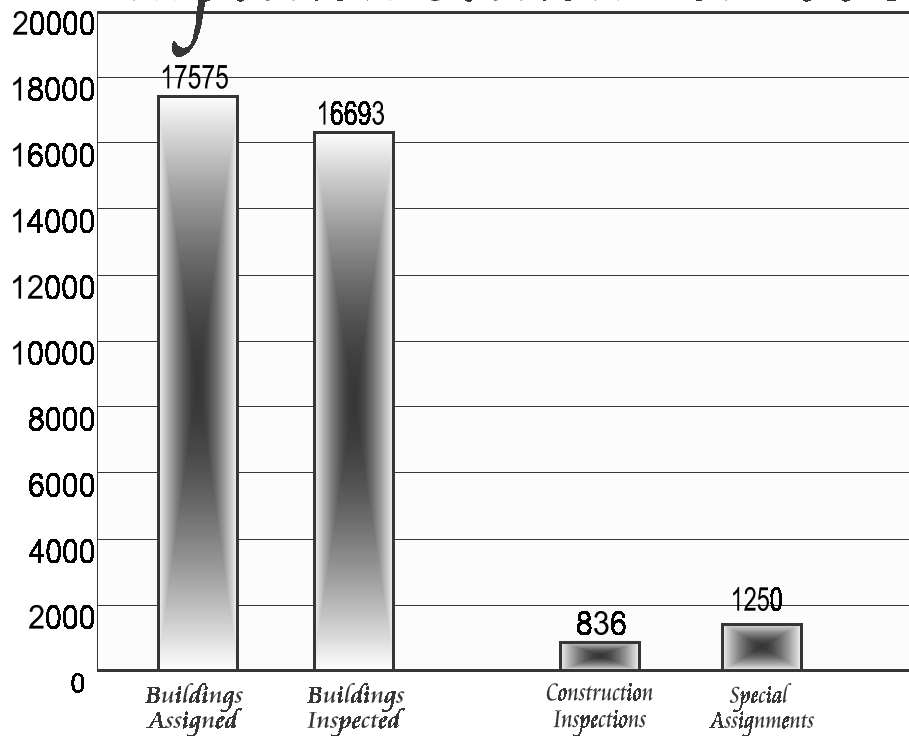
### **Inspections Section:**

*Sam Gillespie, Safety Program Manager*

The Inspection Section of the Bureau of Fire Prevention is charged with the responsibility of conducting fire safety inspections in all state-owned and leased properties. These properties total some 14,000 facilities ranging from small office suites of several thousand square feet to multi-storied facilities comprising several hundred thousand square feet. Identifying fire code violations in advance of an emergency produces a fire safety environment in which to work and live for our employees and the citizenry.

*Inspections in many structures involve the testing of complex fire protection systems such as fire sprinklers, fire alarms, standpipes and smoke evacuation systems to name a few. The periodic testing of these life safety systems enhances the livelihood of their functioning properly during an emergency.*

## Inspection Section For 1998



### *Regulatory Licensing Section:*

*Terry Hawkins, Safety Program Manager*

*The Regulatory Licensing and Statistics Section is responsible for the enforcement of all laws relating to the licensing and regulation of the Fire Equipment Industry (Portable Fire Extinguisher and Preengineered Systems), the Engineered Fire Protection System Industry, the Explosives Industry (Manufacture, Distribution and Use) and the Sparkler Industry (Manufacture, Distribution, Wholesale and Retail Sales) pursuant to Chapters 552, 633, and 791 Florida Statutes. This section has jurisdiction to respond to any complaint and investigate the activities of those firms and individuals licensed by the section. Seven field personnel assigned to the section work in conjunction with other state, local, or federal regulators to serve the state.*



In addition to the regulatory enforcement function, this section issues licenses and certificates to all companies and individuals engaged in business in this state as Fire Equipment Dealers and Service Technicians, Fire Protection System Contractors, Explosive Manufacturers, Dealers, Users and Blasters. This section also registers those firms and individuals who manufacture, distribute and sell sparklers at wholesale as well as retail prices, which have been approved by the State Fire Marshal.

Personnel assigned to the regulatory investigation activity of this section are well versed in the requirements of Chapters 552, 633, and 791, Florida Statutes, as well as Florida Administrative Codes, federal regulations and on numerous types of manufactured fire suppression equipment and other technical materials. Investigation activities include reviewing technical equipment, investigating blasting scenes and storage facilities for explosives for compliance with statutes, and reviewing codes and manufacturer's specifications. Sketching diagrams, photographing the scene, taking statements and interviewing witnesses are other activities which assist the investigator in determining if a violation of the statute exists, and what corrective action should be taken.

Section staff assigned to Regulatory Licensing in Tallahassee plan, coordinate and ensure all licensing activities are completed as timely and expeditiously as possible. Staff is responsible for the review and approval/denial of all applications. This includes, but is not limited to, verifying the applicant's background, which includes criminal background record checks; verifying employment experience; previous licensing experience; and reviewing corporate documents and insurance coverage. After an applicant has been approved, staff schedules examinations or training, depending upon the type of license an individual has requested. These staff members coordinate training and field examinations statewide.

The regulatory investigators conducted 350 investigations of alleged illegal activity of license holders as well as unlicensed activity during 1998. Also, in 1998, 786 inspections of fire equipment dealer facilities and explosive storage magazines were conducted. These inspections include both an operation evaluation of all of the statutorily mandated equipment required to properly service the needs of the citizens, the maintenance of portable fire extinguishers and preengineered fire suppression systems and a review of the facility's service and certification documentation system.



*The inspection of an explosives magazine storage facility requires a physical examination of both the interior and exterior of the storage building, an evaluation of the clearances to adjacent occupiable structures and a physical inventory of existing explosives, concluding with a review of the inventory records to ensure that the license holder's record management system properly identifies all explosives purchased, stored and expended.*

*Approximately 8,252 licenses, permits, certificates, and registrations were issued, which included registering individuals to perform inspections of water-based fire protection systems and fire equipment trainees, administering 245 examinations, and the coordinating of the training of 286 fire equipment applicants at the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training. In addition to the regulatory functions of the section, these staff members also assist in the administrative duties of the section, as well as spend numerous hours performing telephone consultations, coding research, completing special projects and attending training.*

*The Bureau of Fire Prevention is a customer service organization, with the customer being the general public, local government, other state agencies, the fire service and law enforcement communities, as well as those entities regulated and licensed by the Bureau. The Bureau strives to provide those statutory mandated safety related services.*

*Bureau personnel actively participate in training each year attending numerous training conferences statewide. They also participate in and conduct training sessions throughout the state. The Bureau maintains membership in various professional organizations such as the State Fire Marshals' and Florida Fire Chiefs' Associations. Staff members represent the Division on the Florida Fire Code Advisory Council, Florida Building Codes and Standards Commission and the Florida Fire Safety Board.*



# FIRE AND ARSON LABORATORY

*The Fire and Arson Laboratory is under the Office of the Director of the Division of State Fire Marshal. The laboratory serves both state and local fire investigators throughout Florida by providing fire debris analysis. It is the only state forensic laboratory in Florida providing this service. In 1998, the laboratory analyzed 1,724 cases containing over 3,500 samples. Additional samples were analyzed as part of the laboratory's quality assurance program. The State Fire Marshal's Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations (BFAI) submitted approximately 79% of the samples. The other samples were submitted by: Local and County Fire Departments - 17%, and County Sheriff's/ Local Police Agencies - 4%. These analyses are provided to all submitters without cost, allowing the laboratory analysts to provide testimony as "expert witnesses."*



*The laboratory also provides photographic processing for the Division of State Fire Marshal. In 1998, over 3,200 rolls of film were processed, which includes development of film and printing of photographs. Because photographs are used in both criminal and civil litigation, it is often necessary to prepare enlargements for courtroom demonstrations. In some court proceedings, the laboratory prepares copies of photographs for attorneys or private investigators. In 1998, the laboratory added a photographic mini-lab, similar to those in commercial one-hour photolabs, to aid in meeting customer needs. The laboratory also added a digital darkroom for processing digital images and scanning film negatives to a digital format. In 1998, over 800 images were processed and archived.*

*For fire debris analysis the laboratory utilizes gas chromatography with both Flame Ionization and Ion Trap detection. The laboratory can analyze and identify ignitable liquids ranging from methyl alcohol to deteriorated class five petroleum distillates (diesel fuel). The most common ignitable liquids found by the laboratory in 1997 were gasoline mixtures (31% of samples) and petroleum distillates/mixtures (6% of samples). The turnaround time for over 90% of samples is less than nine calendar days. The photographic processing section develops and prints film with an average turnaround of less than three days. Laboratory employees are also involved in many other projects to improve services to customers. Technicians maintain evidence and coordinate long-term storage of evidence for BFAI investigators. Personnel present lectures and training at the Fire College, in seminars, and at experimental houseburns. The complex is also equipped with a state-of-the-art training room where various media are available for presentations.*

*As a scientific laboratory, research to improve the science is encouraged. However, workloads do not often permit analysts to conduct experiments. Through the help of our Florida A&M University Co-op student and our University of Central Florida summer interns, important experiments and studies can be completed. These projects include enhancement of the sample recovery and analysis process, temperature dynamics during experimental fires, identification of pyrolytic products, and the nature of intrinsic accelerant deterioration. Laboratory personnel have also contributed to the development of standards in fire debris analysis through the Technical Working Group on Fire and Explosives organized by the National Center for Forensic Sciences, and National Institutes of Justice.*



*Laboratory employees maintain membership in various professional organizations including, The American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors, The International Association of Arson Investigators, The Southern Association of Forensic Scientists, The Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention, and the American Society for Testing and Materials.*

*The Laboratory has prepared and disseminates the “Guide to the Collection, Packaging, Submission, and Analysis of Evidence from Suspicious Fires” to investigators across the state. Classes and workshops have been designed for working fire professionals, and Forensic Students ranging from an examination of forensic evidence in fires to chemical accelerants and quality in the laboratory. These can be presented to appropriate groups upon request.*

*The laboratory is located outside of Tallahassee near Quincy. The manager of the laboratory is Carl Chasteen.*

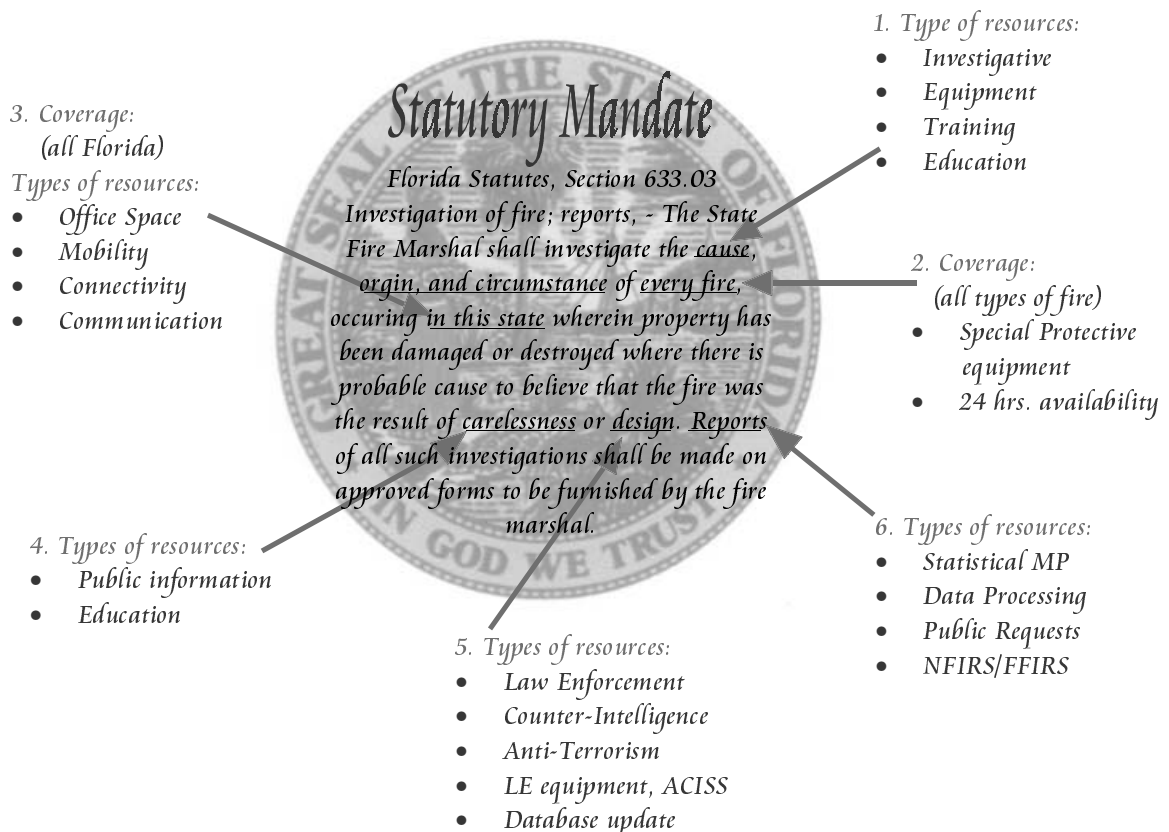
# BUREAU OF FIRE AND ARSON INVESTIGATIONS

The Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations (BFAI) duties and responsibilities are described in Sections 633.01(3)(e), 633.03, 633.101, 633.13, 633.14, 633.175, and 633.18, Florida Statutes, which include the following: the enforcement of all laws relating to the suppression of arson and illegal use of explosives, the investigation of structural fires as defined in Chapter 806, Florida Statutes, authority to serve summonses, make arrest, carry firearms and make searches and seizures. The BFAI has jurisdiction to investigate structure fires in the state and enforce applicable laws relating to arson and explosives.



Melvin M. Stone, Bureau Chief

**A vision for Florida that drives the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations is - All Floridians, businesses and government agencies enjoy maximum protection from threats of fire, arson and other natural and man-made disasters and hazards.**



*The Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations is currently divided into seven regions statewide: Northwest Region with its office in Ft. Walton Beach; North Region, Tallahassee; Northeast Region, Jacksonville and Ocala; Central Region, Orlando and Daytona; Southcentral Region, Tampa and Bartow; Southwest Region, Ft. Myers; and Southeast Region, West Palm Beach, Ft. Lauderdale and Marathon.*

*The Bureau's Headquarters Staff manages, plans, coordinates, and supervises activities prescribed by Section 633, Florida Statutes. Other functions include maintaining communications support to the Bureau's personnel via telephones, radio and computer equipment on a seven day, 24-hour basis; supervising and providing logistical support for all equipment including the Bureau's motor vehicle fleet, which includes over 100 law enforcement vehicles, 3 large major scene response units, 3 4x4 suburbans, 4 dually/bobcat units and 1 boat. In 1998, the Bureau was able to increase the bobcat fleet by 2 additional units in addition to organizing 2 multi-jurisdictional Explosive Ordinance (E.O.D.) Disposal Units with equipment and 2 Arson Canine Units.*

*Additionally, the Bureau enhanced the State Fire Marshal Forensic Laboratory by providing it with updated technology and equipment to examine explosive and incendiary devices. Trucks, trailers and equipment were purchased for two E.O.D. teams strategically located in Tallahassee and Tampa. Each team is structured to work through a multi-jurisdictional, mutual aid agreement in conjunction with local bomb squads, law enforcement and fire service authorities. The teams respond to any type of terrorist act (i.e. bomb threats, suspicious packages, drug labs and marijuana fields) involving explosives or incendiary devices. With the addition of the E.O.D. Units and technological advances at the State Fire Marshal Forensic Laboratory, the Bureau is able to manage all facets of an investigation (i.e. initial incident, post blast, evidence submission to the laboratory, affect an arrest). Consequently, the E.O.D. Units are available to support and supplement existing bomb squads as well as provide coverage to those counties and municipalities in the State of Florida that do not presently have this type of coverage. Additionally, the E.O.D. teams conduct training classes for law enforcement academies and civilian agencies in the areas of basic explosive and incendiary device recognition, bomb threats, physical security, and post blast investigations.*

*Two arson canine units have also been added to the Bureau. This addition was made possible through an agreement with State Farm Insurance, who schedules training through*



Maine State Police for our investigators and provides accelerant detection dogs. To date, two investigators have been trained and are strategically located in Orlando and Fort Walton Beach. The Bureau anticipates adding an additional canine each year to be assigned in the rural and high caseload areas within the state.

This year, the Bureau of Fire and Arson Investigations has 131 full-time employees. Of those positions, 98 are sworn law enforcement personnel, including one Bureau Chief, two Majors, eight Captains, nine Lieutenants, and 78 investigators. The remaining 33 positions are administrative and support personnel.

The Crime Intelligence Analyst Unit developed in 1994 presently employs seven analysts. These analysts provide management of criminal information and intelligence that enhances the detection and prevention of arson and related criminal activities. Additionally, the analysts spend time reviewing various sources of historical data looking for trends or links between fires. However, elements of the investigation are tedious and time consuming (i.e. public records searches at courthouses and producing documentation of evidence found by the analyst); therefore, the primary function of the analyst is to provide direct support to the law enforcement investigators. As a result, the investigator is afforded the opportunity to provide direction and apply skills to solving the crime.

Fire and arson investigation is a unique, highly technical and specialized field of criminal investigation requiring independent work. Determining the cause and origin of a fire requires specialized training and experience. Consequently, all Bureau investigators are sworn law enforcement officers as required by Chapter 943.14, Florida Statutes with approximately 50% maintaining dual certification in law enforcement and fire service related fields or having extensive fire service related experience.

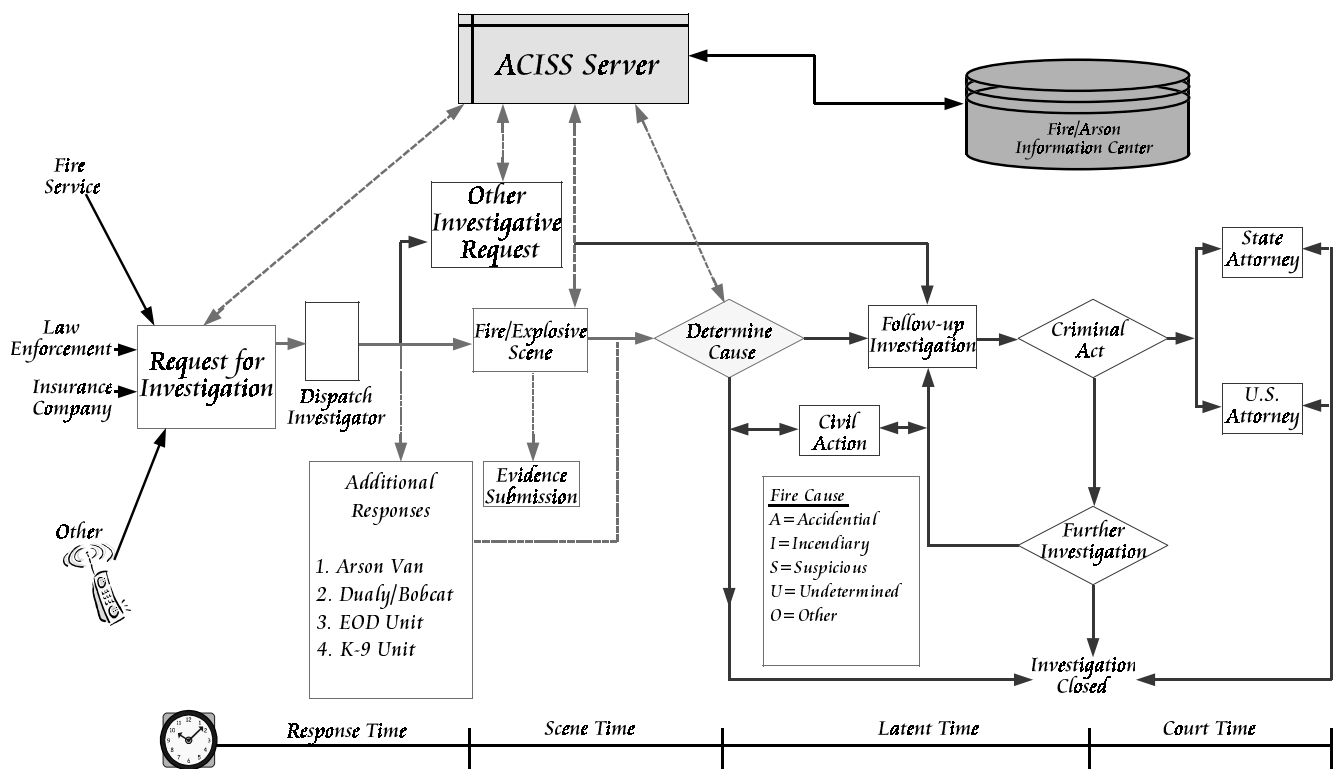
BFAI fire investigations begin when either a law enforcement or a local fire service representative calls the SFM/BFAI duty officer on its 800 line to request assistance in determining the origin and cause of a fire. Upon request, the BFAI dispatches an investigator to the fire/explosive scene. The investigator then radios the duty officer to obtain a case number and start the tracking of the investigation. The investigator shall then: conduct interviews; document fire/explosive scene, including photography; reconstruct fire/explosive scene to preconditions; collect evidence; attempt to determine origin and cause; and file initial report.

BFAI investigators file their reports in the Augmented Criminal Investigative Support System (ACISS), an internal relational database maintained by the Bureau. This reporting system contains data based solely on the investigations conducted by BFAI personnel. It is used to pull statistics needed to produce productivity hours, suspects, crime trends and other vital information associated with investigations conducted by the Bureau.

Once the fire/explosive scene work is complete, investigators will pursue the often lengthy process referred to as "latent" investigation. The latent investigation is the follow-up time spent: conducting records searches, reviewing fire/explosive scene evidence, conducting interviews, determining whether the fire/explosion scene was a criminal act, and producing fire/explosion case reports that advise whether the case will be closed or taken into the judicial process.

When the investigation of the fire scene provides evidence that the fire was the result of arson, a felony under the criminal laws of Florida, it is the duty of the investigator to identify and cause the arrest of the criminal perpetrator(s).

The Fire and Arson Investigation Process



During calendar year 1998, the Bureau responded to 7,346 new requests for investigation. Over 96% were for fire and/or explosion investigations, the remaining 4% were for attempted fire/explosions, and several miscellaneous investigations. BFAI investigators were able to close 6,838 cases, which includes 2,465 cases from previous years. Of those, 5,644 were closed with a successful conclusion (incendiary/accidental). A total of 809 defendants were arrested, bringing to closure 585 cases, 91% of those being cases opened during 1998.



In addition to the above investigations, each of the Bureau's regions have been taking a lead in organizing multi-agency arson task forces and juvenile firesetter programs in areas that did not already have one in place. Both programs have been successful in many areas. In some of these areas the Bureau has assisted in obtaining various grants for equipment and training. Task force operations proved to be very successful in making numerous arrests, seizing property for local agencies, and assisting in the collection of state and local fines. With cutbacks and downsizing being a trend of our society, the task force concept allows each agency to provide their assets, whether large or small, to accomplish the goal of stopping arson in Florida. Additionally, BFAI sponsors/co-sponsors numerous training seminars throughout the year such as the annual "Florida Arson Seminar," and investigators routinely conduct various training sessions and test burns in conjunction with local fire departments and law enforcement agencies.



<p><b>Bureau Phone Numbers:</b></p> <p>Hot Line: 1-800-NET-FIRE (1-800-638-3473)</p> <p>24-Hr. Dispatch Office 850-922-3173</p> <p>Chief           850/413-3650 Personnel       850/413-3672 Budget          850/413-3750 Special Ops.    850/413-3669 FFIRS           850/413-3728 Crime Intel     850/413-3654</p>	<p><b>Northwest</b></p> <p><b>North</b>           <b>Northeast</b> <b>Northcentral</b> <b>Southcentral</b> <b>Southwest</b>    <b>Southeast</b></p>	<p><b>Regional Offices</b></p> <p><b>North District</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Major</td><td>850/413-3666</td></tr> <tr><td>Northwest</td><td>850/833-9125</td></tr> <tr><td>North</td><td>850/922-3684</td></tr> <tr><td>Northeast</td><td>904/727-5530</td></tr> <tr><td>Northcentral</td><td>407/897-2892</td></tr> </table> <p><b>South District</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Major</td><td>941/338-2327</td></tr> <tr><td>Southwest</td><td>941/338-2327</td></tr> <tr><td>Southeast</td><td>954/797-1700</td></tr> </table>	Major	850/413-3666	Northwest	850/833-9125	North	850/922-3684	Northeast	904/727-5530	Northcentral	407/897-2892	Major	941/338-2327	Southwest	941/338-2327	Southeast	954/797-1700
Major	850/413-3666																	
Northwest	850/833-9125																	
North	850/922-3684																	
Northeast	904/727-5530																	
Northcentral	407/897-2892																	
Major	941/338-2327																	
Southwest	941/338-2327																	
Southeast	954/797-1700																	

# JUNIOR FIRE MARSHAL PROGRAM

*The Junior Fire Marshal Program is an annual event conducted during National Fire Prevention Week, which encourages children and families to learn about fire prevention and steps they can take to reduce the risk of fire in their homes. This is the fourth year the Junior Fire Marshal Program has been offered.*

## *Summary of 1998 Junior Fire Marshal Program Facts*

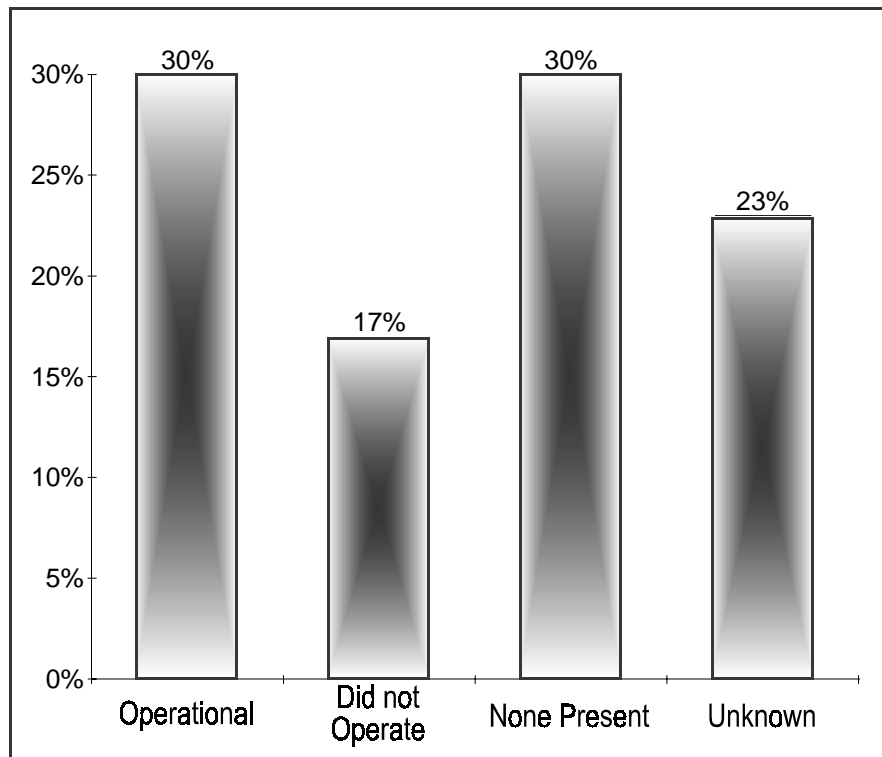
- 47.5 percent increased participation from 1997*
- 110,000 second-grade students participated*
- 67 counties were either covered by local fire departments and/or a county school board*
- 86 local fire departments participated*
- 44 school boards participated*
- Each student was provided a fire prevention checklist to complete with a parent, a Jr. Fire Marshal badge and an activity/coloring book*
- Radio ads aired 20 times on 58 stations, giving a total of 1,160 radio ads that reached a statewide audience of 3 million*
- We are currently receiving very positive evaluation from teachers and firefighters*
- Sponsored by the Florida Professional Firefighters, Inc.*



## SMOKE DETECTOR USE

In October of 1998, as a result of a generous donation from the Tandy Corporation/Radio Shack, the State Fire Marshal's office offered a Smoke Detector Giveaway program. Fifty thousand smoke detectors were given to fire service organizations throughout the state. Targeting those most in need, 235 fire service organizations then distributed and installed the smoke detectors in the homes of citizens in their area. This was the second year this program was offered.

In 47% of reported residential, structure fires, smoke detectors were present, yet in 17% of them, they were not operational for a variety of reasons. Lack of batteries and improper maintenance were a few of the reasons stated. Unfortunately, 30% of the structures involved in the reported residential fires did not have smoke detectors, and in 255 of them the presence of smoke detectors was unknown.



## FIRE SPRINKLER USE

*Of the commercial structures involved in fires reported to the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System:*

- >16% Had sprinkler systems
- >77% Did not have sprinkler systems
- >7% Presence of sprinkler systems was unknown

\* These figures were compiled from NFIRS data only



## *A Message From:*

# *NFIRS Program Manager Joe Furiato*

*You all asked for it; now it's here, and will be on line January 1, 2000.*

*Countless fire chiefs and other officials have contacted our office wondering when this information Goliath would finally arrive, and we're here to tell you that the final, perfected version of NFIRS 5.0 was worth the wait!*

**NFIRS 5.0  
Has Arrived**

*Proactive is the key word in fire safety for the millennium. This important management tool will increase the efficiency, accuracy, quality and quantity of fire and response data and intensify our focus on planning ahead to make the right decisions to protect our citizens. Ultimately, it will prove to be an invaluable asset that we rely on for fire data on the local, state and national level.*

*This program is so efficient and inclusive that it is really the only information system a fire department needs. It can report and track all data including and beyond EMS calls, juvenile fire-setter activity, and other specific arson information. Additionally, it gives increased access to historical information and statistics that are not currently available in any format or time frame.*

*NFIRS 5.0 was developed with firefighters in mind; it was designed "to fit everyone's needs without overwhelming firefighters." In short, its main premise: "more choices." The program is more specific, realistic and user friendly.*

*Gone are the days of "interpreting" codes and sorting through dozens of choices. This new program gets straight to the heart of each situation and even has an "abbreviated reporting" option for the more simplistic ignition factors in order to increase efficiency and avoid a plethora of paperwork. It has added new codes to increase accuracy by eliminating the need to assume or estimate ignition causes, as well as codes to identify variables affecting response times, action, etc...*

*As if this was not improvement enough, NFIRS 5.0 goes even further and allows multiple actions to be reported under the same incident. All of these nuances contribute to*

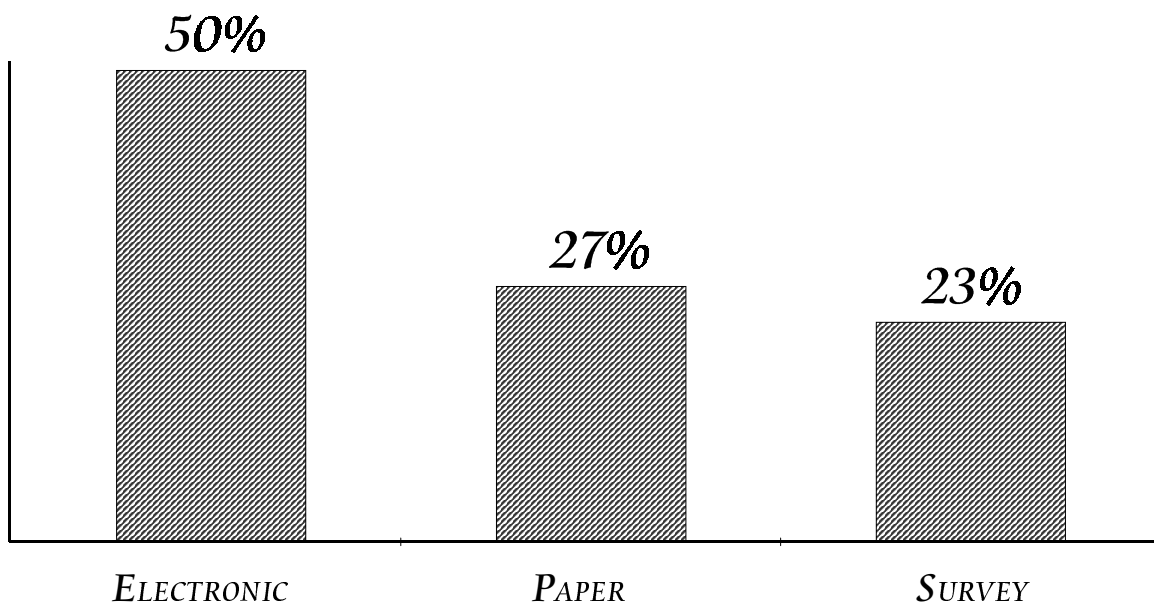
giving citizens and officials a more realistic idea of what is happening and the efforts fire departments exert; thus, it is an avenue to help give firefighters the recognition so often ignored.

NFIRS 5.0 also integrates a “National code plus one” system allowing each locality to customize its data collection while still maintaining a consistent format for state and national reporting purposes. Consequently, each locality can add the information resources it needs to dictate including special study fields for short-term projects.

Perhaps the best feature of NFIRS 5.0, though, is that it can be used on any platform including Macintosh. With this benefit, smaller departments will not have to rely on a mainframe to store and report their information, and larger departments can enjoy the benefits of a network-ready system.

For information on how to enjoy the benefits of this progressive information system, contact Joe Furiato, NFIRS Program Manager for the Division of State Fire Marshal at 850/413-3728, e-mail to [furiatoj@doj.state.fl.us](mailto:furiatoj@doj.state.fl.us), or fax to 850/921-7525.

### *1998 Reporting Media Breakdown for participating Fire Departments*



\*Electronic includes those reporting through diskettes, magnetic tapes, and via the internet.

# FLORIDA WILDFIRES OF 1998

*The wildfires of 1998 brought another harsh reminder to the people of Florida of the power of natural hazards to destroy property, threaten safety, and cause untold human hardship. Overall, after the firestorm was finally extinguished, the event had caused one of the worst wildfire disasters in Florida's history, resulting in:*

- \* 2,282 wildfires statewide*
- \* 4,999,477 acres burned by wildfire in Florida*
- \* 126 homes destroyed, 211 homes damaged*
- \* 25 businesses destroyed, 8 businesses damaged*
- \* 86+ vehicles damaged or destroyed*
- \* 8 separate fire complexes established*
- \* 20+ Incident Management Teams deployed*
- \* Unified Area Command established between the Division of Forestry and the U.S. Forest Service*
- \* 10,000+ firefighters and emergency personnel from 47 states provided fire suppression support*
- \* 25% of acres burned was owned by forest industry*
- \* Estimated timber losses from wildfire exceeded 300 million dollars*
- \* Cost to suppress the wildfires is estimated to exceed 130 million dollars*
- \* 156 fire suppression aircraft mobilized to support ground suppression resources*
- \* 124 fire related injuries, all minor injuries except one, **No Fire Related Deaths!***

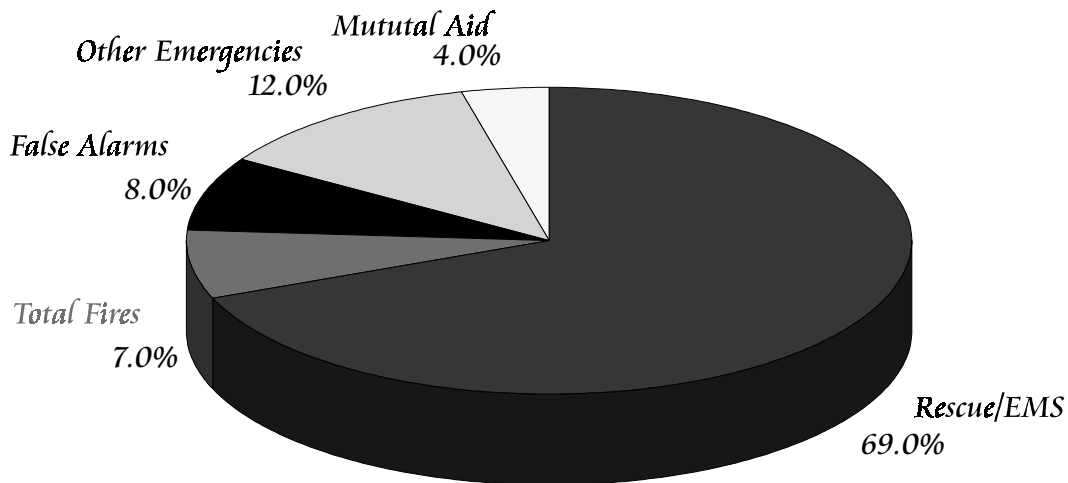
*The State of Florida owes all of the individuals who responded to this disastrous event with such commitment, dedication and courage, a great debt of gratitude.*



# SUMMARY STATISTICS

Fire departments volunteering to report through FFIRS had 1,357,761 responses in 1998, with 41,679 of them being mutual aid.

<b>1998 State Incident Summary</b>	<b>1,357,761</b>	<b>Total Responses</b>
Structure Fires	31,147	
Vehicle Fires	20,945	
Other Fires	35,691	
<b>Total Fires</b>	<b>87,783 *</b>	
Rescue/EMS	924,912	
Other Emergencies	251,321	
<b>Total Rescue/EMS/Other</b>	<b>1,176,233</b>	
False Alarms	93,745	
Mutual Aid Given	41,679	



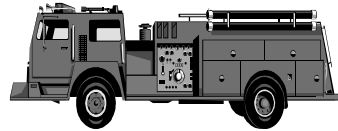
\*Total Fires is the sum of Structure, Vehicle, and Outside Fires.

\* These figures were compiled from FFIRS data.

# AVERAGE RESPONSE FREQUENCY FOR 1998

*One Fire Department  
Response Every*

*23 Seconds*



*One Actual  
Fire Every*

*5 Minutes,  
9 Seconds*



*One Rescue  
EMS Every*

*34 Seconds*



*One Structural  
Fire Every*  
*16 Minutes,  
9 Seconds*



*One Vehicle  
Fire Every*  
*25 Minutes*



*One False  
Alarm Every*  
*5 Minutes,  
6 Seconds*



*One Other  
Fire Every*  
*14 Minutes  
7 Seconds*



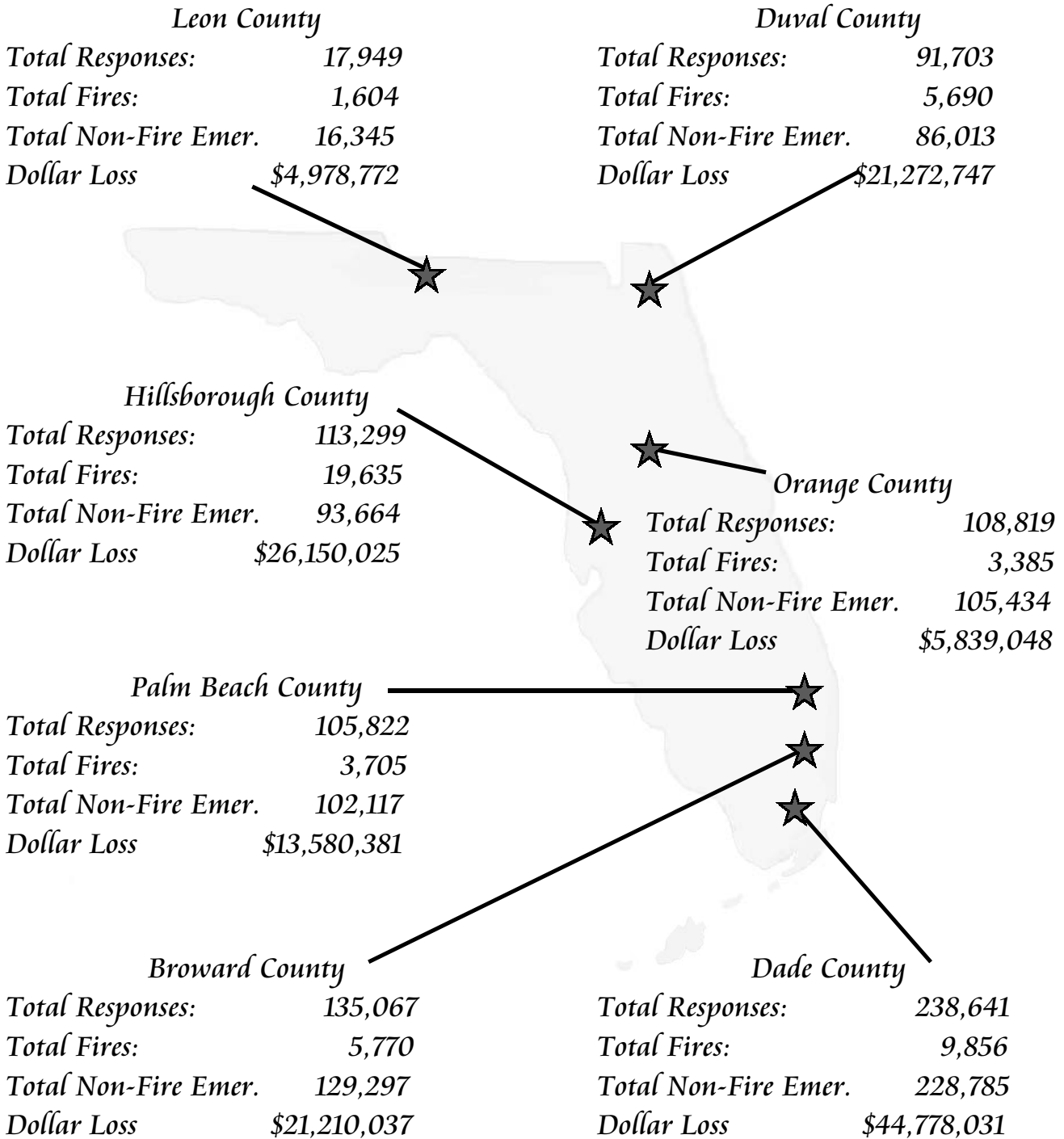
*One Other  
Emergency Every*  
*26.8 Seconds*



\* These figures, compiled from FFIRS data, represent an estimated 89 percent of Florida citizens and do not take into account tourists.

# PRIMARY COUNTY BREAKDOWN

County information is taken from those departments within each county that choose to report to FFIRS.



\* These figures, compiled from FFIRS data, represent an estimated 89 percent of Florida citizens and do not take into account tourists.

# 1998 Florida Fires County Totals

<i>County</i>	<i>Total Incidents</i>	<i>Mutual Aid Given</i>	<i>Total Responses</i>	<i>Structure Fires</i>	<i>Vehicle Fires</i>	<i>Other Fires</i>	<i>Total Fires</i>
<i>Alachua</i>	9,827	538	10,365	72	70	252	394
<i>Baker</i>	354	32	386	79	27	72	178
<i>Bay</i>	2,739	91	2,830	194	130	260	584
<i>Bradford</i>	394	61	455	16	39	80	135
<i>Brevard</i>	35,265	901	36,166	540	393	1,131	2,064
<i>Broward</i>	130,619	4,448	135,067	2,149	1,601	2,020	5,770
<i>Calhoun</i>	22	5	27	3	2	17	22
<i>Charlotte</i>	16,157	182	16,339	114	139	482	735
<i>Citrus</i>	10,101	438	10,539	336	251	818	1,405
<i>Clay</i>	3,804	879	4,683	63	34	263	360
<i>Collier</i>	17,485	782	18,267	264	224	706	1,194
<i>Columbia</i>	1,144	1,038	2,182	137	78	133	348
<i>Dade</i>	238,625	16	238,641	2,529	2,595	4,732	9,856
<i>Duval</i>	90,383	1,320	91,703	1,274	1,264	3,152	5,690
<i>Escambia</i>	8,270	830	9,100	441	214	509	1,164
<i>Flagler</i>	3,266	391	3,657	352	94	473	919
<i>Franklin</i>	31	2	33	9	4	5	18
<i>Gadsden</i>	1,623	160	1,783	132	106	146	384
<i>Gilchrist</i>	120	73	193	17	8	91	116
<i>Gulf</i>	21	4	25	9	0	5	14
<i>Hamilton</i>	346	117	463	119	77	157	353
<i>Hardee</i>	2,730	76	2,806	49	37	88	174
<i>Hendry</i>	485	26	511	12	16	104	132
<i>Hernando</i>	14,373	561	14,934	173	164	317	654
<i>Highlands</i>	3,341	390	3,731	137	93	257	487
<i>Hillsborough</i>	112,805	494	113,299	11,315	53	2,431	19,635
<i>Holmes</i>	56	23	79	16	4	14	34
<i>Indian River</i>	6,093	2	6,095	150	156	435	741
<i>Jackson</i>	953	204	1,157	161	92	211	464
<i>Jefferson</i>	299	45	344	25	29	53	107
<i>Lake</i>	14,924	515	15,439	364	253	628	1,245
<i>Lee</i>	40,832	411	41,243	439	455	1,230	2,124
<i>Leon</i>	17,317	632	17,949	371	262	971	1,604



<i>Rescue/ EMS</i>	<i>Other Emerg.</i>	<i>False Alarms</i>	<i>Dollar Loss</i>	<i>Civilian Injuries</i>	<i>Civilian Deaths</i>	<i>Fire Service Injuries</i>
7,307	1,780	884	\$1,428,696	0	0	0
54	134	20	442,900	0	0	7
686	1,048	512	1,721,733	9	1	4
220	3	33	201,600	0	2	0
24,215	7,415	2,472	10,042,527	55	3	43
90,835	24,448	14,014	21,210,037	158	4	39
0	5	0	218,000	0	0	0
13,176	1,699	729	3,555,860	6	1	6
2,510	6,440	184	606,260	1	1	0
3,413	687	223	466,327	2	0	0
11,797	3,650	1,626	3,790,427	2	0	0
529	1,139	166	478,000	4	0	6
188,792	31,453	8,540	44,778,031	448	11	47
69,165	11,215	5,633	21,272,747	45	9	57
4,754	2,408	774	3,428,398	6	7	6
1,726	838	174	7,047,280	0	0	1
5	7	3	0	0	0	0
519	626	254	2,421,786	11	5	0
34	41	2	139,700	0	0	0
2	9	0	0	0	0	0
39	59	12	1,140,540	3	1	2
2,227	326	79	738,149	4	2	2
329	44	6	109,250	0	0	0
10,592	3,118	570	1,489,499	6	0	2
2,413	572	259	1,010,587	2	0	2
72,814	15,700	5,150	26,150,025	72	15	43
10	34	1	128,500	0	0	0
2,549	1,733	1,072	2,660,755	5	0	1
315	286	92	2,627,725	10	2	11
81	127	29	193,051	0	0	0
10,995	2,317	882	5,038,194	15	3	6
29,020	6,213	3,886	4,652,027	18	2	4
5,878	8,360	2,107	4,978,772	3	3	16

# 1998 Florida Fires County Totals

<i>County</i>	<i>Total Incidents</i>	<i>Mutual Aid/Given</i>	<i>Total Responses</i>	<i>Structure Fires</i>	<i>Vehicle Fires</i>	<i>Other Fires</i>	<i>Total Fires</i>
<i>Levy</i>	416	101	517	39	29	214	282
<i>Liberty</i>	32	0	32	16	3	10	29
<i>Madison</i>	269	55	324	38	18	55	111
<i>Manatee</i>	14,033	225	14,258	348	211	567	1,126
<i>Martin</i>	15,251	763	16,014	155	145	400	700
<i>Monroe</i>	1,317	15	1,332	122	61	72	255
<i>Nassau</i>	5,282	421	5,703	160	122	431	713
<i>Okaloosa</i>	11,951	1,260	13,211	339	193	270	802
<i>Okechobee</i>	3,654	32	3,686	47	48	114	209
<i>Orange</i>	106,645	2,174	108,819	2,068	721	596	3,385
<i>Osceola</i>	3,180	400	3,580	89	52	417	558
<i>Palm Beach</i>	104,953	869	105,822	932	1,016	1,757	3,705
<i>Pasco</i>	27,511	1,497	29,008	406	404	593	1,403
<i>Pinellas</i>	116,260	7,487	123,747	1,550	811	1,538	3,899
<i>Polk</i>	23,757	117	23,874	611	535	791	1,937
<i>Putnam</i>	4,147	472	4,619	127	65	361	553
<i>Santa Rosa</i>	4,711	544	5,255	259	93	719	1,071
<i>Sarasota</i>	10,950	1,801	12,751	336	373	981	1,690
<i>Seminole</i>	17,740	6,397	24,137	351	221	335	907
<i>St. Johns</i>	1,586	12	1,598	38	24	46	108
<i>St. Lucie</i>	2,999	14	3,013	170	188	634	992
<i>Sumter</i>	700	37	737	46	44	105	195
<i>Suwannee</i>	1,018	18	1,036	67	59	163	289
<i>Taylor</i>	292	19	311	45	21	88	154
<i>Volusia</i>	50,060	1,180	51,240	620	641	1,971	3,232
<i>Wakulla</i>	65	4	69	11	2	21	34
<i>Walton</i>	2,416	54	2,470	78	38	181	297
<i>Washington</i>	83	24	107	18	7	18	43
<i>Statewide</i>	<b>1,316,082</b>	<b>41,679</b>	<b>1,357,761</b>	<b>31,147</b>	<b>20,945</b>	<b>35,691</b>	<b>87,783</b>

<i>Rescue/ EMS</i>	<i>Other Emerg.</i>	<i>False Alarms</i>	<i>Dollar Loss</i>	<i>Civilian Injuries</i>	<i>Civilian Deaths</i>	<i>Fire Service Injuries</i>
141	74	20	190,103	0	0	0
0	0	3	259,135	0	0	0
76	117	20	281,045	1	6	0
8,751	2,309	2,072	2,569,710	7	1	9
10,636	3,412	1,266	2,720,273	16	0	2
138	624	315	1,743,616	21	0	10
3,501	1,192	297	3,295,812	0	0	0
7,206	4,157	1,046	5,284,564	18	0	10
3,005	375	97	706,310	2	0	0
78,749	18,231	8,454	5,839,048	29	4	28
2,309	562	151	90,344	1	0	0
71,497	20,213	10,407	13,580,381	39	5	35
21,328	4,768	1,509	7,212,604	22	1	1
83,607	29,304	6,937	13,951,178	148	6	52
15,527	5,175	1,235	5,950,140	5	1	6
3,118	781	167	2,935,975	0	0	1
2,576	1,337	271	1,310,960	5	1	3
4,157	2,808	4,096	5,096,434	4	0	4
14,343	6,988	1,899	2,167,390	20	0	4
1,168	196	126	256,985	0	0	3
28	1,032	961	1,943,938	0	0	0
324	188	30	477,075	0	0	0
331	333	83	1,118,855	1	0	1
35	91	31	392,100	2	0	0
34,174	12,233	1,601	12,101,620	58	2	17
6	22	7	18,500	0	0	0
1,158	760	255	1,482,175	0	0	3
22	41	1	197,300	4	2	0
<b>924,912</b>	<b>251,321</b>	<b>93,745</b>	<b>267,340,953</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>510</b>

# TOTAL BREAKDOWN FROM FIRES BY PROPERTY TYPE



## RESIDENTIAL

*Single-family dwellings, apartments, mobile homes, hotels, motels, etc.*

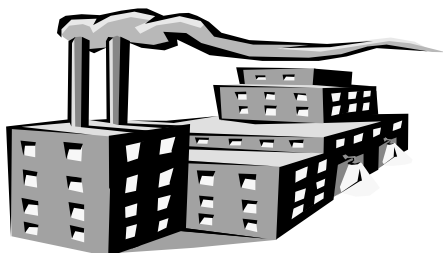
24,301



## PUBLIC & MERCANTILE

*Stores, restaurants, institutions, churches, public facilities, education, offices, etc.*

4,186



## INDUSTRIAL & OTHER BUILDINGS

*Basic industry, manufacturing, residential garage, storage, vacant, under construction, unknown*

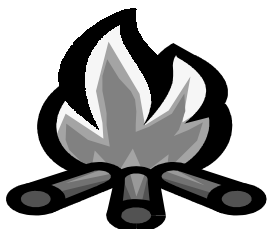
2,660



## MOBILE PROPERTY

*Automobiles, trucks, trains, boats, airplanes, etc.*

20,945



## OUTSIDE & OTHER

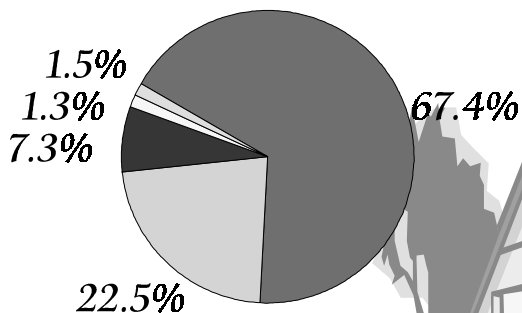
*Dumpsters, trash, grass, trees, etc.*

35,691

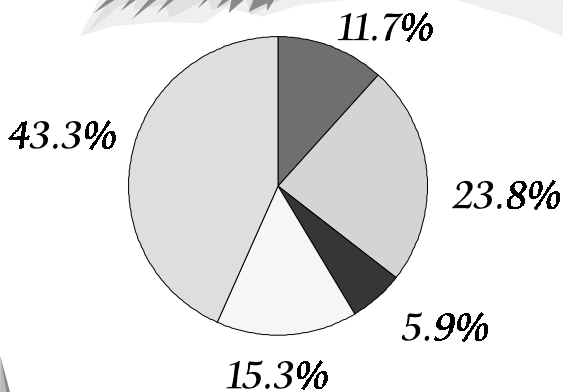
**TOTAL = 87,783**

# BUILDING FIRES BY PROPERTY TYPE

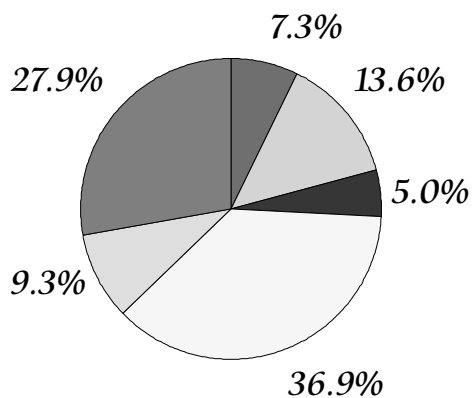
- Dwellings
- Apartments
- Mobile Homes
- Hotels/Motels
- Other Residential



- Stores/Offices
- Eating/Drinking
- Institutions
- Public Assembly
- Education



- Storage
- Outside Structure
- Manufacturing
- Vacant/Constr.
- Basic Industry
- Res. Garage

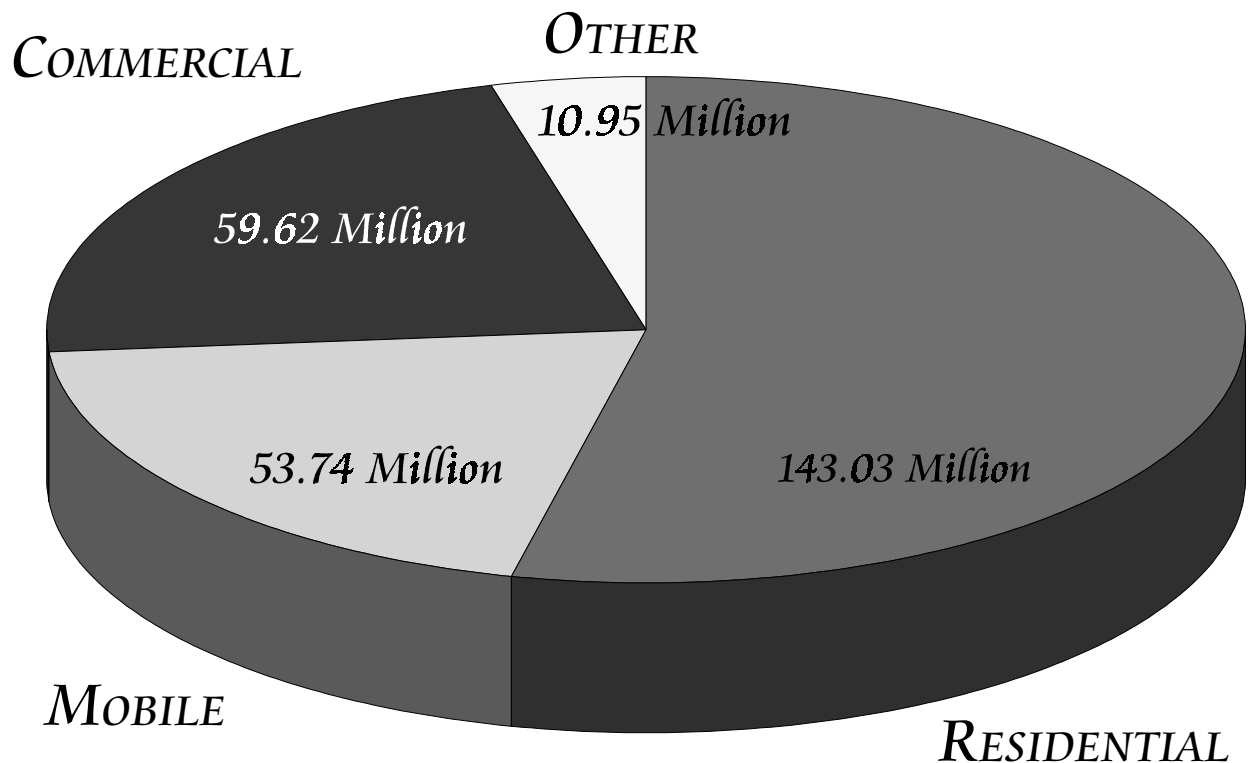


\* These figures were compiled from NFIRS data only.

# STATEWIDE DOLLAR LO\$\$

*Reported Value of Property Lost to Fire during 1998:*

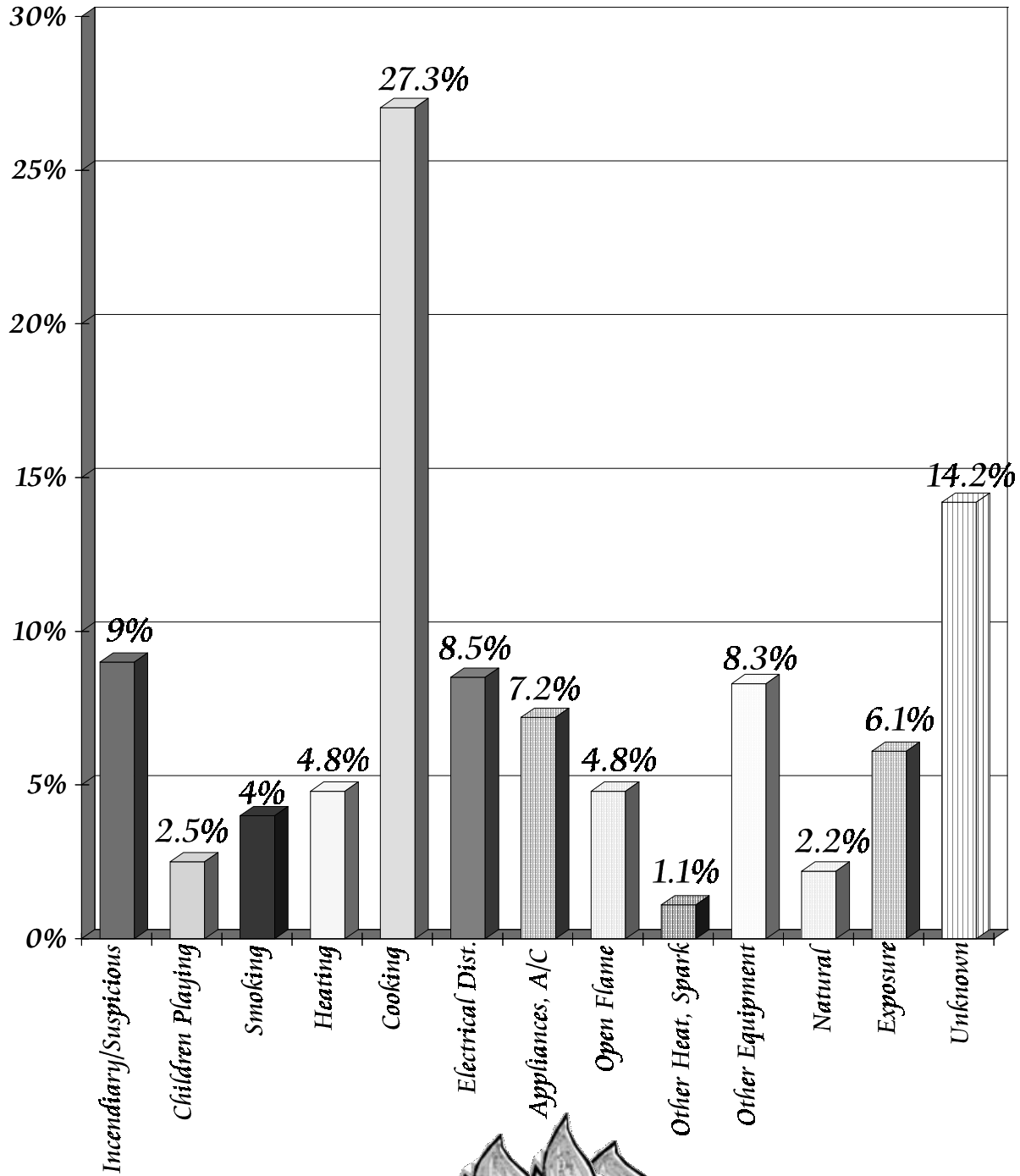
**267.34 MILLION DOLLARS**



\* These figures, compiled from FFIRS data, represent an estimated 89 percent of Florida citizens and do not take into account tourists.

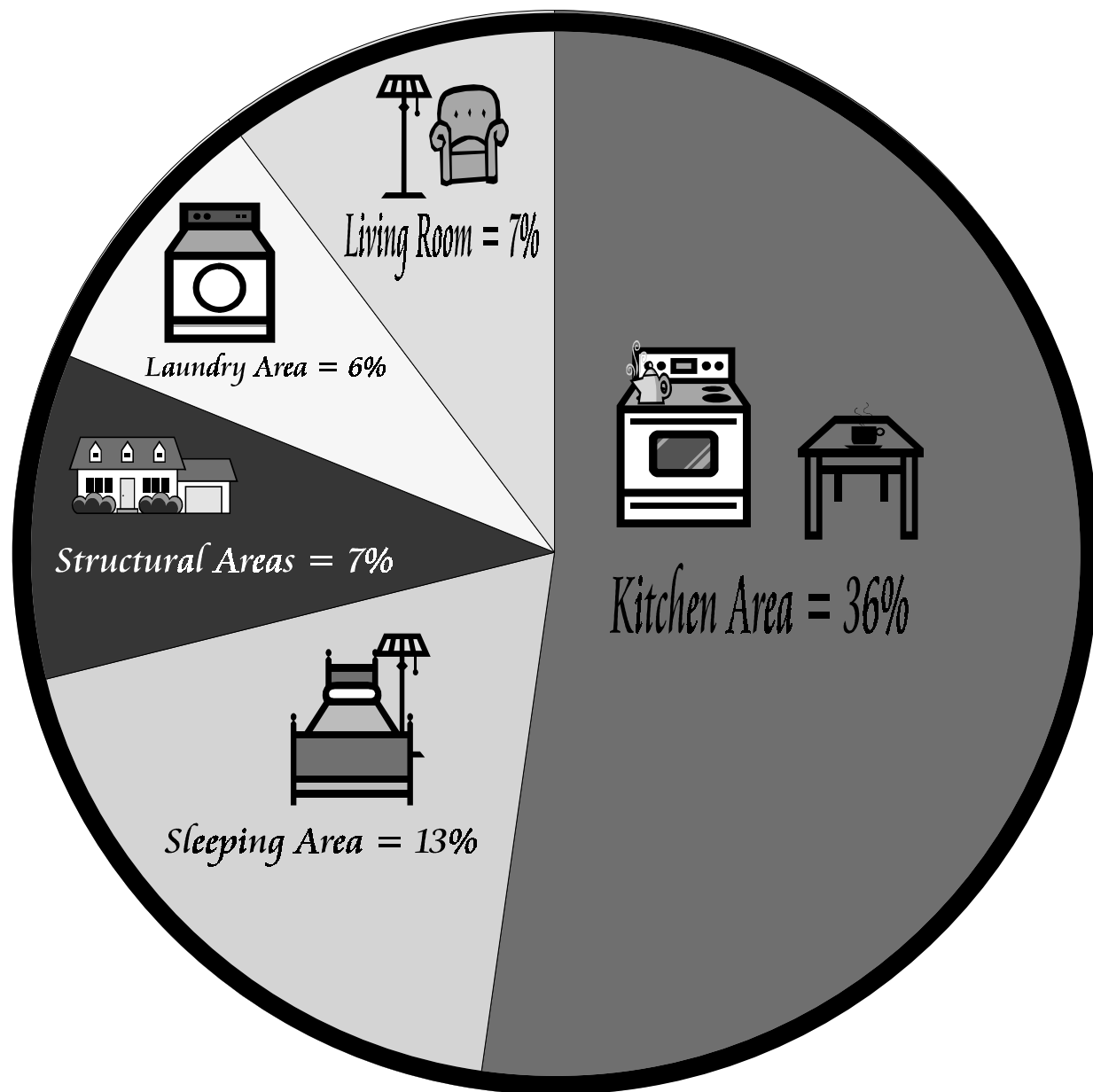
# RESIDENTIAL FIRE CAUSES

Residential Fires reported to FFIRS during 1998



\* These figures were compiled from NFIRS data only.

# WHERE MOST HOUSE FIRES OCCUR



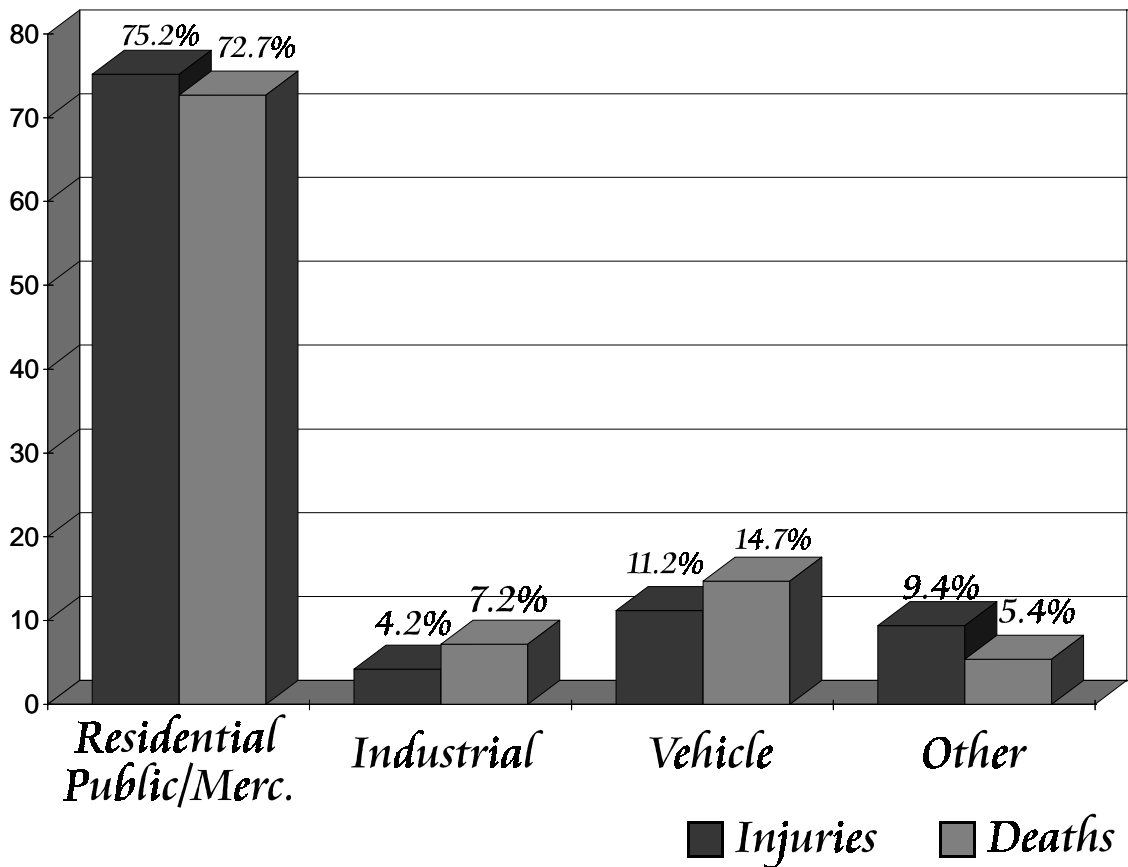
\* These figures, compiled from FFIRS data, represent an estimated 89 percent of Florida citizens and do not take into account tourists.



# CIVILIAN INJURIES AND DEATHS

During 1998, 1,288 civilians were injured in fires and 132 civilian deaths were reported. Residential properties consistently constitute the greatest number of fire injuries and deaths among structure fires, while industrial structures generally result in the least. Fire statistics show that 81 of the 132 civilians reported to have been killed as a result of a structure fire were in residential properties. Each year, many factors contribute to the number of injuries and deaths, with several of the more prominent factors including smoking, falling asleep, explosions, health impairments, and alcohol.

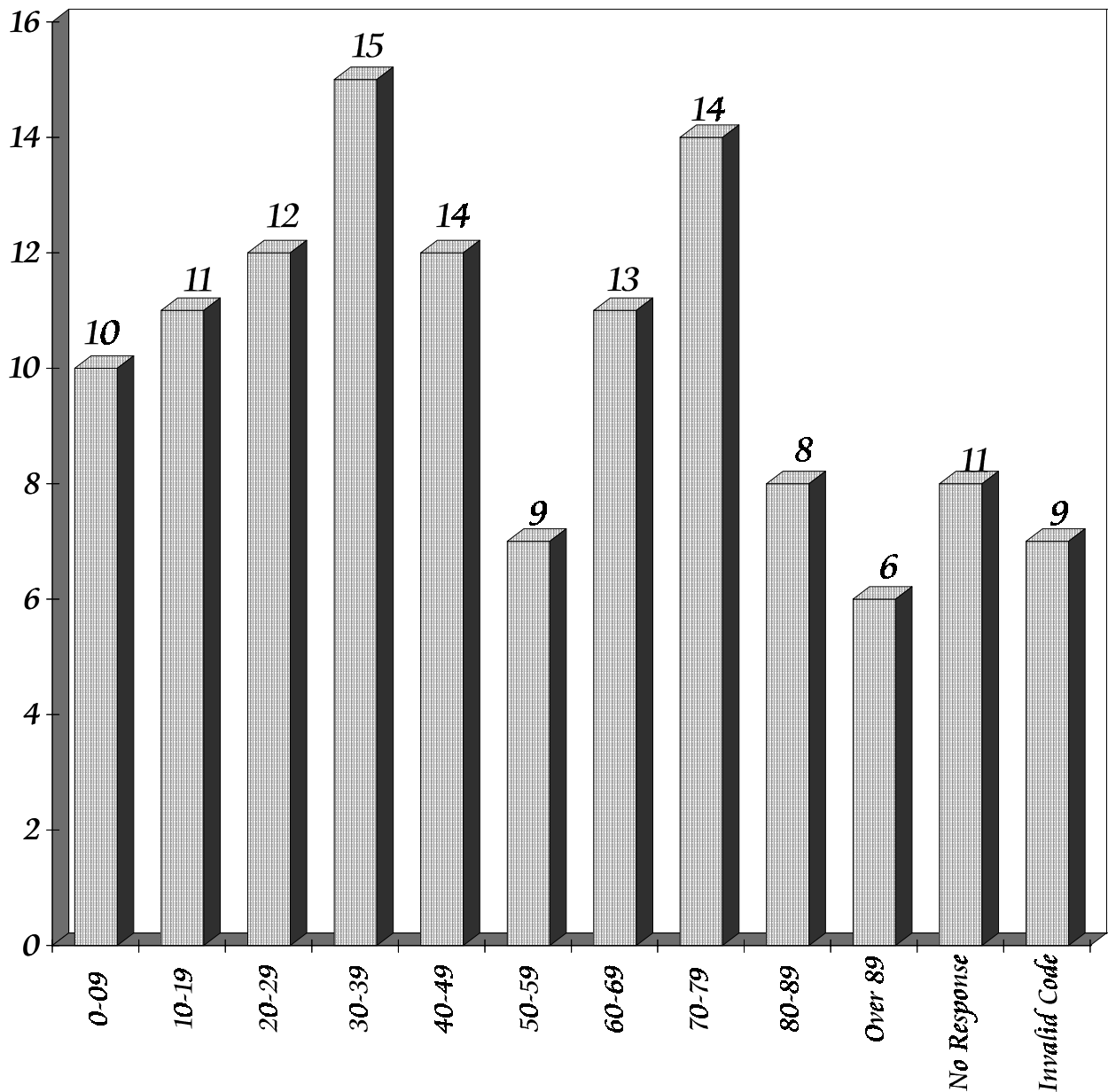
## 1998 CIVILIAN FIRE INJURIES AND DEATHS



\* These figures, compiled from FFIRS data, represent an estimated 89 percent of Florida citizens and do not take into account tourists.

# FLORIDA FIRE DEATHS BY AGE

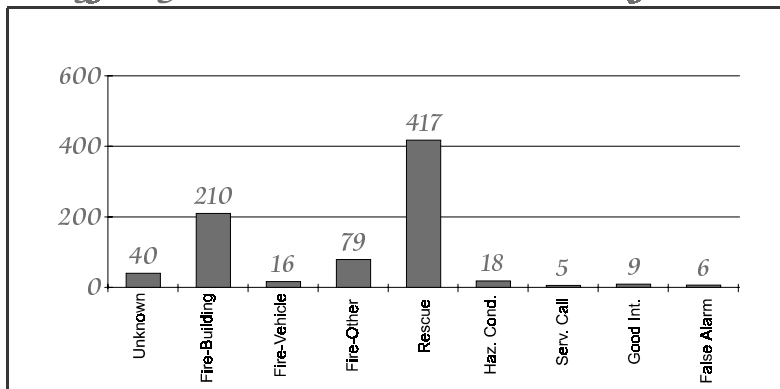
*Fire education is extremely important especially given the fact that statistics dictate the younger and older citizens are the most vulnerable to injury by fire. People ages forty and older account for more than half of Florida's 1998 reported deaths from fire, while children under the age of 10 make up 10 percent.*



# FIREFIGHTER INJURIES

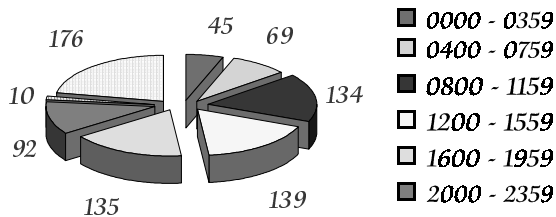
Statistics listed below are from NFIRS only and does not include information from those departments choosing to report through annual/semi-annual surveys.

## Type of Situation Found and Injuries

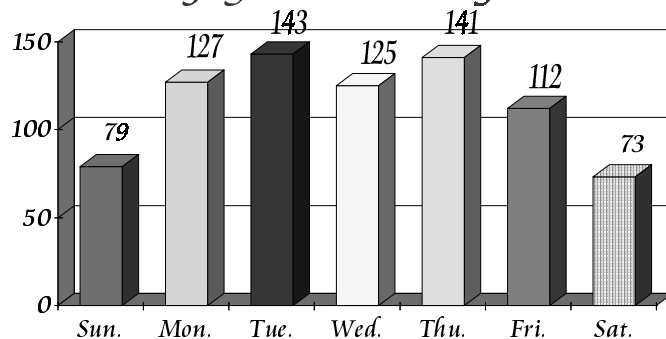


Firefighters in the state of Florida deal with a variety of hazards while performing their duties. Hazards include smoke inhalation, burns, straining of body parts, exposure to chemicals, and stress. In 1998, 800 firefighters were injured in the line of duty.

## Times of Firefighter Injuries



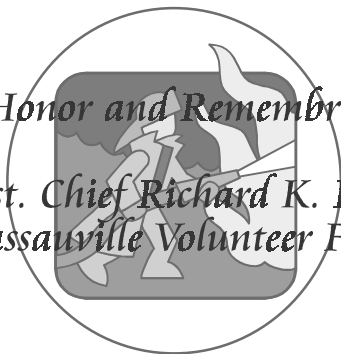
## Day of the Week Injuries



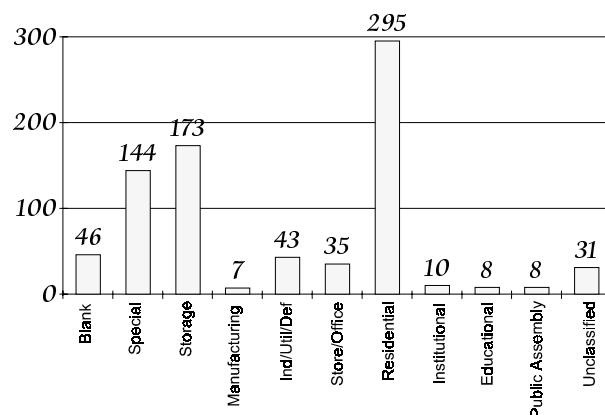
## Firefighter Deaths

In Honor and Remembrance

Asst. Chief Richard K. Rice  
Nassauville Volunteer F.D.



## Property Types and Injuries



\* These figures were compiled from NFIRS data only.

## REPORTING FIRE DEPARTMENTS LISTING:

The following is a listing of the departments which reported to the Florida Fire Incident Reporting System during 1998, and their general reporting media. In total, 345 departments throughout the state reported.

### ALACHUA COUNTY

#### Electronic

Melrose FD  
Newberry FD  
High Springs FD

#### Paper

Archer VFD  
La Crosse VFD  
Micanopy FD  
Waldo VFD

#### Survey

Gainesville F/R

Dania FD

Sunrise F/R  
Hallandale FD  
Parkland FD  
Plantation FD  
Sunrise F/R

#### Survey

Davie FD  
Deerfield Beach F/R  
Ft. Lauderdale F/R  
Lighthouse Point FD  
Parkland PSD

#### Paper

Big Corkscrew Island VFD  
East Naples FC/R District

### COLUMBIA COUNTY

#### Survey

Lake City

### DADE COUNTY

#### Survey

Miccosukee FD  
Hialeah FD  
City of Miami  
Miami Dade F/R  
Coral Gables FD  
Miami Beach FD

### BAKER COUNTY

#### Survey

City of Macclenny

### CALHOUN COUNTY

#### Survey

Mossy Pond VFD  
Scotts Ferry VFD

### DUVAL COUNTY

#### Electronic

Atlantic Beach FD  
Jacksonville Beach FD  
Jacksonville FD

### BAY COUNTY

#### Electronic

Panama City  
Survey  
Lynn Haven FD  
Mexico Beach VFD  
Parker FD  
Springfield FD

### CHARLOTTE COUNTY

#### Electronic

Charlotte County F/R  
Punta Gorda FD

### ESCAMBIA COUNTY

#### Electronic

Bellview VFD  
Brent VFD  
Cantonment VFD  
Escambia County DOF  
Innerarity Point VFD  
Pensacola FD

### BRADFORD COUNTY

#### Survey

Lawtey VFD

### CITRUS COUNTY

#### Electronic

Hernando VFD  
Paper  
Chassahowitzka VFD  
Connell Heights VFD  
Crystal River FD  
Survey  
Citrus County FD

#### Survey

McDavid VFD  
Walnut Hill VFD  
Beulah F/R  
Myrtle Grove VFD

### BROWARD COUNTY

#### Electronic

City of Oakland Park F/R Services  
Cooper City F/R  
Coral Springs FD  
Hollywood FD  
Lauderdale Lakes FD  
Margate FD  
Miramar FD  
North Lauderdale PSD  
Pembroke Park F/R  
Pembroke Pines FD  
Pompano Beach F/R  
Tamarac FD  
Wilton Manor FD  
Paper  
Broward County Emergency Services  
Coconut Creek PSD

### CLAY COUNTY

#### Electronic

Green Cove Springs FD  
Keystone Heights VFD  
Orange Park FD  
Paper  
Clay County F/R

### FLAGLER COUNTY

#### Electronic

Flagler Beach VFD  
Palm Coast F/R

### COLLIER COUNTY

#### Electronic

Golden Gate FC/R District  
Immokalee Vol. F/R  
Marco Island FCD  
North Naples FC/R

#### Paper

Bunnell VFD  
Española VFD  
Rima Ridge VFD  
St. Johns Park VFD

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

**Survey**

*Carrabelle VFD*

**GADSDEN COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Quincy FD*

*Florida State Hospital FD*

*Greenboro FD*

**Paper**

*Havana FD*

*Mt. Pleasant VFD*

*Wetumpka VFD*

**Survey**

*Midway VFD*

**GULF COUNTY**

**Survey**

*Highland view VFD*

*Gulf County Beaches VFD*

**GILCHRIST COUNTY**

**Paper**

*Bell VFD*

**HAMILTON COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Jasper FD*

**Paper**

*Crossroads VFD*

**Survey**

*White Springs VFD*

**HARDEE COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Hardee County F/R*

**Survey**

*Bowling Green VFD*

**HENDRY COUNTY**

**Paper**

*Felda VFD*

*Montura-Flaghole VFD*

*Pioneer VFD*

**HERNANDO COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*East Hernando County FCD*

*Hernando Beach VFD*

*N.W. Hernando County FPD*

*South Central Fire District*

*Spring Hill F/R District*

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*City of Avon Park FD*

*Highlands Lakes FD*

*Highlands Park FD*

*Lake Placid VFD*

*Leisure Lakes VFD*

*Lorida VFD*

*Sebring FD*

*Sun 'N Lake of lake Placid*

*West Sebring VFD*

**Paper**

*Sun 'N Lake of Sebring VFD*

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Plant City*

**Survey**

*Tampa F/R*

*Hillsborough County F/R*

*Temple Terrace FD*

**HOLMES COUNTY**

**Paper**

*New Hope VFD*

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY**

**Paper**

*Indian River County Fire District*

*Indian River Shores PSD*

**JACKSON COUNTY**

**Paper**

*Campbellton VFD*

*Compass Lake in the Hills VFD*

*Sneads FD*

**Survey**

*Marianna FD*

*Dellwood FD*

*Cottondale FD*

**JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Jefferson County FD*

**LAKE COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Clermont VFD*

*Eutis FD*

*Lake County FD*

*Leeburg FD*

*Monteverde VFD*

*Mount Dora FD*

*Tavares FD*

**Survey**

*Montverde FD*

*Umatilla FD*

*Fruitland Park VFD*

*Groveland FD*

**LEE COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Bonita Springs VCD*

*Cape Coral FD*

*Ft. Myers Beach FCD*

*Lehigh Acres FC/R District*

*Matlacha-Pine Island VCD*

*North Ft. Myers FCD*

*San Carlos park VCD*

*South Trail FP/R*

**Paper**

*Boca Grande VCD*

*Captiva VCD*

*Ft. Myers FD*

*Sanibel VCD*

*Upper Captiva F/R District*

**Survey**

*Boca Grande FCD*

*Lee County Port Authority*

**LEON COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Lake Jackson VFD*

**Paper**

*Woodville VFD*

**Survey**

*Tallahassee FD*

**LEVY COUNTY**

**Electronic**

*Yankeetown VFD*

**Paper**

*Chiefland VFD*

*Inglis VFD*

**Survey**

Williston VFD  
Morrison-Montbrook VFD  
Chiefland F/R

**LIBERTY COUNTY**

**Survey**

Bristol VFD

**MADISON COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Madison FD

**Paper**

Cherry Lake VFD

**MANATEE COUNTY**

**Paper**

Longboat Key VFD  
Myakka City Fire District

**Survey**

Trailer Estates F/R  
Cedar Hammock FCD  
Southern Manatee F/RD  
Bradenton FD  
Duette F/R

**MARTIN COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Martin County F/R  
Stuart FD

**MONROE COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Islamorada VFD

**Paper**

Ocean Reef PSD

**Survey**

Key West FD

**NASSAU COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Fernandina Beach Mun. FD

**Paper**

Bryceville F/R  
Callahan VFD  
Gray Gables-Nassau Vil. VFD  
Hilliard VFD

Nassau County Dept. Emer/Ser

Nassau Oaks FD  
Nassauville VFD  
River Road VFD  
Yulee VFD

**OKALOOSA COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Crestview FD  
Destin VCD  
Ft. Walton Beach FD  
Mary Ester FD  
Niceville VFD  
North Bay Fire District  
North Okaloosa FD  
Ocean City-Wright VCD  
Okaloosa Island FD

**Paper**

Dorcas VFD

**Survey**

Baker FD

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Okeechobee FD  
Okeechobee County FD

**ORANGE COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Maitland FD  
Ocoee FD  
Winter Garden FD  
**Survey**  
Orlando FD  
Orange County F/R

**OSCEOLA COUNTY**

**Electronic**

St. Cloud F/R  
**Survey**  
Osceola County F/R station 92

**PALM BEACH COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Boynton Beach FD  
Delray Beach FD  
Lake Park FD  
Lake Worth FD

North Palm Beach FD  
Palm Beach F/R  
Palm Beach County F/R  
Palm Beach Gardens FD  
Royal Palm Beach FD  
South Bay FD  
West Palm Beach FD

**Paper**

Belle Glade FD  
Greenacres PSD  
Palm Beach Shores VFD  
South Palm Beach PSD  
Tequesta F/R  
**Survey**  
Palm Springs Public Safety  
South Palm Beach

**PASCO COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Dade City F/R  
New Port Richey FD  
Pasco County F/R  
Port Richey F/R  
Zephyrhills FD

**Paper**

Land O Lakes VFD  
Magnolia Valley VFD  
Moon Lake FD  
San Antonia VFD  
Tri-Community Fire Association

**PINELLAS COUNTY**

**Electronic**

Belleair Bluffs VFD  
Clearwater FD  
Dunedin Fire Administration  
East Lake F/R  
Gulfport FD  
Indian Rocks Special FCD

Largo FD  
Lealman F/R  
Madeira Beach FD  
Oldsmar FD  
Palm Harbor FD  
Pinellas Park FD  
Safety Harbor FD  
Seminole F/R  
South Pasadena FD

St/Pete-Clearwater Airport F/R  
St. Petersburg Beach FD  
Tarpon Springs FD  
Treasure Island FD

#### **POLK COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Auburndale FD  
Bartow FD  
Frostproof FD  
Haines City FD  
Lake Alfred FD  
Polk County FD  
Winter Haven

##### Paper

Davenport

##### Survey

Dundee F/R  
Lake Hamilton VFD  
Lake Wales FD  
Fort Meade FD  
Lakeland FD

#### **PUTNAM COUNTY**

##### Electronic

East Palatka VFD  
Interlachen VFD  
Interlachen Lakes Estates VFD  
Palatka FD  
Ponoma Park-Lake Coma VFD  
Putnam County Fire Adm.  
West Putnam VFD

##### Paper

Crescent City VFD

##### Survey

Welake VFD  
Georgetown-Fruitland VFD  
Pomona Park F/R

#### **SANTA ROSA COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Avalon Beach-Mulat VFD  
City of Jay VFD  
Div/of Forestry (Santa Rosa)  
East Milton VFD  
Midway FPD  
Milton FD  
Holley Navarre Beach VFD  
Pace VFD

##### Paper

Bagdad VFD  
Berrydale VFD  
Jay VFD

##### Survey

Midway VFD

#### **SARASOTA COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Englewood Area VCD  
Nokomis VFD  
Venice FD

##### Paper

Sarasota County FD

##### Survey

North Port FRD

#### **SEMINOLE COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Altamonte Springs FD  
Casselberry FD  
Oviedo F/R

#### **ST. JOHNS COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Bushnell PSC  
Coleman VFD  
Croom-a-Coochee VFD  
Oxford VFD

#### **SUMTER COUNTY**

##### Survey

Wildwood FD

#### **SUWANNEE COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Live Oak FD  
Suwannee County FD

##### Paper

Branford VFD  
Dowling Park VFD  
Falmouth VFD  
Luraville VFD  
McAlpin VFD  
O'Brien VFD  
Pine Grove VFD  
Ranchette VFD  
Stage Coach VFD  
Taylorville VFD

#### **TAYLOR COUNTY**

##### Survey

Taylor County F/R

#### **VOLUSIA COUNTY**

##### Electronic

DeLand FD  
Holly Hill FD  
Orange City FD  
Ponce Inlet VFD  
Port Orange F/R  
Volusia County DFS

##### Paper

Edgewater F/R  
New Smyrna Beach FD  
Ormond Beach FD  
South Daytona FD

##### Survey

Daytona Beach FD  
Daytona Beach Ayrpt FD  
Deltona FD

#### **WAKULLA COUNTY**

##### Survey

Sopchoppy VFD  
Ochlockonee Bay VFD

#### **WALTON COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Freeport VFD

##### Paper

Defuniak Springs FD  
South Walton Beach Fire Dist.  
Tri-Village VFD

##### Survey

Red Bay VFD

#### **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

##### Electronic

Five Points VFD

##### Survey

Vernon F/R