



ANNUAL REPORT

2021

Proudly serving the City of Snoqualmie, Echo Glen Children's Center and the Upper Snoqualmie Valley through Mutual Aid Agreements.

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SNOQUALMIE FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

Message from the Fire Chief

It is with great pride that I present the 2021 Fire Department Annual Report. The following is a culmination displaying the outstanding work performed by the firefighters and administrative staff within the department. All fire department staff are committed to providing the highest level of service to the community and anyone we respond to.

This year was another exciting year for the Department. First and foremost, the firefighters responded to over 1,380 incidents. The growth within the community and the upper Snoqualmie Valley has increased the demand for service and required us to respond to more and more incidents. In 2020, many departments - including Snoqualmie - saw a decrease in incident volume. This was likely caused by the Governor's Orders associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2021, Snoqualmie and other departments saw a return of incidents volume consistent with the pre-pandemic years.

The pandemic forced the Snoqualmie Fire Department to change its usual practices to increase the safety of firefighters and the public. These practices continued throughout 2021 and were challenging, but the firefighters rose to the occasion with new and innovative ways to protect themselves and the public.

One of the greatest temporary changes that occurred in 2021 was with the command staff of the Department. On March 14, Chief Correira was reassigned to serve as the City's Interim City Administrator for three months. This assignment was later extended and remained in place throughout the remainder of the year. In Chief Correira's absence, I was assigned to serve as the Interim Fire Chief. This movement not only saved precious monies in the Fire Department budget, but also at City Hall because the City Administrator position remained vacant during this time. Another example of the commitment to service the Fire Department maintains.

In 2021, the Department maintained its Accredited Status with the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

Lastly, in 2021, firefighters trained over 4,700 hours. And provided public education and community risk reducing events reaching 320 people, while pivoting to socially distanced, public interacting type events. Moreover, the Volunteer Firefighters gave 6,480 hours of service with an equivalent cost benefit to the City of \$343,472.50.

On behalf of all the firefighters and emergency responders, please accept our appreciation for another remarkable year. It has been a pleasure serving all of you.

Sincerely,



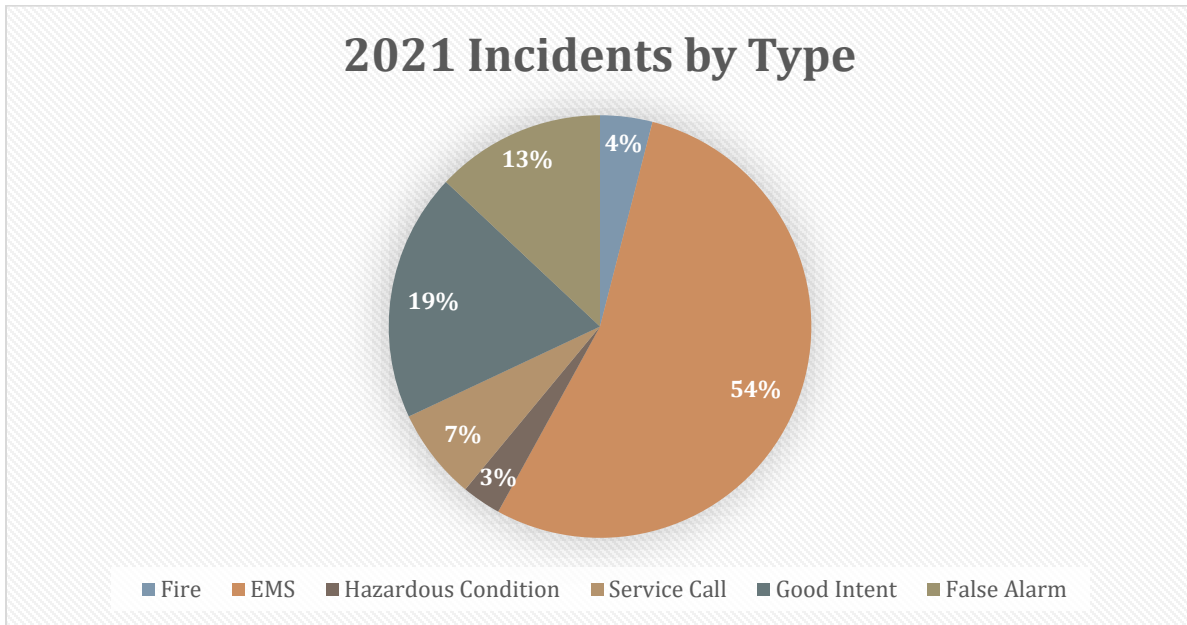
Michael Bailey
Interim Fire Chief



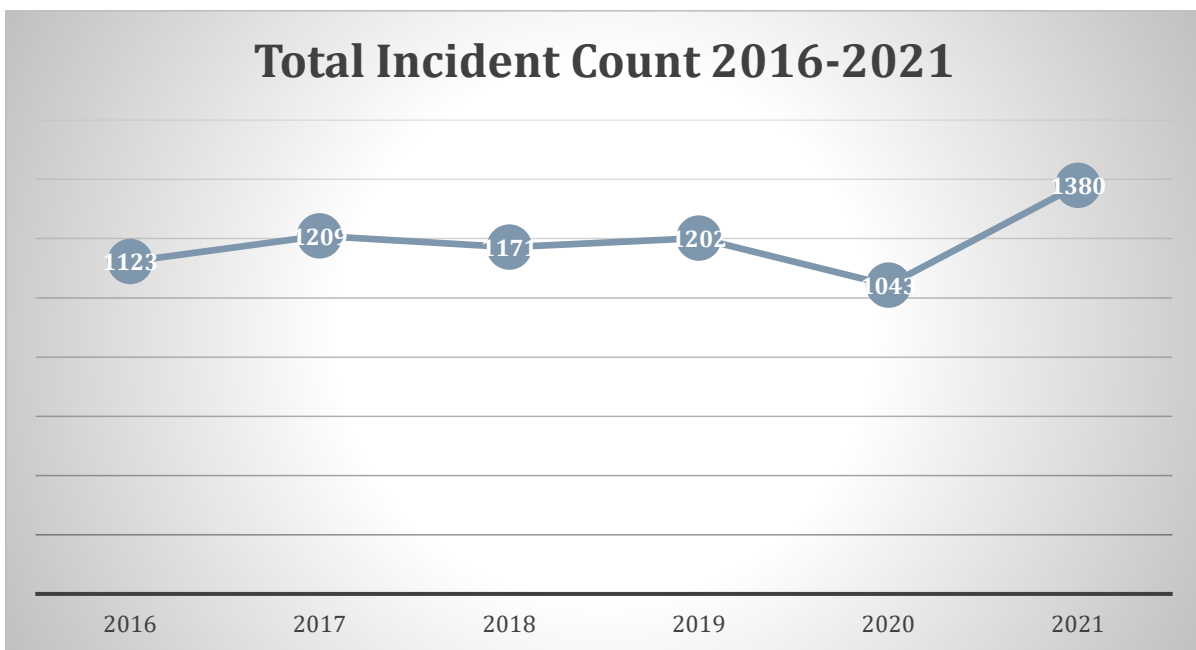
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Fire Department Responses

The Fire Department responded to 1,380 incidents in 2021. Fifty-four (54%) of all incidents were for emergency medical services. The chart below breaks out these incidents by type.

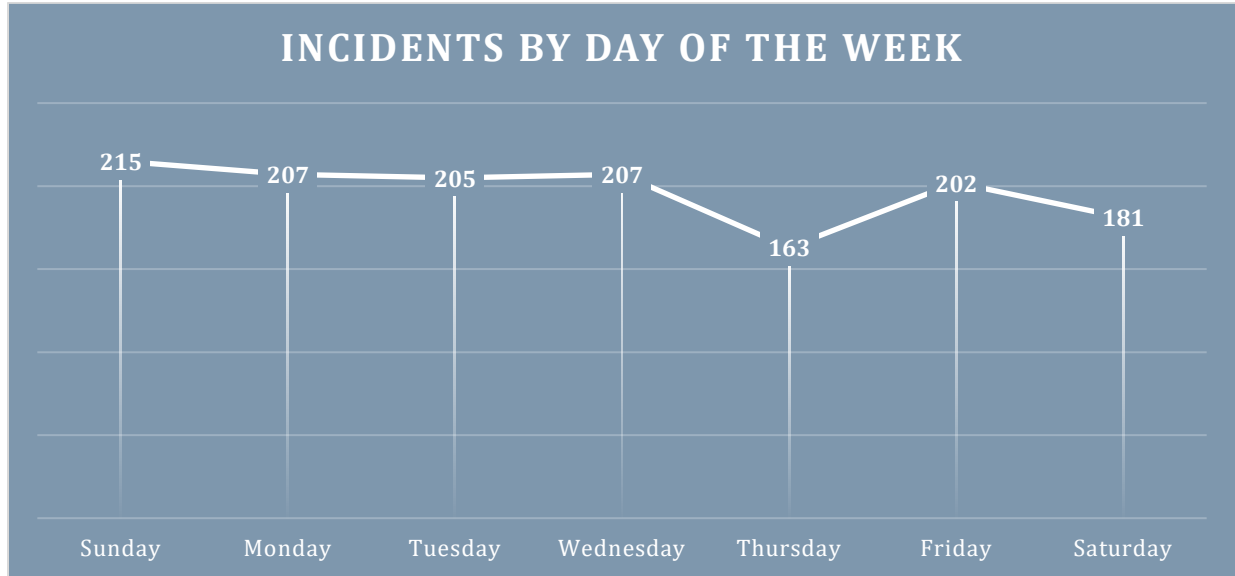


The fire department saw a 32% increase in incident volume from the previous year. The chart below trends incident volumes from 2016-2021.

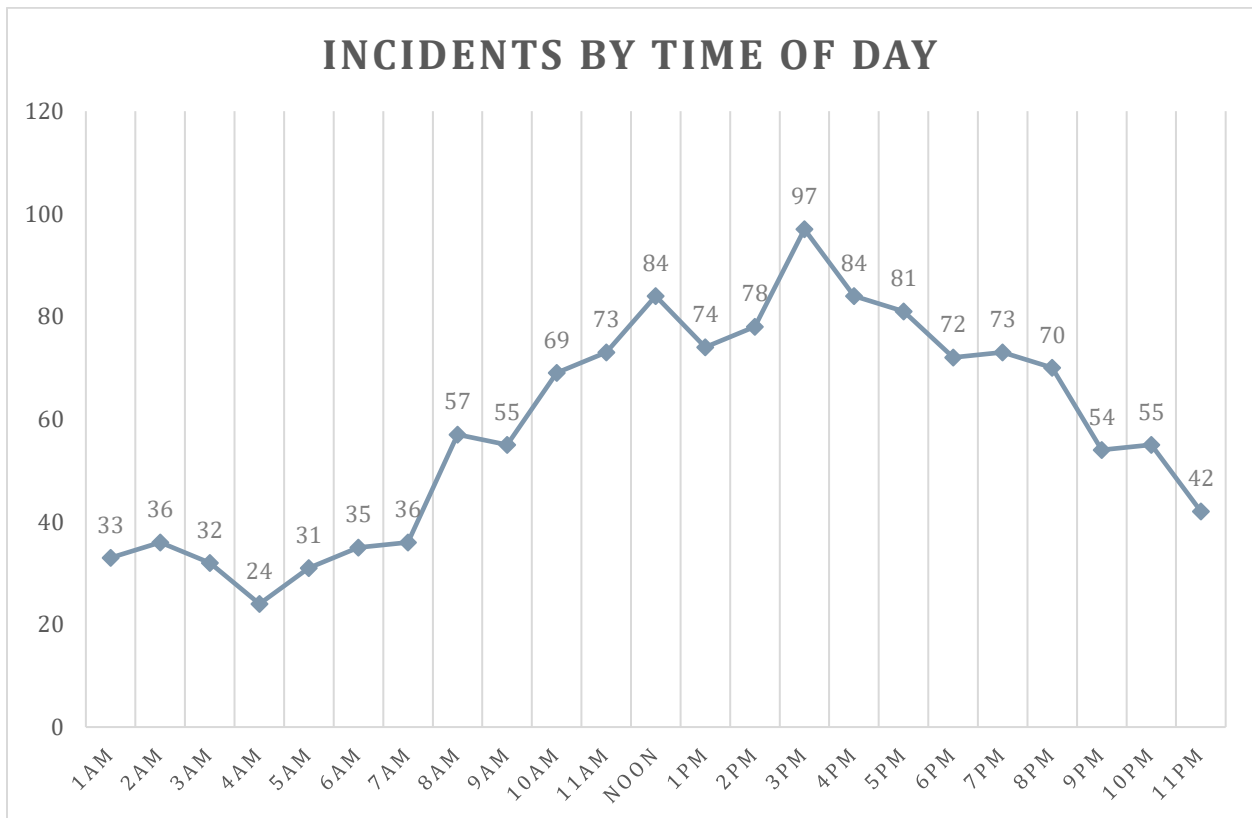


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Incident volumes are consistent throughout the week with most incidents occurring on Sunday, and the least on Thursday. The chart below shows incident volumes by the day of the week.



Incident volumes vary by time of the day with the peak-time being between the hours of 12PM and 5PM, and the valley-hours between 12AM and 5AM. The following chart shows incidents by the time of the day.

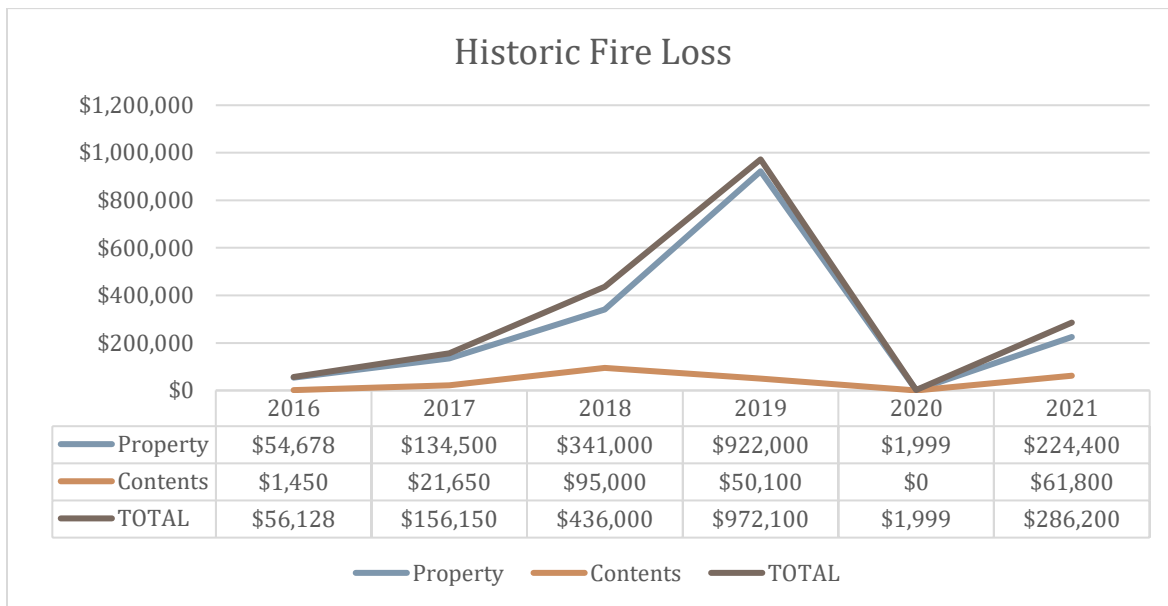


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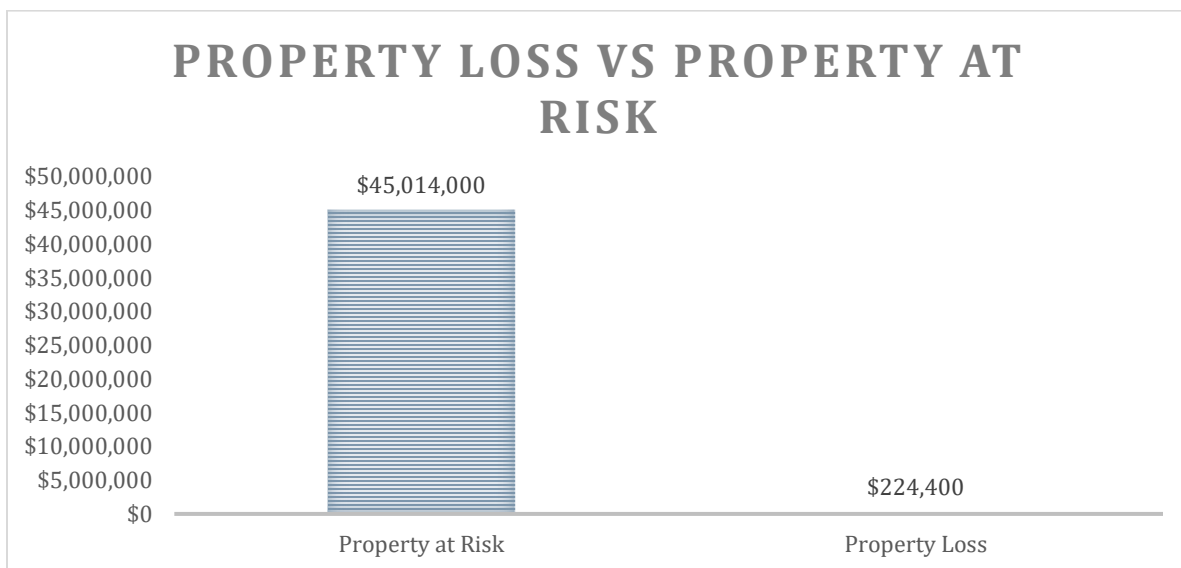
Property Loss Charts

For reporting purposes, fire loss is broken into two categories: property and contents. Property describes physical properties such as cars, house, etc. Contents describe items that are not part of the structure but perish in the incident. In recent history, the highest year of property loss occurred in 2019 with a total of \$972,100. The supermajority of this property loss can come from a single residential structure fire. 2021's property loss totaled \$224,400.

The following chart compares the annual fire loss by year:



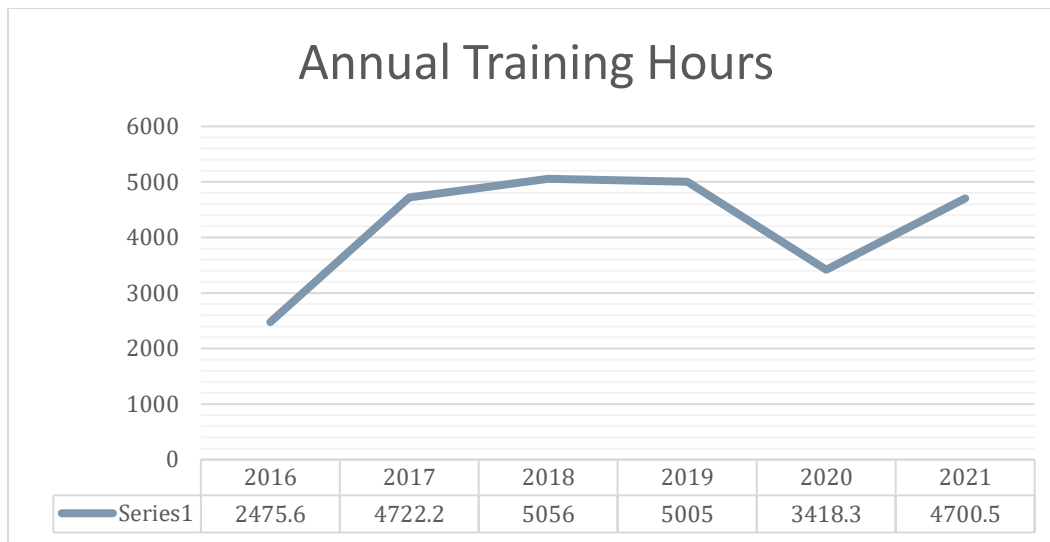
In 2021, over \$45 million in property was at risk because of fire incidents. Total property loss for this same time period was \$224,400, or 0.5%.



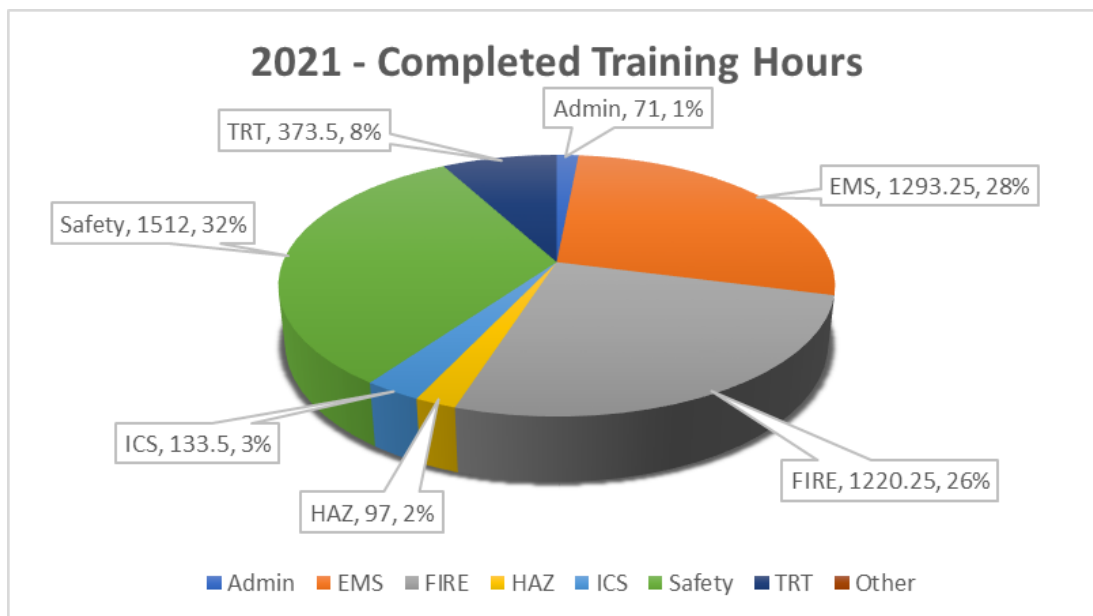
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Fire Department Training

The Fire Department trained for 4,700.5 hours in 2021, an increase of 1,282.2 hours from the previous year. In 2020 there was a drop in training hours as the Department transitioned to a new training consortium, learning management system, and tracking tool which doesn't track some training activity that had been tracked in the previous system. Training hours returned to a more normal level as seen in 2017 through 2019. The following chart displays this data point:



Training sessions were broken into groups that best fit the type of training being performed. Training types included Fire, EMS, Extrication, Special Operations, Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention (EVIP), Health and Wellness and Other. The following chart displays the training by session by hours.

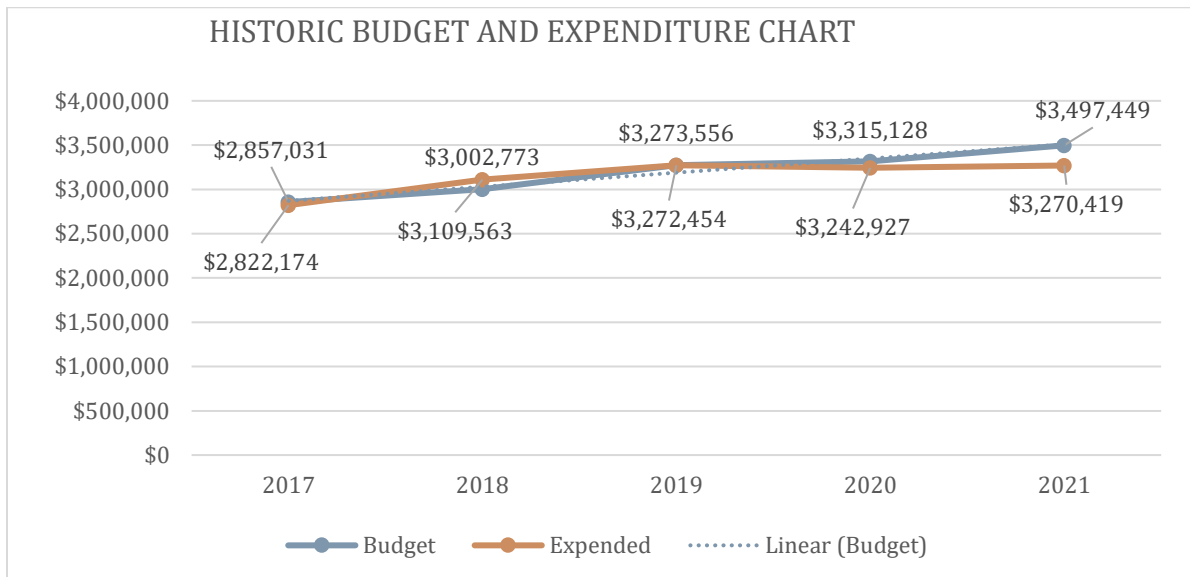


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Fire Department Finances

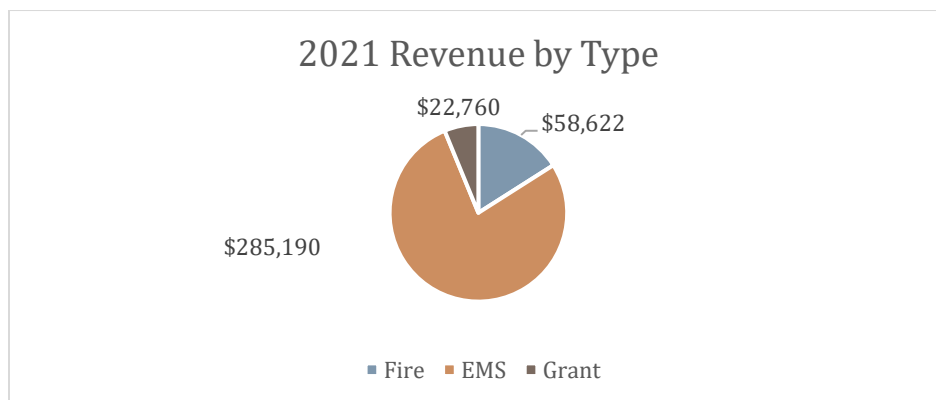
Budget and Expenses

The 2021 Fire Department Budget* was approved at \$3,497,449: a 5.5% increase from 2020. For this same time period the Department expended \$3,270,419 – underspending it by \$227,030. 2021 marks the middle of the biennium (2-year budget) and much of this savings was caused by staffing vacancies in Fire Administration when the Fire Chief was reassigned to Interim City Administrator.



* Fire Department Budget includes Emergency Management Program Budget.

Revenue

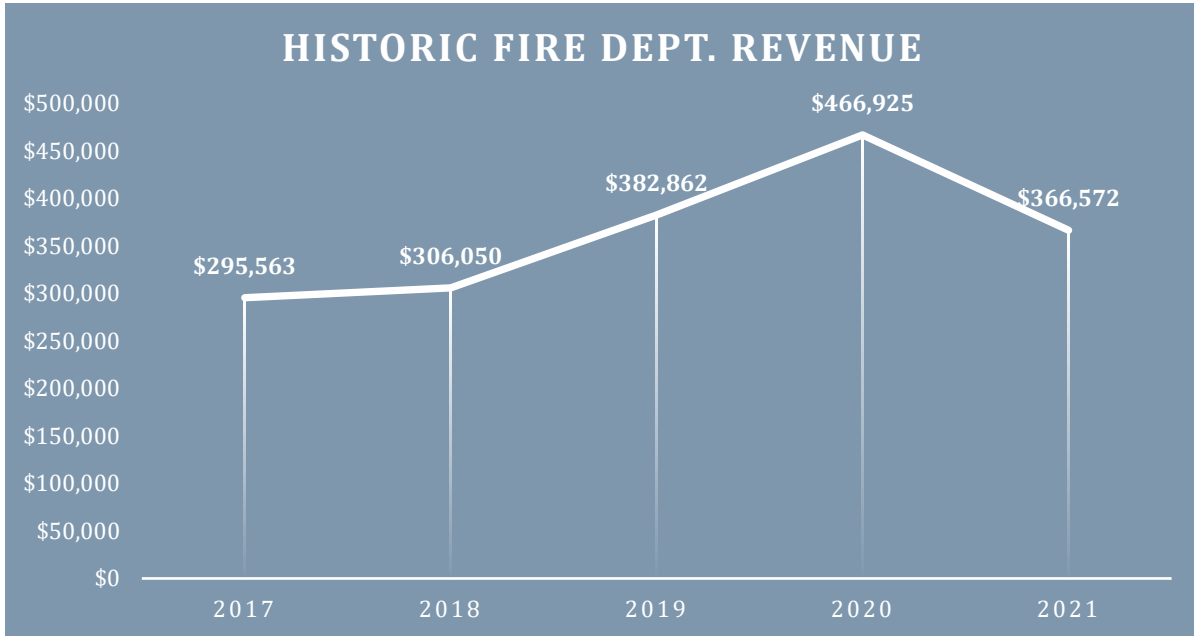


The Fire Department generated \$366,572 in revenue in 2021. Fire Department revenue is broken into three categories: fire, EMS and grants. The fire category captures fees generated from fire protection services; grants capture funds received through annual or periodic grants; and EMS

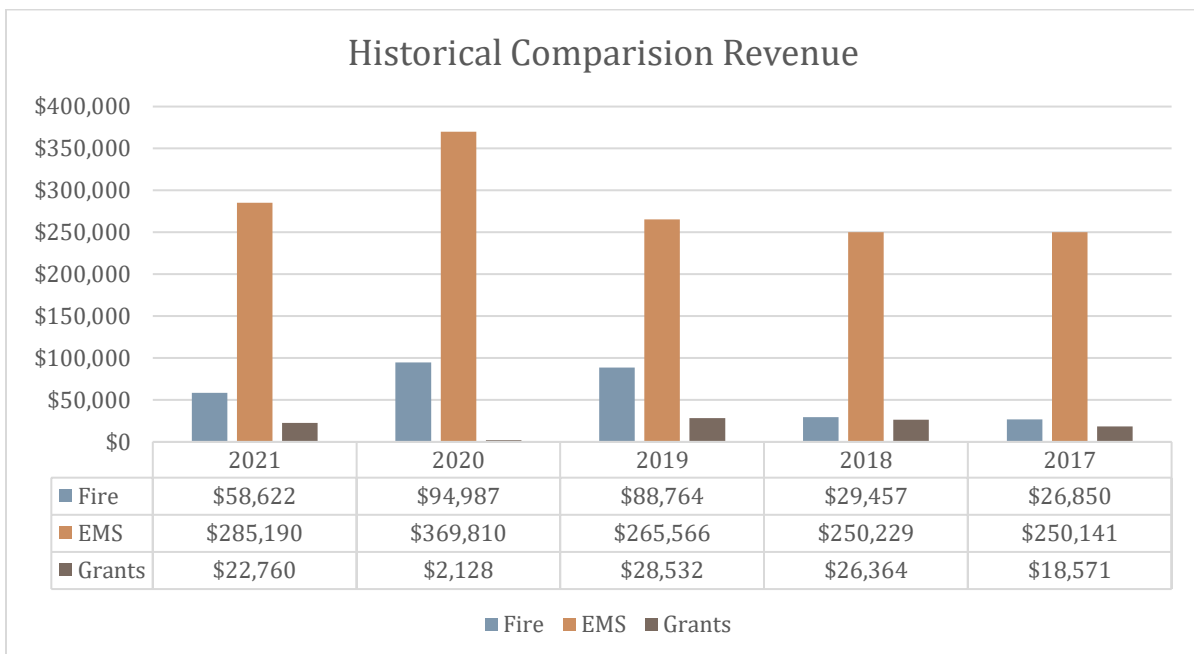
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revenue comes from EMS transport fees and the King County BLS EMS allocation from the King County EMS Levy. The following chart displays these funds:

The fire service revenue has ebbed and flowed over the past seven years. The fluctuations in the chart below was caused by a delayed payment of EMS fees to the City from King County causing two years of payment within the same year. During this year, there was also a decrease in EMS transport fee revenue caused by the global pandemic.



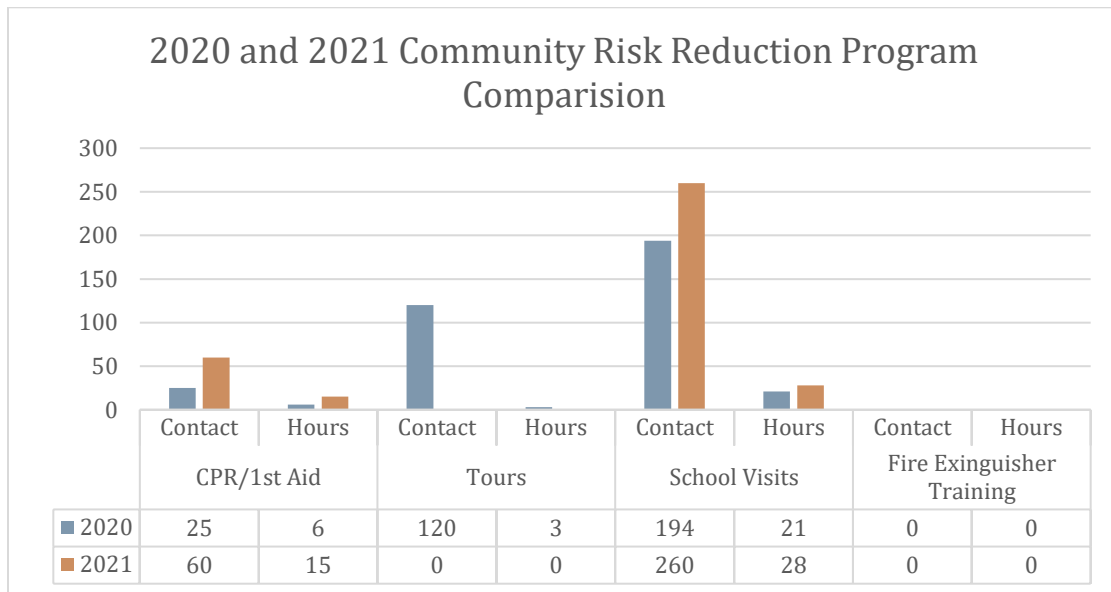
The following chart is a comparison in fire department revenue from 2017 through 2021:



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Fire Prevention and Outreach

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and if it's predictable – its preventable. This mantra is why the Department spends a portion of its time investing in community risk reduction programs. Included in these activities are fire safety talks with elementary schools, CPR training, first aid training, school visits to the fire station, fire extinguisher training, high school career shadow programs and community events. In 2021, the department invested 43 hours and reached 320 people. These decreases were caused the by the global pandemic with many facilities (like schools) not allowing outside visitors. The following chart breaks out these activities:



In absence of in person community risk reduction efforts, the Department pivoted to other events like video outreach, virtual fire station tour and parades.

Fire Inspections

In October of 2017, the department celebrated its first year of the Fire Inspections Program*. Because of the global pandemic, Department operations were focused on limiting interaction with the public. This caused the department to suspend the business inspection program from April 2021 to October 2021. In the final quarter, inspections focused on assembly areas, healthcare, educational and high-risk occupancy. In total, the department inspected **over XX business**.

The following table provides a historical view of the fire inspection program:

	2019	2020	2021
Completed Business/Building Inspections	280	16**	45
Violations	4069	0	0

* In 2005, the City returned these inspections to the Building Department.

** The 16 inspections in 2020 were reinspection of violations from 2019.

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Volunteerism

Volunteers play a vital role for the Snoqualmie Fire Department. At the end of 2021, the department had a total of 15 volunteers. Our volunteers provide a variety of services complimenting career staff including filling shifts, teaching CPR classes and various other community outreach activities. In 2021, volunteers provided 6,480 hours of support. By comparison, a career firefighter in a year will complete 2,584 hours of service (not including overtime or call-backs). As such, the combined hours of the volunteers equate to 2.51 FTE career firefighter.

The volunteer hours also demonstrate a financial benefit to the department. Given an average hourly salary of an FTE career firefighter at \$61.24 per hour, the combined volunteer hours reflect a salary savings of \$343,472.50 (not including benefits).

Here is a chart reflecting the cost benefits of the volunteer staff:

Total # of Volunteers	15
Average FTE Hourly Rate	\$61.24
2019 Volunteer Annual Hours	6,480
VOLUNTEER COST BENEFIT SUBTOTAL	\$396,835.20
Volunteer Program Expenses	-\$51,783.00
Uniforms/PPE (5% of total)	-\$15,79.50
TOTAL VOLUNTEER COST BENEFIT	\$343,472.50

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Emergency Management

EOC Activations:

Seven partial activations in 2021

- January 12 – Rain and flooding threat
- January 21 – Winter storm (snow)
- February 8 – Winter storm (snow)
- October 30 – Windstorm
- November 12 – Rain and flooding threat
- November 23 – Rain and flooding threat
- December 13 – Winter storm (snow)

No full EOC Activation for 2021

Staff time delegated to Emergency Management: 2,080 hours

Major accomplishment:

Managed COVID Pandemic throughout 2021

Addressed community and employee safety throughout Global Pandemic

Managed competing interests with limited staffing



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