

A photograph of two firefighters in full gear working at a fire scene. The firefighter on the right is in the foreground, wearing a brown jacket with reflective yellow stripes and a helmet. The firefighter on the left is partially obscured by a large plume of orange and yellow flames. The background is a clear blue sky. The text 'Tucson Fire Department' is overlaid in the center in white with a yellow shadow.

Tucson Fire Department

Overview

- The purpose of this presentation is to give a brief description of your Tucson Fire Department and the many services we provide for our community.
- We will look at the different divisions of the department and discuss their duties and roles within the City of Tucson.
- We will also explain how we respond to the citizens of Tucson for both fire and medical emergencies.
- Finally we will compare Tucson Fire to other departments across the country.

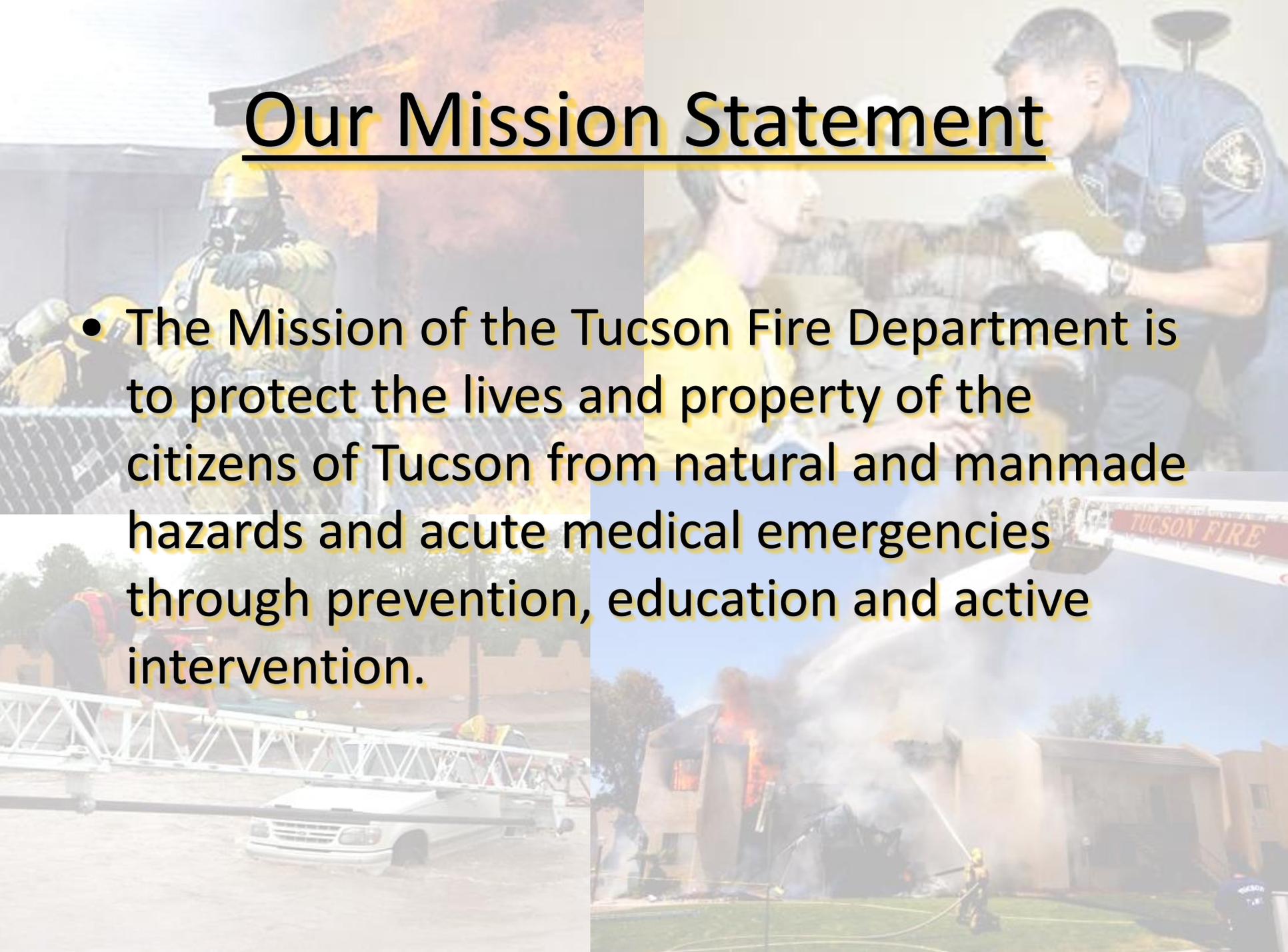
History



- The Tucson Fire Department has been fighting fires and saving lives in the Old Pueblo for more than 130 years. Started in 1881 as an all volunteer force, the department has grown into a modern department nationally recognized for its overall excellence.

Our Mission Statement

- The Mission of the Tucson Fire Department is to protect the lives and property of the citizens of Tucson from natural and manmade hazards and acute medical emergencies through prevention, education and active intervention.



Public Education



- The mission of the Public Education Section is to prevent unintentional injury and death through education and active intervention.
- Comprised of three certified teachers and one fire inspector who work together to provide quality educational programs and safety resources to the public, reaching approximately 23,000 residents each year.

Public Education

- We have programs designed to meet the needs of community members as their roles and responsibilities change during each stage of life.
- Through these programs, Tucson Fire is able to empower our community by providing them with the prevention education and safety resources they need to create and maintain safe homes and safe families.



Public Education



– Our Programs include:

- ❖ Adopt-A-School
- ❖ Cheer for Children
- ❖ Bicycle Safety
- ❖ Fall Prevention
- ❖ Water Safety
- ❖ Gun Safety
- ❖ Home Fire Safety
- ❖ Motor Vehicle Safety
- ❖ Poison Prevention



To find out more about these programs and resources, or to schedule a presentation, please call our Request for Service number at 837-7075

Fire Prevention Division

- The Fire Prevention Division promotes public safety by administering fire codes and standards, conducting building inspections, enforcing compliance of code requirements, and investigating suspicious fires.



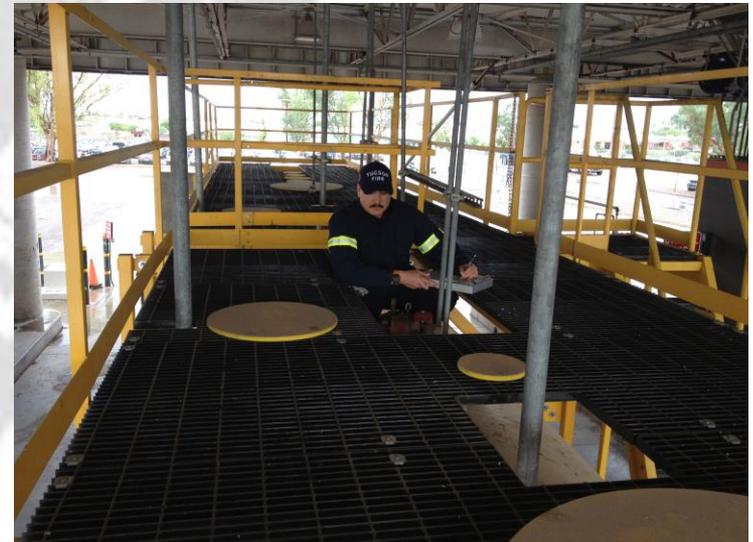
Fire Prevention Programs

- Our inspectors complete over 8000 inspections each year to keep the public safe.
- They also review building plans to ensure structures are built safe from the ground up.



Fire Prevention Programs

- **Fire Cause Investigation:**
Determining the cause and origin of intentionally set and accidental fires
- **Tank Inspection Program:**
Inspecting above ground and underground tanks to ensure safety and protect the environment



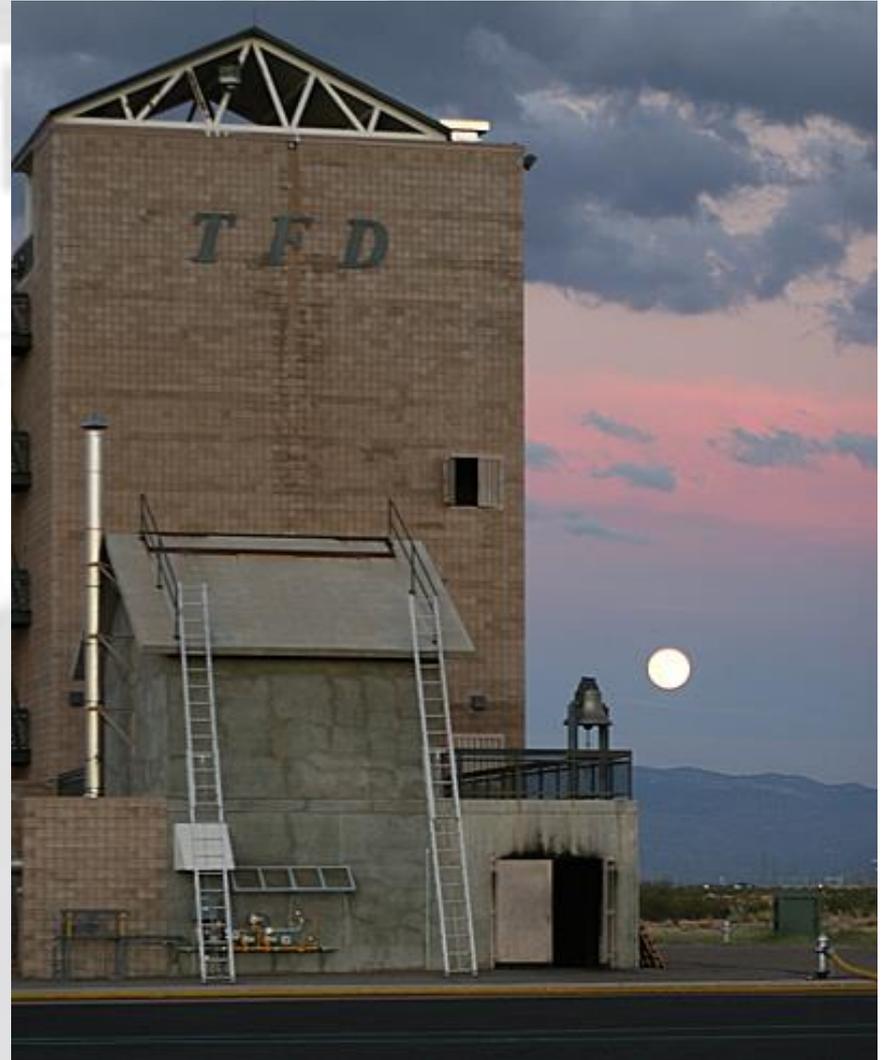
Fire Prevention Programs

- **Hazardous Waste Program:** Management of hazardous waste in the City of Tucson and advise citizens on the proper handling and management of hazardous waste
- **Business Assistance Unit:** Providing assistance with a variety of regulatory issues



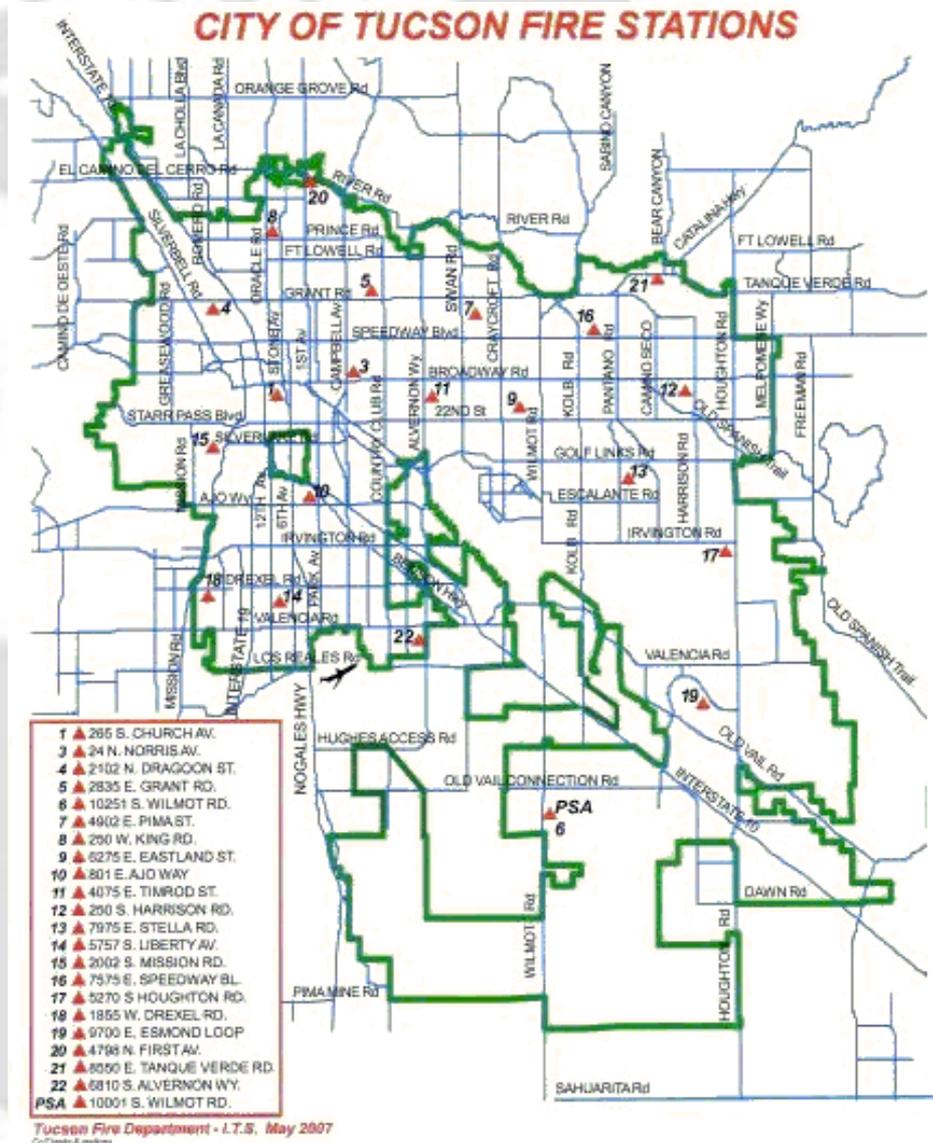
Training

- The Tucson Fire Department sends each recruit through the 20-22 week program. When finished, each firefighter will have earned Firefighter I&II and EMT certifications from the State of Arizona.
- Proficiency is reinforced through written tests and drills performed by all uniformed members on a quarterly basis.
- Additional training is available for Special Response teams within the department such as: Hazardous Materials, Technical Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, High Angle Rescue, Rapid Response Teams, and Toxicology Medics



Operations

- There are currently 21 fire stations strategically located throughout Tucson's city limits with a total of:
 - 22 Engine Companies
 - 7 Ladder Companies
 - 18 Paramedic Units
- The city is segmented into four districts of which are overseen by one Battalion Chief.
- Units can move around the city as needed for coverage when other units are responding to calls.



Emergency Responses

- Chest pain
- Difficulty breathing
- Fall Injuries
- Unconscious person
- Code arrest
- Traffic accidents
- Stabbings
- Gunshot wounds
- Poisonings
- Pregnancy problems
- Strokes
- Bleeding
- Respiratory arrest
- Dog bites
- Assaults
- Choking
- Seizures
- Diabetic problems
- Allergic reactions
- Burns
- Drowning
- Electrocutions
- Heat Exposures
- Childbirth
- Lacerations
- Carbon monoxide alarms
- Dumpster fires
- Power lines down
- Car fires
- Sprinkler activations
- Fire Alarms
- Spill containments
- House Fires
- Arcing wires
- Grass fires
- Mobile home fires
- Power pole fires
- Natural gas leaks
- Trash fires
- Swift water rescues
- Large brush fires
- Tree fires
- Aircraft accidents
- Chimney fires
- Apartment fires
- Chemical Spills
- Motor Vehicle Entrapments
- Hi-rise fires
- Odor of smoke
- Vehicle accident clean-up

We do a lot more than put out fires

Medical Emergencies

- Tucson Fire uses **The Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS)**. This medically-approved system, also known as The Clawson System, was developed by Dr. Jeff Clawson who also worked as an Emergency Medical Technician. He designed this system to quickly triage patients over the telephone.
- Once a 911 call is made, an emergency dispatcher asks the caller key questions which allows the dispatcher to categorize the call according to the callers answers and set a priority level relating to the patients condition.
- After the call is categorized and prioritized, the appropriate number of units are sent to the emergency.
- Dr. Clawson's main objective of the MPDS was to "Send the right thing to the right person in the right way at the right time"

Making a Difference

- There is a direct relationship between a life-threatening medical conditions and response times and training of emergency units.
- Patients who had a witnessed cardiac event and whose first detected heart rhythm was shockable, had a 15% survivability rate nationally according to a report found in the Journal of the American Medical Association.
- Those 15% were given another chance at life and were able to be discharged from the hospital because of quality care by emergency personnel !
- Tucson Fire was one of the first departments nationally to implement Continuous Chest Compression (CCC) CPR. There have been several reports written on the effectiveness of this form of CPR.

In 2008, patients treated by Tucson Fire with the same shockable rhythm had a 38.5% survival rate!

Structure Fires

- As with medical emergencies, time is of the essence with fire related emergency calls.
- Fire progresses quickly through stages in a predictable sequence. Because of that, firefighters deal with a wide range of fire conditions. The quick response and arrival time is critical, especially during the early stages of a fire.
- All of these stages progress over a very short period of time. Because of modern day construction materials, the time from ignition to flashover is usually somewhere between eight and twelve minutes.
- Once a structure reaches its flashover point the chance of survival for anyone, even firefighters is grave.

House Fire Response

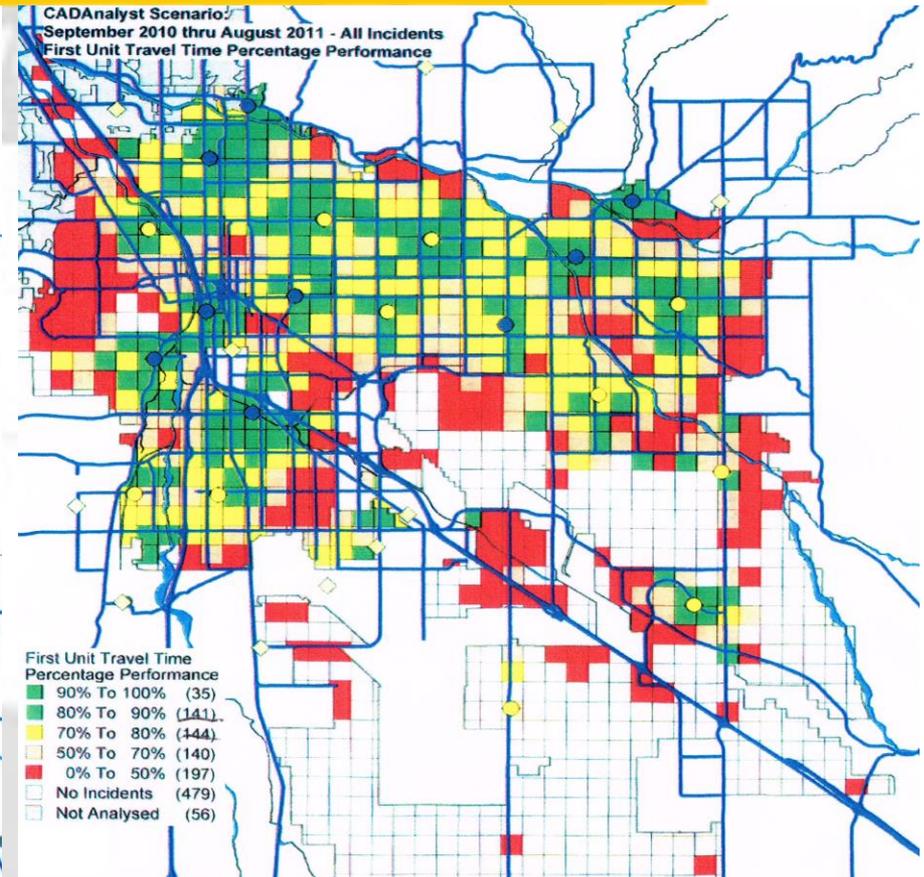
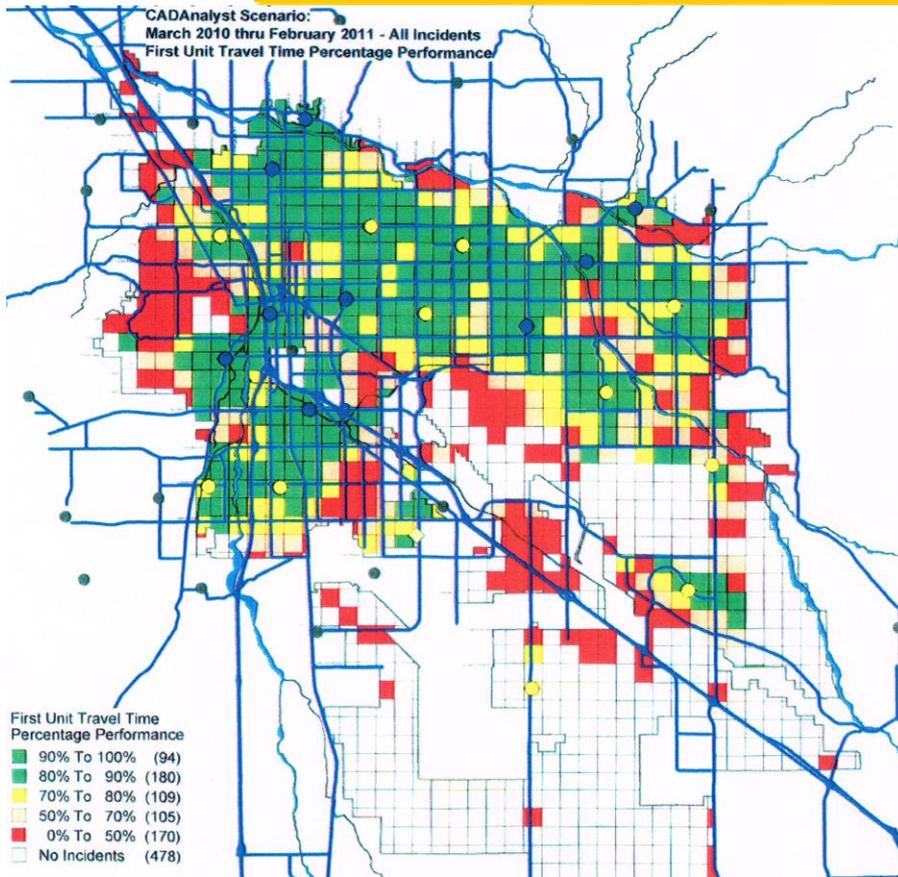


- Battalion Chief (Incident Commander)
 - 1st Due Engine Company (Victim Rescue, Fire Attack)
 - 2nd Due Engine Company (Water Supply, Fire Attack)
 - R.I.C. Engine Company (Rescue for Firefighters)
 - Ladder Company (Ventilation of Structure)
 - Paramedic Truck (Medical for Victims of Fire)
 - EC Captain (Status Officer)
 - EC Captain (Accountability Officer)
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- The initial fire response for a single family residence will receive the industry standard of 21 firefighters

Staffing and Crew Size

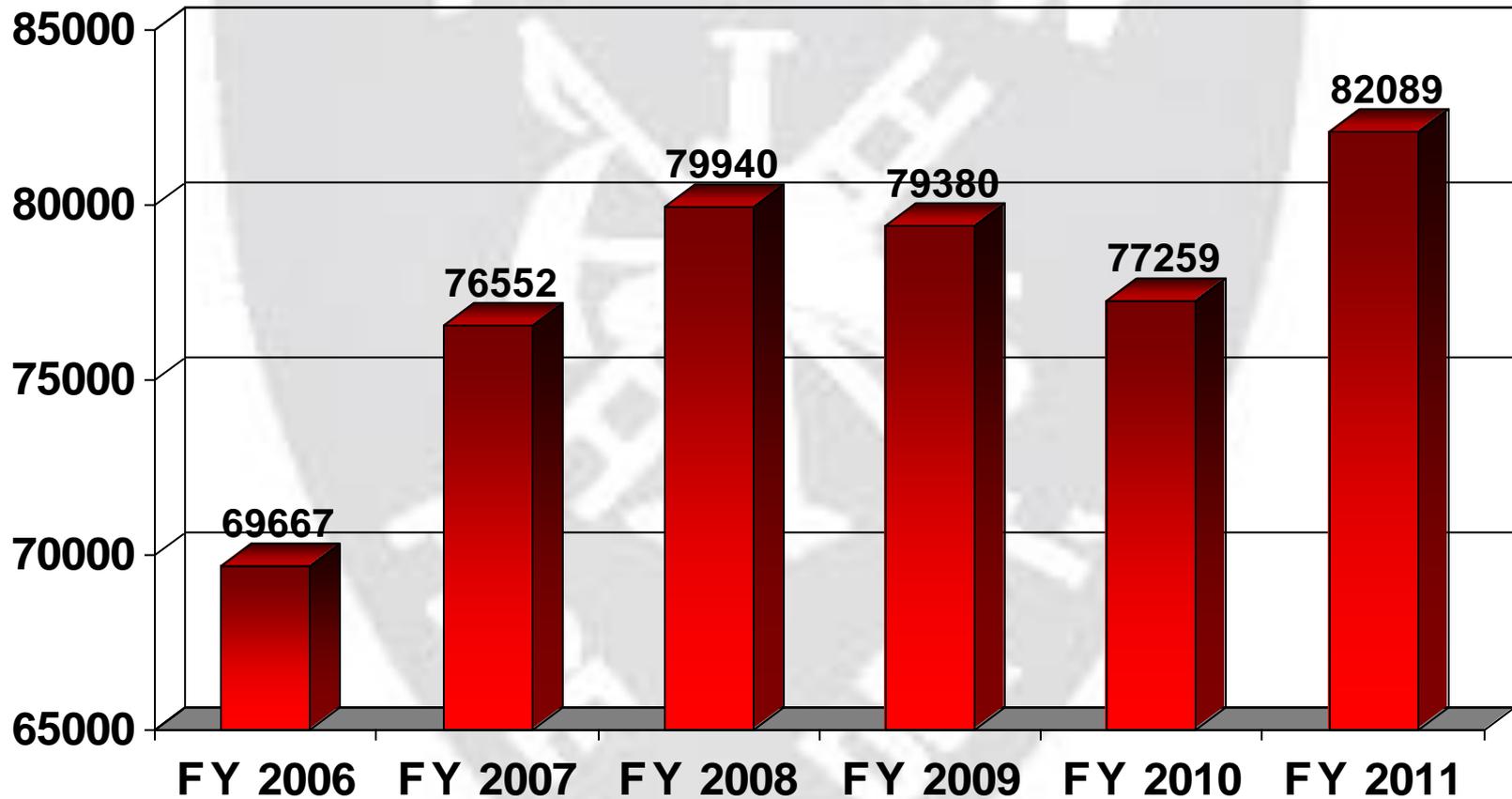
- The purpose of the Constant Staffing program is to keep all emergency response units adequately staffed with the appropriately trained personnel to provide the best possible service to the citizens of Tucson
- The NIST completed a landmark study in 2010 which found that firefighting crews were able to complete 22 essential firefighting and rescue tasks in a typical residential structure 25% faster than three-person crews. Both the NFPA and OSHA also recommended four person crews .
- The ultimate goal of constant staffing as well as four person suppression units for Tucson Fire is to ensure a safe and timely emergency response to those in need as well as the firefighters responding.

Alternative Service Delivery



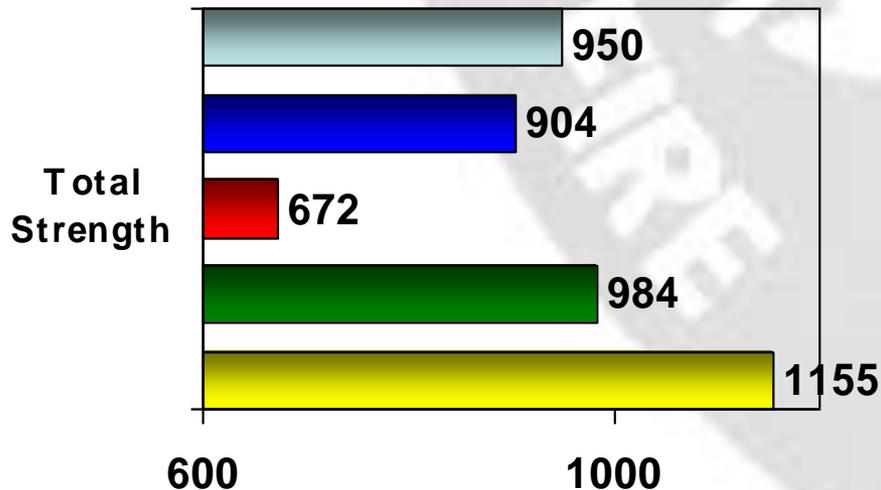
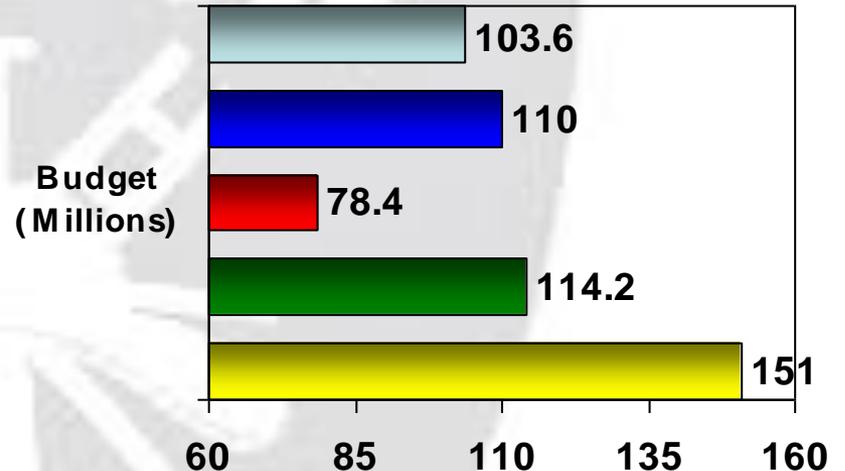
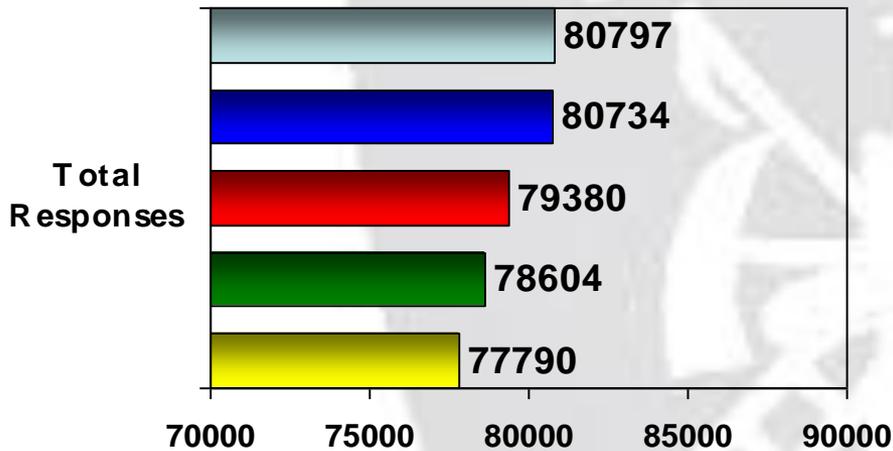
- During the first six months of 2011, staffing levels were reduced by a total of 54 people. That reduction eliminated six 2-person response vehicles from emergency service. (4 Alpha trucks, 2 paramedic Rescues)
- The NFPA recommends an emergency travel time of no more than four minutes 90% of the time.
- The above graphs show response times before and after the 54 positions were eliminated.

Emergency Incidents By Year



Tucson Fire responded to a total of 82,089 calls during FY 2011

Response Comparison



* Source: Firehouse Magazine 2009 National Run Survey

Community Service

- The Tucson Firefighters Association is heavily invested in the community we serve. We serve not only on duty, but off duty as well.
- The TFFA hosts a variety of fundraisers and events throughout the year which raise hundreds of thousands of dollars that go right back to the community.
- The Chili Cook Off and The Annual Firefighters Ball being our two largest fundraising events.



Community Service

Some of the Events and Organizations the TFFA is Involved With

- Annual Chili Cook Off
- Save A Life
- Tucson Fire Pipes and Drums
- Climb to Conquer Cancer
- Fill the Boot
- Tucson Fire Honor Guard
- Southern Arizona Disabled Firefighters
- Adopt A Family
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund
- TFFA Calendar
- Toys for Tots
- Community Food Bank
- Alzheimer's Association
- Casa De Los Niños
- Adopt A School
- MDA's Burn Camp
- Local Boy Scout Troops
- Race for the Cure
- Fallen Firefighter Foundation
- Thanksgiving Food Boxes
- Tucson Boys and Girls Club
- Local Youth Sports
- Adopt A Street
- Scott Firefighter Stair Climb
- Habitat for Humanity
- Last Alarm Foundation
- Hearts of Gold
- The Hite Foundation

Summary

- Your Tucson Fire Department serves the community in many different ways both on and off duty through service and education.
- Tucson Fire ranks as one of the lowest costs per citizen for its fire and medical service compared to other metropolitan cities.
- The emergency call load has increased by over 30% in the last ten years. The City of Tucson is growing and so are the emergency needs of its citizens.

Thank you for your time!