

# 1. Executive Summary

## City Callout – Call Volume Trend

**Year-to-date call volume has increased approximately 16% compared to last year, marking the second consecutive month of significant growth—well above the national average increase of approximately 3%.**

February 2026 was an active and productive month for the Fire Department, with personnel maintaining full operational readiness while continuing to meet the emergency service needs of the community. During the reporting period, the department responded to 126 total incidents, serving both the City of Cleveland and surrounding areas through established automatic and mutual aid agreements.

Emergency medical responses again represented the majority of service demand, accounting for 78 EMS-related calls (61.9%). Crews also responded to fire incidents, hazardous materials calls, technical rescues, and other service-related incidents, demonstrating the department's role as a full-service, all-hazards emergency response agency.

Of the total incidents, 60 calls (47.6%) occurred within the Cleveland city limits, while 57 responses (45.2%) occurred in the auto-aid area outside the city, reinforcing the department's continued regional responsibility and cooperative response partnerships.

The department provided mutual aid on 11 incidents, while 115 calls were handled without outside assistance, reflecting effective staffing levels and apparatus availability.

Frontline apparatus continued to carry the majority of the response workload. Engine 21 responded to 89 incidents, followed by Rescue 21 with 38 responses, highlighting the consistent demand placed on primary response units.

Call volume continues to show a sustained upward trend. Year-to-date incidents through February totaled 289 in 2026, compared to 249 during the same period in 2025, representing an increase of approximately 16%. This is the second consecutive month of significant year-over-year growth and is occurring at a rate well above national fire service averages.

Training efforts increased substantially during February. Personnel completed 316 documented training hours, compared to 42 hours in January, representing an increase of approximately 652%. This expansion reflects leadership's commitment to strengthening firefighter readiness, operational coordination, and safety standards in response to increasing service demands.

Overall, the Fire Department remains focused on operational readiness, expanded training initiatives, and continuous improvement to meet the growing needs of the Cleveland community.

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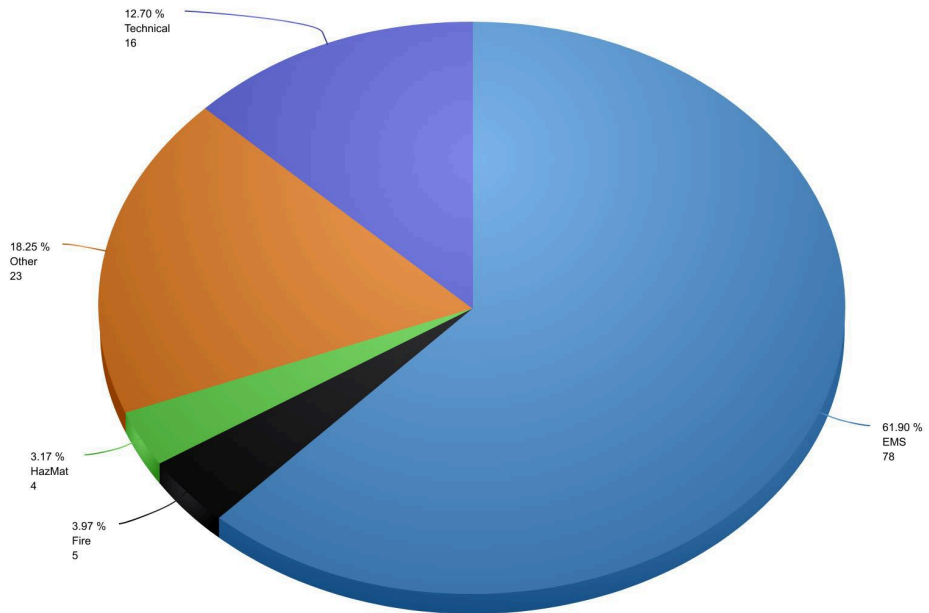
## 2. Emergency Response Activity

The department responded to **126 total incidents** during February 2026.



### Analysis by Response Class

02/01/2026-02/28/2026

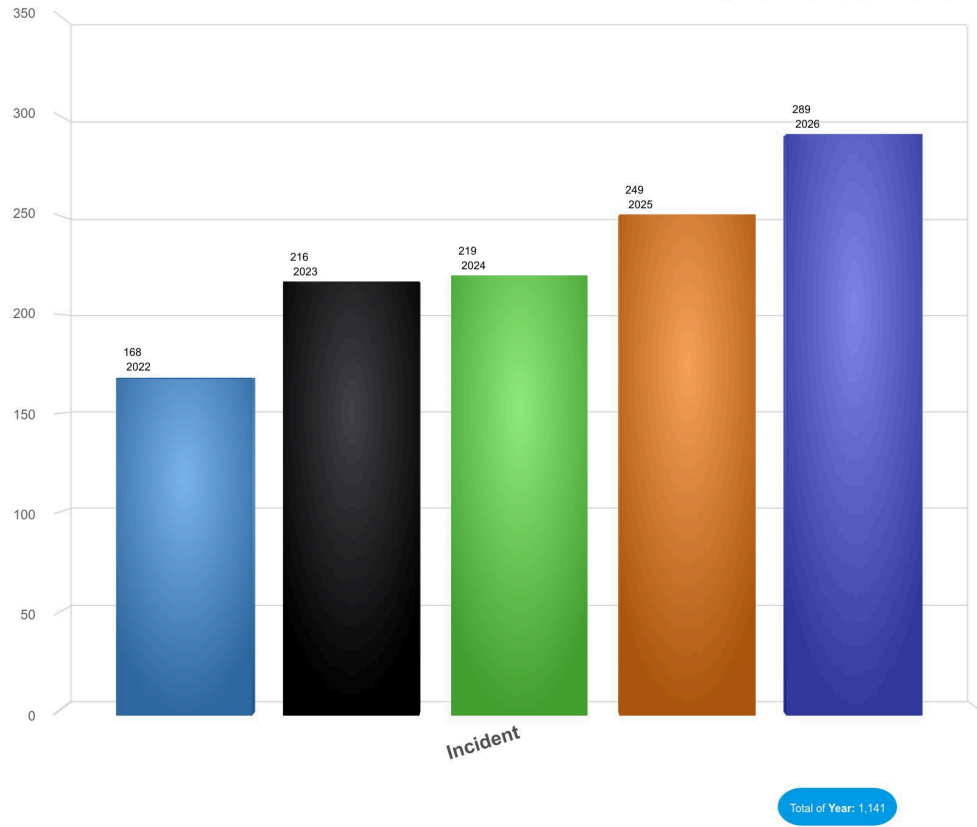


Total of Response Class: 126



### Year to Year Comparison (Until Current Day of Year) - 5 Years

02/01/2026-02/28/2026



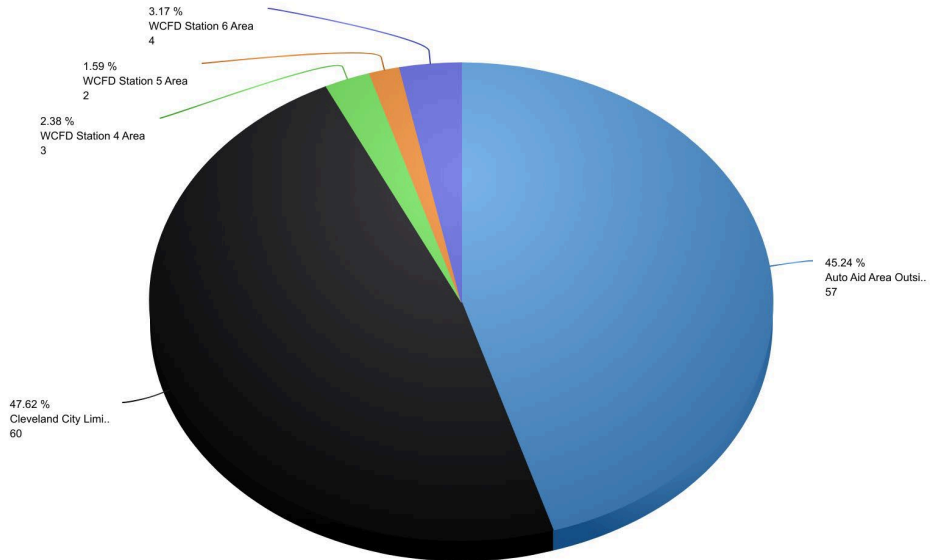
### Response Area Distribution

Calls were nearly evenly distributed between city limits and the auto-aid area, reflecting both local and regional service demand.

- Auto Aid Area Outside City Limits
- Cleveland City Limits
- WCFD Station 4 Area
- WCFD Station 5 Area
- WCFD Station 6 Area

## Incidents by District

02/01/2026-02/28/2026



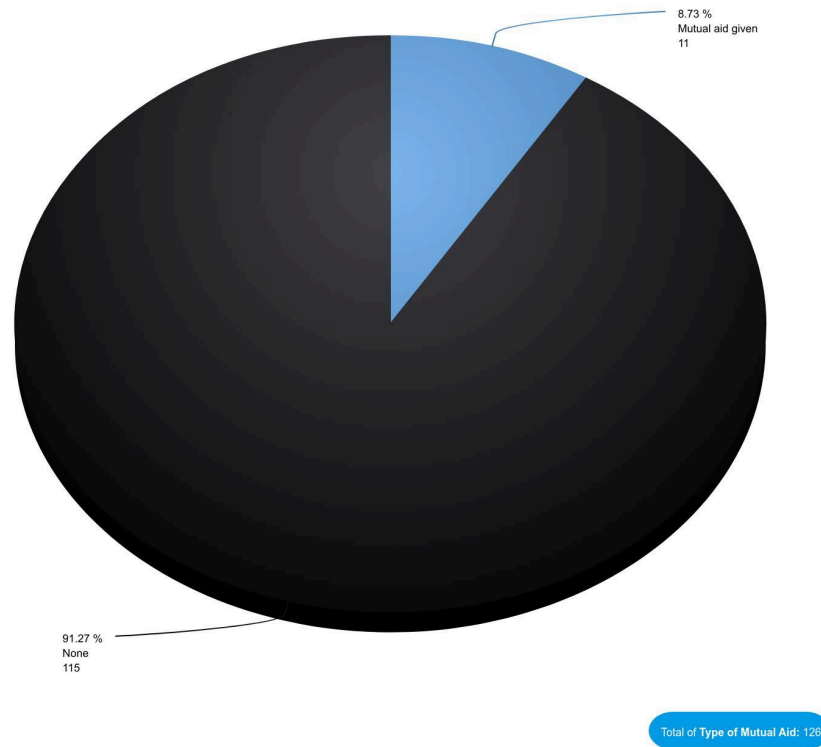
Total of District: 126

### 3. Mutual Aid Activity

The department continues to maintain strong working relationships with neighboring agencies. During February, personnel provided mutual aid assistance on 11 incidents.

Mutual aid given  
None

## Mutual Aid Calls 02/01/2026-02/28/2026



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## 4. Training and Professional Development

Personnel completed 316 documented training hours during February. Training topics included:

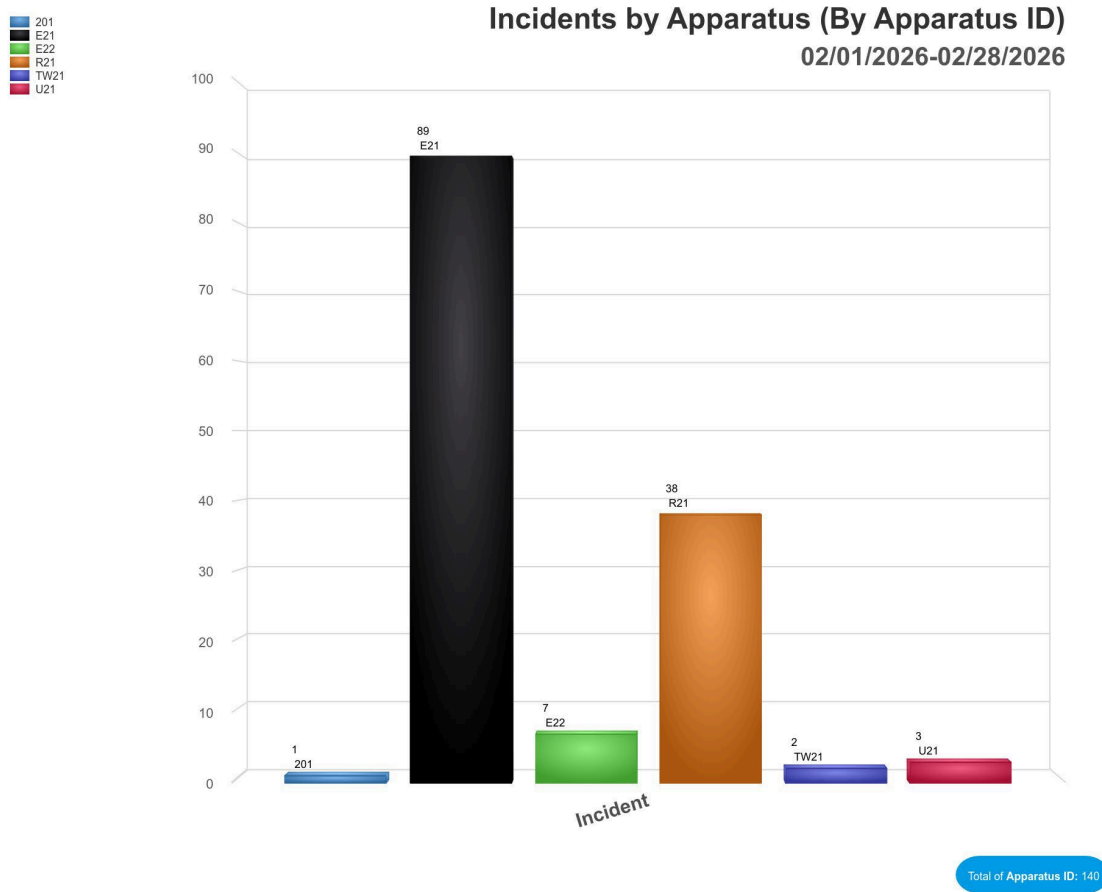
- Driver and pump operations
- Incident command
- Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) operations
- Aerial apparatus operations
- Building construction
- Officer and online professional development courses

The structured training plan implemented following January resulted in a substantial increase in total training hours and overall engagement.

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## 5. Apparatus and Equipment Status

All frontline apparatus remained in service and operational throughout the majority of the month.



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## 6. Grant Funding Initiatives

The department continues to aggressively pursue outside funding to enhance firefighter safety and operational capabilities.

During February, the department submitted an application for the Georgia Fireworks Safety Grant requesting funding for new structural firefighting protective gear to replace aging turnout equipment and improve firefighter safety.

The department is also actively working on a grant application through the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation to secure funding for upgrading portable radio equipment. Improved radio communications are critical to firefighter safety, incident coordination, and effective command and control.

These grant efforts reflect the department's continued commitment to modernizing equipment while minimizing financial impact on local taxpayers.

## **7. Goals and Highlights for March**

As the department moves into March, focus areas will continue to center on operational readiness, professional development, community engagement, and regulatory compliance.

### **Training and Certification**

- The department will conduct an Aerial Apparatus Operator Course, a 40-hour program providing personnel the opportunity to earn an additional nationally recognized certification.
- A three-day drafting operations course is scheduled in coordination with the county to enhance water supply operations in non-hydranted areas.
- Chief Bryant will be instructing Live Fire Instructor at the state level toward the end of the month, a course that trains fire service instructors from across Georgia on how to safely and effectively conduct live fire training evolutions.

### **Community Engagement and Public Safety**

- Multiple school groups are scheduled for fire station visits, including fire safety education programs tailored to students.
- The department will host a child passenger safety (car seat) inspection event in partnership with the City Police Department, supporting community injury prevention efforts.

### **Operational Readiness and Compliance**

- The department will complete its annual state inspection, ensuring compliance with state standards and operational requirements.
- Annual fire hydrant servicing and inspections will begin throughout the city to ensure hydrants remain operational and support fire suppression readiness and ISO standards.

### **Grant Advancement**

- Continued follow-up on the Georgia Fireworks Safety Grant submission for new structural firefighting protective gear.
  - Continued development and submission of the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Grant to upgrade portable radio equipment.
  - Ongoing work toward submission of the federal Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG).
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## **8. Closing Statement**

The Fire Department remains committed to providing professional, dependable, and timely emergency services to the citizens of Cleveland. As call volume continues to increase at a rate exceeding both historical and national trends, the department has taken proactive steps to strengthen training, improve equipment readiness, and enhance operational effectiveness.

Through expanded training initiatives, aggressive pursuit of grant funding, proactive maintenance programs, and continued community engagement, the department is positioning itself to meet current service demands while preparing for continued growth. These efforts are focused on maintaining firefighter safety, ensuring reliable emergency response capability, and protecting lives and property throughout the community.

We appreciate the continued support of the Mayor and City Council as we responsibly manage increasing call volume, address future operational needs, and maintain the high level of service expected by the citizens of Cleveland.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Jason Bryant**  
Fire Chief