

Cleveland Fire Department

Monthly Report — August 2026

Presented to the Mayor and City Council
M. Jason Bryant, Fire Chief

Executive Summary

August was another productive month for the Cleveland Fire Department, with continued progress in emergency response, firefighter safety, fire prevention, community outreach, and the long-term development of the department.

The department responded to **113 emergency incidents during August**, bringing our year-to-date total to approximately **1,070 responses**. The department continues to operate at historically high call volumes while maintaining a strong level of service to the citizens of Cleveland.

August also brought one of our most important equipment improvements of the year with the arrival of our new **Scott self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)**. We are currently awaiting delivery of the new facepieces and will begin department-wide in-service training before placing the new equipment into frontline service.

The department was able to complete the SCBA purchase approximately **\$85,000 below the amount originally allocated**. We hope to work with City Administration to utilize those remaining funds toward replacing additional critically needed firefighting and rescue equipment.

1. Emergency Response

The Cleveland Fire Department responded to **113 emergency incidents during August**.

Response Classification

Response Type	Incidents	Percentage
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EMS	72	63.72%
Fire	3	2.65%
HazMat	6	5.31%
Technical	1	0.88%
Other	31	27.43%
Total	113	100%

EMS-related incidents continue to represent nearly two-thirds of the department's emergency workload.

Response Location

- **75 incidents** — **66.37%** occurred within the City of Cleveland.
- **24 incidents** — **21.24%** occurred in the Automatic Aid area outside city limits.
- The remaining responses occurred throughout neighboring White County fire districts.

For the second consecutive month, approximately two-thirds of our emergency responses occurred within the City of Cleveland. This is encouraging after Automatic Aid responses approached half of our monthly workload earlier in the year.

We will continue monitoring these numbers closely to determine whether this represents a sustained trend.

2. Five-Year Call Volume

The department has responded to approximately **1,070 incidents through August 31**.

Year YTD Responses

2022 717

2023 927

2024 1,030

2025 1,060

2026 1,070

Emergency responses have increased approximately **49% since 2022**.

While the rate of growth has moderated compared with the significant increases experienced earlier in the five-year period, the department continues operating at historically high emergency response levels.

3. Training & Professional Development

Personnel completed **146 documented training hours during August**.

Training was intentionally reduced during the month. Department personnel maintained an extremely aggressive training and certification schedule throughout the first half of 2026, and the

summer heat was also an important consideration when scheduling physically demanding training activities.

Training continued in several areas, including:

- Aerial apparatus operations
- Building construction
- Fire inspections
- Airport firefighter topics
- Flammable and combustible liquid incidents

The department also congratulates **Lieutenant Chris Morris**, who completed **40 hours of NPQ Swiftwater Rescue training** during August.

The reduced August schedule does not represent a change in our commitment to professional development. It provided personnel an opportunity to recover following an exceptionally busy first half of the year before beginning another aggressive fall training schedule.

4. Fire Marshal's Office

Assistant Chief Stephen Sears continues leading the development and operation of the Cleveland Fire Marshal's Office.

Work continues with fire inspections, new and existing construction, plan reviews, fire prevention, and community risk reduction.

Assistant Chief Sears has also been invited to speak to the **Cleveland Rotary Club on October 6** regarding the Fire Marshal's Office and the work being done to improve fire prevention and life safety throughout our community.

This provides another opportunity to educate our local business and community leaders about the Fire Marshal's Office and the importance of proactive fire prevention.

5. Firefighter Safety — New SCBA

One of the most significant accomplishments during August was the arrival of the department's new **Scott SCBA air packs**.

Replacing our aging SCBA has been one of the department's highest firefighter-safety priorities. Our existing air packs are approximately **21 years old** and have reached the point where they can no longer be adequately supported or serviced.

The new air packs have arrived, and we are currently awaiting delivery of the corresponding facepieces.

Once all components are received, department personnel will complete equipment familiarization, operational training, emergency procedures, and hands-on in-service training before the new equipment is placed into frontline service.

Approximately \$85,000 in Remaining Funds

Through careful purchasing and management of this project, the department was able to acquire the new SCBA system while leaving approximately **\$85,000 of the allocated funding unused**.

We hope to work with City Administration to utilize these remaining funds to replace additional firefighting and rescue equipment that has reached or exceeded its operational service life.

This represents an opportunity to address multiple critical equipment needs while maximizing the City's original investment.

6. Apparatus Activity

Engine 21 continued to carry the majority of the department's emergency response workload during August.

Apparatus Responses

Engine 21 94

Truck 21 17

Engine 22 4

Unit 202 3

Unit 201 1

The apparatus report reflects **119 apparatus responses** associated with August incidents.

7. Fire Headquarters & Facility Update

Work has begun on replacement of the **rear parking lot at the new Fire Headquarters**.

The project is currently underway, and completion is anticipated within the next several days.

Completion of this project will address another remaining facility need as personnel continue settling into and fully utilizing the new headquarters.

8. Community Outreach & Fire Safety Education

Department personnel continued to be actively involved throughout the community during August.

Fire safety education programs were conducted at:

- **The Bridge Church**
- **J.P. Nix Elementary School**

These events provide our firefighters an opportunity to interact directly with children and families while teaching fire prevention, emergency preparedness, and basic life-safety principles.

Community risk reduction remains an important part of the department's mission. Our goal is not simply to respond when an emergency occurs, but to help prevent emergencies whenever possible.

9. Looking Ahead

NPQ Fire Instructor I

During September, the Cleveland Fire Department will host and teach an **NPQ Fire Instructor I course for 16 firefighters from departments throughout the region.**

Hosting nationally recognized certification programs continues to provide professional development opportunities for our personnel while establishing Cleveland as a regional resource for firefighter education and training.

Medical First Responder License

One of the department's highest priorities moving forward is obtaining a **Medical First Responder License for the City of Cleveland.**

We are meeting with a prospective Medical Director in early September as part of the process of establishing the required medical oversight.

The August statistics demonstrate why this is important: **72 of our 113 emergency responses, or approximately 64%, were EMS-related incidents.**

Obtaining the appropriate license and medical oversight will allow us to formalize and continue developing the emergency medical capabilities we provide to our citizens.

This remains a priority for the department.

October

Assistant Chief Sears is scheduled to speak to the **Cleveland Rotary Club on October 6** regarding the Fire Marshal's Office and the department's expanding fire prevention and community risk reduction efforts.

Chief's Closing Remarks

August provided our personnel an opportunity to slow our training pace slightly following an extremely busy and productive first half of the year, but the department continued making significant progress in several important areas.

I'm especially pleased that we were able to address one of our most critical firefighter safety needs with the purchase of our new SCBA while coming in approximately **\$85,000 below the amount allocated for the project.** Hopefully, this will provide us an opportunity to address several other pieces of desperately needed equipment while continuing to be responsible stewards of City funds.

I'm also encouraged by the continued development of our Fire Marshal's Office, our community risk reduction efforts, and the progress we're making toward obtaining a Medical First Responder License.

As always, however, **the credit belongs to the men and women of the Cleveland Fire Department.**

Our firefighters and officers continue to respond to a historically high emergency workload while training, completing inspections, participating in community events, maintaining our equipment and facilities, and continually looking for ways to improve the service we provide.

I am extremely proud of them and grateful for their commitment to this department and this community.

Thank you to the **Mayor, City Council, City Administration, and the citizens of Cleveland** for your continued trust, investment, and support of the men and women of the Cleveland Fire Department.

M. Jason Bryant

Fire Chief

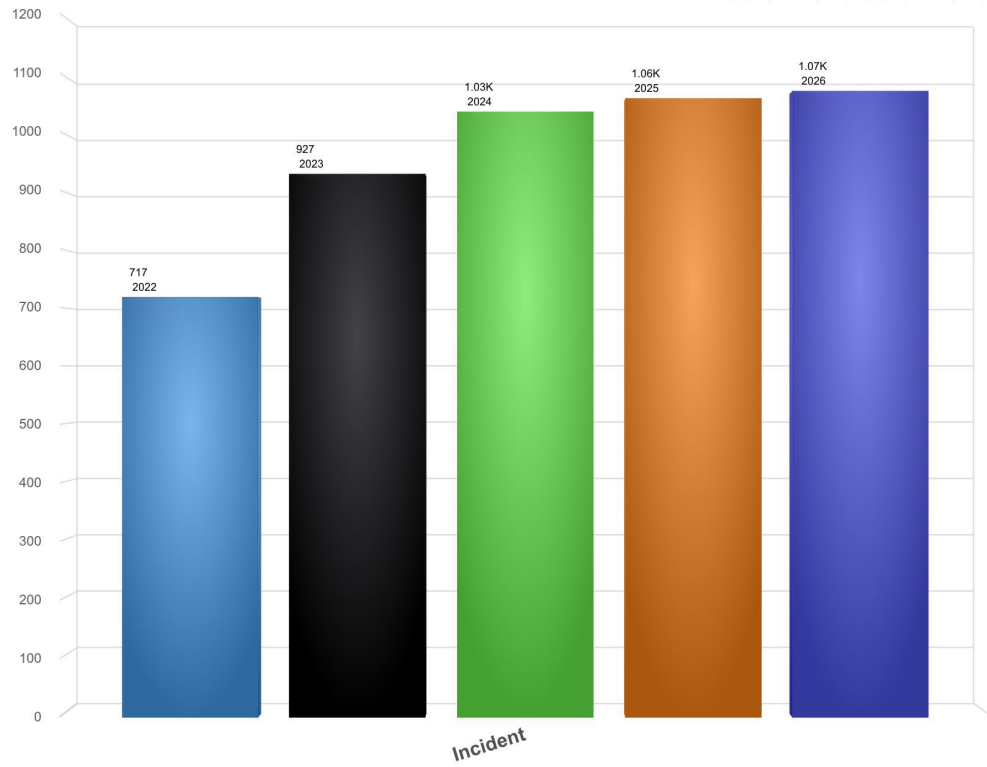
Cleveland Fire Department

Serving Our Community with Honor Since 1942



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

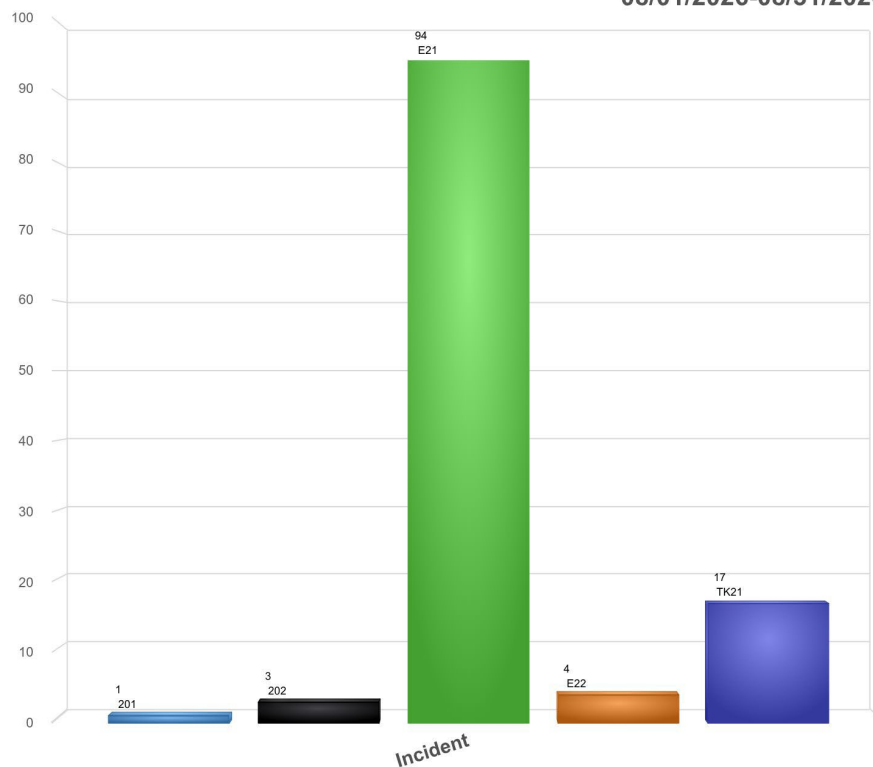
08/01/2026-08/31/2026



Total of Year: 4,803



Incidents by Apparatus (By Apparatus ID)
08/01/2026-08/31/2026

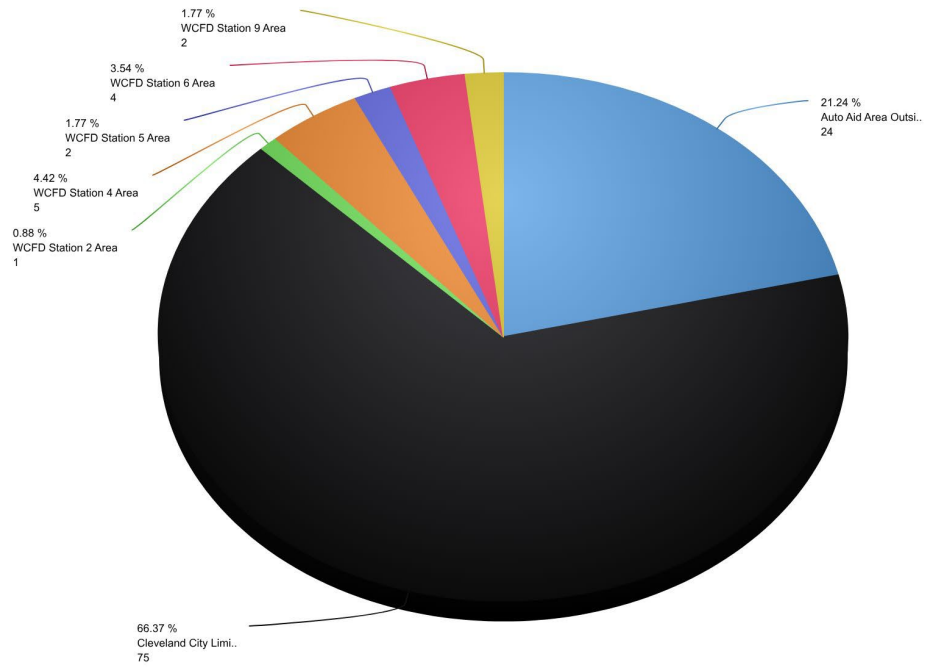


Total of Apparatus ID: 119

- Auto Aid Area Outside City Limits
- Cleveland City Limits
- WCFL Station 2 Area
- WCFL Station 4 Area
- WCFL Station 5 Area
- WCFL Station 6 Area
- WCFL Station 9 Area

Incidents by District

08/01/2026-08/31/2026

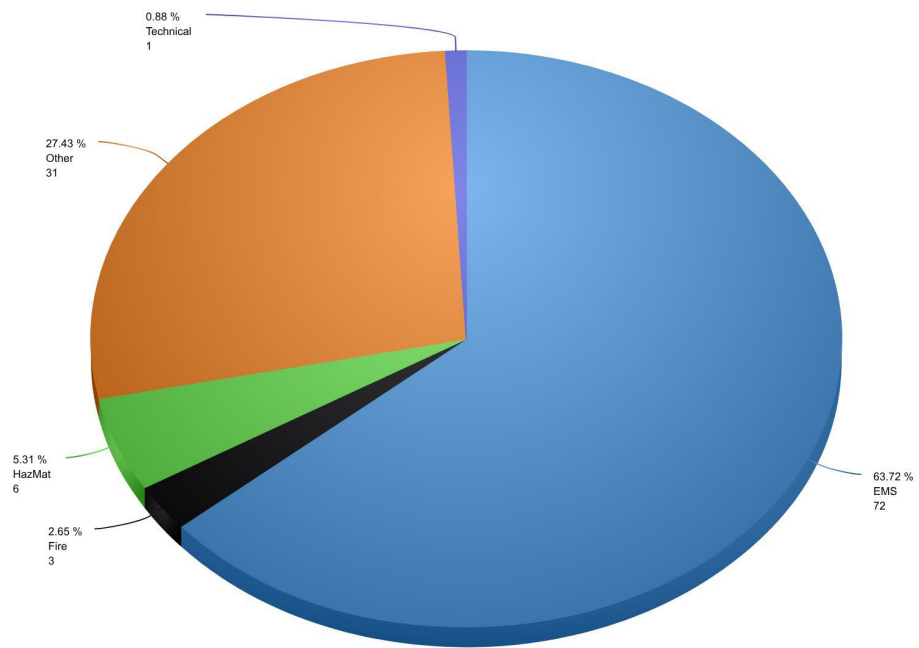


Total of District: 113

EMS
Fire
HazMat
Other
Technical

Analysis by Response Class

08/01/2026-08/31/2026



Total of Response Class: 113