

## Fire Department

To: Public Safety and Welfare Committee

From: Fire Chief Reynen

Date: 8/27/2024

Subject: Fireworks Data

### Background

We were approached to provide data on fireworks incidents and their impact on the Fire Department.

### Budget Goal

Maintains a safe and healthy community, with an eye toward future needs and trends.

### Financial Impact

N/A

### Recommendation

According to Wisconsin Department of Health Services, in 2021, fireworks related incidents and use was at a high in 2021, and have since decreased. <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/injury-prevention/fireworks-stats.htm> In 2021, there were 140 reported Emergency Department visits that were related to Fireworks and 107 in 2022.

Nationally, fireworks related incidence is about 3.1 per 100,000 individuals in 2022, down from 3.5 in 2021. According to the National Fire Protection Association, more than 31,000 reported fires are started by fireworks annually.

The Watertown Fire Department has no records of fireworks related incidents from the last two years. This may be due to the way the records were entered and coded due to the nature of the call. However, there are no major concerns or trends fire or medically related to fireworks that I am aware of for the city residents.