

KNOXVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT



2022



MISSION

To protect lives, property, and environment by providing a high level of professional fire, rescue, Emergency Medical Services and educational services to our customers.

VISION

A professional organization providing a safer community through education, innovation, and community interaction.

Core Values

P= Professionalism

R= Respect

I= Integrity

D= Dedication

E= Excellence



KNOXVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT END OF YEAR REPORT FOR 2022

Message from the Chief:

On behalf of the men and women of the Knoxville Fire Department it is my pleasure to present the 2022 annual report. The purpose of this report is to provide our residents and city council with an overview of the activities in which their fire department is involved.

I'm proud of the impact our staff makes each day, whether it's taking time to participate in a community event, providing life saving care, or protecting residents' homes or businesses. When there is an emergency, you may rest assured that your firefighters are highly motivated and well trained, responding with modern equipment with the proper tools and education to do the job safely and efficiently. This past year has reminded us that there are no normal days at the office and each day is an opportunity to make a positive difference for those we serve.

In 2022, through the efforts of the men and women of the Knoxville Fire Department, we responded to 2,612 calls for service. As an example, these calls included fires, car accidents, haz mat incidents, technical rescues, and EMS calls. In addition to the emergency calls for service, we also focused our energy on fire prevention, education and life safety, as we feel these are the keys to fire prevention. Our department does this through public education, fire inspections, code enforcement, plan reviews and community outreach programs.

This past year has had some challenges for our department as we have seen several members leave our department to pursue their career dreams in the larger metro departments. This has required several hiring processes including testing, interviews, training of new hires to complete the onboarding of several new employees. While these new employees will be great additions to the department our staff has stepped up a lot while getting the new employees up to speed and able to work on shift. As we continue to fill those positions left open we continue to have a positive and bright future for our employees.

This year we also saw some positives from our members efforts, we have been working with the Boy Scouts to start up a Fire Explorer post for kids who are interested in a career in the fire service. This is an exciting program that we are hoping will build some interest and to be a recruiting tool for us. Another exciting event that we had this year was the start of a Crisis

Canine program. We were not intending to start this program it kind of found us. No matter how we got the program, we are excited about it and have started to see the impacts of having Glory around the department and in the community. We are very glad that we were able to partner with Mid Prairie Vet Clinic and Adelhorst Kennels to provide this critical program.

It is my honor and privilege to serve as Fire Chief and lead such a dedicated group of men and women each and every day. Our staff remains ever-ready and committed to providing the highest level of service to our community. Also I would like to convey my thanks to the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and other city staff for their continued support and commitment to our fire department

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cal Wyman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cal Wyman, Fire Chief

Community Risk Reduction:

In 2022, The Knoxville Fire Department has been involved in numerous community events, such as fire prevention demonstrations, and education. Knoxville Fire Department also has members who are part of the Marion County Local Emergency Preparedness Commission whose sole mission is to make sure our communities are prepared for any type of disaster. Knoxville Fire Department has also started working on completing an extensive community risk reduction assessment to look at areas where as a community we can improve our education, preparedness and response to any incident.

RUNS:

This year Knoxville Fire department seen a total of a 7.5% increase in calls for service. Knoxville Fire Department responded to 2,612 calls for service. When we break down those calls even further we show that we had an increase in two areas Medical/EMS calls were up 8% at 1,777 of the 2,612 calls, and Fire Service calls were up 25% accounting for 236 of the 2,612 calls.

In the area of interfacility transfers, we saw a 1% decrease. This is due to a couple factors, in January of 2021, we had 101 Covid antibody treatment transfers that we did not have this year. This year there was also a significant bed shortage in the metro hospitals where there wasn't as many transfers to the metro as in years past. While the metro hospitals were at capacity and not accepting transfers we saw a significant increase in the miles we were transferring people this year with 13% of our transfers this year going to the University of Iowa an increase of about 25 transfers. We also saw transfers as far way as the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Kirksville, Missouri. In 2021, our total transfer miles were 14,577 and this year our total miles driven for transfers were 17,721 miles. Meaning each transfer we completed had a 12 mile increase.

911 EMS calls also saw an increase in the number of miles as we were going from the scene directly to the metro more often this year due to the hospitals being at capacity. With this we also used Mercy 2 helicopter more this year.

911 Transport Locations	
KHC	903
Pella	104
Mercy	78
Methodist	19
Lutheran	6
Helicopter	16

We also experienced a significant increase in EMS mutual aid requests. Knoxville Fire Departments ambulances were requested 234 times this year for mutual aid.

Mutual Aid	
Pella	23
Pleasantville	161
Clay	13
Melcher	19
Columbia	8
Indiana Twp	9
Monroe	1
Total	234

With the increase in calls this year we also had 500 times where the third ambulance was needed and 60 times this year the departments fourth ambulance was needed. (4th Ambulance was placed in service 6/2022)

Training:

The Knoxville Fire Department was able to purchase an assortment of new training equipment in 2022, to ensure our members are receiving the best training possible. The Department holds numerous EMS CEH (continuing educational hours) fire educational classes. The department uses both in-house instructors and outside instructors to train our members. Our members attended numerous trainings in the county and outside the county to bring back the newest educational material to our department.

We have started sending our new hires to the Southeast Metro Fire Academy to get their Firefighter I and II certifications. We have found that we can get our members certified quicker and more cost effective by being part of the Southeast Metro Fire Academy.

Members of Knoxville Fire Department logged over 5,700 hours of training this year. Our department goal is to get all members 240 hours of fire training every year and provide all the hours needed to recert their EMS licenses every two years.

We have also been working to complete our Training Center. Once completed we will be able to conduct live fire training, search and rescue training, high angle rope rescue training, fire streams, ventilation, and skills training for EMS on victim removal. This will also be available to the PD for training on clearing rooms and other practical trainings.

Fire Prevention Division:

Knoxville Fire Department's Fire Prevention Division continues to keep code enforcement as a high priority. The Fire Prevention Division is to ensure all commercial facilities in Knoxville are

safe for everyone, and to ensure that existing structures are maintained in accordance with the fire code. The Fire Prevention Division also conducts new commercial development plan review to see that all new buildings are built in accordance to the fire code. The Fire Prevention Division also conducts liquor license inspections for any establishment that serves alcohol. In 2022, the Fire Prvention Division completed over 150 inspections. The Fire Prevention Division is still working hard to get all commercial business compliant with the fire safety operating permit. The Fire Prevention Division also conducted plan reviews for the 155 units being constructed in the Kading development, along with the expansion at Weiler, and 3M.



Apparatus Condition Report

Vehicle	Description	Condition
<u>Fire Apparatus</u>		
Engine 313	2020 Alexis Pumper Tanker	GOOD
Ladder 314	1998 Smeal 75' Ladder truck	FAIR
Squad 317	2014 Alexis Wet Rescue	GOOD
<u>AMBULANCES</u>		
Ambulance 936	2020 Chevy Lifeline Type III	GOOD
Ambulance 937	2023 Ford Arrow Type III	NEW
Ambulance 938	2016 Ford Demers Type I	FAIR
Ambulance 939	2022 Dodge Arrow Type I	NEW
<u>Specialized Apparatus and Support Vehicles</u>		
Car 300	2021 Chevy Tahoe	NEW
Car 302	2014 Chevy Tahoe	GOOD
Car 303	2007 Chevy 1500 (used police vehicle)	FAIR
318	2008 Ford F250 (used parks vehicle)	POOR
319	2019 Polaris Ranger	GOOD
B31	1976 Boston Whaler rescue boat	POOR
Command Trailer	2019 H&H 24' Trailer	GOOD

Notes:

Ladder 314- has passed it annual test, each year has a list of items that needs fixed. Will need minor repairs to the pump to fix leaking valves. Will be due for its 5 year test in 2025 this is a significant test to determine structural stability of the ladder. This will be significant in determining the usability of this apparatus

Ambulance 938- is due to be replaced in 2023 we have started the design phase as it will be a build time of 18-24 months. By signing a contract now we can lock in our price, and have it delivered when completed. It is also starting to have more significant repairs needed.

Boat 31- is showing its age, this year we updated the electronics and scene lighting. It was used more this year than in the past 3 years combined due to several drownings on the river and lake. Next year we are predicting another year of significant use for our boat. We will need to look at replacing this soon as things have changed over the years and this boat isn't as effective as it was in 1976.

318- This truck is a hand me down from parks and rec, it is used to plow the department apparatus approach, clear paths to get emergency vehicles to and from scenes. It also is used to pull the command trailer and ranger as needed for field fires in the area. It serves another critical mission to bring contaminated fire equipment back to the station to be decontaminated. We have been told by our mechanic that we should look at replacing this truck as it is starting to need repairs.



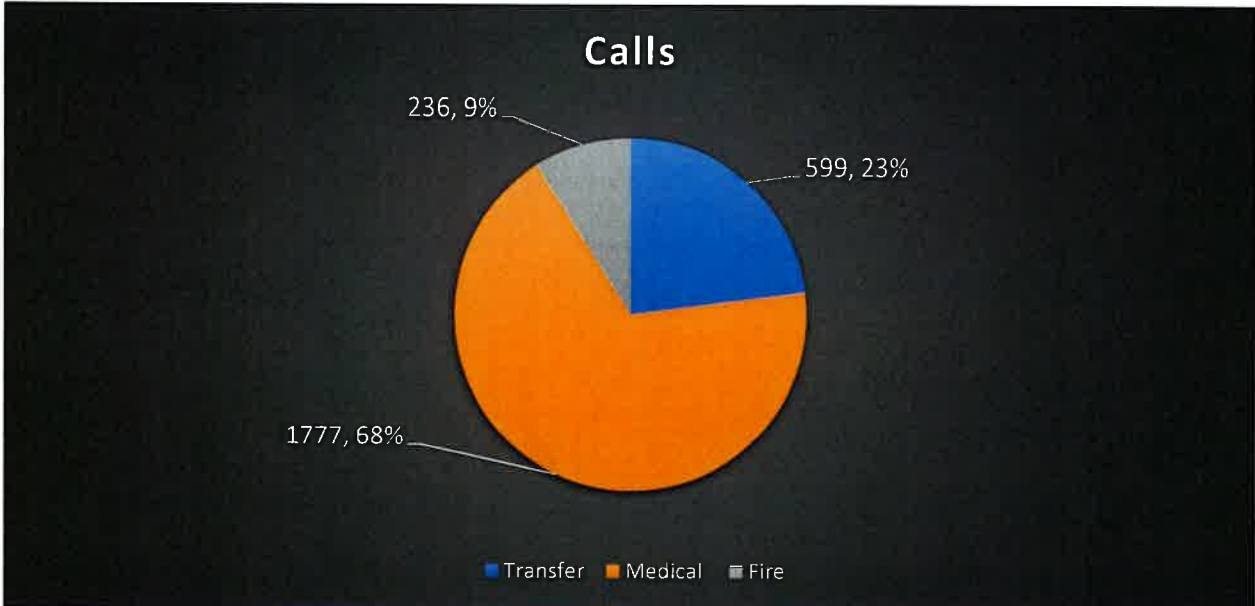


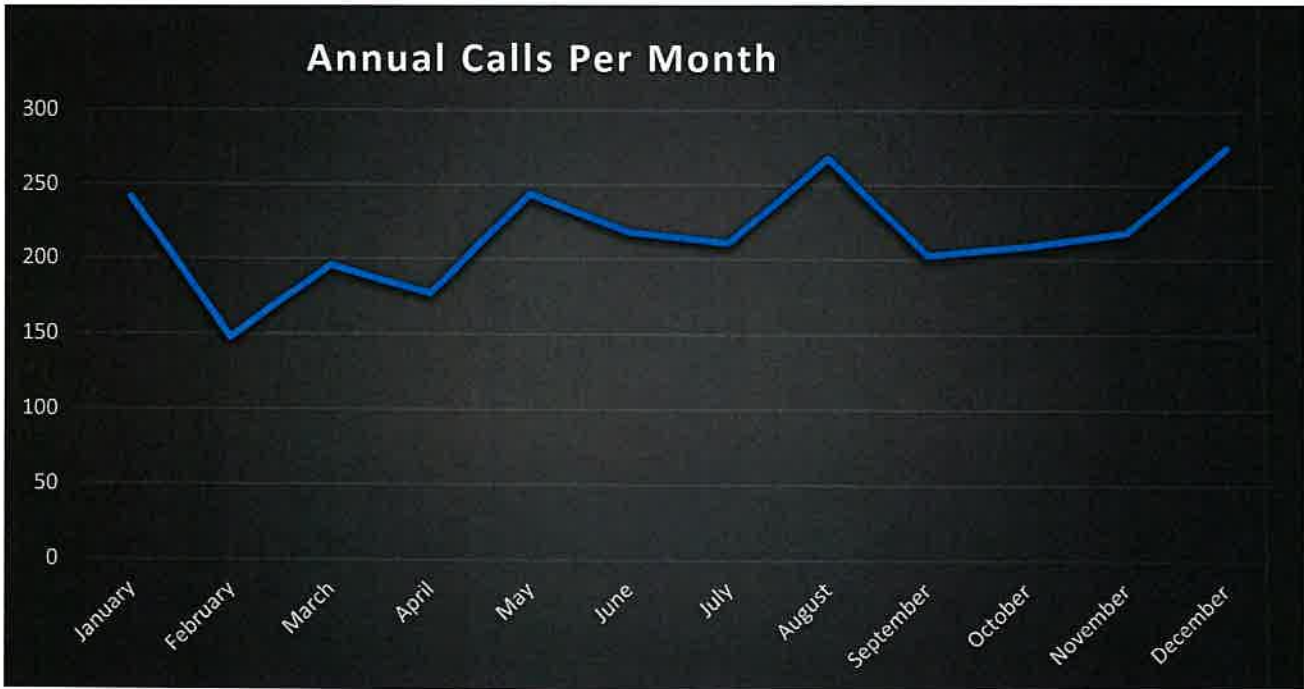
2022 End of year Run Report

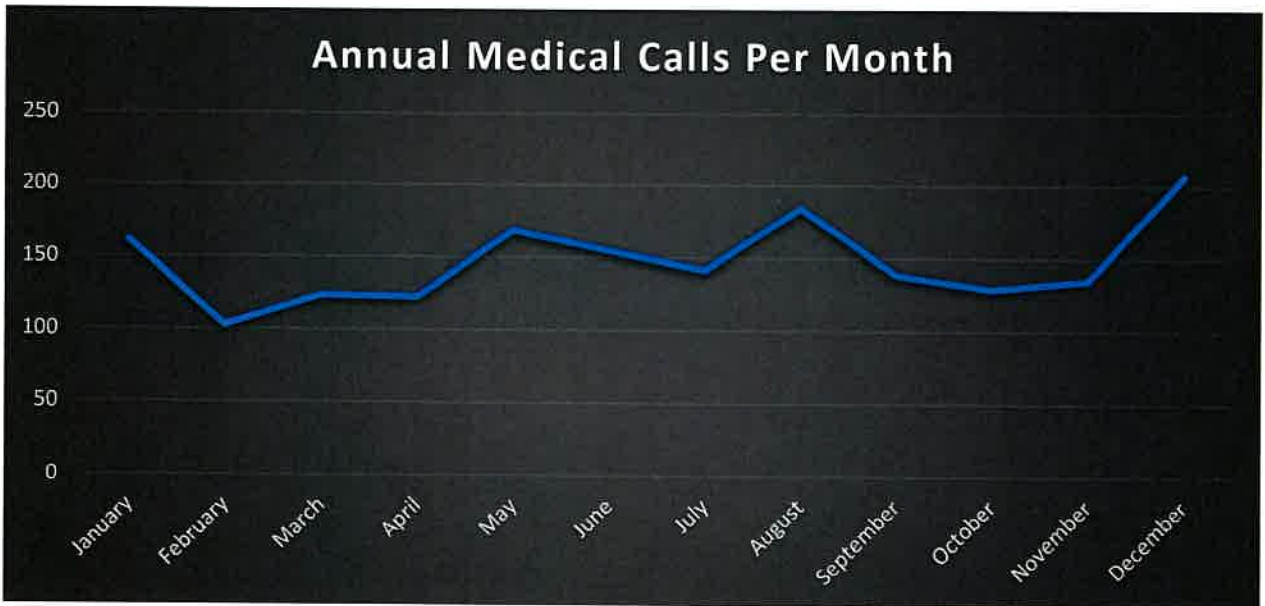
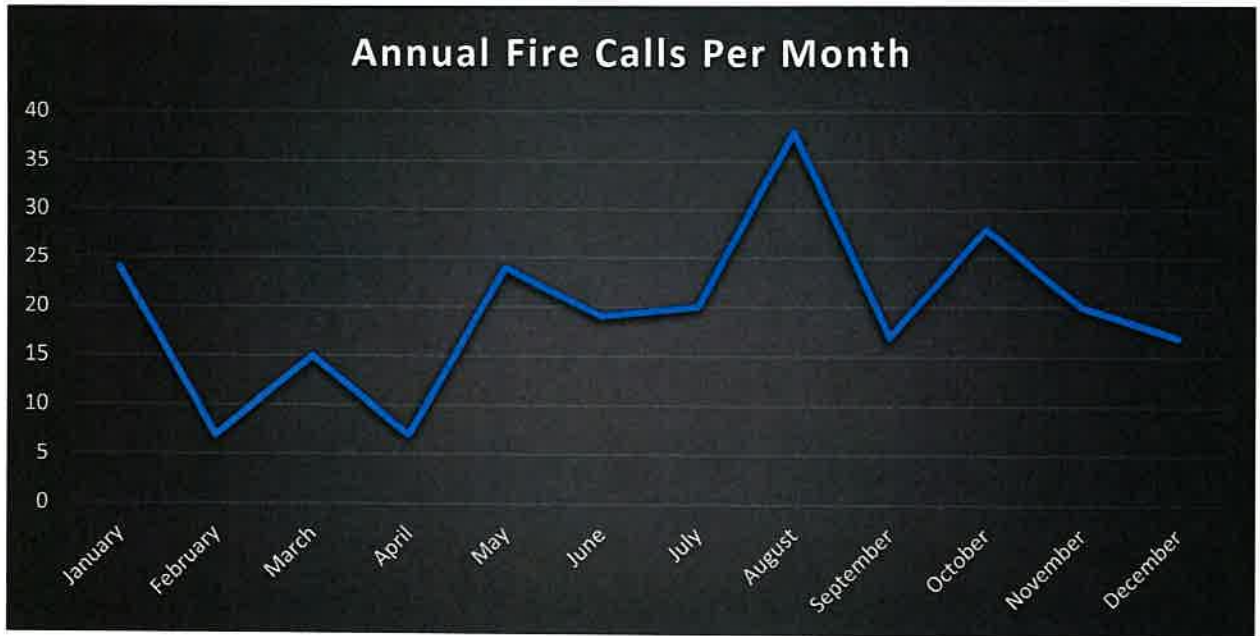
Total Calls: 2,612 7.5% increase
Transfers: 599 -1% decrease (Jan 2021 had 101 COVID antibody treatment transfers)
EMS: 1,777 8% increase
Fire: 236 25% increase
3rd out Ambulance needed: 500
Mutual Aid request: 234
Average Calls per day: 7.2

END of the Year Numbers

- This year we had a 7.5% increase in calls from last year



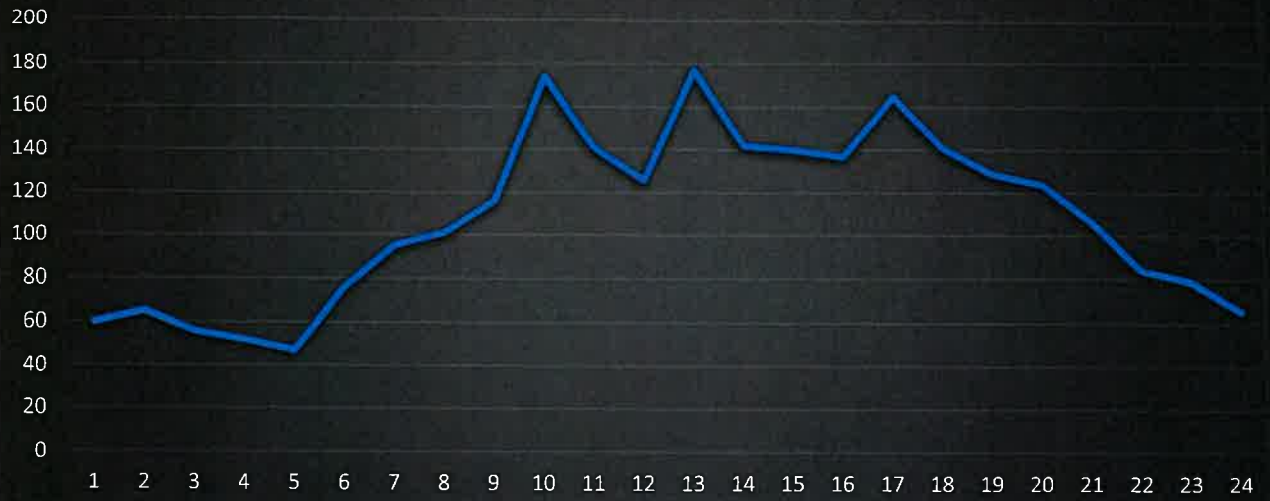




Calls Per Day of Week



Calls Per Hour



3rd Ambulance Calls Per Month

