

Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District Annual Report 2024





A Message From Fire Chief John Bergeron

Dear Members of Our Community,

As we reflect on the past year, it is with great pride and gratitude that I share with you the accomplishments and challenges our fire department has faced in 2024. It has been a year of dedication, teamwork, and unwavering commitment to serving our community. We have worked tirelessly to safeguard lives and property while striving to make meaningful improvements to our services.

Responding to Emergencies:

In 2024, our department responded to 4066 emergency calls, ranging from structure fires to medical emergencies and other various calls. Thanks to the skilled and courageous efforts of our firefighters, paramedics, and support staff, we were able to mitigate the damage in critical situations, saving lives and minimizing harm to our community.

Community Engagement:

Community involvement is at the heart of what we do. This year, we engaged with the schools, daycares and residents through our fire prevention programs, safety education events, and fire drills at local schools. Our fire prevention week activities and free smoke alarm installations helped ensure families are better equipped to stay safe at home.

New Equipment and Technology:

We are constantly looking for ways to improve our response capabilities. In 2024, we were proud to introduce new life-saving equipment, including C-MAC Video Intubation Cameras, which have enhanced our ability to quickly and effectively manage airway emergencies. Additionally, we have made strides in integrating advanced technology, such as adding Mobile Data Computer Terminals to all our apparatus, which allows us constant call updates and maps from the Rockford 911 Center.

Challenges and Support:

While we have had many successes this year, we also faced challenges. The increasing demands on our services, combined with staffing needs, highlighted the importance of continued support. In August of 2024, we transitioned into a career and a paid-on premise/paid on call fire department. We added 25 personnel on the career side to assure that the needs of the community and calls are continued to be met.



Looking Ahead:

As we look ahead to 2025, we are focused on enhancing our emergency response capabilities, continuing to build relationships with the community, and further investing in training and technology. We are committed to evolving to meet the needs of our residents, ensuring our fire department remains a pillar of safety and security for all. Of course, all of this would not be possible without the support of our Board of Trustees for their continued support and commitment to provide the best service and equipment to our members and our community.

On behalf of the entire team at Harlem-Roscoe Fire Department, I want to express my sincere thanks to you, our valued community members, for your continued trust and support. Together, we are stronger, and together, we will continue to face the challenges and triumphs of the future.

Thank you for your partnership in keeping our community safe.

With deepest gratitude,

John Bergeron
Fire Chief
Harlem-Roscoe Fire Department



MISSION STATEMENT

The Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District is dedicated to providing the highest standard of service to the community through prevention, training, education and emergency services. Our purpose is to save lives, reduce injuries, and protect property.

OUR VISION

A PROGRESSIVE FIRE DEPARTMENT PROVIDING
PROFESSIONAL LEVELS OF SERVICES

OUR CORE VALUES

<i>Courage</i>	Do what is right the first time. Duty to act decisively and unselfishly.
<i>Compassion</i>	Caring is a part of our job. We are empathetic to the community in their time of need.
<i>Integrity</i>	We are honest, accountable and professional.
<i>Diversity</i>	We respect the different identities, experiences, and perspectives of those we work with and the community we serve.
<i>Teamwork</i>	Members support and depend on each other to achieve our goals: Duty ~ Pride ~ Tradition.
<i>Community</i>	We will be responsible to serve the needs of our community.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



**President
Bart Munger
25 Years of Service**



**Secretary
John Donahue
15 Years of Service**



**Treasurer
Al Bach
13 Years of Service**



Deputy Chief Kevin Briggs Operations

The Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District prides ourselves with exceptional services that we provide to the community we proudly serve. We offer services in Emergency Medical Services, Fire Suppression, Hazardous Materials, Water Rescue, and Vehicle Extrication. We are also very active within the community with public relations events throughout the year. Harlem Roscoe Fire

Department responds out of three stations with three staffed ALS ambulances and one engine company. We are staffed with 25 Career sworn members along with 15 part time firefighters. A Battalion Chief is on duty for 24 hours around the clock to ensure the community needs are carried out with the utmost safety, care, compassion, and professionalism. Crew members are continuously training daily in the many facets of emergency response topics to keep up to date on the ever-changing realm of Firefighting and Emergency Medicine.

In 2024, the district was very fortunate to be able to upgrade some of its equipment and vehicles, all being done with no increase in taxes. A few of the upgrades include: 2 2024 Rosenbauer Front Line Engines, that will be here this fall along with 2 new ambulances that should be delivered this coming winter. I am very excited for the upcoming future of Harlem Roscoe Fire.

We are proud to be part of MABAS Division 8, which is a collaborative agreement with fire departments in the State of Illinois and Wisconsin, to provide and receive assistance of manpower and equipment, when and if the need arises on emergency call.

Harlem-Roscoe Fire would like to thank our community once again for your continued support throughout the year.

-Deputy Chief Kevin Briggs





Deputy Chief Jeff Grant Training Division

Over the history of the Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District, it has transformed over the years originating as a “Fire Department” in 1940, then adding Emergency Medical Services in the 1970s to the current status of an “All-Hazards” response agency to include water rescues, structural building collapses, trench rescues, confined space incidents and hazardous materials responses. To meet the community’s demands, the Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District achieved another milestone, transitioning from a private contractor/part-time-based department to a full-time commissioned staffed department. Along with the transition of hiring 25 full-time personnel, the Training Division is tasked with training the new personnel to a high standard expected for the community of Harlem Roscoe in a range of disciplines.

As an “All Hazards” department, Harlem Roscoe does not just respond to fires and medical emergencies. Emergency response requests can range from incidents including a building collapse to search and rescue operations to assist a homeowner in shutting off a leaking water pipe. A new firefighter begins their career attending the Basic Operation Firefighter Academy. Once a firefighter has entered the gate to fire service, they will embark on additional classes from Emergency Medical Technician-Basic to Common Passenger Vehicle Operations (Auto Extrication) and many more. In 2024, the Harlem Roscoe Training Division conducted a Fire Apparatus Engineer class for firefighters to become certified through the Office of the State Fire Marshal. In total, 29 personnel completed the FAE class in November.

Every day, the on-duty shift conducts a training session in addition to a physical fitness regimen. The Fire Service and Emergency Medicine are constantly changing, and fire and EMS personnel must continually train and attend outside classes to keep informed, enabling the department to better serve the residents of Roscoe and surrounding communities. Firefighting poses a wide range of challenges and requires firefighters to focus on fitness to lift heavy objects and increase stamina to work for long periods under stress.

Over the past year, firefighters and EMS personnel participated in a comprehensive training program covering essential skills such as fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, technical rescue, and incident command. Training sessions included live fire simulations, hands-on drills, and classroom instruction, ensuring personnel remained well-prepared for diverse emergencies. The department also emphasized interagency training to enhance coordination with neighboring agencies. Through rigorous training, updated protocols, and the integration of modern firefighting techniques, the Harlem-Roscoe Fire Protection District continues to uphold its mission of providing exceptional emergency services to the community.

-Deputy Chief Jeff Grant





Division Chief Jay Alms Fire Prevention Bureau

The Harlem Roscoe Fire Prevention Bureau is tasked with fire safety education and hazard awareness in our community. We inspect the business community to assure Life Safety codes and regulations are compliant with the adopted village, state and federal codes. We assure that the business owners, their employees, neighbors and the first responders are aware of the hazards and potential dangers that can be encountered. Some of these hazards are a normal part of everyday business practices; HRFD inspectors are documenting the safe use and disposal of these necessary products. The firefighters & fire officers rely on the Fire Prevention Bureau to keep them aware of hazards and unsafe conditions that the fire department may encounter as they perform their daily duties. The Bureau is dedicated to perform safety inspections on an annual basis and follow up on any violations.

As the community grows, the inspections increase. The business community welcomes the HRFD inspectors to tour their facilities and assure them that Life Safety Practices are followed. A 40-point checklist is used to keep the business occupancies compliant with village, county, state and federal guidelines. This past year 1,050 business inspections were documented.

We continue to offer fire extinguisher training with live fire scenarios, assist with developing emergency escape plans and fire extinguisher State Fire Marshal compliance tags for small businesses. All of these services are at no-cost to those that take advantage.

There are certain residential occupancies that are included in these annual inspections. The assisted living facilities, board & care facilities and daycare facilities are included.

Elementary & high schools are inspected. Several fire drills and active shooter drills are performed alongside law enforcement and state school board officials. Firefighter visits are requested each year by the schools to educate the young minds in fire safety, home fire escape planning and smoke/ CO detector awareness. Technology is necessary to keep us safer than years past. The Fire Prevention Bureau enters preplanning data on a platform for personnel. This data is on a computer in the firetrucks and officer vehicles. This information is available at their fingertips, and offers directions to a structure, fire hydrant locations, building construction components, hazardous materials on site, a floor plan, pictures of each occupancy and more. These details allow officers to preplan the situation before arriving on the scene in many cases.

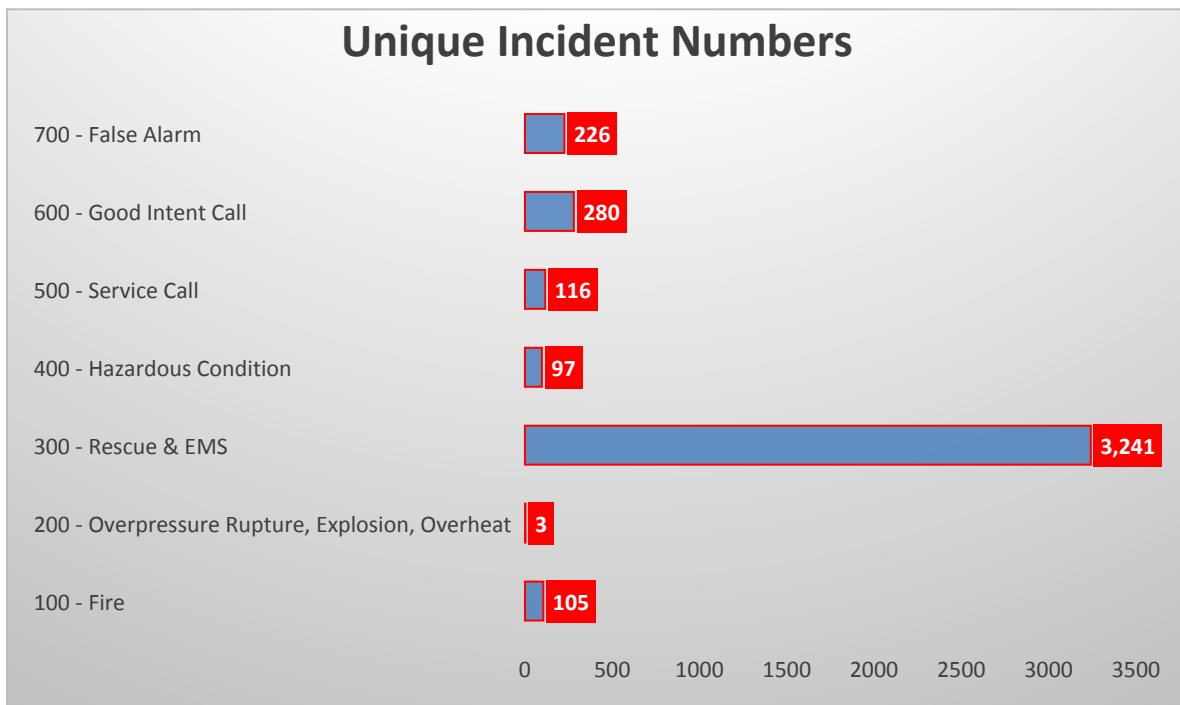
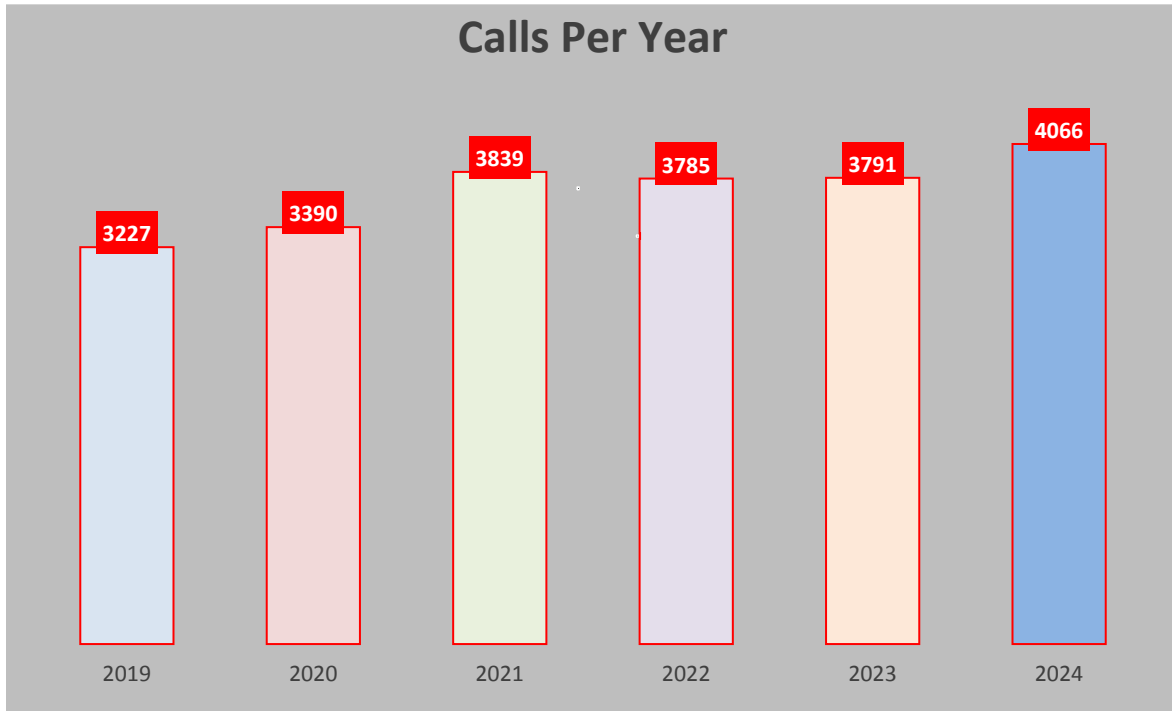
The Fire Prevention Bureau is not only safeguarding our business and industrial occupancies, but we spend much of our time educating our residential community. With the help of engine companies and ambulance personnel, the medics and firefighters are installing or replacing smoke/CO detectors. They also perform a safety check of the home and recommend tips to ensure safe practices. Several times a year at community functions, HRFD and the Fire Bureau continues to educate our community on fire safety, preplanning for medical and fire emergencies and proven practices to keep us all safe.

Follow us on harlemroscoefire.com and Facebook to stay informed of our services and upcoming events.

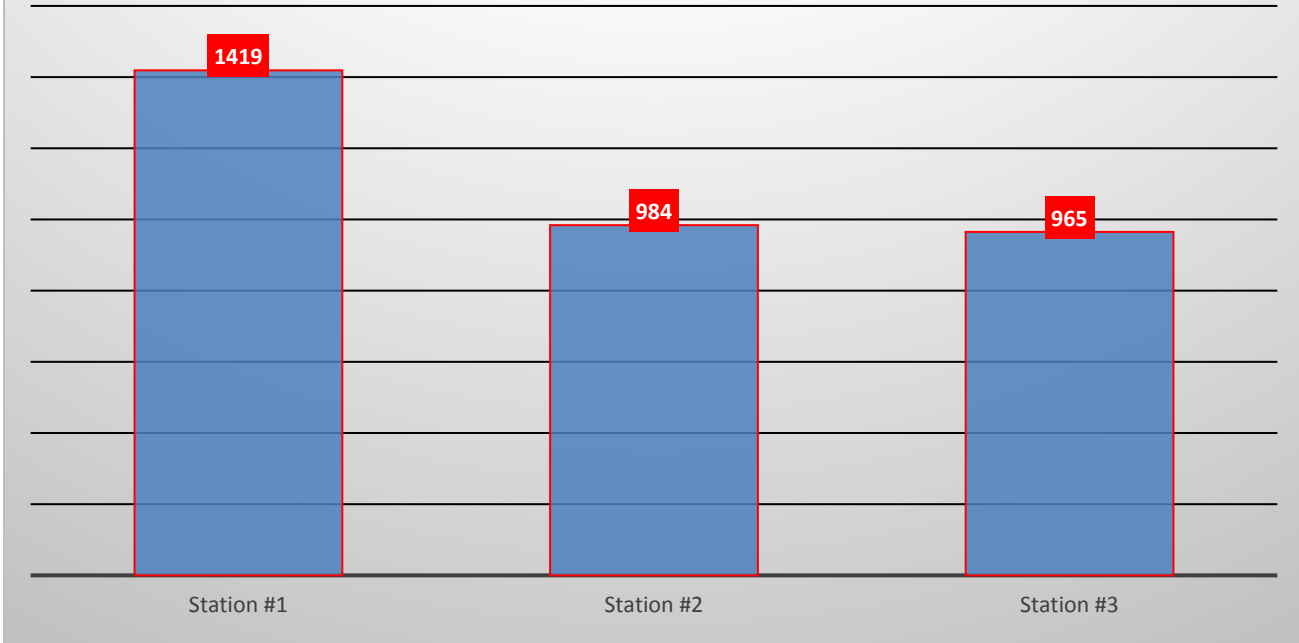
-Division Chief Jay Alms



2024 Data



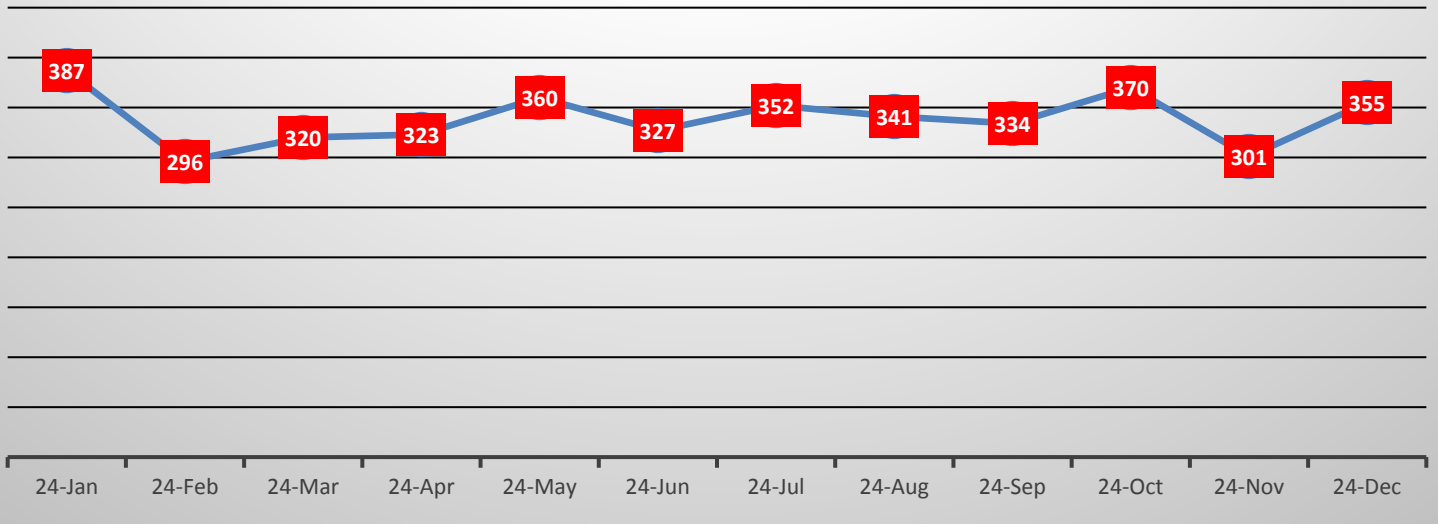
Busiest Station In 2024



Calls Per Hour

Hour of Day	24-Jan	24-Feb	24-Mar	24-Apr	24-May	24-Jun	24-Jul	24-Aug	24-Sep	24-Oct	24-Nov	24-Dec	TOTAL
12a	6	8	7	4	7	4	6	8	5	9	4	5	68
1a	4	2	3	5	4	9	6	5	7	9	7	7	58
2a	6	4	5	10	5	2	3	6	4	4	5	5	52
3a	1	2	5	8	8	5	3	4	1	10	7	3	54
4a	7	4	6	6	8	8	5	4	6	5	1	3	60
5a	8	7	4	5	5	6	10	3	12	4	4	6	68
6a	5	4	12	8	3	5	13	12	4	7	5	7	78
7a	6	9	10	6	13	11	11	7	16	8	5	16	102
8a	20	10	9	18	17	17	16	9	12	12	15	13	154
9a	14	10	10	20	20	18	14	19	21	17	6	17	168
10a	10	10	11	15	12	15	13	16	17	13	16	15	148
11a	12	17	19	17	19	11	13	16	13	16	13	13	164
12p	17	11	14	16	23	16	8	19	20	16	12	17	171
1p	18	13	15	5	9	13	11	15	17	18	9	16	143
2p	15	13	17	14	6	14	23	11	13	15	13	21	153
3p	16	10	18	10	13	29	15	9	10	14	14	4	158
4p	14	19	16	14	21	14	16	23	19	17	12	20	183
5p	18	10	10	14	12	18	14	13	13	13	7	21	142
6p	9	8	8	12	12	12	21	12	10	11	22	10	136
7p	12	8	12	10	14	9	8	14	8	15	11	9	120
8p	7	16	10	17	8	7	9	19	13	9	10	9	125
9p	5	8	5	13	9	10	7	6	9	10	10	7	92
10p	7	6	5	7	11	4	11	9	8	12	9	12	87
11p	5	7	6	6	7	2	5	3	4	5	5	8	54

Incidents Per Month



Response Times

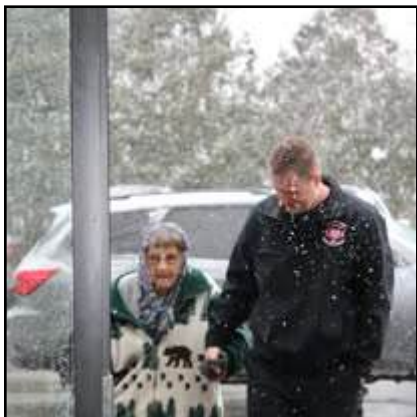
Response time includes three key factors: **dispatch handling, turnout, and travel time.**

Dispatch handling time is when dispatch takes in information and then dispatch personnel. The turnout time is when the crews receive the call and when they get into the vehicles and go in route button. Travel time reflects the time from en route to when they arrive at the incident scene. Construction, speed limits, weather, and train traffic can impact response times. The overall goal for arrival at an emergency fire call is 6 minutes and 20 seconds from notification until the first unit arrives. For a response to an EMS incident, this time is 6 minutes.

The following shows the average times for all emergent incidents, with arrival on the scene for EMS and fire within the local response area minus Mutual Aid in 2024.

Dispatch Time	Turnout Time
Average Dispatch Time 2 MINUTES, 17 SECONDS	Average Turnout Time 2 MINUTES, 53 SECONDS
Travel Time	Response Time
Average Travel Time 7 MINUTES, 30 SECONDS	Average Response Time 11 MINUTES, 34 SECONDS

COMMUNITY



TRAINING



EMERGENCIES

