



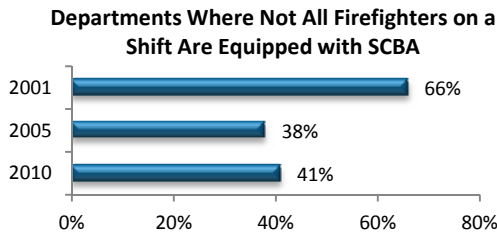
## Fact Sheet Missouri Fire Service Needs Assessment

There has been substantial progress in reducing many fire department needs, although more remains to be done.

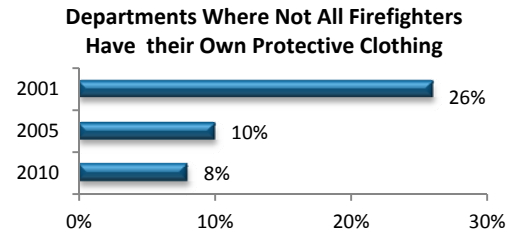
### Protective Equipment and Clothing

The 2010 percentage of Missouri departments **without enough equipment to equip all personnel** (or all personnel on a shift, as appropriate) was:

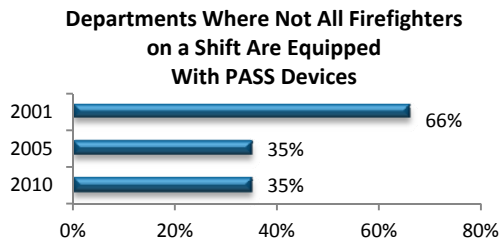
- 41% for **self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)**, compared to 66% in 2001 and 38% in 2005;



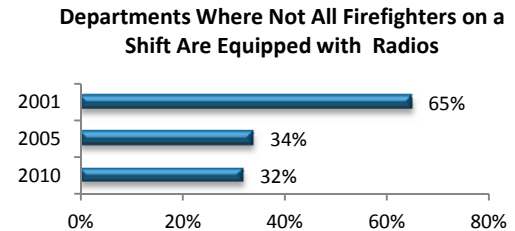
- 8% for **personal protective clothing**, compared to 26% in 2001 and 10% in 2005; and



- 35% for **personal alert safety system devices (PASS)**, compared to 66% in 2001 and 35% in 2005;



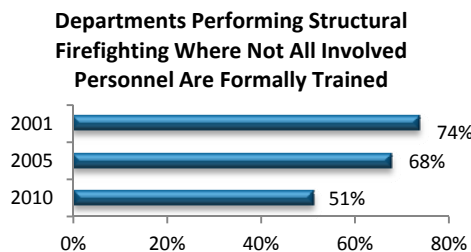
- 32% for **portable radios**, compared to 65% in 2001 and 34% in 2005.



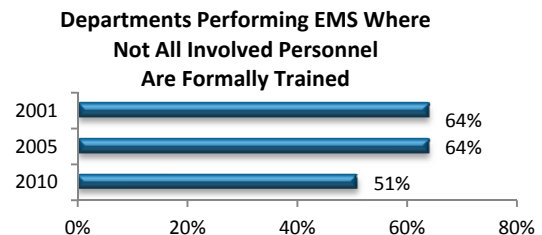
### Training

In many fire departments, **not all involved personnel have been formally trained** in their emergency response duties. The 2010 percentage of Missouri departments in which not all involved personnel have been formally trained was:

- 51% for **structural firefighting**, compared to 74% in 2001 and 68% in 2005; and



- 51% for **emergency medical service (EMS)**, compared to 64% in 2001 and 64% in 2005.



## Stations and Apparatus

**Some stations lack specific features**, which are required by current standards but were not required when stations were constructed. Some stations are old enough that a variety of persistent or recurring problems are to be expected and replacement might be better and even cheaper. Some departments are using old fire apparatus.

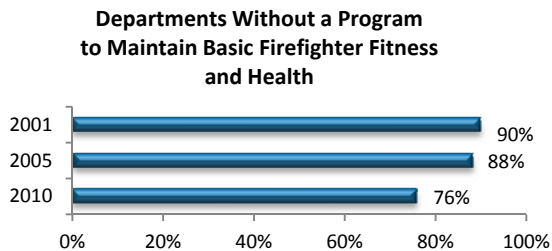
- 43% of Missouri fire departments do not have backup power for their fire stations.
- 57% of Missouri fire departments do not have exhaust emission control for their fire stations.
- 32% of the fire stations in Missouri are over 40 years old.
- 9% of Missouri fire department engines and pumpers are at least 30 years old.

## Fitness and Health

In many fire departments, **there is no program to maintain basic firefighter fitness and health.**

The 2010 percentage of Missouri departments with no such program was:

- 76%, compared to 90% in 2001 and 88% in 2005.



## Unusually Challenging Incidents

There has been little or no progress in increasing the ability of fire departments to handle **various unusually challenging incidents** with local trained personnel and specialized equipment alone:

- Provide technical rescue and EMS at a **structural collapse** involving 50 occupants; and
- Provide hazardous material response and EMS at an incident involving **chemical or biological agents** and with 10 injuries.
- **Wildland/urban interface (WUI) fire** affecting 500 acres; and
- Mitigation of a **major developing flood**.

**However, there has been progress in the percentage of departments having written agreements for working with others.** The 2010 percentage of Missouri departments with **no** such written agreement was:

- 57% for structural collapse, compared to 66% in 2001 and 54% in 2005;
- 51% for chemical or biological incidents, compared to 66% in 2001 and 53% in 2005;
- 30% for wildland/urban interface fires, compared to 51% in 2001 and 41% in 2005; and
- 52% for developing major flood, compared to 70% in 2001 and 58% in 2005.

Success requires more written agreements, with each participating department knowing its role, providing resources needed to play its role, and helping test the plan in simulations and rehearsals.

## Cautions on interpretation

**Trends.** For some states and most needs assessment survey questions, even large changes from one survey to another will not be statistically significant. Be cautious in interpreting results as trends.

**State-to-state comparisons.** States where a large share of departments serve small communities will tend to have greater needs according to the measures used here than states where a small share of departments serve small communities. State-to-state comparisons must be viewed with caution, particularly if the states have very different mixes of urban and rural communities.

**How rural is Missouri?** The survey for Missouri was based on the following responses:

- 21 of the 50 departments protecting populations of 25,000 or more;
- 33 of the 80 departments protecting populations of 10,000 to 24,999; and
- 76 of the 548 departments protecting populations of less than 10,000.

Access the full state report, other state reports and the national reports at <http://www.nfpa.org/needsassessment>.