1,100,450 firefighters from 30,145 local fire departments protected the United States in 2011.

- 31% (335,050) are career firefighters.
- 69% (756,400) are volunteer firefighters.

The fire service does more than fight fires.

- Two-thirds of fire department responses were medical aid calls in 2011.
- Only 5% of fire department calls in 2011 were due to actual fires.

Comparison of Fire Department Calls
In 1980 and 2011

Fire Department Calls in 2011

Fire Department Provision of Emergency Medical Service
2009-2011 Annual Averages

Firefighter Fatalities and Injuries

Fatalities
61 firefighters were fatally injured in 2011.
- Sudden cardiac death caused 31 of the fatalities.
- 30 firefighters died on the fireground.
- Residential structure fires accounted for the largest share of fireground deaths (12 deaths).

![On-Duty Firefighter Deaths: 2002-2011](image)

Injuries
70,090 firefighters were injured in 2011.
- Strain, sprain, and muscular pain were the leading type of injury.
- 44% (30,505) of the injuries occurred on the fireground.

![Firefighter Injuries by Type of Duty 2011](image)

Sources: Firefighter Fatalities in the United States-2011, by Rita F. Fahy, Paul R. LeBlanc and Joseph L. Molis, firefighter fatality figures have been updated since publication, and U.S. Firefighter Injuries 2011, by Michael J. Karter, Jr., and Joseph L. Molis.