The U.S. Fire Department Profile through 2015 Fact Sheet

There were 1,160,450 local firefighters in the United States in 2015.

- 30% (345,600) were career firefighters.
- 70% (814,850) were volunteer firefighters.
- Firefighters in smaller (less than 25,000 population) communities are more likely to be volunteers.
- Departments protecting larger communities tend to have a higher proportion of firefighters in the age groups 30-39 and 40-49 than smaller communities.
- 42% of volunteer firefighters have served at least 10 years.

29,727 fire departments protected the United States in 2015.

- All Career 2,651
- Mostly career 1,893
- Mostly Volunteer 5,421
- All Volunteer 19,762

Half the fire service is 40 or more years old.

Source: NFPA, Research, Data & Analytics
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