

2015 Year End Report

SARATOGA SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Commissioner of Public Safety

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ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

60 Lake Avenue
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

ORGANIZATION

Profile

The Saratoga Springs Fire Department (SSFD) was formed in 1884 and is a fulltime paid Fire Department within the City of Saratoga Springs, New York. The Fire Department serves the City Of Saratoga Springs, which encompasses 29.07 square miles of residential, commercial, parks and recreation. Services provided by the Saratoga Springs Fire Department include: Fire suppression and investigation, paramedic level ambulance and emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, specialized rescue, fire inspections, code enforcement, community fire education and prevention and community CPR instruction. The Fire Department also operates under the Saratoga County Mutual Aid plan and Capital District Hazardous Materials Response Team which when requested, units will respond outside the City to assist in which ever manner that is requested.

CITY OF SARATOGA SPRINGS

Square miles – land 28.42

Square miles – water .63

Total square miles – 29.07

Population – 27,436¹

2011 Housing Unit Estimate by Structure²

Total Units 13,073

Single Unit 7,585

Two Units 989

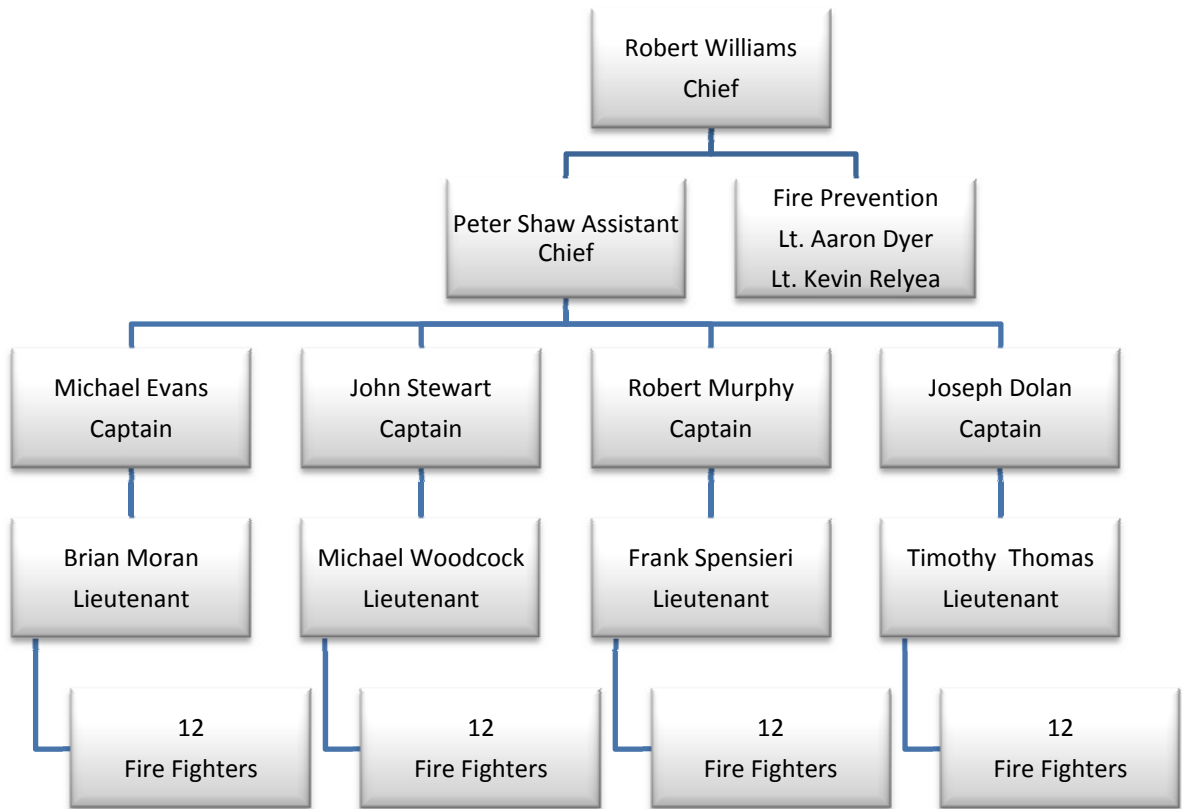
Three to Four Units 1,469

Five or More Units 2,855

Mobile Homes & Other 175

¹ Sources: 2014 *Census* & CDRPC Estimates

² Sources: 2013 *Census* & CDRPC Estimates



2015 Organization

STAFFING

Saratoga Springs Fire Department has 60 full time career fire officers and firefighters. Of this number they include:

- 1 – Fire Chief
- 1 – Assistant Fire Chief
- 4 – Fire Captains
- 6 – Fire Lieutenants (2) are assigned to the Fire Prevention Office
- 48 – Firefighters
 - 44 – Paramedics
 - 10 – New York State Certified Fire Instructors
 - 9 – AHA CPR Instructors
 - 3 – Code Enforcement Officials
 - 9 – Code Compliant Technicians

2015 Retirements:



On November 29, 2015 Captain Thomas Knight retired after 29 years of service. Tom began his career as a firefighter on September 12, 1987 and was promoted to Lieutenant in July, 2006 and served in the Fire Prevention Office. He was promoted to Captain on December 3, 2009 where he was assigned to Group 2 as shift commander. Captain Knight was part of the department's training staff and was designated as a Municipal Fire Instructor. He was additionally assigned to the County and State instructional staff.



On May 31, 2015 Firefighter Thomas "Newt" Traver retired after 28 years of service. Newt began his career as a firefighter on February 19, 1988. Newt was very active in the Saratoga Springs Benevolent Association serving as an Executive Board member. He was also active in community events and youth activities.

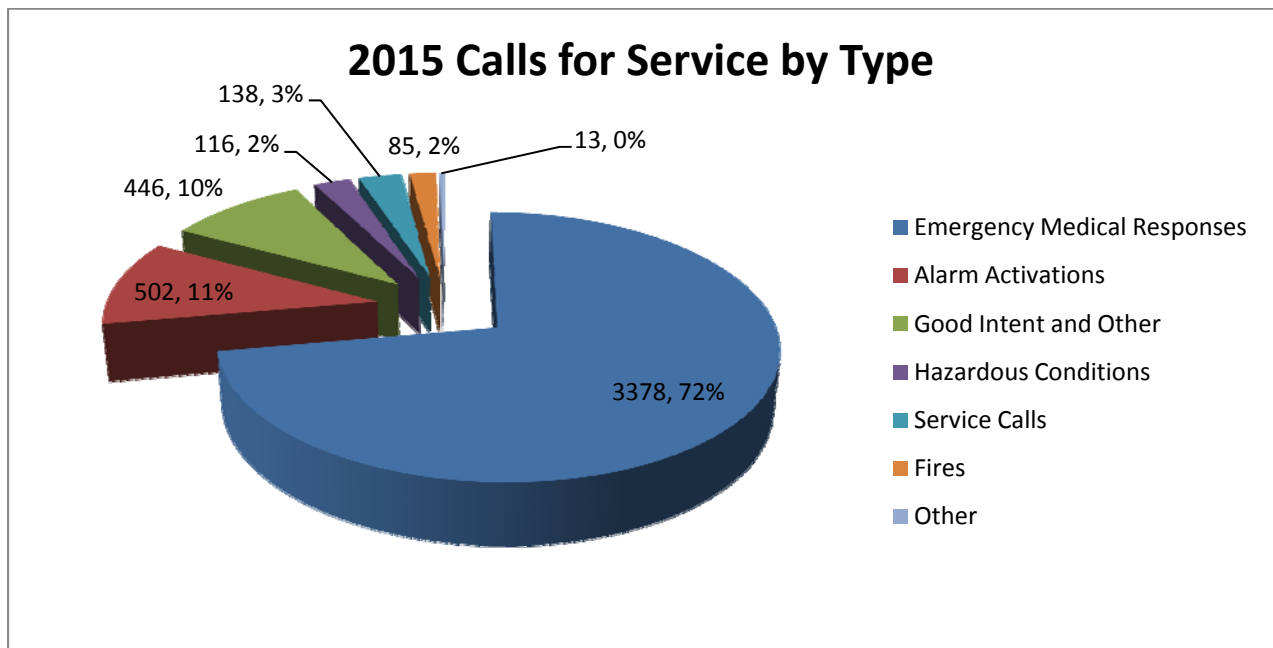


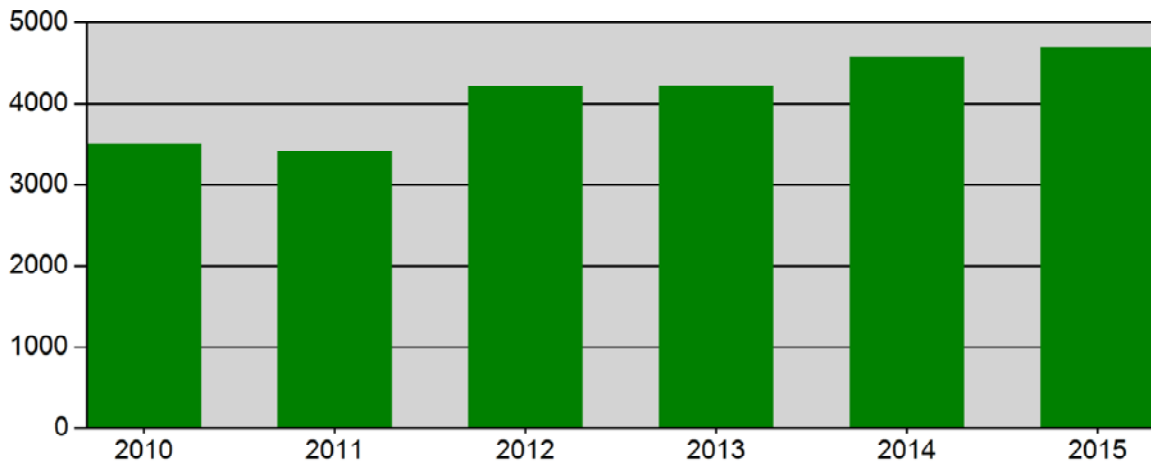
On February 24, 2015 Firefighter Dan Whitney retired after 28 years of service. Dan began his firefighting career on August 20, 1988.

RESPONSE DATA – CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2015 the Saratoga Springs Fire Department responded to **4678** calls for service. This represents a 2% increase in calls for service over 2014. Of those calls:

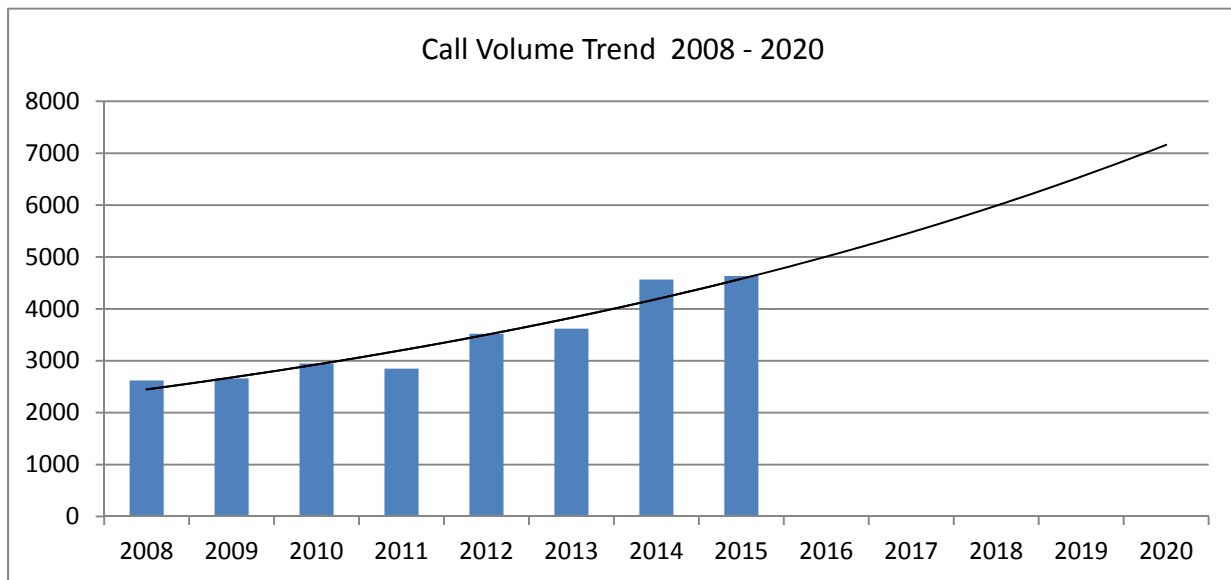
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Emergency Medical Responses	3378	3313	3088	3096
Alarm Activations	502	522	429	498
Good Intent and Other	446	410	318	238
Hazardous Conditions	116	101	124	93
Service Calls	138	132	165	144
Fires	85	76	77	103
Other	13	12	19	43
Total	4678	4566	4220	4206





Incident Count 2010 – 2015

The fire department has seen a 34% increase in call volume over the previous five years. If we project out the next five years, the department call volume will be approaching 7000 calls annually.



The significance of this projection is the fire department has been operating with the same number of response ready resources for over five decades. We continue to operate with a daily resource of three units. The result is that as the number of calls for service increase the availability of those resources will be strained to a point we will not be able to respond to the incident. In 2015 our simultaneous call volume reached 36.29%. This represents a nearly 7%

increase over 2014. One out of every three calls for service is happening at the same time. As the percentage of these occurrences increase, the ability of the department to respond is jeopardized. As a result of this the department instituted an Automatic Mutual Aide (AMA) program with our neighboring departments. Our neighboring departments are being activated for high priority incidents automatically during evening and weekend hours. This brings additional resources to the City when our resources are committed.

The fire department maintains a daily operational minimum of 10 firefighters.

Daily response ready resources include:

Station 1 Engine



ALS – Paramedic

Station 2 Engine



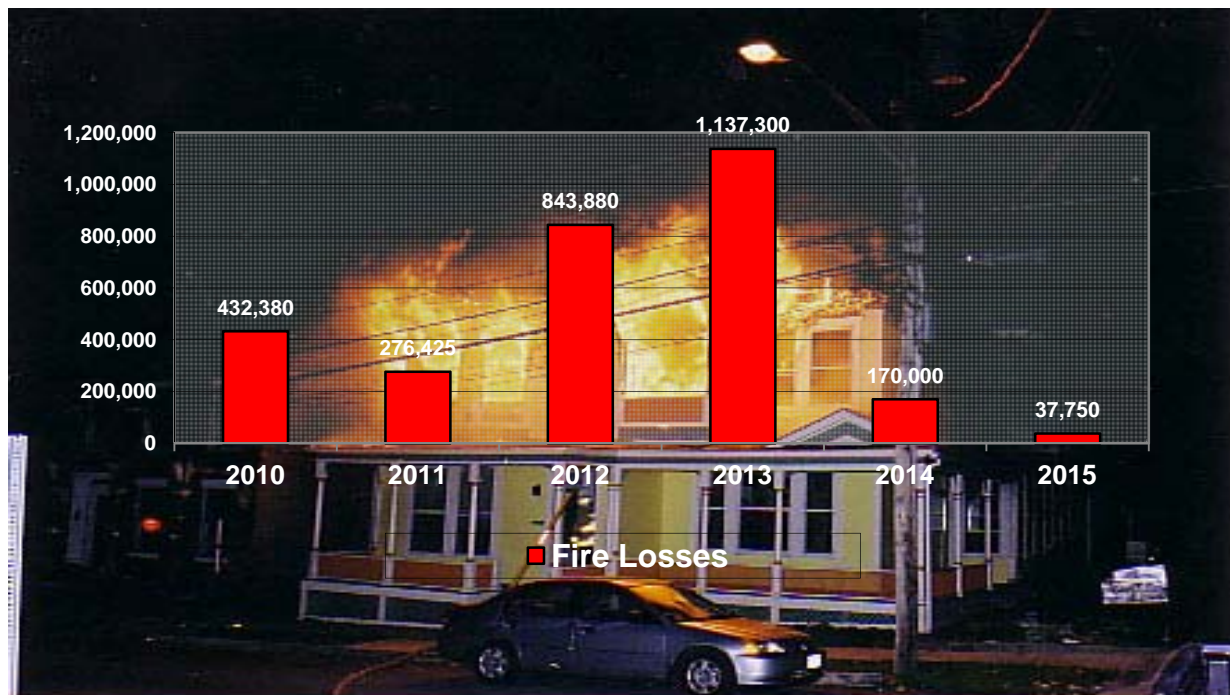
ALS – Paramedic

Ambulance



ALS – Paramedic

Fire Losses (Dollars)



RESPONSE DATA – RESPONSE TIMES

All response time averages have decreased from 2014 for each District. However District 3 (Eastern Ridge) continues to fall well below the recommended standard.

District	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME (Dispatch to Arrival)
District 1	4:18
District 2	4:49
District 3	8:15
Mutual Aid out of City	9:23

<u>Calls for Service by District:</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
District 1	2631	2643	2422	2480
District 2	1694	1642	1539	1516
District 3	283	251	207	162
Mutual Aid Given	70	31	57	49

FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRAINING

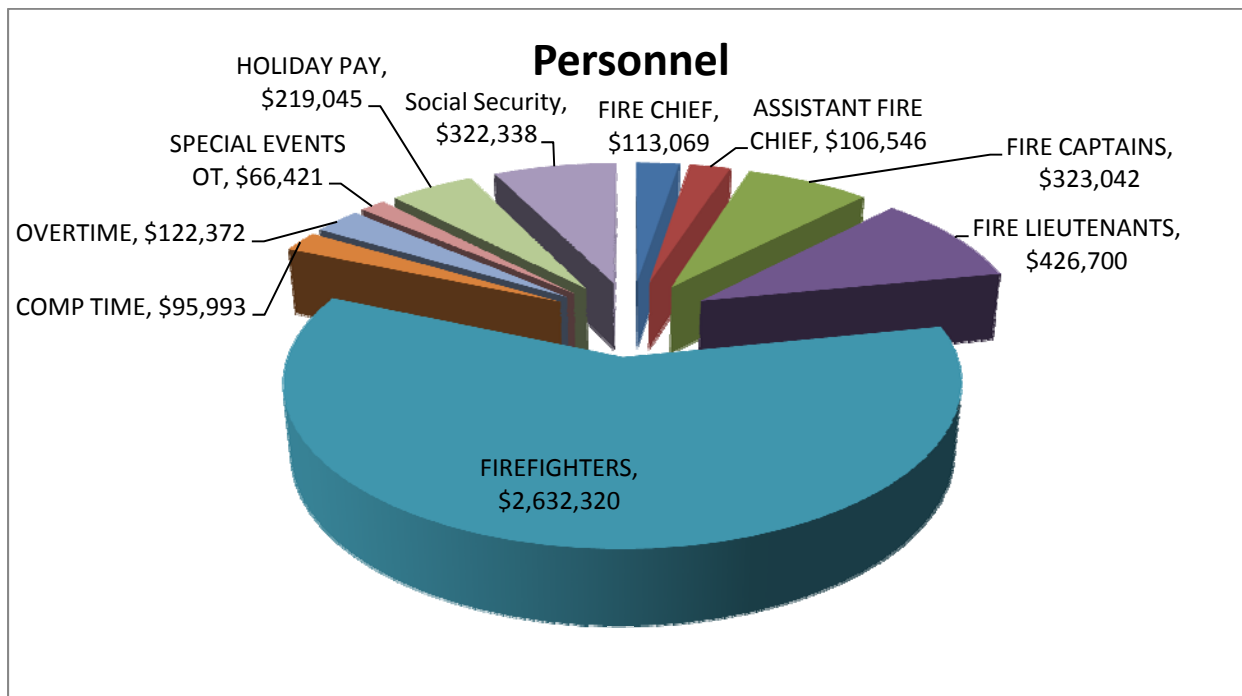
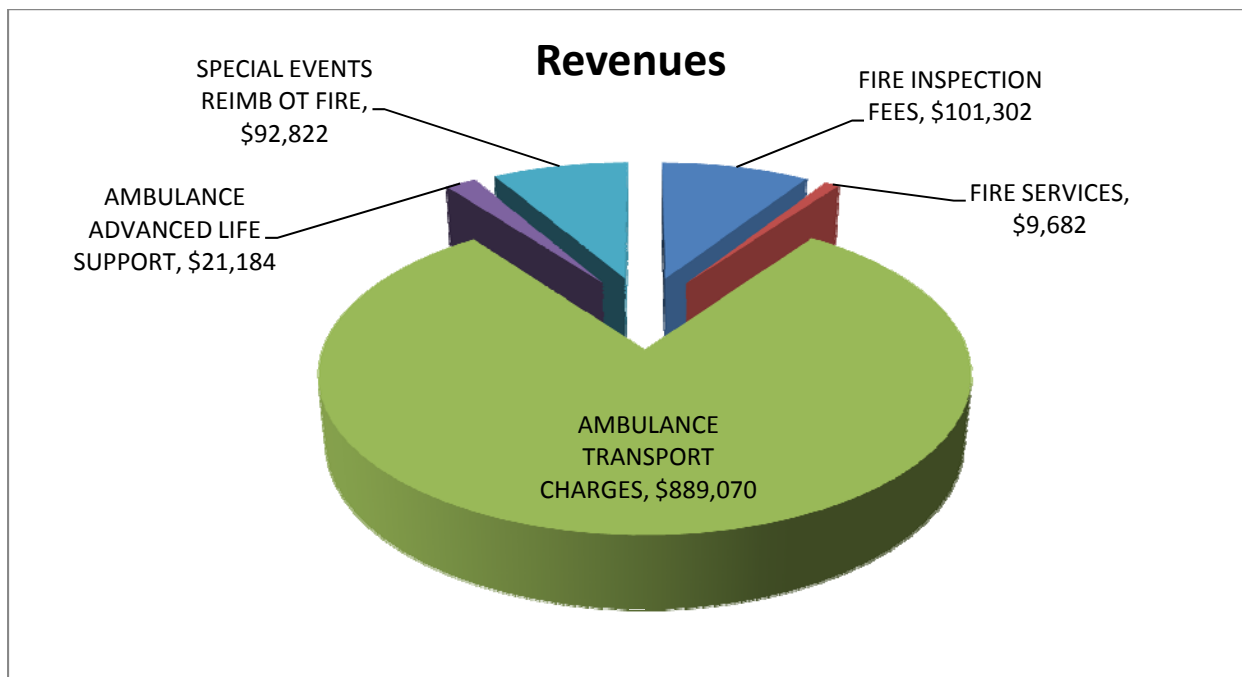
In 2015, the department provided an average of over 150 hours of Fire/EMS instruction per employee. We continue to make every effort to improve our instruction, methodology and knowledge in firefighting and EMS operations. See Attached Report.

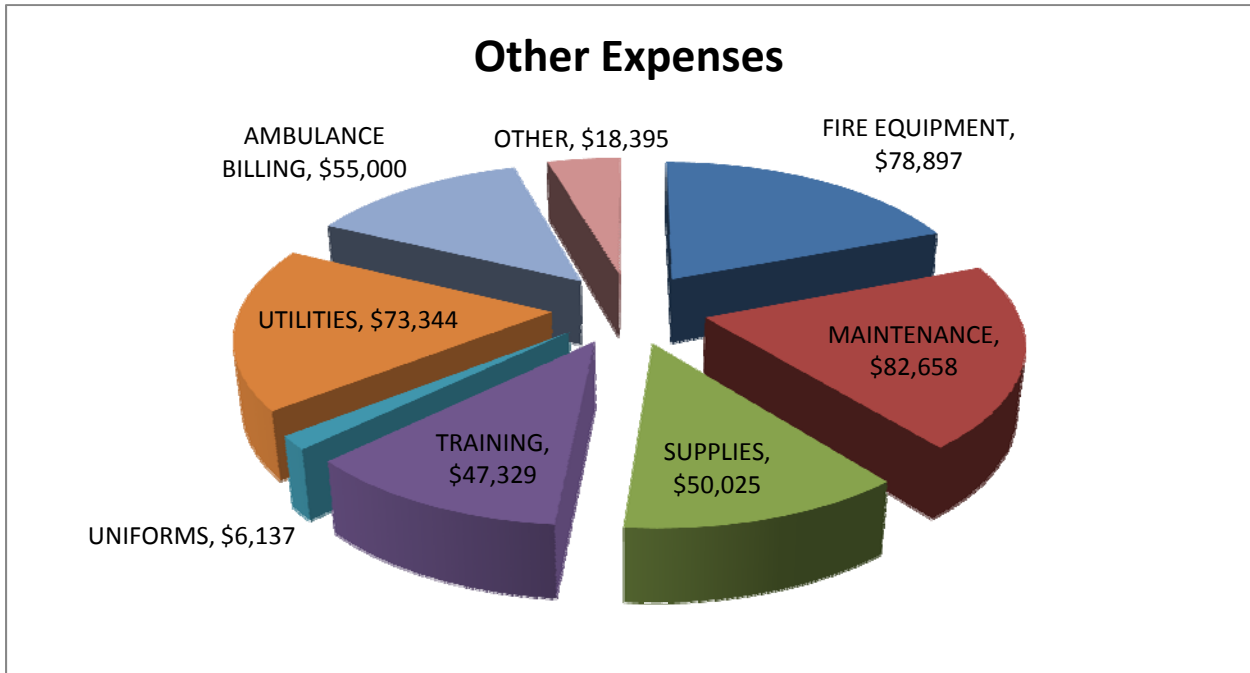
FIRE PREVENTION AND INSPECTION

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Inspections:	1177	788	639	672
Total Violations Failed:	1407³	654	231	339
Total Active Occupancies:	2484	2164	1992	1814

³ Totals include Codes Department

BUDGET Revenues/Expenses





FIREFIGHTER COMMUNITY ACTIVITY



Left: Firefighter Jordan Daviero assists a student with a hose line during the City of Saratoga Spring's Recreation Department Summer Fun Day. Below: Firefighter's demonstrate high angle rescue techniques during Fire Prevention Week Open House.



Ambulance Report:

<u>CALL VOLUME:</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Emergency Medical Calls	3378	3351	3091	3140
Daily Average	9.25	9.19	8.46	8.60
Transports	2252	2194	2168	2172
Transferred to Empire	271	280	231	242
Transferred to Other Ambulance	56	62	23	17
Assist Empire with Transport	148	138	120	133
Transport Basic Life Support	1471	1465	1420	1387
Transport Advance Life Support	775	729	748	785

RESPONSE TIMES: (AVERAGE MM:SS)

Dispatch Processing	2:06	2:01	1:52	2:40
Turnout Time	1:55	1:43	1:16	1:25
Travel Time	4:09	4:00	4:00	3:51
On Scene Time	18:08	17:56	14:09	13:55
Total Out of Service Time	36:44	35:47	35:36	35:56
Average Response Time	4:49	5:02	4:32	4:46

EMPIRE AMBULANCE

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Average Response Time (MM:SS)	08:50	9:24
Priority 1 Emergency average response time (MM:SS)	08:10	8:54
Priority 2 Non-emergency average response time (MM:SS)	10:29	10:15
Percentage Compliance with 8 and 12 minute response times	64%	68%

Group	Count	Pct
ALS Intercept	13	0.4
Cancelled En-route	18	0.5
Cancelled on scene	19	0.6
Dead at Scene	32	0.9
Lift Assist ONLY	167	5.0
No Patient Found	61	1.8
Patient Refused Care	293	8.7
SSFD Assist EMPIRE in Transport	148	4.4
SSFD Assist mutual aid Ambulance in Transport	18	0.5
Stand by	8	0.2
TOT EMPIRE	271	8.0
TOT Mutual Aid Ambulance	56	1.7
TOT Police	7	0.2
Treated ALS, Refused Transport	8	0.2
Treated, Transferred to Air Medical	6	0.2
Treated, Transported ALS	775	23.0
Treated, Transported BLS	<u>1471</u>	<u>43.6</u>
Total	3378	100%

DESTINATION HOSPITAL

Saratoga Hospital	2540	78.0
<i>Not Entered</i>	612	18.8
Albany Medical Center	41	1.3
Ellis Hospital	27	0.8
Glens Falls Hospital	12	0.4
Samaritan Hospital	8	0.2
St. Peters Hospital	6	0.2
Veterans Administration Medical Center - Albany	3	0.1
St. Mary's Hospital - Seton Health	5	0.2
Albany Memorial	2	0.1