



FOI_IG0000552: NUMBER OF FIRES, FATALITIES AND INJURIES

Response Date: 19/10/2020

FOI Request:

The following request for FOI Request has been received by SWFRS:

- *I'd like to know the number of fires, fatalities and injuries in wales this year and the same figures for the three years prior, as well as the causes for all of them. Years: 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017*
- *I'd like to know the amount of fires outside of homes since lockdown started with comparable figure of the previous three years, and the causes behind them. Years: 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017*
- *A map of the areas in which the most fires have happened would also be good, if there is no map just the figures will be fine. Years: 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017.*

Scope: Incidents attended by SWFRS from 01/01/2017 to 30/09/2020 recorded on the Incident Recording System (IRS). Please note that the request specified incidents relating to the 'Lockdown', for reference data has been taken from the 23rd of March 2020 (The date the UK Government announced a 'country-wide' lockdown) and runs until Wednesday 30th September 2020 as the most up to date complete monthly data set. SWFRS only holds data for its Service Area so only incidents from South Wales have been included.

Data: Incident report based on data extracted from SWFRS IRS on 19/10/2020 – data may be subject to change pending validation of IRS incident records.

Report criteria: Incident date 01/01/2017-30/09/2020,

Incident Type = Fire, excludes Over Border attendances, Fires including Injuries & Fatalities

IRS incidents where

- Incident Category = Fire
- Including = Where Injuries are Fire Related
- Excluding = Over the Border Incidents
- Including = Fires where injuries were present

Data may be subject to change, pending completion/validation of IRS records.

REPORT AND STATISTICS

Fire Incidents Attended on Year alongside Outdoor Fires since Lockdown period commencement:

| Year | Fires During Year (1st January - 31st December) |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 2017 | 5927 |
| 2018 | 6553 |
| 2019 | 5732 |
| 2020 | 4288 |
| Total Fire Incidents Attended: | 22500 |

| Outdoor Fires Since The Start of A National Lockdown Period (23rd March - 30th September) | Outdoor Fires Percentage Change on Previous Year |
|---|--|
| 3094 | |
| 3919 | 27% |
| 3158 | -19% |
| 2949 | -7% |
| 13120 | |

Fire Incidents Attended on Year alongside list of causes of fire:

| Fires By Year & Cause | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|-------|
| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | Total |
| Accumulation of flammable material | 27 | 29 | 24 | 13 | 93 |
| Bomb/incendiary device | 2 | 2 | | | 4 |
| Bonfire going out of control | 8 | 16 | 18 | 24 | 66 |
| Careless handling - due to careless disposal | 53 | 81 | 59 | 57 | 250 |
| Careless handling - due to knocking over | 11 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 43 |
| Careless handling - due to sleep or unconsciousness | 15 | 14 | 16 | 6 | 51 |
| Chimney fire | 8 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 24 |
| Combustible articles too close to heat source (or fire) | 99 | 107 | 111 | 92 | 409 |
| Cooking - chip pan/deep fat fryer | 54 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 231 |
| Cooking - other cooking | 188 | 162 | 198 | 109 | 657 |
| Fault in equipment or appliance | 170 | 187 | 196 | 125 | 678 |
| Faulty fuel supplies - Electricity | 177 | 177 | 168 | 135 | 657 |
| Faulty fuel supplies – Electricity | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Faulty fuel supplies - Gas | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 13 |
| Faulty fuel supplies - Petrol product | 31 | 35 | 23 | 24 | 113 |
| Faulty leads to equipment or appliance | 29 | 30 | 30 | 21 | 110 |
| Heat source and combustibles brought together deliberately | 724 | 726 | 666 | 480 | 2596 |
| Homicide/attempted: setting fire to other person/s | 3 | | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Natural occurrence | 15 | 19 | 17 | 7 | 58 |
| Negligent use of equipment or appliance (heat source) | 42 | 50 | 44 | 29 | 165 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Other | 137 | 145 | 106 | 94 | 482 |
| Other intentional burning, going out of control | 12 | 18 | 19 | 23 | 72 |
| Overheating, unknown cause | 179 | 128 | 146 | 109 | 562 |
| Person too close to heat source (or fire) | 1 | 3 | 4 | | 8 |
| Playing with fire (or heat source) | 3 | 6 | 10 | 5 | 24 |
| Suicide/Attempted | 1 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 10 |
| Vehicle crash or collision | 18 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 40 |
| NULL | 3917 | 4530 | 3782 | 2847 | 15076 |
| Total | 5927 | 6553 | 5732 | 4288 | 22500 |

Fatalities and Injuries where victim has been taken to hospital between 1st January 2017 and 30th September 2020

| Injury Data | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|--------------------|
| Year | Fatality | Injured (incl. rescue with injury) | Grand Total |
| 2017 | 3 | 97 | 100 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious | | 11 | 11 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight | | 86 | 86 |
| Fatality | 3 | | 3 |
| 2018 | 6 | 74 | 80 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious | | 17 | 17 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight | | 57 | 57 |
| Fatality | 6 | | 6 |
| 2019 | 12 | 94 | 106 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious | | 15 | 15 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight | | 79 | 79 |
| Fatality | 12 | | 12 |
| 2020 | 6 | 42 | 48 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Serious | | 4 | 4 |
| Victim went to hospital, injuries appear to be Slight | | 38 | 38 |
| Fatality | 6 | | 6 |
| Total (2017-2020) | 27 | 307 | 334 |