

2025 Annual Report

Providence Fire Department



Chief's Message

On behalf of the Providence Fire Department, I present our 2025 Annual Report, showcasing the dedication and hard work of our firefighters and staff. This report highlights our progress in emergency response, workforce development, and community services, emphasizing our unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of our residents.

In 2025, our department responded to numerous service calls, delivering high-quality fire suppression and emergency medical care across the city.

We marked several key achievements, including the expansion of professional development training for our frontline officers, which has strengthened leadership and enhanced our operational capabilities. We proudly recruited 60 new firefighters, including graduates from our Cadet Program, further building a robust team.

Our emergency medical services saw significant enhancements with the addition of two new Impact Rescue units, boosting EMS coverage and ensuring rapid response times. We secured a SAFER grant to hire 16 additional firefighters, improving workforce sustainability and reducing the need for overtime among our current personnel.

Financially, we achieved high revenue realization while maintaining budget sustainability, allowing us to expand our services without compromising fiscal responsibility. Operational efficiency was also improved through the integration of new GPS technology and updated dispatch protocols, optimizing our emergency response efforts.

As we look to the future, we aim for thoughtful transformation, focusing on investing in our personnel and modernizing systems while upholding our proud traditions. Our sincere gratitude goes out to all members of the Providence Fire Department for their unwavering dedication to the City of Providence. Your hard work continues to inspire confidence and trust from our community.


Derek M. Silva
Chief of Department

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Derek Silva
Chief of Department



Joseph Molis
Assistant Chief of
Department



Adam Chuman
Chief of
Administration



Robert Gribbin
Chief of Operations



Zachariah Kenyon
Chief of Emergency
Medical Services



Derek Simoneau
Fire Marshal



Felix Ramos Jr.
Chief of Training

Bureaus and Divisions

Headquarters (325 Washington St.)

Chief of Department Derek Silva
Assistant Chief of Department Joseph Molis
Chief of Operations Robert Gribbin
Chief of Administration Adam Chuman
Chief of EMS Zachariah Kenyon
HR Manager Katherine Rodriguez
Confidential Assistant Maria Radcliffe
Administrative Assistant Miriam Garcia de Navarro
Administrative Assistant Mariana Picozzi

Fire Prevention Bureau (325 Washington St.)

Fire Marshal Derek Simoneau
Staff: 22

Division of Training (274 Reservoir Ave.)

Chief of Training and Professional Development Felix Ramos
Jr.
Staff: 5

Bureau of Operational Control (1 Communications Place)

Dispatcher Captain Joseph Caffey
Staff: 5

Air Supply (155 Humboldt Ave.)

Air Supply Technician Michael Leclair
Staff: 1

Automotive Maintenance Division (382 Dexter St.)

Superintendent George A. Lazzareschi Jr.
Staff: 14

Department Overview

The Providence Fire Department is one of the oldest organized fire protection agencies in the United States, with its roots tracing back to 1754, when the City of Providence first established a formal system to protect its growing community. The Department transitioned to a fully paid, professional fire service on March 1, 1854, and today stands as the second oldest continuously operating professional fire department in the nation. For more than 270 years, the Providence Fire Department has evolved alongside the city it serves, adapting to changing risks, technologies, and community needs while upholding a proud tradition of service.

The Providence Fire Department is a full-service fire and emergency medical services agency providing comprehensive emergency response capabilities, including basic and advanced life support, fire prevention and code enforcement, fire suppression, technical rescue, hazardous materials response, and marine operations. These services are delivered citywide from twelve strategically located fire stations.

The Department is comprised of 470 sworn personnel and 23 civilian employees who support and sustain daily operations. Operational resources include twelve Engine Companies, seven Ladder Companies, nine Rescue Companies, one Special Hazards Company, four Battalion Chiefs, and one Deputy Assistant Chief. This structure supports reliable, coordinated emergency response and operational readiness across all neighborhoods of Providence.

In addition to emergency operations and emergency medical services, the Department operates several essential administrative bureaus and support divisions, including Headquarters, Fire Prevention, Training and Professional Development, Automotive Maintenance, and Operational Control. These divisions provide the planning, oversight, training, and logistical support necessary to maintain a modern, high-performing fire and EMS organization.

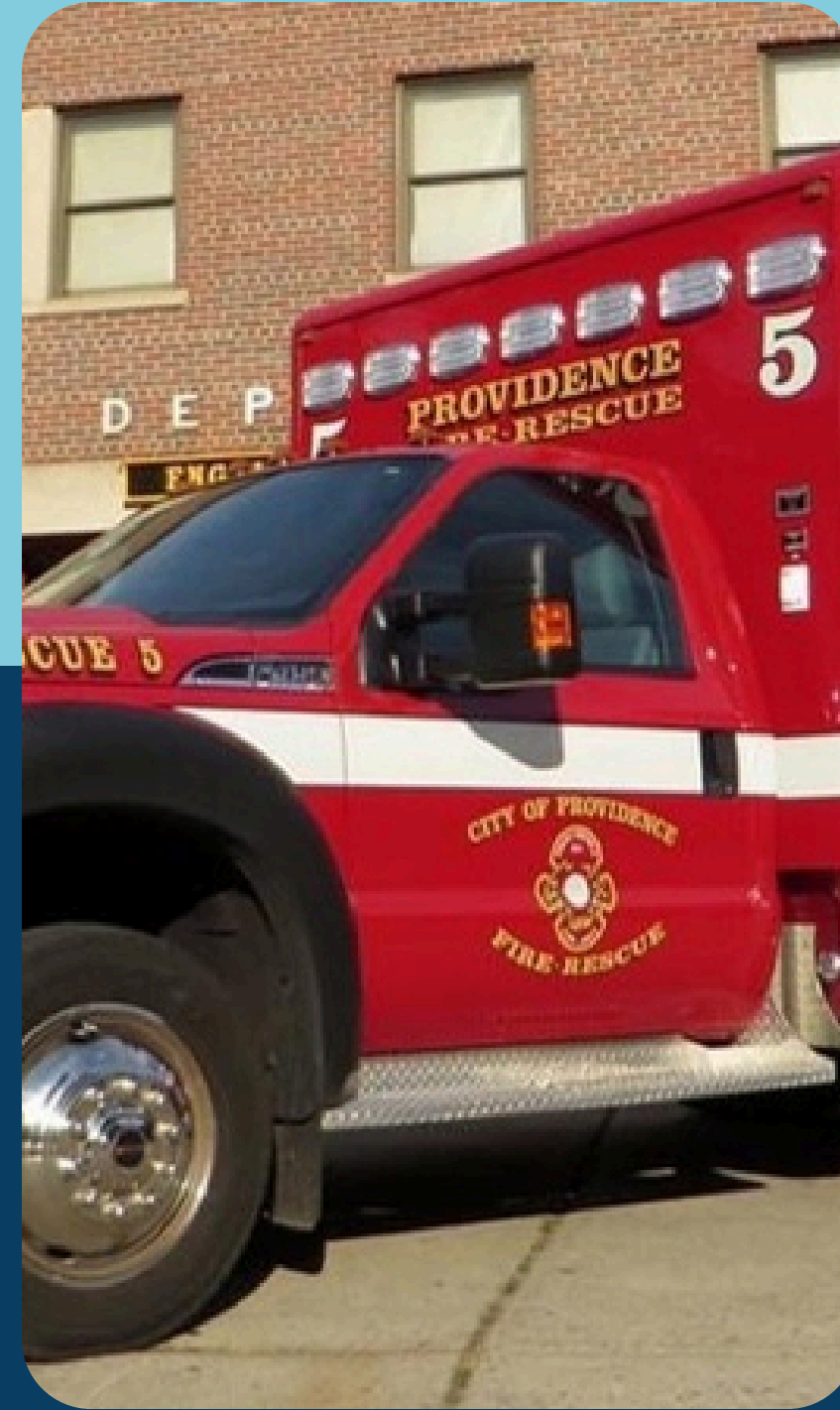
The Providence Fire Department is led by Chief of Department Derek M. Silva, Assistant Chief of Department Joseph L. Molis, Chief of Operations Robert J. Gribbin, Chief of Administration Adam W. Chuman, Chief of Emergency Medical Services Zachariah R. Kenyon, Fire Marshal Derek Simoneau, and Chief of Training and Professional Development Felix P. Ramos, Jr..

Grounded in centuries of service and guided by modern standards of professionalism, accountability, and innovation, the Providence Fire Department remains committed to protecting life and property while preparing for the challenges of the future.

A Year in Review: Significant Events from the Year

Highlights and Milestones

Reflecting on the notable occurrences that shaped the year.



Notable Events

January: PFAS Free PPE



We have transitioned to PFAS-free firefighting gear to ensure the safety of our personnel from harmful forever chemicals in future distributions of personal protective equipment.

April: EMS Bicycle Unit



We have enhanced our EMS Bicycle Unit to offer year-round coverage, delivering services to the downtown area of the city for rapid response and overdose intervention.

June: Rescue Training



Delivered an additional forty hours of professional development training for supervisors in frontline emergency medical services, aimed at enhancing patient care reporting.

July: 56th Academy Graduation



Forty-six new firefighters have graduated, enhancing the department's staffing and achieving the highest personnel levels since 2018

Notable Events

July: Air Supply Relocation

The Air Supply Station has been relocated to North Main Street, featuring a new facility and upgraded equipment to improve operations for self-contained breathing apparatus.

August: Federal Grant Awards

Secured competitive grants amounting to more than \$5.6 million aimed at hiring new firefighters, acquiring advanced cardiac monitors, conducting cancer screenings, and providing essential training.

September: Exhaust Capture System

Upgraded aging diesel exhaust capture systems across all twelve firehouses in the department to ensure the safety of our firefighters.

October: Battery Fire Training

Conducted comprehensive training across the department on how to respond to battery fires.

Notable Events

November: Impact Rescues



Two more Rescues have been deployed to enhance EMS coverage in areas of the city with high demand.

November: Mobile Dispatch Interface



Implemented a department-wide mobile tablet interface for our Computer Aided Dispatch system, delivering real-time information to firefighters in the field.

November: AI Reporting Assistance



Implemented artificial intelligence to aid officers in generating incident reports for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire incident documentation.

December: 57th Academy Graduation



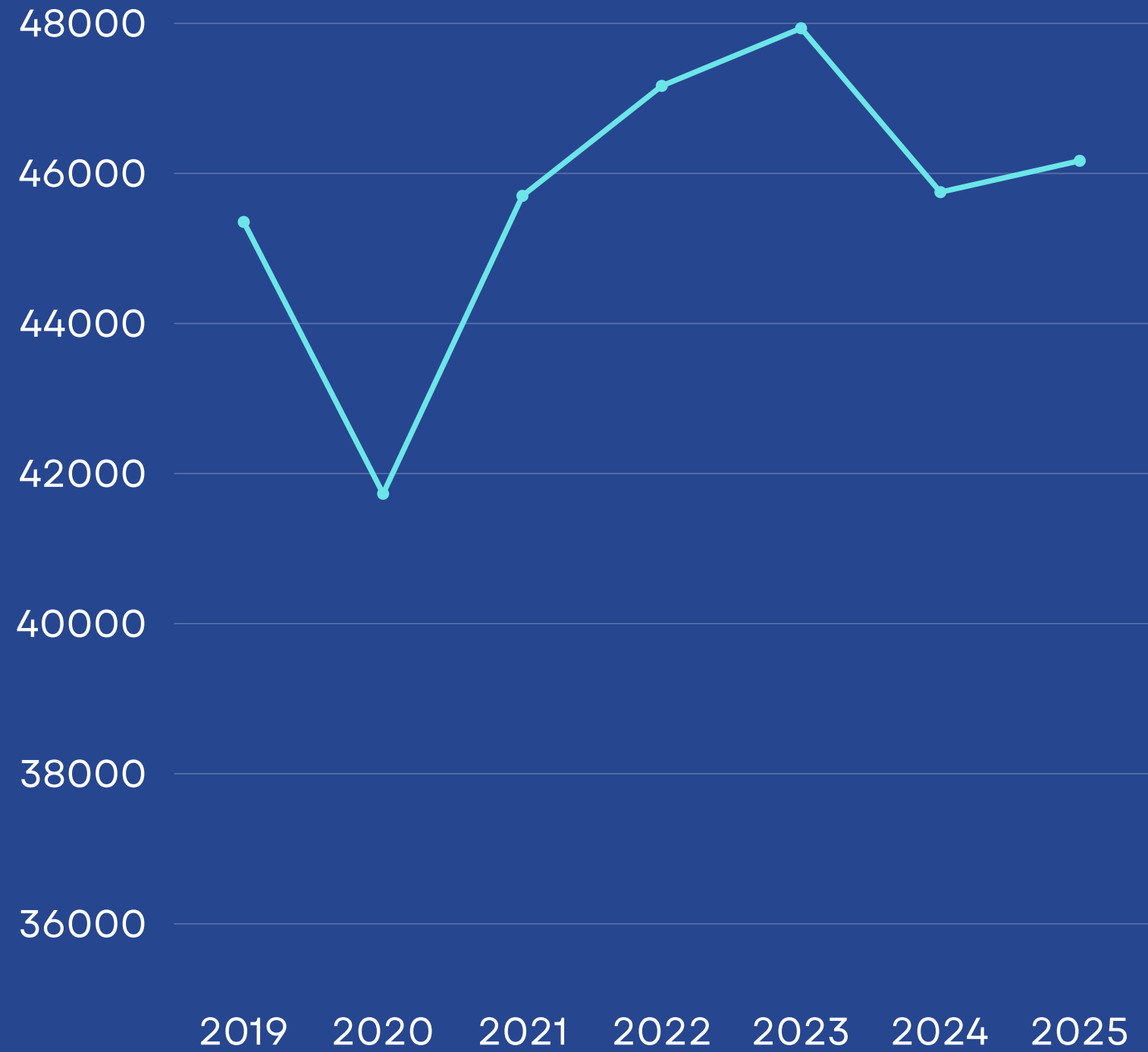
A total of sixteen new firefighters have graduated to enhance the department's staffing strength.

Responding to Emergencies



Throughout 2025, much like in previous years, the Providence Fire Department answered calls for assistance across our community. We provided emergency medical services, fire suppression, hazardous materials mitigation, and support to the public, ensuring that our community could rely on us during challenging times.

Annual Call Volume from 2019 through 2025



Year	Total Calls
2019	45353
2020	41731
2021	45701
2022	47166
2023	47934
2024	45750
2025	46168

Total Incident Type Categories

National Fire Incident Reporting System

598

Fire Incidents

34,144

Rescue & Emergency
Medical Incidents

574

Hazardous Conditions

2,306

Service Calls

2,153

Good Intent Calls

5,293

False Alarm & False Calls

Fires and Multiple Alarm Incidents

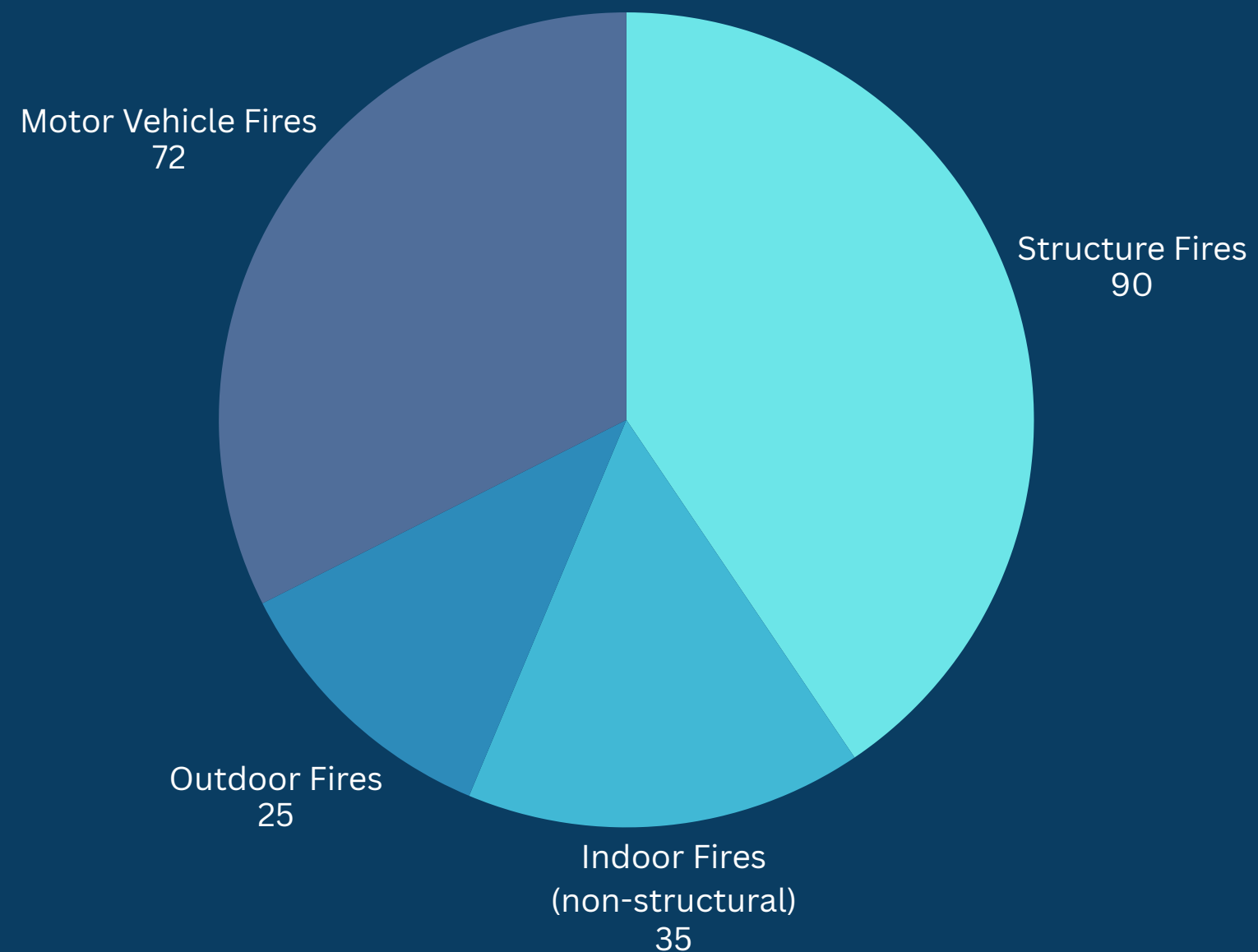
Multiple alarm fires are confirmed structure fires where the situation required additional resources beyond the first alarm/still box assignment. Each additional alarm assignment adds two (2) engines, one (1) ladder and one (1) battalion chief.

Total compliment of firefighters, officers, and chiefs per alarm:

1st Alarm: 29 to 34

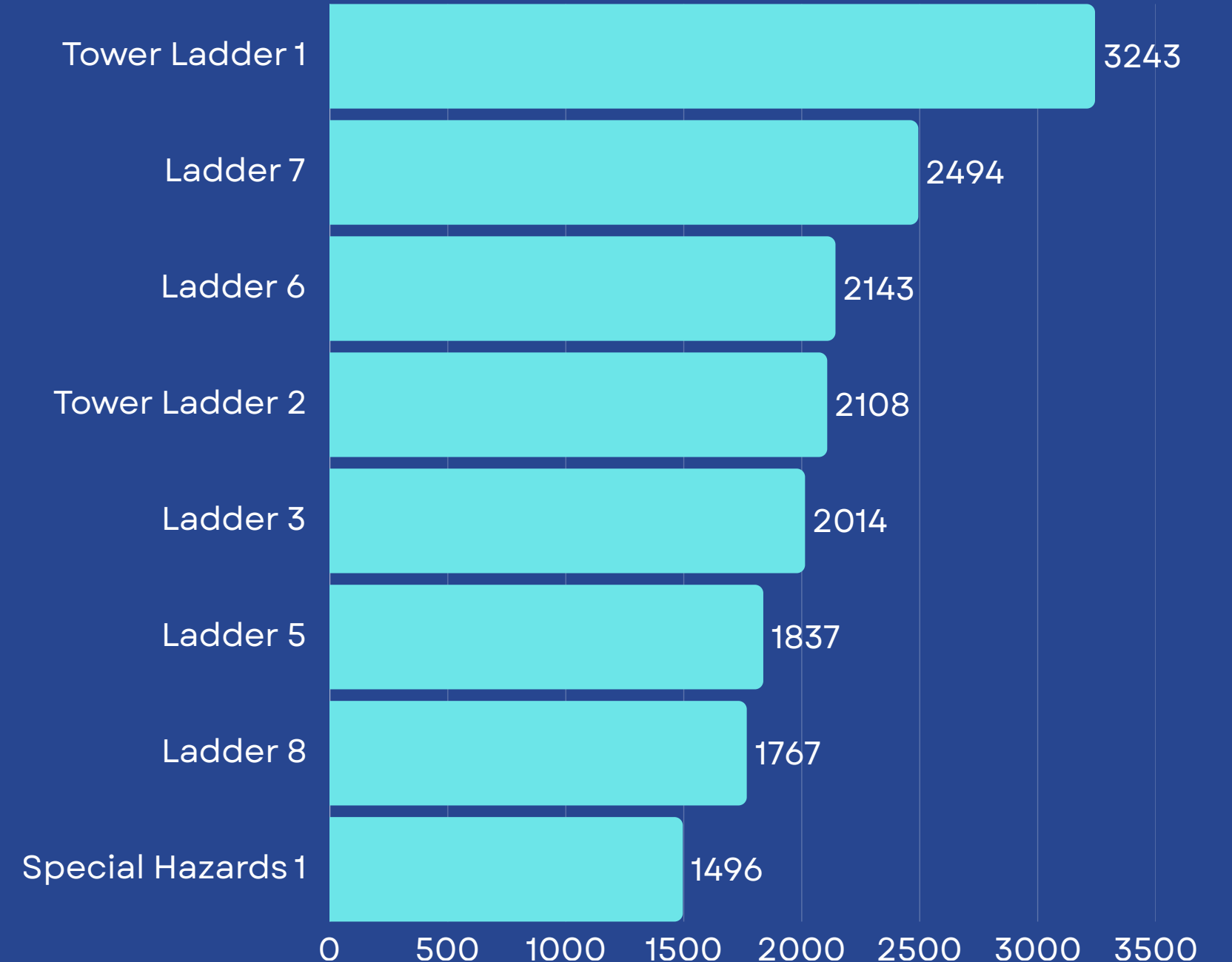
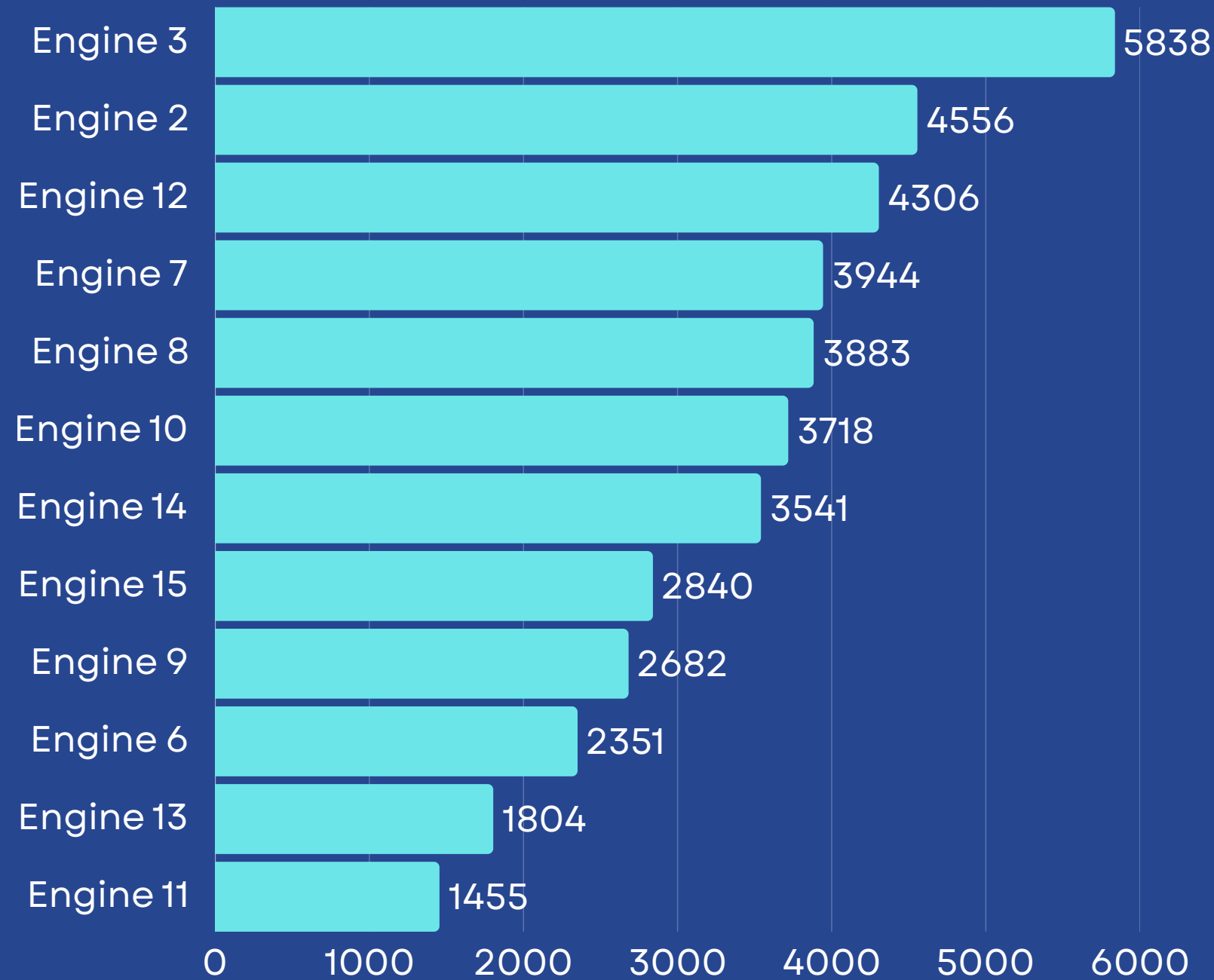
2nd Alarm: 1st alarm and an additional 11 to 14

3rd Alarm: 2nd alarm and an additional 11 to 14

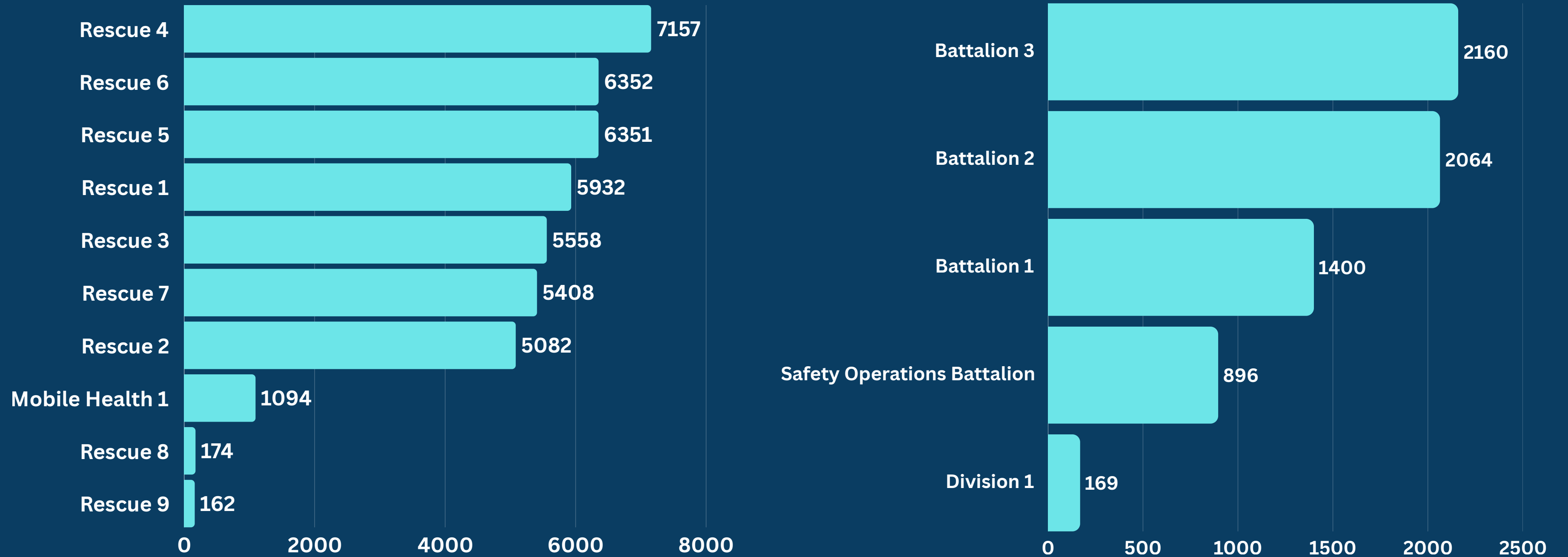


Date	Address	Multi. Alarm
Jan 29	353 Elmwood Ave.	2nd
Feb 28	263 Academy Ave.	2nd
Mar 12	180 Westminster St.	2nd
Apr 28	73 Lubec St.	2nd
Jun 20	8 Academy Ave.	2nd
Jul 5	884 Douglas Ave.	2nd
Sep 22	33 Dearborn St.	2nd
Sep 25	433 Pine St.	2nd
Nov 12	450 Potters Ave.	2nd
Nov 20	102 Althea St.	2nd
Dec 25	100 Princeton Ave.	2nd

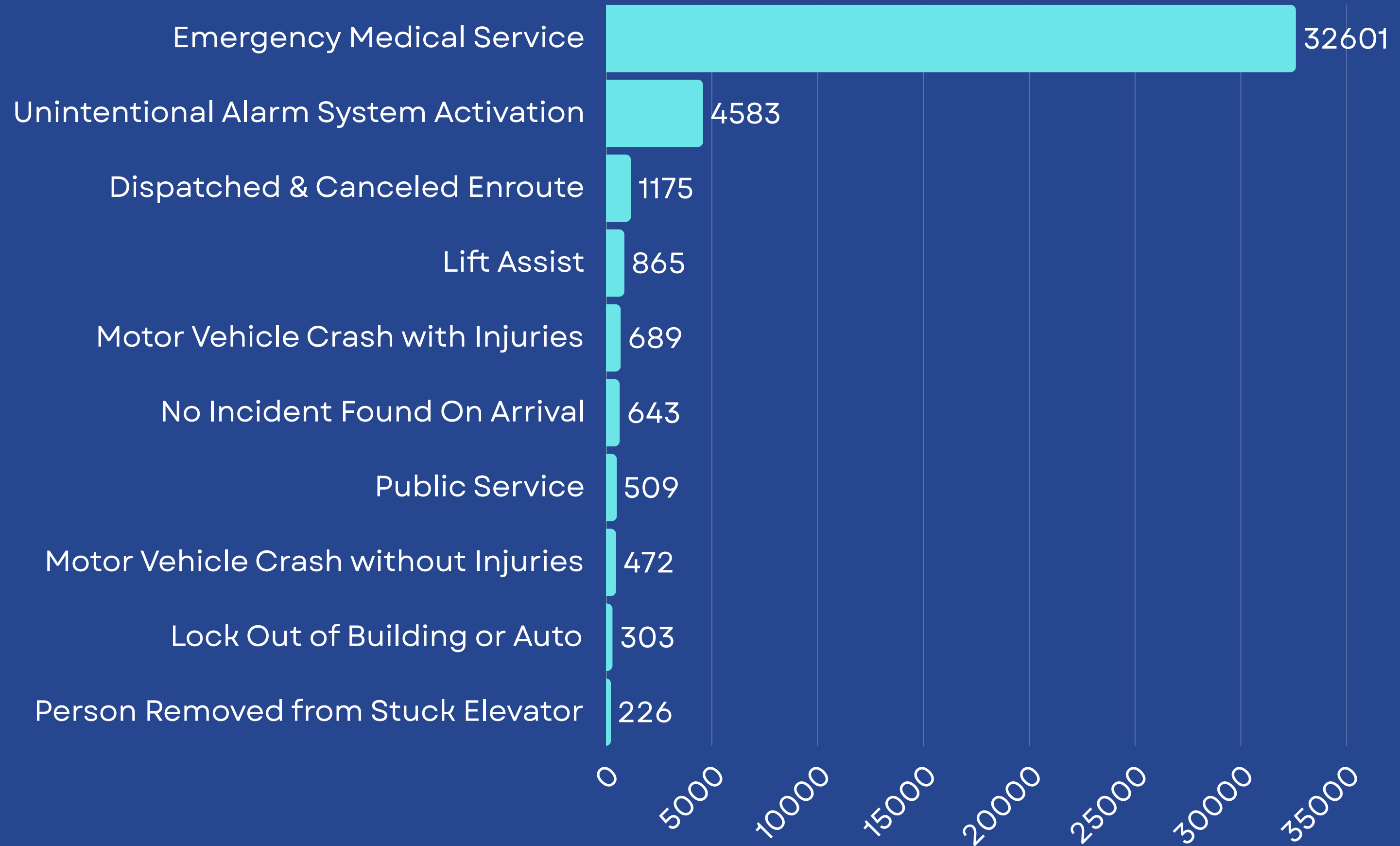
Dispatched Call Volume by Engine & Ladder Company



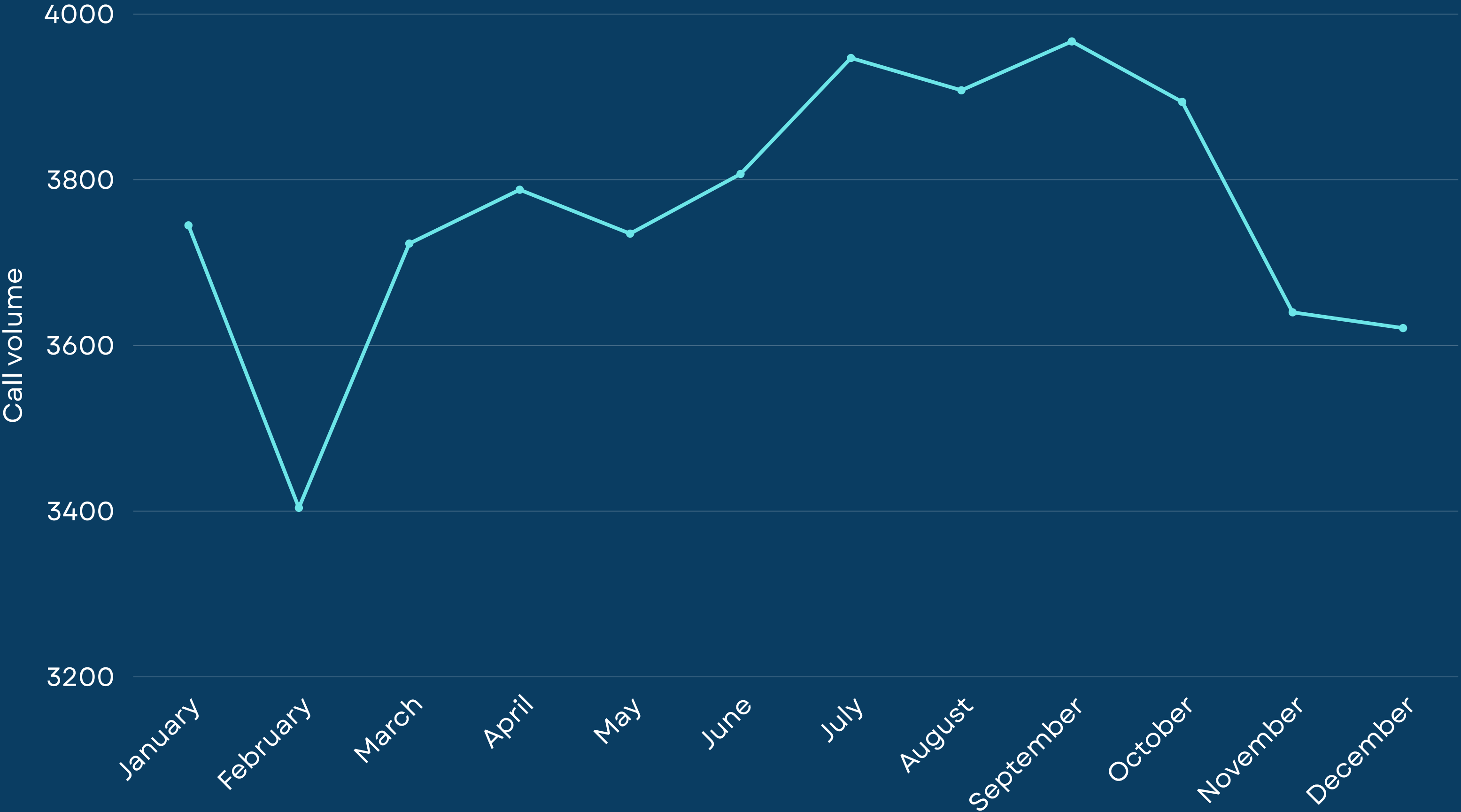
Dispatched Call Volume by Rescue Co. & Chief



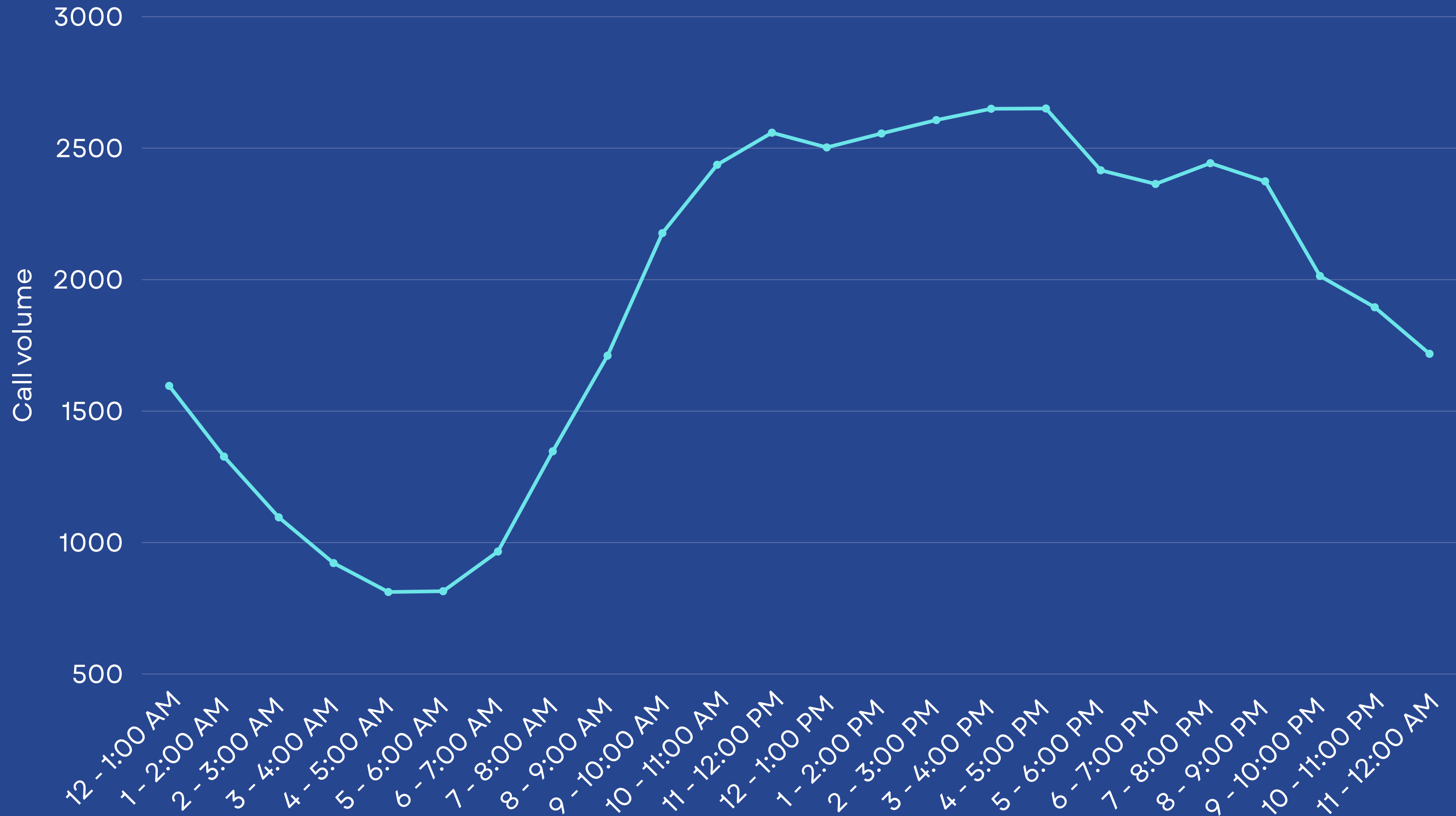
Top Incident Types



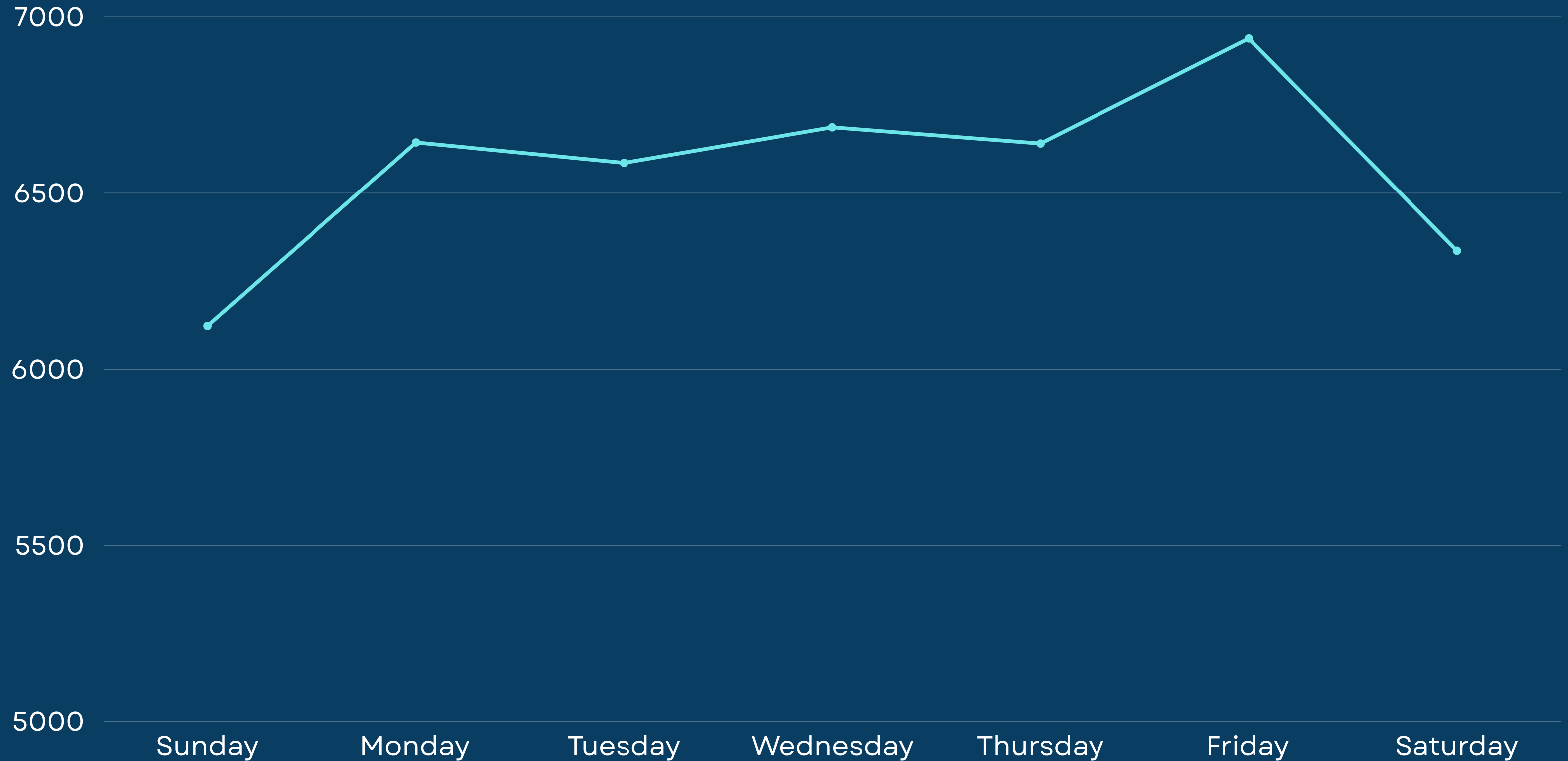
Monthly Incident Volume



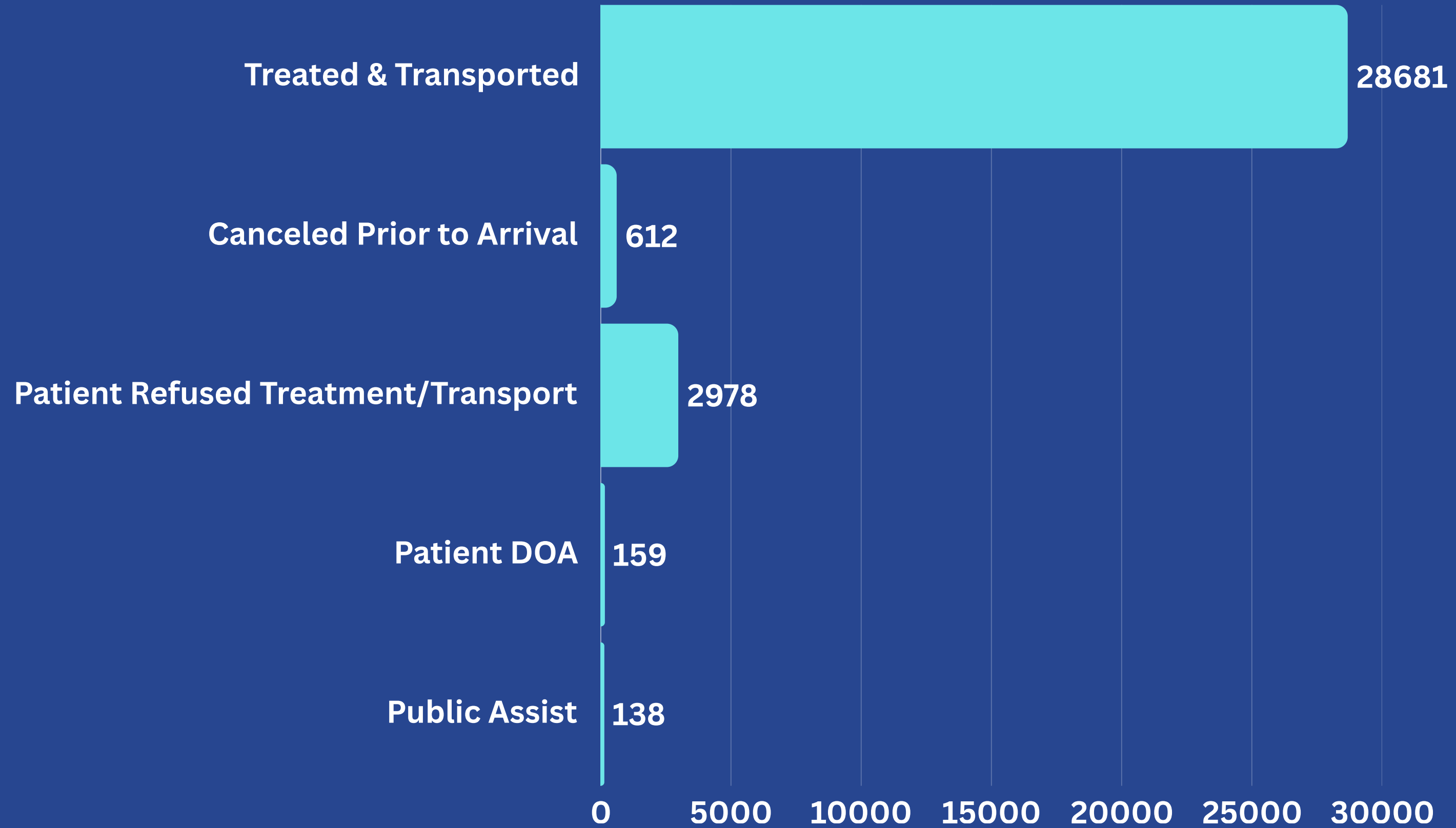
Call Volume by Time of Day



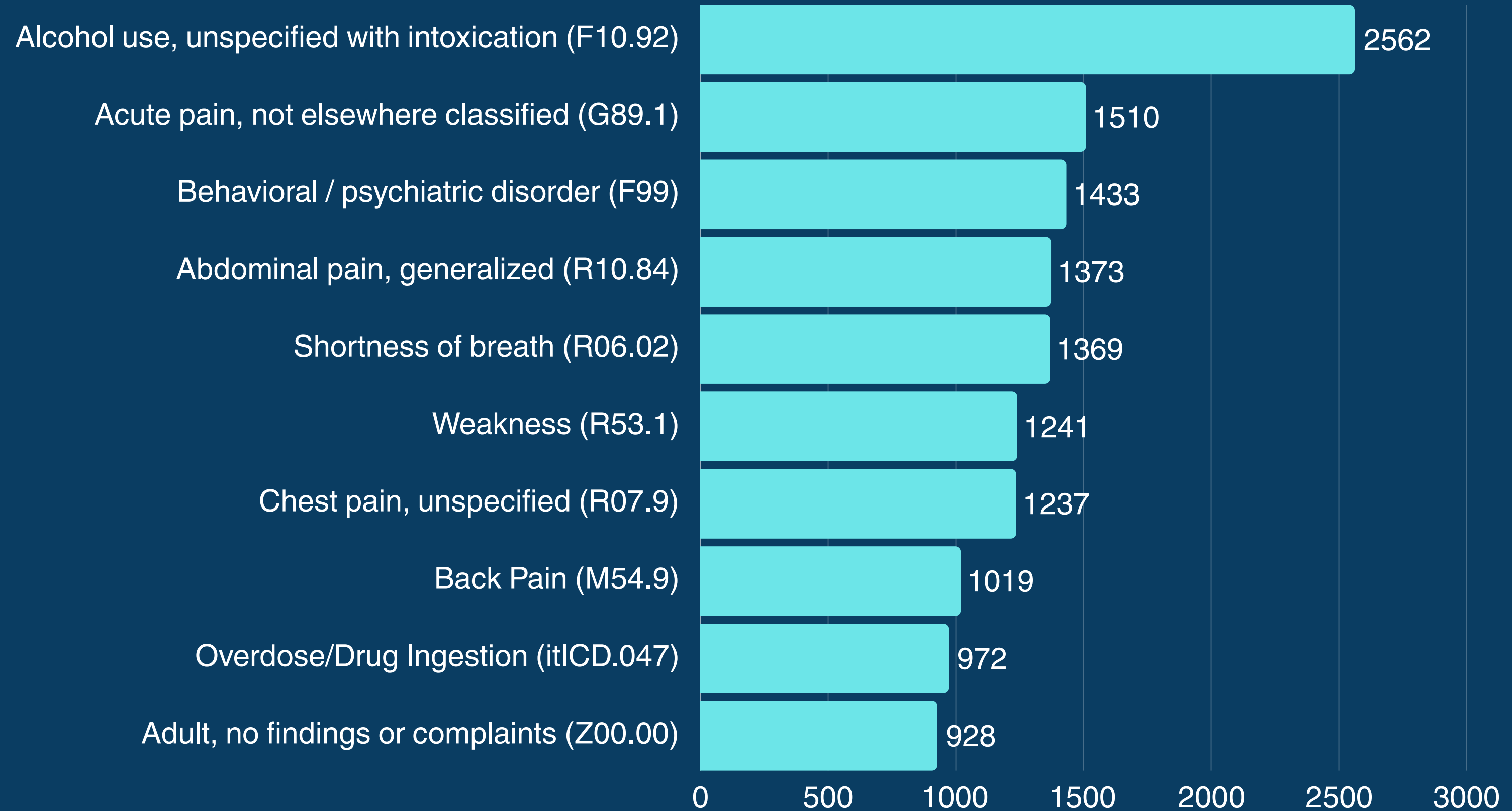
Call Volume by Day of Week



EMS Incidents by Patient Disposition



Top 10 EMS Primary Impressions



Rescue Unit Hour Utilization

Rescue	Run	Total Time on Task	Unit Hour Utilization
R1	4,500	199:00:24	54.53%
R4	5,483	185:12:32	50.83%
R6	4,763	162:07:27	44.47%
R5	4,724	161:16:43	44.30%
R3	4,261	159:19:42	43.79%
R7	4,089	151:15:28	41.55%
R2	3,848	139:19:12	38.30%
R8	124	5:02:21	1.40%
R9	114	4:17:21	1.29%

Rescue unit hour utilization (UHU) measures how much of a rescue's staffed, in-service time is spent actively handling calls—responding, on scene, transporting, and completing turnaround—relative to total available hours. Nationally, there is no single official average, but EMS industry benchmarks consistently show typical UHU levels falling in the 30–50% range, with many high-performing systems operating around 45–55%.

*Rescues 8 and 9 began service 11/2025

Department Staffing



The Providence Fire Department has dedicated significant effort to restore staffing levels to those last seen in 2018. This has been achieved by streamlining recruitment processes and hiring over sixty new trainee firefighters in 2025. Additionally, we have welcomed transfers from other departments to ensure that we maintain a sufficient level of emergency service experience during this restoration phase. We are also proud to champion a cadet program that offers a sustainable pathway for graduates of Providence Public Schools to become firefighters.

Stations & Staffing

The fire department operates from twelve (12) fire stations, which accommodate twenty (20) fire companies, nine (9) rescue companies, one (1) special hazards unit, four (4) battalions, and a division chief. In addition, the department manages various support and special operations units, including the Hazardous Materials team and Marine units.

Each fire and rescue company is led by a Captain, along with three (3) Lieutenants, who are assigned across four (4) shifts. Beyond the Captain or Lieutenant, fire companies, such as engines and ladders, are staffed with either two (2) or three (3) firefighters, while rescue companies include an officer and a rescue technician.

These companies are distributed among three (3) geographic districts in Providence: the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd districts, each overseen by a Battalion Chief responsible for approximately thirty (30) on-duty firefighters and officers.

The total shift staffing consists of eighty-seven (87) chiefs, officers, and firefighters, all commanded by the on-duty Deputy Assistant Chief assigned to Division 1.

Division 1 (Shift Commanders):

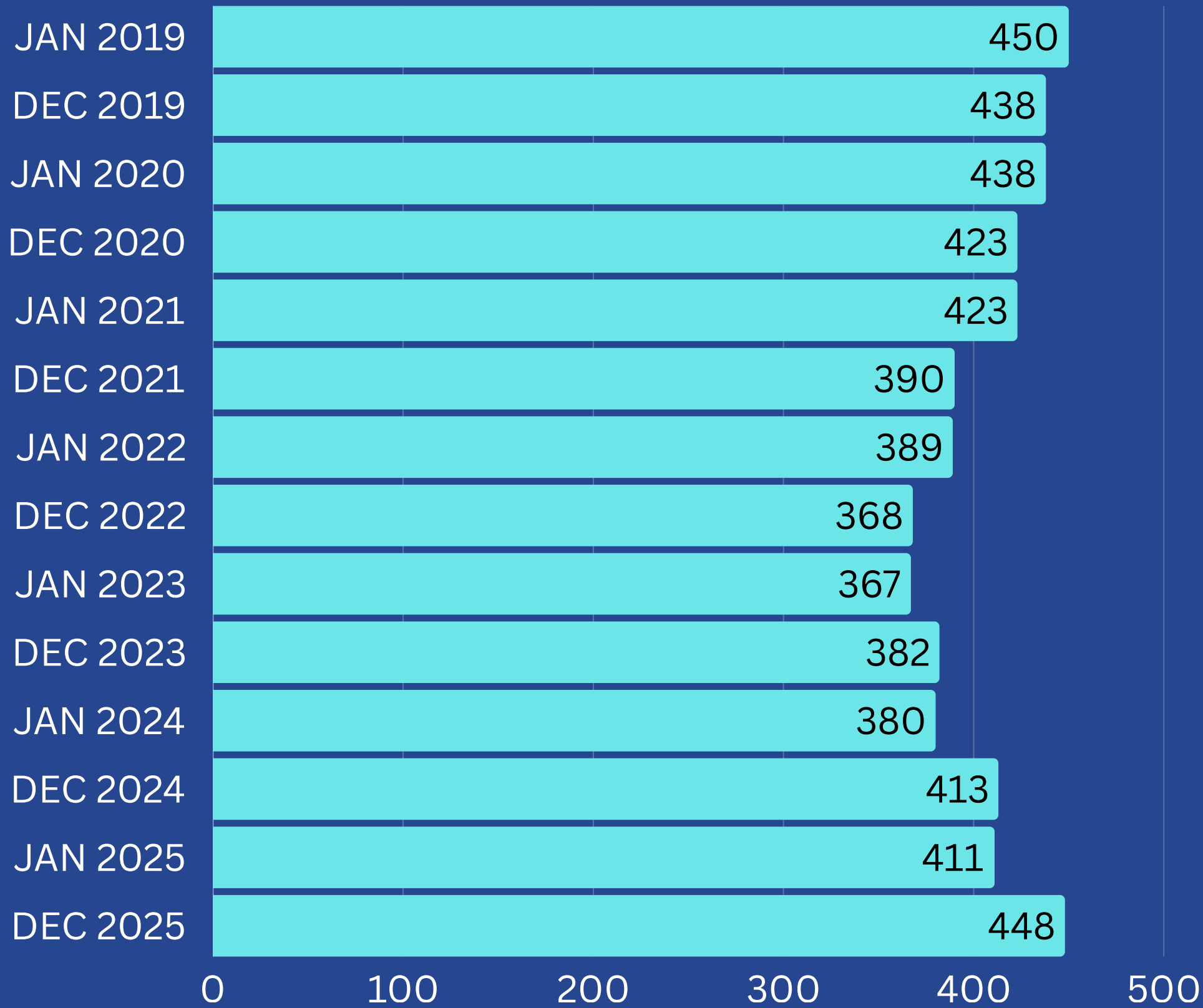
Group A: Deputy Assistant Chief Gregory McGee

Group B: Deputy Assistant Chief Craig Grantham

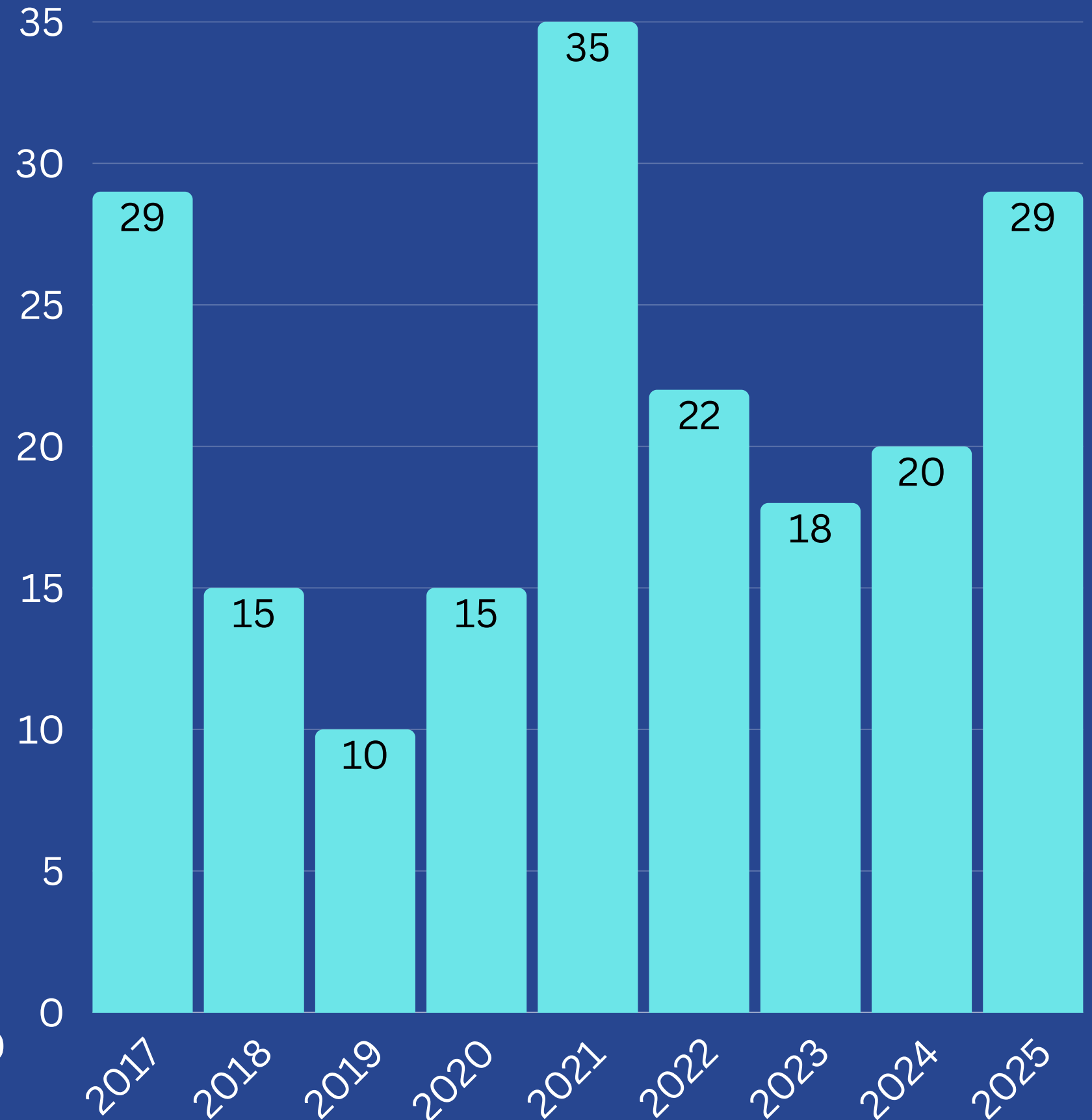
Group C: Deputy Assistant Chief Robert Butler

Group D: Deputy Assistant Chief Joseph Paiva

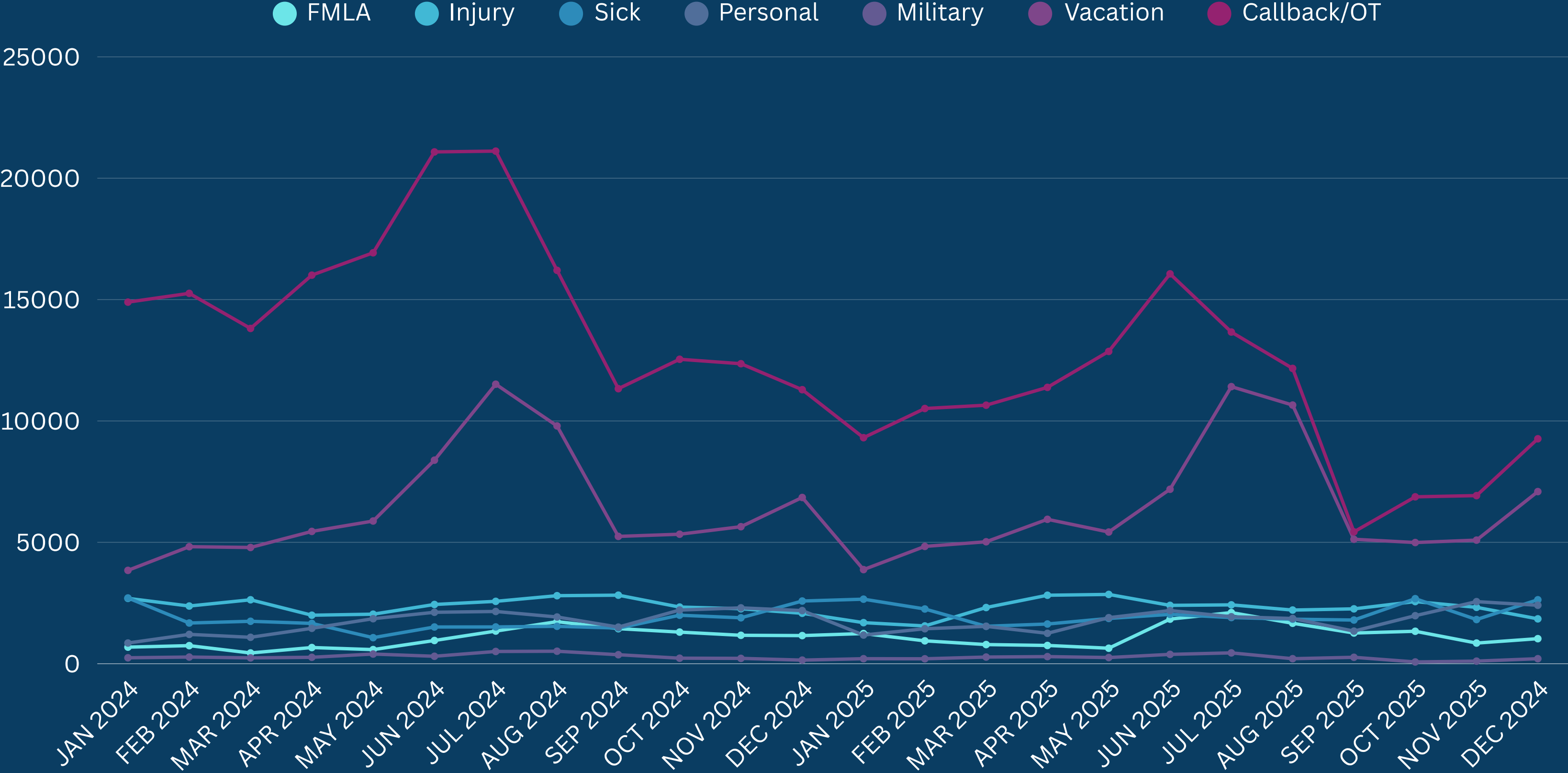
Sworn Personnel Count Jan 2019 - Dec 2025



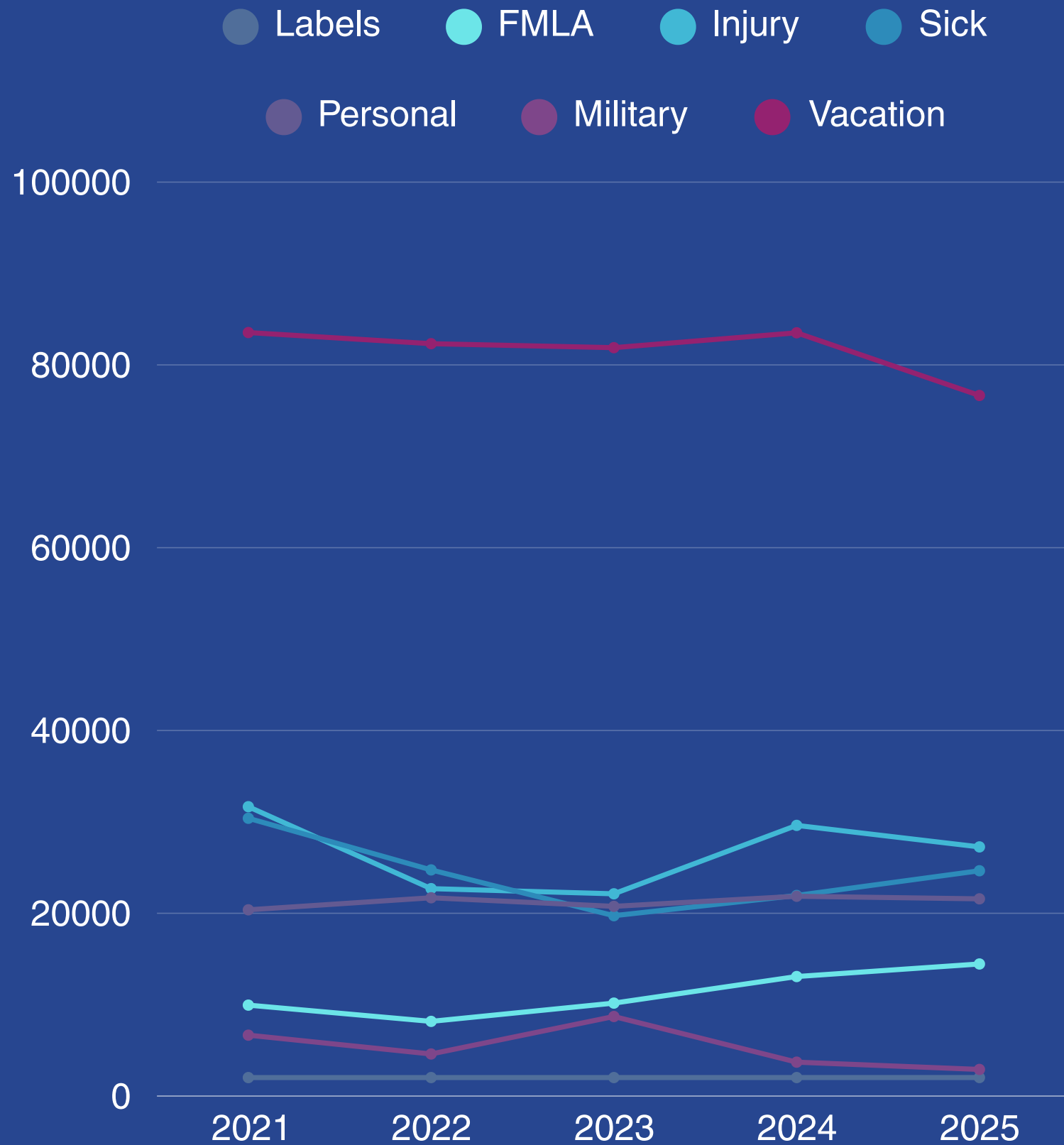
Attrition from 2017 to 2025



Paid Leave Usage and Callback/Overtime by Month



Paid Leave Usage by Year



Year	FMLA	Injury	Sick	Personal	Military	Vacation
2021	9,948	31,660	30,393	20,377	6,662	83,541
2022	8,170	22,694	24,743	21,696	4,603	82,321
2023	10,168	22,129	19,733	20,756	8,704	81,885
2024	13,077	29,615	21,947	21,861	3,709	83,513
2025	14,451	27,261	24,652	21,578	2,912	76,656

Paid Leave Utilization Represented in Hours.

Engaging Our Community Through Education and Safety



Fire Prevention Bureau

The Fire Prevention Bureau is vital for the health and safety of our city's residents, businesses, and visitors. With a team of 22 professionals, the Bureau conducts fire and life safety inspections, reviews construction plans, delivers public education, and performs fire investigations.

Led by Fire Marshal Derek Simoneau, the Bureau has improved operations through technological and procedural enhancements, boosting customer service and efficiency amidst increasing workloads.

Community outreach has nearly doubled, with personnel participating in over 200 events, including more than 25 with the smoke training trailer, reaching over 40,000 residents. A notable event was the 3rd Annual Fire Prevention Day at George J. West Elementary School, benefiting over 500 students and faculty.

The S.A.F.E.R. initiative distributed over 130 smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to those in need, focusing on expanding partnerships and funding opportunities.

In response to the city's growing housing and tourist demands, fire inspections rose by 17 percent and construction plan reviews by 13 percent last year. Personnel conducted 4,642 life safety inspections and reviewed 1,443 construction plans.

The Bureau remains committed to community safety through ongoing technological advancements and innovative policies.

Training Initiatives



The **Providence Fire Department** prioritizes ongoing training and development for all personnel. Our comprehensive training initiatives include hands-on drills, safety protocols, and leadership workshops. By investing in our firefighters' skills, we ensure they are equipped to respond effectively in emergencies. Continuous learning fosters a culture of excellence, enhancing our team's readiness and commitment to community safety and service.

Division of Training & Professional Development

In 2025, the Providence Fire Department's Division of Training achieved significant milestones in professional development and operational readiness. They administered promotional exams to ensure leadership roles were filled by qualified individuals and conducted recruit training academies to maintain a steady influx of well-trained personnel.

The Division fostered partnerships with regional fire departments to enhance knowledge and resource sharing and prioritized community engagement through the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program at Central High School, leading to numerous student graduates, some of whom joined the department.

Continuous professional development included media relations training, officer development courses, and specialized sessions on Aerial Operations and Lithium-Ion Battery Fire Response. Regular company-level training covered diverse topics like High-Rise Operations, Cyanide Kits, and Adverse Weather Operations.

Quarterly in-service and out-of-service training maintained high operational standards, while promotional schools and critical facility walk-throughs ensured firefighters were familiar with important locations and hazards. Recruit training academies certified new recruits, and annual facepiece fit-testing and hose testing ensured equipment safety and effectiveness.

Overall, the Division's comprehensive training initiatives in 2025 underscored their commitment to operational readiness and community safety, ensuring the department was prepared for emergencies and effective service.

Contact Us

WE'RE HERE TO HELP



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