

# **Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

**2015/FY15-2018/FY18**



**Compiled by**

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**Last Updated: 06/21/19**

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# INTRODUCTION

Municipalities utilize different types of fire departments: career, call, volunteer, and combination departments. Career fire departments employ their personnel on a full-time basis and receive regular compensation. Call fire departments receive nominal benefits and are paid when called out. Volunteer fire departments receive no compensation. A combination department usually has a limited number of personnel who are paid on a full-time basis that is augmented with a call force. Generally, career departments will be more expensive than combination departments, which will be more expensive than call departments, which will be more expensive than volunteer departments. Career departments are also known as full-time departments. Some fire departments are full-time by day but call by night and/or on weekends.

There are almost 29,819 fire departments in the United States of which only about 17% are full-time departments<sup>1</sup> but protect 2/3rds of the population. Just under half these fire departments also provide a basic level EMS service. There is a total of 224 local fire departments in Vermont of which nine (9) are considered full-time departments. Of the nine full-time departments, only one fire department is a true full-time department in that it uses full-time personnel exclusively. The other “full-time” fire departments are combination departments. There are three other fire departments that provide immediate coverage during the day with nights and weekends being on-call.

- Vermont has 246 incorporated municipalities, 35 villages which are considered to be municipalities, and 9 unincorporated towns and gores.
- The unincorporated towns and gores are Averill, Avery’s Gore, Ferdinand, Lewis, Warner’s Grant, Warren’s Gore, Buel’s Gore, Glastenbury, and Somerset. The first six (6) in this list are in the Northeast corner of Vermont and are known as the unified towns and gores of Essex County. Glastenbury and Somerset are towns in Southern Vermont that were unincorporated in 1937. None of the unincorporated towns and gores has a fire department.
- The 35 villages are Albany village, Alburg Village, Barton Village, Bellows Falls, Cabot Village, Cambridge Village, Derby Center, Derby Line, Enosburg Falls, Essex Junction, Hyde Park Village, Jacksonville, Jeffersonville, Johnson Village, Ludlow Village, Lyndonville, Manchester Village, Marshfield Village, Morrisville, Newbury Village, Newfane Village, North Bennington, Perkinsville, North Westminster, Old Bennington, Orleans Village, Poultney Village, Saxton’s River, Swanton Village, Waterbury Village, Wells River, West Burke, Westminster Village, and Woodstock Village. Some of the villages have their own fire department and those will be shown in the tables categorizing the fire departments.

As you can deduce, the majority of the fire departments in Vermont are volunteer firefighters. This means they do not fight fires for a paycheck but do so to give back to their community. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimates that volunteer fire departments save taxpayers almost \$140 billion per year in firefighting costs.

NFPA estimates that 65% of firefighters in the United States are volunteers but that number is declining from 8 per thousand people protected to just under 6 per thousand people protected<sup>2</sup>. FEMA estimates that there has been over a 20% decline of volunteer firefighters over the last few years. Another concern is that over half the volunteer firefighters are over 50 years old. Why the decline? The more common reasons given are:

1. Companies no longer allow employees to leave work to respond to an emergency call.
2. Younger people are moving to places where there are jobs and/or a lower cost of living.
3. The number of hours to train is significant and has become more intense, time which people may no longer have if they are raising a family.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Fire Department Profile 2017. March 2019. Ben Evarts and Gary P. Stein.

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Fire Department Profile 2017. March 2019. Ben Evarts and Gary P. Stein.

### **Municipal Fire Departments**

A municipal fire department is part of a city or town funded by the city's or town's general fund budget which is paid for primarily through property taxes. The career departments listed in the first table are all municipal departments.

- Bennington, Essex, Rockingham, and Troy each have a municipal fire department and a village fire department.
- The Walden Fire Department became a municipal fire department in 1971.
- North Pownal, Pownal Center, and East Pownal Fire departments merge into the Pownal Valley Fire Department in 1994.
- Middlebury and East Middlebury fire departments merged in 1997.
- West Rutland Fire District merged with the town of West Rutland in 1999 to become a municipal department.
- The Milton village fire department merges with the town of Milton forming the Milton fire department.
- The Putney fire department became a municipal department in 2001.

### **Fire Districts**

A fire district is a quasi-municipal corporation. It is an independent governmental entity that exists separately from the municipality in which it resides. They are usually created for specific purposes such as fire, water, lighting, sewer, etc. As such, they have their own taxing authority. Usually, district taxes are included in the property tax bill put out by the municipality and the municipality passes the district taxes on to the district. However, some districts have their own tax collector and those district residents receive two property tax bills, one from the town and one from the district.

Vermont has many fire districts but the majority of fire districts exist to provide water and/or sewer not fire services. Seven towns have fire services provided by one or more fire districts while two towns have multiple fire departments with at least one fire department part of a fire district.

- Bennington has three fire departments but only Bennington rural (Catamount Hose Company established in 1953) is part of a fire district
- Colchester contracts for fire services from the private, non-profit Colchester Center Volunteer Fire Department (established in 1951) and from Mallets Bay Fire Department (established in 1952) which is part of Colchester Fire District #2.

Towns with a single fire district providing fire services to the entire town are Brandon, Chelsea, Westminster, and Williamstown.

- The Brandon fire district provides fire (Dunmore Hose Company) and water services to the town.
- The Dunmore Hose Company was established in 1894. The Chelsea fire department was established in 1884. The Westminster fire department was established in 1936. The Williamstown fire department was established in 1911.
- The Norwich fire department moved from being part of a fire district to being a town department in 1989.
- Berlin Fire District merged with the Montpelier Fire Department in 2002.

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Towns with multiple fire districts providing fire services to the town are Dorset, Wallingford, and Weathersfield

- Dorset has two fire districts: Dorset (established in 1911) and East Dorset (established in 1943) fire districts.
- Wallingford has two fire districts: Wallingford fire district #1 (established in 1907) and Wallingford fire district #2 which funds the East Wallingford fire department.
- Weathersfield has two fire districts: Ascutney (established in 1960) and West Weathersfield (established in 1936).

### **Private Fire Departments**

Several towns do not have a municipal fire department nor fire districts. Instead, they get fire services from a private fire department. Addison, Alburgh, Bakersfield, Berlin, Charleston, Clarendon, Castleton, East Montpelier, Franklin, Glover, Grand Isle, Granville, Guilford, Highgate, Johnson, Ludlow, North Hero, Readsboro, Sheldon, South Royalton, Strafford, Thetford, Tinmouth, Underhill-Jericho, Vershire, Wells, Williston, and Wilmington all use a private, non-profit fire department. Barnard, Barton, Burke, Cavendish, Dover, Fairfield, Hyde Park, Londonderry, Lunenburg, Newbury, Newfane, Pomfret, Pownal, Randolph, and Woodstock have multiple private volunteer fire departments, each in a geographic fire district not a taxing fire district. Each has their own fire chief and each receives funding from their town.

For a list of the fire departments described above and when they were established, please refer to Appendix D.

### **National Standards**

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) developed a standard, known as NFPA 1710, to guide full-time fire departments on the minimum number of personnel needed for safe and effective firefighting. To provide EMS care (including transport), the State of Vermont and NFPA 1710 requires at a minimum 2 personnel. With the majority of the call volume increasingly becoming EMS related, I choose two (2) in-house EMTs and/or firefighters to be the minimum staffing level as the requirement for a fire department to be deemed capable of providing immediate coverage.

Two represents the minimum number of personnel to respond to an EMS call not to a structure fire. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 CFR 1910.134(g)(4) defines a "2-in/2-out" rule for fighting interior structure fires. Responding to a structure fire with less than four firefighters prevents the first responding unit from complying with OSHA's "2-in/2-out" standard, and places the lives of those firefighters in jeopardy. Whether the towns listed in this document comply with this regulation is not known nor is that the purpose of this document.

The coverage information is provided in four tables. The first table lists those fire departments that provide immediate coverage 24/7. The second table lists those fire departments that provide immediate coverage for some portion of the day. All provide immediate coverage during the weekday because of the difficulty getting call firefighters to respond during the day. The coverage end time varies anywhere from 5PM to 10PM. Each table lists the town, its last known population and coverage area for land (excludes water), who dispatches the fire department, the budget numbers for fire and ambulance/EMS, ambulance revenue, staffing information, and call volume.

The third table lists those fire departments that provide 24/7 coverage but it is not immediate coverage as there is no staff in-house when the call first comes in. In other words, it lists the call and volunteer fire departments. The majority of the fire departments in Vermont are call and volunteer departments. NFPA 1720 guides volunteer fire departments on the minimum number of personnel needed for safe and effective firefighting. While this document will not provide staffing information for the call/volunteer departments, it should be noted that the number of people able to participate as firefighters has dropped significantly in many towns for several reasons: time demands, increased training requirements, increase in call volume requiring more time

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commitments, changes in sociological conditions, fire leadership problems, and increasing use of combination departments<sup>3</sup>. As a result, many volunteer or on-call fire departments are starting to hire two daytime firefighters as this is considered to be the time period of greatest need though this does not appear to be happening yet in Vermont. However, to handle the increase in paperwork and inspections, some towns started to hire a full-time chief such as Wilmington and Norwich. Several departments in Vermont cannot provide adequate coverage during the day so they have automatic aid agreements where both departments respond (i.e., Hyde Park and Morrisville, Elmore and Wolcott).

The fourth table lists those towns with no fire department and shows who they contract out for fire and ambulance service.

### **Fire Budgets**

Municipalities are free to use any format for internal financial reporting such as for budgeting or cost accounting. For example, some municipalities roll up health insurance, dental insurance, life insurance, disability insurance, workers comp, and unemployment insurance into the employee benefits section and Property & liability insurance into the insurance section of the general government account. Other municipalities budget this in the fire department account. Legal fees appear to be rolled up into the legal account for all municipalities; and building maintenance is in the general government account while covered by the fire department in others.

- The University of Vermont pays a fixed fee for fire services to the city of Burlington which is accounted for as fire department revenue.
- Calais contracts for fire coverage from East Montpelier paying 25% of the East Montpelier Fire Department budget and from Woodbury paying 33% of the average Woodbury Fire Department operating costs of the prior three years.
- Panton contracts for fire coverage from Vergennes for a fixed price per year plus an hourly wage to each member of the Vergennes fire department that responds to the fire call.
- St George contracts for fire coverage from Hinesburg and pays 15% of the Hinesburg Fire Department budget.
- The Sheffield-Wheelock fire district budget is shared by the two towns via an intergovernmental agreement with each paying 50% of the operating and capital budgets.
- Elmore and Wolcott respond to each other's calls

Full-cost budgeting has all costs allocated to each department so it is clear what it costs to run that department. As such, a full-cost budget for the fire department has wages, benefits, insurance, legal fees, utilities, fuel, equipment repairs, mechanic, and hydrant rentals (if appropriate) in its departmental operating budget. I am keeping capital budget (including debt service) separate since most towns do capital outlays as warrant articles. Of the full-time fire departments, the only ones that do full-cost budgeting appear to be Hartford, Montpelier, St. Albans, and South Burlington with the exception that all roll up legal fees into the general government budget.

One possible way to assess a fire department is by determining the cost to protect all property in the municipality it serves. This includes not just taxable properties but all properties.

### **Ambulance Service**

In Vermont, EMS services are coordinated through the State's Department of Health, specifically the Office of EMS and Injury Prevention. Vermont has divided the State into thirteen EMS districts with each district having a significant role in pre-hospital emergency care.

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<sup>3</sup> "Retention and Recruitment in the Volunteer Fire Service: Problems and Solutions", December 1998

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Vermont has four levels of staffing: Emergency Care Attendant (ECA), EMT-B, EMT-I, EMT-P. For ambulance service, Vermont has three levels: BLS, ALS intermediate (ILS), and ALS paramedic. The state requires two (2) licensed personnel to be in a transporting ambulance at all times with the only requirement that one of the licensed providers be at least an EMT-B.

There are two types of emergency medical services in the EMS realm – a first responder service and an ambulance service.

- A first responder service provides emergency medical care at the scene but cannot provide emergency transport to a hospital. Given the time it may take for an ambulance to arrive on scene, first responder services are very prevalent (approximately 90) in Vermont. However, since they are not involved in emergency transport, they cannot bill patients for their services. Therefore, their town funds first responder services.
- An ambulance service provides emergency transport to a hospital. Over a third of Vermont's ambulance services respond to less than one call a day which makes maintaining skills difficult and requires a financial subsidy from covered communities (Vermont State Health Plan 2005 Part 4: Focus Areas). Emergency ambulance transport is a billable service. Most towns contract out for emergency ambulance service although there are some towns that provide their own municipal emergency transport service.

There are basically five types of ambulance service: A fire department based ambulance service, a municipal ambulance service (separate from the fire department), a non-profit ambulance service, a hospital-based ambulance service, and a commercial ambulance service. Vermont is different from the rest of the New England States in that most towns use a volunteer, non-profit ambulance service. In fact, the Vermont Department of Health indicates that there are fifty non-for-profit ambulance companies in the State and 32 municipal ambulance services of which twelve are through the fire departments. While some fire departments provide ambulance service, the number of such departments is small in number. The volunteer, non-profit ambulance services use a subscription service in which residents pay a small yearly subscription fee. If the ambulance service is needed, the insurance company is billed and the resident is not responsible for anything not paid by the insurance company. If a resident chooses not to pay the subscription fee, the resident is responsible for whatever the insurance company does not cover.

There are 79 ambulance transporting agencies but not all provide emergency transport service. The following table shows the number of emergency ambulance transport providers in Vermont and what percentage of that total fall in the five categories just mentioned.

<b>BLS/ILS Providers</b>	<b>Fire Dept</b>	<b>Muni Dept</b>	<b>Non-Profit</b>	<b>Hosp</b>	<b>Priv - Comm</b>
75	26%	18%	51%	0%	5%

Knowing what percentage of emergency ambulance transport providers are fire department based, non-profit, hospital-based, commercial, or municipal-based, the following shows what percentage of towns is serviced by emergency ambulance transport providers in each State.

<b>Fire Dept</b>	<b>Muni Dept</b>	<b>Non-Profit</b>	<b>Hosp</b>	<b>Priv - Comm</b>
20%	11%	66%	0%	8%

Some towns are serviced by multiple providers which is why the total percentages may be slightly above 100%. Please note that the above table does not take into consideration the ambulance services providing paramedic intercepts. It only reflects those ambulance service providers with emergency ambulance transport contracts with the municipalities in Vermont. You can see from the tables that 51% of emergency ambulance transport services are provided by non-profit ambulance companies yet they cover 66% of the towns.



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Paramedic services are not currently available in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties. While there are services in the counties which have Paramedics on-board, they are only licensed to the intermediate level of care. There are several initiatives in place within each district to implement paramedic level care. In Chittenden County, paramedic services became available in the last two years by Charlotte Rescue, Colchester Rescue, Essex Rescue, and South Burlington.

Since many towns contract out for private ambulance service, the entry in the ambulance budget column reflects the cost of that contract. Some towns don't break out the cost of ambulance service, primarily because its firefighters are cross-trained and can function either as a firefighter or an EMT depending on the nature of the call. For such towns, the fire budget covers both fire and ambulance service, and the ambulance budget column will have an entry of NBO which means "Not Broken Out". When the ambulance service is budgeted separate from the fire service, it likely does not reflect the true cost of operating the ambulance service.

The ambulance member fees, patient receipts, and paramedic intercepts are combined into ambulance revenue because I believe it to be a significant revenue source. The fees and patient receipts are revenue deposited in either the General Fund. Ultimately, both mechanisms are used to reduce taxes in some form.

There are some private, non-profit ambulance services that do not charge for their service.

- Deerfield Valley Rescue and Mad River Valley Ambulance Service rely on a subscription service and revenue from insurance billings to pay for its services rather than rely on town subsidies.
- St. Michael's Rescue relies on insurance payments to fund their service and do not ask for a subsidy from the towns they service as they learned that they could not request Medicaid or Medicare funding if they were subsidized in part by Towns.
- Calais gets ambulance service from East Montpelier and pays 30% of the ambulance budget.

All the fire departments in the first table providing ambulance service do their own billing so they pay no service fees to a billing company

### Estimating Ambulance Service Costs

For towns that don't break out the cost of their ambulance and fire services separately due to having cross-trained personnel, how can one estimate the cost of the ambulance service? A generally accepted costing model on how to estimate the cost of EMS services for such a fire department has the following formula:

- A. Personnel Costs = average on-call time x average hourly labor rate x average number of personnel on the call x number of incidents prior year. (Hourly rate includes benefits)
- B. Vehicle = (Operating cost per mile x annual call miles) + annual cost for ambulance replacement.
- C. Supplies = Actual Cost of Medical Supplies per year + costs of billing service.
- D. indirect Costs = 25% (A+B+C). 25% is used as a factor to address other benefits and training costs.

Several fire departments in the state use this formula in determining the fee to charge towns contracting for ambulance service. There is some merit to taking the formula in part A and multiplying it by the number of shifts but that is not considered part of the formula at this time.

### Staffing Levels

The National institute of Standards and Technology published a report in 2010 entitled "Report on Residential Fireground Field Experiments". This report found that a four person crew completed all tasks on the fire ground 30% faster than a two person crew and 25% faster than a three person crew. Similar results were seen with laddering and ventilation. Interestingly, four person crews completed primary search and rescue operations 6% faster than three person crews but 30% faster than two person crews. Two person crews took almost a minute

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longer than three person crews to stretch a hose line and almost 90 seconds longer than four person crews. With this in mind, it might be interesting to see what the staffing levels are in Vermont fire departments.

The first line in the staffing levels column shows full-time and on-call. Full-time personnel are career firefighters, chief officers, and any full-time civilians (i.e., executive secretary). The initial staffing levels are shown and if there has been any change in staffing levels, it will be followed by an arrow ('=>') and then the new levels. The second line in the staffing levels column reflects the number of shifts using full-time personnel with the following exceptions:

- Bellows Falls has a daytime staffing of 3 when one includes the fire chief and deputy fire chief. Nights have two firefighters: one full-time and one call firefighter.
- While Montpelier has a crew of 3 per shift, it is typically augmented so there are 5 personnel on duty during the day and 4 on duty half the night as they have 2 part-time EMTs who provide 24/7 coverage.

The fourth line is the number of fire stations in the municipality or district.

Firefighters are trained for firefighting and for EMT duties. Emergency response has been consolidated into many fire departments such that the majority of the call volume for a fire department today is EMS-related not fire. In fact, over the last 20 years, the number of EMS responses has more than tripled while fires have decreased by almost 50%<sup>4</sup>. It is estimated that 66% of all fire department calls in 2011 were EMS-related<sup>5</sup>. As we have seen with the floods seen in the Caledonia and Orleans Counties in July and southern Vermont counties in April, fire departments are expected to respond to natural disasters. With the advent of 9/11, fire departments also are expected to respond to acts of terrorism. So, the role of a firefighter has changed dramatically from years ago. The fire department is also involved in fire prevention activities (such as public education and property inspections) and on-going training of its personnel.

### Shifts

The third line is the shift schedule (for those departments that provide 24/7 immediate coverage). A department with three shifts typically employs a 24/48 shift. This means one day (24-hour) on followed by two days off with one Kelly day every third week. A department with four shifts typically works 42 hours per week and the work shift is employed in a variety of ways. A 24/72 shift means one day (24-hour) on followed by three days off. A 10/14 shift means two 10-hour days followed by two 14-hour nights followed by four days off. All the different shifts are depicted in Appendix A at the end of this document.

### Call Volume

The calls for service (CFS) were provided by the fire chief of the department or were taken from the State Fire Marshal's Annual Report which show emergency calls only so there may be differences with the call numbers in town reports as they may contain emergency and non-emergency calls. Unfortunately, the fourteenth edition of "Fire in the United States 1995-2004" by the US Fire Administration indicates that only 65% of all Vermont fire department use NFIRS (upon which VFIRS is based). The latest Vermont Fire Marshal's report indicates that this may be up to 72% today.

The calls for service are broken down into EMS and other calls. An EMS call is defined to be medical, motor vehicle accidents, and rescue related since this is the definition used by VFIRS. Non-EMS (other) calls are fire, hazard, hazardous materials, and service calls. Motor Vehicle calls may actually show up in both EMS and other calls if the town has both a rescue squad and fire department. For the EMS call numbers in green, this represents the call volume of the ambulance provider which may or may not be the fire department.

Keep in mind that the call volume does not reflect the call response time. For example, the call volume may go down by a few calls but the call response time may actually be higher. So, call volume alone is not necessarily

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<sup>4</sup> Effective Fire Protection: A National Concern. A Study by the Insurance Service Office (ISO).

<sup>5</sup> Fire Loss in the United States During 2011. September 2012. Michael J. Karter, Jr.

the only indicator of measuring the “busyness” of a fire department. Another example is the number of EMS calls. While the number of EMS calls may represent 66% of all calls, it is important to remember that an EMS call typically requires on average about 45 minutes and two or three personnel. Fire calls frequently require most, if not all, on-duty personnel and take many hours to mitigate. When looking at it from this perspective, the number of hours spent performing EMS functions versus fire functions is more like 50% each.

Unfortunately, in at least one municipality, the officials looked at the call percentage and concluded that if the EMS service was privatized, it would reduce workload by 62% and hence, the fire department would not need as many personnel. Therefore, it cannot be stressed enough that call volume alone is not necessarily the only indicator of measuring the “busyness” of a fire department.

A comparison of municipal call volume across the New England States can be found in Appendix B to see if there are any trends in EMS and/or fire calls across New England.

### **Mutual Aid**

An issue of growing concern for some fire departments is the increase in the number of simultaneous calls. This is not an area that much attention has been paid to but it puts additional stresses on a department. When an incident or multiple simultaneous incidents occur such that the available local fire department resources are overwhelmed, then additional help is summoned from other nearby fire departments. When fire departments help each other in this fashion, it is called Mutual Aid. In fact, a recent survey conducted for ISO<sup>6</sup> indicates that over 50% of fire departments call on mutual aid to respond to initial alarms for a structure fire due to lack of responders.

In some communities, a fire department in an adjacent municipality can provide a quicker response than the local fire department. Typically, these fire departments enter into an Automatic Mutual Aid agreement. Automatic Aid provides for a fire department in another municipality to immediately respond to reported fires because it is closer, thus providing the quickest response of manpower and equipment to incidents, and allowing more of the municipality to remain protected at all times. In the same ISO Survey, over 60% indicated that neighboring departments responded due to Automatic Aid agreements.

Automatic Mutual Aid is set up as agreements between participating fire departments. Mutual Aid is set up as Run cards and clearly defines which fire departments are to respond to a fire when requested at different fire alarm levels.

Mutual Aid is covered under Vermont Statute 175:2981 for fire and ?? for EMS. To form a Mutual Aid District, the communities involved must petition the State Fire Marshal. There are several Mutual Aid Districts in the state. *An attempt was made to list them in Appendix C and the towns that belong to them but the data is not complete and has not been verified so use caution with the data.* There are communities in New Hampshire, New York, and Massachusetts that belong to various mutual aid organizations throughout the state. Besides providing mutual aid, these organizations may also be used for joint training, group purchases, coordination of equipment purchases, and dispatch.

### **Fire Dispatch**

One of the keys to limiting damage caused by fire is the response time. NFPA 1710 sets a goal for all fire departments to respond to a fire within 6 minutes. Response time is defined as the time from when a 911 call is first received to the time a fire truck arrives on scene. Part of this 6-minute window is 1 minute for dispatch time. Fire and ambulance agencies are dispatched from a dispatch center. Some people believe that all 911 calls go directly to their local dispatch center rather than to a central location. Basic 911 Service is an emergency telephone system that automatically connects 911 callers to a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Enhanced-911 service does the same plus shows the caller’s name, street address, and telephone number to the PSAP. This allows the PSAP to identify the caller’s location automatically if the caller is unable

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<sup>6</sup> Fire Chief’s Opinion 2008. ISO, September 2008

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to communicate this information verbally to the PSAP call taker. Enhanced-911 services are provided by the Vermont Enhanced 911 Board and are paid for by a monthly user fee on all telephones (land and wireless).

Vermont once had 53 primary PSAPs but that has been reduced to eight primary PSAPs located throughout the State: St. Albans City PD, Hartford PD, Shelburne PD, Rockingham VSP, Derby VSP, Williston VSP, Rutland VSP, and the Lamoille CSO.

All calls to 911 in Vermont are routed to the appropriate PSAP. Police and fire calls are immediately transferred to the appropriate local dispatch center. For medical emergencies, the appropriate EMS responder is called but the PSAP stays on the line providing appropriate emergency medical instructions while waiting for the responder to arrive.

The call volume handled by the PSAP has remained around 190,000 since 2002.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total 911 calls	195,018	208,367	215,504	206,401	203,142	199,324	204,937
EMS FD calls	22,385	22,225	22,513	23,535	23,208	21,295	25,012
Fire calls	4,089	4,169	4,203	3,575	3,269	2,458	2,660
Total Calls	44,118	43,831	45,296	45,763	44,085	40,764	45,871

The Fire and EMS calls were taken from town reports, the Vermont Fire Marshal's Annual Reports, dispatch centers, and town officials. The total 911 calls were taken from the yearly report to the Governor. Some local dispatch centers dispatch fire and EMS, some EMS only, some dispatch police and fire, and some just dispatch police.

### Issues Facing Fire Departments

The biggest issue appears to be the aging apparatus and facilities and the lack of equipment.

- Roughly 41% of the existing fire stations are estimated to be over 40 years old, with a little over a third of the stations have no backup power and more than half are not equipped for exhaust emission control per NFPA 1500 2002 9.1.6.
- It is estimated that more than 40% of all engines in Vermont fire departments are at least 15 years old<sup>7</sup>. This is close to the national average. The industry standard for the life span of a fire engine is 15 years followed by 5 years of reserve status. Starting in 2007, the EPA's new emission standards go into effect to which the fire apparatus industry must comply. It is estimated that this will increase the cost of a new engine by as much as 50K. These new emission standards will significantly reduce the amounts of nitrous oxide, particulate matter, and non-methane hydrocarbon (NMHC) emissions.
- Providing firefighters with proper and up-to-date equipment such as portable radios, SCBA units, Personal Alert Safety System devices, and personal protective clothing. The protective clothing costs about 2,000 and the SCBA units cost about 4,500 on average.<sup>8</sup>

Many of the older fire stations were built in the town center when it was where the population center was. As the towns have built outward, fire stations are no longer centrally located. We have seen regionalization of dispatch services and to some extent, ambulance services. With the cost of new fire stations and apparatus, will regionalization of fire services be next?

<sup>7</sup> Third Needs Assessment of the Fire Service: Vermont. October 2011. NFPA Fire Analysis and Research, Quincy MA

<sup>8</sup> National Volunteer Fire Council 2005 Fact Sheet.

**CAVEAT EMPTOR**

The personnel and number of stations initially came from the Fire Department Census Survey found on the US Fire Administration website and were cross-referenced with information from the town web sites and/or town reports. The population numbers were taken from the US Census Bureau. The Fire and EMS calls were taken from town reports, the Vermont Fire Marshal's Annual Reports, dispatch centers, and town officials.

The information in this document came from various sources - town reports, town plans, St. Albans Police Dispatch Center, Washington County Department of Public Safety (WCDPS), Upper Valley Regional Dispatch Center, Twin State Fire Mutual Aid Dispatch (via Grafton County Sheriff's Office Dispatch), and town officials - and the information was verified to the extent it was possible. While I tried to be as accurate as possible, there is the possibility for errors. Hopefully, if there are any errors, someone will be kind enough to point them out to me.

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**Change Summary**

FY2006:

Burlington increased its staffing by one.

FY2009:

South Burlington increases shift staffing by two by hiring six full-time firefighters.

St. Albans City decreases shift staffing by 3 by laying off eight full-time firefighters.

FY2011:

Readsboro switches to North Adams ambulance service

FY2014:

Whitingham ambulance service and Valley Rescue Squad go out of business.

FY2018:

Barton ambulance service goes out of business.

Barton and Orleans fire departments merge into Orleans Fire Department

Corinth and East Corinth Fire Departments have merged into the Corinth Fire Department

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## Fire Departments Providing 24/7 Immediate Coverage

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	Staffing FT/Call Shift Data	EMS Calls 2015-18	Total Calls 2015-18	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Barre City	8,927 over 4.0 sq mi	Barre City PD	19/20 4 shifts of 4 24/72 shift 1 station	2147 2188 2588 1990	2739 2715 2978 2518	Barre City FD	Barre City FD
Brattleboro	11,798 over 32.0 sq mi	Brattleboro Central Dispatch	25/10 3 shifts of 7 24/48 shift 2 stations	1136 1112 1133 1182	2339 2498 2429 2550	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Burlington	42,284 over 10.6 sq mi	Self Dispatch	80/0 3 shifts of 20 24/48 shift 5 stations	4161 4098 3915 5008	7206 7465 7598 7895	Burlington FD	None
Hartford	9,812 over 45.0 sq mi	Hartford PD	20/10 2 shifts of 4/5 10/14 shift 2 stations	1324 1261 1293 1549	1889 1806 1807 2215	Hartford FD	Hartford FD
Montpelier	7,755 over 10.2 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	17/26 4 shifts of 3 24/48 shift 1 station	1076 962 982 1090	1755 1495 1589 1773	Montpelier FD	Barre Town EMS or Barre City FD
Rutland City <sup>9</sup>	16,126 over 7.6 sq mi	Westminster VSP	30/18 3 shifts of 9 24/48 shift 1 station	8856 8975 9155 9299	1804 1688 1747 1674	Regional Amb	Regional Amb
South Burlington	18,612 over 16.6 sq mi	South Burlington PD	25/10 => 31/12 3 shifts of 9 24/48 shift 2 stations	2236 2119 2243 2565	3227 3139 3471 3762	South Burlington FD	South Burlington FD
Springfield	9,257 over 49.3 sq mi	Springfield PD	12/38 4 shifts of 2 10/14 shift 1 station	1831 1752 1649 1727	2421 2327 2313 2281	Springfield FD	Springfield FD
St. Johnsbury	7,585 over 36.4 sq mi	St. Johnsbury PD	10/15 3 shifts of 3 24/48 shift 1 station	623 626 610 705	1225 1283 1241 1222	Calex Amb	Calex Amb

<sup>9</sup> The EMS calls are for the Regional Ambulance Service which covers the City not the fire department.

## Cost To Protect Property per \$1000 Valuation

There are various statistical measures that can be used to determine the cost effectiveness of a fire department. Most center on the cost per capita which can be a misleading statistic for those communities that get a large influx of visitors on weekends or the summer. For those communities, the cost per call may be a more telling statistic. One statistical measure I like is the cost to protect all property in a town. As this table shows, there can be a significant difference between the cost per \$1000 based on taxable properties and that of all properties. However, a fire department is expected to protect all properties so the cost to protect all properties gives a more realistic picture of the true cost to protect property in a municipality.

### Full-time Departments

Town	2018 Taxable Property Valuation	2018 Tax-Exempt Property Valuation	Cost/\$1000 Protected Value (Taxable)	Cost/\$1000 Protected Value (All Properties)
Barre City	486,213,771	195,961,890	2.97	2.12
Brattleboro	1,101,661,048	203,226,191	1.71	1.45
Burlington	3,710,546,300	1,647,650,300	2.42	1.67
Hartford	1,356,685,600	127,494,900	1.46	1.34
Montpelier	828,377,450	203,928,200	1.84	1.47
Rutland City	959,210,075	328,966,725	3.71	2.76
South Burlington	3,007,912,943	207,166,700	0.89	0.83
Springfield	536,099,731	108,111,469	1.71	1.42
St. Albans City	507,726,300	228,150,100	0.79	0.54
St. Johnsbury	553,012,375	225,251,266	2.11	1.50
Williston	1,974,285,138	98,082,119	0.73	0.69
Windsor	242,562,109	95,872,574	1.52	1.09
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,264,292,840</b>	<b>3,669,862,434</b>	<b>1.72</b>	<b>1.39</b>
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>1,272,024,403</b>	<b>305,821,870</b>	<b>1.82</b>	<b>1.41</b>



## Combination Departments Providing Immediate Coverage by Day/On-call Nights (and/or Weekends)

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	FT/Call	EMS Calls 2015-18	Total Calls 2015-18	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
St. Albans	6,876 over 10.6 sq mi	St. Albans PD	13/18 => 2/15 3 shifts of 1 24/48 shift 1 station	No EMS	308 254 216 292	AmCare	None
Williston	9,014 over 30.3 sq mi	Sheburne PD	5/32 => 9/34 3 shifts of 3 24/48 shift 1 station	916 949 1039 1087	1870 1938 1852 1945	Williston FD	None
Windsor	3,485 over 19.5 sq mi	Hartford PD	5/25 1 shift of 5 1-1-1-5 shift 1 station	1583 1470 1388 1464	1915 1648 1807 2072	Windsor FD	Windsor FD Hartford FD

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## Call/Volunteer Fire Departments

This table lists the towns with call or volunteer fire departments. Many towns have their own fire department. Some towns have fire departments as part of a village or fire district. Some towns have private, non-profit fire departments that a town will help fund. Those towns having names of fire departments after the name of the town are some combination of municipal, private, and/or fire district departments.

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Addison	1,368 in 39.0 sq mi	Shelburne PD	86 87 74	115 114 114	Rescue	Vergennes RS	Middlebury Amb
Albany	937 in 38.7 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Orleans Amb Glover Amb	Calex Ambulance
Alburgh	1,986 in 48.8 sq mi	St Albans City PD	434 388 402	112 112 100	Rescue	Alburgh Rescue	None
Arlington	2,308 in 42.4 sq mi	Westminster VSP	498 471 590	117 142 142	Rescue	Arlington RS	Bennington Rescue
Bakersfield	1,333 in 44.6 sq mi	St Albans City PD	36 58 45	56 76 70	Rescue FR	Enosburg (s) Richford (n)	None
Barnard Barnard FD E. Barnard FD	947 in 48.9 sq mi	Westminster VSP	40 35 47	70 61 73	Rescue FR	Woodstock (e) WRV amb (w)	Woodstock Amb or WRV Amb
Barnet	1,706 in 43.6 sq mi	Twin St (f) St Johnsbury (a)	99 78 122	134 144 155	Rescue FR	Calex Ambulance	Calex Ambulance
Barre Town	7,937 in 30.7 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	2052 2203 3112	208 198 220	Rescue	Barre Town EMS	Barre Town EMS
Barton- Orleans FD	816 in 0.7 sq mi	Newport City PD	600 605 613	47 40 35	Rescue	Orleans Ambulance	Calex Ambulance
Bellows Falls Village <sup>10</sup>	3,074 over 1.4 sq mi	SWNH (f) Golden Cross (a)	518 537 45	849 701 230	Rescue	Golden Cross Amb	Golden Cross Amb
Bennington Bennington FD	15,702 in 40.6 sq mi	Bennington PD	4908 5676 5816	201 205 138	Rescue	Bennington RS	Bennington Rescue
Bennington – North Bennington	1,639 in 1.9 sq mi	Bennington PD	No EMS	41 78 60	Rescue	Bennington RS	Bennington Rescue
Bennington Rural Fire District	138	Bennington PD	No EMS	181 280 212	Rescue	Bennington RS	Bennington Rescue
Benson	1,049 in 45.5 sq mi	Westminster VSP	52 54 55	81 74 27	Rescue FR	Fair Haven RS	Fair Haven RS
Berkshire	1,706 in 42.2 sq mi	St Albans City PD	50 120 114	72 153 148	Rescue FR	Richford RS Enosburg Amb	None
Berlin	2,886 in 36.9 sq mi	Capital West (f) Lamoille cso (a)	400 330 272	562 505 435	Rescue FR	Barre Town EMS	Barre Town EMS

<sup>10</sup> In 2017, due to budget issues, Bellows Falls had to lay off its career firefighters and is now on-call with a FT chief.

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Bethel	2,022 in 45.4 sq mi	Westminster VSP	28 24 13	107 61 77	Rescue	White River Valley Amb	White River Valley Amb
Bolton	1,190 in 42.8 sq mi	Capital West (f) contact comm(a)	No EMS	92 86 90	Rescue	Richmond Rescue	None
Bradford	2,804 in 29.9 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	418 410 408	587 552 580	Rescue FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
Brandon Fire District	3,943 in 40.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	696 519 688	169 145 834	Rescue	Brandon RS	Brandon RS
Bridgewater	936 in 49.6 sq mi	Woodstock PD	No EMS	52 47 60	Rescue	Woodstock Ambulance	Woodstock Ambulance
Bridport	1,216 in 46.2 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	52 66 39	81 89 72	Rescue FR	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Brighton	1,218 in 53.4 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Lyndon RS	Calex Ambulance
Bristol	3,885 in 42.2 sq mi	Shelburne PD	689 610 678	114 138 140	Rescue	Bristol RS	Middlebury Amb
Brookfield	1,296 in 41.7 sq mi	Orange CSO (f) West.. VSP (a)	No EMS	37 32 38	Rescue	White River Valley Amb	White River Valley Amb
Burke – East Burke FD	1,751 in 34.1 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	No EMS	66 86 56	Rescue	Calex Amb Lyndon Rescue	Calex Ambulance
Burke – West Burke Fire District	343	St Johnsbury PD	No EMS	45 43 32	Rescue	Calex Amb Lyndon Rescue	Calex Ambulance
Cabot	1,434 in 38.5 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	113 115 122	49 43 71	Rescue	Cabot Ambulance	Calex Ambulance
Cambridge	3,695 in 63.7 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	395 383 435	189 213 225	Rescue	Cambridge RS	Northern EMS
Canaan – Beecher Falls	970 in 33.4 sq mi	US Customs	No Data Avail	238 246 256	Rescue, FR	45 <sup>th</sup> Parallel EMS	45 <sup>th</sup> Parallel EMS
Castleton	4,695 in 42.4 sq mi	Westminster VSP	434 406 415	562 563 572	Rescue, FR	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Cavendish Cavendish VFD	1,367 in 39.7 sq mi	Ludlow PD	82 # 61	129 # 107	Rescue	Ludlow Ambulance	Ludlow Ambulance
Cavendish Proctorsville FD	1,367 in 39.7 sq mi	Ludlow PD	64 72 60	119 116 135	Rescue, FR	Ludlow Ambulance	Ludlow Ambulance
Charleston	1,021 in 38.6 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	31 31 27	Rescue	Newport Ambulance	Newport Ambulance
Charlotte	3,778 in 50.4 sq mi	Shelburne PD	364 381 410	201 133 185	Rescue	Charlotte Rescue	Charlotte Rescue

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Chelsea Fire District	1,240 in 39.9 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	50 46 55	Rescue	First Branch Ambulance	White River Valley Amb
Chester	3,153 in 55.9 sq mi	Springfield PD	353 381 396	189 133 183	Rescue	Chester FD	Ludlow Amb
Chittenden	1,250 in 74.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	# # 101	36 45 60	Rescue, FR	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Clarendon	2,557 in 31.6 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	77 72 82	Rescue	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Colchester Mallets Bay FD	17,165 in 58.6 sq mi	Colchester PD	90 148 135	250 425 425	Rescue, FR	Colchester Rescue	Colchester Rescue
Colchester – Colchester VFD			211 230 164	665 738 622	Rescue, FR	Colchester Rescue	Colchester Rescue
Concord	1,232 in 53.5 sq mi		St Johnsbury PD	82 98 75	136 147 112	Rescue, FR	Calex Ambulance
Corinth East Corinth FD	1,370 in 48.6 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	180 157 186	220 228 237	Rescue, FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
Cornwall	1,182 in 28.6 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	42 55 60	91 87 93	Rescue, FR	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Craftsbury	1,204 in 39.7 sq mi	Williston VSP	45 40 41	72 60 65	Rescue	Hardwick RS	Northern EMS
Danby-Mt. Tabor	1,301 in 85.3 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	56 57 69	Rescue	Manchester RS Granville (NY) RS	Manchester RS
Danville	2,194 in 61.2 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	No EMS	83 70 61	Rescue	Danville RS	Calex Ambulance
Derby	4,612 in 57.6 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	102 122 107	Rescue	Newport Ambulance	Newport Ambulance
Dorset Dorset Fire District	2,022 in 47.9 sq mi	WCDPS, NY (f) Manchstr PD (a)	No EMS	105 96 122	Rescue	Manchester RS	Manchester RS
Dorset East Dorset Fire District			No EMS	114 92 109	Rescue	Manchester RS	Manchester RS
Dover East Dover VFD	1,117 in 35.3 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	# 69 68	Rescue	Deerfield Valley Rescue	Bennington Rescue
Dover – West Doyer FD			No EMS	144 139 57	Rescue	Deerfield Valley Rescue	Bennington Rescue
Dummerston W. Dummerston	1,854 in 30.8 sq mi	SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	99 83	205 171 #	Rescue, FR	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
East Montpelier	2,580 in 32.1 sq mi	Capital West (f) Barre City Pd(a)	418 389 471	587 532 673	Rescue, FR, Amb	East Montpelier FD	Barre Town EMS

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Elmore	863 in 39.6 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	No EMS	42 41 45	Rescue	Morristown RS	Morristown RS
Enosburg	2,718 in 48.7 sq mi	St Albans City PD	782 755 871	80 75 103	Rescue	Enosburg Amb	None
Essex Essex FD	19,713 in 34.4 sq mi	Essex PD	472 518 496	881 409 472	Rescue, FR	Essex Rescue	Essex Rescue
Essex Essex Junction	9,331 in 4.9 sq mi	Essex PD	94 121 137	455 538 584	Rescue, FR	Essex Rescue	Essex Rescue
Fair Haven	2,718 in 18.1 sq mi	WCDPS (NY) Westminster VSP	576 468 495	116 565 91	Rescue	Fair Haven RS	Fair Haven RS
Fairfax	4,319 in 40.5 sq mi	St Albans City PD	394 423 473	164 607 119	Rescue	Fairfax RS	None
Fairfield Fairfield FD E. Fairfield FD	1,912 in 68.5 sq mi	St Albans City PD	No EMS	41 34 41	Rescue	AmCare	None
Fairlee	979 in 21.2 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	147 133 148	201 196 45	Rescue, FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
Ferrisburgh	2,768 in 61.2 sq mi	Shelburne PD	No EMS	75 67 73	Rescue	Vergennes RS	Charlotte Rescue
Franklin	1,416 in 40.8 sq mi	St Albans City PD	92 103 107	120 142 25	Rescue, FR	Franklin Rescue	None
Georgia	4,550 in 45.2 sq mi	St Albans City PD	199 289 302	342 417 151	Rescue, FR	AmCare	None
Glover	1,119 in 38.6 sq mi	Williston VSP	185 209 197	No Data Avail	Rescue	Glover Ambulance	Calex Ambulance
Grafton	674 in 38.4 sq mi	SWNH (f) GoldenCross (a)	50 88 55	105 172 95	Rescue, FR	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Grand Isle	2,055 in 35.1 sq mi	St Albans City PD	285 278 282	147 406 424	Rescue	Grand Isle RS	None
Granville	297 in 52.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	82 91 112	112 127 138	Rescue, FR	WRV Amb (e) Valley RS (w)	White River Valley Amb
Greensboro	760 in 39.4 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	No EMS	33 39 35	Rescue	Hardwick RS	Northern EMS
Groton	1,020 in 55.0 sq mi	Twin State	106 87 99	246 138 150	Rescue, FR	Woodsville Ambulance	Woodsville Ambulance
Guilford	2,108 in 40.0 sq mi	SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	134 110 130	243 226 250	Rescue, FR	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Halifax	724 in 39.8 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	56 50 77	Rescue, FR	Deerfield Valley Rescue	Rescue, inc

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Hancock	322 in 38.5 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Valley RS	
Hardwick	3,003 in 38.9 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	579 528 579	66 67 78	Rescue	Hardwick RS	Northern EMS
Hartland	3,393 in 45.2 sq mi	Hartford PD	164 196 252	275 349 397	Rescue, FR	Woodstock, Windsor, Hartford	Woodstock, Hartford FD
Highgate	3,561 in 59.9 sq mi	St.Albans City PD	46 26 53	95 87 112	Rescue	Missisquoi Valley Rescue	None
Hinesburg	4,425 in 40.1 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) St Michaels (a)	287 310 326	407 401 446	Rescue, FR	St Michaels Rescue	Charlotte Rescue
Hubbardton	702 in 28.9 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	35 46 46	Rescue	Fair Haven RS	Fair Haven RS
Huntington	1,952 in 38.1 sq mi	Shelburne PD	No Data Avail	98 104 100	Rescue, FR	Richmond Rescue	None
Hyde Park Hyde Park FD	2,981 in 39.0 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	89 96 96	192 192 214	Rescue, FR	Northern EMS	Northern EMS
Hyde Park North Hyde Park FD			No EMS	49 56 64	Rescue	Northern EMS	Northern EMS
Ira	429 in 21.3 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	20 11 31	Rescue	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Irasburg	1,160 in 40.6 sq mi	Newport City PD	No EMS	28 38 33	Rescue	Orleans Ambulance	Calex Ambulance
Isle La Motte	469 in 16.7 sq mi	Shelburne PD	45 39 45	94 86 122	Rescue, FR	Alburg Rescue	None
Jamaica	1,029 in 49.5 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	69 69 98	146 149 154	Rescue, FR	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Jay	520 in 34.0 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Missisquoi Valley Amb	Northern EMS
Johnson	1,452 in 45.1 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	38 52 49	107 122 139	Rescue, FR	Northern EMS	Northern EMS
Killington – Sherburne VFD	806 in 46.9 sq mi	Westminster VSP	138 117 152	273 216 374	Rescue, FR	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Lincoln	1,269 in 44.0 sq mi	Shelburne PD	58 49 77	100 83 114	Rescue FR	Bristol RS	Middlebury Ambulance
Lowell	877 in 56.1 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	35 33 32	Rescue	Missisquoi Valley Amb	Northern EMS
Ludlow	1,963 in 35.7 sq mi	Ludlow PD	787 796 802	166 171 213	Rescue	Ludlow Ambulance	Ludlow Ambulance

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Londonderry Champion	1,758 in 35.9 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	513	60	Rescue	Londonderry Rescue	Londonderry Rescue
Londonderry Phoenix Fire C			471	48			
Lunenburg Gilman FD Lunenburg FD	1,299 in 45.4 sq mi	State Hwy (f) Williston vsp (a)	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Lancaster EMS	Lancaster EMS
Lyndon - Lyndonville FD	5,971 in 39.8 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	1430	235	Rescue	Lyndon Rescue	Calex Ambulance
			1486	195			
Manchester	4,371 in 42.3 sq mi	Manchester PD	1108	221	Rescue	Manchester RS	Manchester RS
			1054	213			
Marlboro	1,074 in 40.7 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	64	117	Rescue FR	Deerfield Valley Rescue	Rescue, inc
			57	141			
Marshfield	1,583 in 43.4 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No EMS	47	Rescue	Cabot Ambulance	Barre Town EMS
				40			
Middlebury	8,483 in 39.2 sq mi	Town PD (f) MREMS (a)	2375	230	Rescue	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
			1670	284			
Middlesex	1,735 in 39.9 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	153	250	Rescue FR	Montpelier FD	Barre Town EMS or Barre City FD
			168	228			
Middletown Springs	741 in 22.8 sq mi	WCDPS (NY)	39	81	Rescue FR	Poultney RS	Regional Ambulance
			30	#			
Milton	10,418 in 60.9 sq mi	Colchester PD	862	248	Rescue	Milton Rescue	None
			850	234			
Monkton	1,975 in 36.2 sq mi	Shelburne PD	70	123	Rescue, FR	Bristol RS Vergennes RS	Middlebury Ambulance
			65	107			
Montgomery	1,210 in 56.7 sq mi	St Albans City PD	39	30	Rescue	Richford (d) Montgomery RS (n)	None
			67	24			
Moretown	1,661 in 40.2 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No EMS	38	Rescue	Northfield Amb (s) Montpelier (n)	Barre Town EMS or Barre City FD
				44			
Morristown - Morrisville FD	5,277 in 51.6 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	601	201	Rescue	Morristown RS Northern EMS	Northern EMS
			721	216			
Mount Holly	1,229 in 49.6 sq mi	Westminster VSP	105	50	Rescue	Mount Holly RS	Regional Ambulance
			85	#			
New Haven	1,723 in 41.8 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	No EMS	136	Rescue	Bristol RS (n) Middlebury Amb (s)	Middlebury Ambulance
				145			
Newark	579 in 37.2 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	No EMS	51	Rescue, FR	Lyndon Rescue	Calex Ambulance
				29			
Newbury - Newbury VFD	1,822 in 62.5 sq mi	Twin State	317	358	Rescue, FR	Woodsville Ambulance	Woodsville Ambulance
			291	341			
			289	330			

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Newbury - Wells River FD	401 over 1.9 sq mi	Twin State	No EMS	82 59 60	Rescue	Woodsville Ambulance	Woodsville Ambulance
Newbury - W. Newbury FD	396 over 7.6 sq mi	Twin State	No EMS	29 56 44	Rescue	Woodsville Ambulance	Woodsville Ambulance
Newfane Newbrook FD	1,717 in 40.4 sq mi	SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	186 130 123	258 233 207	Rescue, FR	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Newfane - S. Newfane FD		SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Newport City	4,579 over 7.6 sq mi	Newport City PD	1451 1487 1129	243 200 283	Rescue	Newport Ambulance	None
Newport Town	1,590 in 43.5 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	30 35 #	Rescue	Missisquoi Valley & Newport Amb	None
North Hero	798 in 46.6 sq mi	Shelburne PD	No EMS	# 80 85	Rescue	Grand Isle RS	None
Northfield	6,221 in 43.7 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	820 862 862	89 131 121	Rescue	Northfield Ambulance	Northfield Ambulance
Norwich	3,414 in 44.8 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	100 106 138	236 252 298	Rescue FR	Hanover FD	Hanover FD
Orwell	1,248 in 49.7 sq mi	Local Disp (f) MREMS (a)	88 65 87	143 95 119	Rescue FR	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Pawlet Pawlet VFD	810 in 21.1 sq mi	WCDPS (NY)	1734 1779	39 34 34	Rescue	Granville RS (NY)	Regional Ambulance
Pawlet W. Pawlet VFD	660 in 21.8 sq mi	WCDPS (NY)	1911	62 36 35	Rescue	Granville RS (NY)	Regional Ambulance
Peacham	732 in 47.7 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	55 70 70	80 104 82	Rescue, FR	Danville RS Cabot Amb	Calex Ambulance
Peru	373 in 37.4 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	30 32 44	Rescue	Londonderry Rescue	Londonderry Rescue
Pittsfield	543 in 20.1 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	28 30 38	Rescue	White River Valley Amb	White River Valley Amb
Pittsford	2,973 in 43.6 sq mi	Westminster VSP	187 221 224	270 327 355	Rescue, FR	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Plainfield	1,252 in 21.1 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No Data Avail	No Data Avail	Rescue, FR	East Montpelier FD	Barre Town EMS
Plymouth	619 in 48.7 sq mi	Ludlow PD	No EMS	23 23 26	Rescue	Ludlow (s) Woodstock (n)	Ludlow Amb, Woodstock Amb
Pomfret N. Pomfret FD So, Pomfret FD	904 in 39.5 sq mi	Woodstock PD	56 48 33	89 82 87	Rescue, FR	Woodstock Ambulance	Woodstock Ambulance



**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Poultney	3,414 in 44.8 sq mi	WCDPS (NY)	449 489 509	125 167 163	Rescue	Poultney RS	Regional Ambulance
Proctor	1,731 over 7.6 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	65 69 78	Rescue	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Pownal Pownal FD	3,511 in 46.7 sq mi	Bennington PD	512 500	82 56 32	Rescue	Village Ambulance	Village Ambulance
Pownal Pownal Valley	3,511	Bennington PD		60 58 59	Rescue	Village Ambulance	Village Ambulance
Putney	2,689 in 26.8 sq mi	SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	227 235 259	486 540 499	Rescue, FR	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Randolph - East Randolph	170 over 2.8 sq mi	West. VSP (a) Orange CSO (f)	No EMS	31 24 21	Rescue	White River Valley Amb	White River Valley Amb
Randolph Randolph Ctr	1,550 in 24.4 sq mi	West. VSP (a) Orange CSO (f)	No EMS	90 78 76	Rescue	White River Valley Amb	White River Valley Amb
Randolph Randolph Vllg	3,068 in 20.7 sq mi	West. VSP (a) Orange CSO (f)	No EMS	150 96 120	Rescue	White River Valley Amb	White River Valley Amb
Reading	666 in 41.7 sq mi	Hartford PD	No EMS	92 46 45	Rescue	Woodstock Ambulance	Woodstock Ambulance
Readsboro	760 in 36.5 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	66 41 51	93 57 84	Rescue, FR	North Adams Ambulance	North Adams Ambulance
Richford	2,326 in 43.3 sq mi	St Albans City PD	577 612 586	104 91 89	Rescue	Richford RS	None
Richmond	4,108 in 32.3 sq mi	Shelburne PD	589 603 662	164 157 163	Rescue	Richmond Rescue	None
Ripton	586 in 49.5 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	35 30 22	46 49 69	Rescue, FR	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Rochester	1,140 in 56.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	46 32 28	Rescue	Valley RS	
Rockingham Rockingham FD	1,605 in 40.4 sq mi	SWNH (f) GoldenCross (a)	106 123 133	194 173 205	Rescue, FR	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Rockingham - Saxtons River Village	566 over 0.5 sq mi	SWNH (f) GoldenCross (a)	98	139	Rescue FR	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Roxbury	692 in 41.8 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No EMS	18 29 27	Rescue	Northfield Ambulance	Northfield Ambulance
Royalton S. Royalton	2,781 in 40.9 sq mi	Hartford PD	357 403 440	83 57 90	Rescue	So. Royalton RS	WRV Amb, Hartford FD
Rupert	711 in 44.6 sq mi	WCDPS NY	No EMS	33 # 38	Rescue	Granville & Salem NY RS	Granville & Salem NY RS

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Rutland Town	4,032 in 19.3 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	179 191 195	Rescue	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
Ryegate	1,169 in 36.8 sq mi	Twin State	92 97 87	147 143 133	Rescue FR	Woodsville Ambulance	Woodsville Ambulance
Salisbury	1,133 in 30.1 sq mi	MREMS	No EMS	31 # 60	Rescue	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Shaftsbury	3,574 in 43.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	94 133 111	Rescue	Bennington (s) & Arlington RS (n)	Bennington Rescue
Sharon	1,501 in 40.1 sq mi	Hartford PD	No EMS	114 122 83	Rescue	So. Royalton Hartford (s)	WRV Amb, Hartford FD
Sheffield- Wheelock	1,511 in 72.6 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	No EMS	59 36 48	Rescue	Lyndon Rescue	Calex Ambulance
Shelburne	7,188 in 44.9 sq mi	Shelburne PD	898 1000 1100	247 281 262	Rescue	Shelburne RS	Charlotte Rescue
Sheldon	2,200 in 39.3 sq mi	St Albans City PD	100 156 166	170 221 234	Rescue FR	Enosburg Ambulance	None
Shoreham	1,263 in 46.3 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	92 80 94	121 114 123	Rescue FR	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Shrewsbury	1,050 in 50.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	39 33 41	Rescue	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
South Hero	1,623 in 47.5 sq mi	Shelburne PD	159 150 179	160 187 162	Rescue	South Hero Rescue	None
St. Albans Town	6,044 in 60.6 sq mi	St Albans City PD	91 100 80	254 265 305	Rescue	AmCare	None
Stamford	821 in 9.6 sq mi	North Adams	52 50 42	78 76 79	Rescue FR	North Adams Ambulance	North Adams Ambulance
Starksboro	1,771 in 45.5 sq mi	Shelburne PD	118 120 110	173 164 178	Rescue FR	Bristol RS	Middlebury Ambulance
Stockbridge	736 in 46.2 sq mi	Westminster VSP	29 # #	56 # #	Rescue FR	White River Valley Amb	Upper Valley Ambulance
Stowe	4,356 in 72.7 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	694 647 700	270 290 364	Rescue	Stowe Rescue	Northern EMS
Strafford	1,101 in 44.3 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	58 36 64	100 108 93	Rescue FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
Stratton	215 in 46.9 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	124 103 140	196 180 234	Rescue FR	Londonderry RS (n) & Rescue, inc (s)	Londonderry RS, Rescue, inc
Sutton	1,027 in 38.4 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	No EMS	28 42 23	Rescue	Lyndon Rescue	Calex Ambulance

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Swanton	6,477 in 61.7 sq mi	St Albans City PD	110 136 107	268 310 252	Rescue FR	Missisquoi Valley Rescue	None
Thetford	2,594 in 44.2 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	212 174 180	268 442 289	Rescue FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
Tinmouth	613 in 28.4 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No Data Avail	No Data Avail	Rescue	Wallingford RS (e) Poultney (w)	Regional Ambulance
Topsham – Tri-Village FD	1,176 in 49.0 sq mi	UVRDC (f) Lamoille cso (a)	180 157 186	201 202 224	Rescue	Barre Town EMS	Barre Town EMS
Townshend	1,224 in 42.8 sq mi	SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	No Data Avail	No Data Avail	Rescue	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Troy Troy FD North Troy FD	1,659 in 36.1 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	38 39 44	Rescue	Missisquoi Valley Amb	Northern EMS
Tunbridge	1,287 in 44.8 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	34 25 36	Rescue	First Branch Amb	White River Valley Amb
Underhill-Jericho	8,075 in 86.8 sq mi	Williston SP (f) Essex PD (a)	142 197 119	320 321 352	Rescue FR	Essex RS (n) Richmond RS	Essex Rescue
Vergennes	2,582 over 2.5 sq mi	Shelburne PD	854 731 718	171 116 162	Rescue	Vergennes RS	Middlebury Ambulance
Vernon	2,192 in 20.0 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	178 # 156	243 # 216	Rescue FR	Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Vershire	731 in 36.5 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	63 60 59	144 145 130	Rescue FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
Waitsfield- Fayston	3,080 in 63.4 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No EMS	88 96 125	Rescue	Mad River Valley Amb	Barre Town EMS or Barre City FD
Walden	930 in 39.0 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	34 26 46	63 66 95	Rescue FR	Danville RS Hardwick RS	Calex Ambulance
Wallingford Wallingford Fire District #1	2,066 in 43.4 sq mi	Westminster VSP	120 141 195	# 99 85	Rescue	Wallingford RS (w) Mt Holly (e)	Regional Ambulance
Wardsboro	895 in 29.3 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No Data Avail	No Data Avail	Rescue	Deerfield Valley RS Rescue, inc	Rescue, inc
Warren	1,707 in 40.1 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	72 80 90	Rescue	Mad River Valley Amb	Barre Town EMS or Barre City FD
Washington	1,042 in 38.9 sq mi	Barre City pd (f) Lamoille cso (a)	58 29 22	90 76 45	Rescue	Barre Town EMS	Barre Town EMS
Waterbury Waterbury FD Waterbury Vllg	1,765 in 49.7 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	698 665 728	193 198 223	Rescue	Waterbury Ambulance	
Waterford	1,277 in 39.7 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	45 63 52	81 114 93	Rescue, FR	Calex Ambulance	Calex Ambulance

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

Municipality	Pop/ Cover Area	Dispatch	EMS Calls 2016-18	Total Calls 2016-18	FD EMS Level	BLS Transport	Paramedic Services
Weathersfield Ascutney Fire District	540 over 1.7 sq mi	Hartford PD (f) GoldenCross (a)	183 179 251	279 273 350	Rescue, FR	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Weathersfield W Wethersfield Fire District	2,274 in 42.5 sq mi	Hartford PD (f) GoldenCross (a)	68 58 69	160 153 186	Rescue, FR	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Wells	1,143 in 23.4 sq mi	WCDPS (NY)	No EMS	59 44 47	Rescue	Granville RS (NY)	Regional Ambulance
West Fairlee	654 in 22.8 sq mi	Upper Valley RDC	89 81 77	126 142 129	Rescue FR	Upper Valley Ambulance	Upper Valley Ambulance
West Haven	262 in 28.5 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Fair Haven RS	Fair Haven RS
West Rutland	2,312 in 18.0 sq mi	Westminster VSP	No EMS	64 60 99	Rescue	Regional Ambulance	Regional Ambulance
West Windsor	1,098 in 24.7 sq mi	Hartford PD	89 50 63	152 94 123	Rescue, FR	Windsor FD	Windsor FD
Westford	2,041 in 39.3 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	21 18 26	Rescue	Essex RS (s) Fairfax RS (n)	Essex Rescue
Westminster Fire District	3,161 in 46.1 sq mi	SWNH (f) GoldenCross (a)	200 211 228	379 385 401	Rescue, FR	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Westmore	349 in 37.5 sq mi	Williston VSP	No EMS	No Data Avail	Rescue	Lyndon RS (w Orleans (e)	Calex Ambulance
Weston	566 in 35.2 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	66 50 50	Rescue	Londonderry Rescue	Londonderry Rescue
Weybridge	832 in 17.6 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	No EMS	13 17 20	Rescue	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Whiting	418 in 13.7 sq mi	Shelburne Pd (f) MREMS (a)	36 34 48	58 58 65	Rescue	Middlebury Ambulance	Middlebury Ambulance
Whitingham	1,350 in 39.3 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	106 108 141	152 172 210	Rescue	Deerfield Valley Rescue	Rescue, inc Baystate Hosp EMS
Williamstown Fire District	3,398 in 40.3 sq mi	Barre City PD	383 359 390	108 139 135	Rescue	Williamstown Ambulance	Barre Town EMS
Wilmington	1,865 in 41.3 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	196 184 217	Rescue	Deerfield Valley Rescue	Bennington Rescue
Windham	417 in 26.1 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	38 20 29	Rescue	Londonderry Rescue	Londonderry Rescue
Winhall	765 in 44.0 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	No EMS	132 125 112	Rescue	Londonderry Rescue	Londonderry Rescue
Winooski	7,312 over 1.5 sq mi	Town PD (f) St Michaels (a)	No EMS	368 387 398	Rescue	St Michaels Rescue	None

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Pop/ Cover Area</b>	<b>Dispatch</b>	<b>EMS Calls 2016-18</b>	<b>Total Calls 2016-18</b>	<b>FD EMS Level</b>	<b>BLS Transport</b>	<b>Paramedic Services</b>
Wolcott	1,691 in 39.2 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	No EMS	53 42 53	Rescue	Hardwick RS Morristown RS	Northern EMS
Woodbury	907 in 39.1 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No EMS	72 113 107	Rescue	Hardwick RS	Northern EMS
Woodstock Woodstock FD	3,047 in 44.6 sq mi	Woodstock PD	700 756 817	171 107 155	Rescue	Woodstock Ambulance	Woodstock Ambulance
Woodstock S. Woodstock		Woodstock PD	No Data Avail	No Data Avail	Rescue	Woodstock Ambulance	Woodstock Ambulance
Worcester	999 in 38.8 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	No Data Avail	No Data Avail	Rescue	Montpelier FD	Barre Town EMS or Barre City FD

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## Towns with No Fire Departments

There are several towns with small populations that cannot afford to fund a fire department. This table lists those towns and shows the fire and emergency ambulance agencies they contract with to provide fire and ambulance coverage.

Municipality	Pop	Dispatch	Ambulance Provider	Fire Coverage Provided by
Andover	467 over 28.6 sq mi	Springfield PD	Chester FD	Chester FD
Athens	440 over 13.0 sq mi	SWNH (f) GoldenCross (a)	Golden Cross Ambulance	Golden Cross Ambulance
Baltimore	244 over 4.7 sq mi	Springfield PD	Springfield FD	Springfield FD
Belvidere	35 over 32.1 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	Northern EMS	Johnson FD
Bloomfield	221 over 40.3 sq mi	Colebrook Comm Center	45 <sup>th</sup> Parallel EMS	Colebrook FD
Braintree	1,249 in 38.3 sq mi	Barre City PD (f) West. VSP (a)	White River Valley Amb	Randolph Village FD
Brookline	527 over 12.9 sq mi	SWNH (f) Brattleboro Dispatch (a)	Rescue, inc	New Brook FD
Brownington	986 over 28.3 sq mi	Williston VSP	Orleans Ambulance	Orleans Village FD
Brunswick	111 over 25.5 sq mi	Colebrook Comm Center	Orleans Ambulance	Colebrook FD Orleans Village
Calais	1,610 over 38 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	East Montpelier FD	E. Montpelier Woodbury FD
Coventry	1,084 in 27.5 sq mi	Williston VSP	Newport Amb Orleans Amb	Irasburg FD Newport Center Orleans Village
Duxbury	1,337 in 42.9 sq mi	Capital West Dispatch	Waterbury Ambulance	Moretown FD Waterbury FD
Eden	1,336 in 63.6 sq mi	Lamoille CSO	Northern EMS	Joint with Hyde Park
Fletcher	1,288 in 37.7 sq mi	St Albans City PD	Cambridge RS Fairfax RS	Cambridge FD Fairfax FD
Glastonbury	8 over 44.4 sq mi	Westminster VSP	Arlington RS	Shaftsbury FD
Goshen	163 over 20.7 sq mi	Westminster VSP	Brandon RS	Brandon FD
Granby	88 over 39.0 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	Lyndon RS Lancaster EMS	East Burke FD

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Pop</b>	<b>Dispatch</b>	<b>Ambulance Provider</b>	<b>Fire Coverage Provided by</b>
Guildhall	260 over 32.8 sq mi	NH State Hwy Dispatch	Lancaster EMS Groveton Amb	Lancaster FD (s) Groveton FD (n)
Holland	628 over 37.6 sq mi	Williston VSP	Newport Ambulance	Derby FD
Kirby	486 over 24.4 sq mi	St Johnsbury PD	Calex Amb Lyndon RS	St Johnsbury Lyndon FD
Landgrove	157 over 9.1 sq mi	Southwest NH Dispatch	Londonderry Rescue	Londonderry FD
Leicester	1,004 1,100 1,098	Westminster VSP	Brandon RS	Brandon FD Whiting FD
Lemington	118 104 103	Colebrook Comm Center	45 <sup>th</sup> Parallel EMS	Colebrook FD
Maidstone	104 208 208	NH State Hwy Dispatch	Groveton Amb	Stratford FD (n) Groveton FD (s)
Mendon	1,079 1,057 1,052	Westminster VSP	Regional Amb	Rutland FD
Morgan	740 749 748	Williston VSP	Derby Line	East Charleston, Brighton, Derby
Mount Tabor	197 254 253	Westminster VSP	Manchester RS	Joint with Danby
Norton	226 169 169	US Customs	45 <sup>th</sup> Parallel EMS	Beecher Falls FD
Orange	960 1,073 1,075	Barre City PD	Barre Town Ambulance	Barre Town FD Tri-Village FD Washington FD
Panton	689 676 675	Shelburne PD	Vergennes RS	Vergennes FD
St. George	696 676 679	Shelburne PD (f) St Michaels (a)	St Michaels Rescue	Hinesburg FD
Sandgate	354 405 404	Westminster VSP	Arlington RS	Arlington FD
Searsburg	90 109 108	Southwest NH Dispatch	Deerfield Valley RS	Wilmington FD
Somerset	5 3 3	Southwest NH Dispatch	Deerfield Valley RS	Wilmington FD
Stannard	193 215 216	Williston VSP	Hardwick RS	Greensboro FD
Sudbury	618 559 557	Addison CSO (f) Rutland SP (a)	Brandon RS	Whiting FD Hubbardton FD
Sunderland	913 955 952	Westminster VSP	Arlington RS	Arlington FD

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Pop</b>	<b>Dispatch</b>	<b>Ambulance Provider</b>	<b>Fire Coverage Provided by</b>
Victory	94 62 62	St Johnsbury PD	Calex Amb (s) Lyndon Resc (n)	East Burke FD Concord FD
Waltham	480 485 485	Shelburne PD	Vergennes RS	Vergennes FD
Waterville	711 675 679	Lamoille CSO	Northern EMS	Johnson FD
Westfield	513 535 535	Orleans CSO	Missisquoi Valley Amb	Troy FD
Woodford	389 423 423	Bennington PD	Bennington RS	Bennington Rural FD
UTG Avery's Gore Averill Ferdinand Lewis Warner's Grant Warren Gore	60 60 60	US Customs (f) St Johnsbury (a)	Lyndon Rescue	Beecher Falls FD Beecher Falls FD Brighton FD Brighton FD Beecher Falls FD Beecher Falls FD

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## Appendix A – Work Shift Schedule Examples

in discussing shift schedules in this document, it may be difficult at times for the reader to understand these different schedules. So, here are examples of the different shifts for those department deploying four shifts. The different shifts are labeled A, B, C, and D.

24/72 (1 day on/3 days off) shift						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
A	B	C	D	A	B	C
D	A	B	C	D	A	B
C	D	A	B	C	D	A
B	C	D	A	B	C	D
A	B	C	D	A	B	C

24/48 (1 day on/2 days off) shift						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
A	B	C	A	B	C	A
B	C	A	B	C	A	B
C	A	B	C	A	B	C
A	B	C	A	B	C	A
B	C	A	B	C	A	B

10/14 shift													
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
B	A	B	A	C	B	C	B	D	C	D	C	A	D
A	D	B	A	B	A	C	B	C	B	D	C	D	C
A	D	A	D	B	A	B	A	C	B	C	B	D	C
D	C	A	D	A	D	B	A	B	A	C	B	C	B
D	C	D	C	A	D	A	D	B	A	B	A	C	B

2 days on/1 day off/2 nights on/3 days off													
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
A	C	A	D	B	D	B	A	C	A	C	B	D	B
D	C	A	C	A	D	B	D	B	A	C	A	C	B
D	B	D	C	A	C	A	D	B	D	B	A	C	A
C	B	D	B	D	C	A	C	A	D	B	D	B	A
C	A	C	B	D	B	D	C	A	C	A	C	A	D

## Appendix B - EMS and Fire Emergency Calls across New England

Using information from the State Fire Marshal Office Annual Reports for Vermont, Maine, and Massachusetts; and NFIRS for Connecticut and New Hampshire, we can look at the number of municipal fire and EMS calls to determine if any trends can be observed. Since all the data (including that in the FMO Annual Report) is taken from NFIRS, it is dependent on the number of fire departments entering their data into the system and there is not 100% compliance.

New England State	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	5yr Avg
<b>Connecticut</b>								
Muni EMS calls	185,832	205,487	185,890	203,422	222,609	225,621	245,978	214,835
Fire calls	11,997	13,069	11,956	11,740	11,884	11,584	11,710	11,991
Non-fire calls	108,047	113,139	106,845	107,797	113,860	121,262	141,532	117,406
Total Muni Calls	305,876	331,695	304,691	322,959	348,353	358,467	399,220	344,231
% Muni EMS calls	60.8%	62.0%	61.0%	63.0%	63.9%	62.9%	61.6%	62.4%
% Muni Fire Calls	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.6%	3.4%	3.2%	2.9%	3.5%
<b>Maine</b>								
Muni EMS calls	65,060	66,293	76,138	81,947	81,846	70,410		73,616
Fire calls	5,422	5,261	5,556	5,749	6,422	5,623		5,672
Non-fire calls	29,547	30,535	35,451	34,262	35,998	35,987		33,630
Total Muni Calls	100,029	102,089	117,145	121,958	124,266	112,020		112,918
% Muni EMS calls	65.0%	64.9%	65.0%	67.2%	65.9%	62.9%		65.2%
% Muni Fire Calls	5.4%	5.2%	4.7%	4.7%	5.2%	5.0%		5.0%
<b>New Hampshire</b>								
Muni EMS calls	82,456	87,534	99,124	98,746	111,147	114,796	111,089	103,739
Fire Calls	6,397	6,071	5,844	6,793	7,375	4,121	5,267	5,912
Non-fire calls	49,302	52,407	58,378	55,260	58,261	59,607	59,678	57,265
Total Muni Calls	138,155	146,012	163,346	160,799	176,783	178,524	176,034	166,916
% Muni EMS calls	59.7%	59.9%	60.7%	61.4%	62.9%	64.3%	63.1%	62.2%
% Muni Fire Calls	4.6%	4.2%	3.6%	4.2%	4.2%	2.3%	3.0%	3.5%
<b>Vermont</b>								
Muni EMS calls	21,396	22,225	22,513	23,535	23,208	21,295	25,012	22,965
Fire Calls	3,031	4,076	5,431	3,575	3,269	2,458	2,660	3,578
Non-fire calls	18,702	20,119	16,332	16,332	16,332	17,011	18,199	17,388
Total Muni Calls	45,677	46,420	45,569	45,763	44,085	40,764	45,871	44,745
% Muni EMS calls	46.8%	47.9%	49.4%	51.4%	52.6%	52.2%	54.5%	51.3%
% Muni Fire Calls	6.6%	8.8%	11.9%	7.8%	7.4%	6.0%	5.8%	8.0%
<b>Massachusetts</b>								
Muni EMS calls	442,310	443,486	472,447	510,956	525,726	561,350		492,713
Fire calls	31,229	29,828	28,989	31,302	31,889	27,895		30,189
Non-fire calls	285,297	298,686	306,611	327,928	328,719	347,026		315,711
Total Muni Calls	758,836	772,000	808,047	870,186	886,334	936,271		838,612
% Muni EMS calls	58.3%	57.4%	58.5%	58.7%	59.3%	60.0%		58.8%
% Muni Fire Calls	4.1%	3.9%	3.6%	3.6%	3.6%	3.0%		3.6%
<b>Rhode Island</b>								
Muni EMS calls	133,038	133,709	134,126	143,614	179,215	120,883	130,252	136,122
Total Muni Calls	158,493	159,510	159,159	171,039	205,234	148,725	154,507	162,050
% Muni EMS calls	83.9%	83.8%	84.3%	84.0%	87.3%	81.3%	84.3%	84.0%
% Muni Fire Calls	16.1%	16.2%	15.7%	16.0%	12.7%	18.7%	15.7%	16.0%

## Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont

In looking at Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, the percentage of fire and EMS calls relative to the total calls are similar. Of the non-fire calls, false alarms and service calls account for between 25% and 30% of the total emergency calls for the five States in the table above.

- Maine's percentage of fire and EMS calls relative to the total calls are higher than these three States. This may be partly due to the fact that slightly less than half the fire departments report incident data.
- Vermont's percentage of fire calls is higher and the percentage of EMS calls is lower relative to the total calls. The lower EMS percentage may be due to Vermont's reliance on non-profits for ambulance service (although many towns have a first responder squad) and its higher fire call percentage may be due to its small population and smaller density (population per square mile).

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## Appendix C – Mutual Aid Associations

Most of the county mutual aid associations coordinate mutual aid with respect to dispatch operations and joint training. They generally do not get involved with equipment purchases.

Mutual Aid Association	Year Form	Departments/Towns
Addison County Firefighters Association ( <a href="http://www.addisoncountyfire.org">www.addisoncountyfire.org</a> )	1944	Addison, Bridport, Bristol, Cornwall, Ferrisburg, Lincoln, Middlebury, Monkton, New Haven, Orwell, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham, Starksboro, Vergennes, Weybridge, Whiting
Bennington County Mutual Aid Assn		Arlington, Bennington, Bennington Rural, Dorset, Manchester, North Bennington, Peru, Pownal, Pownal Village, Readsboro, Rupert, Sandgate, Shaftsbury, Stamford, Winhall
Chittenden County Fire Mutual Aid ( <a href="http://www.ccfmas.org">www.ccfmas.org</a> )	2002	Bolton, Burlington, Charlotte, Colchester, Essex, Essex Junction, Grand Isle, Hinesburg, Huntington, Jericho, Mallets Bay, Milton, North Hero, Richmond, Shelburne, South Burlington, St. George, South Hero, Underhill, Westford, Williston, Winooski
Franklin County Mutual Aid Association (17 departments in VT, 5 in Canada)	1974	VT: Alburg, Bakersfield, Berkshire, East Fairfield, Enosburg, Fairfax, Fairfield, Fletcher, Franklin, Georgia, Highgate, Milton, Montgomery, Sheldon, St. Albans City, St. Albans Town, Swanton CA: Philipsburg, Sutton
Grand Isle County Mutual Aid System		Alburg, Grand Isle, Isle LaMotte, North Hero, South Hero
Lamoille County Mutual Aid Association		Cambridge, Eden, Elmore, Hyde Park, Johnson, Morrisville, North Hyde Park, Stowe, Wolcott
Rutland County Fire Mutual Aid Assn ( <a href="http://rutlandcountyfiremutualaid.org">http://rutlandcountyfiremutualaid.org</a> )	1985	Benson, Brandon, Castleton, Chittenden, Clarendon, Danby-Mt. Tabor, East Wallingford, Fair Haven, Hubbardton, Ira, Mt. Holly, Pawlet, Pittsfield, Pittsford, Poultney, Proctor, Rutland City, Rutland Town, Killington, Shrewsbury, Tinmouth, Wallingford, Wells, West Haven, West Pawlet, West Rutland
Capital Fire Mutual Aid System (36 departments)		Barre City, Barre Town, Berlin, Bolton, Cabot, Calais, Chelsea, Duxbury, Groton, E. Montpelier, Marshfield, Middlesex, Montpelier, Moretown, Northfield, Peacham, Plainfield, Roxbury, Stowe, Waitsfield, Walden, Warren, Waterbury, Waterbury Village, Woodbury, Wolcott, Worcester
Connecticut River Valley Mutual Aid		VT: Ascutney, Bellows Falls, Bridgewater, Cavendish, Chester, Hartland, Killington, Ludlow, Mount Holly, Plymouth, Proctorsville, Putney, Reading, Rockingham, Saxton's River, So. Londonderry, So. Woodstock, Springfield, West Windsor, W. Weathersfield, Westminster, Weston, Windsor, Woodstock NH: Charlestown, Claremont, Cornish
Deerfield Valley Mutual Aid System		Dover, Halifax, Marlboro, Readsboro, Whitingham
Northeast international Mutual Aid Systems (16 departments in VT, 2 in Canada)	1973	VT: Albany, Barton, Brighton, Charleston, Craftsbury, Derby, Glover, Irasburg, Jay, Lowell, Newark, Newport City, Newport Center, North Troy, Orleans, Troy, Westmore CA: Masonville,, Memphremagog East
Northeast Mutual Aid (17 departments)		East Burke, Concord, East Haven, Lyndon, Newark, Sutton, Sheffield-Wheelock, West Burke, Westmore
Rural Vermont Mutual Aid System		Craftsbury, Greensboro, Hardwick, Walden
Tri-Mountain Mutual Aid		Jamaica, Londondery, Peru, So.Londonderry, Stratton Mtn, Weston, Winhall, Windham

The Franklin County Mutual Aid and Grand Isle County Mutual Aid dispatching is done through the St. Albans Central dispatching system. The Lamoille County Mutual Aid dispatching is done through the Lamoille

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

County Sheriff's Office. The Rutland County Fire Mutual Aid dispatching is done through the Vermont State Police dispatch center in Rutland. Tri-Mountain Mutual Aid is dispatched out of SWNH.

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**Out-of-State Mutual Aid Associations that some Vermont Towns belong to**

<p>Clinton County NY Fire Mutual Aid <a href="http://www.clintoncountygov.com">www.clintoncountygov.com</a></p>		<p>VT: Alburg, Isle LaMotte CA: Hemmingford, LaColle, Saint Paul, Saint Bernard NY: Altona, Ausable Forks, Beekmantown, Cadyville, Champlain, Chazy, Churubusco, Cumberland Head, Dannemora, Ellenburg (2), Keeseville, Lyon Mountain, Mooers, Morrisville, Peru, Plattsburgh City, Rescue Hose, Rouses Point, Saranac, South Plattsburgh, West Chazy</p>
<p>Northern New Hampshire Fire Mutual Aid Pact (Norpac)</p>	<p>1989</p>	<p>NH: Bethlehem, Carroll, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Dalton, Dummer, Errol, Gorham, Groveton (Northumberland) , Jefferson, Lancaster, Littleton, Milan, Pittsburg, Randolph, Shelburne, Stark, Stewartstown, North Stratford, Whitefield VT: Beecher Falls, Lunenburg</p>
<p>Southwest New Hampshire Mutual Aid Association <a href="http://www.firemutualaid.com">www.firemutualaid.com</a></p>	<p>1958</p>	<p>NH: Acworth, Alstead, Amherst, Antrim, Bennington, Charlestown, Chesterfield, Claremont, Dublin, Fitzwilliam, Francetown, Gilsum, Goshen, Greenfield, Hancock, Harrisville, Hinsdale, Jaffrey, Keene, Langdon, Lempster, Lyndeborough, Marlborough, Marlow, Nelson, New Ipswich, Peterborough, Richmond, Rindge, Roxbury, Sharon, Spofford, Stoddard, Sullivan, Surry, Swanzey, Temple, Troy, Unity, Walpole, Washington, Westmoreland, Winchester MA: Royalston, Winchendon VT: Brattleboro, Bellows Falls, Chester, Dummerston, Dover, Grafton, Guilford, Halifax, Jamaica, Londonderry, Marlboro, Newfane, Peru, Putney, Readsboro, Saxtons River, Springfield, Stratton, Townshend, Vernon, Wardsboro, Westminster, Weston, Whitingham, Wilmington, Windham, Winhall</p>
<p>TriState Fire Mutual Aid Association (<a href="http://www.geocities.com/shelburne911">www.geocities.com/shelburne911</a>)</p>		<p>MA: Amherst, Ashfield, Athol, Bernardston, Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Deerfield, Erving, Gill, Greenfield, Hadley, Hawley, Heath, Leverett, Leyden, Monroe, Montague, New Salem, Northfield, Orange, Pelham, Petersham, Rowe, Royalston, Shelburne Center, Shelburne Falls, South Deerfield, Sunderland, Turner Falls, Warwick, Wendell, Whately, Williamsburg NH: Hinsdale, Keene, Swanzey VT: Brattleboro, Guilford, Halifax, Vernon</p>
<p>Twin State Mutual Aid Association <a href="http://grafftoncountysheriff.net">http://grafftoncountysheriff.net</a></p>		<p>NH: Bath, Bethlehem, Carroll, Easton, Franconia, Haverhill, Landaff, Lincoln, Lisbon, Littleton, Lyman, Monroe, Piermont, Sugar Hill, Woodstock VT: Barnet, Bradford, Groton, Newbury, Peacham, Ryegate, Wells River</p>
<p>Upper Valley Mutual Aid Association <a href="http://www.hanovernh.org/police">www.hanovernh.org/police</a> (33 towns)</p>	<p>1997</p>	<p>NH: Canaan, Claremont, Cornish, Enfield, Grafton, Grantham, Hanover, Lebanon, Lyme, Meriden, Orford, Piermont, Plainfield, Springfield VT: Ascutney, Barnard, Bradford, Bridgewater, E Barnard, Fairlee, Hartford, Hartland, Norwich, Pomfret, South Royalton, S. Woodstock, Sharon, Strafford, Teago, Thetford, Vershire, West Fairlee, West Windsor, White River Valley, Windsor, Woodstock</p>
<p>Washington County NY Fire Mutual Aid System</p>		<p>VT: Dorset, East Dorset, Fair Haven, Middletown Springs, Pawlet, Poultney, Rupert, Wells, West Pawlet NY: J. A. Barkley Hose Co, Argyle Fire &amp; Rescue, Cambridge VFD, Cossayuna VFD, Dresden VFC, Easton VFC, Fort Ann VFC, Fort Edward VFD, Granville FD, Greenwich VFD, Hampton VFC, Hartford VFC, Hebron VFC, Hudson Falls</p>

**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

	VFD, Huletts Landing VFC, North Granville Hose, Middle Falls VFD, Penrhyn Engine & Hose, Putnam VFC, Salem VFD, Schuyler Hose Co, Shushan VFC, West Fort Ann VFC, White Creek VFC , Whitehall VFC, Argyle Emergency Squad, Cambridge Valley Rescue, Easton-Greenwich Rescue, Fort Ann Rescue, Fort Edward Rescue, Granville Rescue, North Queensbury Rescue, Salem Rescue, Skenesborough Rescue
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## Appendix D – When Fire Departments Established

Fire Department	Est.	Fire Department	Est.	Fire Department	Est.
Addison	1961	Danby/Mount Tabor	1935	Killington / Shelburne	1955
Albany		Danville		Lincoln	1949
Alburgh	1968	Derby		Lowell	1955
Arlington		Dorset	1911	Ludlow	1833
Ascutney	1960	East Burke	1976	Lunenburg Co. A	
Bakersfield	1935	East Dorset	1943	Lyndonville	1883
Barnard	1956	East Dover	1948	Malletts Bay	1952
Barnet		East Montpelier	1964	Manchester	1951
Barre City		East Randolph	1948	Marlboro	1978
Barre Town	1962	Elmore	1983	Marshfield	1911
Beecher Falls		Enosburgh	1886	Middlebury	1892
Bellows Falls	1825	Essex	1973	Middlesex	1963
Bennington	1850	Essex Junction	1893	Middletown Springs	1952
Bennington Rural	1953	Fair Haven	1886	Milton	1937
Benson	1950	Fairfax	1948	Monkton	1972
Berkshire	1942	Fairfield	1960	Montgomery	
Berlin	1957	Fairlee	1932	Montpelier	1895
Bethel		Ferrisburg	1941	Moretown	
Bolton	1978	Franklin	1967	Morrisville	1890
Bradford	1855	Georgia	1952	Mount Holly	1946
Brandon	1894	Glover	1959	New Haven	1967
Brattleboro	1831	Goshen		Newark	1982
Bridgewater	1951	Grafton	1923	Newbrook	1948
Bridport	1949	Grand Isle	1951	Newbury	1936
Brighton	1885	Granville	1951	Newport	1918
Bristol	1893	Greensboro	1912	Newport Center	
Brookfield	1948	Groton	1930	North Bennington	1834
Burlington	1895	Guilford	1949	North Hero	1954
Cabot	1908	Halifax		North Hyde Park/Eden	1956
Cambridge	1950	Hancock		North Troy	
Castleton	1946	Hardwick	1891	Northfield	1838
Cavendish	1957	Hartford	1893	Norwich	1920
Champion	1909	Hartland	1948	Orleans	1876
Charleston	1954	Highgate	1962	Orwell	1991
Charlotte	1951	Hinesburg	1943	Pawlet	1950
Chelsea	1884	Hubbardton	1953	Peacham	1950
Chester	1968	Huntington	1952	Peru	
Chittenden	1957	Hyde Park	1907	Phoenix	1886
Clarendon	1963	Ira	1976	Pittsfield	1951
Colchester Center	1951	Irasburg	1914	Pittsford	1948
Concord	1940	Isle La Motte	1967	Plainfield	1913
Corinth	1948	Jamaica		Plymouth	
Cornwall	1950	Jay	1979	Pomfret-Teago VFD	
Craftsbury	1938	Johnson	1895	Poultney	1889



**Fire Departments and Emergency Medical Services in Vermont**

<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>Est.</b>
Pownal	1946
Pownal Valley	
Proctor	1898
Proctorsville	1833
Putney	1898
Randolph Center	
Randolph Village	1879
Reading	
Readsboro	1890
Richford	1889
Richmond	1925
Ripton	1972
Rochester	1890
Rockingham	1835
Roxbury	
Rupert	1950
Rutland City	1894
Rutland Town	1967
Ryegate	1974
Salisbury	1972
Saxtons River	
Shaftsbury	1761
Sharon	1949
Sheffield-Wheelock	1950
Shelburne	1941
Sheldon	1975
Shoreham	
Shrewsbury	1952
So Royalton	1884
South Burlington	1970
South Hero	1953

<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>Est.</b>
South Newfane	1946
Springfield	1833
St. Albans City	1906
St. Albans Town	1975
St. Johnsbury	1843
Stamford	1953
Starksboro	1959
Stockbridge	1952
Stowe	1906
Strafford	1950
Stratton Mountain	1968
Sutton	
Swanton	1888
Thetford	1960
Tinmouth	1967
Townshend	
Tri-Village	1953
Troy	1974
Tunbridge	1967
Underhill/Jericho	1913
Vergennes	1876
Vernon	1951
Vershire	1980
Waitsfield/Fayton	1915
Walden	1968
Wallingford	1907
Wardsboro	1936
Warren	1947
Washington	
Waterbury Village	1882
Waterford	1985

<b>Fire Department</b>	<b>Est.</b>
Wells	
Wells River	1898
West Burke	
West Dover	1963
West Dummerston	1950
West Fairlee	1961
West Haven	
West Newbury	1975
West Pawlet	1947
West Rutland	1891
West Weathersfield	1936
West Windsor	1957
Westford	1982
Westminster	1936
Westmore	2001
Weston	1949
Weybridge	1961
Whiting	1966
Whitingham	1858
Williamstown	1911
Williston	1949
Wilmington	1858
Windham	1970
Windsor	1896
Winhall	
Winooski	
Wolcott	1975
Woodbury	1961
Woodstock	1820
Worcester	1964