

Some Fire Departments Look at Mergers Due to Volunteer Drop

Volunteer firefighters are being asked to respond to more calls and get more training and many are not sticking around as long as in the past.

By [Associated Press](#), Wire Service Content April 5, 2020, at 8:00 a.m.

By ALEX ZORN, The Daily Sentinel

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. (AP) — Volunteer firefighters have to do more than ever before — more training, expanded responsibilities and an increasing number of calls, and without a salary. Adding to that, not many who start as a volunteer firefighter are expected to stick around for very long.

“The days of employers letting their employees leave their job to respond on a fire call, on a rescue call, to go battle a wildfire... that doesn’t happen anymore,” Clifton Fire Protection District Chief Charles Balke said. “Employers can’t afford to have their employees be gone for several hours to go intervene in a medical emergency.”

Balke first put on his volunteer firefighter hat as a teenager in [Arizona](#), while paying the bills by working as a mechanic and doing landscaping work.

He said volunteers and part-time employees spend an average of 3.2 years at the department before moving on.

“And that number keeps getting smaller and smaller,” he said. “Volunteers used to stick around for a number of years. Four or five years out of a volunteer or part-timer these days, we come out ahead.”

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, 77% of [Colorado](#) fire departments are either volunteer-based or mostly volunteer (46% volunteer, 31% mostly volunteer), compared to 23% career-based or mostly career (14% career, 9% mostly career).

Clifton Fire is a combination fire department with both part-time and full-time employees. With six volunteers currently, they are hardly the only local volunteer fire organization seeing the trend of a shrinking volunteer base.

Palisade Fire Chief Richard Rupp started as a volunteer 38 years ago and has seen just how much the volunteer firefighter industry has changed over the years.

Set to retire in September, he knows firsthand the challenges being a volunteer firefighter in 2020 bring with it.

“When (volunteers or part-timers) get a chance, they are going to jump ship and go for a full-time position and, personally, I don’t blame them,” he explained.

He said working as a volunteer for a few years can provide young firefighters with an ideal background to springboard their career.

He said larger fire departments on the Western Slope have become funnels for most of his new volunteers.

Increased training

Today, Palisade firefighters respond to 80% emergency medical service (EMS) calls.

“It has advanced tremendously,” Rupp said.

to live on.

Volunteer firefighters respond to a wide range of emergencies in Mesa County including fires, emergency medical incidents and other general service calls.

As such, volunteers must spend a significant time training to prepare for the variety of emergencies, and that training is usually done at no pay or just a small stipend.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the number of volunteer firefighters has significantly declined in recent years. The volunteer firefighter numbers for 2016 and 2017 were the lowest recorded levels since the NFPA began a national survey of fire departments in 1983.

Yet, volunteers account for 65% of firefighters in the U.S.

The time donated by volunteer firefighters saves localities across the country an estimated \$46.9 billion per year, according to the NFPA.

RECRUITING CHALLENGES

Firefighters are not only asked to do more in 2020, but call volume for fire departments across the U.S. continues to go up, while the number of firefighters has remained the same.

According to the NFPA, the total number of calls for U.S. fire departments has gone from just under 12 million in 1986 to over 35 million in 2016. Meanwhile, the number of firefighters in the NFPA survey was 1,025,650 in 1986 and 1,056,200 in 2017.

Recruiting challenges for many fire departments across the U.S. include time demands, training requirements, increasing call volume, and wide response roles.

Lands End Fire Protection Chief Brian Lurvey said his staff is mostly made up of volunteers ages 25 to 45, though he said it was getting younger and younger.

He said the department will fluctuate in terms of its volunteer base, losing three to four people a year.

At nearly seven years with the department, he's one of the longest that has been there among his staff.

THE FUTURE

While still in the early stages, Mesa County fire departments have discussed what the future structure of regional firefighting may look like.

Palisade Chief Rupp said they've met with neighboring departments and discussed the possibility of a merger.

"We're not the only department having difficulties, a lot of them are," he said. "It's getting really tough."

Clifton Chief Balke said they've had preliminary conversations about what consolidating, and merging may look like.

He said they've discussed how to reduce duplication efforts and costs, such as forming an intergovernmental agreement and pooling resources and collaborating on things like independent fire academies, supply ordering and legal resources.

Consolidations and mergers have been talked about for years, according to both chiefs, but without a timeline in place it remains business as usual at each agency as the future is discussed.

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Issues the GGFD is facing now & in the future

Introduction:

- As the Fire Chief & the District Board it is our job to provide the best possible emergency services at the lowest possible costs. I am extremely comfortable with the skills and training of our firefighters, but I do not feel we are providing the best emergency response possible due to our current staffing levels. The lack of volunteerism has been observed for years and is plaguing volunteer Fire Departments nationwide. As such we have seen many departments realize they are stronger together by sharing resources, consolidating, merging, or the establishment of Fire Authorities. I feel we would be doing a disservice to the community if we did not, at a minimum, explore some of the possibilities with Timberline while we continue to work on staffing within our district. I have discussed this with all three officers, and they are in support of having conversations with TLFD.

Staffing:

- When I became Chief almost three years ago GGFD had 17 volunteers with five of those approaching the end of their service at GGFD due to age and the many years of service they had. At the present time we have had four of them retire and one more that will most likely retire in 2021.
- From January 2017 to January 2020 we have had a total of 11 members join the department and 12 members resign.
- We have lost volunteers due to them moving out of state, moving out of the district, taking different jobs, not being able to make it through Fire Academy, or not having enough time to meet the requirements of the department.
- Over the last three years we have been able to recruit some out of district shift workers with the creation of the shift program and at this time we have retained them.
- Even though we have in-district volunteers only two (plus me) are generally around during the daytime during the week as the others work in town.
- We have recently lost our Training Chief that committed countless hours as a volunteer to do that job. It is not practical to ask our volunteers to commit the amount of time it takes to do what that job requires.

Issues recruiting and retaining volunteers in the west metro area:

- GGFD is surrounded by five combination fire departments (Golden, Fairmount, Pleasant View, Timberline, Coal Creek), of those 5 departments GGFD has the lowest call volume with 80-100 per year. These other departments can offer volunteers the opportunity to run a lot more calls, interaction with paid personnel when doing shifts, training with paid personnel when doing shifts and volunteer stipend programs.

- Most people volunteering for Fire Departments are in their twenties and thirties and are doing it to get experience with the intention of gaining full-time employment as a firefighter. Nationwide, the old days of people volunteering on their local Fire Departments to help their community does not exist in the manner it used to.
- New Firefighters must spend hundreds of hours getting their certifications. In the first year or so they must obtain Firefighter 1, hazardous materials operations, EMR/EMT & Wildland Firefighter certification, and this is only to reach a nominal baseline to be operational and functional as a firefighter. Continuing training to maintain proficiency and add skills is essential both for safety and to provide effective response to calls. In addition, most of the grants that the district applies for want to see additional and higher level training of our Firefighters to show the commitment. This is a significant commitment for someone with a full-time job and a family if they are not doing it to further their career.
- Another issue with recruiting volunteers in Golden Gate is the demographics of the district. We do not have many people in their twenties and thirties that live in the district. Most of our population is a little bit older and do not have the time needed to commit to the Fire Department.
- To help bolster the in-district program I implemented a shift program. This program allows the Firefighters to come and do shifts at the stations and stay overnight if they want. The issue I see with sustaining this program is boredom – due to the lack of calls these firefighters can shift for months and never run one call. They can only clean the fire house and engines so many times. Some of the shift workers have applied or expressed interest in applying at Golden & Fairmount so they can utilize the skills and training they have and remain interested in the fire service.

Budget:

- For the most part the GGFD budget is stable and able to provide for the day to day operations of the district. However, one big concern is not having an apparatus replacement plan. Some of our equipment is quite old and will need to be replaced at some point. The current income of the district does not provide a particularly good opportunity for that other than replacing equipment with used equipment.
- One of my plans was to remodel Station #1 and build some resident/shift quarters, my hope was this might attract some people to add to the resident program. However, there is no guarantee of this working and I am not sure the cost of this remodel would get us enough return to justify the expense of the remodel.
- The current budget does not support hiring a Training Chief or other paid personnel to address the staffing issues. Even if we did hire some personnel to cover weekday business hours (Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) issues of retention can be anticipated. Firefighters would likely use the job for their resume, get bored from not running calls and leave when hired at another department full-time.

Possible solutions:

- I believe if the Stipend Program that was submitted to the board is implemented, it may buy us some time in retaining the shift workers that are having to spend money on fuel, equipment, and time to volunteer.
- I do not have a good solution for recruiting shift volunteers, I do not feel we can compete with the other departments when it comes to the shift program. We can do some more aggressive advertising for in-district members, but I am not optimistic that we could recruit enough members to fill the needs of the district.
- We can adjust the budget and shift some funds to hire part-staff/Training Chief and see what we can get. In the interim the Lieutenants and I can probably handle doing trainings, but it is not a long-term solution.
- We can look at the possibility of sharing a Training Captain with Timberline and paying part of his salary.
- We can look at sharing other resources with Timberline such as paid Firefighters that can respond to our district for calls (primarily in weekday business hours or other gaps in volunteer coverage).
- We can look at establishing a Fire Authority, conducting a merger, or ultimate dissolution/inclusion within the Timberline District.
- We can do nothing and continue as we are.
- Or any combination of the above ideas.

Data:

Attached is the call data from January 1st, 2018 thru December 31st, 2019. So, what do I consider adequate personnel for call response? For general purposes I would consider anything less than a full engine company which is four people an inadequate response on a call. Keep in mind that many calls such as fires, accidents, & back country rescues require many more than four Firefighters. The attached call data shows that we responded to 177 calls over a 2-year period. Of the 177 calls we responded with less than four Firefighters 33 times or about 19% of the time. Also keep in mind that many of the calls you see more four or more people included Chief Brill and me. For those calls in that 2-year period our average response time was 19-minutes.

Conclusion:

As stated above we are surrounded by five volunteer departments, of those departments I feel we are best aligned topographically and operationally with TLFD. I would suggest we form a joint committee with TLFD to explore the pros & cons of working together, sharing resources, etc. My suggestion would be to form a committee made up of two board members from each

district and the Fire Chiefs. I think we also need to be transparent in this by letting the community know what we are doing and why. We as stewards of the public's safety and funds are ultimately responsible to maximize the benefit of our citizens, and I believe that this exploration and investigation reflects that mission.

Damian DiFeo-Fire Chief

Golden Gate FPD

Golden, CO

This report was generated on 4/21/2020 4:13:23 PM



GOLDEN GATE
Fire Department

Personnel Count per Incident for Date Range

Start Date: 01/01/2018 | End Date: 12/31/2019

INCIDENT				NUMBER OF PEOPLE		
NUMBER	DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	FDID	ON APPARATUS	NOT ON APPARATUS	TOTAL
2018-1	1/6/2018 21:55:00	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	2	0	2
2018-2	1/11/2018 05:15:00	161 - Outside storage fire	05943	7	5	12
2018-3	1/15/2018 12:03:00	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	3	3	6
2018-4	1/15/2018 12:04:41	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	3	3	6
2018-5	1/22/2018 19:40:00	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	5	3	8
2018-6	1/24/2018 13:28:00	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	0	2
2018-7	2/11/2018 21:06:00	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	6	1	7
2018-8	2/16/2018 23:04:00	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	3	6	9
2018-9	2/22/2018 17:04:00	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	7	3	10
2018-10	2/28/2018 18:43:00	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	3	0	3
2018-11	3/4/2018 13:17:00	550 - Public service assistance, other	05943	3	3	6
2018-12	3/19/2018 17:30:15	142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	05943	4	6	10
2018-13	3/20/2018 08:35:00	142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	05943	5	1	6
2018-14	3/27/2018 13:35:50	631 - Authorized controlled burning	05943	1	18	19
2018-15	3/27/2018 17:16:49	631 - Authorized controlled burning	05943	1	18	19
2018-16	3/28/2018 09:58:00	631 - Authorized controlled burning	05943	1	1	2
2018-17	4/18/2018 19:10:00	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	7	2	9
2018-18	4/28/2018 13:30:00	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	4	4	8
2018-19	4/29/2018 14:55:00	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	1	7	8
2018-20	4/30/2018 15:01:56	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	2	1	3
2018-21	5/28/2018 16:35:00	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	6	0	6
2018-22	5/30/2018 04:22:47	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	1	3
2018-23	6/5/2018 06:32:05	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	4	0	4
2018-24	6/7/2018 16:49:56	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	5	3	8
2018-25	6/9/2018 14:20:16	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	4	3	7
2018-26	6/16/2018 16:17:08	118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	05943	4	2	6
2018-27	6/20/2018 17:05:32	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	1	2	3

Only REVIEWED incidents included



EMERGENCY REPORTING

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INCIDENT				NUMBER OF PEOPLE		
NUMBER	DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	FDID	ON APPARATUS	NOT ON APPARATUS	TOTAL
2018-28	6/25/2018 16:59:37	311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	05943	3	1	4
2018-29	6/26/2018 09:55:42	151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	05943	3	1	4
2018-30	6/28/2018 20:57:25	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	4	3	7
2018-31	6/28/2018 20:57:25	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	4	3	7
2018-32	6/30/2018 23:07:46	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	6	0	6
2018-33	7/1/2018 15:35:19	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	6	0	6
2018-34	7/1/2018 16:05:57	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	6	0	6
2018-35	7/4/2018 11:33:42	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	4	6
2018-36	7/4/2018 19:41:08	311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	05943	3	0	3
2018-37	7/4/2018 19:43:13	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	3	0	3
2018-38	7/8/2018 00:25:07	542 - Animal rescue	05943	6	1	7
2018-39	7/8/2018 13:04:13	542 - Animal rescue	05943	1	2	3
2018-40	7/10/2018 16:17:49	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	3	5	8
2018-41	7/10/2018 16:30:47	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	2	5	7
2018-42	7/19/2018 20:15:31	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	5	3	8
2018-43	7/21/2018 02:12:29	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	3	0	3
2018-44	7/21/2018 08:45:48	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	2	4	6
2018-45	8/2/2018 13:16:21	356 - High-angle rescue	05943	3	3	6
2018-46	8/4/2018 16:02:48	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	5	2	7
2018-47	8/4/2018 16:36:38	553 - Public service	05943	5	2	7
2018-48	8/4/2018 16:56:33	311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	05943	6	2	8
2018-49	8/5/2018 11:15:38	311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	05943	5	1	6
2018-50	8/15/2018 06:28:05	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	2	1	3
2018-51	8/27/2018 19:59:31	561 - Unauthorized burning	05943	7	0	7
2018-52	8/31/2018 12:53:13	141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	05943	7	1	8
2018-53	8/31/2018 15:41:55	141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	05943	1	2	3
2018-54	9/1/2018 16:26:59	141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	05943	8	2	10
2018-55	9/2/2018 08:15:26	142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	05943	8	0	8
2018-56	9/2/2018 14:03:52	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	5	1	6
2018-57	9/4/2018 19:48:55	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	12	1	13
2018-58	9/9/2018 21:43:44	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	5	0	5
2018-59	9/19/2018 15:22:13	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	1	1	2
2018-60	9/20/2018 22:06:48	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	7	0	7
2018-61	9/22/2018 16:46:13	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	6	8	14
2018-62	9/23/2018 02:44:24	651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	05943	4	1	5

Only REVIEWED incidents included

INCIDENT				NUMBER OF PEOPLE		
NUMBER	DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	FDID	ON APPARATUS	NOT ON APPARATUS	TOTAL
2018-63	9/25/2018 18:51:02	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	4	5	9
2018-64	10/8/2018 09:18:57	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	2	7	9
2018-65	10/8/2018 09:13:41	551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	05943	6	3	9
2018-66	10/8/2018 14:25:33	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	4	0	4
2018-67	11/4/2018 18:05:00	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	4	2	6
2018-68	11/7/2018 02:46:25	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	7	1	8
2018-69	11/7/2018 04:30:22	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	7	1	8
2018-70	11/14/2018 10:19:55	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	2	1	3
2018-71	11/22/2018 14:30:39	651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	05943	1	7	8
2018-72	11/21/2018 18:26:42	100 - Fire, other	05943	3	4	7
2018-73	12/1/2018 11:44:31	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	9	0	9
2018-74	12/2/2018 19:48:08	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	8	0	8
2018-75	12/14/2018 13:51:54	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	2	2	4
2018-76	12/19/2018 19:28:00	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	4	0	4
2018-77	12/25/2018 20:11:18	111 - Building fire	05943	3	5	8
2018-78	12/22/2018 05:42:56	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	6	1	7
2019-1	1/4/2019 13:18:21	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	0	2
2019-2	1/9/2019 09:36:10	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	5	0	5
2019-3	1/12/2019 05:12:11	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	6	2	8
2019-4	1/18/2019 14:17:58	460 - Accident, potential accident, other	05943	8	2	10
2019-5	1/18/2019 14:44:29	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	7	1	8
2019-6	1/20/2019 19:57:52	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	5	1	6
2019-7	1/27/2019 12:34:11	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	6	0	6
2019-8	2/8/2019 10:23:24	651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	05943	3	1	4
2019-9	2/9/2019 12:09:22	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	5	5	10
2019-10	2/16/2019 12:33:42	131 - Passenger vehicle fire	05943	8	1	9
2019-11	3/5/2019 16:21:32	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	3	2	5
2019-12	3/9/2019 05:02:34	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	8	2	10
2019-13	3/13/2019 14:11:38	444 - Power line down	05943	8	0	8
2019-14	3/13/2019 19:14:34	100 - Fire, other	05943	8	0	8
2019-15	3/18/2019 10:43:00	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	3	1	4

Only REVIEWED incidents included

INCIDENT				NUMBER OF PEOPLE		
NUMBER	DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	FDID	ON APPARATUS	NOT ON APPARATUS	TOTAL
2019-16	3/18/2019 16:10:20	631 - Authorized controlled burning	05943	3	2	5
2019-17	3/20/2019 03:00:40	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	1	2	3
2019-18	3/21/2019 03:14:00	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	1	1	2
2019-19	3/22/2019 07:51:37	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	3	2	5
2019-20	3/28/2019 20:05:40	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	7	1	8
2019-21	3/30/2019 21:04:08	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	5	1	6
2019-22	3/31/2019 14:54:57	631 - Authorized controlled burning	05943	10	2	12
2019-23	4/9/2019 21:05:39	550 - Public service assistance, other	05943	6	3	9
2019-24	4/26/2019 14:23:46	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	4	0	4
2019-25	5/10/2019 12:05:00	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	4	0	4
2019-26	5/11/2019 12:39:01	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	5	3	8
2019-27	5/12/2019 14:39:12	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	2	0	2
2019-28	5/12/2019 15:26:18	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	0	2
2019-29	5/13/2019 08:58:45	652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	05943	3	1	4
2019-30	5/16/2019 17:54:57	424 - Carbon monoxide incident	05943	4	0	4
2019-31	5/25/2019 13:38:30	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	6	0	6
2019-32	5/27/2019 05:18:00	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	1	4	5
2019-33	5/28/2019 04:22:00	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	1	3	4
2019-34	6/2/2019 10:43:26	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	4	1	5
2019-35	6/3/2019 14:57:23	350 - Extrication, rescue, other	05943	2	0	2
2019-36	6/5/2019 22:59:45	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	5	1	6
2019-37	6/8/2019 16:18:46	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	4	0	4
2019-38	6/13/2019 20:04:58	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	3	5	8
2019-39	6/14/2019 14:35:54	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	2	0	2
2019-40	6/21/2019 20:01:08	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	3	3	6
2019-41	6/30/2019 11:52:02	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	6	0	6
2019-42	7/1/2019 21:10:19	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	6	0	6
2019-43	7/3/2019 08:51:03	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	5	0	5
2019-44	7/7/2019 09:25:49	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	8	0	8
2019-45	7/7/2019 17:22:46	350 - Extrication, rescue, other	05943	5	0	5
2019-46	7/11/2019 18:14:23	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	4	2	6
2019-47	7/12/2019 13:01:44	571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	05943	3	0	3

Only REVIEWED incidents included

INCIDENT				NUMBER OF PEOPLE		
NUMBER	DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	FDID	ON APPARATUS	NOT ON APPARATUS	TOTAL
2019-48	7/15/2019 13:01:49	142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	05943	3	0	3
2019-49	7/18/2019 15:28:24	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	3	0	3
2019-51	8/5/2019 00:56:33	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	3	1	4
2019-52	8/10/2019 09:15:26	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	3	3	6
2019-53	8/11/2019 19:32:58	300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	05943	3	4	7
2019-54	8/14/2019 07:36:16	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	2	2	4
2019-55	8/16/2019 14:09:32	412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	05943	3	1	4
2019-56	8/17/2019 08:39:53	322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	05943	5	0	5
2019-57	8/25/2019 14:52:10	320 - Emergency medical service, other	05943	5	0	5
2019-58	8/29/2019 10:05:36	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	1	0	1
2019-59	8/31/2019 16:22:49	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	5	2	7
2019-60	9/2/2019 11:56:17	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	2	4
2019-61	9/2/2019 13:27:33	571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	05943	4	0	4
2019-62	9/4/2019 15:14:08	141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	05943	4	3	7
2019-63	9/4/2019 18:29:17	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	4	1	5
2019-64	9/5/2019 15:25:07	652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	05943	3	3	6
2019-65	9/6/2019 02:26:31	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	6	1	7
2019-66	9/6/2019 13:57:58	651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	05943	5	1	6
2019-67	9/9/2019 21:11:56	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	6	0	6
2019-68	9/10/2019 17:07:13	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	4	3	7
2019-69	9/12/2019 15:00:12	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	2	4
2019-70	9/15/2019 18:37:01	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	3	2	5
2019-71	9/16/2019 12:39:35	561 - Unauthorized burning	05943	1	16	17
2019-72	9/17/2019 17:49:54	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	3	2	5
2019-73	9/18/2019 13:10:05	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	1	0	1
2019-74	9/20/2019 14:42:28	141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	05943	5	6	11
2019-75	9/20/2019 15:37:41	651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	05943	10	1	11
2019-76	9/26/2019 10:33:49	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	3	5
2019-77	10/3/2019 15:52:25	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	3	2	5
2019-78	10/3/2019 22:01:34	561 - Unauthorized burning	05943	6	1	7
2019-79	10/4/2019 08:02:27	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	4	0	4
2019-80	10/7/2019 12:02:14	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	2	1	3

Only REVIEWED incidents included

INCIDENT				NUMBER OF PEOPLE		
NUMBER	DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	FDID	ON APPARATUS	NOT ON APPARATUS	TOTAL
2019-81	10/9/2019 21:39:01	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	4	0	4
2019-82	10/10/2019 08:00:49	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	7	0	7
2019-83	10/21/2019 11:18:52	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	2	2	4
2019-84	10/23/2019 19:46:12	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	4	0	4
2019-85	10/26/2019 08:49:21	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	6	1	7
2019-86	10/30/2019 03:40:19	571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	05943	5	3	8
2019-87	11/6/2019 18:43:53	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	2	4	6
2019-88	11/6/2019 19:10:30	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	3	2	5
2019-89	11/7/2019 07:35:30	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	2	1	3
2019-90	11/9/2019 05:37:43	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	5	1	6
2019-91	11/9/2019 13:03:32	141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	05943	4	4	8
2019-92	11/12/2019 12:47:10	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	2	1	3
2019-93	11/19/2019 14:45:57	350 - Extrication, rescue, other	05943	3	0	3
2019-94	11/25/2019 12:39:04	622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	05943	5	1	6
2019-95	11/30/2019 14:39:16	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	2	1	3
2019-96	12/12/2019 15:08:05	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	1	4	5
2019-97	12/14/2019 20:43:56	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	3	0	3
2019-98	12/18/2019 05:12:44	321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	05943	3	2	5
2019-99	12/26/2019 22:06:03	611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	05943	3	3	6
2019-100	12/28/2019 01:30:32	324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	05943	4	2	6
AVERAGES:				4.1	1.9	6.1

Only REVIEWED incidents included

Golden Gate FPD

Golden, CO

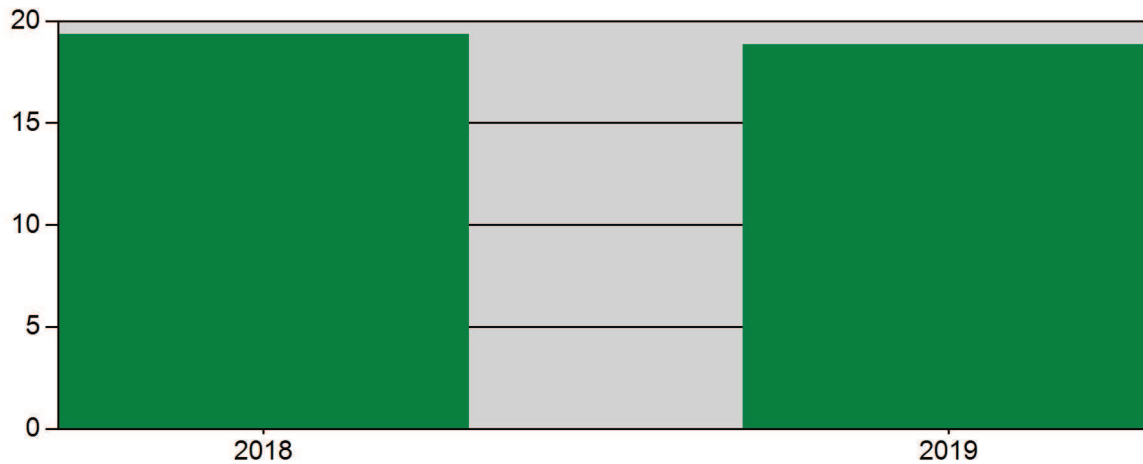
This report was generated on 5/12/2020 1:55:03 PM



GOLDEN GATE
Fire Department

Average Response Time for Year Range

StartYear: 2018 | EndYear: 2019



YEAR	RESPONSE TIME (minutes)
2018	19.35
2019	18.85

Response time calculated from DISPATCH and ARRIVED times of Basic Info 4 for all apparatus. Only REVIEWED incidents included.



EMERGENCY REPORTING

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Past, Recent, Upcoming Mergers and/or Mergers Being Considered

- 2018 Lafayette Fire & Rocky Mountain Fire Protection
- 2019 Summit Fire & Summit County Ambulance Service
- 2016 Wheat Ridge Fire & West Metro Fire
- 2008 South Metro & Parker Fire
- 2018 South Metro & Cunningham Fire
- 2019 Littleton Fire & South Metro Fire
- 2011 High Country Fire & Colorado Sierra
- 2018 Snowmass Fire & Basalt Fire
- North Fork Fire, Elk Creek Fire, Inter Canyon Fire & Indian Hills Fire are currently discussing merging all four departments into one
- Clifton, Palisade, and other agencies in the Grand Junction area are discussing what consolidation would look like.

Competition with surrounding departments for Firefighters

This was posted on May 8, 2020 by Golden Fire

The Golden Fire Lateral Volunteer Firefighter Application Period is open now until May 26th. Applicants must have at least two years' experience as a certified firefighter within the last two years. Must hold or have held a minimum of Firefighter I and Hazmat Operations Certifications.

The application process includes an interview panel, ride along shift, firefighter skills testing, a Chief's interview, and background check. Once accepted the volunteer firefighter is required to complete three 12 hour shifts per month or 72 calls per year if they live in the city and 60 hours of training per year.

Benefits include stipend available per shift, length of service awards, an annuity at 10 years, city wellness program, and access to the Golden Community Center.

Lateral volunteers are offered numerous advanced trainings and certifications including driver operator, fire officer, technical rescue, swift water rescue, and wildland firefighting. The lateral firefighters may advance to instructor positions and officer appointment.

See the attached Job Description and Benefits information. Those interested can apply at www.cityofgolden.net under "Volunteer Opportunities".