



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

STATISTICAL NEWS

FIRE AND RESCUE INCIDENT STATISTICS 2019-20

**AN OFFICIAL STATISTICS
PUBLICATION FOR SCOTLAND**

30 October 2020

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Corrections

The following corrections have been made:

Building Fires by Area of Damage (IFR_BA1)

- This table, first introduced as experimental statistics in 2018-19, presented incorrect figures due to a pivot table error where one column title did not appear as it had been incorrectly interpreted as a date, this caused the remaining data to be misaligned in the spreadsheet. This issue has now been resolved.

Official Statistics

In 2019 the Scottish Government added the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to the register of 'Producers of Official Statistics', this permits SFRS to publish Official Statistics and requires that SFRS follow the Code of Practice for Statistics in producing them.

This statistical series was formerly designated as 'Official' when it was initiated by the Scottish Government and we have chosen to reapply the designation from this year. As we have voluntarily followed the Code of Practice for Statistics in previous years, there has been no change in process to apply this designation.

Notable Revisions

There were no revisions in the headline incidents timeseries of more than 0.5%. However, there have been several notable revisions in the headline casualties timeseries for the year 2018-19.

This is a common occurrence for the year after publication and results from further data capture and quality assurance work.

The following list contains casualty revisions over 1% for the year 2018-19:

- Non-fatal Fire Casualties where first aid was given at the scene has increased by 1.0% to 523
- Fatal Fire Casualties where death was not caused by the fire has increased from 4 to 5, consequently there has been a 2.0% increase in the total number of Fatal Fire Casualties bringing the total to 50
- Non-fatal Non-fire Casualties has increased by 1.2% to 3484
- Fatal Non-fire Casualties in Medical Incidents has increased by 2 to 23
- Fatal Non-fire Casualties in 'Other' Non-fire Incident categories increased by 27 to 138
- Fatal Non-fire Casualties has increased by 7.8% to 413 with the increase occurring across a range of categories

Experimental Statistics

The following tables are no longer classed as experimental:

- Building Fires by Area of Damage (IFR_BA1)
- Incidents Attended by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile (IAC_ISIMD1)
- Incidents Attended by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile - Rate per Million Population (IAC_ISIMDRP1)
- Casualties in Fires by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile (IAC_CSIMD1)
- Casualties in Fires by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile - Rate per Million Population (IAC_CSIMDRP1)
- Incidents Attended by Urban Rural Index (IAC_IUR1)
- Incidents Attended by Urban Rural Index - Rate per Million Population (IAC_IURRP1)
- Casualties in Fires by Urban Rural Index (IAC_CUR1)
- Casualties in Fires by Urban Rural Index - Rate per Million Population (IAC_CURRP)

The following experimental tables have been introduced:

- Multi-storey Residential Fires (IFR_BMS1)
- Casualties in Multi-storey Residential Fires (ICF_LBMS1)

Building Fires and Casualties

The table 'Building Fires by Location' (IFR_B1) has been expanded to include more detailed categories for residential property fires including subcategories of dwellings and other residential properties.

The table code has been updated to reflect these changes (IFR_B2). The table 'Building Fires by Location and Local Authority' (IFR_BLA1) has been similarly updated and now has a new table code (IFR_BLA2).

A new table has been introduced detailing fatal and non-fatal casualties in building fires using the same property categories and a similar layout 'Casualties in Building Fires by Location' (ICF_LB1).

Experimental statistics have been introduced which present details of multi-storey residential fires and casualties and the number of storeys in these properties based on the following three categories: 'Purpose Built Flat / Maisonette', 'Converted Flat / Maisonette', 'HMO' (House in Multiple Occupation).

Statistics are also presented on fires in residential properties over 6 storeys using more detailed data, quality assurance of this is challenging and so should be considered a best estimate.

This is presented as residential properties are considered to be 'High Rise' if they are over 18 meters (approximately 6 storeys) in Scotland. The new tables are: 'Multi-storey Residential Fires' (IFR_BMS1) and 'Casualties in Multi-storey Residential Fires' (ICF_LBMS1).

Area Comparison Tables

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

An updated index was published by the Scottish government in 2020 which replaces the 2016 version. Consequently, and in line with SIMD guidance, we have amended all deprivation related statistics to the most recent version for all years.

We have withdrawn the 'Other Building', 'Road Vehicle' and 'Other Primary Fire' sections of the 'Incidents Attended by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile - Rate per Million Population' (IAC_ISIMDRP1) table due to concerns around the interpretation and value of these figures.

GB Comparison Tables

The table 'Casualties from Fires by Nation - Rate per million Population' (IGB_C1) has been expanded to include comparisons of hospitalised non-fatal casualties as both totals and rate per million population.

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