



STATISTICAL NEWS FOR FIRE AND RESCUE INCIDENT STATISTICS 2018-19

31 October 2019

We have changed our practice of publishing a new downloadable workbook each year to a policy of updating a single workbook which contains all statistics in this series, accessible either as a time series table or with slicers. Revisions and corrections will be published in this workbook only, users are encouraged to source all statistics from the most recent version of the downloadable workbook.

We have changed the addressing of the published tables from a system of numbering to a system of content based addressing with a reference code published alongside each table. This aims to resolve the issue of table numbers and locations changing as the content of this publication changes. There are other nomenclature and presentation changes throughout the workbook which aim to benefit accessibility of the statistics and related details.

Alongside the statistical publications for 2018-19 we are running a user consultation which aims to determine areas where we can better meet user needs.

Corrections

There is one correction noted for this year: 'Secondary fires by Motive and Local Authority – Rate per 100,000 Population' [formerly Table 13b] previously double counted the population of each Local Authority resulting in a stated rate 50% below the accurate value for each local authority as well as the all-Scotland total. This was due to an error in the downloadable workbook and has now been corrected.

Revisions

The change in our revisions policy from a three year period to all years in the current administrative data has led to changes in many headline categories for the years 2009-10 to present. Please see the Guidance Notes for further discussion. The following list contains cases where the revision is greater than 1%. Full tables of changes are at the end of this document.

- The total for chimney fires in 2016-17 has increased by 4.1%
- The total for 'Other Building' fires in 2010-11 has decreased by 1.5%
- The total for non-fatal fire casualties hospitalised with serious injuries reported in 2011-12 has decreased by 1.2%
- The total for fatal non-fire casualties reported in 2010-11 has increased by 1.3%

Other Changes

Local Authority Tables

We have adopted the practice recommended by the Government Statistical Service of publishing Local Authorities and their GSS Codes in alphabetical order using their formal name. We have also moved Local Authority tables into new workbook tabs where this would benefit user access and the formatting of the table.

Non-fatal Casualty Statistics

In the non-fatal fire casualty tables, statistics for years before 2009-10 have been removed. This is due to a historical discontinuity resulting from the introduction of the IRS system. Please see the guidance notes document for further details. Headline figures continue to be available in the Casualties Timeseries table.

Charts

The charts published in the bulletin and tables and charts workbook have been produced using the statistical programming language R in place of the previous suite of excel workbook charts.

Casualty Age Categories

We introduced new age ranges for the tables 'Casualties in Fires by Age' and 'Casualties in Fires by Age (Non-SFRS Personnel) - Rate per Million Population'. These categories aggregate into the historically used categories.

Headline Tables

We have removed casualty figures from the 'Incidents Timeseries' table and introduced a new 'Casualties Timeseries' table which presents fatal and non-fatal casualty statistics for both fire and non-fire incidents.

Fire Tables

We have introduced experimental statistics on 'Area of Damage' for building fires. The status and content of this table will be reviewed next year.

New 'Fires by Motive' tables, one at Scotland level and one at Local Authority level, have been introduced ahead of previous fire motive tables. This is a result of user feedback on accessibility of deliberate fire statistics.

Summary figures have been added to the 'Accidental Dwelling Fires by Source of Ignition' table, which had previously presented statistics at subcategory level alone.

Area Comparison Tables

New experimental statistics on incidents and casualties by deprivation (using the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintiles) and rurality (using the Urban Rural 6-Fold Index) are published along with rates per million population. Aggregated population statistics have been produced using National Records of Scotland local area population statistics. A very small number of incidents have not been allocated to datazones and so have been excluded from published rates.

Great Britain Comparisons Tables

The Great Britain comparison tables now include totals and rates for the following categories not previously provided: 'All Incidents', 'Non-fire Incidents', 'Fire False Alarms', 'Dwelling Fires' and 'Chimney Fires'.

Reference Tables

To accommodate the population statistics for the new area comparison tables, we have reordered the population statistics and presented them in two workbook tabs, one for Scotland level statistics and one for Local Authority and Nations figures.

Revisions Tables

Tables 1-4 below show the proportionate changes from last years published figures as a result of implementing the new revisions policy which covers all years in the current administrative data.

Year	Primary Fires					Secondary fires	Chimney fires	Total fires
	Dwellings	Other Buildings	Road Vehicles	Others	Total primary fires			
2009-10	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	-0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
2010-11	-0.1%	-1.5%	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.4%	0.0%	0.6%	-0.1%
2011-12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2012-13	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%
2013-14	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2014-15	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2015-16	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2016-17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.1%	0.1%
2017-18	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%

Table 1: Revisions to fire statistics

Year	False Alarms						Non-Fire Incidents	Total Incidents
	Fire False Alarms				Other False Alarms	Total False Alarms		
	Malicious	Due to apparatus	Good Intent	Total				
2009-10	0.1%	0.1%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
2010-11	0.0%	0.2%	-0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
2011-12	0.0%	0.1%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2012-13	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
2013-14	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
2014-15	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2015-16	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2016-17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2017-18	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.2%

Table 2: Revisions to false alarm and non-fire statistics

Year	Non-Fatal Casualties							Fatal
	Rescued and not injured	Precautionary check recommended	First aid given at scene	Hospital visit, slight injuries	Hospital visit, serious injuries	Total	Chimney fires	Total
2009-10						0.7%	0.1%	0.0%
2010-11	-0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%
2011-12	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.2%	-1.2%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
2012-13	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%
2013-14	0.0%	0.0%	-0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
2014-15	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2015-16	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
2016-17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.1%	0.0%
2017-18	0.0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 3: Revisions to fire casualty statistics

Year	Non-Fire Casualties	
	Non-fatal	Fatal Total
2009-10		
2010-11	0.3%	1.3%
2011-12	0.0%	0.9%
2012-13	0.0%	0.0%
2013-14	0.0%	0.0%
2014-15	0.0%	0.0%
2015-16	0.0%	0.0%
2016-17	0.0%	0.0%
2017-18	0.3%	0.7%

Table 4: Revisions to non-fire casualty statistics

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