

**THE FIRE SERVICE
IS AMERICA'S FIRST
RESPONDERS—THE
NATION'S FIRST LINE
OF DEFENSE IN THE
EVENT OF A FIRE,
NATURAL DISASTER,
MEDICAL EMERGENCY,
TERRORIST ATTACK, OR
OTHER EMERGENCY.
HERE, FAMA AND
FEMSA, ASSOCIATIONS
THAT REPRESENT
THE COMPANIES AND
MANUFACTURERS
THAT HELP FIRST
RESPONDERS SAVE
LIVES, PRESENT 10
VITAL FACTS TO KNOW
ABOUT AMERICA'S FIRE
SERVICE.**



**FAMA/FEMSA
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE**

www.famafemsagac.org



**FIRE APPARATUS MANUFACTURERS'
ASSOCIATION**

The Fire Apparatus Manufacturers' Association (FAMA) is the association of choice most committed to enhancing the quality of the emergency service community through the manufacture and sale of safe, efficient emergency response vehicles and equipment.



**FIRE AND EMERGENCY
MANUFACTURERS AND SERVICES
ASSOCIATION**

As the leading trade association for the fire and emergency services industry, the Fire and Emergency Manufacturers and Services Association (FEMSA) represents over 150 companies that provide products and services to millions of fire and EMS professionals throughout the world. As the federal government institutes executive directives and legislative initiatives to better equip emergency service professionals, FEMSA is there.

THE 10 MOST IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE FIRE SERVICE AND INDUSTRY



FIRE & ALL-HAZARDS FIRST RESPONSE

FACT 1

Fire departments receive 23.3 million calls to serve the public every year which means firefighters are responding to calls every 1.4 seconds and represents a 40% increase over the past decade.

FACT 2

Fire departments responded to 1,602,000 fires in 2005, an increase of 3.3% from 2004 and 40% over the last decade. Fire caused 3,675 civilian deaths and 17,925 civilian injuries in the United States in 2005 making fire more deadly than all other natural disasters combined.

FACT 3

Fire led to \$12.3 billion in direct property loss in 2005, according to the National Volunteer Firefighters Council.

FACT 4

Approximately 70% of all fire department calls are for non-fire-related emergencies, such as medical aid, rescues, natural disasters, car accidents and other hazardous responses.

PERSONNEL & CAPABILITIES

FACT 5

There are 1,136,650 firefighters across the country of whom 823,350 (72%) are volunteer firefighters. Services contributed by volunteer firefighters save localities across the country an estimated \$37.2 billion per year.

FACT 6

Most career firefighters (76%) are in communities that protect a large population of 25,000 or more while most volunteer firefighters (95%) are in departments that protect populations of less than 25,000.

APPARATUS & PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

FACT 7

An estimated two-thirds (66%) of departments have at least some personal protective clothing that is at least 10 years old.

FACT 8

According to the National Fire Protection Association, **there are an estimated 68,950 pumpers and 6,600 aerial apparatus in the United States for 2003-2005**

- **Roughly half (49%) of all fire trucks are at least 15 years old;**
- 17% of all fire trucks are 15 to 19 years old;
- 32% are 20 years or older.

COMMUNICATIONS & INTEROPERABILITY

FACT 9

Only one-fourth of departments can communicate at incident scenes with all other federal, state, and local first responders.

FACT 10

An estimated 65% of fire departments do not have enough portable radios to equip all emergency responders on a shift. The percentage of departments that cannot provide radios to all emergency responders is highest for communities with fewer than 2,500 residents.