2013 FEMSA/FAMA 10th Annual State of the Fire Service Readiness Survey



1. Do you know your county emergency director? Response Percent Count Yes 83.0% 2,017 No 17.0% 413 answered question 2,430 skipped question 0

2. Do you consider your department ready to handle the emergencies it will face in the next five years?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	58.6%	1,425
No	23.5%	571
Not Sure	17.9%	434
	answered question	2,430
	skipped question	0

3. What event would be most likely to test the limits of your department in the next five years?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Terrorist Incident	34.6%	841
Major Incident (Fire /Haz- Mat/Accident) beyond normal Mutual Aid or Box Alarm	42.2%	1,026
Natural Disaster	51.9%	1,260
Not Sure	3.4%	83
	answered question	2,430
	skipped question	0

4. What types of new apparatus would help the most if a major incident happened in your area? (Select all that apply.)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Pumper	39.5%	961
Aerial	20.7%	503
Quint	17.9%	436
Tanker	27.2%	661
Initial Attack	15.4%	374
Incident Command	25.7%	624
Haz-Mat	24.3%	590
Light/Air	17.4%	422
Other (please specify)	16.9%	411
	answered question	2,430
	skipped question	0

5. What is the biggest threat to the safety of the members of your department?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Improper training	11.9%	290
Lack of equipment	14.7%	356
Quality of equipment	11.6%	283
Poor leadership	8.8%	214
Roadway traffic	17.3%	420
Physical condition/ health	23.6%	574
Other (please specify)	12.1%	293
	answered question	2,430
	skipped question	0

6. If there is a large incident in a neighboring district, is your department sufficiently trained to work with the multiple jurisdictions that would be involved?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	83.6%	2,031
No	10.5%	255
Not sure	5.9%	144
	answered question	2,430
	skipped question	0

7. Do you feel your department can properly operate (interoperate) with your neighboring departments on the following items: (Select all that apply.)

	Response Percent	Response Count
Hose Threads	86.5%	2,102
Fire Apparatus	89.1%	2,166
Fire fighting foam systems for increased hazards (increased ethanol in fuel makes AFFF non effective)	55.1%	1,340
Rescue Tools	77.7%	1,888
Lifting Bags	58.4%	1,420
EMS Equipment	70.9%	1,724
Incident Command	78.4%	1,905
	answered question	2,430
	skipped question	0

8. Has your department been required to update interoperability communications?

Response Count	Response Percent	
1,831	75.3%	Yes
599	24.7%	No
2,430	answered question	
0	skipped question	

9. What type of equipment needs to be updated to satisfy required interoperable communications?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Portable Radios	64.1%	1,041
Vehicle Radios	38.4%	624
Base Station Equipment	35.8%	581
Other (please specify)	21.3%	346
	answered question	1,625
	skipped question	805

10. Are there other types of equipment for which you are updating your current interoperability situation?

	Response Percent	Response Count
No	72.4%	1,406
Yes	27.6%	535
	If "Yes", please specify:	409

1,941	answered question	
489	skipped question	

11. What single item would help your department the most in the coming year?

	Response Percent	Response Count
More pay	7.0%	135
Better equipment	31.3%	608
More training	39.3%	763
More information on available programs	8.6%	166
Other (please specify)	13.9%	269
	answered question	1,941
	skipped question	489

12. In your view, what can the US Fire Service Administration do to assist local departments?

Response Count

1,508

answered question	1,508
skipped question	922

13. What is your department type? Response Response Percent Count Paid 18.8% 365 Volunteer 53.8% 1,045 Combination 26.5% 515 Other 0.8% 16 answered question 1,941 skipped question 489

14. What size population does your department serve?				
	Response Percent	Response Count		
less than 5,000	32.0%	622		
5,000 - 24,999	42.5%	824		
25,000 - 149,999	19.9%	386		
150,000 - 999,999	4.3%	84		
1 Million or more	1.3%	25		
	answered question	1,941		
	skipped question	489		

15. To enter your department in a drawing for \$5000 in merchandise from any FEMSA member company, please complete the contact information below. Please enter only once per email address. Multiple entries per email address will be discarded.

		Response Percent	Response Count
Name:		99.9%	1,851
Rank:		98.4%	1,822
Address:		99.7%	1,846
Address 2:		12.5%	232
City/Town:		99.7%	1,847
State:		98.4%	1,822
ZIP:		99.2%	1,838
Department Name:		98.3%	1,821
Email Address:		98.3%	1,820
Phone Number:		96.3%	1,784
	answer	ed question	1,852
	skippe	ed question	578