



## **2010 Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS) Quick Facts**

- **Somewhere in Virginia, every minute, an incident occurs in which a fire department responds** - Fire departments responded to an average of 1,798 incidents per day in 2010. (1,180 rescue and EMS responses, 77 fire responses and 541 other responses each day.)
- **The demand for fire service has expanded; fire service does more than put out fires** - 66% of the incidents were rescue and EMS calls; 10% were good intent calls; 8% were false alarms, 7% were service calls, 5% were hazardous condition calls, 4% were fires and 1% were other calls.
- **Fire service saved property from being destroyed and reduced the amount of property damage** - 7.4 billion dollars of property and contents were saved with fire incidents in 2010; the total dollar loss associated with fires was \$245 million dollars.
- **Civilian injuries and deaths from fires happen more than you expect** - On average, every 16 hours, a civilian was hurt or died as a result of a fire; there were a total of 539 civilian fire casualties (471 injuries and 68 deaths) that occurred in 2010.
- **Firefighters are exposed to hazardous situations** - Fire service suffered 446 injuries and 3 deaths while responding to incidents.
- **Fire departments extinguished more than just home fires** - Structure fires accounted for 35% of the fire incidents, while brush or natural vegetation fires made up 27% of the total fires.
- **Fire service personnel committed long hours to control emergency situations** - Fire service accumulated a total of 2,888,233 man hours responding to, controlling and clearing incidents in 2010.
- **Cooking in the home was the leading cause of fires** - 33% of the residential structure fires were due to cooking; the fires accounted for 115 civilian injuries and 4 civilian deaths.
- **Emergency situations impact everyone in Virginia** - Incidents occurred at a rate of 85.5 incidents for every 1,000 Virginia residents in 2010.
- **Fire service have to be ready 24 hours a day to respond to calls** - Largest amount of incidents occurred during the hour of 3 p.m. in 2010.

**Note:** Data is compiled from information reported to the Virginia Fire Incident Reporting System (VFIRS) for 2010 as of 03/11/2011. Numbers and percentages may not add to totals because of rounding.