



Home Office



Fire and rescue incident statistics: England, year ending December 2017

Statistical Bulletin 08/18

10 May 2018

Further information

This release contains statistics about incidents attended by fire and rescue services (FRSs) in England. The statistics are sourced from the Home Office's online Incident Recording System (IRS), which allows FRSs to complete an incident form for every incident attended, be it a fire, a false alarm or a non-fire (also known as a Special Service) incident. The online IRS was introduced in April 2009. Previously, paper forms were submitted by FRSs and an element of sampling was involved in the data compilation process.

Fire and Rescue Incident Statistics and other Home Office statistical releases are available from the [Statistics at Home Office](#) pages on the GOV.UK website. The dates of forthcoming fire and rescue and other Home Office publications are pre-announced and can be found via the [Statistics: release calendar](#). For further information about the statistics in this publication, email firestatistics@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Data tables linked to this release and all other fire statistics releases can be found on the Home Office's 'Fire statistics data tables' page. The sections below state the most relevant tables for each section. The tables can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables>

Guidance for using these statistics and other fire statistics outputs is available on the fire statistics collection page, found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fire-statistics>

The information published in this release is kept under review, taking into account the needs of users and burdens on suppliers and producers, in line with the Code of Practice for Statistics. If you have any comments, suggestions or enquiries, please contact the team via email using firestatistics@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or via the user feedback form on the [fire statistics collection page](#).

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This statistical bulletin is produced to the highest professional standards and is free from political interference. It has been produced by statisticians working in the Home Office Analysis and Insight Directorate in accordance with the Home Office's [statement of compliance](#) with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, which covers Home Office policy on revisions and other matters. The Chief Statistician, as Head of Profession, reports to the National Statistician with respect to all professional statistical matters and oversees all Home Office National Statistics products with respect to the Code, being responsible for their timing, content and methodology.

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1 Key facts

This release presents statistics which are referred to as the year ending December 2017 (1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017) for fire and rescue services (FRSs) in England. This is the third set of statistics published by the Home Office that cover the Grenfell Tower fire. The results show:

- FRSs attended **563,527 incidents** in the year ending December 2017. This was a less than one per cent increase compared with the previous year (560,874) but a 34 per cent decrease compared with ten years ago (854,371 in 2006/07). The total number of incidents was on a downward trend for around a decade, though they have increased in recent years mainly driven by increases in non-fire incidents attended. However, the small increase this year was mainly driven by an increase in fires attended.
- FRSs attended **169,588 fires** in the year ending December 2017. This was a four per cent increase compared with the previous year (162,427) but a 50 per cent decrease compared with ten years ago (336,233 in 2006/07). The increase in fires is driven by an increase in secondary fires with primary fires showing a small decrease.
- FRSs attended **223,383 fire false alarms** in the year ending December 2017. This was a one per cent decrease compared with the previous year (224,862) but a 37 per cent decrease compared with ten years ago (352,136).
- FRSs attended **170,556 non-fire incidents** in the year ending December 2017. This was a two per cent decrease compared with the previous year (173,585). For around a decade, there had been a general decline in the number of non-fire incidents. However, recent years have shown large increases, largely due to a rise in medical incidents attended. The recent decrease in non-fire incidents is mainly due to a decline in emergency medical responding linked to many of the trials stopping in September 2017.
- Of all incidents attended by FRSs in the year ending December 2017, **fires accounted for 30 per cent and non-fire incidents 30 per cent**. The remaining 40 per cent were fire false alarms, which continued to be the largest incident type. In 2006/07 these percentages were 39 per cent (fires attended), 19 per cent (non-fire incidents) and 41 per cent (fire false alarms).
- The number of fire-related fatalities had been on a general downward trend since 1981/82 when there were 755 fire-related fatalities. In the year ending December 2017, however, there were **321 fire-related fatalities** (including 71 from the Grenfell Tower fire) compared with 278 in the previous year (an increase of 15%).
- There were **3,263 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment¹** in the year ending December 2017 (including 77 from the Grenfell Tower fire). This was a three per cent increase compared with the previous year (3,169) but a 24 per cent decrease compared with five years ago (4,297 in 2011/12).

¹ Casualty figures include casualties whether the injury was caused by the fire or not. Fatalities are only included if they are fire-related.

2 Introduction

In order to improve the timeliness and clarity of the Home Office's fire statistics, the annual and six-monthly Fire Statistics Monitors have been replaced by a quarterly Fire and Rescue Incident Statistics (FRIS) publication. This release covers trends in incidents, fires, fire-related fatalities and non-fatal casualties for the year ending December 2017.

This is the third release that covers data for a 12 month rolling period (rather than financial year) which will be updated on a quarterly basis. This release therefore covers the year ending December 2017 (1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017). The next release is due for publication on 9 August 2018, covering the year ending March 2018.

Historically, detailed data has been produced for financial years. Therefore, quarterly updates will contain less detail as there is less comparable data. Financial year updates will continue to contain long-term detailed comparisons. For more detailed information on trends please refer to the previous (year ending March 2017) annual [FRIS publication](#).

This is the third quarterly release to include figures from the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017. Given the unprecedented scale of this fire, specific figures on the numbers of fire-related fatalities and non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire are included in the relevant narrative.

More detailed statistics on fires, fire-related fatalities and casualties for the 2016/17 financial year were published on 12 October 2017 in the new '[Detailed analysis of fires attended by fire and rescue services, England, April 2016 to March 2017](#)' release. More detailed statistics on non-fire incidents were published in the new '[Detailed analysis of non-fire incidents attended by fire and rescue services, England, April 2016 to March 2017](#)' on 25 January 2018. These two releases replace the previous [Fire Statistics England](#) publication.

Each time an FRS attends an incident in England, details of that incident are uploaded to the Home Office's Incident Recording System (IRS) by the FRS. The IRS is used as the source for all the statistics in this publication. More information on the IRS can be found in the [IRS Questions and Lists](#) document.

The IRS is a continually updated database, with FRSs adding incidents daily. The figures in this release refer to records of incidents that occurred up to and including 31 December 2017. This includes incidents that reached the IRS by 8 March 2018 when a snapshot of the database was taken for the purpose of analysis. As a snapshot of the dataset was taken on 8 March 2018, the statistics published may not match those held locally by FRSs and revisions may occur in the future. This is particularly the case for statistics with relatively small numbers, such as fire-related fatalities.² In addition, statisticians at the Home Office have improved the handling of historic revisions supplied to us by FRSs for figures from 2010/11 onwards.

England, Scotland and Wales all use the Home Office's Incident Recording System and therefore data are comparable. All three nations publish more detailed information on fire

² For instance, this can occur because coroner's reports may mean the initial view taken by the FRS will need to be revised; this can take many months, even years, to do so.

incidents, focusing on the particular user needs in their nation. For commentary on these figures, please see '[Fire and rescue incident statistics: England, July 2016 to June 2017](#)'.

The latest fire statistical release for Scotland can be found at:

<http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/fire-and-rescue-statistics.aspx>

And for Wales: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/fire-statistics/?lang=en>

Northern Ireland fire statistics are published by the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service using data from a system similar to the Incident Recording System, which means that they are not directly comparable to English, Welsh and Scottish data. Their latest fire statistical releases can be found at: <https://www.nifrs.org/statistics/>

This publication is accompanied by fire data tables, which can be found on the [fire statistics data tables page](#) which contains all data tables on fires published by the Home Office.

The following tables have been updated as part of this publication:

Incidents attended: 0101, 0102, 0103 and 0104.

Dwelling fires attended: 0201, 0202 and 0205.

Non-dwelling fires attended: 0306.

Deliberate fires: 0401 and 0402.

Fatalities and casualties: 0501 and 0502.

Non-fire incidents: 0901 and 0902.

3 Types of incident

All incidents attended

The number of incidents attended by fire and rescue services (FRSs) in England peaked in 2003/04, at over one million incidents (see [‘Fire and rescue incident statistics: England, April 2016 to March 2017’](#) for long-term trends). For around a decade, there was a general decline in all three categories of incidents (fires, fire false alarms and non-fire incidents) attended and between 2012/13 and 2015/16 there were around half a million. Since then this number has risen to around 564,000 incidents in the year ending December 2017.

In contrast to the earlier decreases (caused by a reduction in fire and fire false alarm incidents), the increase in total incidents in the year ending December 2017 since 2014/15 has been predominantly driven by a 36 per cent increase in non-fire incidents over this time. This is mainly due to an increase in FRSs attending medical co-responding incidents (see Emergency Medical Response section below for more detail).

Figure 3.1 Total incidents attended by type of incident, England; year ending December 2010 to year ending December 2017



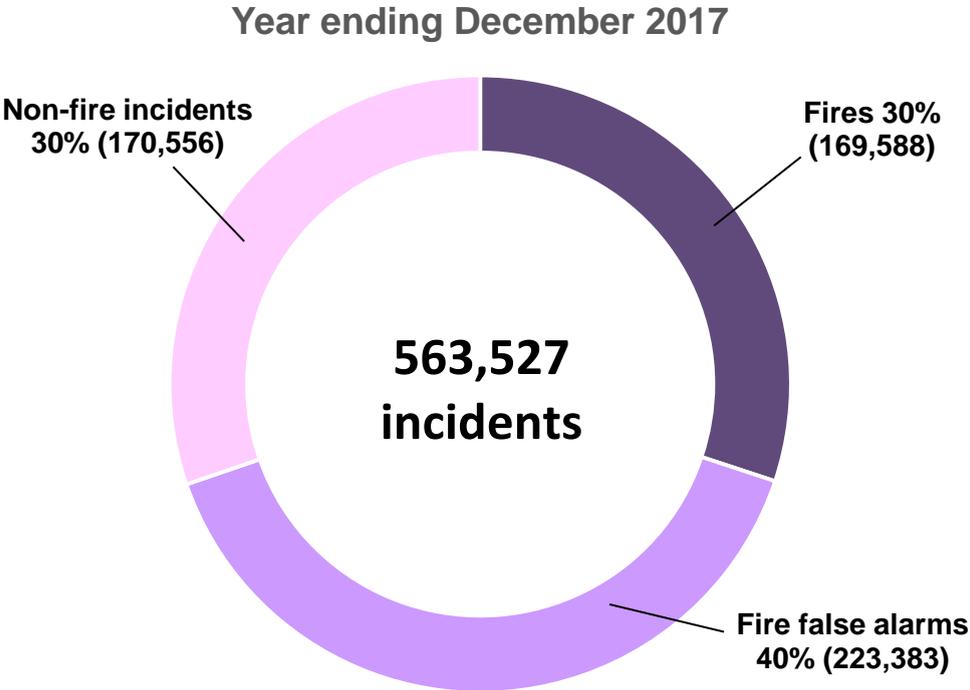
Source: FIRE0102

Of the total incidents attended in the year ending December 2017, fires accounted for 30 per cent, non-fire incidents for 30 per cent and fire false alarms for 40 per cent. Over time, fire false alarms have consistently been the most common type of incident attended. In contrast, the proportion of fire incidents attended has been decreasing whilst the proportion of non-fire incidents has been increasing. In 2016/17, for the first time, FRSs attended more non-fire incidents than fires.

Specifically:

- **563,527 incidents were attended** by FRSs in the year ending December 2017. This was a less than one per cent increase compared with the previous year (560,874). This increase was driven by the number of fires attended and in particular, secondary fires.³ (Source: FIRE0102)
- Of all incidents attended by FRSs in the year ending December 2017, **fires accounted for 30 per cent, fire false alarms 40 per cent and non-fire incidents for 30 per cent.** In 2006/07 these percentages were 39 per cent, 41 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively. (Source: FIRE0102)

Figure 3.2 Total incidents attended by type of incident, England; year ending December 2017



[Further information on all incidents attended can be found in fire data tables 0101 and 0102.](#)

³ Secondary fires are generally small outdoor fires, not involving people or property. See the [Fire Statistics Definitions document](#) for more detail.

Fires attended

The total number of fires attended by FRSs decreased for around a decade – falling from a peak of around 474,000 in 2003/04 to 154,000 in 2012/13. Since then, the total number of fires has fluctuated. FRSs attended around 170,000 fires in the year ending December 2017.

Types of fire

Secondary and other outdoor fires increased between the year ending December 2016 and the year ending December 2017, while dwelling, other building and road vehicle fires showed small decreases with chimney fires⁴ showing a larger decrease. The total number of fires attended in a single year can often be affected by the weather. This particularly affects other outdoor and secondary fires which make up a large proportion of all fires attended.

Therefore, part of the increase in fires could be attributed to the spring months in the year ending December 2017 being drier than the corresponding months of the previous year.

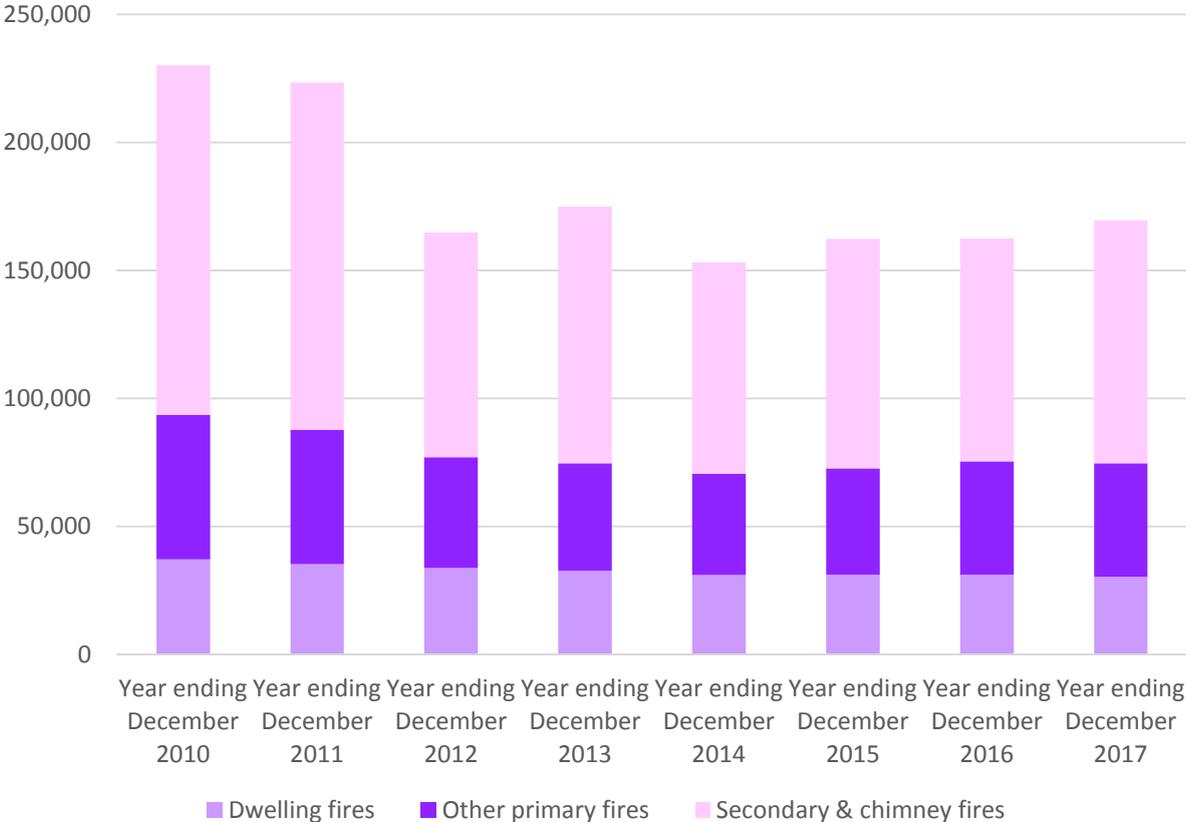
The increase in the total number of fires between the year ending December 2016 and the year ending December 2017 (4%) was predominantly driven by a ten per cent increase in secondary fires. Overall, primary⁵ fires decreased by one per cent although there was some variation across primary fire types, namely:

- an increase in other outdoor fires (8%) and;
- decreases in dwelling fires (3%), other building fires (1%) and road vehicle fires (1%).
(Source: FIRE0102)

⁴ Chimney fires are fires in buildings where the flame was contained within the chimney structure and did not involve casualties, rescues or attendance by five or more pumping appliances. Chimneys in industrial buildings are not included.

⁵ Primary fires are those that meet one of the following criteria – a) occurs in a (non-derelect) building, vehicle or outdoor structure, b) involve a fatality, casualty or rescue or c) attended by five or more pumping appliances.

Figure 3.3 Total fires attended by type of fire, England; year ending December 2010 to year ending December 2017



Source: FIRE0102

Over the same time period:

- Total accidental fires⁶ decreased by one per cent (see Table 3.1a, below) and;
- Total deliberate fires increased by 11 per cent (Table 3.1b). This was however, a 28% decrease since 2011/12. (Source: FIRE0401)

The increase in deliberate fires was driven by a 14 per cent increase in deliberate secondary fires. Deliberate primary fires also increased by 3 per cent, with increases in all deliberate primary fire categories (dwellings, other buildings, road vehicles and other outdoors).

Specifically:

- **FRSs attended 169,588 fires** in the year ending December 2017. This was a four per cent increase compared with the previous year (162,427). (Source: FIRE0102)
- There were **74,667 primary fires** in the year ending December 2017 (44% of the 169,588 fires attended). This was a one per cent decrease compared with the previous year (75,473).

⁶ The motive for a fire is collected as accidental, deliberate or unknown in the IRS. Those marked as unknown are included in accidental fires.

- FRSs attended **30,340 primary dwelling fires** in the year ending December 2017. This was a three per cent decrease compared with the previous year (31,165). Primary dwelling fires made up 41 per cent of primary fires and 18 per cent of all fires in the year ending December 2017.
- There were **27,099 accidental dwelling fires** in the year ending December 2017, out of the 30,340 primary dwelling fires. This was a four per cent decrease compared with the previous year (28,112). (See Table 3.1a, below)
- There were **3,241 deliberate dwelling fires** in the year ending December 2017. This was a six per cent increase compared with the previous year (3,053). (See Table 3.1b, below)
- There were **91,040 secondary fires** in the year ending December 2017, out of the 169,588 fires attended. This was a 10 per cent increase compared with the previous year (82,502). (Source: FIRE0102)
- There were **3,881 chimney fires** in the year ending December 2017, out of the 169,588 fires attended. This was a 13 per cent decrease compared with the previous year (4,452).

The tables below show the number of fires by motive and type of fire for the year ending December 2017 compared with the year ending December 2016.

Table 3.1a Number of accidental fires, by fire type, England; year ending December 2016 and year ending December 2017

	Total accidental fires	Primary fires					Secondary	Chimney
		Total	Dwellings	Other buildings	Road vehicles	Other outdoors		
Year ending Dec 2016	87,165	53,838	28,112	11,379	11,717	2,630	28,895	4,432
Year ending Dec 2017	86,405	52,463	27,099	11,217	11,381	2,766	30,081	3,861
% change	-1%	-3%	-4%	-1%	-3%	5%	4%	-13%

Source: Calculated using FIRE0102 and FIRE0401

Table 3.1b Number of deliberate fires, by fire type, England, year ending December 2016 and year ending December 2017

	Total deliberate fires	Primary fires						Secondary	Chimney
		Total	Dwellings	Other buildings	Road vehicles	Other outdoors			
Year ending Dec 2016	75,262	21,635	3,053	4,600	11,456	2,526	53,607	20	
Year ending Dec 2017	83,183	22,204	3,241	4,609	11,576	2,778	60,959	20	
% change	11%	3%	6%	0%	1%	10%	14%	0%	

Source: FIRE0401

On 27 June 2017, following the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017, the Home Office published [an ad hoc statistical release focusing on fires in purpose-built flats](#). The updated information can be found in fire data table [FIRE0205](#).

- Of the 30,340 primary dwelling fires attended by FRSs in England in the year ending December 2017, three-quarters (75%) were in houses, bungalows, converted flats and other⁷ properties whilst a quarter (25%) were in purpose-built flats. Of those fires in purpose-built flats, 16 per cent were in purpose-built low-rise flats; seven per cent were in purpose-built medium-rise flats and **two per cent were in purpose-built high-rise flats**.⁸
- FRSs attended **746 fires in purpose-built high-rise flats** in England in the year ending December 2017; less than one per cent fewer than in the year ending December 2016 (747) but 41 per cent fewer than in 2009/10 (1,261).

[Further information on fires attended can be found in tables 0102, 0103, 0201, 0202, 0205, 0301, 0302, 0303, 0401 and 0402.](#)

⁷ Other includes sheltered accommodation, caravan/mobile home, HMO (House in Multiple Occupation) etc.

⁸ In the IRS low-rise is defined as 1 to 3 storeys, medium rise 4 to 9 storeys and high rise as 10 storeys or more. These IRS definitions are different to those from the English Housing Survey which defines low rise as a flat in a purpose-built block less than 6 storeys high. This includes cases where there is only one flat with independent access in a building which is also used for non-domestic purposes. High rise is defined as a flat in a purpose-built block of at least six storeys high.

Fire false alarms attended

The total **number** of fire false alarms attended showed a downward trend for over a decade, from a peak of around 394,000 in 2001/02 to a low of around 214,000 in 2015/16, rising again to around 223,000 in the year ending December 2017. Fire false alarms attended are categorised as:

- where there was good intent but no fire;
- where apparatus such as fire alarms caused an attendance to a false alarm; and
- malicious calls.

They do not include false alarms to non-fire incidents. For more information on non-fire false alarms, see table FIRE0902 and discussion in [‘Detailed analysis of non-fire incidents, England, April 2016 to March 2017’](#).

Between 2006/07 to the year ending December 2017 the largest incident type was fire false alarms, ranging from 40 per cent to 44 per cent. Malicious calls have accounted for the smallest **number** of fire false alarm since the information was first collected in 1999/00 and the **proportion** of this type of fire false alarms has also been on a downward trend since 1999/00.

Specifically:

- FRSs attended **223,383 fire false alarms** in the year ending December 2017. This was a one per cent decrease compared with the previous year (224,862).
- The small change in fire false alarms in the year ending December 2017 compared with the previous year was made up of a **two per cent decrease in fire false alarms ‘due to apparatus’** (151,754 to 149,453), a **one per cent increase in ‘good intent’** (66,165 to 66,652) and a **five per cent increase in ‘malicious’** (6,943 to 7,278) fire false alarms.
- **Fire false alarms** ‘due to apparatus’ accounted for over two thirds (67%) of fire false alarms in the year ending December 2017.

[Further information on fire false alarms attended can be found in tables 0102 and 0104.](#)

Non-fire incidents attended

FRSs attend many types of incidents that are not fires or fire false alarms, for example flooding incidents, responding to road traffic collisions, animal assistance and effecting entry/exit (a complete list can be found in fire data table [FIRE0902](#)).

There has been a general decline since 2007/08 in the **number** of non-fire incidents attended and by 2014/15 FRSs attended the series low of around 125,000 such incidents. In contrast, over the same time period the **proportion** of all incidents that were non-fire incidents showed a slow but steady increase. This is because the decrease in non-fire incidents was not as great as for the other two incident types.

Since 2014/15, the **number** of non-fire incidents has increased by 36 per cent to around 171,000 in the year ending December 2017. The **proportion** of all incidents that were non-fire incidents increased from 25 per cent in 2014/15 to 30 per cent in the year ending December 2017.

Specifically:

- FRSs attended **170,556 non-fire incidents** in the year ending December 2017. This was a two per cent decrease compared with the previous year (173,585). (Source: FIRE0901, 0902)
- FRSs attended **36,799 medical incidents** in the year ending December 2017. This was a 19 per cent decrease compared with the previous year (45,213).
- FRSs attended **23,227 effecting entry/exit incidents** in the year ending December 2017. This was a 16 per cent increase compared with the previous year (20,068).
- FRSs attended **12,679 incidents assisting other agencies** in the year ending December 2017. This was a 33 per cent increase compared with the previous year (9,530).
- FRSs attended **12,620 flooding incidents** in the year ending December 2017. This was a 14% decrease compared with the previous year (14,641).

Table 3.2 Number of non-fire incidents attended by broad incident type, England; year ending December 2010 to year ending December 2017

	Total non-fire incident types	Medical incident types	Other non-fire incident types
Year ending December 2010	150,438	10,962	139,476
Year ending December 2011	131,898	11,646	120,252
Year ending December 2012	138,717	14,438	124,279
Year ending December 2013	127,846	13,777	114,069
Year ending December 2014	128,382	15,184	113,198
Year ending December 2015	139,454	23,146	116,308
Year ending December 2016	173,585	45,213	128,372
Year ending December 2017	170,556	36,799	133,757

Source: Further breakdown of FIRE0901

Emergency medical responding (EMR)

Between 2009/10, when medical incidents were first recorded, and 2014/15 the number of medical incidents attended steadily rose from around 10,000 to around 16,000. From 2014/15 to 2016/17 over half (60%) of the increase in non-fire incidents was accounted for by a further rise in the number of medical incidents attended. Of the 49,000 additional non-fire incidents attended in 2016/17, compared with 2014/15, 29,000 were categorised as “Medical Incident – first responder” or “Medical Incident – co responder”. This large increase in the number of medical incidents attended coincided with the introduction, in 2015, of the National Joint Council (NJC)⁹ supported trials of emergency medical responding (EMR) where FRSs formed agreements with ambulance trusts to undertake health and care related work, in particular co-responding.

Between the year ending December 2016 and the year ending December 2017 however, there was a 19% decrease in the number of medical incidents attended falling from around 45,000 to around 37,000. Within this time period (on 18 September 2017) the Fire Brigades Union, who represent the employees’ side of the NJC, removed their support for the EMR trials. As a result, some of this work has now stopped and it is likely that this is driving the decrease observed. The number of medical incidents attended varied between FRSs, with 22 showing a decrease (17 of these decreasing by at least a third). Conversely, 22 FRSs recorded an increase in medical incidents attended (11 of these increasing by at least a third).

Figure 3.4 Number of medical incidents attended, England; April 2012 to December 2017

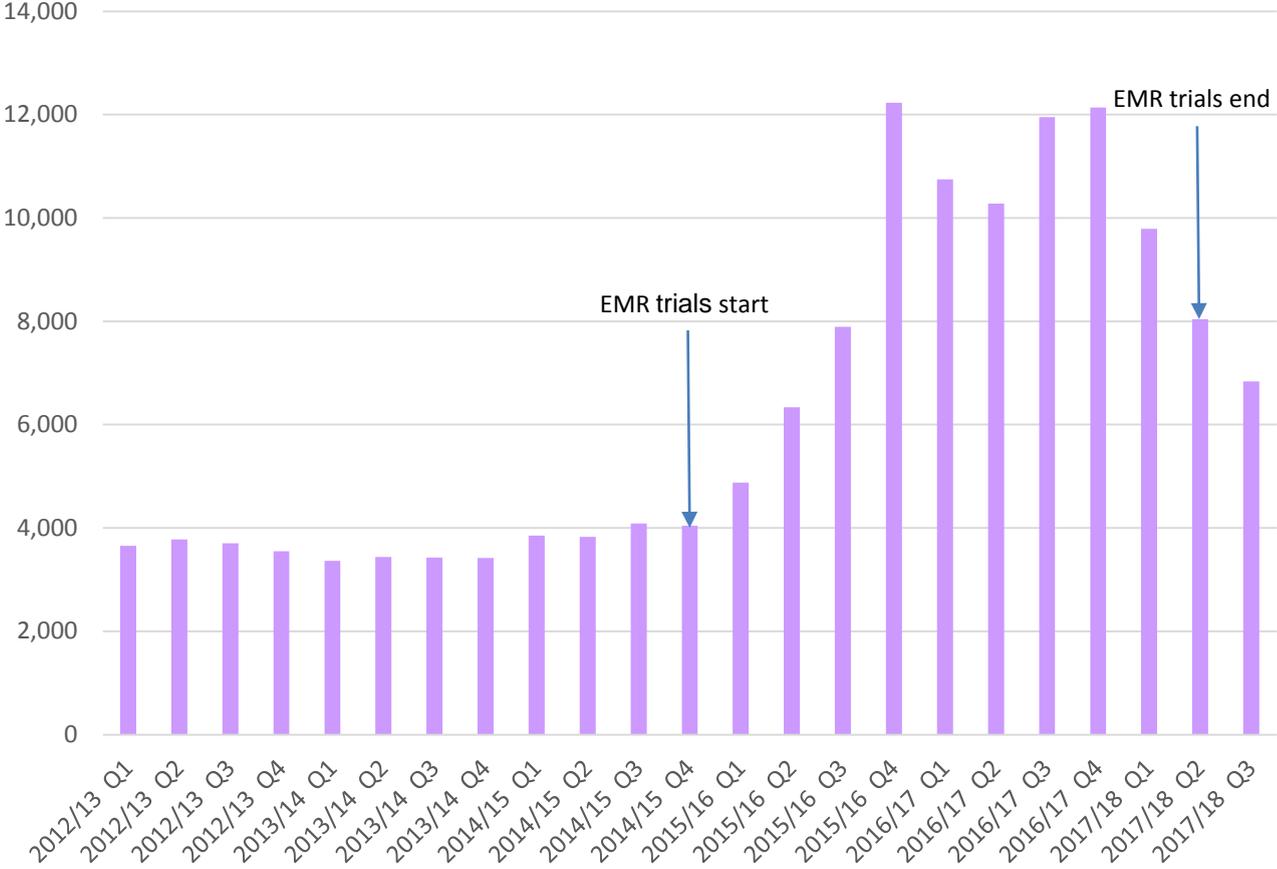


Chart notes: EMR trials started in 2015 with FRSs starting at different times. Some FRSs were already undertaking EMR before this and joined the trials once they were agreed by the NJC. The NJC removed their support for the EMR trials on 18 September 2017.

[Further information on non-fire incidents attended can be found in tables 0102, 0901 and 0902.](#)

4 Fire-related fatalities and casualties

As the Incident Recording System (IRS) is a continually updated database, the statistics published in this release may not match those held locally by FRSs and revisions may occur in the future (see Introduction for further detail). This may be particularly relevant for fire-related fatalities⁹ where a coroner's report could lead to revisions in the data some time after the incident. It should also be noted that the numbers of fire-related fatalities are prone to year-on-year fluctuations due to relatively low numbers. The figures in this release refer to records of incidents that had reached the IRS by 8 March 2018, when a snapshot of the database was taken. In addition, statisticians at the Home Office have improved the handling of historic revisions supplied by FRSs for figures from 2010/11 onwards.

This is the third quarterly release to include figures from the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017. Given the unprecedented scale of this fire, specific figures on the numbers of fire-related fatalities and non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire are included in the relevant narrative and the box below.

Box 1: The Grenfell Tower fire

This box contains information provided by London Fire Brigade¹⁰ on the fire that took place at Grenfell Tower on 14 June 2017. The data in this release includes records of incidents that had reached the IRS by 8 March 2018, when a snapshot of the database was taken. As such, figures on the Grenfell Tower fire may be revised in subsequent releases. When a snapshot of the database was taken London Fire Brigade reported:

- 71 fire-related fatalities
- 109 non-fatal casualties, of which:
 - 67 were 'hospital severe'
 - 10 were 'hospital slight'
 - 1 required 'first aid' and;
 - 31 had 'precautionary checks'.

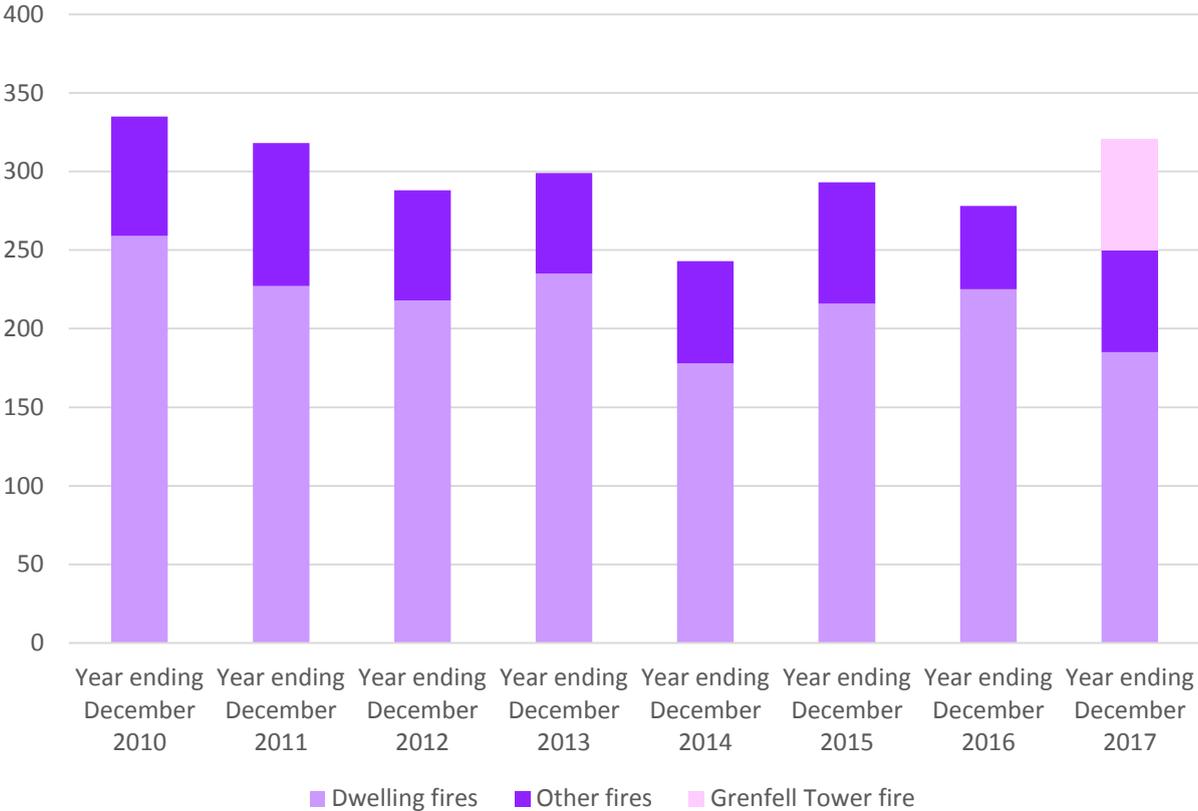
⁹ For the purpose of publications a fire-related fatality includes the number of fatal casualties that were recorded as 'fire-related' or 'don't know' and only excludes those that were recorded as 'not fire-related'.

¹⁰ London Fire Brigade's record of the number of fatalities are based on information provided by the Metropolitan Police Service. The fire-related fatalities figure of 80 was announced by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) on 10 July 2017. MPS have since revised this number to 71 fire-related fatalities on 16 November 2017. The non-fatal casualty numbers are derived from numbers published by the London Ambulance Service for people who attended hospital together with those recorded by the London Fire Brigade who received first aid or required a 'precautionary check'.

Fire-related fatalities

The number of fire-related fatalities in England has been on a general downward trend since 1981/82, when comparable figures first became available, though the numbers have fluctuated due to the relatively small numbers involved. In 1981/82 there were 755 fire-related fatalities, but by 2014/15 this figure had fallen to a low of 263 – a decrease of 65 per cent over 33 years.

Figure 4.1 Total fire-related fatalities in dwellings or other fires, England; year ending December 2010 to year ending December 2017



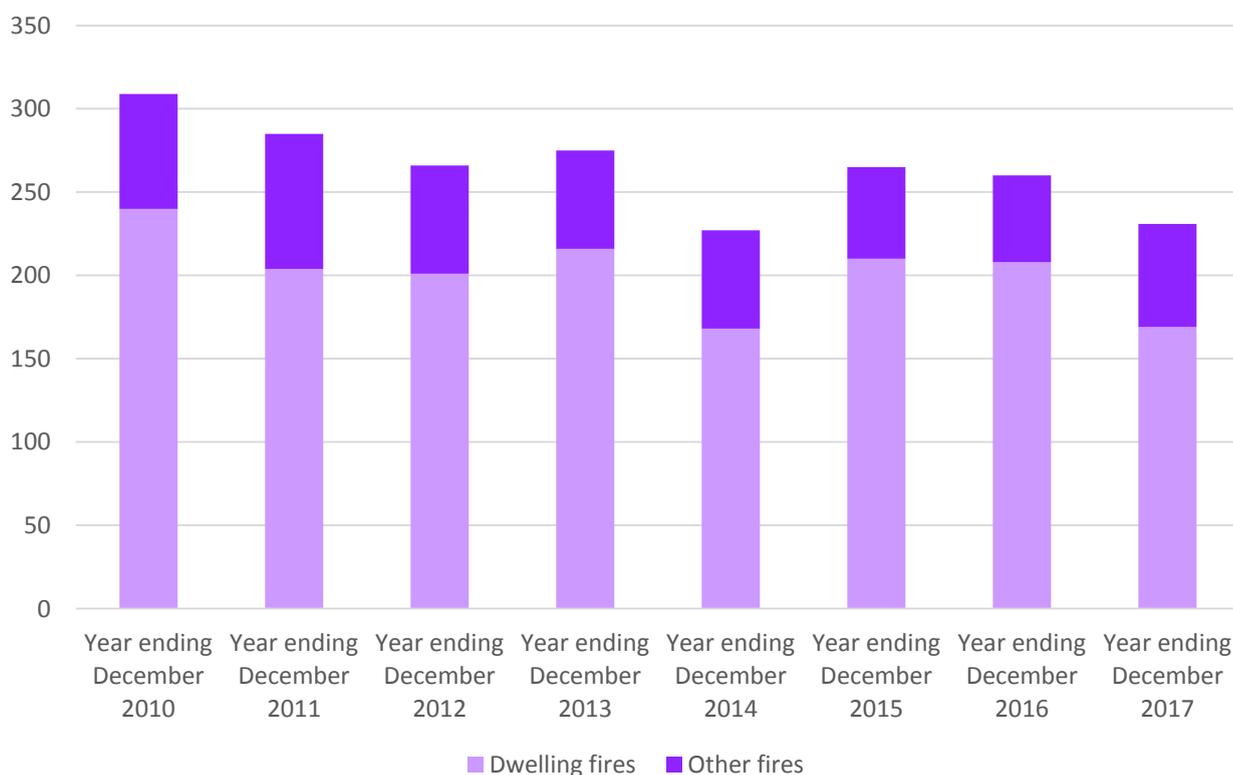
Source: FIRE0502

Specifically:

- There were **321 fire-related fatalities in the year ending December 2017**. This compared with 278 in the previous year (an increase of 15%). The year ending December 2017 figure includes 71 fire-related fatalities from the Grenfell Tower fire. (Source: FIRE0502)
- There were **256 fire-related fatalities in dwelling fires in the year ending December 2017**. This compared with 225 in the previous year (an increase of 14%). The year ending December 2017 figure includes 71 fire-related fatalities from the Grenfell Tower fire.

- There were **231 fires which resulted in a fire-related fatality** out of the 169,588 fires (0.1%) in the year ending December 2017. This compared with 260 fires with a fire-related fatality out of the 162,427 fires (0.2%) in the year ending December 2016.

Figure 4.2 Number of fires with a fire-related fatality in dwellings or other fires, England; year ending December 2010 to year ending December 2017



Source: Further breakdown of FIRE0502

Figures on fire-related fatalities in fires in purpose-built flats were published in [an ad hoc statistical release focusing on fires in purpose-built flats](#) and have been updated for this year ending December 2017 release. Detailed information can be found in table [FIRE0205](#).

- There were **73 fire-related fatalities in purpose-built high-rise flats** (defined as ten storeys or more) in England in the year ending December 2017. In the previous year, this figure was six. The year ending December 2017 figure includes 71 fire-related fatalities from the Grenfell Tower fire.
- In the year ending December 2017 there were **three fires which resulted in a fatality out of the 746 fires in purpose-built high-rise flats (0.4%)**. This compares with six fires with a fatality out of the 747 fires in purpose-built high-rise flats (0.8%) in the year ending December 2016.

Table 4.1 Percentage of dwelling fires attended by FRSs with a fire-related fatality, by dwelling type, England; year ending December 2017

	House, bungalow, converted flat, other	Purpose-built flat – 1 to 3 storeys	Purpose-built flat – 4 to 9 storeys	Purpose-built flat – 10 storeys or more
Number of dwelling fires	22,699	4,919	1,976	746
Number of fires with a fatality	132	27	7	3
Percentage of fires with a fatality	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%

Source: Further breakdown of FIRE0205

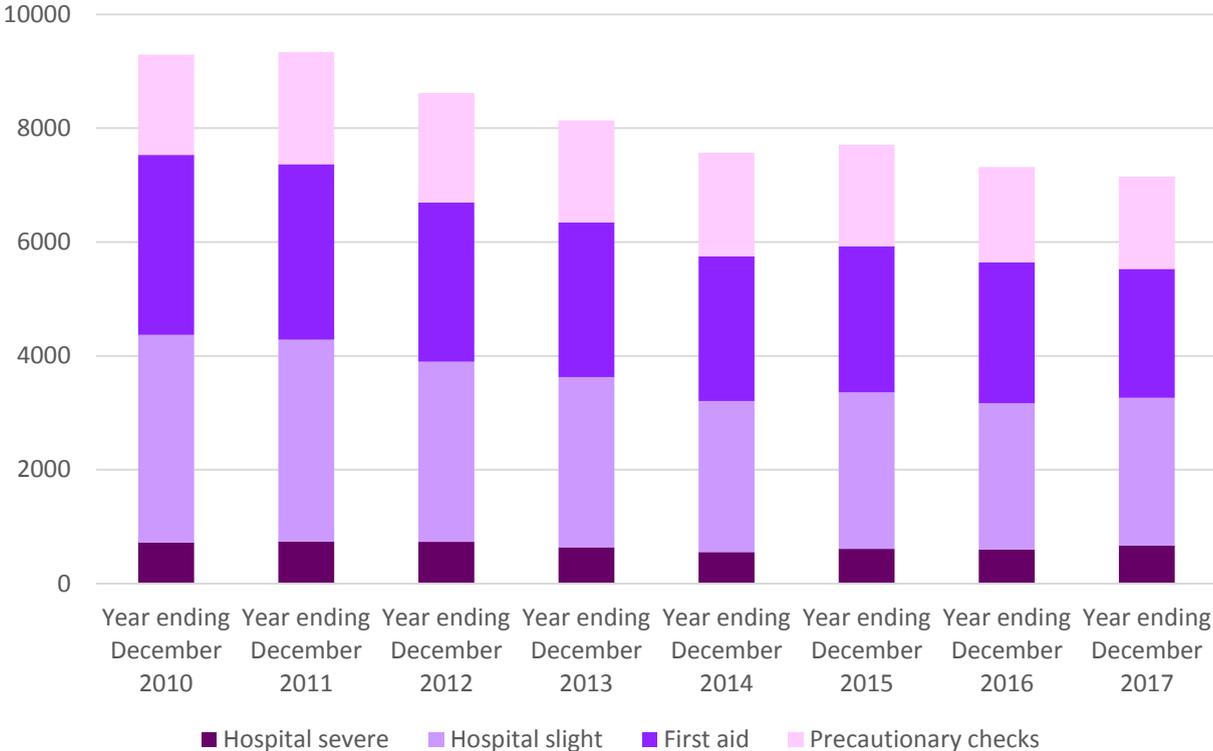
[Further information on fire-related fatalities can be found in tables 0501, 0502 and 0205.](#)

Non-fatal casualties in fires

The number of non-fatal casualties¹¹ in fires in England has been on a downward trend since the mid-1990s, but it appears that the downward trend has slowed in the last few years and has remained relatively stable since 2014/15. The number of non-fatal casualties in the year ending December 2017 decreased by two per cent from the previous year, to around 7,200. While the fatality figures above are for those fatalities caused by the fire (i.e. fire-related) or when the cause was unknown, the casualty figures are for those resulting from a fire, whether the casualties were caused by the fire or not.

¹¹ For more detailed technical definitions of fire-related non-fatal casualties, see the [Fire Statistics Definitions document](#). A further breakdown of the different types of non-fatal casualties is available in the published fire data tables.

Figure 4.3 Total non-fatal casualties in fires by injury severity, England; year ending December 2010 to year ending December 2017



Source: FIRE0502

Specifically:

- There were **3,263 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment** in the year ending December 2017. This was a three per cent increase compared with the previous year (3,169)¹². The year ending December 2017 figure includes 77 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment from the Grenfell Tower fire. (Source: FIRE0502)
- There were **7,150 non-fatal casualties in fires** in the year ending December 2017, two per cent fewer than the previous year (7,317). The year ending December 2017 figure includes 109 non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire.
- There were **5,316 non-fatal casualties in dwelling fires** in the year ending December 2017. This was a four per cent decrease compared with the previous year (5,553). The year ending December 2017 figure includes 109 non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire.

Figures on non-fatal casualties in fires in purpose-built flats were published in [an ad hoc statistical release focusing on fires in purpose-built flats](#) and have been updated for this year ending December 2017 release. Detailed information can be found in table [FIRE0205](#).

¹² Non-fatal casualties in fires have only been categorised by “hospital – severe”, “hospital – slight”, “first aid given” and “precautionary checks recommended” since the introduction of the IRS in 2009. This means a ten year comparison is unavailable for this measure.

- There were **127 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment from fires in purpose-built high-rise flats** (10 storeys or more) in the year ending December 2017. In the previous year this figure was 62. The year ending December 2017 figure includes 77 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment from the Grenfell Tower fire. (Source: FIRE0205)

[Further information on non-fatal casualties can be found in tables 0501, 0502 and 0205.](#)

Statistical Bulletins are prepared by staff in Home Office Statistics under the National Statistics Code of Practice and can be downloaded from GOV.UK:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/about/statistics>

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