

Current Vermont Fire Department Capabilities by County

Compiled by the Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Fire Academy

Report #2: Data collected March 23, 2020



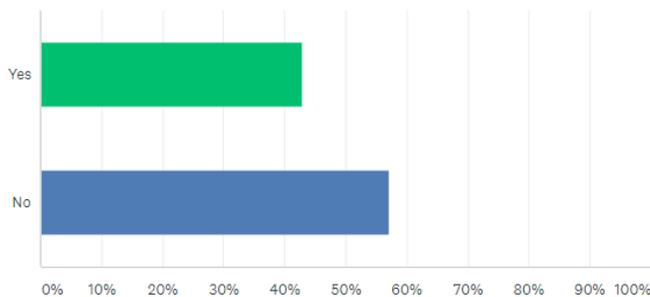
One fire service representative has been identified to represent each County and asked to respond to a survey indicating what their County's current fire service capabilities are. Data was collected on March 23, 2020 and each of the 14 counties responded.

Baseline Conditions Identified as of March 17, 2020

- Current mutual aid agreements are in place to provide more than five additional fire departments at every incident in all counties.
- Caledonia County is the only respondent who does not have the ability to deploy 10 fire departments to an incident through mutual aid.
- 57% of all counties rely on out-of-state assets for mutual aid support. Franklin County reported high reliance on mutual aid support from New York and Canada.
- The most common State of Vermont assets that are relied on by the fire service are the Vermont Hazardous Materials Response Team and the Vermont State Police Public Safety Answering Points. Responses from the "other" category included Vermont Emergency Management, Division of Fire Safety, DPS Search and Rescue, DPS Fire Investigation, and the Agency of Transportation.
- 35% of the counties reported having concerns about being able to properly staff emergencies in the next three weeks.

Current Capabilities

Do you have concerns about fire departments in your county being able to properly staff emergencies in the next two weeks?

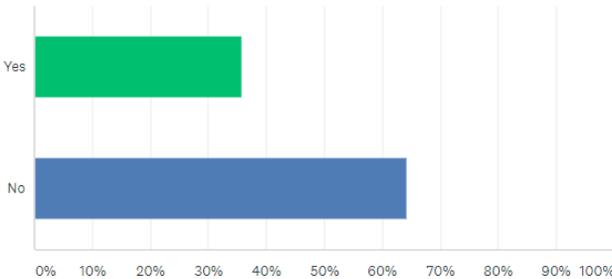


43% of the counties reported having concerns about being able to properly staff emergencies the next two weeks. This is an **increase** from 35% last week.

In the past week, have fire departments in your county had to enact automatic mutual aid, beyond what is normal procedure, to ensure that adequate emergency personnel respond to calls?

None of the counties reported having to enact mutual aid beyond what is normal procedure to adequately answer calls.

In the past week, have fire departments in your county experienced a decrease in available responders due to illness, quarantine, self-isolation, family responsibilities, or assignment to essential work?



36% of counties reported experiencing a decrease in available responders in the past week.

All counties are reporting this as having **minimal impact** where all departments are operational with minor adjustments.

Are the fire departments in your county receiving adequate information and frequent updates on the current State of Emergency?

All counties reported receiving adequate information and frequent updates on the current situation.

Do you have a current need for additional resources to be brought into your county to handle fire department calls for service?

Most counties answered this question as if it pertains to personnel resources and did not report back with current needs. 14% of the counties responded by indicating that they had a need for personal protective equipment (PPE) that they could not procure themselves. It has been made clear through other means that PPE is the most common need from the fire service and our assessment finds this to be the case in all counties.

Do you anticipate a future need for additional resources to be brought into your county to handle fire department calls for service?

71% of counties do not anticipate a future need for additional resources to be brought into their county to handle fire department calls for service.