

July 15, 2024

Maine fire service membership,

We, the fire service stakeholders, sincerely appreciate your participation in the OSHA Emergency Response Standard Survey. As we have many times throughout history, the collective fire service in Maine has a new challenge to navigate and overcome. Most of us are familiar, to some degree, with the proposed change to the former OSHA Fire Brigade Standard to an emergency response standard, which would pull municipal fire departments under its regulatory authority.

This rule change will potentially implement standards of fire training, Fire and EMS protective clothing, fire service response, and health and safety. All fire service stakeholders hold your safety as paramount, and consider you a valuable asset to the communities you serve and the State of Maine as a whole. With that said, we acknowledge the strain meeting these standards may place on many municipalities and fire service members.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> the Southern Maine Community College – Maine Fire Service Institute Advisory Committee held its bi-annual meeting. This committee consists of representatives from the following Maine fire service stakeholders:

- *Maine Fire Chiefs Association*
- *Professional Fire Fighters of Maine*
- *Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters*
- *Maine Fire Protection Services Commission*
- *Maine State Fire Marshal's Office*
- *Maine Emergency Management*
- *Maine Bureau of Labor*

State Senator Chip Curry represents the Maine Fire Commission on the committee and he heard the concerns from members regarding this issue. On June 20<sup>th</sup> Senator Curry sent a written request for information regarding these concerns to the MFSI Administration.

To provide the most valid information possible, we created the attached survey to obtain maximum participation and feedback. We understand that the data is not perfect and additional questions could have been useful. However, considering the time constraints, we believe the data captured provides a glimpse into the potential challenges we may be facing in the future. A report was submitted to Senator Curry on July 10<sup>th</sup> and he is working on a letter in support of our efforts.

This would not have been possible without the level of cooperation throughout the fire service in Maine. The response to this survey was impressive and we hope the same will be true for in future surveys conducted to advance our fire service.

We are happy to provide the following results of the survey for your review. Feel free to reach out with questions. Please remain attentive to future communications on this very important matter.

Respectfully,

James A. Graves  
Director

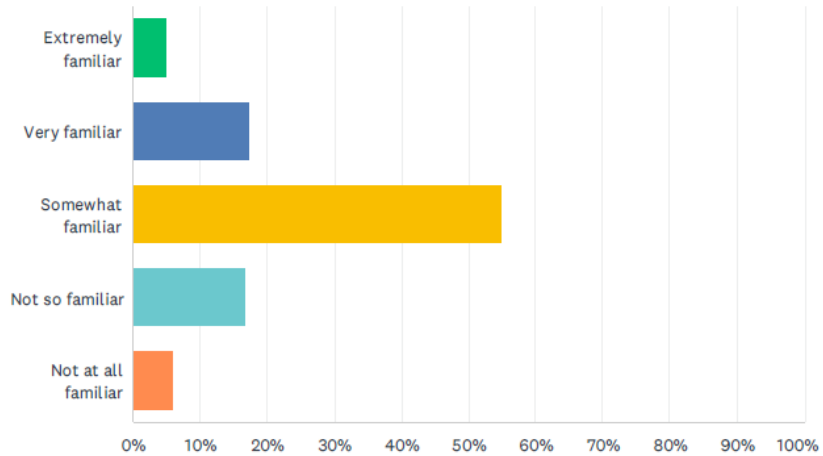


## Summary of Survey Results

### Firefighter Data Re: OSHA Proposed 'Emergency Response' Standard

Answered: 505 Skipped: 73

All Respondents:  
How familiar are you with the proposed OSHA 'Emergency Response' rule change?



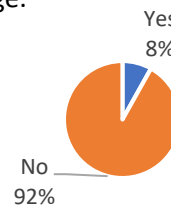
Fire Chiefs: Population of Town Served  
**47.7% = Under 2,500**  
 28.2% = 2,501 – 5000  
 18.3% = 5,001 – 15,000  
 05.2% = 15,001 – 30,000  
 00.6% = 30,000+

Fire Chiefs: Training Budget Per Annum  
**43.6% = \$1,001 - \$5,000**  
 23.3% = \$0 - \$1,000  
 19.7% = \$5,001 - \$10,000  
 13.4% = \$10,000+

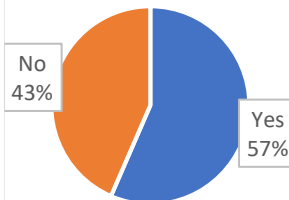
Fire Chiefs: # of Members in Department  
**40.2% = 11 - 20**  
 32.8% = 21 - 30  
 13.5% = 31 - 50  
 07.6% = 51+  
 05.9% = 0 - 10

Fire Chiefs: Type of Department  
**38.8% = Volunteer**  
**31.8% = Combination**  
 21.4% = Paid Per Call  
 07.5% = Career  
 00.5% = Per Diem

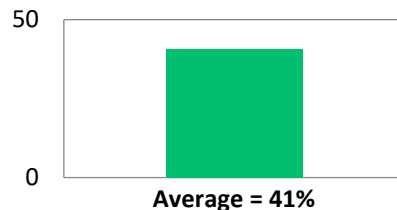
92% of Fire Chiefs do not believe that they have necessary funding to support meeting health and training requirements proposed in the OSHA standard rule change.



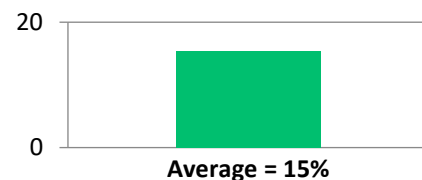
Do you also provide EMS [per 174 Fire Chiefs]?

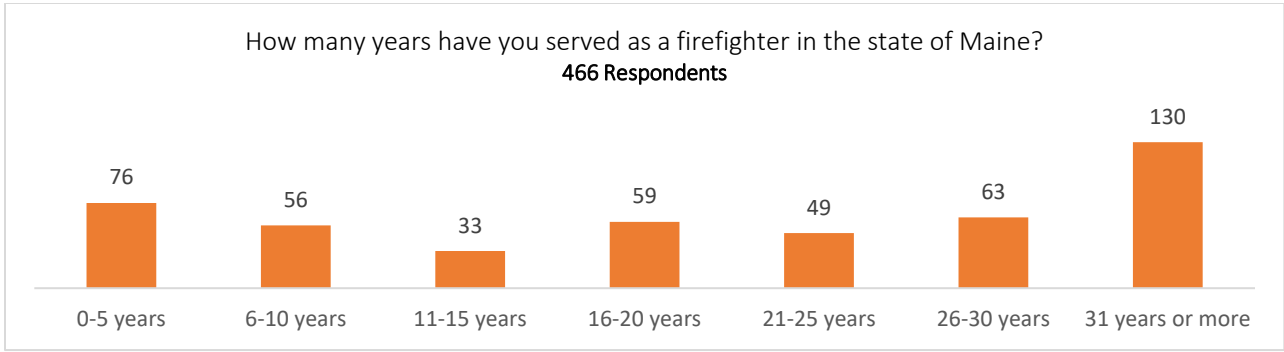


% of membership that meets the proposed firefighter requirements [per 168 Fire Chiefs].



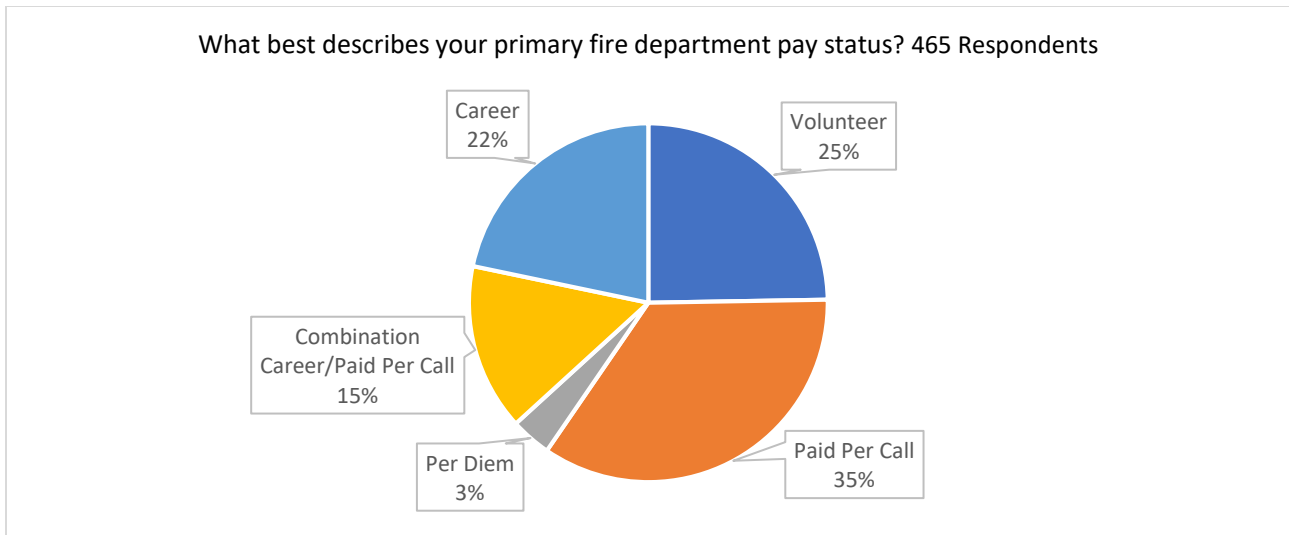
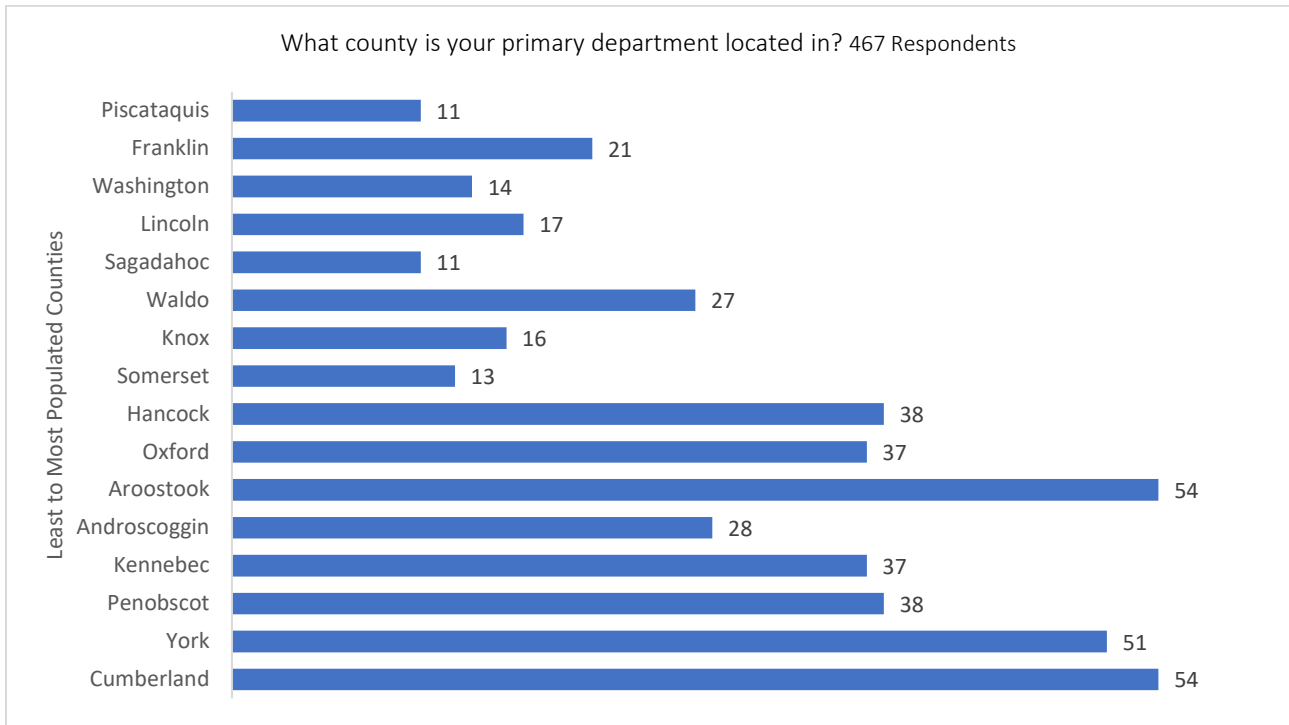
% of chief officers within department who meet proposed NFPA 1021 Fire Officer III requirements [per 160 Fire Chiefs].



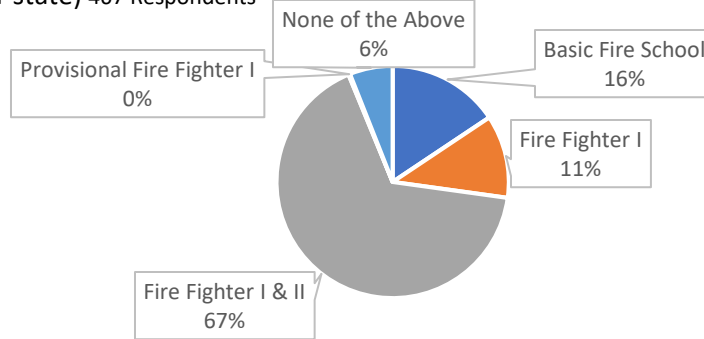


#### Rank in the Department

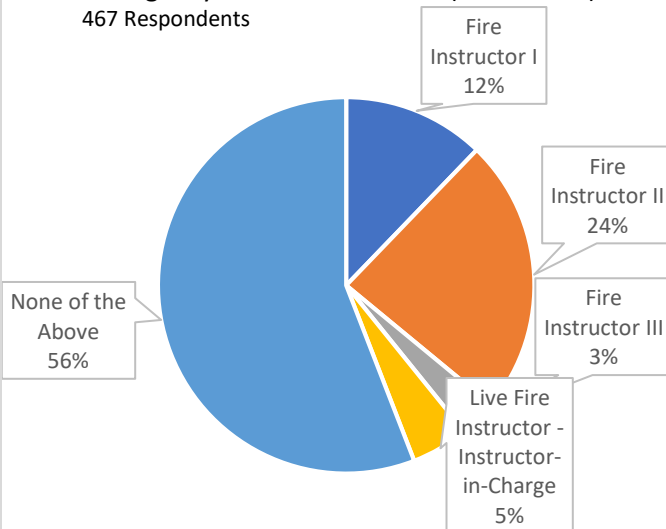
36.5% - Fire Chief/Assistant Chief  
 29.0% - Lieutenant/Captain/Battalion Chief/Deputy  
 25.0% - Firefighter  
 07.0% - Other  
 02.5% - Driver Operator



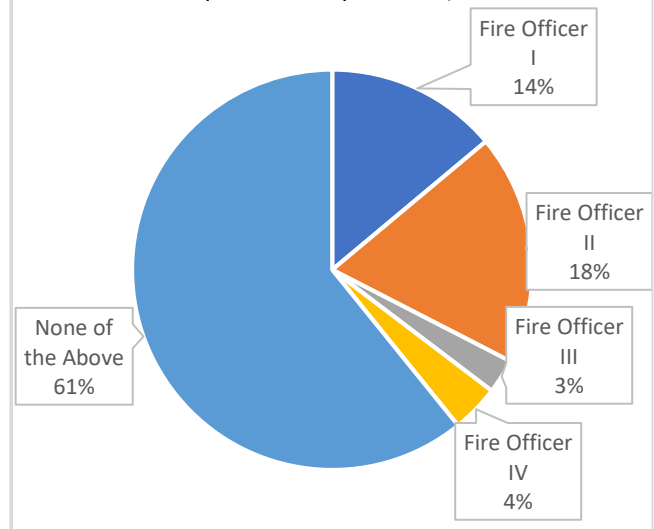
Level of Fire Fighter certification received. (Pro Board, Maine, or reciprocity from another state) 467 Respondents



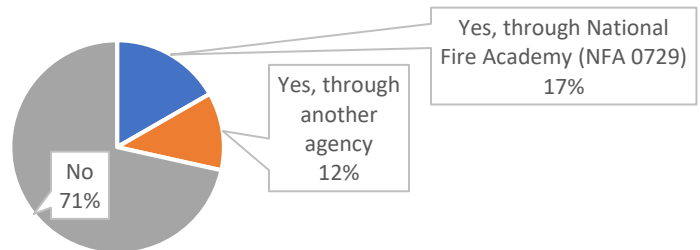
What is the highest level obtained for Fire & Emergency Services Instructor (NFPA 1041)? 467 Respondents



What is the highest obtained for Fire Officer (NFPA 1021)? 467 Respondents



Do you currently hold an Incident Safety Officer certification? 467 Respondents



What following certifications do you hold? Check all that apply. 467 Respondents

