

Fire & Rescue services

Scotland has eight fire & rescue services. Two of these cover the areas of councils of the same name - Dumfries & Galloway and Fife. The other six cover the area of more than one council and are administered by joint boards of councillors from the constituent councils.

Community Fire Safety

- 1: **a) The number of incidents resulting in casualties per 10,000 population.**
 b) The number of fatal and non-fatal casualties per 10,000 population.

What the indicator reports

This indicator gives an indication of the effectiveness of each service's fire prevention and fire safety programmes.

Points to bear in mind

The indicator reports the number of incidents resulting in casualties.

The level of casualties may well be influenced by:

- areas with higher levels of deprivation
- where a high proportion of properties are multi-occupied.

- 2: **The number of accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 population.**

What the indicator reports

This indicator gives an indication of the effectiveness of fire & rescue services' fire safety programmes. The indicator only reports accidental dwelling fires and does not include incidences where they are the direct result of malicious or deliberate acts, or where the reason for the fire is not known.

Points to bear in mind

The number of fires is affected by a variety of factors, including socio-demographic factors and the extent to which fire precautions are installed in buildings.

The level of accidental fires may well be influenced by areas which have a higher level of deprivation.

Call Response Times

- 3: **The number and proportion of calls to incidents handled**
 a) within one minute
 b) within two minutes.

What the indicator reports

This indicator measures the speed with which a service responds to an emergency 999 call. The time to handle a call is the period between the fire control operator receiving the call from the public system switchboard to mobilising the required number of appliances.

Points to bear in mind

Calls are all the first calls to incidents; they do not include subsequent calls to the same incident. False alarm calls are also included.

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Callers using mobile telephones who are unfamiliar with surroundings often take longer to provide a reliable address.

Sickness absence

4: The percentage of:

a) rider shifts lost due to sickness absence and light duties

b) working time lost to sickness for all other staff directly employed by the brigade

What the indicator reports

The indicator measures the percentage of rider shifts lost due to sickness absence and light duties within the fire & rescue service for full time firefighters, and working time lost for all other directly employed staff.

Points to bear in mind

'Sickness absence' is defined as an absence from the place of employment because of the employee's illness or injury for which sick leave entitlement is used. This may include self-certification, absence supported by a doctor's certificate, long-term sickness absence, and industrial injury. Absence which is not sickness absence, for example, compassionate leave, career leave and special leave/unpaid leave, maternity and paternity leave, and maternity support, are not included.

Sickness absence levels in the fire & rescue service are generally high in comparison with the public sector average, partly as a result of the hazardous nature of the work, and the special needs in respect of fitness.

Shifts lost to light duties are those shifts where duties, other than rider duties, are assigned for medical reasons.

Fire and Rescue policies vary on the number of firefighters who can be accommodated on non-operational light duties.

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Auditors appointed by the Accounts Commission have reviewed each fire & rescue service's arrangements for producing the performance information and in no case was any doubt expressed as to the reliability of those arrangements.

Fire	Indicator 1					
	Population			Number of incidents resulting in casualties		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	279,970	282,070	284,710	38	44	37
Dumfries & Galloway	147,210	147,930	148,340	19	28	16
Fife	352,040	354,600	356,740	33	35	49
Grampian	523,390	524,020	525,930	109	96	100
Highland & Islands	276,360	279,040	281,550	46	33	38
Lothian & Borders	888,470	896,970	902,330	158	169	145
Strathclyde	2,203,360	2,205,820	2,205,460	570	527	525
Tayside	386,600	387,950	389,740	57	66	86
Scotland	5,057,400	5,078,400	5,094,800	1,030	998	996

Fire	Indicator 1				
	Number of incidents resulting in casualties per 10,000 population			Number of fatal and non-fatal casualties	
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	1.4	1.6	1.3	55	41
Dumfries & Galloway	1.3	1.9	1.1	40	20
Fife	0.9	1.0	1.4	39	53
Grampian	2.1	1.8	1.9	124	128
Highland & Islands	1.7	1.2	1.3	36	44
Lothian & Borders	1.8	1.9	1.6	224	186
Strathclyde	2.6	2.4	2.4	701	734
Tayside	1.5	1.7	2.2	92	115
Scotland	2.0	2.0	2.0	1,311	1,321

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Fire	Indicator 1		Indicator 2		
	Number of fatal and non-fatal casualties per 10,000 population		Number of accidental dwelling fires		
	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	1.9	1.4	224	225	217
Dumfries & Galloway	2.7	1.3	112	120	120
Fife	1.1	1.5	304	311	248
Grampian	2.4	2.4	667	607	660
Highland & Islands	1.3	1.6	221	198	198
Lothian & Borders	2.5	2.1	1,041	1,078	1,046
Strathclyde	3.2	3.3	2,545	2,557	2,516
Tayside	2.4	3.0	457	477	461
Scotland	2.6	2.6	5,571	5,573	5,466

Fire	Indicator 2			Indicator 3		
	Number of accidental dwelling fires per 10,000 population			Number of calls handled in less than one minute		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	8.0	8.0	7.6	3,366	3,299	3,175
Dumfries & Galloway	7.6	8.1	8.1	1,810	999	759
Fife	8.6	8.8	7.0	4,805	4,611	4,521
Grampian	12.7	11.6	12.5	5,474	5,471	4,539
Highland & Islands	8.0	7.1	7.0	3,259	3,381	3,229
Lothian & Borders	11.7	12.0	11.6	14,857	14,341	14,712
Strathclyde	11.6	11.6	11.4	34,350	33,859	37,749
Tayside	11.8	12.3	11.8	5,541	5,286	4,611
Scotland	11.0	11.0	10.7	73,462	71,247	73,295

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Fire	Indicator 3					
	The percentage of calls handled in less than one minute			The number of calls handled in less than two minutes		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	68.9%	67.5%	61.8%	4,641	4,600	4,784
Dumfries & Galloway	94.8%	52.4%	46.3%	1,903	1,786	1,487
Fife	70.0%	70.2%	66.0%	6,692	6,424	6,694
Grampian	76.5%	73.1%	60.4%	7,043	7,352	7,150
Highland & Islands	68.7%	68.0%	62.7%	4,581	4,774	4,924
Lothian & Borders	72.4%	68.2%	66.8%	19,910	20,324	21,111
Strathclyde	64.1%	61.4%	66.5%	51,311	52,302	54,371
Tayside	68.3%	64.5%	54.8%	7,695	7,748	7,637
Scotland	68.2%	64.7%	64.6%	103,776	105,310	108,158

Fire	Indicator 3					
	Percentage of calls handled in less than two minutes			Total numbers of calls handled		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	94.9%	94.1%	93.1%	4,888	4,887	5,141
Dumfries & Galloway	99.6%	93.7%	90.7%	1,910	1,906	1,639
Fife	97.5%	97.9%	97.7%	6,864	6,564	6,852
Grampian	98.5%	98.2%	95.1%	7,152	7,483	7,519
Highland & Islands	96.6%	96.0%	95.6%	4,744	4,971	5,148
Lothian & Borders	97.0%	96.6%	95.8%	20,516	21,041	22,037
Strathclyde	95.8%	94.9%	95.8%	53,578	55,135	56,749
Tayside	94.8%	94.6%	90.8%	8,115	8,192	8,412
Scotland	96.3%	95.6%	95.3%	107,767	110,179	113,497

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Fire	Indicator 4					
	Percentage of rider shifts lost due to sickness during the year			Total number of rider shifts lost due to sickness during the year		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	6.0%	5.1%	4.3%	1,675	1,436	1,211
Dumfries & Galloway	5.3%	4.6%	4.5%	563	494	484
Fife	9.4%	6.7%	6.0%	4,563	3,110	2,768
Grampian	6.3%	5.6%	6.5%	2,549	2,191	2,483
Highland & Islands	7.1%	5.6%	3.6%	728	573	366
Lothian & Borders	6.2%	5.5%	5.3%	6,025	5,127	5,032
Strathclyde	8.0%	7.0%	6.3%	22,744	19,355	18,311
Tayside	6.1%	5.7%	7.1%	3,049	2,785	3,491
Scotland	7.4%	6.4%	6.0%	41,896	35,071	34,146

Fire	Indicator 4					
	Percentage of rider shifts lost due to light duties			Total number of rider shifts lost due to light duties during the year		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	1.1%	3.5%	1.7%	316	976	481
Dumfries & Galloway	1.9%	3.1%	2.2%	208	330	238
Fife	1.0%	1.3%	2.8%	480	619	1,278
Grampian	0.7%	0.5%	1.4%	296	204	522
Highland & Islands	0.9%	0.2%	1.4%	95	21	137
Lothian & Borders	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%	326	265	796
Strathclyde	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	914	989	601
Tayside	0.5%	0.7%	1.0%	252	349	465
Scotland	0.5%	0.7%	0.8%	2,887	3,753	4,518

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Fire	Indicator 4					
	Total number of rider shifts in the year			Percentage of working time lost due to sickness for all other staff directly employed by the brigade		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	28,110	28,098	27,935	6.6%	6.7%	5.0%
Dumfries & Galloway	10,685	10,680	10,685	9.0%	5.2%	5.0%
Fife	48,444	46,614	46,309	6.3%	3.3%	3.7%
Grampian	40,191	38,944	38,304	4.4%	4.8%	5.1%
Highland & Islands	10,260	10,189	10,119	3.3%	3.0%	2.5%
Lothian & Borders	96,520	93,328	94,392	5.5%	3.8%	4.5%
Strathclyde	285,273	274,763	289,008	7.8%	6.9%	5.7%
Tayside	49,769	49,242	48,833	4.7%	5.3%	5.7%
Scotland	569,252	551,858	565,585	6.3%	5.4%	5.0%

Fire	Indicator 4					
	Total number of days lost due to sickness for all other staff directly employed by the brigade			Total number of working days per year		
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007
Central Scotland	1,275	1,313	1,085	19,220	19,730	21,720
Dumfries & Galloway	1,219	734	705	13,492	13,983	14,233
Fife	1,405	701	841	22,446	20,977	22,879
Grampian	1,583	1,709	1,802	35,716	35,815	35,570
Highland & Islands	838	769	698	25,439	25,724	27,512
Lothian & Borders	3,423	2,483	3,013	62,338	65,465	67,344
Strathclyde	11,156	10,342	8,343	143,212	150,535	146,215
Tayside	1,361	1,583	1,798	28,691	30,027	31,777
Scotland	22,260	19,634	18,285	350,554	362,256	367,250