



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Working together for a safer Scotland

Statistical News

Fire and Rescue Incident Statistics 2025-26

An Official Statistics
publication for Scotland
30 October 2026

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Corrections

There have been no corrections within this year's publication.

Notable Revisions

There were no revisions in the headline incident timeseries of more than 0.5%.

Official Statistics in Development

The following tables were introduced in 2023-24 as Official Statistics in Development, and will remain Official Statistics in Development in 2025-26:

- Preventable Fire Fatalities (table code: ICF_FFP1)
- Fatal Fire Casualties by Month (table code: ICF_FFM1)
- Fatal Fire Casualties by Day (table code: ICF_FFD1)
- Contributory Factors in Fatal Fire Casualties (table code: ICF_FFCCF1)
- Origins of Cause in Fatal Fire Casualties (table code: ICF_FFOCI)
- Daily Rate of Fire Incidents by Month, Location and Year (table code: IFR_DRI)

Datazone Update

Following requests from users, small-area figures in this edition are published on 2022 Data Zones for the first time. Data Zones are the small geographical areas used to publish local statistics in Scotland. The Scottish Government revised them in December 2024 using the 2022 Census, increasing their number from 6,976 to 7,392.

Each 2022 Data Zone has a new code, which have been mapped onto older incidents using Output

Areas. Figures for 2022 Data Zones should not be compared directly with previously published figures for 2011 Data Zones, as boundaries have changed in some areas. The data for this publication, including previous years, has been recalculated on 2022 Data Zones.

Figures for Scotland and for local authority areas are not affected by this change.

Deprivation analysis remains on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation 2020

Analysis by deprivation in this edition continues to use the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2020. SIMD 2020 is defined on 2011 Data Zones, and it is the most recent index available. It cannot be applied to 2022 Data Zones without introducing estimation that would make our figures inconsistent with other official statistics.

For this reason, this edition uses two versions of the Data Zone geography: 2022 Data Zones for small-

area tables, and 2011 Data Zones solely to assign incidents and casualties to a SIMD quintile. Each table and chart states which version it uses.

The Scottish Government has said it expects to publish an updated SIMD, based on 2022 Data Zones, in the latter part of 2026. We will move our deprivation analysis to the new index in the 2026-27 edition.

Scotland Population Data

The latest publication by National Records of Scotland for Small Area Population Estimates reflects mid-2022 data. To give a best estimate, mid-2022 data has been used for 2022-23 to 2025-25. This will be updated in future publications when new Small Area Population Estimates are published. This affects the following tables:

- Incidents Attended by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile - Rate per Million Population (Table Code: IAC_ISIMDRP1)
- Casualties in Fires by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile - Rate per Million Population (Table Code: IAC_CSIMDRP1)
- Incidents Attended by Urban Rural Index - Rate per Million Population (Table Code: IAC_IURRP1)
- Casualties in Fires by Urban Rural Index - Rate per Million Population (Table Code: IAC_CURRP1)

Furthermore, the 10-year fatal fire casualty average within the “Casualties in Fires by Age (Non-SFRS Personnel) - Rate per Million Population” within the Tables and Charts workbook does not match the 10-year average for fatal fire casualties within the “Casualties in Fires by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Quintile – Rate per Million Population” table or the “Casualties in Fires by Urban Rural Index - Rate per Million Population” table within the Tables and Charts workbook. This is due to the Small Area Population Estimates not being updated for this year. The “Casualties in Fires by Age (Non-SFRS Personnel) - Rate per Million Population” table uses the Mid-Year Population Estimates (published by National

Records of Scotland) which is up to date for 2025-26, whereas the other tables have had to use mid-2022 data for the past three years of data. The Deprivation and Urban Tables tables are therefore using different total population figures for 2023-24 - 2025-26 than what is used within the Age tables. For this reason, the “Casualties in Fires by Age (Non-SFRS Personnel) - Rate per Million Population” average should be considered more up to date and accurate.

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England and Wales Population Data

Following the practice of English and Welsh Fire and Rescue statistics, population data from England and Wales have been sourced from the Office of National Statistics (ONS). Figures have been backdated to reflect precise ONS population estimates. This affects the following tables:

- Incidents Attended by Nation - Rate per million Population (table code: IGB_I1)
- Fire Incidents Attended by Nation - Rate per million Population (table code: IGB_F1)
- Casualties from Fires by Nation - Rate per million Population (table code: IGB_C2)

Change to “Multi-storey Residential Fires” (Table Code: IFR_BMS1)

In Scotland, ‘high rise’ residential properties are considered to be those over 18 meters tall or 6 storeys. Internally, the Service uses 5 storeys or over as the definition of what counts as a high rise building in their operating procedures. The published statistics now reflect data for 5 storeys

and over rather than 6 storeys to match internal procedure. These statistics should therefore be considered a best estimate when making comparisons.

Update to “Outdoor Fires” (Table Code: IRS_OUT1)

During routine quality assurance, it was found that 715 incidents between 2017-18 and 2024-25 had been incorrectly reported as ‘woodland fires’,

which subsequently increased the number of primary fires reported. These have been updated to ‘tree scrub’ which is a secondary fire type.

Official Statistics

In 2019 the Scottish Government added the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) to the register of ‘Producers of Official Statistics’. This

permits SFRS to publish Official Statistics and requires that SFRS follow the Code of Practice for Statistics in producing them.

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