



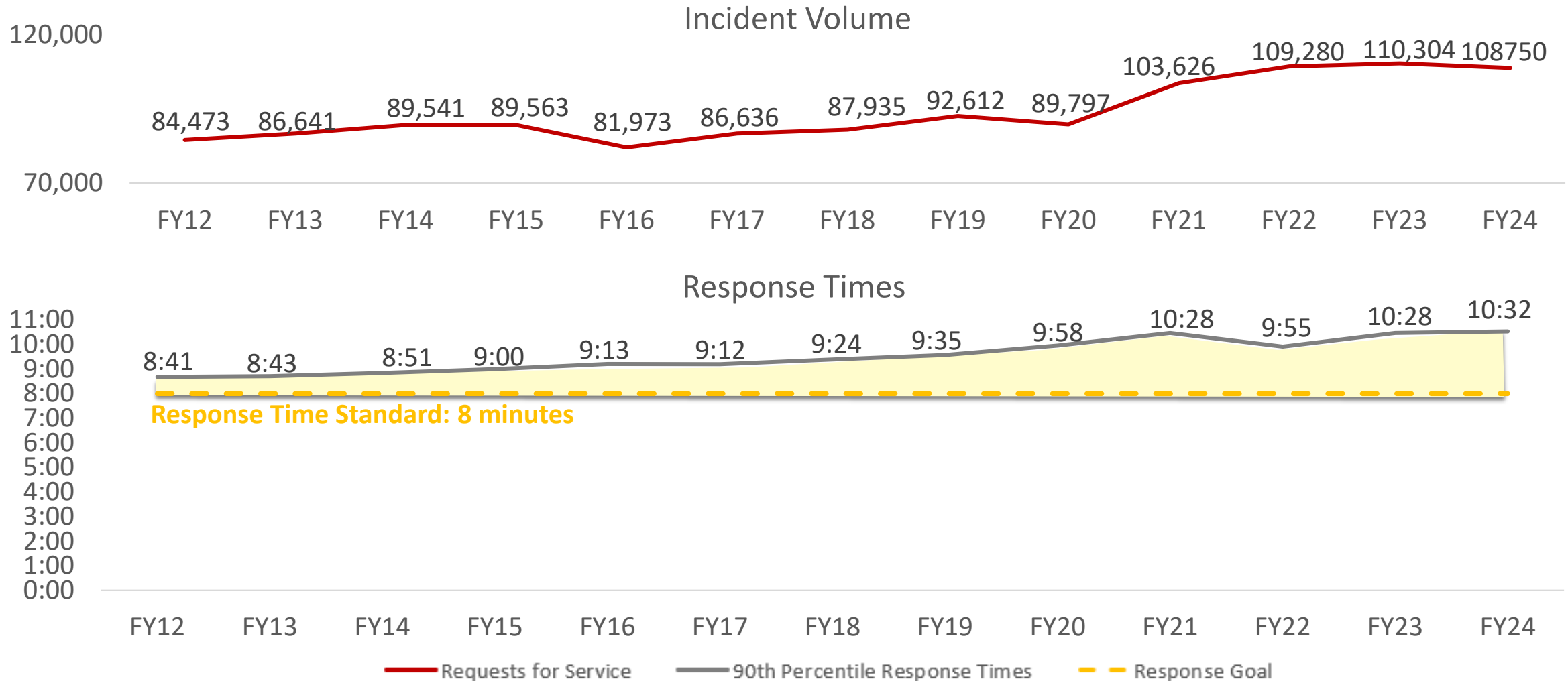
Austin Fire Department

Rob Vires | Chief of Staff | Public Safety Commission Quarterly Presentation FY25 Q2



Emergency Response Time Trends

As the City of Austin grows – and the demand for fire services increases – response times continue to increase.



Station 54 Grand Opening



- New Fire Station 54 opened on January 12th.
- Grand Opening ceremony was held on March 8th.
- Station 54 is shared with ATCEMS.
- Station 54 is located in Council District 10, on RR 620.



Facility Improvement Projects

Station 8

- Anticipated opening: May 2025
- Engine 8 is on-site; Ladder 8 is at Station 30
- Finishing punch-list items and final inspection

Station 23

- Anticipated opening: May 2025
- Engine 23 is in a trailer at 8700 Cameron Road
- Finishing punch-list items and final inspection

Station 47

- Expected completion: May 2025
- Engine 47 is operating out of Station 34
- Final phase of remodel

Station 20

- Expected completion: May 2025
- Engine 20 and Rescue 20 moved to Station 29 on January 6, 2025
- Final stages of remodel

Station 21

- Driveway replacement began April 14, 2025.
- Expected to last 6 weeks.
- Engine 21 is operating out of Station 19

Station 25

- Anticipated opening: May 2025
- Awaiting final inspection



Automatic Aid



AFD and Cedar Park apparatus and personnel training together. Photo courtesy of AFD Division Chief Parrish.

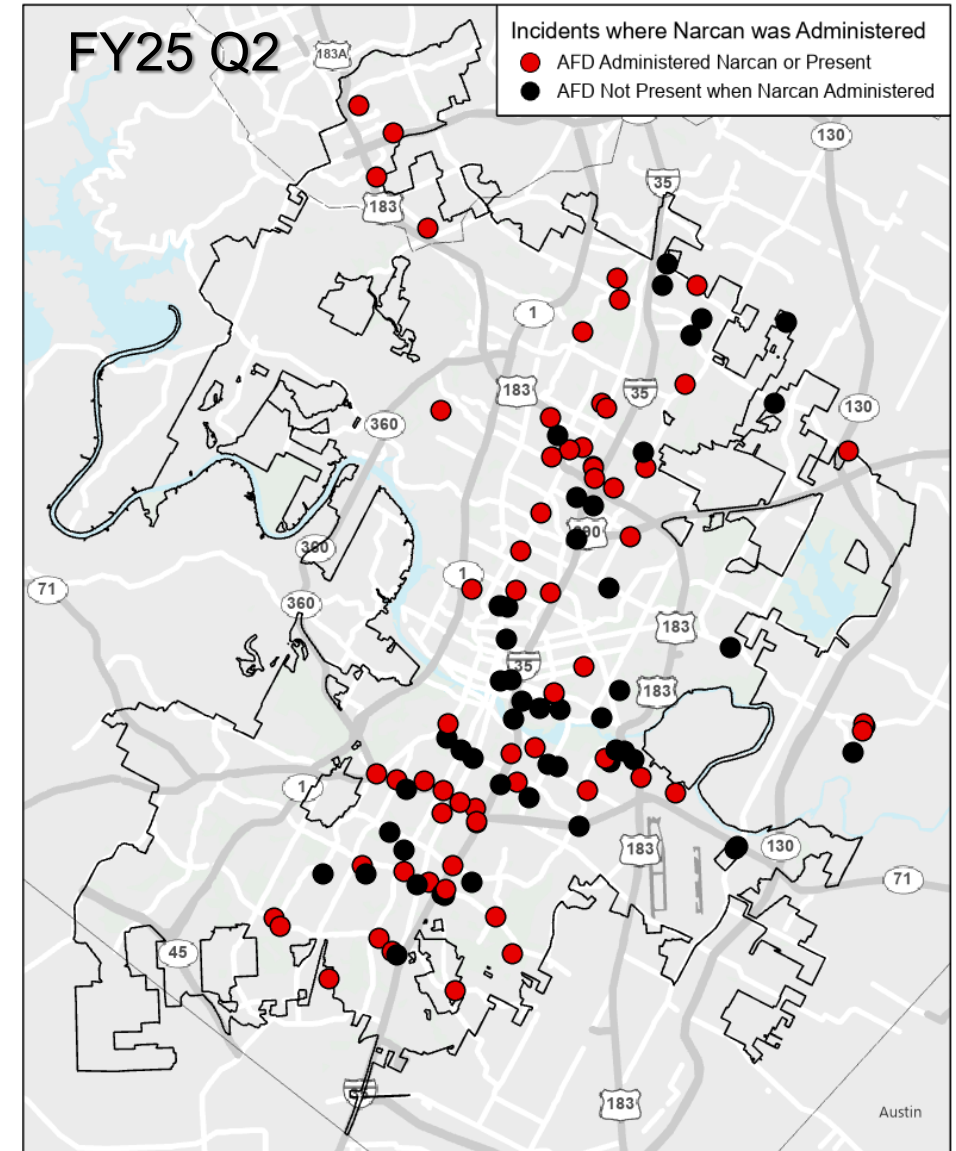
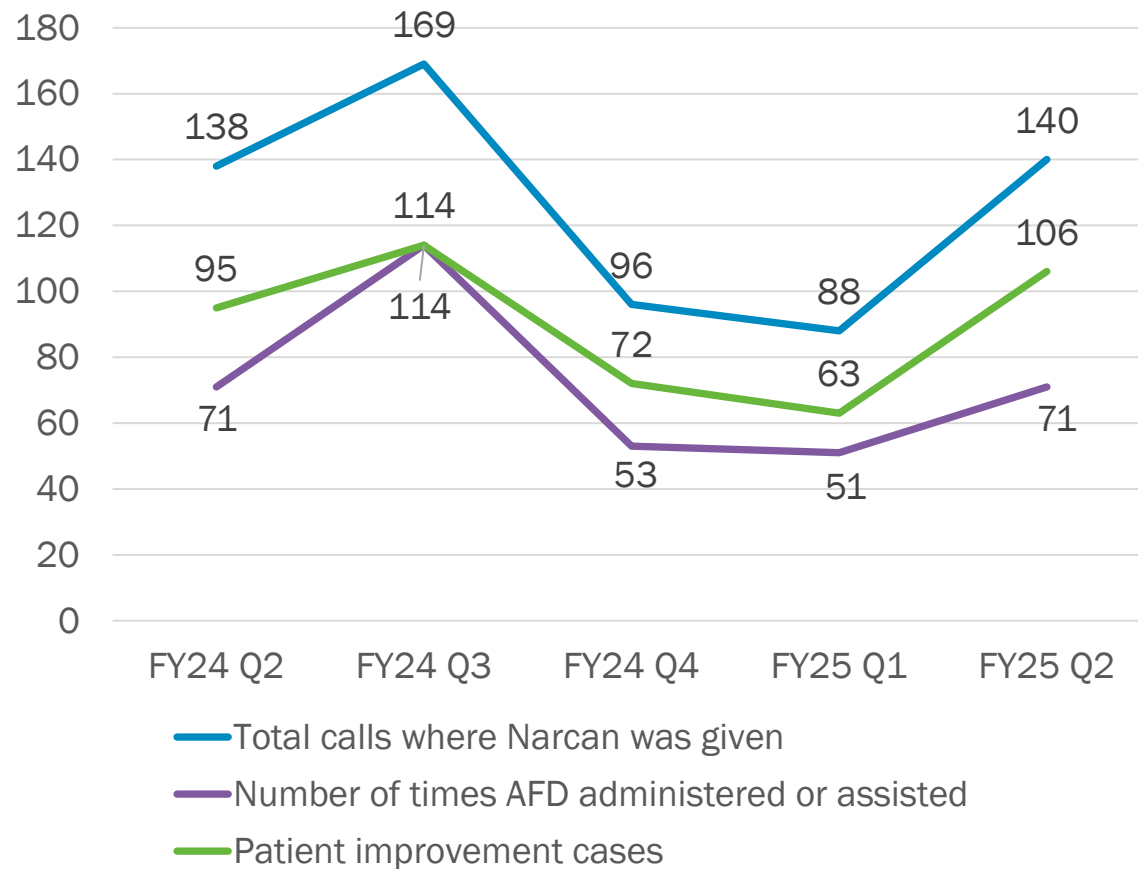
An Interlocal Agreement to dispatch the closest unit to a 911 call, regardless of department or jurisdiction. Auto Aid occurs multiple times per day and greatly contributes to decreased response times for Austin and Travis County.

Recent Successes:

- AFD Communications is actively working to move the Tellus CAD-to-CAD program to the cloud. This will allow us to expand Auto Aid with other neighboring departments if desired. Completion is expected in early FY26.
- On April 26, AFD and ESD 6 provided auto-aid to ESD1 for a marina fire involving multiple boats, dock and three patients; all with burns and fractures. 15 units across the three agencies responded. Battalion 2 assisted at the Command Post and E39, E52 staged and were eventually cleared.

Overdose Response

Since 2021, all AFD personnel are trained on Naloxone administration and each unit carries the medication. The increase in FY25 Q2 may be due to new reporting requirements for Narcan use starting Dec 2024.



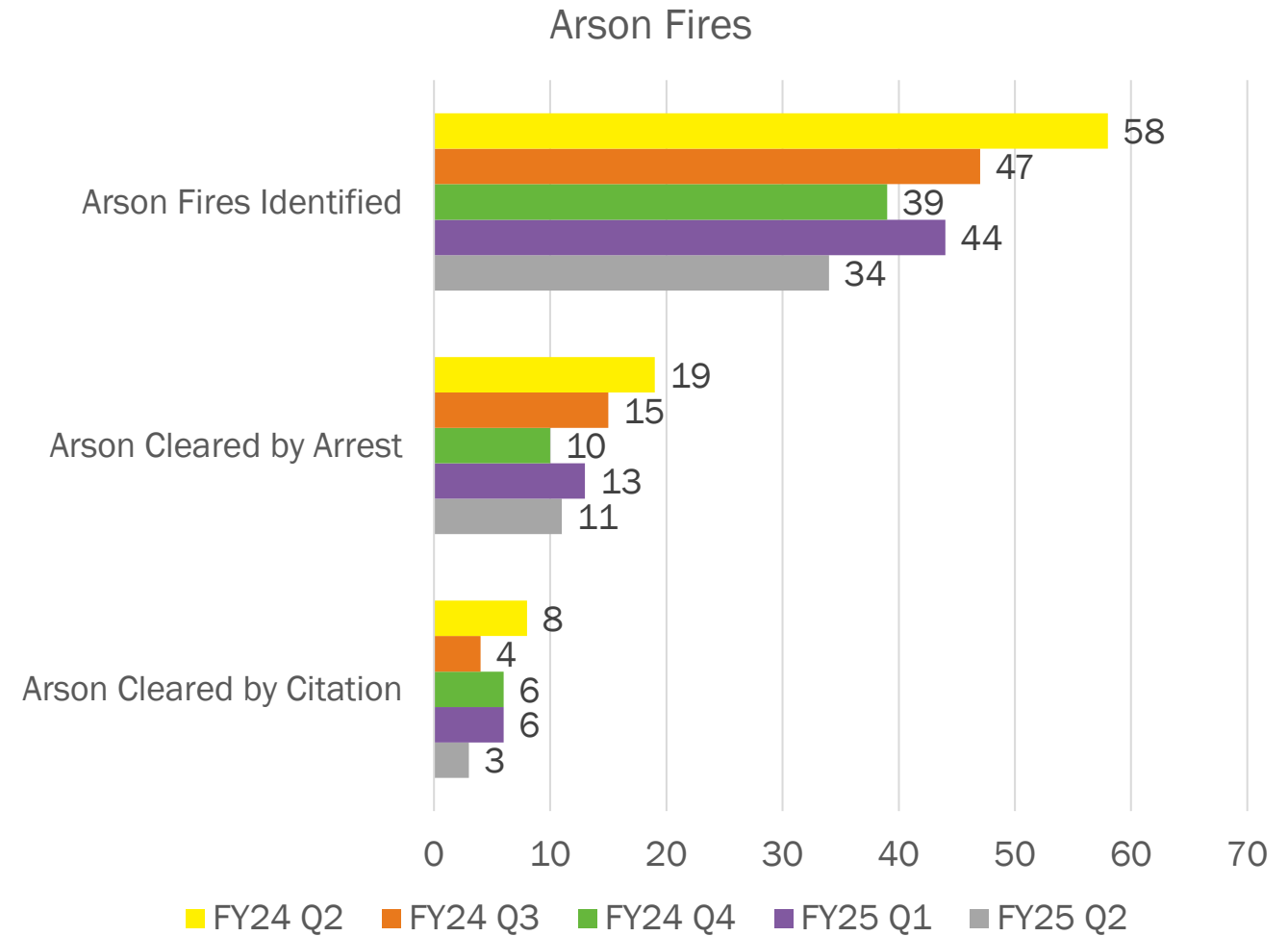
Investigations

Percent of Arson Fires Cleared:

- FY 24 Q3: 40%
- FY 24 Q4: 41%
- FY 25 Q1: 43%
- FY 25 Q2: 41%

National Clearance Rate: 22%

FY 25 Q2: 34 total fires investigated



Wildfire Division

Outreach Efforts

- Over 500 SIZE requests have come into the Wildfire Office, to date
 - Sum of appraised property value assessed:
 - **FY25 Q1:** \$311,475,725 (280 assessments)
 - **FY24 Total:** \$107,770,540 (88 assessments)
- FireAside software purchased for better tracking of SIZE info and scheduling
- Fire Adapted Communities staff attend approx. one community event per week
- Commission receives a monthly newsletter and SIZE requests by district

Operations

- Refining upstaffing criteria for summer fire season.

Fuels Reduction

- Working with partners to create platform for tracking fuels mitigation projects
- 2019 audit requirements for a common location for fuels mitigation projects

Situational Awareness

- Work continues with CTM, EMS, APD, HSEM, WPD, and TPW
- Training plan for AFD will begin late spring/early summer

Evacuation Planning

- Work on city-wide, all-hazards plan is ongoing, with a target date of June 1st
- A wildfire evacuation planning workshop was held at HSEM on April 25th, where city agencies worked through the logistics of a wildfire evacuation plan



Information on fire danger ratings, outreach efforts, and other division efforts can be found at [ATXWildfireHub.com](https://www.austintexas.gov/ATXWildfireHub.com)

Office of the Fire Marshal: Special Events



AFD at Cap10K – the largest team among all first responder and military groups, with many firefighters running in full bunker gear.

FY25 Q2:

- 86 Tradeshows including Austin Convention Center, Palmer Events & local Hotels
- 132 Outdoor event permits including:
 - SXSW events through the City
 - Austin FC Soccer-4
 - ATX Open
 - Nascar 3day event
 - MotoGP 3day events
 - Besame Mucho 1day outdoor festival
 - Outdoor Concerts- 4
 - Austin Half Marathon
 - MLK day parade
 - Fraternities / Sororities events fire watched/permitted-12



The Compliance Engine

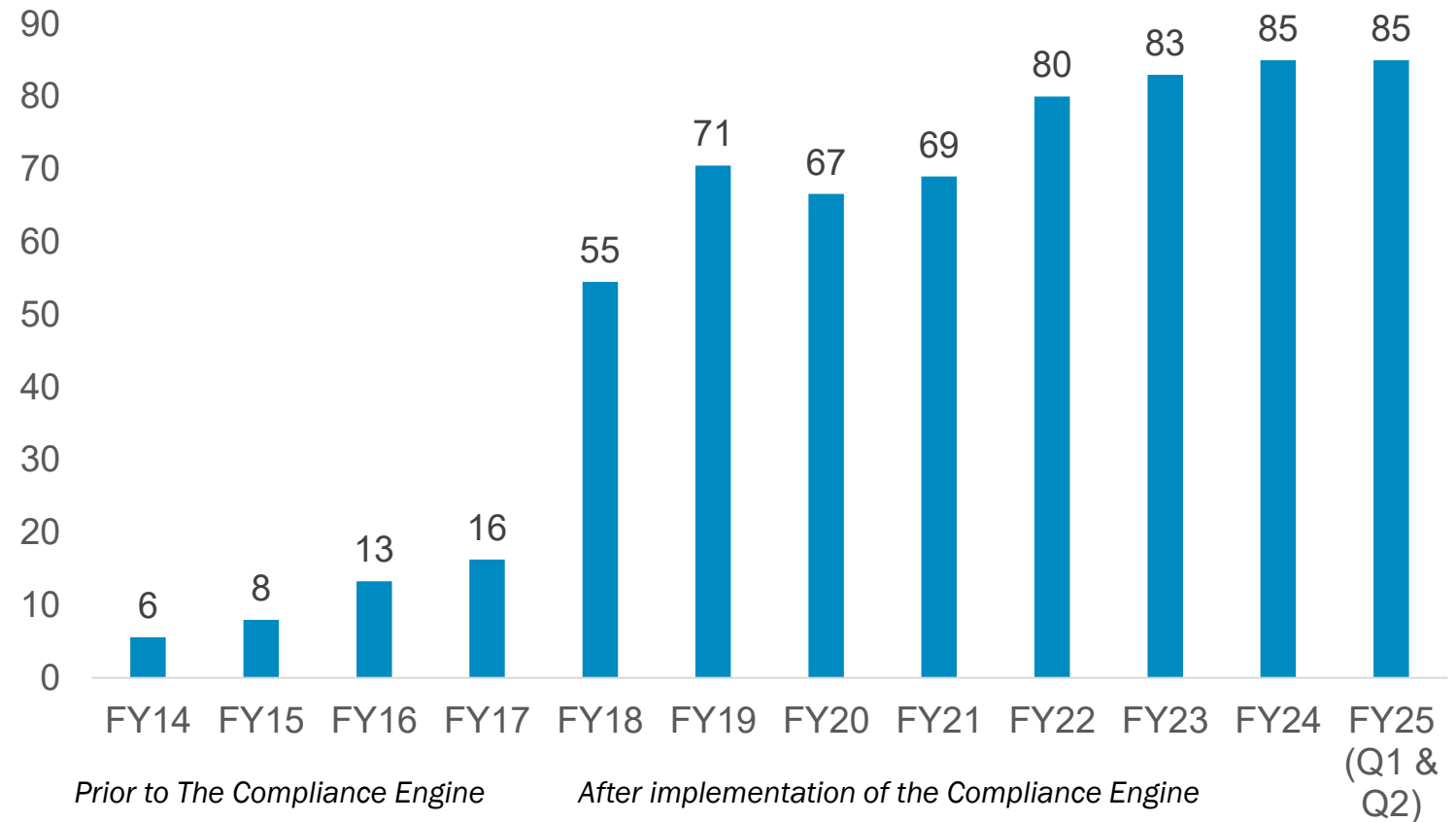
The Compliance Engine (TCE) database tracks compliance and non-compliance for all fire protection systems in commercial properties across the City of Austin.

This allows the Austin Fire Department to track annual fire systems reports, deficiencies and repair reports and receive immediate notification of system impairments.

FY25 Q2: 85%

Current systems in the Compliance Engine: 37,048

Percentage of City of Austin fire system tracking for compliance and non-compliance



Community Outreach

The Austin Fire Department has a vision that residents be fire safe in their homes by providing free smoke alarms and fire safety educational training through Outreach Programs:

Free Smoke Alarms – The Austin Fire Department offers/installs free smoke alarms to homeowners that live within AFD’s Jurisdiction. Number of Smoke Alarms installed:

- FY 25 Q1: 319
- FY 25 Q2: 277

Fire Safety Training – The Austin Fire Department provides vital “hands-on” fire extinguisher training and home fire safety awareness demonstrations.

- FY 25 Q1: 295
- FY 25 Q2: 251

Red Angels Program – The Austin Fire Department works in collaboration with Austin Community College’s nursing program, we provide “in-home” basic health wellness checks (blood pressure, glucose, temperature, heart rate) and conduct home hazard safety assessments.

- FY 25 Q1: 80
- FY 25 Q2: 84



To request smoke alarms call the
Free Smoke Alarm Hotline:
512-974-0299

Homes Visited by Free Smoke Alarm Program

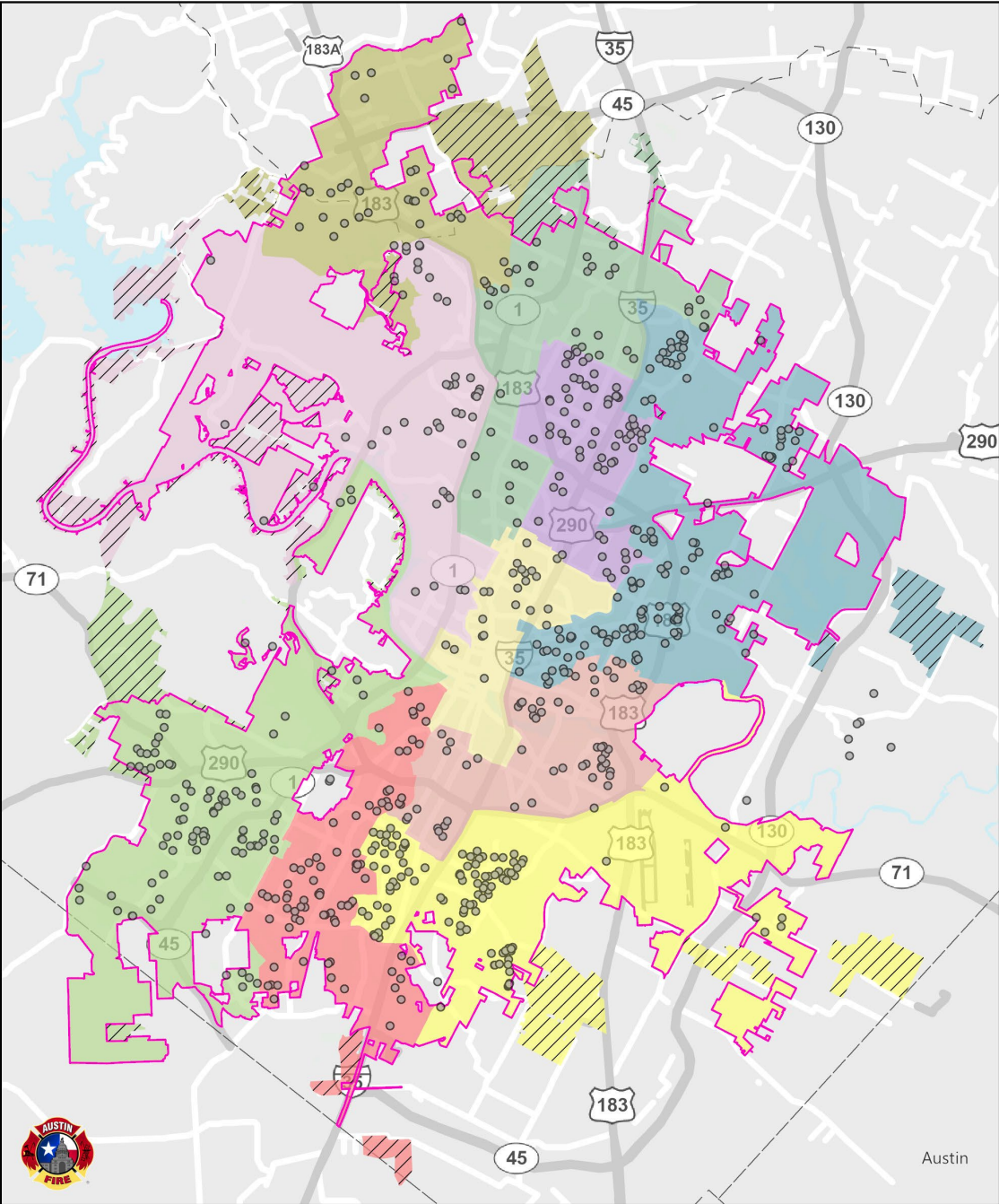
January 2020 to January 2025

 COA Full Purpose

 Limited Purpose
(outside AFD service area)

 Smoke Alarm Installs

- | | |
|---|--|
|  District 1: 131 homes |  District 2: 115 homes |
|  District 3: 58 homes |  District 4: 68 homes |
|  District 5: 82 homes |  District 6: 37 homes |
|  District 7: 36 homes |  District 8: 94 homes |
|  District 9: 22 homes |  District 10: 44 homes |





AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT



**FREE
SMOKE ALARM
512-974-0299**

**TEST YOUR ALARM
MONTHLY**

A working smoke alarm increases your chance of surviving a fire by more than 50 percent.

PASS THE TEST

Test all smoke alarms once a month. Press the test button with your finger. If the alarm does not sound, change the battery or replace the alarm. Most fire alarms last about 10 years. Clean them regularly by vacuuming away dust and cobwebs.

DOUBLE YOUR CHANCES

Smoke alarms can be a love-hate relationship. We love that they can double our chances of surviving a fire, but hate the sound it makes when we burn toast. Don't take the batteries out, remove covers, or disable your smoke alarms in any way. The inconvenience is not worth your life.

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Install smoke alarms in the hallway (close to sleeping areas), in busy rooms like your living or family room, and in every bedroom. Do NOT install them in the kitchen where non-threatening smoke from cooking can set the alarm off too easily.



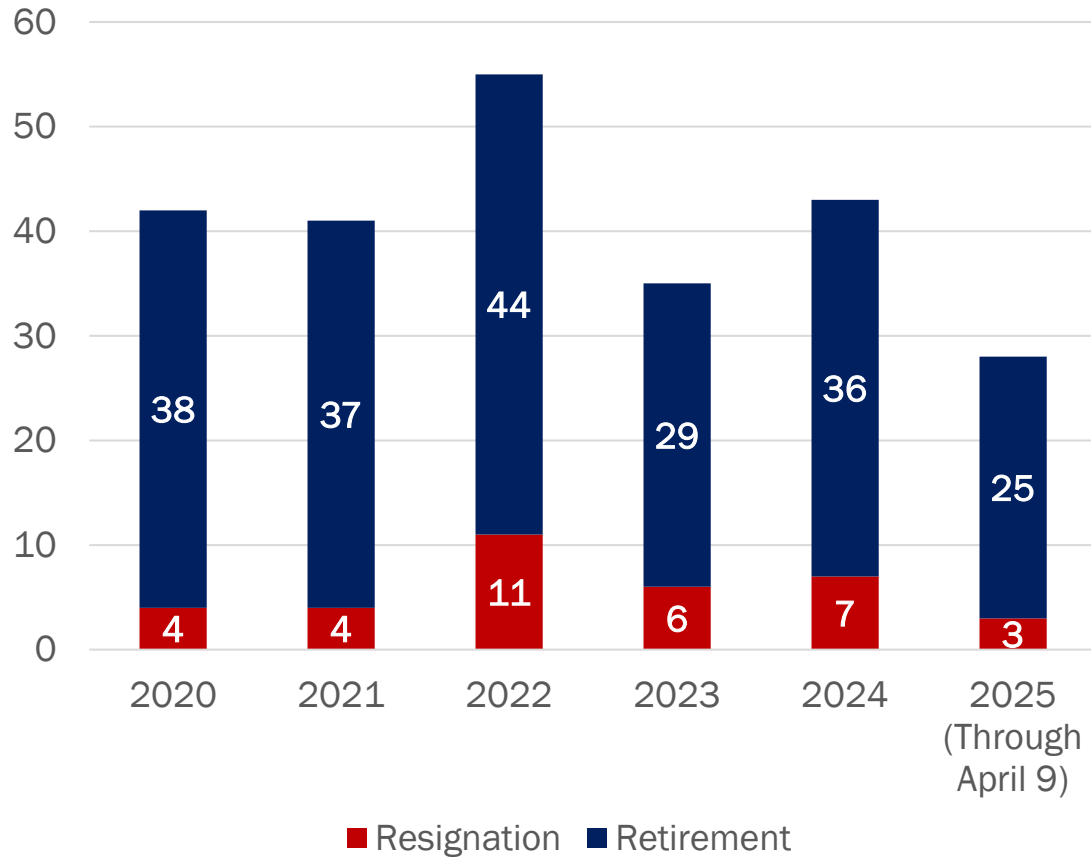
A WORKING SMOKE ALARM SAVES LIVES!

Austin Fire Department • Community Outreach Division
512.974.0100 • www.AustinFireOutreach.org



Sworn Separations & Civilians Vacancies

AFD Sworn Separations through April 9, 2025



Average Years of Service:

- Retirements: **27-30 Years**
- Resignations: **3 Years**

Current sworn vacancies: **83**

Current civilian vacancies: **5**



Cadet Recruiting and Hiring Process

May 2024 Hiring Process

- Candidate Interest Cards: 1,681
- Applications: 1,398
- Applicants Taking the Hiring Exam: 667

Group 1: Top 120 applicants

- Accepted Conditional Offers of Employment (COE): 113
- Went through pre-hire assessments
- Qualified to move to final list: 57

Group 2: Top 121-220 ranked applicants

- Accepted COE: 84
- Qualified to move to final list: 32

Group 2.5: Top 221-263

- Accepted COE: 17
- Qualified to move to final list: 8

Group 3: Top 221-400 ranked applicants

- Accepted COE: 117
- Active Candidates as of April 25, 2025: 64
- Final Reports Due: May 30, 2025



Cadet Classes

Cadet Class 139:

- 48 Cadets started on January 13, 2025
- 40 Current active cadets

Cadet Class 140:

- 45 Cadets started on March 24, 2025
- 40 Current active cadets

Cadet Class 141:

- Scheduled Start Date: August 2025
- On track to start 48 cadets





AFD strives to recruit and retain a diverse workforce.

If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Austin Fire Department, please visit JoinAFD.com.