



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE AT A GLANCE

INFORMATION ABOUT THE NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

NOVEMBER 2015

The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) is the world's largest volunteer fire service. Our members provide fire and emergency services to approximately 95% of NSW.

NSW RFS members attend a range of incidents and activities:

- Bush and grass fires
- House and structure fires
- Storm damage
- Search and rescue
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Community education
- Bush fire mitigation

The responsibilities of the NSW RFS are set out under the *Rural Fires Act 1997*.

Our Vision and Mission

To provide a world standard of excellence in the provision of a community-based fire and emergency service.

To protect the community and our environment we will minimise the impact of fire and other emergencies by providing the highest standards of training, community education, prevention and operational capability.

Our Values

- mutual respect
- adaptability and resourcefulness
- one team, many players, one purpose
- integrity and trust
- support, friendship, camaraderie
- community and environment
- knowledge and learning

Funding

The 2014/15 total expenses budget for the NSW RFS was \$332.9m.

Funding of the NSW RFS is made up of contributions from the insurance industry (73.7%), NSW Government (14.6%) and Local Government (11.7%).

Our Staff

Total Staff	824
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Approximately 72% of NSW RFS staff are, or have been, a NSW RFS volunteer.



Our Organisation

Brigades	2,032
Rural Fire Districts	125
Districts	47
Regional Offices	4
Headquarters	1

Our Membership

Region North	13,516
Region South	21,968
Region East	23,568
Region West	15,564
Total Volunteers	74,516

Membership Trends

2010/11	70,448
2011/12	70,246
2012/13	71,976
2013/14	73,746
2014/15	74,516

The incidents we attend

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Bush/grass fires	4,154	7,474	8,032	7,837
Structural fires	849	957	1,090	1,264
Vehicle fires	1,500	1,638	1,535	1,633
Motor vehicle accidents	4,211	3,881	3,909	4,236
Investigation	2,020	1,777	2,302	3,512
Controlled burns/pile burns (RFDs)	964	1,088	2,664	1,960**
Refuse fires	592	608	634	652
Spillage	252	214	590	776
Assist other agencies	318	258	547	917
Flood	58	22	115	76
Other	3,310	4,410	1,957	2,245
Total	18,913	23,436	23,375	23,148

NOTE: In 2014/15 reporting of incidents in ICON has been further enhanced including the integration of the post-incident reporting function to ensure that ICON is the single point of truth for incident information. These upgrades have seen the data in the yearly reports improve in precision and accuracy.

*The figure of total bush and grass fires refers to the incidents in which the NSW RFS responded.

**Controlled burns/pile burns are not included in the total incidents figure for 2014/15.



**The information contained in this fact sheet is current as at 30 June 2015.
For further information visit www.rfs.nsw.gov.au**