



Zeeland Charter Township  
Fire Department

# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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It's my pleasure to present the 2021 Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department Annual Report. 2021 was filled with uncertainty and unusual circumstances for Fire and EMS. The members of the Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department remain ready for those challenges. Contained within this report you will find response statistics, facts and memorable events. The department once again responded to a variety of alarms including medical, rescue and fire. Medical emergencies and personal injury accidents once again create the majority of responses. Call volumes continue to increase annually. 2021 showed an increase in responses of 26% over 2020.

This year brought the introduction of our first 40 Hr. Fire/EMS firefighter. This position provides consistent and essential rescue and medical response during ever increasing day-time staffing challenges. The position also assures equipment readiness and safety.

I am proud to serve with such a talented and dedicated group of firefighters and officers. The department's high level of response would not be possible without the support of our township officials and the citizens of Zeeland Charter Township.

Respectfully,

Philip J Hunderman  
Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department  
6522 Byron Road  
Zeeland, Michigan 49464



# MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

*Fire Chief Phil Hunderman*





# Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department **STATIONS**





**Squad 671**  
2015 Chevrolet Silverado



**Tanker 661**  
2002 4-Guys 3,500 G Tanker



**Engine 621**  
1993 HME Rescue Pumper



# STATION #1

6413 ADAMS ST.



### Squad 672

2015 Chevrolet Silverado



### Tanker 662

2007 Toyne 3,500 G Tanker



### Ladder 642

2018 Pierce Ascendant



### Brush Truck 682

1985 Ford F350



# STATION #2

4410 72<sup>ND</sup> AVE.





### Rescue 633

2001 Ferarra Heavy Utility



### Engine 623

2017 Pierce Engine/Rescue



### Traffic Blocker 634

Utility Truck



### UTV 677

Utility Task Vehicle

PhotoCredits: Mifiretrucks 2021



# STATION #3

6522 BYRON RD.



Zeeland Charter Township  
Fire Department

**2021 RECOGNITIONS**





In 2021 we celebrated both Tom Rosine, (left) and Hark VanRhee (right). Tom has served on Zeeland Township Fire Department for over 35 years. Hark has served for over 50 years.

The Department thanks both of them for their continued service to the community.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION



In 2021, Mindy Hulst, wife of Captain Ken Hulst, retired from managing and coordinating our department rehab. Mindy served 15 years making sure firefighters were well taken care of with food, drink and snacks on fire scenes and training events.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION





In March of 2021, Firefighter-EMT Gerrit Gritters accepted the position of fulltime Firefighter-EMT with Zeeland Township Fire Department. As our community grows, so does the demand for Fire and Emergency Medical services. Having a staffed fire station is paramount in reducing the response times for crews to arrive and provide emergency assistance.



# SPECIAL RECOGNITION



In 2021 Firefighter-Paramedic, Josh West, pictured above with his family, was promoted to the Lieutenant Fire Officer position. Lieutenant West has served as a Firefighter with Zeeland Township since 2018, and with Polk County Fire Rescue for 8 years prior, as a fulltime Firefighter.

Lieutenant West is already working diligently in keeping Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department a well respected organization. Lieutenant West fits in well with the highly trained firefighters in our fast paced department.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS





In 2021 we had two successful new-recruits complete the Ottawa County Fire Academy.

Pictured above with Chief Hunderman is:  
Eric Mundry (left) and Mike Rozelle (right)

Eric and Mike have both completed all State and Department required Fire and Medical training.



# FIRE ACADEMY COMPLETION

## DEPARTMENT TRAINING

Beyond the impact of COVID-19 in 2020, we were able to get back to in person Fire and EMS training while still utilizing safe practices.

In 2021 Zeeland Township Fire Department was offered the use of two acquired structures to train with. Both were residential housing structures that were slated to be demolished. Before they were demolished for future growth by the owners, the fire department was able to setup valuable live action training inside the homes on multiple occasions. Zeeland Township Firefighters continually work to enhance methods and skills used on fire scenes. Having structures to practice these technical skills in helps firefighters refine them even further, paving the way for smooth and quick operation on fire scenes.

## NEW RECRUIT TRAINING

Zeeland Township Fire Department had two new recruits graduate the Ottawa County Fire Academy in 2021. The two new recruits also completed National and State required Medical First Responder training.

## INVESTING IN FUTURE LEADERS

Two firefighters furthered their individual training by attending Fire Officer classes. Both Firefighters graduated the Fire Officer 1 program and now have some of the required prerequisites needed for potential future promotion.

## STATE FIRE INSTRUCTORS

A combination of current Zeeland Township Firefighters and Fire Officers furthered their individual training by attending Fire Officer classes. 5 attendees of the State Certified Instructor Course have graduated and are now following up with their mentored instructing hours to become State Fire Instructors.

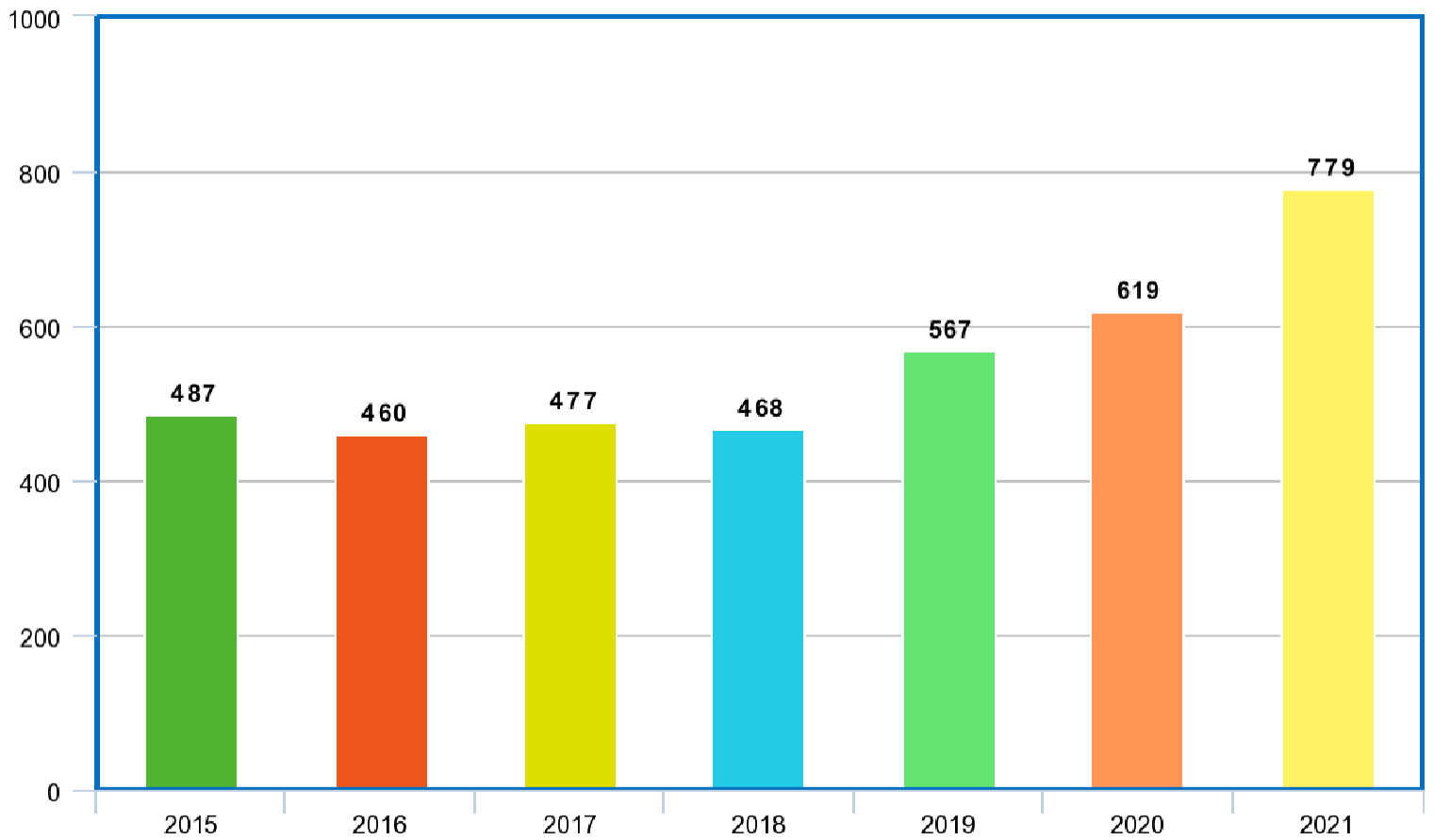


# PREPARING FOR OUR FUTURE

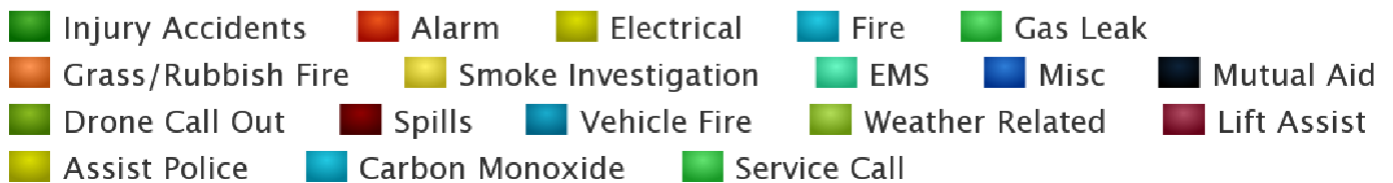
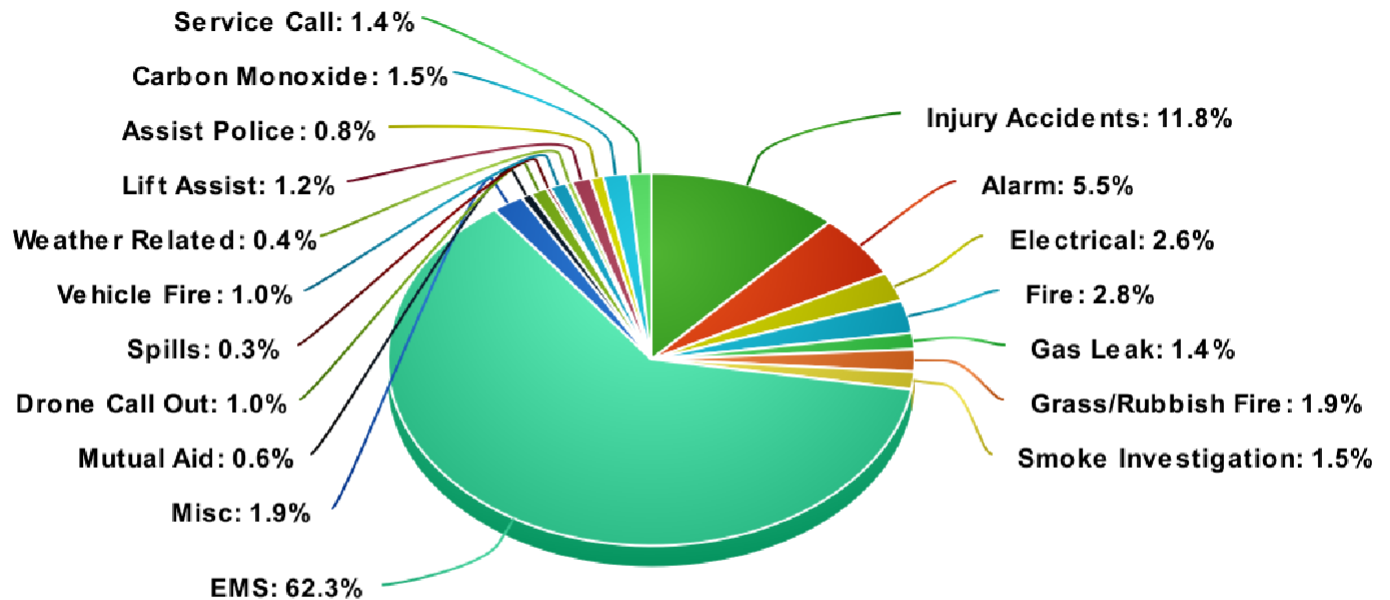


# Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department **2021 RESPONSES**

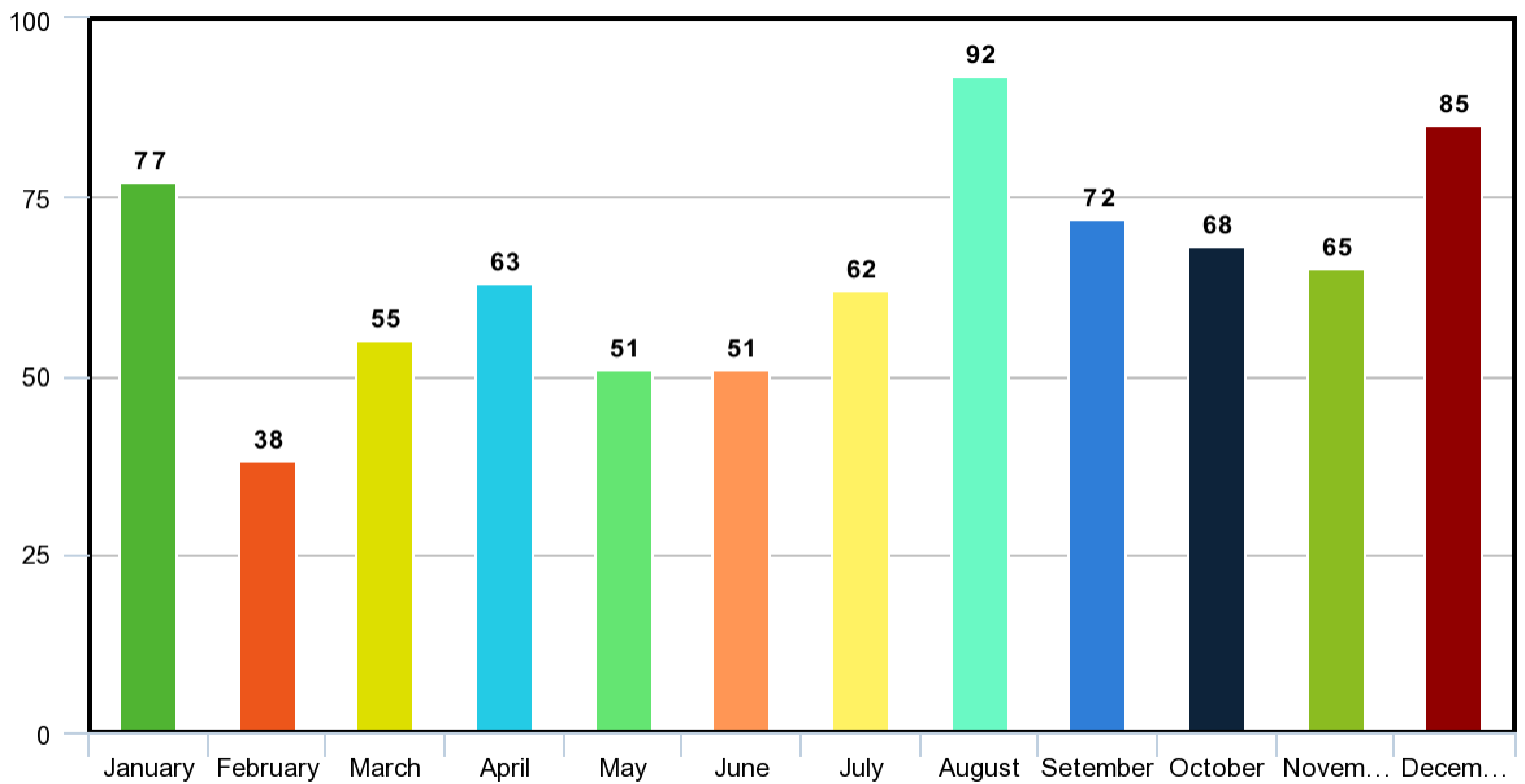




# RESPONSES BY YEAR

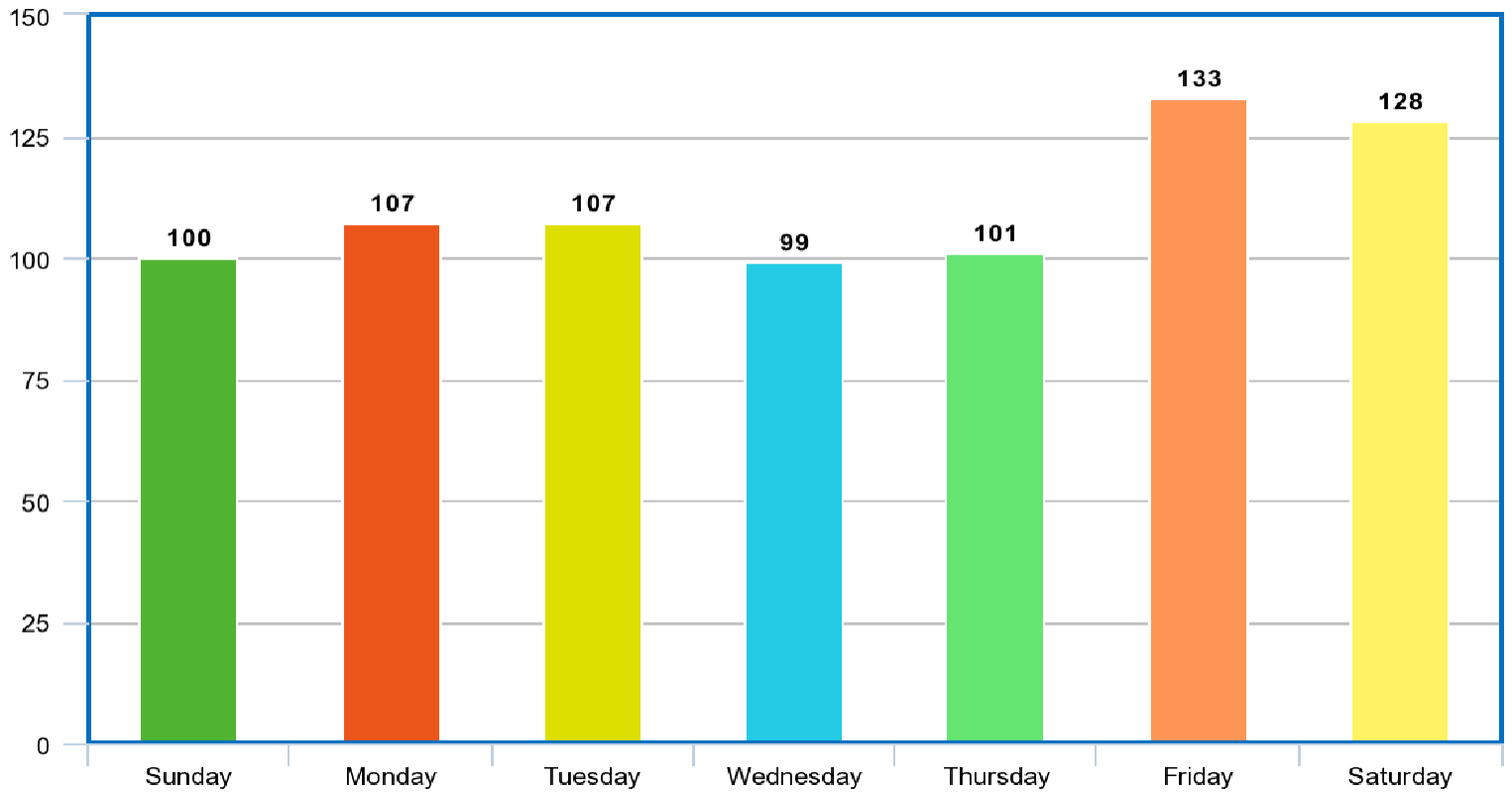


# RESPONSES BY CALL TYPE

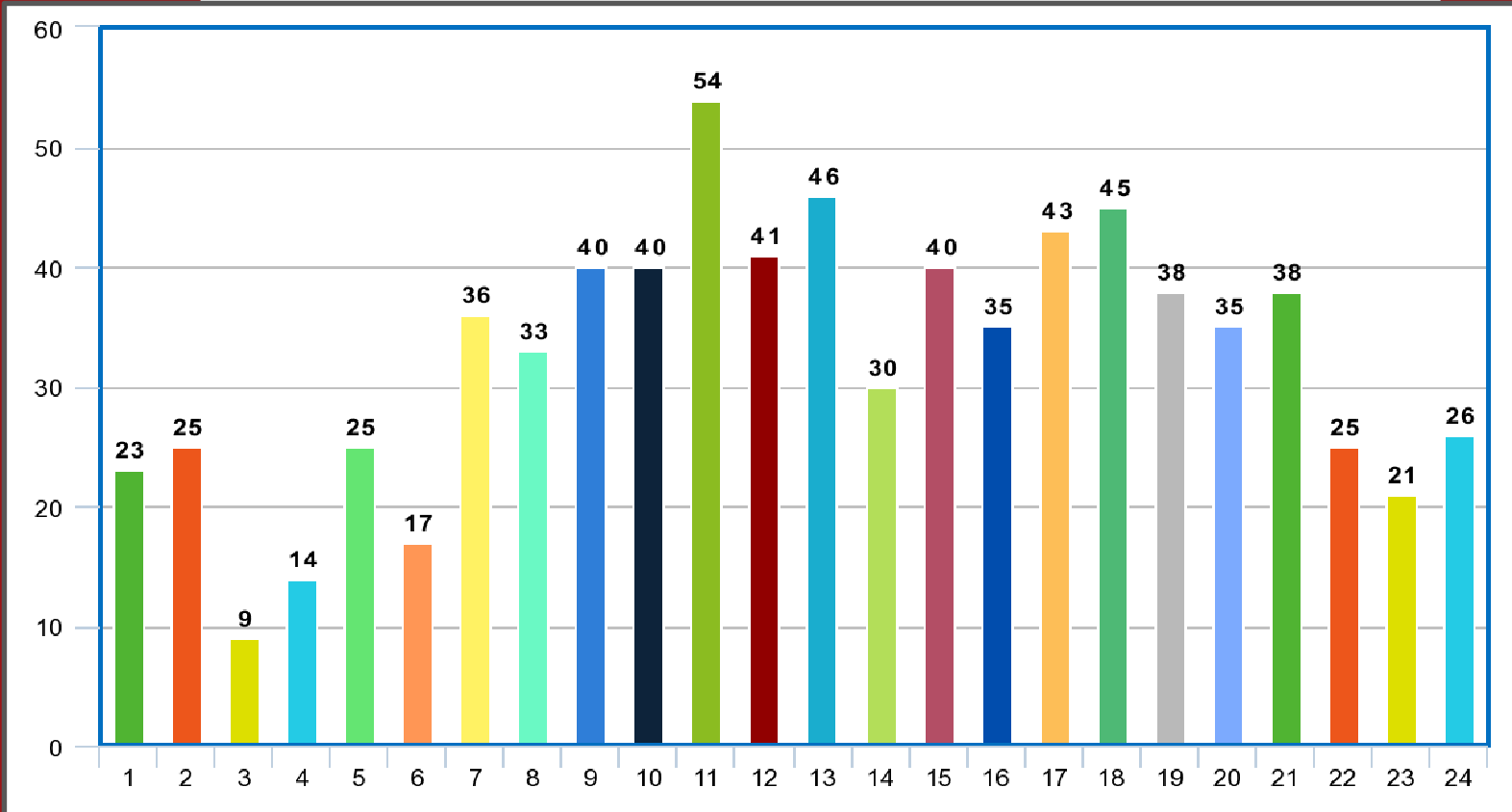


# RESPONSES BY MONTH

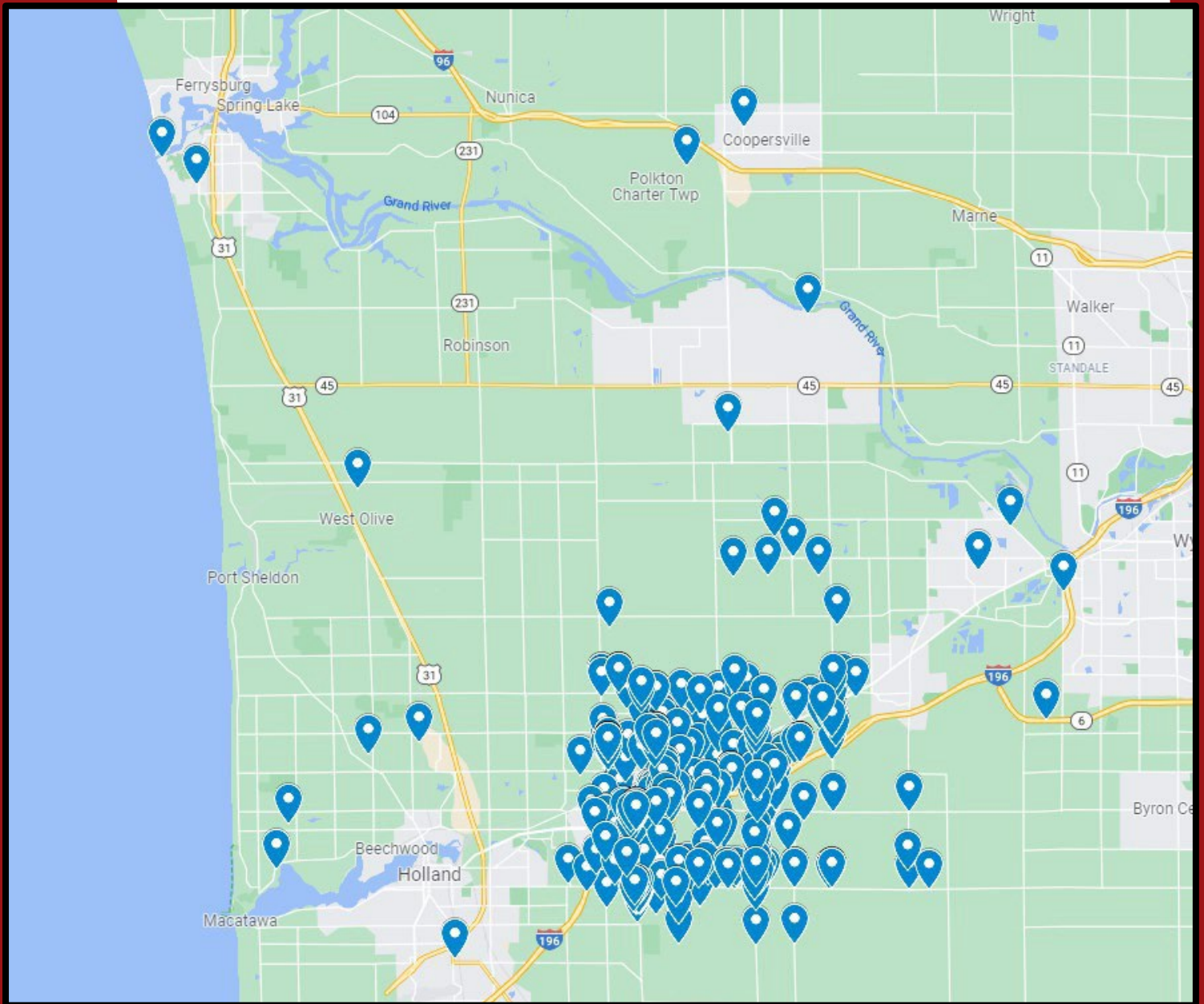




# RESPONSES BY DAY OF WEEK



# RESPONSES BY TIME OF DAY



# RESPONSES MAPPED





# Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department **OPERATIONS**



## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



*January 30*

**Chicago Dr Fire:** Fire Department units were dispatched to a commercial building that witnesses saw flames and smoke billowing from. Firefighters arrived to find a commercial building fully engulfed in flames. Crews fought the fire defensively and utilized Aerial 642 to apply water on the fire from above.



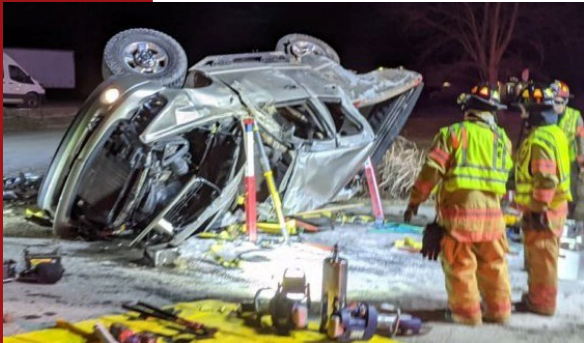
*February 1*

**64<sup>th</sup> Ave & Riley St:** Firefighters arrived to find a vehicle that had crashed through trees and brush well off the roadway, down into a embankment. The handicap driver in the vehicle was pinned-in. Crews rapidly deployed their specialized electric extrication equipment and freed the driver. Additional crews used the heavy duty winch system on Engine 623 and rescue ropes to employ a low angle rescue setup to bring the patient out of the ravine safely.



# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



March 12

### **Chicago Dr. & 56<sup>th</sup> Ave: Fire**

Department units were dispatched to a rollover vehicle accident with the single occupant driver pinned-in. Units arrived to find a full size pickup truck resting on it side. The occupant of the vehicle was injured and fire department medics determined he had priority injuries. Crews used technical vehicle stabilization devices to secure the vehicle from further movement. Firefighters used specialized electric extrication equipment and freed the driver, who was transported to the hospital.



March 16

**72<sup>nd</sup> Ave Fire:** Firefighters responded to flames showing from the garage area of a two-story residence on 72nd Ave. The fire had originated in the garage and was spreading to a breeze way that lead into the house. One resident was inside the home when the fire started. Crews conducted an offensive fire attack and quickly stopped the fire from spreading and extinguished the fire.



# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

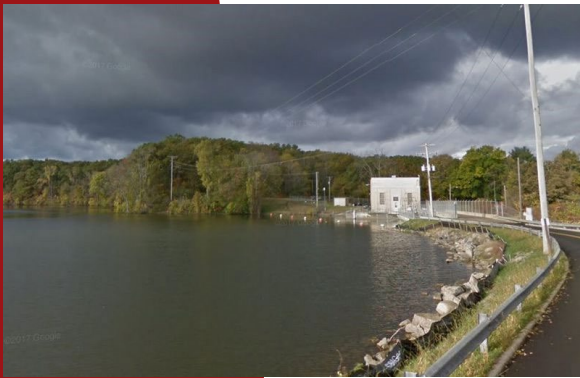


## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



*June 28*

**Jamestown Assist:** Fire Department units were dispatched to assist Jamestown Fire Department on a vehicle accident involving a loaded gravel semi. Zeeland Township Fire units were able to provide manpower and our specialized extrication equipment to free the driver and stabilize the scene. The driver was transported to the hospital.



*July 7*

**Allegan Sheriff Drone Call:** Zeeland Township Drone Team was called out to assist the Allegan Sheriff's department for the search of a lost scuba diver. The scuba diver was hired to inspect the dam. The diver was reported missing and the search began. The diver was later found deceased.



# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



August 20

**Ransom St Fire:** Zeeland Township Fire crews responded to a reported house fire at a residence on Ransom St. First arriving crews found a room and contents fire in a bedroom off the rear of the home. An initial entry crew was able to extinguish the fire before it spread to any other part of the home. One resident was present at the time of the fire, but was able to exit the home and call 911 with no injuries.



August 31

**Chemical Spill:** Zeeland Township UTV and Drone Team were called out to assist neighboring agencies on a large chemical release in Zeeland City. The Township Drone was used to get an overhead aerial view of the spill to evaluate the size of the chemical release. The UTV was used to transport the HazMat crews over the area where road vehicles could not travel, such as down the train tracks and through off road terrain.



# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS

## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



*October 10*

**Jamestown Barn Fire:** Zeeland Township Fire assisted Jamestown Fire Department on a well involved barn fire. Fire crews assisted in providing personnel at the scene and equipment. Firefighters worked efficiently to keep additional structures from also catching fire. Crews fought the fire defensively and had it under control within a short time. No injuries were reported.



*October 19*

**Felch St. Fire:** Fire crews responded to a reported commercial Fire at the Hospital. Engine 623 was the first arriving crew and made entry and quickly identified a room and contents fire in the basement. The fire protection systems had contained the fire to a single room. Crews were able to mitigate further fire loss. No injuries were reported.



# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



## SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



*October 21*

**Car vs. Building:** Fire crews responded to a vehicle that had collided with a building at the hospital. Arriving crews found the structure significantly damaged from the incident. Upon impact to the building, hospital staff came to the aid of the driver and brought him into the hospital.



*December 2*

**Ransom St. Fire:** Zeeland Township Fire units responded to an agricultural fire inside of a grain bin. Arriving crews setup ladder operations from Aerial 642. Crews conducted a transitional attack, initially applying water from the exterior and then were able to move inside a column in the bin and remove the section of grain that was burning. Firefighters contained the fire to its location of origin and prevented other structures from burning.



# SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS



# Zeeland Charter Township Fire Department 2021





# 2021 AT A GLANCE





# 2021 AT A GLANCE





# 2021 AT A GLANCE





# 2021 AT A GLANCE





# 2021 AT A GLANCE





# 2021 AT A GLANCE



**ZEELAND TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT  
6522 BYRON RD.  
ZEELAND, MI 49464**