



SAFETY GRAM 2023

Fatalities, Entrapments and Accident Summary for 2023 (<https://www.nwcg.gov/committee/risk-management-committee>) The following data indicates the fatalities, [entrapments](#), burnovers, and fire shelter deployments during calendar year 2023. The information was collected by the [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center](#) and verified by the NWCG Risk Management Committee. This information is updated through 12/31/2023.

Fatalities

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries/Treatment
2/19/2023	Pebble Volunteer Fire Department Fatality Haleyville, AL	Driving	Volunteer Fire Department	Vehicle	1	0	1	While responding to a fire, a firefighter was involved in a single-vehicle crash. He was rushed to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased from his injuries.
2/22/2023	Paw Paw Volunteer Fire Department Fatality Paw Paw, MI	Initial Attack	Volunteer Fire Department	Struck by powerline	1	0	1	Firefighter was struck by a powerline that was knocked down by a tree during a fire

								response. He was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased.
3/9/2023	Virginia Department of Forestry Fatality Charlottesville, VA	Initial Attack	State	Vehicle	1	0	1	Firefighter was scouting fireline locations on a 15-acre when the ATV he was driving overturned. He died as a result of the injuries.
4/13/2023	West Virginia Division of Forestry Fatality Charleston, WV	Unknown	State	Hazard Tree	1	0	1	Firefighter was fighting a fire when a tree fell on him killing him instantly.
4/21/2023	Frederick County Fire and Rescue Department Winchester, VA	Initial Attack	County	Medical	1	0	1	Firefighter performed suppression operations on a wildfire. He fell ill when he got home and was transported to a hospital where he suffered multiple heart attacks and passed away.
6/5/2023	Georgia Forestry Commission Fatality Dry Branch, GA	Extended Attack	State	Medical	1	0	1	Firefighter collapsed suddenly while walking a firebreak on a wildfire. Emergency responders provided CPR on-scene. The firefighter was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased from an apparent heart attack.

8/4/2023	Rogue River Siskiyou NF Vehicle Accident Fatality Powers, OR	Driving	Federal USFS	Vehicle	3	0	1	A vehicle carrying three firefighters went off the road while driving. One of the firefighters suffered fatal injuries during the incident. The other two were taken to the hospital; both were released later that evening.
8/6/2023	Broadway Fire Helicopter Midair Collision Fatalities Cabazon, CA	Aviation	State	Aviation	5	0	3	Two firefighting helicopters collided while battling the Broadway Fire. One helicopter was able to land safely. The other crashed. All three occupants of this helicopter were killed.
10/22/2023	Ionia Fire Department UTV Accident Fatality Ionia, IA	Driving	Local Fire Department	Vehicle	1	0	1	A firefighter crashed while driving a UTV and was ejected from the vehicle. He was immediately airlifted to the hospital where he passed away a short time later.
11/11/2023	Ballardsville Fire and Rescue Fatality Crestwood, KY	Initial Attack	Local Fire Department	Medical	1	0	1	A firefighter collapsed from an apparent heart attack while battling a brush fire. He was immediately treated and transported to the hospital where he later passed away.
12/24/2023	Clinton-Warren Joint Fire and Rescue District Fatality	Initial Attack	Local Fire Department	Medical	1	0	1	After responding to a brush fire and returning home, a

Clarksville, OH							firefighter was found unresponsive and transported to the hospital where he passed away from a heart attack.
					17	0	13

Fatality Summary

Vehicle 4	Burnover/Entrapment 0	Aviation 3
Medical 4	Hazard Tree 1	Other/Unknown 1

Non-fatal Incidents

Date	Incident Name Jurisdiction Location	Activity	Agency/Entity of Personnel Involved	Type of Accident	Number of People	# Shelters Deployed	Injuries/Treatment
1/28/2023	Dudda Shop Unit #2 Entrapment	Prescribed Fire	Unknown	Entrapment	2	0	Minor burns on nose, cheek and legs
04/10/2023	Waynoka Fire Department Entrapment Waynoka, OK	Initial Attack	Local Fire Department	Entrapment	2	0	3rd degree burn injuries to one firefighter
5/10/2023	Las Tusas Fire Entrapment New Mexico Division of Forestry	Initial Attack	Federal	Entrapment	3	0	Blistered ear to one firefighter

05/15/2023	Nez Perce County Entrapment Nez Perce County, ID	Initial Attack	County	Entrapment	1	0	Burns over 65% of firefighter's body
06/29/2023	Rolling Pin Fire Entrapment Nolan County, TX	Initial Attack	Volunteer Fire Department	Entrapment	2	0	No injuries
7/10/2023	Devil's Butte Fire Entrapment Condon, OR	Initial Attack	Unknown	Entrapment	5	0	No injuries
8/2/2023	Snow Hill Fire Entrapment San Jacinto County, TX	Initial Attack	State	Entrapment	2	0	First and second degree burns to the face, hands, and side torso.
8/15/2023	Lone Pine Fire Entrapment Willow Creek, CA	Initial Attack	Federal	Entrapment	2	0	No injuries
8/15/2023	SKU August Lightning Complex Dozer Entrapment Siskiyou County, CA	Initial Attack	State	Entrapment	1	1*	No injuries
9/30/2023	Morrisania Mesa Fire Entrapment Parachute, CO	Initial Attack	Federal	Entrapment	4	0	No injuries
10/6/2023	Williams Fire Entrapment Monterey, CA	Initial Attack	State	Entrapment	3	0	Minor burn injuries
Serious Accident Totals					27 People Involved	1* Shelters Deployed	

* This incident involved the deployment of fire curtains inside a dozer rather than the deployment of a traditional fire shelter.

The Risk Management Committee would like to request any Fire Agency/Organization that experiences a fatality(s), or entrapment(s) to follow the guidance provided on this form: [PMS 405-1 Fire Entrapment / Fatality Initial Report](#). In the event that a wildland fire entrapment or fatality occurs, it should be reported immediately to the National Interagency Coordination Center

(NICC). A Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report should be completed and mailed to NICC electronically or by fax machine within twenty-four (24) hours.

Annual Incident Review Summaries from the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center can be found at:
[Annual Incident Review Summaries | Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center \(wildfire.gov\)](#)

Many specific accident investigation reports/reviews/analysis may be found at the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center repository at: [Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center's Incident Review Database \(IRDB\) \(wildfire.gov\)](#). For corrections to the above information [please click here](#).