

South Dakota Fire Service Demographics 2013

TOTAL NUMBER OF FIRE DEPARTMENTS – 337

- Volunteer Fire Departments – 326
- Career Paid Departments – 5
- Combination Paid/Volunteer Departments - 6

FIREFIGHTER STATISTICS - AGE

Volunteer Fire Departments:

Firefighters 29 and Under:	1264	19.44%
Firefighters 30-39:	1648	25.34%
Firefighters 40-49:	1451	22.31%
Firefighters 50-59:	1472	22.64%
Firefighters 60-69:	544	8.37%
Firefighters 70-79:	112	1.72%
Firefighters 80 and Over:	12	0.18%
Total Number Volunteer Firefighters in Study:	6503	100.00%
Average Age of Volunteer SD Firefighters:	42.3269	Years Old

Total Number of Volunteer Firefighters: 7896

Paid Fire Departments:

Firefighters 29 and Under:	72	16.90%
Firefighters 30-39:	140	32.86%
Firefighters 40-49:	155	36.38%
Firefighters 50-59:	58	13.62%
Firefighters 60-69:	1	0.23%
Firefighters 70-79:	0	0.00%
Firefighters 80 and Over:	0	0.00%
Total Number of Paid Firefighters in Study:	426	100.00%
Average Age of Paid SD Firefighters:	39.2207	Years Old

Total Number of Paid Firefighters: 426

National Firefighter Statistics - (2011 Data)

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provides a variety of national statistics about career, combination, and volunteer fire departments, which makes it possible to identify trends in U.S. fire departments by comparing the data from annual reports.

- Estimated number of firefighters: 1,100,450 (career: 344,050, volunteer: 756,400)
- Firefighters by age group: 16-19 (3.4%), 20-29 (21.1%), 30-39 (26.6%), 40-49 (25.7%), 50-59 (16.7%), 60 and over (6.5%)
- Seventy-three percent of career firefighters are in communities that protect a population of 25,000 or more.
- Ninety-four percent of the volunteers are in departments that protect a population of less than 25,000 and of these departments, about 50% are located in small, rural departments that protect a population of less than 2,500.

Source: National Fire Protection Association, *U.S. Fire Department Profile Through 2011*