Home Office

Fire and rescue incident statistics: England, year ending September 2017

Statistical Bulletin 04/18

8 February 2018

Further information

This release contains statistics about incidents attended by fire and rescue services (FRSs) in England. The statistics are sourced from the Home Office's online Incident Recording System (IRS), which allows FRSs to complete an incident form for every incident attended, be it a fire, a false alarm or a non-fire (also known as a Special Service) incident. The online IRS was introduced in April 2009. Previously, paper forms were submitted by FRSs and an element of sampling was involved in the data compilation process.

Fire and Rescue Incident Statistics and other Home Office statistical releases are available from the Statistics at Home Office pages on the GOV.UK website. The dates of forthcoming fire and rescue and other Home Office publications are pre-announced and can be found via the Statistics: release calendar. For further information about the statistics in this publication, email firestatistics@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Data tables linked to this release and all other fire statistics releases can be found on the Home Office's 'Fire statistics data tables' page. The sections below state the most relevant tables for each section. The tables can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fire-statistics-data-tables

Guidance for using these statistics and other fire statistics outputs is available on the fire statistics collection page, found here: https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fire-statistics

The information published in this release is kept under review, taking into account the needs of users and burdens on suppliers and producers, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. If you have any comments, suggestions or enquiries, please contact the team via email using firestatistics@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or via the user feedback form on the fire statistics collection page.

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This statistical bulletin is produced to the highest professional standards and is free from political interference. It has been produced by statisticians working in the Home Office Analysis and Insight Directorate in accordance with the Home Office's statement of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, which covers Home Office policy on revisions and other matters. The Chief Statistician, as Head of Profession, reports to the National Statistician with respect to all professional statistical matters and oversees all Home Office National Statistics products with respect to the Code, being responsible for their timing, content and methodology.

Contents

1 Key facts

This release presents statistics which are referred to as the year ending September 2017 (1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017) for fire and rescue services (FRSs) in England. This is the second set of statistics published by the Home Office that cover the Grenfell Tower fire. The results show:

- FRSs attended **566,572 incidents** in the year ending September 2017. This was a three per cent increase compared with the previous year (548,899) but a 34 per cent decrease compared with ten years ago (854,371 in 2006/07). The total number of incidents was on a downward trend for around a decade, though they have increased in recent years mainly driven by increases in non-fire incidents attended. However, the increase this year was mainly driven by an increase in fires attended.

- FRSs attended **170,519 fires** in the year ending September 2017. This was a nine per cent increase compared with the previous year (156,671) but a 49 per cent decrease compared with ten years ago (336,233 in 2006/07).

- FRSs attended **222,997 fire false alarms** in the year ending September 2017. This was an increase of less than one per cent compared with the previous year (222,222) but a 37 per cent decrease compared with ten years ago (352,136).

- FRSs attended **173,056 non-fire incidents** in the year ending September 2017. This was a two per cent increase compared with the previous year (170,006). For around a decade, there had been a general decline in the number of non-fire incidents. However, the last two years have shown large increases, largely due to a rise in medical incidents attended.

- Of all incidents attended by FRSs in the year ending September 2017, **fires accounted for 30 per cent and non-fire incidents 31 per cent**. The remaining 39 per cent were fire false alarms, which continued to be the largest incident type. In 2006/07 these percentages were 39 per cent (fires attended), 19 per cent (non-fire incidents) and 41 per cent (fire false alarms).

- The number of fire-related fatalities had been on a general downward trend since 1981/82 when there were 755 fire-related fatalities. In the year ending September 2017, however, there were **346 fire-related fatalities** (including 71 from the Grenfell Tower fire) compared with 253 in the previous year (an increase of 37%).

- There were 3,297 **non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment**[1] in the year ending September 2017 (including 77 from the Grenfell Tower fire). This was a four per cent increase compared with the previous year (3,159) but a 23 per cent decrease compared with five years ago (4,297 in 2011/12).

[1] Casualty figures include casualties whether the injury was caused by the fire or not. Fatalities are only included if they are fire-related.

2 Introduction

In order to improve the timeliness and clarity of the Home Office's fire statistics, the annual and six-monthly Fire Statistics Monitors have been replaced by a quarterly Fire and Rescue Incident Statistics (FRIS) publication. This release covers trends in incidents, fires, fire-related fatalities and non-fatal casualties for the year ending September 2017.

This is the second release that covers data for a 12 month rolling period (rather than financial year) which will be updated on a quarterly basis. This release therefore covers the year ending September 2017 (1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017). The next release is due for publication in May 2018, covering the year ending December 2017.

Historically, detailed data has been produced for financial years. Therefore, quarterly updates will contain less detail as there is less comparable data. Financial year updates will continue to contain long-term detailed comparisons. For more detailed information on trends please refer to the previous (year ending March 2017) annual FRIS publication.

The previous quarterly release (for year ending June 2017, published on 9 November 2017) was the first to include figures from the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017. The official estimates of fatalities from that event have since been revised from 80 to 71 on 16 November 2017, and are now reflected in this publication. Given the unprecedented scale of this fire, specific figures on the numbers of fire-related fatalities and non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire are included in the relevant narrative.

More detailed statistics on fires, fire-related fatalities and casualties for the 2016/17 financial year were published on 12 October in the new 'Detailed analysis of fires attended by fire and rescue services, England, April 2016 to March 2017' release. More detailed statistics on non-fire incidents were published in the new 'Detailed analysis of non-fire incidents attended by fire and rescue services, England, April 2016 to March 2017' on 25 January 2018. These two releases replace the previous Fire Statistics England publication.

Each time an FRS attends an incident in England, details of that incident are uploaded to the Home Office's Incident Recording System (IRS) by the FRS. The IRS is used as the source for all the statistics in this publication. More information on the IRS can be found in the IRS Questions and Lists document.

The IRS is a continually updated database, with FRSs adding incidents on a daily basis. The figures in this release refer to records of incidents that occurred up to and including 30 September 2017. This includes incidents that reached the IRS by 7 December 2017 when the database was "frozen" for the purpose of analysis. As the dataset was "frozen" on 7 December 2017, the statistics published may not match those held locally by FRSs and revisions may occur in the future. This is particularly the case for statistics with relatively small numbers, such as fire-related fatalities.[2] In addition, statisticians at the Home Office

[2] For instance, this can occur because coroner's reports may mean the initial view taken by the FRS will need to be revised; this can take many months, even years, to do so.

have improved the handling of historic revisions supplied to us by FRSs for figures from 2010/11 onwards. This has led to some small revisions to figures in the data tables[3].

England, Scotland and Wales all use the Home Office's Incident Recording System and therefore data are comparable. All three nations publish more detailed information on fire incidents, focusing on the particular user needs in their nation. For commentary on these figures, please see 'Fire and rescue incident statistics: England, July 2016 to June 2017'.

The latest fire statistical release for Scotland can be found at: http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/fire-and-rescue-statistics.aspx

And for Wales: http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/fire-statistics/?lang=en

Northern Ireland fire statistics are published by the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service using data from a system similar to the Incident Recording System, which means that they are not directly comparable to English, Welsh and Scottish data. Their latest fire statistical releases can be found at: https://www.nifrs.org/statistics/

This publication is accompanied by fire data tables, which can be found on the fire statistics data tables page which contains all data tables on fires published by the Home Office.

The following tables have been updated as part of this publication:

Incidents attended: 0101, 0102, 0103 and 0104.

Dwelling fires attended: 0201, 0202 and 0205.

Non-dwelling fires attended: 0306.

Deliberate fires: 0401 and 0402.

Fatalities and casualties: 0501 and 0502.

Smoke alarms: 0701

Non-fire incidents: 0901 and 0902.

[3] The overall effect of these revisions is very small, with a rounded 0% change in both total incidents and in total fires over this period. The change in fire-related fatalities in all years from 2010/11 to 2016/17 also rounds to 0% except for 2013/14, which rounds up to a 1% increase. The effects may be more noticeable at the level of individual FRSs.

3 Types of incident

All incidents attended

The number of incidents attended by fire and rescue services (FRSs) in England peaked in 2003/04, at over one million incidents (see 'Fire and rescue incident statistics: England, April 2016 to March 2017' for long-term trends). For around a decade, there was a general decline in all three categories of incidents (fires, fire false alarms and non-fire incidents) attended and between 2012/13 and 2015/16 there were around half a million. Since then this number has fluctuated but has been broadly stable.

In contrast to the earlier decreases (caused by a reduction in fire and fire false alarm incidents), the increase in total incidents in the year ending September 2017 since 2014/15 has been predominantly driven by a 38 per cent increase in non-fire incidents over this time. This is mainly due to an increase in FRSs attending medical co-responding incidents (see 'Detailed analysis of non-fire incidents, England, April 2016 to March 2017' for details).

Figure 3.1 Total incidents attended by type of incident, England; year ending September 2010 to year ending September 2017

Source: FIRE0102

Of the total incidents attended in the year ending September 2017, fires accounted for 30 per cent, non-fire incidents for 31 per cent and fire false alarms for 39 per cent. Over time, fire false alarms have consistently been the most common type of incident attended. In contrast, the proportion of fire incidents attended has been decreasing whilst the proportion of non-fire incidents has been increasing. In 2016/17, for the first time, FRSs attended more non-fire incidents than fires.

Specifically:

- **566,572 incidents were attended** by FRSs in the year ending September 2017. This was a three per cent increase compared with the previous year (548,899). This increase was driven by the number of fires attended and, to a lesser extent, non-fire incidents. (Source: FIRE0102)
- Of all incidents attended by FRSs in the year ending September 2017, **fires accounted for 30 per cent and non-fire incidents 31 per cent**. In 2006/07 these percentages were 39 per cent and 19 per cent, respectively. (Source: FIRE0102)
- Of all incidents attended by FRSs in the year ending September 2017, **fire false alarms accounted for 39 per cent** – the largest category of incident. This proportion has been fairly consistent since 2006/07, ranging from 39 per cent to 44 per cent. (Source: FIRE0102)

Further information on all incidents attended can be found in fire data tables 0101 and 0102.

Fires attended

The total number of fires attended by FRSs decreased for around a decade – falling from around 474,000 in 2003/04 to 154,000 in 2012/13. Since then, the total number of fires has remained broadly stable. FRSs attended around 171,000 fires in the year ending September 2017. This was a nine per cent increase compared with the year ending September 2016 and is the highest value recorded in a year since 2013/14 (171,345).

Types of fire

Secondary[4] fires and other outdoor fires showed the largest proportional increases between the year ending September 2016 and the year ending September 2017, while dwelling fires and chimney fires showed small decreases. The total number of fires attended in a single year can often be affected by the weather. This particularly affects other outdoor and secondary fires which make up a large proportion of all fires attended. Therefore, part of the increase in fires could be attributed to the spring months being drier than the corresponding months of the previous year.

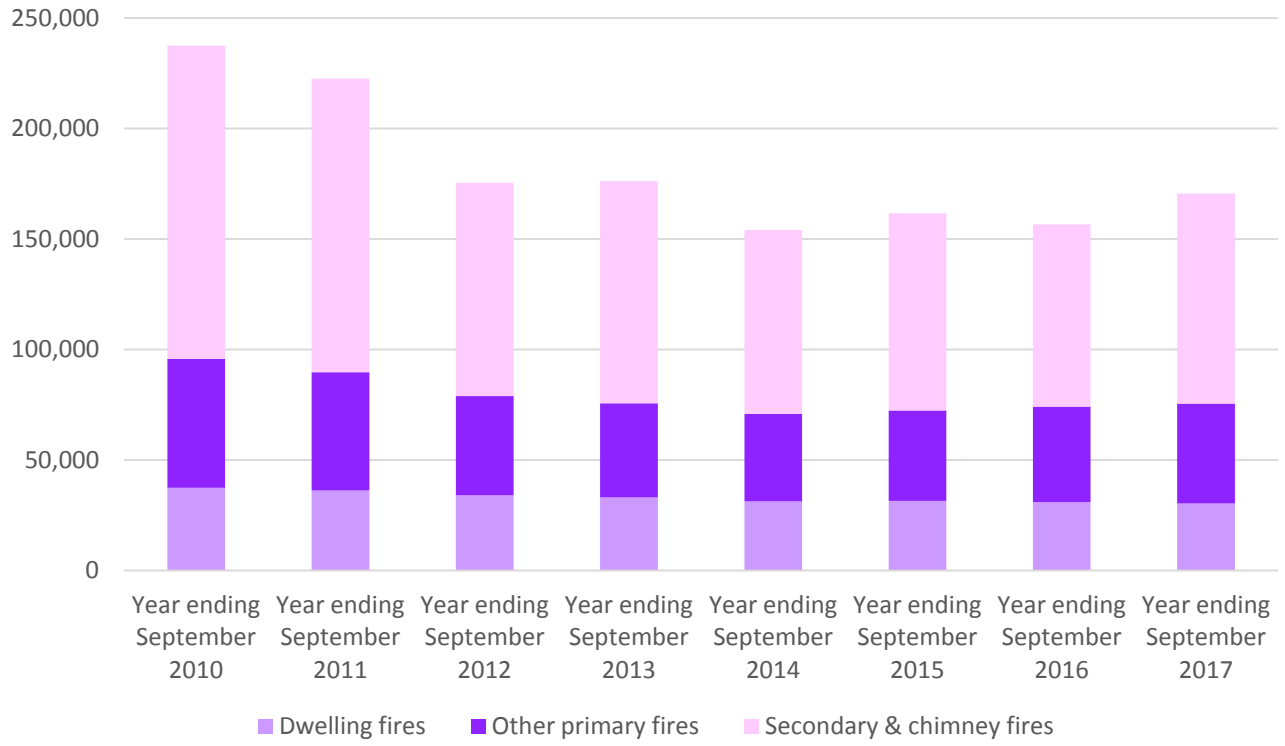
The increase in the total number of fires between the year ending September 2016 and the year ending September 2017 (9%) was predominantly driven by a 16 per cent increase in

[4] Secondary fires are fires that are not primary or chimney fires. They mainly occur outdoors.

secondary fires. Overall, primary[5] fires also increased by two per cent although there was some variation across primary fire types, namely:

- increases in other outdoor fires (12%), road vehicle fires (4%) and other building fires (3%) and;
- a decrease in dwelling fires (2%). (Source: FIRE0102)

Figure 3.2 Total fires attended by type of fire, England; year ending September 2010 to year ending September 2017



Source: FIRE0102

Over the same time period:

- Total accidental fires[6] increased by two per cent (see Table 3.1a, below) and;
- Total deliberate fires increased by 17 per cent (Table 3.1b). This was the highest number in the past five years but a 28% decrease since 2011/12. (Source: FIRE0401)

The increase in deliberate fires was driven by a 20 per cent increase in deliberate secondary fires. Deliberate primary fires also increased by 10 per cent with increases in all primary fire categories (dwellings, other buildings, road vehicles and other outdoors).

[5] Primary fires are those that meet one of the following criteria – a) occurs in a (non-derelict) building, vehicle or outdoor structure, b) involve a fatality, casualty or rescue or c) attended by five or more pumping appliances.
[6] The motive for a fire is collected as accidental, deliberate or unknown in the IRS, those marked as unknown are included in accidental fires in this case.

Specifically:

- **FRSs attended 170,519 fires** in the year ending September 2017. This was a nine per cent increase compared with the previous year (156,671). (Source: FIRE0102)
- There were **75,519 primary fires** in the year ending September 2017 (44% of the 170,519 fires attended). This was a two per cent increase compared with the previous year (74,162).
- FRSs attended **30,328 primary dwelling fires** in the year ending September 2017. This was a two per cent decrease compared with the previous year (30,966). Primary dwelling fires made up 40 per cent of primary fires and 18 per cent of all fires in the year ending September 2017.
- There were **27,123 accidental dwelling fires** in the year ending September 2017, out of the 30,328 primary dwelling fires. This was a three per cent decrease compared with the previous year (28,025). (See Table 3.1a, below)
- There were **3,205 deliberate dwelling fires** in the year ending September 2017. This was a nine per cent increase compared with the previous year (2,941). (See Table 3.1b, below)
- There were **90,914 secondary fires** in the year ending September 2017, out of the 170,519 fires attended. This was a 16 per cent increase compared with the previous year (78,394). (Source: FIRE0102)
- There were **4,086 chimney[7] fires** in the year ending September 2017, out of the 170,519 fires attended. This was a one per cent decrease compared with the previous year (4,115).

The tables below show the number of fires by motive and type of fire for the year ending September 2017 compared with the year ending September 2016.

[7] Chimney fires are fires in domestic-style buildings where the flame was contained within the chimney structure, did not involve casualties and fewer than five appliances attended.

Table 3.1a Number of accidental fires, by fire type, England; year ending September 2016 and year ending September 2017

		Primary fires						
	Total accidental fires	Total	Dwellings	Other buildings	Road vehicles	Other outdoors	Secondary	Chimney
Year ending Sept 2016	85,325	53,497	28,025	11,285	11,693	2,494	27,731	4,097
Year ending Sept 2017	87,044	52,765	27,123	11,295	11,555	2,792	30,209	4,070
% change	2%	-1%	-3%	0%	-1%	12%	9%	-1%

Source: Calculated using FIRE0102 and FIRE0401

Table 3.1b Number of deliberate fires, by fire type, England, year ending September 2016 and year ending September 2017

		Primary fires						
	Total deliberate fires	Total	Dwellings	Other buildings	Road vehicles	Other outdoors	Secondary	Chimney
Year ending Sept 2016	71,346	20,665	2,941	4,397	10,879	2,448	50,663	18
Year ending Sept 2017	83,475	22,754	3,205	4,794	11,988	2,767	60,705	16
% change	17%	10%	9%	9%	10%	13%	20%	-11%

Source: FIRE0401

On 27 June 2017, following the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017, the Home Office published an ad hoc statistical release focusing on fires in purpose-built flats. The updated information can be found in fire data table FIRE0205.

- Of the 30,328 primary dwelling fires attended by FRSs in England in the year ending September 2017, three-quarters (75%) were in houses, bungalows, converted flats and other[8] properties whilst a quarter (25%) were in purpose-built flats. Of these, 16 per cent

[8] Other includes sheltered accommodation, caravan/mobile home, HMO (House in Multiple Occupation) etc.

were in purpose-built low-rise flats[9]; six per cent in purpose-built medium-rise flats[8] and **two per cent were in purpose-built high-rise flats**[8].

- FRSs attended **750 fires in purpose-built high-rise flats** in England in the year ending September 2017; 3% more than in the year ending September 2016 (726) but 41% fewer than in 2009/10 (1,261).

Further information on fires attended can be found in tables 0102, 0103, 0201, 0202, 0205, 0301, 0302, 0303, 0401 and 0402.

Fire false alarms attended

The total **number** of fire false alarms attended showed a downward trend for over a decade, from a peak of around 394,000 in 2001/02 to a low of around 214,000 in 2015/16, rising again to around 223,000 in the year ending September 2017. Fire false alarms attended are categorised as:

- where there was good intent but no fire;
- where apparatus such as fire alarms caused an attendance to a false alarm; and
- malicious calls.

They do not include false alarms to non-fire incidents. For more information on non-fire false alarms, see table FIRE0902 and discussion in 'Detailed analysis of non-fire incidents, England, April 2016 to March 2017'.

Between 2006/07 to the year ending September 2017 the largest incident type was fire false alarms, ranging from 39 per cent to 44 per cent. Malicious calls have accounted for the smallest **number** of fire false alarm since the information was first collected in 1999/00 and the **proportion** of this type of fire false alarms has also been on a downward trend since 1999/00.

Specifically:

- FRSs attended **222,997 fire false alarms** in the year ending September 2017. This was an increase of less than one per cent compared with the previous year (222,222).
- The small change in fire false alarms in the year ending September 2017 comprised a **one per cent decrease in fire false alarms 'due to apparatus'** (150,224 to 149,351) and a **two per cent increase** in both **'good intent'** (65,017 to 66,538) and **'malicious'** (6,981 to 7,108) fire false alarms.
- **Fire false alarms** 'due to apparatus' accounted for over two thirds (67%) of fire false alarms in the year ending September 2017.

[9] In the IRS low-rise is defined as 1 to 3 storeys, medium rise 4 to 9 storeys and high rise as 10 storeys or more. These IRS definitions are different to those from the English Housing Survey which defines low rise as a flat in a purpose built block less than 6 storeys high. This includes cases where there is only one flat with independent access in a building which is also used for non-domestic purposes. High rise is defined as a flat in a purpose built block of at least six storeys high.

Further information on fire false alarms attended can be found in tables 0102 and 0104.

Non-fire incidents attended

FRSs attend many types of incidents that are not fires or fire false alarms, for example flooding incidents, responding to road traffic collisions, animal assistance and effecting entry/exit (a complete list can be found in fire data table FIRE0902).

There has been a general decline since 2007/08 in the **number** of non-fire incidents attended and by 2014/15 FRSs attended the series low of around 125,000 such incidents. In contrast, over the same time period the **proportion** of all incidents that were non-fire incidents showed a slow but steady increase. This is because the decrease in non-fire incidents was not as great as for other incident types.

Since 2014/15, the **number** of non-fire incidents has increased by 38 per cent to around 173,000 in the year ending September 2017. The **proportion** of all incidents that were non-fire incidents increased from 25 per cent in 2014/15 to 31 per cent in the year ending September 2017. The increase in non-fire incidents, however, may be slowing, with the most recent quarter being lower than the last six quarters.

The increase in non-fire incidents is mostly accounted for by a rise in the number of medical co-responding incidents attended. Of the 48,000 additional non-fire incidents recorded in the year ending September 2017 compared with 2014/15, 26,000 were categorised as “Medical Incident – first responder” or “Medical Incident – co responder”. The proportion of medical incidents varies between FRSs, but one third have shown a ten-fold increase or more since 2014/15 (although some of these are from a very small starting point), while only four FRSs have shown a decrease.

Specifically:

- FRSs attended **173,056 non-fire incidents** in the year ending September 2017. This was a two per cent increase compared with the previous year (170,006). (Source: FIRE0901, 0902)
- FRSs attended **41,869 medical incidents** in the year ending September 2017. This was a two per cent increase compared with the previous year (41,153).

Table 3.2 Number of non-fire incidents attended by broad incident type, England; year ending September 2010 to year ending September 2017

	Total non-fire incident types	Medical incident types	Other non-fire incident types
Year ending Sept 2010	146,630	10,487	136,143
Year ending Sept 2011	141,600	11,772	129,828
Year ending Sept 2012	135,346	13,697	121,649
Year ending Sept 2013	128,672	14,051	114,621
Year ending Sept 2014	131,982	14,528	117,454
Year ending Sept 2015	130,393	19,340	111,053
Year ending Sept 2016	170,006	41,153	128,853
Year ending Sept 2017	173,056	41,869	131,187

Source: Further breakdown of FIRE0901

Further information on non-fire incidents attended can be found in tables 0102, 0901 and 0902.

4 Fire-related fatalities and casualties

As the Incident Recording System (IRS) is a continually updated database, the statistics published in this release may not match those held locally by FRSs and revisions may occur in the future (see Introduction for further detail). This may be particularly relevant for fire-related fatalities[10] where a coroner's report could lead to revisions in the data some time after the incident. It should also be noted that the numbers of fire-related fatalities are prone to year-on-year fluctuations due to relatively low numbers. The figures in this release refer to records of incidents that had reached the IRS by 7 December 2017, when the database was "frozen". In addition, statisticians at the Home Office have improved the handling of historic revisions supplied to us by FRSs for figures from 2010/11 onwards. This has led to some small revisions in the number of fatalities in the data tables[11].

The last quarterly release (year ending June 2017, published on 9 November) was the first which included figures from the Grenfell Tower fire on 14 June 2017. These were based on estimates made by the Metropolitan Police Force at the time of publication and have since been revised on 16 November 2017. The new estimates are reflected in this report. Given the unprecedented scale of this fire, specific figures on the numbers of fire-related fatalities and non-fatal casualties are shown in the box below.

Box 1: The Grenfell Tower fire

This box contains information provided by London Fire Brigade[12] on the fire that took place at Grenfell Tower on 14 June 2017. The data in this release includes records of incidents that had reached the IRS by 7 December 2017, when the database was "frozen". As such, figures on the Grenfell Tower fire may be revised in subsequent releases. At the time the IRS was "frozen" London Fire Brigade reported:

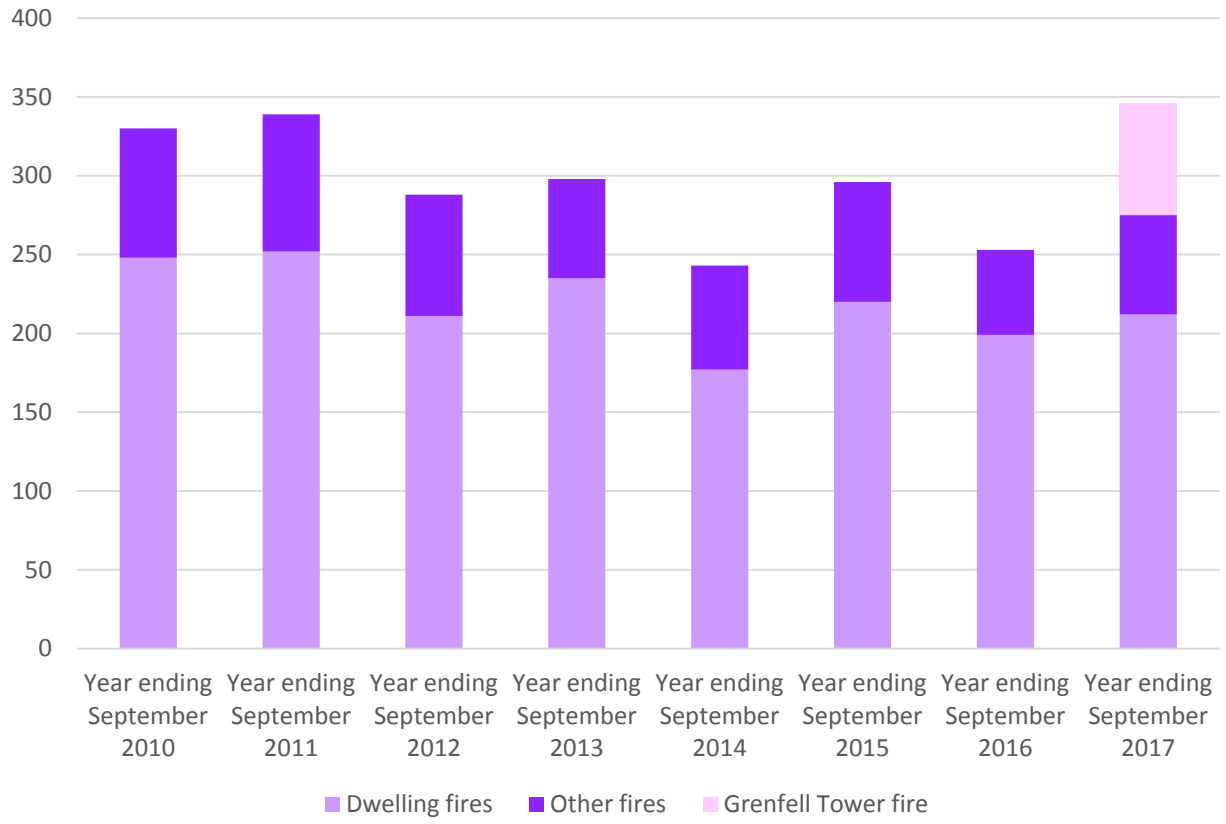
- 71 fire-related fatalities
- 109 non-fatal casualties, of which:
  - 67 were 'hospital severe'
  - 10 were 'hospital slight'
  - 1 required 'first aid' and;
  - 31 had 'precautionary checks'.

[10] For the purpose of publications a fire-related fatality includes the number of fatal casualties that were recorded as 'fire-related' or 'don't know' and only excludes those that were recorded as 'not fire-related'.
[11] Revisions to the number of fire-related fatalities in the tables have led to a less than 1% change in each of the years from 2010/11 to 2016/17 for England. In these years the changes are not more than +/- one individual fire-related fatality in any individual FRS, with the exceptions of Greater London 2010/11 (minus 2 fatalities) and Hampshire 2012/13 (plus 2 fatalities).
[12] London Fire Brigade's record on the number of fatalities are based on information provided by the Metropolitan Police Service. The fire-related fatalities figure of 80 was announced by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) on 10 July 2017. MPS have since revised this number to 71 fire-related fatalities on 16 November 2017. The non-fatal casualty numbers are derived from numbers published by the London Ambulance Service for people who attended hospital together with those recorded by the London Fire Brigade who received first aid or required a 'precautionary check'.

Fire-related fatalities

The number of fire-related fatalities in England has been on a general downward trend since 1981/82, when comparable figures first became available, though the numbers have fluctuated due to the relatively small numbers involved. In 1981/82 there were 755 fire-related fatalities, but by the financial year 2014/15 this figure had fallen to a low of 263 – a decrease of 65 per cent over 33 years.

Figure 4.1 Total fire-related fatalities in dwellings or other fires, England; year ending September 2010 to year ending September 2017



Source: FIRE0502

Specifically:

- There were **346 fire-related fatalities in the year ending September 2017**. This compared with 253 in the previous year (an increase of 37%). The year ending September 2017 figure includes 71 fire-related fatalities from the Grenfell Tower fire. (Source: FIRE0502)
- There were **283 fire-related fatalities in dwelling fires in the year ending September 2017**. This compared with 199 in the previous year (an increase of 42%). The year ending September 2017 figure includes 71 fire-related fatalities from the Grenfell Tower fire.

- There were **252 fires which resulted in a fire-related fatality** out of the 170,519 fires (0.1%) in the year ending September 2017. This compared with 239 fires with a fire-related fatality out of the 156,671 fires (0.2%) in the year ending September 2016.

Figure 4.2 Number of fires with a fire-related fatality in dwellings or other fires, England; year ending September 2010 to year ending September 2017

Source: Further breakdown of FIRE0502

Figures on fire-related fatalities in fires in purpose-built flats were published in an ad hoc statistical release focusing on fires in purpose-built flats and have been updated for this year ending September 2017 release. Detailed information can be found in table FIRE0205.

- There were **76 fire-related fatalities in high-rise purpose-built flats** (defined as ten storeys or more) in England in the year ending September 2017. In the previous year, this figure was three. The year ending September 2017 figure includes 71 fire-related fatalities from the Grenfell Tower fire.
- In the year ending September 2017 there were **six fires which resulted in a fatality out of the 750 fires in high-rise purpose built flats (0.8%).** This compares with three fires with a fatality out of the 726 fires in high-rise purpose built flats (0.4%) in the year ending September 2016.

Table 4.1 Percentage of dwelling fires attended by FRSs with a fire-related fatality, by dwelling type, England; year ending September 2017

	House, bungalow, converted flat, other	Purpose built flat – 1 to 3 storeys	Purpose built flat – 4 to 9 storeys	Purpose built flat – 10 storeys or more
Number of dwelling fires	22,715	4,909	1,954	750
Number of fires with a fatality	155	22	10	6
Percentage of fires with a fatality	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%

Source: Further breakdown of FIRE0205

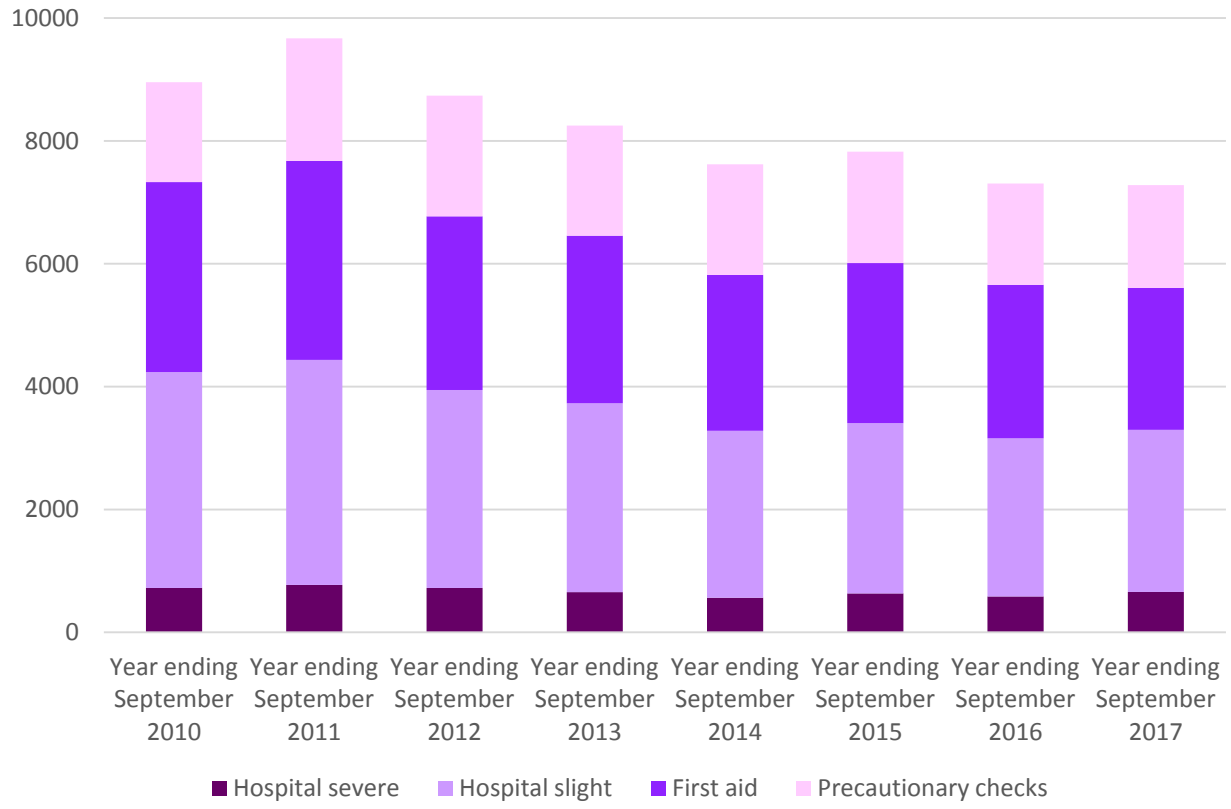
Further information on fire-related fatalities can be found in tables 0501, 0502 and 0205.

Non-fatal casualties in fires

The number of non-fatal casualties[13] in fires in England has been on a downward trend since the mid-1990s but it appears that the downward trend has slowed in the last few years and has remained relatively stable since 2014/15. The number of non-fatal casualties in the year ending September 2017 decreased by less than one per cent from the previous year at around 7,300. While the fatality figures above are for those fatalities caused by the fire (i.e. fire-related) or when the cause was unknown, the casualty figures are for those sustained in a fire, whether the casualties were caused by the fire or not.

[13] For more detailed technical definitions of fire-related non-fatal casualties, see the Fire Statistics Definitions document. A further breakdown of the different types of non-fatal casualties are available in the published fire data tables.

Figure 4.3 Total non-fatal casualties in fires by injury severity, England; year ending September 2010 to year ending September 2017



Source: FIRE0502

Specifically:

- There were **3,297 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment** in the year ending September 2017. This was a four per cent increase compared with the previous year (3,159)[14]. The year ending September 2017 figure includes 77 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment from the Grenfell Tower fire. (Source: FIRE0502)
- There were **7,279 non-fatal casualties in fires** in the year ending September 2017, less than one per cent fewer than the previous year (7,306). The year ending September 2017 figure includes 109 non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire.
- There were **5,460 non-fatal casualties in dwelling fires** in the year ending September 2017. This was a one per cent decrease compared with the previous year (5,523). The year ending September 2017 figure includes 109 non-fatal casualties from the Grenfell Tower fire.

[14] Non-fatal casualties in fires have only been categorised by "hospital – severe", "hospital – slight", "first aid given" and "precautionary checks recommended" since the introduction of the IRS in 2009. This means a ten year comparison is unavailable for this measure.

Figures on non-fatal casualties in fires in purpose-built flats were published in an ad hoc statistical release focusing on fires in purpose-built flats and have been updated for this year ending September 2017 release. Detailed information can be found in table FIRE0205.

- There were **126 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment from fires in purpose-built high-rise flats** (10 storeys or more) in the year ending September 2017. In the previous year this figure was 77. The year ending September 2017 figure includes 77 non-fatal casualties requiring hospital treatment from the Grenfell Tower fire. (Source: FIRE0205)

Further information on non-fatal casualties can be found in tables 0501, 0502 and 0205.

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