

Data Update

Have you ever wondered how the data you enter supports Dane County's EMS system? The data you submit provides valuable information to support your agency's operations, training, and QA/QI processes. In addition, data drives county-wide initiatives such as cardiac arrest summaries, opioid-related analyses, and rapid COVID-19 surveillance. This information also provides valuable information to the receiving facility, adding context and a continuity of patient care reporting to the events leading up to hospital arrival.

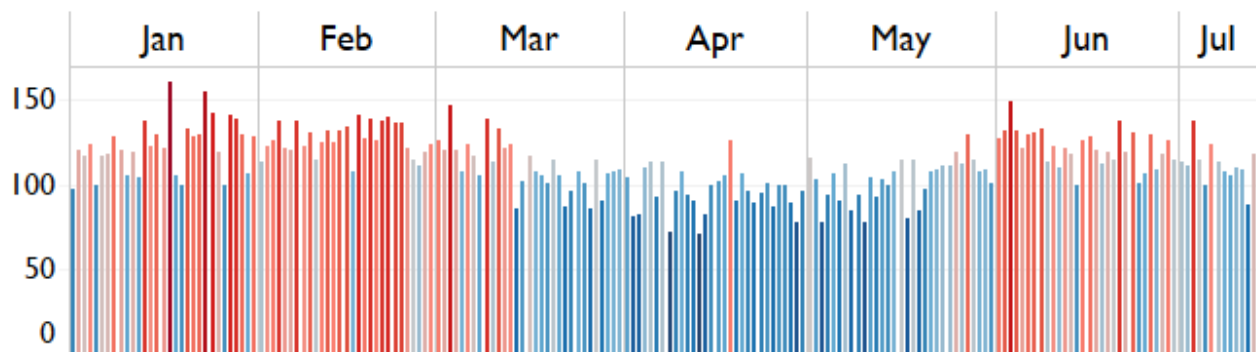
As of July 15th, EMS agencies in and around Dane County have responded to 22,616 calls in 2020. This puts the year-to-date 2020 call volume across Dane County exactly 10 calls above this time last year. While the beginning of this year started with increased call volume levels, Dane County saw a dramatic decrease in call volume from late March to early June, which has since returned to early 2020 levels.

Compared to 2018 and 2019, Dane County EMS agencies have seen an increased share of calls for alcohol & substance abuse, behavioral & mental health emergencies, cardiac arrest, respiratory, and infectious disease emergencies in 2020. The most common dispatch-reported complaints (problems reported in your CAD info) of 2020 are as follows. Until 2020, falls had been the most commonly reported dispatch complaint.

- 1) Sick Person – 21%
- 2) Falls – 20%
- 3) Unconscious/Fainting – 14%
- 4) Breathing Problem – 14%
- 5) Chest Pain (non-traumatic) – 10%

Thank you for the work you do, and for your continued efforts to submit high-quality data! Do you have data questions? Contact Eric at Anderson.Eric@countyofdane.com.

2020 Year-to-Date Call Volume Per Day

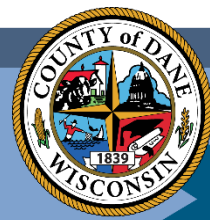


Viz Quiz

- 59 year old female with history of diabetes and hypertension presents with 3 days of progressive redness, swelling, and a burning sensation in her toes.
- Denies trauma or any other symptoms. On exam, feet are warm with good pulses.
- What do you think the diagnosis and suspected underlying etiology could be?

Look for the answer in the next newsletter!





Hot Topic

If I am licensed as a paramedic but running as an EMT or AEMT, can I interpret EKGs?

In the state of Wisconsin, you can only practice to the level you are credentialed at for the service you are working for, even if you are licensed at a higher level. For example, if you have a paramedic license but are working at a service that operates at the AEMT level, you are credentialed as an AEMT at that service and thus must follow scope of practice of an AEMT. Obtaining an EKG is within the scope of EMT and AEMT, but interpretation of EKG is only in the paramedic scope of practice. EMTs and AEMTs can utilize the computer readings to support decision making and/or send to a receiving facility for online medical control, if a provider is concerned or has questions about an EKG for support. Further information about current Wisconsin Scope of Practice can be found here:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ems/licensing/scope.htm>

Have an idea for a future topic? Email us at dcems@countyofdane.com!

Open Mic



- * Meet Kevin Fisher who has been with Dane County Communications Center for over 30 years!
- * Enjoys gardening, reading, traveling, kayaking, hiking, attending Badger events and spending time with his family.
- * Married with two children (son is a software support engineer with Qualtrics in Seattle and daughter is a nurse at the VA hospital in Madison) and a puppy named Molly
- * Coordinates the annual 911 Night at the Mallards game – hoping the tradition continues in 2021 (fingers crossed!)

Spotlight



On July 1st, the Fitch Rona EMS district placed into service their rehabilitation trailer. The trailer, located at the Verona Fire station, can be requested by police, fire, or EMS for incidents to provide responder rehabilitation. Dane County Emergency Management provided the trailer to the District. Inside the trailer, you will find several cooling chairs, a large popup tent, a misting fan, a small generator, and an oxygen distribution system. The trailer can be requested through the Dane County 911 Center. If you have questions about the trailer or Fitch Rona's response procedure, you can contact Deputy Chief Jeff Dostalek at jeffd@fitchronaems.com.

Upcoming Events and Training

WI EMS Stroke Assessment and Documentation Presentation
Available at www.train.org/WI/course/1091211

8/10, 6-7 pm: UW Health Online Burn Care Education
Register at uwhealth.org/burneducation

8/20, 6:30-8:30 pm: SSM Health Monthly Training Series - Toxicology
Register at <http://bit.ly/ssmemstraining>

9/9, 1-5 pm: DCEMS Skills Competency Proctor Training
Register through your Director or Training Director

9/17, 6:30-10:30 pm: SSM Health Monthly Training Series – Respiratory Emergencies
Register at <http://bit.ly/ssmemstraining>

9/30, 6-10 pm: DCEMS Skills Competency Proctor Training
Register through your Director or Training Director