

National Fire Incident Reporting System

Complete Reference Guide

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FEMA

U.S. Fire Administration
National Fire Data Center

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FOREWORD

In 1972, the President's Commission on Fire Prevention and Control published *America Burning*. This document was the first in-depth discussion of this country's fire problem. An outgrowth of *America Burning* was the National Fire Prevention and Control Act, Public Law 93-498, which established the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration.

One of the results of the P.L. 93-498 mandate to collect national data on fires was the establishment of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). In 1976, six States piloted what eventually evolved into NFIRS. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), developed NFIRS as a means of assessing the nature and scope of the fire problem in the United States.

NFIRS has grown in both participation and use. Over the life of the system, all 50 States, more than 40 major metropolitan areas, and more than 15,000 fire departments have participated in NFIRS. On a yearly basis, approximately 600,000 fire incidents and more than 5 million non-fire incidents are added to the database. NFIRS is the world's largest collection of incidents to which fire departments respond.

NFIRS data are used at all levels of government. At the local level, incident and casualty information is used for setting priorities and targeting resources. The data now being collected are particularly useful for designing fire prevention and educational programs and emergency medical service (EMS)-related activities specifically suited to the real emergency problems the local community faces.

On the State level, NFIRS is used in many capacities. One valuable contribution is that NFIRS data are used by State legislatures to justify budgets and to pass important bills on fire-related issues such as sprinklers, fireworks, and arson.

Many Federal agencies, in addition to USFA, make use of NFIRS data—the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to name a few. The CPSC has found NFIRS very useful in identifying potentially hazardous products.

Nationally, NFIRS is used by various private industries, including national associations for home appliance product manufacturers, the hotel and motel industry, insurance companies, and attorneys.

Because NFIRS is a voluntary system, not all States or fire departments within States participate. In 1977, only 6 States regularly reported data to the National Fire Data Center (NFDC), and 19 others had data systems in some stage of development. Since then, participation has increased significantly so that an estimated 44 percent of all U.S. fires to which fire departments respond are captured in NFIRS.

States have the flexibility to adapt their state reporting systems to their specific needs, and reporting by localities is voluntary. Therefore, the design of a state's data collection system varies from state to state. However, NFIRS was designed so that data from state systems can be converted to a single format that is used at the national level to aggregate and store NFIRS data.

FOREWORD

As participation in NFIRS increased, the system itself has undergone revisions and updates. The latest update of the system is Version 5.0, which provides many improvements both from the standpoint of those who submit the data and for those who use it. This reference guide provides step-by-step instructions for submitting fire incident information to NFIRS 5.0.

Comments and suggestions on further improvements to this guide are solicited and should be submitted to National Fire Data Center, U.S. Fire Administration, Department of Homeland Security, 16825 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727. Comments can also be made on line on the USFA Web form at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/>

CHAPTER 7 • FIRE SERVICE CASUALTY MODULE (NFIRS-5)

The Fire Service Casualty Module is used to report all injuries, deaths, or exposures to fire service personnel. This includes casualties that occur in conjunction both with incident responses and with non-incident events such as station duties or training.

☛ **Important:** In the event of a non-incident casualty, it is critical that an EMS incident report is created in the system and that it is treated as if the same department with the injury responded to the EMS.

A health exposure occurs when fire service personnel come in contact with a toxic substance or harmful physical agent through any route of entry into the body (e.g., inhalation, ingestion, skin absorption, direct contact). These exposures can be reported regardless of the presence of clinical signs and symptoms. An exposure fire, which is captured in Section A of the Basic Module, is not the same as a health exposure to personnel.

A separate Fire Service Casualty Module is required for each casualty or health exposure.

SECTION A

The guidance and directions for completing Section A of the Fire Service Casualty Module are the same as for Section A in the Basic Module. It is stressed that the entries in Section A of the Fire Service Casualty Module must be identical with the entries on the corresponding Basic Module. If injuries occur in an exposure fire, the casualty report should have the same entries as those from Section A of the Basic Module for that exposure fire. An example of a completed Section A can be found on page 3–8.

A Fire Department Identification (FDID) ☆

Entry

Enter the same FDID number found in Section A of the Basic Module.

State ☆

Entry

Enter the same State abbreviation found in Section A of the Basic Module.

Incident Date ☆

Entry

Enter the same incident date found in Section A of the Basic Module.

Station Number

Entry

Enter the same station number found in Section A of the Basic Module.

The ☆ denotes a required field.

Incident Number ☆

Entry

Enter the same incident number found in Section A of the Basic Module.

Exposure Number ☆

Entry

If the casualty resulted from an exposure fire, enter the same exposure number that was entered in Section A of the Basic Module for that exposure.

Delete/Change

Definition

Indicates a change to information submitted on a previous Fire Service Casualty Module or a deletion of all information regarding the casualty.

Purpose

To delete or change previously reported information.

Entry

Delete. Check or mark this box when you have previously submitted data on this fire service casualty and now want to have the data on this casualty deleted from the database. If this box is marked, complete Section A, the Casualty Number originally assigned (Section C), and leave the rest of the report blank. Forward the report according to your normally established procedures.

Change. Check or mark this box only if you previously submitted this fire incident to your State reporting authority and now want to update or change the information in the State database. Complete Section A and any other sections or blocks that need to be updated or corrected. If you need to blank a field that contains data, you must resubmit the original module containing the newly blanked field along with all the other original information in the module for that incident. This action is required only when sending an updated module to your State reporting authority. Forward the report according to your normally established procedures.

SECTION B

B Injured Person ☆

Name

Definition

The first name, middle initial, and last name that identifies the fire service casualty.

Purpose

The name of the casualty may be required for legal or insurance purposes, filing disability claims, and tracking injuries and health exposures by the individual fire department

Entry

Enter the full name of the person. Names should be clearly printed or typed.

Example

The casualty's name is Jeff R. MacFadyen. (See example at Affiliation.)

Identification Number**Definition**

The identification or employee number of the fire service casualty. This number is often the individual's social security number, but it may be any combination of letters or numbers up to nine characters in length.

Purpose

The identification number uniquely identifies each fire service casualty.

Entry

Enter the casualty's identification number in the spaces provided. This field is left-justified.

Example

The firefighter's identification number is A23-4556-6789. (See example at Affiliation.)

Gender ☆**Definition**

The identification of the fire service casualty as male or female.

Purpose

Combined with other field information, this data element assists in the identification of each firefighter injury.

Entry

Check or mark the appropriate gender of the fire service casualty.

Example

The firefighter is male (1). (See example at Affiliation.)

GENDER CODES

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1 | Male. |
| 2 | Female. |

Affiliation**Definition**

The identification of the fire service casualty as a volunteer (includes paid on-call) or career firefighter at the time of injury.

Purpose

This data element contributes to the identification of the fire service casualty and helps track injury trends and patterns of volunteer vs. career personnel.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the affiliation of the fire service casualty.

Example

The casualty is a volunteer firefighter (2):

B	Injured Person	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> A 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male ☆ 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Career </div>		
		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Identification Number 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Female 2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteer </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Jeff R MacFadyen </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> First Name MI Last Name </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Suffix </div>	

AFFILIATION CODES

- 1 Career.
- 2 Volunteer. Includes paid on-call firefighter.

SECTION C**C Casualty Number ☆****Definition**

A unique number is assigned to each fire service casualty occurring at a single incident or resulting from an incident.

Purpose

The casualty number of the firefighter identifies each fire service casualty separately in the casualty file. Data and information concerning the casualty can be accessed using this number in conjunction with other unique field information.

Entry

Enter the firefighter casualty number assigned to this casualty. A separate Casualty Number is assigned to each fire service casualty. The first casualty is always coded "001," and each succeeding casualty is numbered sequentially and incremented by 1 beginning with "002." The three-character numeric field is zero filled, not right justified.

Example

Three firefighters were injured at a warehouse fire on 32nd street; the first firefighter injured is assigned the casualty number of 001:

Example on next page

C	Casualty Number ☆
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> 0 0 1 </div>	
Casualty Number	

SECTION D

D Age or Date of Birth ☆

Enter either the fire service casualty's age or the casualty's date of birth. Do not enter both.

Age ☆*Definition*

The fire service casualty's age in years.

Purpose

The age of the fire service casualty provides an indication of fire loss. Age can also be used to indicate type, severity, and cause of injury to identify trends and patterns that might be helpful in preventing future firefighter injuries and deaths.

Entry

Enter the age of the firefighter.

Example

The injured firefighter is 39 years old:

D	Age or Date of Birth ☆	
Age <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> 3 9 </div> In years	OR	Date of Birth <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Month </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Day </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Year </div> </div>

Date of Birth ☆*Definition*

The month, day, and year of birth of the fire service casualty.

Purpose

This data element is an alternative entry for Age. It can provide an indication of fire loss, and can be used to indicate type, severity, and cause of injury to identify trends and patterns that might be helpful in preventing future firefighter injuries and deaths.

- ☛ This data element is used as an alternate method for calculating the casualty's age. Age is collected in NFIRS but Date of Birth is not.

Entry

Enter the date of birth showing the month, day, and year (mm/dd/yyyy).

Example

The fire service casualty was born on August 5, 1959:

D Age or Date of Birth ☆			
Age <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; height: 20px; margin: 5px auto;"></div> In years	OR	Date of Birth <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin: 5px auto;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; text-align: center;">08</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 30px; text-align: center;">05</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 60px; text-align: center;">1959</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> Month Day Year </div>	

SECTION E

E Date and Time of Injury ☆

Date ☆

Entry

If the injury date is the same as the Incident Date in Section A, enter the same date as the Alarm date entry in Block E1 of the Basic Module. If different, enter the appropriate month, day, and year (mm/dd/yyyy). (See example at Time.)

Time ☆

Definition

The time of day, using the 24-hour clock, when the injury occurred. Midnight is 0000 and signifies the start of a new day.

Purpose

This information is sometimes needed for legal or insurance purposes. In addition, it may be used to analyze when firefighter injuries occur during the course of a fire and during fire suppression activities.

Entry

Enter as closely as possible the time when the injury occurred using the 24-hour clock (i.e., 0000–2359).

Example

A firefighter received a burn on his back and hip at 5:36 a.m. on July 26, 2001:

Example on next page

E Date and Time of Injury ☆ Midnight is 0000.					
Date of Injury			Time of Injury		
0	7	2	6	2	0
Month		Day		Year	
0	5	3	6		
Hour		Minute			

SECTION F

F Responses*Definition*

The number of incidents the firefighter responded to in the 24-hour period prior to the time of injury.

Purpose

The number of incidences that a firefighter responds to in a short period of time, when analyzed with the other casualty data, can be a useful indicator for identifying possible reasons for the injury or death. This is useful in determining cases of fatigue and cumulative exposure to heat and gases, which may have contributed to the injury.

Entry

Enter the number of incidents responded to by the firefighter in the immediate 24-hour period prior to the time of injury. Do not count the incident at which the injury occurred.

Example

The fire service casualty had been on three other calls prior to the injury.

F Responses
3
Number of prior responses during past 24 hours

SECTION G

This section collects information pertaining to the injured firefighter's assignment, physical condition before the injury, the severity of the injury, where the injury was treated, and the activity being performed when injured.

G Usual Assignment

Usual Assignment was known as Assignment in NFIRS 4.1.

Definition

This element describes the official assignment of the fire service casualty. This may not coincide with the firefighter's activity at the time of injury (Block G5).

Purpose

When analyzed with the other firefighter casualty data, the duty to which the firefighter was assigned can be used to identify possible reasons for injury or death.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the primary duty assignment of the injured firefighter.

Example

The injured firefighter is normally assigned to the training division (4):

G ₁ Usual Assignment	
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Suppression
2	<input type="checkbox"/> EMS
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Prevention
4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Administration
8	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire investigation
0	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

USUAL ASSIGNMENT CODES

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Fire suppression. Includes HazMat, rescue, incident command, and safety. |
| 2 | EMS. |
| 3 | Prevention or inspection. |
| 4 | Training. |
| 5 | Maintenance. |
| 6 | Communications. Includes fire alarm. |
| 7 | Administration. |
| 8 | Fire investigation. |
| 0 | Other assignment. |

G₂ Physical Condition Just Prior to Injury

☛ Physical Condition Just Prior to Injury was known as Physical Condition at Time of Injury in NFIRS 4.1.

Definition

The general physical condition of the firefighter prior to injury.

Purpose

The condition of the firefighter at the time of injury is important in determining and understanding how and why the injuries occurred.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the physical condition of the firefighter at the time of injury.

Example

A firefighter was injured while under treatment for a cold (4):

G ₂ Physical Condition Just Prior to Injury			
1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Rested	0 <input type="checkbox"/>	Other
2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Fatigued	U <input type="checkbox"/>	Undetermined
4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ill or injured		

PHYSICAL CONDITION JUST PRIOR TO INJURY CODES

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | Rested. |
| 2 | Fatigued. |
| 4 | Ill or injured. |
| 0 | Physical condition, other. |
| U | Undetermined. |

G₃ Severity ☆**Definition**

The relative severity or seriousness of the injury based on a scale ranging from “no time lost from work” to “death.”

Purpose

An indication of severity can be used as a measure for prevention programs aimed at reducing injuries and deaths. At the local level, this element can be used to track lost-time injuries.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the severity of the casualty.

Example

The injured firefighter would not be able to go to work the next day because of his injury (4):

☛ A health exposure occurs when fire service personnel are exposed to a toxic substance or harmful physi-

G ₃ Severity ☆	
1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Report only, including exposure
2 <input type="checkbox"/>	First aid only
3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Treated by physician (no lost time)
4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Moderate (lost time)
5 <input type="checkbox"/>	Severe (lost time)
6 <input type="checkbox"/>	Life threatening (lost time)
7 <input type="checkbox"/>	Death

cal agent through any route of entry into the body (e.g., inhalation, ingestion, skin absorption, direct contact). These exposures can be reported regardless of the presence of clinical signs and symptoms. Exposures are treated as "report only" (1).

SEVERITY CODES

- 1 Report only. Includes exposures to toxic substances or harmful physical agents through any route of entry into the body (e.g. inhalation, ingestion, skin absorption, direct contact).
- 2 First aid only.
- 3 Treated by physician, not a lost-time injury.
- 4 Moderate severity, lost-time injury. There is little danger of death or permanent disability.
- 5 Severe, lost-time injury. The situation is potentially life threatening if the condition remains uncontrolled.
- 6 Life threatening, lost-time injury. Death is imminent; body processes and vital signs are not normal.
- 7 Death.

G Taken To

☛ Taken To was known as Patient Taken To in NFIRS 4.1.

Definition

Identifies where the fire service casualty was taken after the injury occurred.

Purpose

This information is useful in determining the personnel and equipment requirements for handling fire service casualties.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes where the fire service casualty was taken, regardless of who transported the firefighter. If the firefighter was not transported, check or mark the Not Transported box.

Example

An injured firefighter was taken to the hospital (1):

G4		Taken To	<input type="checkbox"/> Not transported
1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hospital	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Doctor's office	
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Morgue/Funeral home	
6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Residence	
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	Station or quarters	
0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	

TAKEN TO CODES

- 1 Hospital.
- 4 Doctor's office, non-emergency health care facility.
- 5 Morgue or funeral home.
- 6 Residence (firefighter's home).
- 7 Station or quarters.
- 0 Taken to, other.
- N Not transported.

G5 Activity at Time of Injury

Activity at Time of Injury was known as Firefighter Activity in NFIRS 4.1.

Definition

The activity being performed by the firefighter at the time the injury occurred.

Purpose

The activity at the time of injury is a prime factor in determining the cause of the injury and developing methods to minimize the hazards involved with that activity.

Entry

Enter the two-digit code and description of the activity of the casualty when injured.

Example

A firefighter was injured using power tools to ventilate the roof (42):

G5	Activity at Time of Injury
<input type="text" value="42"/>	<input type="text" value="Ventilating w/power tools"/>
Activity at time of injury	

ACTIVITY AT TIME OF INJURY CODES**Driving or Riding Vehicle**

- 11 Boarding fire department vehicle.
- 12 Driving fire department vehicle.
- 13 Tillerage fire department vehicle.
- 14 Riding fire department vehicle.
- 15 Exiting fire department vehicle.
- 16 Driving/Riding non-fire department vehicle.
- 17 Boarding/Exiting non-fire department vehicle.
- 10 Driving or riding vehicle, other.

Operating Fire Department Apparatus

- 21 Operating engine or pumper.
- 22 Operating aerial ladder or elevating platform.
- 23 Operating EMS vehicle.
- 24 Operating HazMat vehicle.
- 25 Operating rescue vehicle.
- 20 Operating fire department apparatus, other.

Extinguishing Fire or Neutralizing Incident

- 31 Handling charged hoselines.
- 32 Using hand extinguishers.
- 33 Operating master steam device.
- 34 Using handtools in extinguishment activity.
- 35 Removing power lines.
- 36 Removing flammable liquids/chemicals.
- 37 Shutting off utilities, gas lines, etc.
- 30 Extinguishing fire/neutralizing incident, other.

Suppression Support

- 41 Forcible entry.
- 42 Ventilation with power tools.
- 43 Ventilation with hand tools.
- 44 Salvage.
- 45 Overhaul.
- 40 Suppression support, other.

Access or Egress

- 51 Carrying ground ladder.
- 52 Raising ground ladder.
- 53 Lowering ground ladder.
- 54 Climbing ladder.
- 55 Scaling.
- 56 Escaping fire or hazard.
- 57 Moving/Lifting patient with carrying device.
- 58 Moving/Lifting patient without carrying device.
- 50 Access/Egress, other.

EMS or Rescue

- 61 Searching for victim.
- 62 Rescuing fire victim.
- 63 Rescuing non-fire victim.
- 64 Water rescue.
- 65 Providing EMS care.
- 66 Diving operations.
- 67 Extraction with power tools.
- 68 Extraction with hand tools.
- 60 EMS/Rescue, other.

Other Incident Scene Activity

- 71 Directing traffic.
- 72 Catching hydrant.
- 73 Laying hose.
- 74 Moving tools or equipment around scene.

- 75 Picking up tools, equipment, or hose on scene.
- 76 Setting up lighting. Includes portable generator operations.
- 77 Operating portable pump.
- 70 Other incident scene activity, other.

Station Activity

- 81 Moving about station, alarm sounding.
- 82 Moving about station, normal activity.
- 83 Station maintenance.
- 84 Vehicle maintenance.
- 85 Equipment maintenance.
- 86 Physical fitness activity, supervised.
- 87 Physical fitness activity, unsupervised.
- 88 Training activity or drill.
- 80 Station activity, other.

Other Activity

- 91 Incident investigation, during incident.
- 92 Incident investigation, after incident.
- 93 Inspection activity.
- 94 Administrative work.
- 95 Communications work.
- 00 Activity at time of injury, other.
- UU Undetermined.

SECTION H

This section focuses on the injury itself—the symptom that appears to be the most serious and the part of the body that has been injured.

H Primary Apparent Symptom*Definition*

The firefighter's most serious apparent injury.

Purpose

This entry, in conjunction with other related entries, can improve the understanding of the nature and cause of firefighter casualties and can aid in improving firefighter equipment and training needs. For example, large numbers of smoke inhalation injuries to firefighters would indicate a need to reevaluate the uses or adequacy of breathing apparatus.

Entry

Enter the two-digit code and description of the casualty's that appears to be the most serious.

Example

A firefighter is overcome by smoke (01):

H1	Primary Apparent Symptom
01	Smoke inhalation
Primary apparent symptom	

PRIMARY APPARENT SYMPTOM CODES

01	Smoke inhalation.
02	Hazardous fumes inhalation.
03	Breathing difficulty or shortness of breath.
11	Burns and smoke inhalation.
12	Burns only, thermal.
13	Burn, scald.
14	Burn, chemical.
15	Burn, electric.
21	Cut or laceration.
22	Stab or puncture wound: penetrating.
23	Gunshot wound, projectile wound.
24	Contusion/Bruise, minor trauma.
25	Abrasion.
31	Dislocation.
32	Fracture.
33	Strain or sprain.
34	Swelling.
35	Crushing.
36	Amputation.
41	Cardiac symptoms.
42	Cardiac arrest.
43	Stroke.
44	Respiratory arrest.
51	Chills.
52	Fever.
53	Nausea.
54	Vomiting.
55	Numbness or tingling, paresthesia.
56	Paralysis.
57	Frostbite.
50	Sickness, other.
61	Miscarriage.
63	Eye trauma, avulsion.
64	Drowning.
65	Foreign body obstruction.
66	Electric shock.
67	Poison.
71	Convulsion or seizure.
72	Internal trauma.
73	Hemorrhaging, bleeding internally.
81	Disorientation.
82	Dizziness/Fainting/Weakness.
83	Exhaustion/Fatigue. Includes heat exhaustion.
84	Heat stroke.
85	Dehydration.
91	Allergic reaction. Includes anaphylactic shock and hypersensitivity to medication.
92	Drug overdose.
93	Alcohol impairment.
94	Emotional/Psychological stress.
95	Mental disorder.
96	Shock.
97	Unconscious.
98	Pain only.
00	Primary apparent symptom, other.
UU	Undetermined.

H² Primary Part of Body Injured

Definition

The body part or area that was affected or sustained the most serious injury.

Purpose

An analysis of the data from Blocks G5, H1, and H2 will assist in the development of protective clothing, equipment, safe operating procedures, and safety training.

Entry

Enter the two-digit code and description of the part of the body that was most seriously injured. It should be the same part of the body affected by the Primary Apparent Symptom. If no body part was injured, check or mark the None box.

Example

A firefighter was overcome by smoke (81):

H₂	Primary Part of Body Injured	<input type="checkbox"/> None
	81 Lungs	
	Primary injured body part	

PRIMARY PART OF BODY INJURED CODES

Head

- 11 Ear.
- 12 Eye.
- 13 Nose.
- 14 Mouth. Includes lips, teeth, and interior.
- 10 Head, other.

Neck and Shoulders

- 21 Neck.
- 22 Throat.
- 23 Shoulder.

Thorax

- 31 Back. Excludes spine (51).
- 32 Chest.

Abdominal Area

- 41 Abdomen.
- 42 Pelvis or groin.
- 43 Hip, lower back, or buttocks.

Spine

- 51 Spine. Excludes back (31).

Upper Extremities

- 61 Arm, upper. Excludes elbows (63) and shoulders (23).
 62 Arm, lower. Excludes elbows (63) and wrists (64).
 63 Elbow.
 64 Wrist.
 65 Hand and fingers.

Lower Extremities

- 71 Leg, upper. Excludes knees (73).
 72 Leg, lower. Excludes knees (73), ankles (74), and foot and toes (75).
 73 Knee.
 74 Ankle.
 75 Foot and toes.

Internal

- 81 Trachea and lungs.
 82 Heart.
 83 Stomach.
 84 Intestinal tract.
 85 Genito-urinary.
 80 Internal, other.

Multiple Parts

- 91 Multiple body parts, upper body.
 92 Multiple body parts, lower body.
 93 Multiple body parts, whole body.

Other Body Parts

- 00 Part of body injured, other.
 NN None.
 UU Undetermined.

SECTION I

This section collects information on the cause and factor that contributed to the firefighter's injury and whether an object was involved.

1 Cause of Firefighter Injury**Definition**

The action or lack of action that directly resulted in the injury.

Purpose

An analysis of this information may permit an understanding of the condition causing the injury and a means of planning suitable preventive techniques. For example, firefighter injuries resulting from a blow to the head may indicate inadequacies in helmet design.

Entry

Enter the code and a written description for the immediate cause or condition responsible for the injury.

Example

A firefighter receives burns (4) on the forearm:

I1	Cause of Firefighter Injury	
	4	Exposure
Cause of injury		

CAUSE OF FIREFIGHTER INJURY CODES

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Fall. |
| 2 | Jump. |
| 3 | Slip/Trip. |
| 4 | Exposure to hazard. Includes exposure to heat, smoke, or toxic agents. |
| 5 | Struck or assaulted by person, animal, moving object. |
| 6 | Contact with object (firefighter moved into or onto object). Includes running into objects, stepping on objects, or grabbing a hot or electrically charged object. |
| 7 | Overexertion/Strain. |
| 0 | Cause of injury, other. |
| U | Undetermined. |

I2 Factor Contributing to Injury

Factor Contributing to Injury was a part of Cause of Firefighter Injury in NFIRS 4.1.

Definition

The most significant factor contributing to the injury of the fire service casualty.

Purpose

This element provides additional information on how an injury occurred. The analysis of this information may permit an understanding of the events causing the injury and a means of planning suitable preventive techniques.

Entry

Enter the two-digit code and description of the most significant factor contributing to the injury. Check or mark the None box if there was no apparent factor that contributed to the injury.

Example

The firefighter suffered from smoke inhalation after becoming disoriented and lost in the building (32):

I2	Factor Contributing to Injury		<input type="checkbox"/> None
	3, 2	Lost in the building	
Contributing factor			

FACTOR CONTRIBUTING TO INJURY CODES**Collapse or Falling Object**

- 11 Roof collapse.
- 12 Wall collapse.
- 13 Floor collapse.
- 14 Ceiling collapse.
- 15 Stair collapse.
- 16 Falling objects.
- 17 Cave-in (earth).
- 10 Collapse or falling object, other.

Fire Development

- 21 Fire progress. Includes smoky conditions.
- 22 Backdraft.
- 23 Flashover.
- 24 Explosion.
- 20 Fire development, other.

Lost, Caught, Trapped, or Confined

- 31 Person physically caught or trapped. Excludes persons directly injured by a structural collapse or falling object (10 series).
- 32 Lost in building.
- 33 Operating in confined structural areas. Includes attics and crawl spaces.
- 34 Operating under water or ice.
- 30 Lost, caught, trapped, or confined, other.

Holes

- 41 Unguarded hole in structure.
- 42 Hole burned through roof.
- 43 Hole burned through floor.
- 40 Holes, other.

Slippery or Uneven Surfaces

- 51 Icy surface.
- 52 Wet surface. Includes water, soap, foam, lubricating materials, etc.
- 53 Loose material on surface.
- 54 Uneven surface. Includes holes in the ground.
- 50 Slippery or uneven surfaces, other.

Vehicle or Apparatus

- 61 Vehicle left road or overturned.
- 62 Vehicle collided with another vehicle.
- 63 Vehicle collided with nonvehicular object.
- 64 Vehicle stopped too fast.
- 65 Seat belt not fastened.
- 66 Firefighter standing on apparatus.
- 60 Vehicle or apparatus, other.

Other Contributing Factors

- 91 Civil unrest. Includes riots and civil disturbances.
- 92 Hostile acts.
- 00 Factor contributing to injury, other.
- NN None.
- UU Undetermined.

13 Object Involved in Injury

Definition

The description of the object, if one was involved, that contributed to the injury of the fire service casualty.

Purpose

This field provides additional information on how a casualty occurred. The analysis of this information, in combination with other entries, may permit an understanding of the events causing the injury and a means of planning suitable preventive techniques.

Entry

Enter the two-digit code and description of the object involved in the injury. If no object was involved, check or mark the None box.

Example

The firefighter received a cut on the forearm when a piece of glass dropped from a second-story window (43):

13 Object Involved in Injury		<input type="checkbox"/> None
4	3	Glass
Object Involved In Injury		

OBJECT INVOLVED IN INJURY CODES

11	Coupling.
12	Hose, not charged.
13	Hose, charged.
14	Water from master stream.
15	Water from hose line.
16	Water, not from a hose.
17	Steam.
18	Extinguishing agent, not water.
21	Ladder, aerial.
22	Ladder, ground.
23	Tools/Equipment.
24	Knife, scissors.
25	Syringe.
26	Fire department vehicle or apparatus.
27	Fire department vehicle door. Includes apparatus compartments.
28	Station sliding pole.
31	Curb.
32	Door in building.
33	Fire escape.
34	Ledge.
35	Stairs.
36	Wall. Includes other vertical surfaces such as cliffs.
37	Window.
38	Roof.

39	Floor or ceiling.
30	Structural component, other.
41	Asbestos.
42	Dirt, stones, or debris.
43	Glass.
45	Nails.
46	Splinters.
47	Embers.
48	Hot tar.
49	Hot metal.
51	Biological agents.
52	Chemicals.
53	Fumes, gases, or smoke.
54	Poisonous plants.
55	Insects.
56	Radioactive materials.
61	Electricity.
62	Extreme weather.
63	Utility flames, flares, torches.
64	Heat or flame.
91	Person: victim.
92	Property and structure contents.
93	Animal.
94	Non-fire department vehicle.
95	Gun. Includes all other projectile weapons.
90	Person, other.
00	Object involved in injury, other.
NN	None.
UU	Undetermined.

SECTION J

This section captures information on the specific location where the firefighter was injured and, if in a vehicle, the type of vehicle involved.

J¹ Where Injury Occurred

Definition

The place where the injury occurred. This location may be en route to or from the scene, at the incident scene, at the station, or some other location.

Purpose

In conjunction with other fields, this element can help identify why the firefighter sustained a certain type of injury. It can indicate areas in which safety training and safer operating procedures may be necessary.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes where the injury took place.

Example

A firefighter was killed en route to a call when the tanker overturned (3):

J₁ Where Injury Occurred	
1	<input type="checkbox"/> En route to FD location
2	<input type="checkbox"/> At FD location
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> En route to incident scene
4	<input type="checkbox"/> En route to medical facility
5	<input type="checkbox"/> At scene in structure
6	<input type="checkbox"/> At scene outside
7	<input type="checkbox"/> At medical facility
8	<input type="checkbox"/> Returning from incident
9	<input type="checkbox"/> Returning from med facility
0	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
U	<input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined

WHERE INJURY OCCURRED CODES

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | En route to fire department location. Includes volunteers responding to the fire station or apparatus traveling between fire department locations. |
| 2 | At fire department location. |
| 3 | En route to incident or assignment. |
| 4 | En route to medical facility. |
| 5 | At scene, in structure. |
| 6 | At scene, outside structure. |
| 7 | At medical facility. |
| 8 | Returning from incident or assignment. |
| 9 | Returning from medical facility. |
| 0 | Where injury occurred, other. |
| U | Undetermined. |

J₂ Story Where Injury Occurred**Definition**

This element identifies the story where the injury occurred.

Purpose

This entry provides additional information on where the injury occurred, which can help in directing injury prevention efforts. This element, combined with other elements, better describes the accident scene.

Entry

If the injury occurred inside or on a structure, enter the story where the injury occurred. If the story is below grade, check or mark the Below Grade box.

- ☛ Complete this block only if the injury occurred inside a structure.
- ☛ Checking or marking the Below Grade box has the effect of entering a negative number in NFIRS 5.0.

Example

The casualty occurred inside the building on the third story:

J₂ Story Where Injury Occurred	
1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box and enter the story if the injury occurred inside or on a structure
<u> 3 </u>	Story of injury <input type="checkbox"/> Below grade
2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Injury occurred outside

J₃ Specific Location Where Injury Occurred**Definition**

This element identifies the specific location of the fire service casualty at the time of injury.

Purpose

This element provides additional information on where the injury occurred. This can be helpful in directing injury prevention efforts.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the specific location at time of injury.

☛ If any code greater than 60 is checked or marked, continue to Block J4.

Example

The firefighter sprained an ankle climbing down a ground ladder (25):

J₃ Specific Location Where Injury Occurred	
65 <input type="checkbox"/>	In aircraft
64 <input type="checkbox"/>	In boat, ship, or barge
63 <input type="checkbox"/>	In rail vehicle
61 <input type="checkbox"/>	In motor vehicle
54 <input type="checkbox"/>	In sewer
53 <input type="checkbox"/>	In tunnel
49 <input type="checkbox"/>	In structure
45 <input type="checkbox"/>	In attic
36 <input type="checkbox"/>	In water
35 <input type="checkbox"/>	In well
34 <input type="checkbox"/>	In ravine
33 <input type="checkbox"/>	In quarry or mine
32 <input type="checkbox"/>	In ditch or trench
31 <input type="checkbox"/>	In open pit
28 <input type="checkbox"/>	On steep grade
27 <input type="checkbox"/>	On fire escape/outside stairs
26 <input type="checkbox"/>	On vertical surface or ledge
25 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	On ground ladder
24 <input type="checkbox"/>	On aerial ladder or in basket
23 <input type="checkbox"/>	On roof
22 <input type="checkbox"/>	Outside at grade
00 <input type="checkbox"/>	Other
UU <input type="checkbox"/>	Undetermined

Complete Block J4

SPECIFIC LOCATION WHERE INJURY OCCURRED CODES

22	Outside at grade.
23	On roof.
24	On aerial ladder or in basket.
25	On ground ladder.
26	On vertical surface or ledge.
27	On fire escape or outside stairway.
28	On steep grade.
31	In open pit.
32	In ditch or trench.
33	In quarry or mine.
34	In ravine.
35	In well.
36	In water.
45	In attic or other confined structural space.
49	In structure. Excludes attic, roof, or wall.
53	In tunnel.
54	In sewer.
61	In motor vehicle.
63	In rail vehicle.
64	In boat, ship, or barge.
65	In aircraft.
00	Specific location where injury occurred, other.
UU	Undetermined.

J³ Vehicle Type*Definition*

Identifies the type of vehicle that the firefighter was in at time of injury.

Purpose

This element provides more information on where and how the injury occurred. This can be helpful in directing injury prevention efforts.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the vehicle type.

☛ Complete this block only if the Specific Location code (Block J3) is greater than 60.

Example

The volunteer firefighter was injured in his personal vehicle on the way to a call:

J₄	Vehicle Type	Complete ONLY if Specific Location code is >60
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Suppression vehicle	
2	<input type="checkbox"/> EMS vehicle	
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Other FD vehicle	
4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-FD vehicle	

VEHICLE TYPE CODES

- 1 Suppression vehicle.
- 2 EMS vehicle.
- 3 Other fire department vehicle. Includes passenger vehicles.
- 4 Non-fire department vehicle. Includes private auto.
- N None.

SECTION K

Information on whether firefighter equipment failed and contributed to the injury is collected in this section.

K1 Equipment Sequence Number*Definition*

A unique number assigned to each piece of faulty equipment worn or used by the injured firefighter.

Purpose

In conjunction with other field in the section, the sequence number permits each piece of equipment associated with an injury to be identified separately on the casualty file.

Entry

If no equipment failed, check or mark the No box, which completes the entries of this module. If protective equipment failed and it contributed to the injury, check or mark the Yes box and complete the remainder of this section (Blocks K1 through K4). Enter the equipment sequence number. A separate Equipment Sequence Number is assigned to each piece of equipment that failed and contributed to the injury. The first equipment is always coded "001," and each succeeding equipment is numbered sequentially and incremented by 1 beginning with "002." The three-character numeric field is zero filled, not right justified.

- A separate form is required for each piece of equipment that failed and contributed to the injury.

Example

The first piece of faulty equipment associated with an injury to a firefighter:

K1	Did protective equipment fail and contribute to the injury?	Yes Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equipment Sequence Number <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text" value="1"/>
	Please complete the remainder of this form ONLY if you answer YES.	No N <input type="checkbox"/>	

EQUIPMENT FAILED CODES

Y Yes.
N No.

K₂ Protective Equipment Item

☛ Protective Equipment Item replaces the five individual equipment lists in NFIRS 4.1

Definition

This block records information about the faulty protective equipment item that was a factor in the firefighter's injury.

Purpose

This element provides more information on why the injury occurred and may help detect problems with equipment that could lead to future injuries.

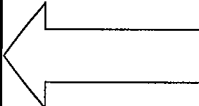
Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the piece of protective equipment that failed and contributed to the injury.

Example

The firefighter's face piece melted (12) causing burns on the side of his face:

K₂ Protective Equipment Item	
Head or Face Protection	
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Helmet
12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full face protector
13	<input type="checkbox"/> Partial face protector
14	<input type="checkbox"/> Goggles/eye protection
15	<input type="checkbox"/> Hood
16	<input type="checkbox"/> Ear protector
17	<input type="checkbox"/> Neck protector
10	<input type="checkbox"/> Other



PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT ITEM CODES

Head or Face Protection

11 Helmet.
12 Full face protector.
13 Partial face protector.
14 Goggles/Eye protection.
15 Hood.
16 Ear protector.
17 Neck protector.
10 Head or face protection, other.

Coat, Shirt, or Trousers

- 21 Protective coat.
- 22 Protective trousers.
- 23 Uniform shirt.
- 24 Uniform T-shirt.
- 25 Uniform trousers.
- 26 Uniform coat or jacket.
- 27 Coveralls.
- 28 Apron or gown.
- 20 Coat, shirt, or trousers, other.

Boots or Shoes

- 31 Knee-length boots with steel baseplate and steel toes.
- 32 Knee-length boots with steel toes only.
- 33 3/4-length boots with steel baseplate and steel toes.
- 34 3/4-length boots with steel toes only.
- 35 Boots without steel baseplate or steel toes.
- 36 Safety shoes with steel baseplate and steel toes.
- 37 Safety shoes with steel toes only.
- 38 Non-safety shoes.
- 30 Boots or shoes, other.

Respiratory Protection

- 41 Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), demand, open circuit.
- 42 Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), positive pressure, open circuit.
- 43 Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), closed circuit.
- 44 Non-self-contained breathing apparatus.
- 45 Cartridge respirator.
- 46 Dust or particle mask.
- 40 Respiratory protection, other.

Hand Protection

- 51 Firefighter gloves with wristlets.
- 52 Firefighter gloves without wristlets.
- 53 Work gloves.
- 54 HazMat gloves.
- 55 Medical gloves.
- 50 Hand protection, other.

Special Equipment

- 61 Proximity suit for entry.
- 62 Proximity suit for non-entry.
- 63 Totally encapsulated, reusable chemical suit.
- 64 Totally encapsulated, disposable chemical suit.
- 65 Partially encapsulated, reusable chemical suit.
- 66 Partially encapsulated, disposable chemical suit.
- 67 Flash protection suit.
- 68 Flight or jump suit.
- 69 Brush suit.

Special Equipment Continued

- 71 Exposure suit.
- 72 Self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA).
- 73 Life preserver.
- 74 Life belt or ladder belt.
- 75 Personal alert safety system (PASS).
- 76 Radio distress device.
- 77 Personal lighting.
- 78 Fire shelter or tent.
- 79 Vehicle safety belt.
- 70 Special equipment, other.
- 00 Protective equipment item, other.

K⁸ Protective Equipment Problem

☛ Protective Equipment Problem replaces the five individual equipment problem lists in NFIRS 4.1

Definition

The most serious problem with the piece of equipment that failed and contributed to the injury.

Purpose

Provides additional information on why the injury occurred and highlights problems with specific equipment.

Entry

Check or mark the box that best describes the protective equipment problem.

Example

The firefighter's face piece melted (12):

K ⁸ Protective Equipment Problem	
Check one box to indicate the main problem that occurred	
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Burned
12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melted
21	<input type="checkbox"/> Fractured, cracked or broken
22	<input type="checkbox"/> Punctured
23	<input type="checkbox"/> Scratched
24	<input type="checkbox"/> Knocked off
25	<input type="checkbox"/> Cut or ripped
31	<input type="checkbox"/> Trapped steam or hazardous gas
32	<input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient insulation
33	<input type="checkbox"/> Object fell in or onto equipment item
41	<input type="checkbox"/> Failed under impact
42	<input type="checkbox"/> Face piece or hose detached
43	<input type="checkbox"/> Exhalation valve inoperative or damaged
44	<input type="checkbox"/> Harness detached or separated
45	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulator failed to operate
46	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulator damaged by contact
47	<input type="checkbox"/> Problem with admissions valve
48	<input type="checkbox"/> Alarm failed to operate
49	<input type="checkbox"/> Alarm damaged by contact
51	<input type="checkbox"/> Supply cylinder or valve failed to operate
52	<input type="checkbox"/> Supply cylinder/valve damaged by contact
53	<input type="checkbox"/> Supply cylinder—insufficient air/oxygen
94	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not fit properly
95	<input type="checkbox"/> Not properly serviced or stored prior to use
96	<input type="checkbox"/> Not used for designed purpose
97	<input type="checkbox"/> Not used as recommended by manufacturer
00	<input type="checkbox"/> Other equipment problem
UU	<input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROBLEM CODES

11	Burned.
12	Melted.
21	Fractured, cracked, or broke.
22	Punctured.
23	Scratched.
24	Knocked off.
25	Cut or ripped.
31	Trapped steam or hazardous gas.
32	Insufficient insulation.
33	Object fell in or onto equipment item.
41	Failed under impact.
42	Face piece or hose detached.
43	Exhalation valve inoperative or damaged.
44	Harness detached or separated.
45	Regulator failed to operate.
46	Regulator damaged by contact.
47	Problem with admissions valve.
48	Alarm failed to operate.
49	Alarm damaged by contact.
51	Supply cylinder or valve failed to operate.
52	Supply cylinder or valve damaged by contact.
53	Supply cylinder contained insufficient air or oxygen.
94	Did not fit properly.
95	Not properly serviced or stored prior to use.
96	Not used for designed purpose.
97	Not used as recommended by manufacturer.
00	Protective equipment problem, other.
UU	Undetermined.

K⁴ Equipment Manufacturer, Model, and Serial Number*Definition*

This block identifies the specific equipment that failed.

Manufacturer is to the name of the company that made the piece of equipment.

Model is to the manufacturer's model name. If one does not exist, use the equipment's common physical description.

Serial Number is to the manufacturer's serial number that is generally stamped on an identification plate on the equipment. Lot number may also be used here if no serial number is available.

Purpose

These data elements provide detailed information on the specific equipment that failed and contributed to the injury. Data on model and other information are useful in determining the compliance with standards for protective equipment involved in firefighting and for analyzing the effectiveness of these codes, standards, and regulations.

Entry

Enter the manufacturer's name, the model name, and the serial number.

- The actual length of each of these three fields is 12 characters. Complete as much as possible to provide a positive identification.

Example

The face piece that melted was a Lingo Model 23-001, serial number 147AC01.

K₄	Equipment Manufacturer, Model, and Serial Number
	<input type="text" value="Lingo Inc."/> Manufacturer
	<input type="text" value="23-001"/> Model
	<input type="text" value="1 4 7 A C 0 1"/> Serial Number