

Freedom of Information request reference number: 8518.1

Date of response: 14/03/2024

Request:

We are currently conducting broad academic research regarding fire services and their operational activity. As part of our research, we rely on public data provided by authorities such as yours.

Could you please assist us by providing information on the following aspect of fire service operations:

Are activities such as maintenance, garage time, or any other periods of downtime indicated in the data you provide? By "downtime," we refer to times when a fire engine is not operational and cannot be dispatched for reasons unrelated to its duties (excluding cases where a spare vehicle is available). If such information is not included in the data, could you please provide insights into the frequency of such downtimes, if they exist?

Response:

We do record 'Off the run' pumps in three categories as 'Defective', 'No crew' and 'Not available' on our system.

Please find a table below for number of occurrence and time duration in total hours by year and these categories from 2016 to 2023.

Year	Defective		No Crew		Not Available	
	Occurrence	Total hours	Occurrence	Total hours	Occurrence	Total hours
2016	5,960	8,006	32,008	760	25,566	35,242
2017	5,621	7,696	17,215	591	27,621	45,792
2018	6,093	8,587	1,331	778	29,498	40,505
2019	6,874	9,036	1,941	1,330	31,031	30,916
2020	5,743	7,345	1,806	1,019	28,489	41,810
2021	5,058	7,103	1,676	965	41,056	155,392
2022	4,978	7,248	2,305	1,320	42,489	174,579
2023	3,884	5,625	1,948	1,114	38,318	145,448

Please note, we don't have any data for "excluding cases where a spare vehicle is available" as we mobilise nearest available pump.

We have dealt with your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. For more information about this process please see the guidance we publish about making a request on our website:

<https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/about-us/transparency/request-information-from-us/>