



LONDON FIRE BRIGADE

London Fire Brigade Headquarters  
169 Union Street London SE1 0LL  
T 020 8555 1200 F 020 7960 3602  
Textphone 020 7960 3629  
london-fire.gov.uk

**Freedom of Information request reference number: FOIA 8667.1**

**Date of response: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Request:**


1. Total number of fire fatalities for each of the years from 2019 until 2024, split into risk groups, specifying which groups, e.g., Hoarding behaviours; inappropriate smoking; people under the influence of alcohol; people who used emollient creams; people who lived alone; ex-military. Please provide your response broken down by year.
2. For each of the years from 2019 until 2024, for the 31st of March in each year. please provide the number of properties/premises in your area with a Clutter Image Rating (CIR) of 6 or above.

**Response:**

Please see the reply covering each of the two questions below:

1. *Total number of fire fatalities for each of the years from 2019 until 2024, split into risk groups, specifying which groups, e.g., Hoarding behaviors; inappropriate smoking; people under the influence of alcohol; people who used emollient creams; people who lived alone; ex-military. Please provide your response broken down by year.*

LFB does not split fire fatalities into specific risk groups therefore this data does not exist at this level, but we can cover the topics above on an individual basis:

- Hoarding behaviors – this is recorded in IMS. This will use any incident which featured a clutter image rating of five or above as this is classed as a safeguarding issue as per  [policy 829](#) section 5.17
- Inappropriate smoking – Smoking related fires are recorded in IMS but LFB do not record data on if the smoking is “inappropriate”. This data also does not mean the fatality is a smoker themselves.
- Under the influence of alcohol – this data is recorded in IMS.
- People who use emollient creams – recorded through free text only therefore some incidents may be missed.
- People who lived alone – this is recorded in IMS but is based on assumption by crews and not evidenced.
- Ex-military – No recorded data in IMS covers the job history of the fatality.

Between 2019 and 2024 to date there have been 207 fire fatalities.

Year	Fire Fatalities	Hoarding (CIR Level 5 & Above)	Lone person under pensionable age	Smoking Related	Alcohol Related	Emollient creams
2019	36	0	6	10	13	0
2020	30	1	16	7	9	1
2021	50	4	15	11	14	1
2022	32	5	13	9	13	1
2023	44	5	13	11	9	0
2024*	15	2	4	4	4	0
*To date						

2. For each of the years from 2019 until 2024, for the 31st of March in each year. please provide the number of properties/premises in your area with a Clutter Image Rating (CIR) of 6 or above

LFB do not have a record of the number of properties, as of right now or at a point in time, that had hoarding. When hoarding is found to be present at a property through the home fire safety visit process (HFSV) or through an incident this is recorded as free text on the Operational Risk Database (ORD) as free text. This data is poor quality and won't answer the question above. To try and help answer the question LFB have looked through both the HFSV data and incident data to provide the following:

#### HFSVs

CIR ratings were not collected for properties via the HFSV process until after COVID in 2021. The data below only covers properties that were visited through this process between 2021 and 2024 (to date) where a hoarding level of 5 or above was recorded. Please note it is possible to visit a property on multiple occasions, so this list covers the number of HFSVs that took place and not singular properties that were visited.

Year	HFSVs
2021	593
2022	801
2023	862
2024	295

#### Incidents

The below table shows the number of fires where hoarding at a level 6 or above was also recorded. This data started to be collected in 2020.

Year	Incidents
2020	22
2021	104
2022	98
2023	80
2024	38

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](#).