



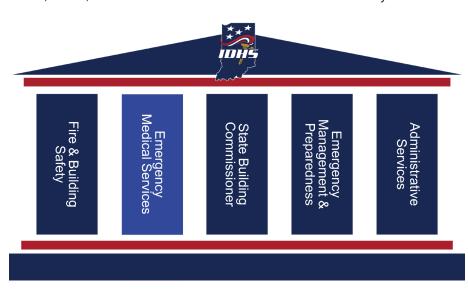
2023 ANNUAL REPORT

IDHS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DIVISION



A MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR KRAIG KINNEY

EMS is its own division at IDHS, one of the five pillars of the agency! This announcement at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference on September 13, 2023, was THE news for EMS at the state level this year.



EMS regulation has been circulated among several divisions at IDHS since its formation in 2005 but also was part of other bodies like SEMA and PSTI, after being separated from direct oversight by the Indiana EMS Commission.

While nurtured under the Division of Fire & Building Safety for more than a decade, the significance of EMS as an independent function and increasing status as public health component since COVID supported the need to elevate EMS in Indiana.

The reclassification of EMS within IDHS was just one facet of the continued EMS evolution.

In the 2023 General Assembly, legislators provided \$6.4 million per year (for two years) for IDHS EMS Readiness funding. This is the first known direct funding of EMS in Indiana, and it showed significant support from the legislature. The EMS Readiness funding was a direct consequence of the Governor's Public Health Commission in 2022.

Contemporaneously with our EMS division announcement, our office announced the formation of the "Indiana EMS Vision 2025" workgroup consisting of EMS stakeholders from various state agencies and EMS advocacy groups.

The EMS Vision 2025 project seeks to expand and improve EMS in Indiana going forward from 2025, with a projected completion date for a recommendation report in the summer of 2024.

Another major project that the EMS division engaged in with the support of the Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) is the <u>workforce study</u> through a partnership with the IU Bowen Center for Health Workforce. The final report provides insights to the challenges facing Indiana EMS. It can be found on the Bowen Center site or on the IDHS website.

2023 saw some personnel changes in the Indiana EMS office:

- Kari Lanham was promoted to EMS education and training coordinator from her district manager position.
- Travis Clary was hired as the northwest district manager (Districts 1,2).
- Emily Castor was hired as the mobile integrated healthcare coordinator.
- Ashely Johnson was hired as the senior certifications specialist. Both Candice Pope and Kristine Kruger departed the certifications section after years of service.
- Zach Westfall transferred from the Fire & Public Safety Academy to join the EMS Division as an EMS field training manager.

Proud of these accomplishments in 2023, Indiana EMS looks to the new year as another opportunity to grow in collaboration with the EMS Commission and other partner organizations. Implementation of the Health First EMS Readiness funding will be a key priority. Completing the work of the Indiana EMS 2025 recommendations also will be important. Besides those key projects, other initiatives that improve Hoosier EMS will be advanced such as the Handtevy Pediatric Resuscitation system. All updates on these projects can be found on the EMS Division page on the IDHS website.

We are Indiana EMS because of what each EMS clinician contributes, and, because of that, we are making strides in enhancing EMS across the state. Thank you for the jobs you do.

Respectfully,

Kraig Kinney | State EMS Director



IDHS ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS

DIRECTOR KINNEY REPRESENTATION

- ◆ Indiana EMS Commission Ex Officio member
- Indiana Mobile Integrated Healthcare Committee, chairperson
- ◆ Indiana EMS Education Workgroup
- ◆ Indiana EMS Association Board Ex Officio member
- ◆ EMS Compact Indiana Commissioner
 - Chairperson
 - Bylaws and Rules Committee
- National Association of EMS Officials (NASEMSO)
 - · Great Lake's Regional Chairperson
 - Member of the Board of Directors and at-large member of the executive committee
- ◆ National Registry of EMTs (NREMT)
 - State Advisory Council member
 - Appointed to four-year term on board of directors (2023-2027)



CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- ◆ April 25-26 FDIC Conference
 - Director Kinney participated by invitation to the EMS Innovations preconference
- ◆ July 15 Supporting Heroes Gala in Owensboro, Kentucky
 - · Jason Smith and Lee Turpen participated
- September 11-15 Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC), Indianapolis
 - A keynote was Dr. Eric Yazel with "Public Health and EMS-What's Up with EMS?"
 - Yazel also conducted a final day "New Medical Directors Class"
 - Director Kinney presented on "Legal Challenges for EMS in 2023"
 - EMS Education and Training Coordinator Kari Lanham presented on "Fatigue in EMS"
 - Director Kinney co-presented EMS and fire awards at the IERC Banquet alongside the Indiana Fire Marshal, per tradition
 - EMS staff coordinated a vendor booth in the Exhibit Hall during the conference



- Oct. 24-25 National Association of State EMS
 Officials Great Lakes Regional Meeting hosted by
 Michigan state office in Kalamazoo
 - Director Kinney, EMS Operations Chief Robin Stump, EMS Education and Training Chief Kari Lanham, Mobile Integrated Healthcare Coordinator Emily Castor, and EMS/Fire Data Manager Ken Foster all attended
- ◆ Sept. 18-22 EMS World Expo. New Orleans, Louisiana
 - Director Kinney and MIH Coordinator Emily Castor participated in the MIH Summit preconference.
 - Director Kinney was one of five state EMS directors to participate in State EMS Systems-Discussion Panel
- Nov. 30-Dec. 1 Indiana EMS Association/ Emergency Nurses Association Conference, French Lick, Indiana
 - Director Kinney presented on "Care Enough for Ourselves: Well-being for Healthcare Workers"
 - EMS staff coordinated a vendor booth in the Exhibit Hall during the conference
 - EMS staff operated the Fire & Public Safety Academy's new driving simulator for attendees to experience







EMS COMMISSION

EMS COMMISSION MEETINGS HIGHLIGHTS

- ♦ Jan. 13:
 - The Commission heard standard reports and approved MIH programs.
- March 8:
 - The Commission heard standard reports and approved MIH programs.
- May 12:
 - The Commission approved draft rules to 836 Indiana Administrative Code to require criminal background checks based upon fingerprints for all new applicants for EMT, advanced EMT and paramedic levels.

July 14:

- The Commission approved advanced EMT student minimum competencies (SMC).
- The Commission voted to make no changes to the current advanced EMT scope of practice (a repeat request to expand the scope of practice to include cardiac monitoring was rejected after a thorough committee review).
- The Commission voted to approve an amended non-rule policy for Continuing Education quidelines.

• Sept. 13:

- A meeting was held in conjunction with the Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC).
- Director Kinney announced that IDHS had established EMS as its own division, one of the five core
 pillars of the agency.
- The Commission approved a new MOU with Office of Administrative Legal Proceedings for delineation of responsibilities for the EMS Commission appeals.
- The Commission approved a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the mobile integrated healthcare grant funding as established under IC 16-31-12-4 and funded by the State Budget for FY2024.

♦ Nov. 29:

- A meeting held in conjunction with the EMS Association/ENA Conference.
- The Commission voted to accept an invitation to participate in the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association annual conference in June 2024.
- The Commission approved MIH grants totaling \$500,000 with eight (8) EMS organizations awarded their full request and another receiving partial funding.
- The Commission was briefed on the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse and IDHS planning tools.
- State EMS Medical Director presented a clarification document to address FAQ related to the approved EMS scope of practice and received assent to proceed.



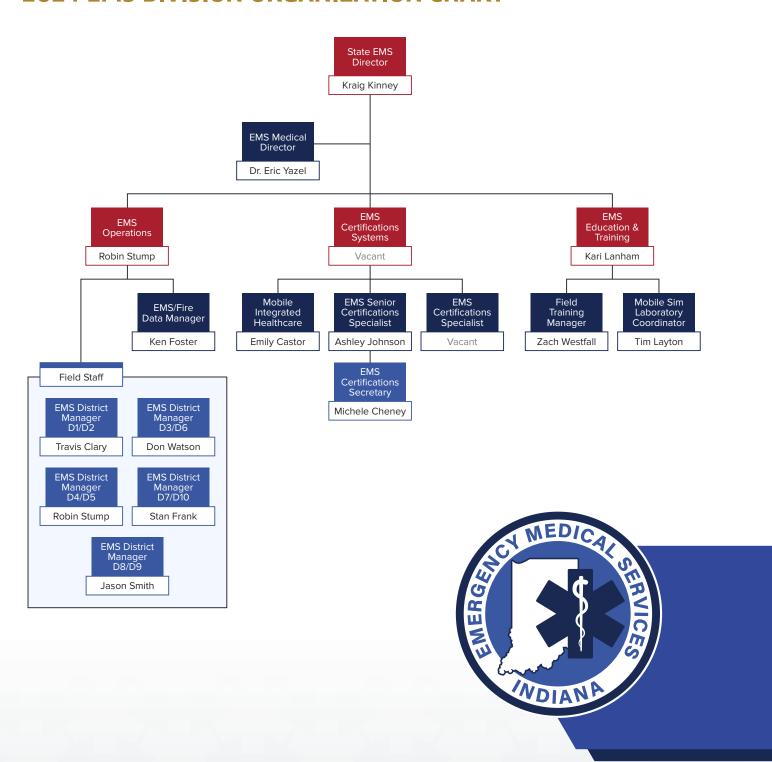
CURRENT APPOINTMENTS TO THE EMS COMMISSION

- ◆ Matthew McCullough Volunteer Fire Department, Terre Haute
- ◆ Darin Hoggatt Municipal Fire Services, Greenwood
- ◆ Mary Ann Dudley Volunteer EMS, Carlisle
- ◆ G. Lee Turpen Private Ambulance Services, Evansville
- ◆ **John Zartman** Paramedics, Lafayette Reappointment
- ◆ **Dr. Jim Nossett** Emergency Physicians, Indianapolis
- ◆ VACANT Hospital Ambulance Service
- ◆ Andrew Bowman Emergency Nurses, Indianapolis
- ◆ **Dr. Sara Brown** Trauma Care, Fort Wayne
- ◆ **Jerry Harder** Emergency Medical Technicians, Brownsburg
- ◆ VACANT Public Representative
- ◆ Matt Shady ALS Training Institution Program, Fort Wayne
- ◆ **Joel Thacker** IN Department of Homeland Security, Indianapolis
- ◆ Lori Mayle Air Ambulance, Indianapolis

Commission appointments are effective as of Sept. 15, 2023. Members will serve until Sept. 30, 2026.

IDHS EMS STAFF OVERVIEW

2024 EMS DIVISION ORGANIZATION CHART



IDHS EMS POSITIONS



Kraig Kinney, State EMS Director

 Designated by IDHS to supervise the EMS Division and handle all operational aspects of EMS for the State of Indiana. This position is the State representative for national EMS organizations.

Dr. Eric Yazel, State EMS Medical Director

 Statutory position appointed by the IDHS Executive Director. Serves to provide systems of quality patient care, model guidelines, statewide quality assurance and statewide EMS advocacy.





Robin Stump, Operations Section Chief

 Responsible for the supervision of the district managers and support for EMS organizations including organization certifications.

Ashley Johnson, Senior EMS Certifications Specialist

• Responsible for the operations of all individual certifications, criminal history reviews and the audit program.





Kari Lanham, EMS Education & Training Coordinator

 Responsible for guidance to training institutions and primary instructors as well as all EMS course offerings in Indiana.

EMS District Managers (**Travis Clary, Don Watson, Robin Stump, Jason Smith, Stan Frank, Travis Clary**)

 Responsible for providing resources or information and guidance on EMS issues in assigned district(s). The district managers participate in many local events, including meetings and trainings, in their assigned districts.





Ken Foster, EMS & Fire Data Manager

 Responsible for the system of collecting and processing of EMS and fire data from EMS and fire providers in Indiana.

Emily Castor, Mobile Integrated Healthcare Coordinator

• Responsible for guidance and oversight of Indiana's mobile integrated health programs.





Tim Layton, Mobile Simulation Laboratory Coordinator

 Responsible for all mobile Sim Lab operations and trainings and handles special EMS training initiatives.

2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION IMPACTS ON EMS

HEA 1321 — PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING

- Will require the EMS Commission to create the following:
 - Training for initial certification EMS courses that address mental health and wellness, including:
 - · Healthy coping skills to preserve mental health
 - Recognition of symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder and signs of suicidal behavior
 - Information on mental health resources available

Status: Indiana EMS staff is working with the Fire & Public Safety Academy on training offerings to address this important legislation.

HEA 1396 — STOP THE BLEED PROGRAM AND FUND

This legislation created a Stop the Bleed Fund that is administered by IDHS and may distribute grants for Stop the Bleed kits and provide education related to the program. The fund and program are created; however, no dollars were allocated. The program is not currently active.



CURRENT INITIATIVES



EMS READINESS FUNDING

HEA 1001 approved funding for EMS for the fiscal years of 2024 and 2025 with roughly \$6.4 million per fiscal year.

- Special programs funded by EMS Readiness:
 - Bowen Center workforce initiative complete report
 - ACADIS system certification updates to allow continuing education tracking
 - · Handtevy Pediatric Solutions program for Indiana
 - On-line test preparation packages for all new EMT students
 - New simulation trailer for statewide training requests
- Grant opportunities from the funding (allocated):
 - Equipment Grants \$1,500,000
 - Training Grants (initial certification) \$1,400,000
 - Instructor Development \$100,000



INDIANA EMS VISION 2025 PROJECT

Purpose: To gather EMS stakeholders for a discussion and production of recommendations of what EMS in Indiana should look like in 2025 and beyond.

Goal: To formulate recommendations that can be used at IDHS, the EMS Commission, the Governor's Office or even with new legislative initiatives. This work seeks to enhance EMS in Indiana. Recommendations may be items to address by 2025, but they also could be items that are initiated by 2025.

Method: A report that contains specific recommendations for the baseline of EMS services and recommendations for improvements to the EMS system.

Focus Areas:

EMS Funding

EMS Workforce

EMS Education & Careers

EMS Safety

EMS Operations

EMS EMS Essential Function

Membership:

- ◆ State EMS Director
 - Kraig Kinney
- State EMS Director Emeritus
 - Michael Garvey
- State EMS Medical Director
 - Dr. Eric Yazel, M.D.
- State EMS Medical Director (Prior)
 - Dr. Michael Kaufmann, M.D.
- Indiana Department of Homeland Security
 - Joel Thacker, Executive Director
- ◆ Indiana EMS Commission
 - · Lee Turpen, Chairperson
 - Darin Hoggatt, Vice-Chairperson
 - · Andrew Bowman, Member
- ◆ Indiana State Fire Marshal
 - Steve Jones
- ◆ Governor's Staff Liaison
 - Rachel Ehlich
- Indiana Department of Health
 - Dr. Lindsay Weaver, M.D.
 - · Alt. Dr. Guy Crowder
 - · Alt. Brian Busching
- Indiana Family & Social Services Administration (FSSA)
 - Dr. Dan Rusyniak, M.D.
- ◆ Indiana Statewide 911 Board
 - Jeff Schemmer
- ♦ Ivy Tech Community College
 - Dr. Matt Connell, Ed. D.
 - Alt. Matt Shady

- Indiana Emergency Services for Children
 - Dr. Lindsay Haut
- Indiana Hospital Association
 - Andy Van Zee
- ◆ Indiana Rural Health Administration
 - Cara Veale
- Indiana EMS Association
 - Nate Metz
 - · Alt. Gary Miller
- ◆ Indiana Fire Chief's Association
 - Jarrod Sights
 - Alt. Danny Sink
- Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association
 - Tom Fentress
- Indiana Professional Firefighters Union
 - Tony Murray, President
 - · Alt. Patrick Hutchison
- National Association of EMS Physicians
 - Dr. Stephanie Gardner, Indiana Chapter President
- National Association of EMTS (NAEMT)
 - Jason Scheiderer, Indiana Chapter
 President
- ◆ Indiana Insurance Representative
 - Keith Mason
- National Association of State EMS Officials (ex-officio/advisory capacity)
 - Dia Gainor, Executive Director

EMS VISION 2025 — 2023 PROGRESS

- Sept. 26:
 - Inaugural meeting with introductions, agenda decisions and preliminary thoughts on the main agenda categories
- Nov. 17:
 - · Meeting with draft recommendations in agenda categories of EMS Operations and EMS Safety

HONORARY RECOGNITIONS

EMS HONORARY RECOGNITIONS PRESENTED IN 2023

- Cardiac Arrest Saves:
 - **53** awarded
 - Awarded for participation in a successful resuscitation of a cardiac arrest patient with little to no neurological deficits.
- Stork Award:
 - 83 awarded
 - Awarded for participation in childbirth delivery in the field.
- Certificate of Appreciation:
 - 8 awarded
 - Awarded for events like milestone work anniversaries and special project/ performance recognition.
- Retirement Status:
 - 14 awarded
 - Awarded upon retirement of the certification/licensure. (Note: Numbers are low because requestors may not have utilized the system and may have worked with a staff member.)
- ◆ Emeritus Status:
 - **5** awarded
 - Awarded to individuals that retire and have made significant contributions to their area.
- ◆ State EMS Director's Award:
 - **5** awarded
 - Awarded at the discretion of the State EMS Director for special achievements.
 - · Recipients:
 - William Stacy Mabrey, Troy Morgan, Anthony Taylor, Marissa Janae Mallo and Charles "Chuck" Valentine
- ♦ Honorary Lifetime Certification:
 - 2 awarded
 - Awarded to non-EMS-certified persons that make significant contributions to EMS or are involved in heroic actions for an EMS incident.
 - Recipients
 - · Patrick Scoleri, Division Chief
 - Awarded for 30-plus years of service across multiple agencies.
 - David G. Anderson
 - A promising EMT student with Redline Academy who passed away a month prior to passing his EMT course. David also was a member of the Northwest Fire Department in New Paris, OH.





EMS STAR OF LIFE DESIGNATIONS

Awarded for line-of-duty deaths as determined by the department and active-duty deaths. Dates listed in this section indicate the date in 2023 that the recipient passed away.

Kurt Mathews

- Delaware County EMS
- May 4

Kyle Osgood

- Farmland Volunteer Fire Department
- May 25

♦ Michael Wilcox

- Starke County EMS
- August 5



2023 CERTIFICATIONS AND COMPLIANCE SUBSECTION

INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATIONS AUDIT INFORMATION

- ★ 889 total audits in 2023
 - 782 Total approved audits
 - 107 Did not turn in paperwork

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS BREAKDOWN

- **52** administrative sanctions issued in 2023 (up from 17 in 2022)
 - 49 personnel sanctions issued
 - 20 Letters of reprimand
 - **14** 2-year probation
 - 1 1-year probation
 - 2 Emergency suspension
 - 4 Revocation
 - 2 Denial order
 - 1 Desist order
 - 3 Censure
 - 2 Rescinded
 - · 3 organization sanctions issued

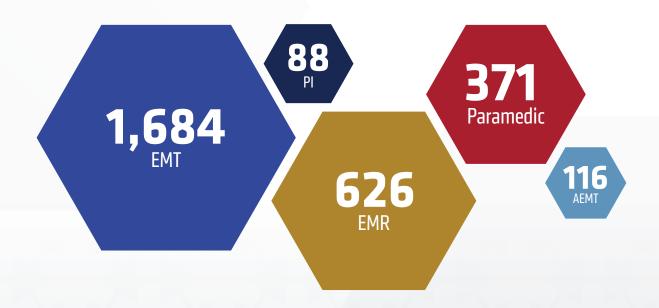
PERSONNEL WAIVERS ISSUED BREAKDOWN

- 10 personnel waivers issued in 2023 (down from 104 in 2022 due to blanket Primary Instructor waiver)
 - None denied. Approved waivers include:
 - W0005-2023 was a blanket waiver for all Primary Instructor candidates not to have to test the EMT practical and written exams
 - 3 Requirements for regaining reacquire PI certification
 - 4 Extensions of time for continuing education
 - 1 Extension of time for Primary Instructor testing
 - 1 Waiver to allow EMT student to challenge EMR

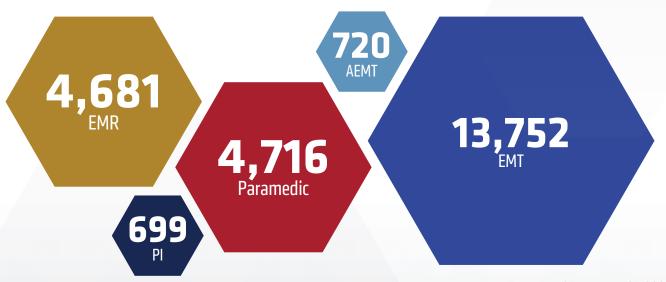
MILITARY RECIPROCITY FOR EMT

◆ 17 applied/are certified

NEW CERTIFICATIONS ISSUED BY LEVEL



TOTAL CERTIFICATIONS BY LEVEL - 24,568



RETENTION RATES & NET GROWTH

◆ **2,409** EMR certifications eligible for renewal

652 expired

1,757 renewed (**72.9%** retention)

New certifications issued

626 issued

-1.1% – Net growth

• 9,433 EMT certifications eligible for renewal

1,489 expired

7,944 renewed (**84.2**% retention)

New cerifications issued

1,684 issued

+2.0% - Net growth

◆ 275 AEMT certifications eligible for renewal

55 expired

220 renewed (**80.0**% retention)

New certifications issued

116 issued

+22.2% - Net growth

◆ 2392 paramedic certifications eligible for renewal

204 exp.

2,188 renewed (**91.5**% retention)

New certifications issued

371 issued

+7.0% - Net growth

• 331 primary instructor certifications eligible for renewal

50 expired

281 renewed (**84.9**% retention)

New certifications issued

88 issued

+11.5% - Net growth

2023 OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS OVERVIEW

- ◆ 83 total audits
- ◆ 107 total inspections
- Complaints
 - 138 Received and investigated
 - 85 Currently open as of Dec. 31, 2023
- Waiver orders
 - 31 Total provider waivers
 - 17 Waivers regarding 24/7 requirement
 - 11 Waivers regarding staffing of ambulance during transport
 - 2 Waivers regarding ambulance marking/EMS numbers
 - 1 Total training institution waivers

ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATION STATS (AS OF DEC. 31, 2023)

1,201 TOTAL PROVIDER ORGANIZATIONS

295 – Transporting Ambulance Service Providers

575 – BLS non-transport providers

98 - BLS transport providers

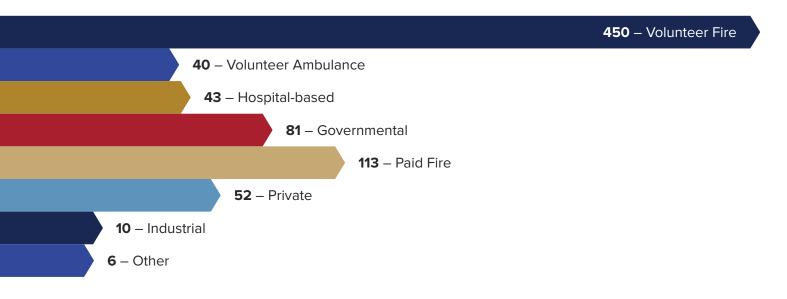
215 – Paramedic provider organizations

14 - Rotorcraft organizations

4 - Fixed-wing organizations



PROVIDERS ORGANIZATION BY TYPE



2,524 CERTIFIED VEHICLES BY TYPE

– Type I (Ambulance)

– Type II (Ambulance)

1,010 – Type III (Ambulance)

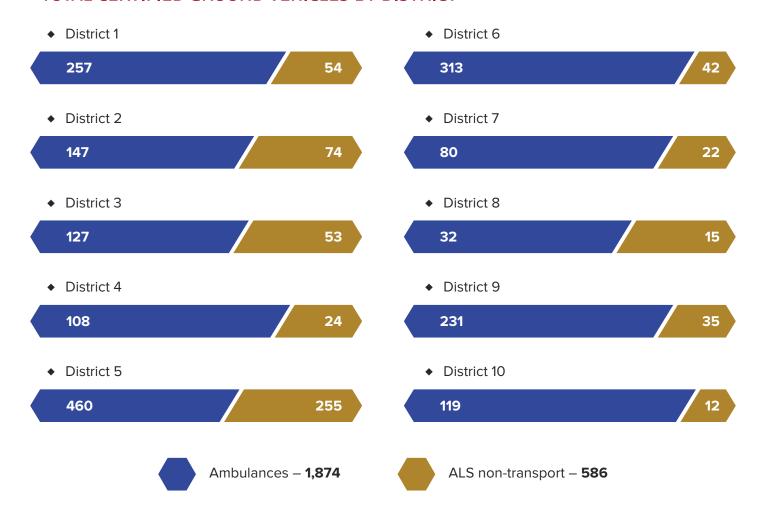
– ALS Non-transport

59 - Rotorcraft

– Fixed-wing



TOTAL CERTIFIED GROUND VEHICLES BY DISTRICT



2023 EMS & FIRE RUN DATA

EMS COMPLIANCE

- ◆ 306 EMS agencies required to report
- **99.7**% reporting percentage (305/306)

EMS INCIDENT COUNT

- ◆ 2023 **1,207,983**
- ◆ 2022 **1,214,789**
- ◆ 2021 **1,247,452**
- ◆ 2020 **1,070,261**

TOP 4 EMS INCIDENT CALL TYPES

- 1. Pain 62,963 (5.2%)
- 2. Injury 48,963 (4.1%)
- 3. Respiratory 40,125 (3.3%)
- 4. Altered mental status 26,513 (2.2%)

EMS 911 AVERAGE INCIDENT TIMES

- 8.1 minutes response time
- ◆ 16.3 minutes scene time
- ◆ 13.5 minutes transport time

IMAGETREND TICKETS

◆ 174 tickets resolved

FIRE COMPLIANCE

- ◆ 832 fire agencies required to report
- ▶ 77.0% reporting percentage (639/832)

FIRE INCIDENT COUNT

- ◆ 2023 **617,578**
- ◆ 2022 569,546
- ◆ 2021 **682,905**
- 2020 544,043

TOP 4 FIRE INCIDENT CALL TYPES*

- 1. EMS 318,092 (53.0%)
- 2. Cancelled en route 52,412 (8.7%)
- 3. False alarm 13,716 (2.3%)
- 4. Person assist (incl. lifting asst.) 12,023 (2.0%)

FIRE 911 AVERAGE INCIDENT TIMES

- ◆ 7.3 minutes response time
- ◆ 26.6 minutes scene time

^{*}Building fire (6th most frequent) - 7,365 (1.2%)



MIH OVERVIEW

Emily Castor started her role as MIH Coordinator in January. Since then, Emily has made many site visits across the state, alongside Director Kinney and Dr. Eric Yazel. Director Kinney and Emily attended the Indiana Emergency Response Conference, EMS World Expo in New Orleans and the Midwest Region NASEMSO meeting.

- MIH Advisory Committee meetings were held six times in 2023.
 - Director Kinney is chairperson of the committee with Dr. Yazel as a key member of the committee.
- Director Kinney and Emily also have hosted quarterly MIH meetings as well as the implementation of MIH subcommittees: Individual Credentialing, Organization Credentialing and Sustainability.
- The EMS Commission approved 14 MIH programs, which could make them eligible for Medicaid reimbursement in the future and denied one program. Those approved in 2023 included:
 - Feb. 10: American Medical Response of Evansville, Hendricks Regional Health, and Wayne Township Fire Department of Indianapolis
 - April 14: Carmel Fire Department, Clark County Health Department, Reid Hospital & Health Services INC., and Wabash Township Volunteer Fire Department
 - June 9: Scott County EMS
 - Aug. 11: Keeping PACE
 - Oct. 13: Greenwood Fire Department and St. John Fire Department
 - Dec. 8: Deaconess EMS, Franciscan Health Crown Point EMS, and Gas City Fire Rescue
- During the recent Legislative Session, Indiana Mobile Integrated Health received \$1 million in grant opportunities over two fiscal years, 2024 and 2025. The Mobile Integrated Healthcare Grant FY2024, totaling \$500,000, was awarded to nine (9) MIH programs across the state:
 - · Bloomington Fire Department, Carmel Fire Department, City of Fishers, City of Richmond Fire Department, Scott Township Fire & EMS, South Bend Fire Department, St. John Fire Department, Wabash Township Fire Department, and White River Township Fire Department.

2023 EMS TRAINING

TRAINING INSTITUTIONS

- ◆ **132** total training institutions
 - 42 BLS training institutions
 - 90 ALS training institutions
- 7 training institutions that did not renew

EMS COURSES

- ◆ **76** EMR approved courses
- ◆ 234 EMT approved courses
- ◆ 20 advanced EMT approved courses
- ◆ 26 paramedic approved courses
- ◆ 70 EVOC
- ◆ **13** primary instructor



PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS

- 154 state EMT practical examinations conducted
- ◆ 43 practical exams covered by EMS section staff
- 30 active state representatives representing all 10 districts
- ◆ Compliance and program interaction
 - 6 audits and inspections

MOBILE SIMULATION LABORATORY

- ◆ **150** deployed sessions, up from 134 in 2022 and 100 in 2021
- ◆ 2.214 individuals trained/educated
 - 113 EMR
 - 1.195 EMT
 - 35 AEMT
 - 782 Paramedic
 - 89 Non-EMS





CPR PROGRAM

- CPR courses offered for government workers in 2023 but was limited due to contract negotiations with CPR organizations
 - 43 state personnel trained in CPR during 2022

IN-HOUSE IDHS EMS CONTINUING EDUCATION

- 33 employees who are EMS certified (EMRs, EMTs, paramedics)
- Monthly education presentation sessions
- Two annual skills practice sessions

2023 NREMT STATE PASS RATES

- 1,414 attempted the EMT exam
 - 60% Pass on first attempt
 - 71% Pass within 3 attempts
- ◆ 120 attempted the Advance exam
 - 58% Pass on first attempt
 - 71% Pass within 3 attempts
- ◆ 143 attempted the Paramedic exam
 - 75% Pass on first attempt
 - 83% Pass within 3 attempts



AN UPDATE FROM DR. ERIC YAZEL, STATE EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

I truly think 2023 will go down in history as a landmark year in EMS for the State of Indiana. EMS was granted its own division in the Department of Homeland Security. The Indiana State Legislature provided first of its kind funding for EMS support in several areas. We started major initiatives in workforce development, mental health support for responders, and pediatric readiness, among numerous other activities. This will set the stage for EMS success for years to come. We move into 2024 with a great deal of momentum.

Personally, one of the primary roles of the State Medical Director is to promote the field of EMS across the state. I was fortunate to be a speaker at several conference in that role:

- ◆ Project Echo Indiana University
- ◆ Deaconess Healthcare EMS Symposium
- ◆ Parkview Health Paramedic Refresher Course
- ◆ Indiana Emergency Responder Conference
- Indiana Healthcare Emergency Management Conference
- ◆ Indiana Rural Health Association Annual Conference
- Collaborating Across Borders Conference
- ◆ Union Health EMS Symposium
- ◆ District 8 Emergency Management Conference
- ◆ IU Health EMS Symposium
- ◆ District 9 Emergency Management Conference

In addition, I am excited to have been chosen to speak at the annual FDIC conference in Indianapolis this April. Hope to see you all there!

Another new educational development I am proud of is the monthly State EMS Inservice. This has proven to be an excellent way to improve statewide communication, recognize outstanding providers, and educate regarding timely EMS topics. This continues to grow month by month and recently surpasses 100 attendees.



Developing community partnerships to promote the Indiana State EMS system is another key aspect of the Medical Director position. I currently serve on the following committees:

- Indiana ACEP Board of Directors
- ◆ Indiana Rural Health Association Board of Directors
- Indiana Primary Health Care Association Public Policy Committee
- Southern Indiana Healthcare Disparities Task Force
- Stroke Consortium of Indiana
- Mobile Integrated Health Advisory Board
- ◆ EMS-Children's Advisory Board
- ◆ Indiana Non-Emergent Transport Committee
- Indiana Neonatal Transport Committee
- Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers Medical Director's Committee
- National Association of EMS Officials Medical Director's Council
- ◆ National Association of Mobile Integrated Health Medical Director's Council

I am truly honored, because of these partnerships, to have been named the Outstanding Public Health Advocate of the Year Award by the Indiana Public Health Association as well as the Region 4 Community Partner of the Year Award by the National Association of Social Workers.

Last but certainly not least, one of my biggest priorities is to ensure I am always in tune with what is going on at the 'boots on the ground' level. My goal was to personally visit all 92 counties as rapidly as possible. The current count is 77. If I haven't visited with you, please reach out. I learn a significant amount of new information every visit, and it is great to get to know the amazing providers we have out in the state.

2024 promises to be an even more exciting year as we implement the funding granted to EMS this last legislative session and plan the future of EMS in our state through the EMS 2025 initiative and countless other efforts. I pledge to continue to work tirelessly to support all these aspects that will allow EMS in the State of Indiana to reach its vast potential. Thank you for your continued support, it is an honor to work with you across the state!

Dr. Eric Yazel

State EMS Medical Director







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