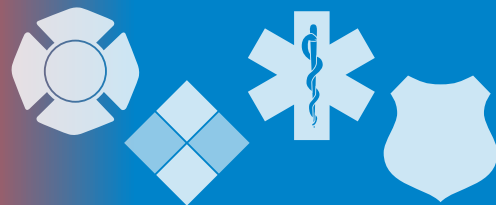


# The InfoGram



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## USFA releases 20th edition of Fire in the United States

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) recently released the 20th edition of "[Fire in the United States](#)." Data and findings presented focus on 2017, though this edition does provide a statistical overview of fire data from 2008-2017.

The United States averaged 1.3 million fires yearly from 2008 and 2017, resulting in an average of 3,190 civilian deaths, over 16,000 civilian injuries and over \$14 billion in direct property loss each year.

Civilian injuries from fires are down over 20 percent in the past 10 years. This shows solid progress and speaks volumes to the success of both public education programs and changes in fire and building codes nationwide.

Civilian deaths are up slightly in the past few years with 3,645 deaths in 2017. In 1974, the year USFA was established, civilian fire deaths were estimated at 12,000. USFA set a goal to reduce this number by half within a generation. By 2012, civilian fire deaths were at 2,855.

The primary data source for this report is the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). Many records submitted to NFIRS by participating fire departments are incomplete. Departments using NFIRS should try to report incidents in a much detail as possible. Doing so helps ensure reports such as these are accurate, which in turn directs resources and funding toward projects that reduce risk.

Please see the entire "[Fire in the United States](#)" for more trends, statistics and a detailed description of data sources and methodology.

(Source: [USFA](#))

## Chinese Novel Coronavirus outbreak makes its way to United States

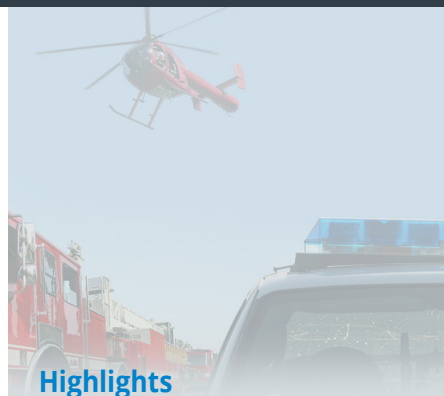
A traveler returning from China to Washington is [the first confirmed case of 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) in the United States](#), according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC began public health entry screenings at several major airports last week and activated its Emergency Operations Center to provide ongoing support.

China first reported this outbreak in December 2019. Reports suggest the outbreak may be linked to animals as most cases have been linked to a large seafood and animal market in Hubei Province. Chinese health officials released the genetic sequence of the virus which enables health officials worldwide to test travelers and track it. China is strictly limiting travel to try to stop the spread.

As of the January 17, 2020, [CDC Health Update](#), the virus also spread to Japan and Thailand.

[Healthcare professionals and labs can review interim guidance and recommendations on the CDC's website](#). Person-to-person spread is happening and all healthcare workers should strictly follow infection control practices:

- Have patients wear surgical masks if they show symptoms.
- Evaluate patients in a private room.



### Highlights

USFA releases 20th edition of Fire in the United States

Chinese Novel Coronavirus outbreak makes its way to United States

Emergency Planning for Behavioral Health facilities

Six-part webinar series covering firefighter cancer risk begins February

### Cyber Threats



U.S. Fire Administration

The U.S. Fire Administration operates the Emergency Management and Response – Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC).

For information regarding the EMR-ISAC visit [www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/emr-isac) or contact the EMR-ISAC office at: (301) 447-1325 and/or [emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:emr-isac@fema.dhs.gov).

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- 🔗 Healthcare workers should use proper PPE to include eye protection.
- 🔗 Notify facility’s infection control personnel and local health department if you have a patient under review for 2019-nCoV.

Visit the [CDC](#) and the [World Health Organization](#) for the most current 2019-nCoV developments and updates.

(Source: [CDC](#))

## Emergency planning for behavioral health facilities

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) offers emergency managers and planners the “[Disaster Planning Handbook for Behavioral Health Treatment Programs](#)” (PDF, 976 KB), part of the Technical Assistance Publication Series. Emergency managers should consider contacting behavioral health treatment facilities within their jurisdiction to make them aware of this guide.

According to the handbook, behavioral health programs provide essential services as outlined in [Emergency Support Function #8](#) and are obligated to prepare for emergencies. The guide specifically targets the special needs of the populations involved, how to identify essential staff and financial considerations.

The intended audience for this planning guide is facility disaster planning team members and any administrators, clinicians, trainers and senior staff who may work as part of such a team during emergencies. This handbook supplies many worksheets to aid the planning process and gives examples of effective processes and best practices.

(Source: [SAMHSA](#))

## Six-part webinar series covering firefighter cancer risk begins February

“[Surviving the Job](#),” a 6-part webinar series on firefighter cancer risk, will kick off on February 18, 2020, with the topic “Exposure Documentation.” This series will run throughout 2020 with a different cancer risk topic every other month.

Recent studies show [firefighters have an increased risk of both incidence of cancer and mortality from cancer](#). This is due in part to carcinogens found on the fireground and the [lack of proper PPE decontamination practices after fire response](#). Prevention and early detection are key to reducing cancer risk. This series covers these topics as well as other important factors.

Future topics and dates:

- 🔗 April 14: Decon Procedures.
- 🔗 June 9: Annual Physicals.
- 🔗 August 11: Changes and New Materials for the Lavender Ribbon Report.
- 🔗 October 13: Cancer from a Survivor’s Perspective.
- 🔗 December 8: Topic yet to be determined.

This webinar series is a collaboration between the National Volunteer Fire Council and the Volunteer and Combination Officers Section of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

(Source: [IAFC](#))

## Cyber Threats

### Analysts question if FBI election cybersecurity is robust enough

The FBI released new guidelines on how it will approach cyberattacks on elections after facing years of criticism from lawmakers across the country for their response to Russian intrusion attempts during the 2016 election.

The new guidelines, explained on a media call last Thursday and in a [press release](#) last Friday, say **the FBI will notify a state's chief election official and other local election workers in the event of any cyberattack.**

(Source: [TechRepublic](#))

### HC3 seeking presenters for cyber threat briefings

**The Health Sector Cybersecurity Coordination Center (HC3) will begin hosting guest speaker threat briefings and are seeking content** from Federal Healthcare Partners and Health and Human Services OpDivs with topics relevant to the Federal Community.

HC3 threat briefings are held every Thursday and are designed as information exchanges, engaging cybersecurity professionals across HHS and federal sector stakeholders in discussions on current cyber threats and response strategies.

HC3 wants ([TLP:WHITE to TLP:AMBER](#)) presentations promoting collaboration and information sharing. They should educate the community about cybersecurity risks and mitigation tactics and provide timely, actionable, user friendly mitigation tactics and resources to increase the security posture of sector partners.

Submit a topic of interest for review and concurrence to [HC3@hhs.gov](mailto:HC3@hhs.gov) with the subject line: "Guest Speaker Proposed Topic." Provide an abstract with the topic/title, describe relevance to Healthcare/Public Health sector and provide several supporting references. The HC3 team will respond within 1-5 business days.

The HC3 team facilitates presentations and organize a rehearsal review session where guest presenters will orally present the information to HC3 staff members for final feedback. Please email [HC3@hhs.gov](mailto:HC3@hhs.gov) with any questions.

(Source: [HHS](#))

### Webinar: Data Breach Myth vs. Reality

As the ever-shifting security and threat landscape continues to evolve, it can be tough to distinguish security fact from fiction. Some common data breach misconceptions can seriously misinform your organization's security strategy.

Data breaches can happen to any organization, so **it's important to understand your organization's risk of a data breach.** But where should you start your assessment? What practical and pragmatic steps can you take?

Register for this live webinar where we touch on three of the most common data breach myths and share some information on why they don't hold up.

(Source: [Data Breach Today](#))

#### Cyber Information and Incident Assistance Links

##### [MS-ISAC](#)

[SOC@cisecurity.org](mailto:SOC@cisecurity.org)  
1-866-787-4722

##### [IdentityTheft.gov](#)

##### [IC3](#)

##### [Cybercrime Support Network](#)

#### General Information Links

##### [FTC scam list](#)

##### [CISA alerts](#)

##### [Law Enforcement Cyber Center](#)

##### [TLP Information](#)

The InfoGram is distributed weekly to provide members of the Emergency Services Sector with information concerning the protection of their critical infrastructures.