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DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND FIRE OFFICES' COMMITTEE
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PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FIRE REPORTS FROM FIRE BRIGADES IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1952.

The results of a preliminary analysis of reports show that during 1952 the Fire Brigades attended approximately 82,400* fires in England and Wales and approximately 8,200 in Scotland. The number of incidents attended by each Fire Brigade is given in Table 1.

In England and Wales, no Fire Service personnel lost their lives but approximately 1,250 were injured: the Fire Service assisted in the rescue of approximately 200 persons from dangerous situations. In Scotland, no Fire Service personnel were killed but approximately 150 were injured: the Fire Service assisted in rescuing approximately 50 persons from dangerous situations. Further details are given in Tables 2 and 3.

* The totals of fires quoted on this page have been rounded off to the nearest hundred, and the totals of non-fatal casualties and of persons rescued to the nearest 50: exact figures will be given in the detailed returns which will be prepared later in the year.

Table 1

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1952

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to 10th March 1953; they are subject to slight revision as further information is received.

Fire Brigade	Number of fires
<u>England and Wales - County Fire Brigades</u>	
Anglesey	76
Bedfordshire	652
Berks. and Reading	909
Brecon Co. and Radnor	108
Buckinghamshire	801
Caernarvonshire	198
Cambridgeshire	418
Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire	288
Cheshire	1,277
Cornwall	543
Cumberland	259
Denbigh and Montgomery	363
Derbyshire	781
Devonshire	804
Dorsetshire	911
Durham Co.	1,389
Ely, Isle of	240
Essex	3,998
Flintshire	232
Glamorgan	898
Gloucestershire	627
Hampshire	1,994
Herefordshire	215
Hertfordshire	1,646
Huntingdonshire	206
Kent and Canterbury	3,946
Lancashire	2,782
Leicestershire and Rutland	400
Lincs. (Holland)	210
Lincs. (Kesteven)	210
Lincs. (Lindsey)	504
London C.C.	7,760
Merioneth	46
Middlesex	4,250
Monmouthshire	322
Norfolk	833
Northamptonshire	401
Northumberland	679
Nottinghamshire	1,043
Oxfordshire	302
Pembrokeshire	125
Peterborough, Soke of	148
Salop	544
Scilly, Isles of	2
Somersetshire	673
Staffordshire	1,028
Suffolk, East, Suffolk, West and Ipswich	983
Surrey	2,818
Sussex, East	856
Sussex, West	653
Warwickshire	963
Westmorland	119
Wight, Isle of	180

Table 1 (contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1952

Fire Brigade	Number of fires
<u>England and Wales - County Fire Brigades</u>	
(contd.)	
Wiltshire	654
Worcester Co. and Worcs. C.B.	760
Yorks. (East Riding)	255
Yorks. (North Riding)	682
Yorks. (West Riding)	2,476
<u>England and Wales - County Borough Fire Brigades</u>	
Barnsley	116
Barrow in Furness	117
Bath	180
Birkenhead	408
Birmingham	2,320
Blackburn	162
Blackpool	333
Bolton	243
Bootle	206
Bournemouth	412
Bradford	549
Brighton	286
Bristol	830
Burnley	163
Burton on Trent	58
Bury	144
Cardiff	486
Carlisle	145
Chester	117
Coventry	501
Croydon	401
Darlington	189
Derby	180
Dewsbury	130
Doncaster	174
Dudley	91
Eastbourne	108
East Ham	235
Exeter	141
Gloucester	119
Great Yarmouth	119
Grimsby	207
Halifax	162
Hastings	130
Huddersfield	201
Kingston upon Hull	656
Leeds	828
Leicester	460
Lincoln	230
Liverpool	1,586
Manchester	1,358
Merthyr Tydfil	67
Middlesbrough	238
Newcastle on Tyne and Gateshead	728
Newport (Mon.)	211
Northampton	168
Norwich	224
Nottingham	574

Table 1 (Contd.)

FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES IN
GREAT BRITAIN, 1952

Fire Brigade	Number of fires
<u>England and Wales - County Borough Fire Brigades (Contd.)</u>	
Oldham	187
Oxford	144
Plymouth	353
Portsmouth	402
Preston	241
Rochdale	159
Rotherham	157
St. Helens	114
Salford	338
Sheffield	859
Smethwick and West Bromwich	246
Southampton	442
Southend	265
Southport	144
South Shields	229
Stockport	237
Stoke on Trent	298
Sunderland	336
Swansea	240
Tynemouth	197
Wakefield	95
Wallasey	202
Walsall	184
Warrington	143
West Ham	145
West Hartlepool	117
Wigan	117
Wolverhampton	264
York	192
Total number of fires attended in England and Wales	82,443
<u>Scotland</u>	
Glasgow	2,013
Lanark	756
Central	581
Western	706
South Western	569
South Eastern	1,384
Fife	398
Perth and Kinross	196
Angus	704
North Eastern	659
Northern	241
Total number of fires attended in Scotland	8,207

Table 2

NATURE OF INJURIES OF CASUALTIES IN FIRES ATTENDED BY FIRE BRIGADES
IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1952.

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to 10th March 1953: they are subject to slight revision as further information is received.

* Casualties who suffered shock in addition to another injury have been classified according to the nature of the other injury.

Nature of injury	England and Wales			Scotland		
	Fire Brigades	Other casualties	Total	Fire Brigades	Other casualties	Total
Fatal casualties						
Burns and scalds	-	334	334	-	31	31
Overcome by gas or smoke	-	61	61	-	15	15
Other and undefined injuries	-	185	185	-	3	3
Total	-	580	580	-	49	49
Non-fatal casualties						
Burns and scalds	275	2,741	3,016	25	172	197
Bruises, cuts, abrasions	592	369	961	79	29	108
Dislocations, sprains, fractures	95	42	137	10	5	15
Overcome by gas or smoke	51	87	138	16	22	38
More than one of the above injuries	33	93	126	3	6	9
Shock *	2	282	284	-	30	30
Other and undefined injuries	202	86	288	19	3	22
Total	1,250	3,700	4,950	152	267	419
Total casualties	1,250	4,280	5,530	152	316	468

Table 3

PERSONS RESCUED OR ESCAPED BY EMERGENCY MEANS FROM FIRES ATTENDED BY
FIRE BRIGADES IN GREAT BRITAIN, 1952.

Note: The figures in this table are based on reports received up to
10th March 1953: they are subject to slight revision as further
information is received.

Appliances or methods used	Number of persons	
	England and Wales	Scotland
Rescue with Fire Brigade assistance from		
Aircraft	1	-
Buildings		
Escape (hand operated)	36	-
Ladder, extension	43	7
first floor	13	-
turntable (mechanical)	3	2
other or undefined	24	-
Line	1	-
Oxyacetylene cutting gear	1	-
Other apparatus	6	6
Without apparatus	88	29
Other locations	1	-
Ships	2	1
Total	219	45
Rescue without Fire Brigade assistance from		
Aircraft	6	-
Buildings		
Carried or assisted out	149	38
Jumping sheet	9	2
Ladder [*]	118	3
Lowered from windows, roof, etc.	55	5
Other or undefined methods	52	11
Caravans	10	-
Other locations	4	-
Road vehicles	2	-
Total	405	59
Escape by emergency means from		
Aircraft		
Baled out	20	-
Through exits or from debris	11	-
Method not stated	3	-
Buildings		
Climbing over roof	3	-
Fixed fire escape	20	1
Jumping from upstairs window, roof	70	5
Ladder	1	-
Sliding down drainpipe, sheets, rope, etc.	22	-
Through ground floor windows	17	4
Other or undefined methods	25	2
Caravans	2	-
Road vehicles	3	-
Ships	-	3
Total	197	15
Total persons rescued or escaped	821	119

* Police officers with ladder assisted an unknown number of persons to escape in one other incident.