

The Trend: Medium Risk Incidents

Total Medium Risk Incidents 2008/9 - 2010/11

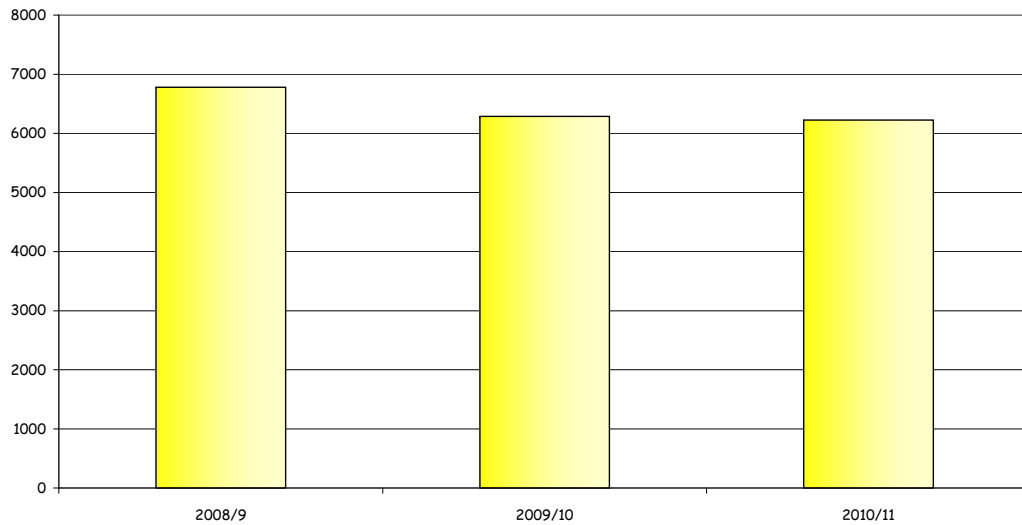


Figure 1: Number of Medium Risk Incidents Reported to and Recorded by WMFS (Including Over The Border Calls) 2008/9 - 2010/11

Breakdown of Medium Risk Category by Incident Type 2010/11

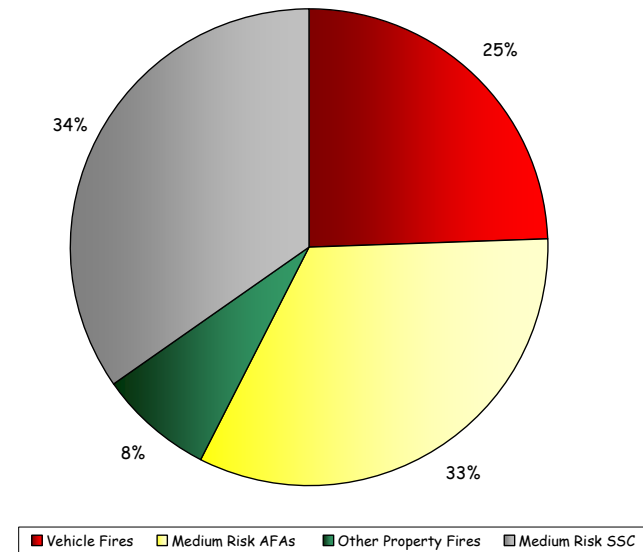


Figure 2: Total Medium Risk Incidents Reported to and Recorded by WMFS (Including Over The Border Calls) 2010/11 Breakdown by Risk Category

- Medium risk incidents have accounted for approximately 17% of total incidents and this has remained stable over the period analysed. Incidents of this nature had by the end of 2010/11 experienced a -8% reduction when compared to financial year 2008/9. This is a trend that has been sustained since 2008/9 although the rate of reduction appears to be slowing down, from -7% in 2009/10 to approximately -1% in 2010/11.
- The majority of incident types within the medium risk category have displayed a decrease when 2010/11 is compared to 2008/9, the most significant being vehicle fires (-21% reduction over 3 years), followed by medium risk special service calls¹ (-14% reduction in 2010/11 when compared to 2008/9 although 2010/11 levels are 15% higher than that reported in 2009/10) other property fires (a -13% reduction over 3 years). The only medium risk incident sub category to have increased over the three years is that of Medium Risk AFA's². By the end of 2010/11 such incidents had experienced a 16% increase and accounted for 33% of all medium risk incidents as opposed to 26% when compared to 2008/9. Despite this increase, 2010/11 levels of medium risk AFAs are -10% lower than the preceding financial year.

¹ Special Service Call - Non fire related emergency for example rescue from entrapment

² Automatic Fire Alarms

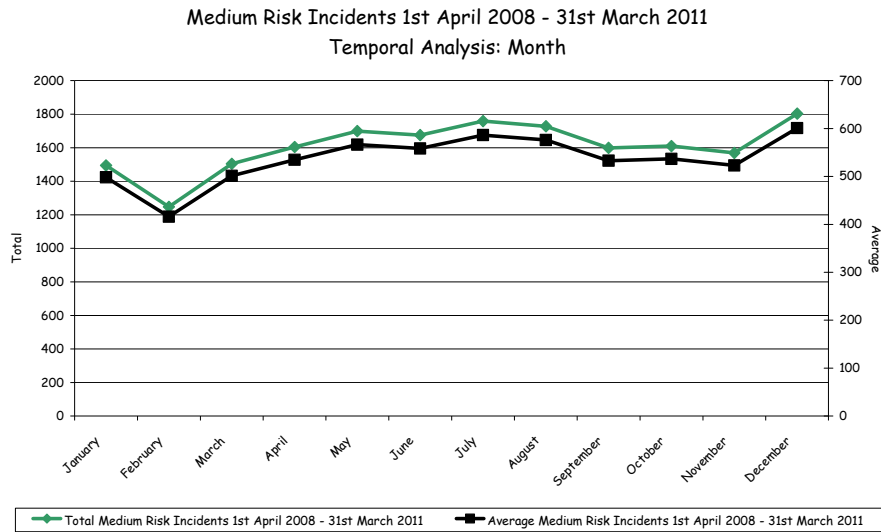


Figure 3: Total Medium Risk Incidents Reported to and Recorded by WMFS (Including Over The Border Calls) 2008/9 - 2010/11 Temporal Analysis by Month

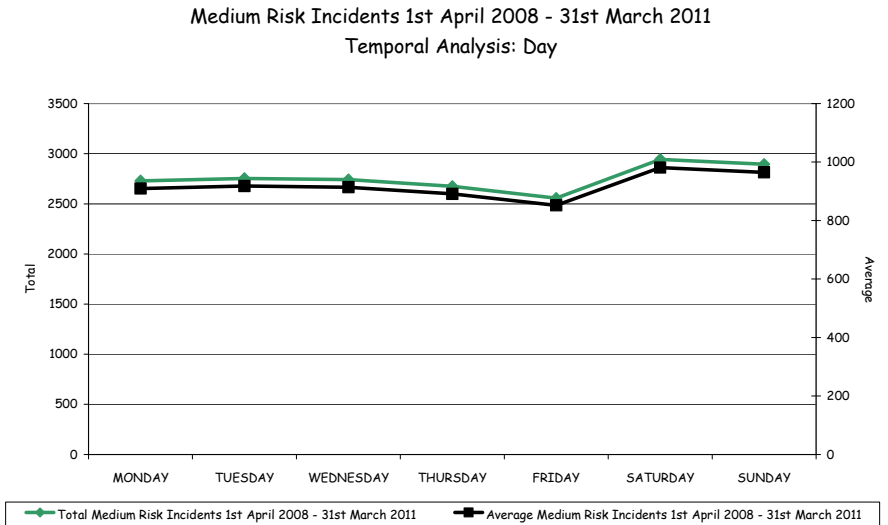


Figure 4: Total Medium Risk Incidents Reported to and Recorded by WMFS (Including Over The Border Calls) 2008/9 - 2010/11 Temporal Analysis by Day

➤ After a low point in February, total medium risk incidents reported to WMFS remain fairly consistent March-November, rising abruptly to their highest levels in December. Levels are stable throughout the week experiencing a slight increment over the weekend periods. Reported medium risk incidents rise sharply between 06:00 - 08.00hrs and then maintain a fairly constant level until 14.00hrs. From this point, levels rise again reaching their highest point between 17.00 - 19.00hrs. From this point medium risk incidents gradually reduce.

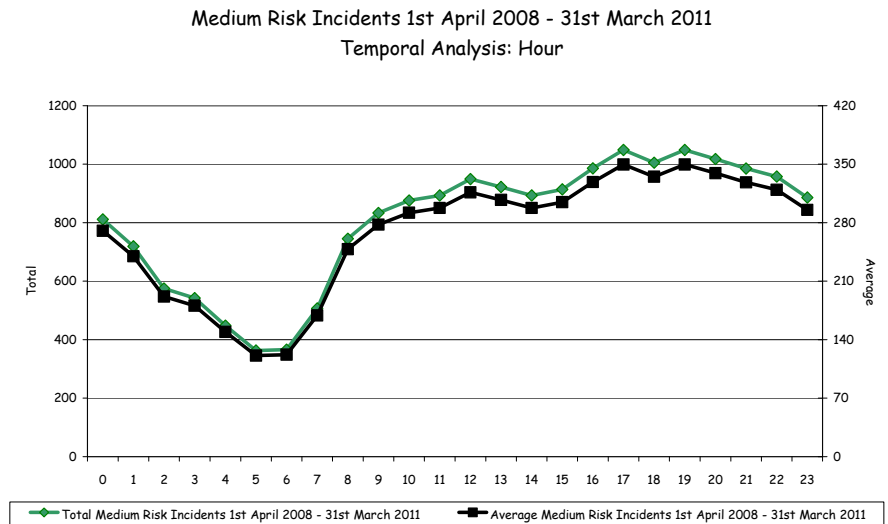
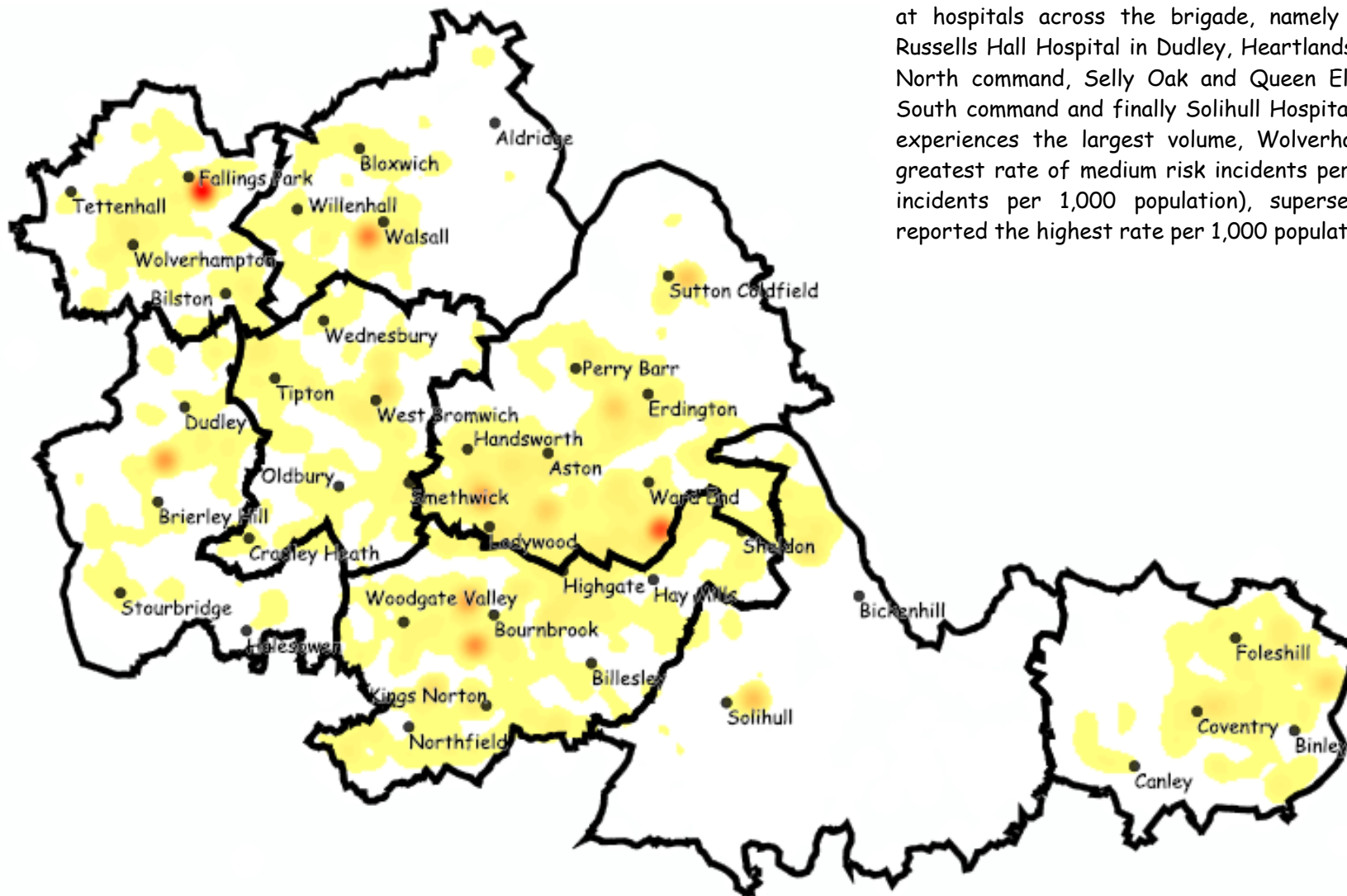


Figure 5: Total Medium Risk Incidents Reported to and Recorded by WMFS (Excluding Over The Border Calls) 2008/9 - 2010/11 Temporal Analysis by Hour

Strategic Hotspot Areas 2008/9 - 2010/11: Medium Risk Incidents

Due to the inclusion of AFAs at hospitals, care home and prisons in this risk category, the hotspots shown on the map are in the main, generated by AFAs at hospitals across the brigade, namely the Manor Hospital in Walsall, Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley, Heartlands and City Hospital in Birmingham North command, Selly Oak and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals in Birmingham South command and finally Solihull Hospital, Solihull. Although Birmingham experiences the largest volume, Wolverhampton actually experienced the greatest rate of medium risk incidents per 1,000 population in 2010/11 (2.9 incidents per 1,000 population), superseding Birmingham command who reported the highest rate per 1,000 population in 2008/9



Commentary: Medium Risk Incidents

- AFAs at hospitals, care homes and prisons are the only medium risk incident sub category to have increased over the three years covered in this report (16%). This is predominantly due to increased alarm activations at care homes across the West Midlands as a whole although it should be noted that some of this increase is potentially attributable to improved recording of types of property as a result of the introduction of the new 'Incident Recording System' from April 2009. Almost 45% of these incidents have occurred in Birmingham North and South commands. AFAs at hospitals have reduced by -16% when 2010/11 is compared to 2008/9 although they still account for the majority of these types of AFAs (approximately 60%).
- The WMFS AFA Project, introduced in January 2011 to change policy and procedures surrounding how WMFS deal with AFA's, has had a significant impact on numbers of overall recorded AFAs (particularly those within the low risk category).
- Although medium risk special service calls have reduced when comparing 2008/9 and 2010/2011, levels in 2010/11 are 15% higher than the previous year (2009/2010). The main reason for this is an increased number of requests for WMFS to attend incidents that involve 'leaks and blockages' an incident grouping that is largely composed of domestic flooding incidents (These have risen by 78%, or 244 incidents). The majority of medium risk special service calls in 2010/11 were composed of requests for assistance at lock in/lock outs (38% compared to 43% in 2009/10) as well as attendance at leaks and blockages (predominantly domestic, 26% in 2010/11 compared to 16 the previous year).