



Northwest Community EMS System Year-end Data for 2020

At the end of each calendar year, the Provider Based Performance Improvement (PBPI) committee provides statistical data for the Northwest Community EMS System. The current Image Trend reporting software provides many canned reports to organize data. During the 2020 calendar year, System members completed a combined 74,479 Patient Care Reports (PCR) which is a decrease of 7.4% over the 2019 calendar year. The reduced call volume is likely due to the Covid-19 pandemic and is consistent with national trends.

All Patients

Table 1	2020		2019		2018		2017	
Total PCR written	74,479		80,392		76,601		72,303	
Male	35,607	48%	36,816	46%	34,841	45%	32,738	46%
Female	38,165	51%	42,397	53%	40,449	53%	37,293	52%
Unknown/ Unable to determine	707	1%						

Pediatric Data 17 and younger

Table 2	2020		2019		2018		2017	
Total PCR written	4,192		5,733		5,646		5,764	
Male	2,184	52%	3,068	53%	3,073	54%	3,088	53%
Female	2,004	48%	2,645	46%	2,548	45%	2,652	46%
Unknown/ Unable to determine	4	0.10%						



Year-End 2020 Data

Disposition

Each PCR is required to contain a Disposition under NEMSIS rules:

“Type of disposition treatment and/or transport of the patient by this EMS Unit.”¹

Table 3

Disposition Incident Patient Disposition (eDisposition.12)	2020 # of Runs	2020 % of Total	2019 # of Runs	2018 # of Runs
Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	27,872	37.43%	31,679	31,671
Treat & Transport BLS by this unit	18,699	25.09%	19,209	18,311
BLS Interfacility	10,459	14.03%	11,213	8,282
Treated, Released (protocol)	4,139	5.55%	3,951	3,596
Treated, Released (AMA)	4,100	5.50%	4,212	4,242
Pt Refused Evaluation/Treatment/Transport	3,426	4.60%	3,690	3,627
Evaluated, No Treatment/Transport Required	1,828	2.45%	1,697	2,072
Treated, Transferred to Other EMS Unit	887	1.19%	1,291	1,391
ALS Interfacility	886	1.19%	918	897
DOA / DNR without Transport	642	0.86%	543	515
Multiple Patient Refusal (MPR)	559	0.75%	958	1,042
Arrest / TOR without Transport	401	0.57%	307	239
Assist, Public	174	0.23%	268	194
M/A Given, Pt Contact/Treatment, Other Unit Transported	131	0.18%	42	0
Other (13 misc. dispositions)	270	0.60%	437	480

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Where we transport

In 2020, system members transported 57,930 (77.7%) patients to various destinations throughout Illinois and surrounding states. This data reflects the findings entered into “Destination/Transferred to”, Name is defined as “and “The destination the patient was delivered or transferred to¹” fields.

NCH is centrally located within the EMS System’s service area and is the closest hospital for some of our busier agencies. Thus it appears to have received a disproportionate number of EMS transports. All System hospitals receive EMS patients from surrounding Systems that are not reflected in these numbers. These data do not reflect the total EMS patients received by any hospital, but only those from NWC EMSS Provider Agencies.

(Blank destination, 11,645 incidents, and “Not Transported”, 4,938 incidents, omitted from total)

Table 4

Total PCRs	74,479			
Total Transports	57,926			
	2020		2019	2018
NWC EMSS Hospitals	# patients received from NWC EMSS	% of total transported patients	# pts received	# pts received
Northwest Community Hospital	17,859	30.8%	19,431	19,005
AMITA Health Alexian Brothers MC	7,921	13.7%	9,231	9,259
AMITA Health St. Alexius MC	5,618	9.7%	6,415	6,321
Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital	3,358	5.8%	3,746	4,093
AMITA Health Glen Oaks MC	2,077	3.6%	2,257	2,228
AMITA Resurrection MC	328	0.5%	189	91
Non-system Hospitals that received the most patients from a NWC EMSS agency				
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital	5,197	9.0%	5,553	5267
NorthShore Glenbrook Hospital	1,192	2.1%	1,390	1,303
Advocate Condell MC	1,167	2.0%	1,412	1449
NorthShore Hospital-Highland Park	697	1.2%	697	650
NM Central DuPage Hospital	304	0.5%	402	424
All other Destinations	12,233	21.1%		

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Primary Impression

Each PCR includes a “Providers Primary Impression” which is the EMS practitioner’s determination of the patient’s primary problem or most significant condition which led to the management given to them (treatments, medications, or procedures)¹. The 2020 data reflect 200 different Primary Impressions. The following table shows the top 24 Primary Impressions that were used at least 1% or higher on the total PCRs written. The Systems’ most used Primary Impression is “No abnormal finding upon exam” which will be explored further for accuracy. Of the 13,328 PCRs that used this Primary Impression, 6,498 were documented with an Incident Disposition (eDisposition.12) of “BLS interfacility”.

Table 5

Situation Provider Primary Impression (eSituation.11)	2020 # Runs	2020 % of Total	2019 # Runs	2018 # Runs
No abnormal findings upon Exam (Z00)	13,329	17.89%	18,488	16,178
Weakness (R53.1)	4,924	6.61%	5,364	4,649
Acute pain (G89.1)	4,532	6.08%	5,581	5,756
Altered mental status (R41.82)	2,488	3.34%	2,363	2,172
Feared Complaint Unfounded (Z71.1)	2,118	2.84%	1,210	1,297
Dyspnea / Other Respiratory Unspecified (J98.9)	2,106	2.83%	1,798	1,618
Injury of head (S09.90)	1,683	2.26%	1,820	1,709
Suicidal ideations (R45.851)	1,674	2.25%	1,660	1,619
Chest pain (precordial) (R07.2)	1,581	2.12%	1,848	1,733
Alcohol use, with intoxication (F10.92)	1,559	2.09%	1,666	1,609
Anxiety disorder (F41.9)	1,486	1.99%	1,240	1,294
Dizziness (R42)	1,308	1.76%	1,518	1,529
Syncope (R55)	1,243	1.67%	1,466	1,518
Malaise (R53.81)	1,174	1.58%	773	785
Unspecified Convulsions / Seizure (R56.9)	1,146	1.54%	1,118	1,194
Acute abdomen (R10.0)	1,092	1.47%	1,170	1,098
Stroke / Cerebral Infarction (I63.9)	1,084	1.45%	1,163	1,070
Fever, unspecified (R50.9)	1,077	1.45%	801	802
Generalized abdominal pain (R10.84)	1,059	1.42%	1,130	1,077
Mental Disorder (F99)	923	1.24%	795	786
Nausea and vomiting (R11)	873	1.17%	988	1,011
Violent Behavior (R45.6)	828	1.11%	794	671
Cardiac Arrest (I46.9)	807	1.08%	693	656
Back Pain, non-traumatic (M54.9)	765	1.03%	879	832

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Pediatric Top 24 Primary Impressions

Table 6

Situation Provider Primary Impression (eSituation.11)	2020 # Runs	2020 % of Total	2019 # Runs	2018 # Runs
No abnormal findings upon Exam (Z00)	897	21.59%	1,644	1,586
Suicidal ideations (R45.851)	367	8.83%	388	332
Violent behavior (R45.6)	223	5.37%	269	218
Acute pain (G89.1)	190	4.57%	271	323
Feared Complaint Unfounded (Z71.1)	168	4.04%	140	147
Unspecified Convulsions / Seizure (R56.9)	162	3.90%	187	184
Mental disorder (F99)	136	3.27%	116	127
Injury of head (S09.90)	127	3.06%	162	166
Anxiety disorder (F41.9)	123	2.96%	100	108
Simple febrile convulsions / Seizure (R56.00)	97	2.34%	176	149
Allergy (T78.40)	85	2.05%	151	157
Syncope (R55)	85	2.05%	105	117
Fever, unspecified (R50.9)	76	1.83%	138	143
Injury of face (S09.93)	67	1.61%	90	101
Injury of wrist, hand and finger(s) (S69.9)	58	1.40%	89	79
Acute abdomen (R10.0)	55	1.32%	51	51
Dyspnea / Other Respiratory Unspecified (J98.9)	51	1.23%	91	78
Malaise (R53.81)	50	1.20%	53	46
Weakness (R53.1)	46	1.11%	51	62
Injury of lower leg (S89.9)	43	1.04%	41	37
Altered mental status (R41.82)	41	0.99%	61	50
Alcohol use, with intoxication (F10.92)	40	0.96%	40	36
Nausea and vomiting (R11)	38	0.91%	41	40
Injury of forearm (S59.91)	37	0.89%	55	53

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Medications Given

The following table shows the top 25 medications given by EMS. It is understood that due to varying ways to document, the following numbers do not represent the number of patients that received the medication, or the number of doses given, just the number of times the medication was used.

Table 7

Medication Given Description and RXCUI Code (eMedications.03)	2020 # of times Administered	2019 # of times Administered	2018 # of times Administered
Oxygen (7806)	7,158	6,467	6,394
Normal saline (125464)	5,073	6,651	6,309
Epinephrine 1 mg / 10 mL (317361)	2,623	2,681	2,878
Aspirin (1191)	2,582	3,226	3,227
Ondansetron (26225)	2,542	3,432	3,411
Fentanyl (4337)	2,494	3,622	4,049
Nitroglycerin (4917)	1,243	1,687	2,004
Naloxone (7242)	789	702	668
Dextrose 10% Injectable Solution (237648)	656	531	750
Albuterol (435)	505	1,218	1,226
Midazolam (6960)	489	611	680
Ipratropium (7213)	447	1,115	1,118
Ketamine (6130)	283	214	54
Diphenhydramine (3498)	222	251	281
Amiodarone (703)	191	189	141
Epinephrine 1 mg /1mL (328316)	167	168	210
Glucagon (4832)	164	142	160
Norepinephrine (7512)	105	125	124
Atropine (1223)	89	124	113
Adenosine (296)	81	98	101
Lidocaine (6387)	76	67	79
Sodium Bicarbonate (36676)	62	31	56
Nitrous Oxide (7486)	54	18	0
Glucose (4850)	38	30	44
Verapamil (11170)	33	47	42

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Procedures

The following table shows the top 25 procedures performed by EMS personnel. It is understood that some patients received multiple attempts with the same procedure.

Table 8

Procedure Performed Description And Code (eProcedures.03)	2020 # Performed	2019 # Performed	2018 # Performed
IV - Peripheral (392230005)	7,803	8,964	8,642
Surgical face mask applied to Pt (465635009)	5,860	0	0
Cervical Spine Motion Restriction (398041008)	3,171	3,809	3,640
ECG - 12 Lead Obtained (268400002)	2,149	1,352	939
Wound - Application of Bandage (182555002)	1,584	1,661	1,539
Cold Pack Application (229585002)	879	1,261	445
IO - Intraosseous Access (430824005)	875	706	664
CPR - Manual (89666000)	727	454	478
Splinting - General (79321009)	608	740	739
CPR - Mechanical Device (429283006)	463	245	116
Orotracheal intubation using video + Bougie (398128007)	453	395	50
Assist Ventilation - BVM (425447009)	384	247	284
Nasopharyngeal Insertion (182692007)	371	274	283
Airway - Clear / Suction (230040009)	320	245	222
Active External Cooling (431774007)	283	433	1,359
Oropharyngeal Insertion (7443007)	282	201	210
iGel Airway Insertion (-2)	205	98	0
Physical Restraints (386423001)	199	140	147
CPR discontinued per Medical Control Order (425519007)	180	84	76
Electrocardiographic monitoring (46825001)	169	100	119
CPR - With Feedback Device (428805003)	169	191	228
Capnography Waveform (250863006)	151	38	71
Assisted Ventilation - BV to Tube (408853006)	134	24	0
Full Spinal Restriction of Motion (426498007)	133	93	73
CPR discontinued due to ROSC (426970003)	128	88	91

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Year-End 2020 Data

NWC EMSS Pediatric Cardiac Arrests -2020

Table 9

Agency Name (dAgency.03)	Incident Date	Disposition Incident Patient Disposition (eDisposition.12)	Situation Provider Primary Impression (eSituation.11)	Situation Provider Secondary Impression List (eSituation.12)	Disposition Destination Name Delivered Transferred To (eDisposition.01)
Arlington Heights FD	3/27/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiac arrest (I46.9)		Northwest Community Hospital (NCH)
Des Plaines FD	3/23/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiogenic shock (R57.0)		Advocate Lutheran General Hospital
Des Plaines FD	4/1/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiac arrest (I46.9)	"Respiratory arrest (R09.2)"	LGH
Elk Grove Village FD	3/7/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiac arrest (I46.9)		Alexian Brothers MC (ABMC)
Lake Zurich Fire / Rescue	7/12/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiac arrest (I46.9)		Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital
Palatine FD	2/1/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiac arrest (I46.9)		NCH
Palatine FD	3/2/2020	Treat & Transport ALS by this unit	Cardiac arrest (I46.9)	"Respiratory arrest (R09.2)"	NCH

2020: 7 cardiac arrests

2019: 12 cardiac arrests

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Times Report

Many factors can affect response, scene, and at hospital times. Private vs Fire based and distance to receiving hospital are two of the largest factors, but keystroke errors in data entry also become a factor. The data is reported as the average and 90th percentile fractile times. The 90th percentile number is a better measure than a simple mean or average since it accounts for 90% of the data set instead of 50%. Outliers, which are part of most data sets, will not have the same disproportional adverse effect on totals as the mean (average) calculation. Due to the differing nature of private and fire-based services, the times are reported as total system times and differentiated for service type.

- Enroute time: From Unit notified until Unit en-route
- To the scene: From unit en-route to unit arrived on scene
- On scene time: From unit arrived on scene until unit left scene
- Transport time: From unit left scene until unit arrived at destination.
- Back in-service time: From unit arrived at destination until unit identified back in-service.

Table 10	2020 All System		2020 Fire Based Services		2020 Private Ambulance Services	
	Average	90 th percentile	Average	90 th percentile	Average	90 th percentile
Enroute time	1.19	2.10	1.09	2.05	1.28	3.26
To the scene	6.71	24.83	3.56	6.22	23.24	46.28
On scene time	16.98	31.87	15.70	24.79	23.86	39.83
Transport time	10.41	20.00	9.74	14.38	13.91	37.93
Back in service	33.43	56.60	35.00	55.85	25.15	42.56

Table 11	2019 All System		2019 Fire Based Services		2019 Private Ambulance Services	
	Average	90 th %	Average	90 th %	Average	90 th %
Enroute time	1.51	2.07	1.05	2.03	1.13	3.61
To the scene	8.17	22.50	3.60	6.29	22.04	43.31
On scene time	18.12	30.72	14.63	23.35	24.04	42.33
Transport time	11.63	20.12	10.03	15.26	13.81	38.21
Back in service	33.48	54.78	33.68	53.64	21.04	39.38

Table 12	2018 All System		2018 Fire Based Services		2018 Private Ambulance Services	
	Average	90 th %	Average	90 th %	Average	90 th %
Enroute time	1.48	2.07	1.32	2.00	2.10	3.76
To the scene	7.05	16.00	3.93	6.25	20.87	42.00
On scene time	17.81	29.18	15.18	22.95	26.37	41.00
Transport time	11.17	18.98	9.59	15.57	16.32	32.00
Back in service	35.56	58.22	38.72	61.00	25.27	41.58

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Unit Numbers

Most agencies have members on multiple vehicles (units) that complete PCRs. The following are the 15 units and agency affiliation with the top number of PCRs completed.

Table 13

Response Unit Call Sign (eResponse.14)	2020 # of Runs	2020 % of Total	Agency Name (dAgency.03)	2019 # of Runs	2018 # of Runs
701	3,051	4.10%	Elite Ambulance	1,617	167
717	2,661	3.57%	Elite Ambulance	1,039	1,301
A-61	2,332	3.13%	Des Plaines FD	2,504	2,437
A2	2,018	2.71%	Arlington Hts. FD	2,107	1,943
A51	1,905	2.56%	Schaumburg FD	2,011	1,962
A21	1,869	2.51%	Hoffman Est. FD	1,809	1,825
A-62	1,825	2.45%	Des Plaines FD	2,058	2,010
A1	1,721	2.31%	Arlington Hts. FD	2,032	1,951
Medic 380	1,708	2.29%	Superior Amb.	1,492	1,196
722	1,705	2.29%	Elite Ambulance	2,033	753
A3	1,660	2.23%	Arlington Hts. FD	1,801	1,687
A-63	1,567	2.10%	Des Plaines FD	1,592	1,725
A82	1,559	2.09%	Palatine FD	1,533	1,546
A83	1,530	2.05%	Palatine FD	1,533	1,558
704	1,522	2.04%	Elite Ambulance	1,072	0

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PCRs written by each agency

The following shows the number of PCRs completed by each agency and uploaded to Image Trend for archiving. This may not accurately reflect the total number of patient responses, as some agencies complete a PCR on “no patient found” and “canceled” incidents. This data forms the basis of the annual Image Trend billing for the number of hosted PCRs per agency.

Total PCRs generated/hosted by Image Trend in 2020: 74,479

Table 14

Total PCRs per agency	2020	2019	2018
Advantage	764	3,206	4,720
Arlington Heights	7,151	7,956	7,569
A-Tec	473	613	0
Barrington	1,138	1,302	1,159
Barrington-Countryside	1,220	1,267	1,352
Bloomington	3,141	3,327	3,529
Buffalo Grove	3,267	3,088	3,034
Des Plaines	6,476	7,065	7,022
Elite Ambulance	11,473	9,070	4,101
Elk Grove Township	558	631	575
Elk Grove Village	3,697	4,155	4,286
Fermilab	17	40	36
Hoffman Estates	4,267	4,591	4,285
Itasca	811	954	958
Lake Zurich	2,610	2,838	2,931
Long Grove	972	1,034	922
Lincolnshire-Riverwoods	1,741	2,062	2,129
Mount Prospect	4,069	4,401	4,091
Palatine	5,286	5,648	5,720
Palatine Rural	528	596	616
Prospect Heights	1,409	1,424	1,500
Rolling Meadows	2,336	2,620	2,676
Schaumburg	5,840	6,600	6,497
Superior	3,726	4,387	4,378
Wood Dale	1,509	1,514	1,441

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Respectfully Submitted
PBPI Executive Board

Jason Brizzell, Paramedic Schaumburg Fire Department Chair, PBPI committee	Ryan Rasche, Paramedic Itasca Fire Protection District Vice Chair, PBPI committee
Adam Sielig, Paramedic Arlington Heights Fire Department Data coordinator, PBPI committee	Nichole Junge, RN Paramedic Rolling Meadows Fire Department Secretary, PBPI committee
Taylor McIntyre, Paramedic Hoffman Estates Fire Department Screen Coordinator, PBPI committee	Connie Mattera, MS, RN, PM EMS Administrative Director System Liaison to PBPI

References

1. NHTSA v3.3.4 Build 140328 EMS Data Standard Version Date: March 28, 2014
https://nemsis.org/media/nemsis_v3/3.3.4.140328/DataDictionary/PDFHTML/DEMEMS/NEMSISDataDictionary.pdf

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