



Illinois Fire Service Institute FY2003 Annual Report

For activities completed 1 July 02 - 30 June 03



Illinois Fire Service Institute 2003 Annual Report

In FY 2003, The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) delivered the following:

389,674 Student Hours 40,839 Enrollments 14,442 Class Hours
933 Fire Departments plus 126 other organizations
1,027 Classes 318 Class Locations in 80 Illinois counties 2,905 Class Days
Attended by 1st Responders from 100 Illinois Counties

In Fiscal Year 2003, the Institute continued to provide essential firefighting skills training to a broad cross-section of Illinois firefighters and to provide substantial public engagement on homeland security and public safety issues; while gathering itself for an unprecedented surge of HAZMAT and Rescue technician team training to be conducted beginning in FY04 with federal homeland security funds.

FY03 State statutory funding through the Fire Prevention Fund (FPF) increased 3.6% from \$1.136 million in FY 02 to \$1.19 million, and will increase in FY04 by 14.25% to \$1.408. The FPF is the Institute's only source of State funding and is generated through dedicated fire insurance premiums, which increased significantly after events of 9/11/2001. In FY03, additional demand for tuition fee-based courses coupled with reduced grant funding resulted in an increase of 48% to \$1.08 million in tuition-fee income. Annual grant funding for the ongoing Cornerstone program remained level-funded in FY03, but was reduced from \$300,000 to \$150,000 in FY04. Homeland security grant funding waned throughout much of FY03 awaiting federal homeland security grants. In May 03, the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) awarded homeland security grants totaling \$1.7 million for 24 months of training activities. Additional grant funds are expected in FY04.

Significant accomplishments during FY03 include:

- Developed, produced and distributed the first Down and Dirty Firefighting Training CD package to every fire department in Illinois at no cost under a gift from the Illinois Firefighters Association.
- Participated as a voting member in the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF), and served as co-chair of the Terrorism Training Committee to develop Illinois homeland security public policy and programs.
- Designed and implemented unique curriculum and constructed hands-on training props to support a 400-hour training program as part of the state homeland plan to train technical rescue teams for each of the 19 Illinois Homeland Security Regions.
- Developed a State Instructor Program to provide first responders with basic terrorism and HAZMAT courses at the local level by certifying local instructors to teach a standardized State curriculum furnished by IFSI
- Developed and implemented the next generation of web-based IFSI services to include on-line registration, building a dedicated server facility, and fielding additional on-line courses.
- Established additional regional training centers, including the first-ever agreement with a community college at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, IL.
- Conducted the first-ever Legislators' Fire Academy for Illinois Legislature members and staff.
- Received approval from the Chancellor's Capital Review Committee (CCRC) for the feasibility design of a new library annex. Fund raising will begin in 2004-05.
- IFSI Librarian Lian Ruan received the prestigious 2003 Chancellor's Academic Professional Excellence Award and 2003 Special Libraries Association Diversity Leadership Development Award.
- Established a separate curriculum program area for Fire Prevention.
- Fire Prevention Program Director Eddie Bain received a US Fire Administration-sponsored grant to support "Risk Watch" educational outreach education programs in 11 communities throughout Illinois in partnership with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and other public safety organizations.
- Conducted the first-ever Partnership Illinois-sponsored Fire Investigation Task Force Workshop.
- Conducted the first-ever liquid propane live fire fighting demonstration at the Illinois State Fair for over 4,000 citizens sponsored by the Illinois Propane Education and Research Council (IPERC).
- Initiated / expanded new research partnerships with several U of I colleges and researchers.
- Established a program with Daimler / Chrysler and Mitsubishi to use donated new vehicles for use in the automobile extrication training programs.
- Expanded IFSI's partnership with several tool manufacturers to provide tools for use in hands-on training programs.
- Participated in the national Top Officials II (TOPOFF II) terrorism exercise in Chicago.

IFSI Goals and Strategies



Vision 2010 is the updated IFSI strategic plan through 2010 from the 5-year Vision 2000 plan that was initiated in 1998. Three new pillars have been added and significant new initiatives added to each pillar.

New Pillars

Homeland Security – The new national focus on homeland security post-9/11/01, implementation of the national 2002 Security Act, and State homeland security planning are now and will continue to place new demands on IFSI for training programs, facilities, leadership, and interagency partnerships. Beginning in FY02, homeland security training represented one-third of IFSI classes and enrollments and half of IFSI funding. While FY03 grant funding for homeland security training was delayed until late in the fiscal year thus reducing training activities for FY03, year-end FY03 and FY04 grants provide some \$5 million in multi-year grant funding for FY04-06. Demands for homeland security-related courses, underwritten by substantial federal funding through the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF), will continue to represent a third or more of IFSI annual activities for FY 04-06 and beyond. The primary focus will be in 4 areas:

- Training Committee leadership.
- Provide common terrorism core curriculum for all Illinois first responders through direct and on-line delivery and through the State Instructor Program. Current courses include HAZMAT Awareness, HAZMAT Operations, and Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts.
- Develop and conduct courses for crisis team members in incident command, unified command, HAZMAT Incident Management System and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Conduct baseline training and support validation of statewide-deployable State Weapons of Mass Destruction (SWMDT) teams, Illinois Medical Emergency Response Teams (IMERT), regional HAZMAT and technical rescue teams, and law enforcement Regional Containment Teams. (RCT)

IFSI also maintains the ability to respond to actual terrorist events with technical advisors and equipment in mobile trailers when tasked by the State Emergency Operations Center. Homeland security is also creating opportunities to develop new regional partnerships.

Research – 9/11/2001 and implementation of the 2002 Homeland Security Act, are creating extraordinary opportunities for and interest in applied research on homeland security-related issues, particularly in support of first responders. IFSI has already substantially engaged first responder heat stress research with the Department of Kinesiology, Skidmore College and Motorola Labs. In FY 04, IFSI will help establish a campus Homeland Security Research Center to facilitate and engage faculty, students, staff, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), academic departments, and institutes across the University of Illinois (U of I) in scientific discovery, research, programs, and public policy development as part of the both national and state homeland security efforts. IFSI will support first-responder-related research activities on campus, as part of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force Science and Technology effort and with private sector organizations such as Motorola and SAIC, when appropriate. Additionally, IFSI's Librarian collaborated with Dr. Linda Smith of the Graduate School in Library and Information Science (GSLIS) and received grants to conduct a survey of 7 special fire libraries in the US.

College Degree – IFSI has a long-term vision of working with other campus units to include homeland security and fire science curriculum and lectures in existing degree programs such as architecture and engineering. IFSI's Librarian continues to offer a graduate-level course in Special Library Administration at GSLIS. IFSI also envisions the creation of homeland security certificate programs, offering fire science courses that are already accredited by the American Council on Education (ACE) as University of Illinois (U of I) credit courses, and eventually having a 4-year degree in fire science. As the State Fire Academy, IFSI is first focusing on meeting its statutory responsibilities to provide fire service training and on homeland security and research pillars, before further developing degree programs.

Established Pillars

Enhance Campus Activities - IFSI continues to develop new hands-on training simulators, information and on-line systems, and technology for classroom and curriculum development. FY03, two additional technical rescue props were constructed to support training of state technical rescue teams. The Illinois Propane Education and Research Council (IPERC) donated a new bobtail LP truck to use as a live-fire prop in support of advanced live LP fire training. Taxpayer and residential concrete burn buildings received new fire-resistant floors, to extend the life of the buildings well into the next decade. Preliminary planning continued for construction of a new burn site in the new South Farms area.



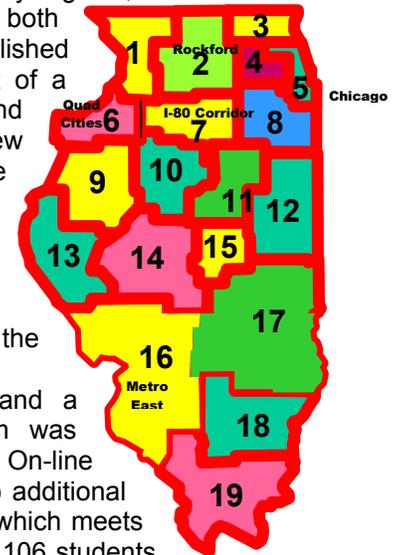
Technical Rescue Trainer



Partially Collapsed Office Building Simulator



Regional Partnerships – With the formal designation of 19 Homeland Security regions, IFSI continued its efforts to develop regional training relationships in each of the regions for both fire service and homeland security training. In FY03, a partnership was established with Southeastern Illinois College (SIC) at Harrisburg for the development of a regional training center to serve southern Illinois. Technical advice and assistance was provided for regional training center development to several new regional fire department-based training centers, to include: Herrin Fire Department, Mt. Carmel, Salem Fire Protection District (FPD), Frankfort FPD, Galesburg FD, Peoria FD, Tinley Park, and North Aurora. FY03-04 homeland security grant funding was designated to construct additional technical rescue training props at several of these sites.



Distance Connectivity – Substantial investment in web-based activities and the IFSI Library have been made the reach firefighters where they live and work.

Web-Based Activities. The IFSI website underwent a major overhaul and a dedicated, climate-controlled, uninterrupted power protected server room was completed. The systems / on-line team was expanded to 4 fulltime members. On-line registration was successfully tested for Fire College and will be expanded to additional classes in FY04. In 2001, IFSI offered the first On-line Firefighter II course, which meets all State requirements for Illinois State Certification as a firefighter. In FY03, 106 students participated in the course. In FY03, an on-line version of HAZMAT Awareness was created, which meets both State certification and federal 29 CFR 1910.120 regulatory annual training requirements. Development will continue for on-line versions of all awareness-level firefighter courses and selected terrorism courses. In FY04, on-line course development will focus on Emergency Response to Terrorism: Basic Concepts, Technical Rescue Awareness, and Automobile Rescue Awareness. In FY05, Operations-level on-line course development will be explored.

Library. Development continued for the IFSI library as Illinois' only State Special Library dedicated to serving first responders. CCRC approved the feasibility plan for construction of a new IFSI library next to the current IFSI Administration building. Fund raising will begin in FY04.



NORTH ELEVATION
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



Firefighter Memorial Entry Hall

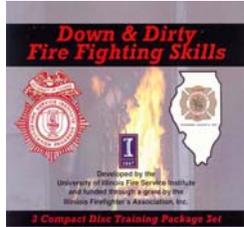
Library Circulation Desk & Stacks



3



Volunteer and Career Firefighter – Illinois’ 42,000 firefighters and more than 1,200 fire departments will remain IFSI’s primary focus. In FY03, IFSI updated its Firefighter II Academy, and selected specialized skill and Fire Officer courses, in addition to development of homeland security related HAZMAT and technical rescue courses for regional fire service teams. IFSI continues to work with the Chicago Fire Department to provide critical hands-on training in firefighter, HAZMAT and technical rescue skills. IFSI participates in each of the OSFM-sponsored firefighter certification committees to update Illinois State firefighter certification standards and tests.



Down & Dirty Firefighting Skills. In partnership with the Illinois Firefighters Association, IFSI has developed a “Down and Dirty Firefighting Skills Program.” In FY03, the first 3-CD set on “Basic Firefighting Skills” was distributed to every fire department in Illinois. In FY04, a CD set on “Engine and Pump Operations” will be distributed. Sets in DVD format on additional critical firefighting skills are planned for FY05 and beyond.

Cornerstone Program. Another critical program to ensure that every firefighter has access to hands-on training is the Cornerstone program. It is conducted under a grant from the OSFM from State reimbursement training funds. This program is particularly important to sustain firefighter training when local budgets are reduced, as is currently the case. In FY03, the Cornerstone Program was funded at \$300,000. In FY04, State budget constraints reduced grant funding to \$150,000. The Governor’s office and OSFM have committed to restore the funding to \$300,000 in FY05 and are developing a plan to increase funding to \$500,000 in FY06. In order to ensure that there is limited impact on the program in FY04, IFSI has reallocated FY 04 resources to provide a funding bridge to FY05.

7-for-1 Program. An overarching goal for all IFSI courses is to maximize the benefits to individual firefighters and departments for each hour of training. To this end, IFSI has created a “7-for-1” program that is designed to award credit / achieve recognition in as many of the following areas as possible for each IFSI course:

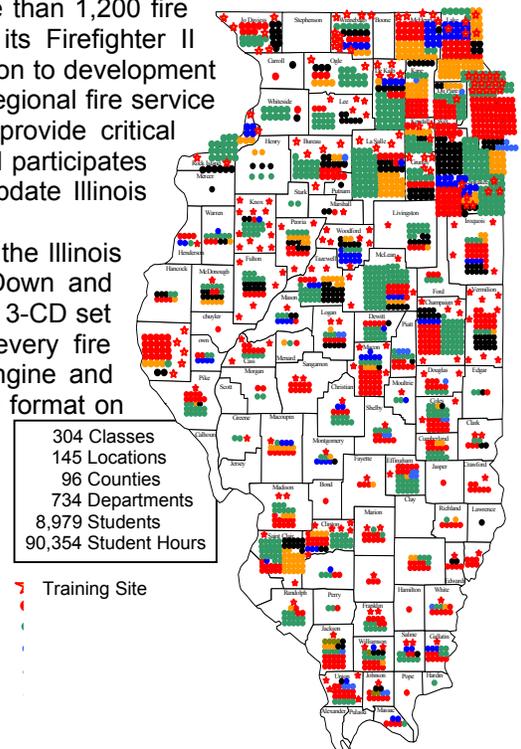
- Firefighter / Police Officer certification or continuing education requirements
- EMS continuing education units (CEU), as established by IDPH.
- Annual national regulatory training requirements, such as 29 CFR 1910.120 for HAZMAT.
- College credit through the American Council on Education (ACE)/community college system.
- Dual certificates with the Illinois Fire Service Institute and National Fire Academy and Department of Justice-sponsored national courses.
- Interagency training requirements.
- Grant performance requirements.

Industry – This program area remains limited in scope. Demands to meet the exponential growth of homeland security have limited resources for industry. Focus will be on serving a limited number of clients with high-quality programs.

Sponsorship - The resource foundation of all IFSI programs is sponsorship. Grants now represent 54% of annual ISFI funding. The Illinois Propane and Education Research Council (IPERC) provides some \$100,000 annually to provide training props, liquid propane (LP) and pay for instructor and delivery costs. Since the program began in 1999, more than 7,000 firefighters have been trained. Tool manufacturers are major sponsors of IFSI programs by providing and maintaining new tools for use in rescue training programs. IFSI instructors have donated annually to the creation of a Scholarship fund that awards training, education and research scholarships each year.

IFSI will continue to work closely with the Governor’s Deputy Chief of Staff for Public Safety, the Legislative Fire Caucus, as a statutory member of the Illinois Fire Advisory Commission and the Illinois Fire Service Association to ensure the viability of resources and programs.

In FY04, IFSI will begin major development efforts with the University of Illinois Foundation to create an Annual Fund and a Capital Development campaign. A fulltime development officer will be hired and the Illinois Fire Service Institute Fund will be created as the annual fundraising campaign. The capital development campaign will seek to raise funds for construction of the new Fire and Emergency Service Library by 2010, and for construction of the new burn training facility beginning in 2010.



Impacts of the FY 2004 Budget Rescission / Reduction

IFSI does not receive State General Revenue Funds (GRF) and has traditionally depended upon the Fire Prevention Fund (FPF) (a statutory fee on fire insurance premiums) as its only source of state funding. All other funding comes from student fees, grants and gifts.

In 1994, IFSI's share of the Fire Prevention Fund (FPF) was reduced by 8.5% in a single year. In addition, it was discovered that IFSI had received a combined total of some \$1.6 million in excess of its statutory 12.5% annual allocation of the FPF; and by the end of FY96 the amount IFSI had received in excess to its statutory share was over \$2.1 million, all of which was owed to the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). University of Illinois and State Bureau of the Budget representatives agreed to step-down IFSI's share of the FPF over a 3-year period, (FY1994-96) then beginning in FY 97 IFSI would receive a fixed appropriation of \$994,100 annually, while the remaining portion of its 12.5 % share of the FPF would be allocated to service the debt, which was \$4.7 million at the beginning of FY97. Between FY97 and FY2001, IFSI had **0% growth** in its FPF, despite annual state-funded increases for most other UIUC units during this same period due to rising State revenues. For this 5-year period, IFSI absorbed all inflation and program increases while the annual debt service payment increased by 190% from \$281,000 in FY97 to \$534,900 in FY01. In 2001, IFSI worked with the UIUC and the OSFM to renegotiate the agreement to fix annual debt service to enable IFSI to receive annual percentage increases in the FPF, when they occur. The initial impact of this agreement provided for a \$138,100 FPF increase in FY 2002. This was the first budget increase since 1993. In FY 2003, the FPF increased by an additional \$57,800 and increased by an additional \$217,000 in FY04. An additional increase of \$312,300 is projected for FY05.

The impact of budget reductions and level-funding between 1994 and 2001 has been that IFSI raised student fees for virtually all courses in FY98 in order to cover direct course costs, while streamlining its operations, cutting overhead expenses and securing alternative sources of funding through grants and gifts. A central management principle has been to "leverage" resource contributions from multiple sources in order to increase program sponsorship and to reduce the cost of a program to any single department. As a result, IFSI operations have more than doubled in all essential categories of service and resources. The most significant impact in FY02 and beyond on IFSI has been the substantially increased demands on Institute faculty, staff and senior leadership to participate in homeland security-related activities at the state and national level. A comparison of annual funding shows:

	(\$ in millions)			
	FY98	FY02	FY03	FY04 (Projected)
Total Annual Budget	\$ 2.5	\$ 5.93	\$ 6.3	\$ 7.04
Fire Prevention Fund (FPF)	\$ 0.99	\$ 1.14	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.41
FPF Debt Service	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.34
Student fees	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.73	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.0
Grants	\$ 0.44	\$ 3.25	\$ 3.40	\$ 4.0
Gifts and In-kind support	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.05	\$ 1.2
ICR	\$ -----	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.2
Partnership Illinois	\$ -----	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.02	\$ -----
Enrollments/ Outreach Contacts	17,647	48,634	40,832	45,000
Student instructional hours	244,638	467,231	385,871	500,000
Courses	461	1,262	1,018	1,200
Adjunct faculty & hourly employees	75	364	431	450+

Salary Needs

In FY04, the Institute will remain self-sufficient for salary needs related to traditional Institute activities. However, continuing demands for the Institute to assist other campus units in efforts to secure homeland security-related research grants have placed substantial demands on Institute leadership. While this new cross-campus cooperative effort is welcome, it is placing extraordinary demands upon Institute leadership and staff time. Campus assistance to augment selected salaries and hire an additional staff member dedicated to homeland security research and development support may be necessary to continue this level of support to other campus units. The formation of the campus Homeland Security Research Center as an interdisciplinary clearinghouse with 3-year campus funding of \$250,000 will help; however, it is anticipated that during FY04/05, the Institute will have to hire a fulltime research coordinator/facilitator just to help meet cross campus requests for cooperative research grant support. Some \$100,000 in annual campus funding would be required to support this requirement.

Long-term Impacts of the FY 2004 Budget Rescission / Reduction

Since IFSI receives no GRF, no impact is anticipated on annual IFSI operations as a direct result of the budget rescission. However, two long-term capital projects will depend upon State, campus and development funding. In the near-term, IFSI has established a goal of building a library and multi-purpose information technology building adjacent to its current administrative building in South Campus. In addition, campus has committed to procure 30-60 acres as part of the new South Farms during the FY2003-2010 period to provide a site for the relocation and construction of a new live-burn and hands-on training facility. Continued rescission of campus budgets could delay or undermine these capital improvements.

Reallocations to Address Emerging Opportunities

The Institute has not reallocated funds to address emerging opportunities, since each new opportunity is generating its own source of funding. In FY04, the Institute will establish a fulltime development / grant writing office with Fire Prevention Funds.

International Dimensions

IFSI continues to host fire service and public officials at the Institute and to assist other campus units with international programs. In FY03-04, all of the fire / arson investigators from the Northern Mariana Islands graduated from the 3-week certified Fire Investigator series in Champaign. An Illinois soldier serving in Afghanistan completed the Firefighter II On-Line course. Fire service officials from Tokyo and Ukraine visited IFSI for discussions and briefings on programs and possible partnership opportunities. Contract program discussions were begun with private sector companies in Trinidad-Tobago and United Arab Emirates (UAE). International Programs and Studies - China Executive Leadership Program (IPS – CEL) delegations attended a half-day program of briefings on homeland security and public safety issues and received tours of IFSI training facilities. IFSI Librarian Lian Ruan, in partnership with GSLIS, visited China and made presentations to University of Beijing and Chinese librarians in Shanghai to present a paper and discuss future partnerships. As a former NATO School Commandant, IFSI Director Jaehne was invited to attend the 50th Anniversary and change of command ceremony for the NATO School in Oberammergau, Germany. The visit was partially sponsored by the European Union (EU) Centre and resulted in discussions with the New School Commandant and senior NATO officials for future University of Illinois–NATO School collaboration. Director Jaehne periodically provides lectures on NATO and international security subjects for the Arms Control, Disarmament and International Security (ACDIS) program and EU Centre.

Emerging Opportunities

Homeland Security. Homeland security is the single most significant emerging opportunity for expansion and support of fire and emergency first responder training in the past 60 years. In 1999, the Governor created the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) to develop and coordinate terrorism (now homeland security) policy and programs for the State of Illinois. The Institute was a charter member of this task force. The Institute Director is the co-chair of the State Terrorism Training Committee that has developed and implemented a statewide training program for first responders, elected officials and other key groups.

In FY04, the ITTF will develop and submit to the US Department of Homeland Security the Illinois Homeland Security Strategic Plan. The Task Force has made training a major strategic priority for Illinois homeland security. In FY03-04, the ITTF allocated some \$8.2 million statewide for training and \$7.5 million for student overtime reimbursement. Additional federal funding is anticipated in FY 05 and 06. The Plan also makes Research and Development a priority to “Develop public-private cooperative, synergistic and interdisciplinary abilities to provide Illinois and the nation with research, development, science, technology and testing capabilities to assist in identifying and resolving homeland security challenges, create a cooperative, interdisciplinary structure to find near and long-term solutions for specific homeland security challenges and to help set National Standards.” Having practical, working ties to the first responder community is a central strength in this effort. The central IFSI statutory responsibility and focus is to maintain and develop these ties.

IFSI will continue to take a leadership role on these State homeland security priorities, and on the development of national and State homeland security public policy. It will maintain its active participation in the ITTF, serve on national committees and task forces, work with City of Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Fire Department, and continue to build cooperative relationships with Argonne National

Laboratory, with selected private sector organizations and with campus leadership to establish a Homeland Security Research Center on campus.

Fire Caucus. In FY03, the Illinois State Legislature formed a Fire Caucus with both House and Senate bi-partisan leadership patterned after the National Fire Caucus (which was a prime sponsor for the US Fire Act grants that have provided more than \$1 billion in grants for local fire departments in the past three years). The Caucus promises to be an important bi-partisan legislators' forum for consensus fire service issues. The Caucus evolved from the House legislative task force formed in 2002 to "find ways to assist our fire protection services in doing their job." A critical component of the Task Force's effort was to build upon three fire service planning efforts in which the Institute had a leadership role during the past five years:

- ◆ The Governor's Blue Ribbon Fire Service Committee.
- ◆ Illinois Fire Service Association annual strategic planning efforts.
- ◆ The Partnership Illinois-sponsored Volunteer Fire Service Summit.

IFSI Marketing Plan. In FY03, IFSI engaged a consultant and refined the Institute's marketing plan. This plan identifies additional potential contract opportunities to enhance fee-based revenues to underwrite Institute operations. Potential exists for expanded contract courses for private fire brigades that is an Institute statutory mission under the Fire Service Institute Act (P.A. 81-1147). More importantly, IFSI will use the marketing plan as a tool to ensure that IFSI is a "listening organization," responsive to the needs and concerns of firefighters, fire departments, local and state elected officials, and to a growing number of homeland security constituents. IFSI will use its web site, direct mail and personal contact to ensure it remains connected and focused appropriately.

Overarching Institute Goals and Strategies

The strategic goal of VISION 2010 and of the Institute is to **help every Illinois firefighter do their work** through training, education, information and research in fulfillment of the Illinois Fire Service Institute Act. The Institute will continue to take a leadership role in the Illinois homeland security and seek to develop new partnerships to enhance the security and safety of Illinois citizens.

FY2003 Department & Student Attendance



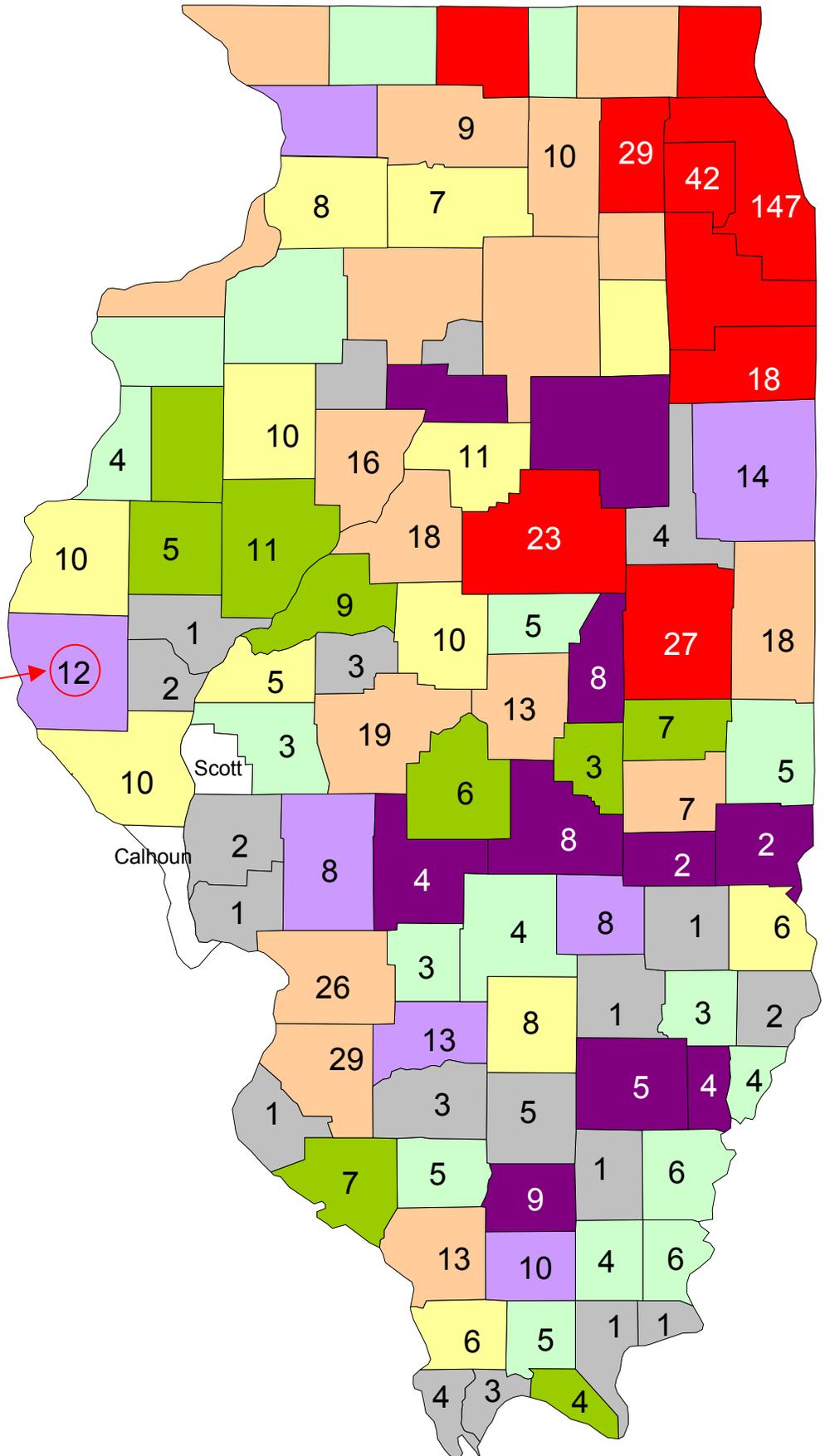
University of
Illinois



Classes	1,027
Locations	318
Counties	100
Departments	1,060
Students	40,868
Student Hours	389,674
Class Hours	14,412
Class Days	2,905

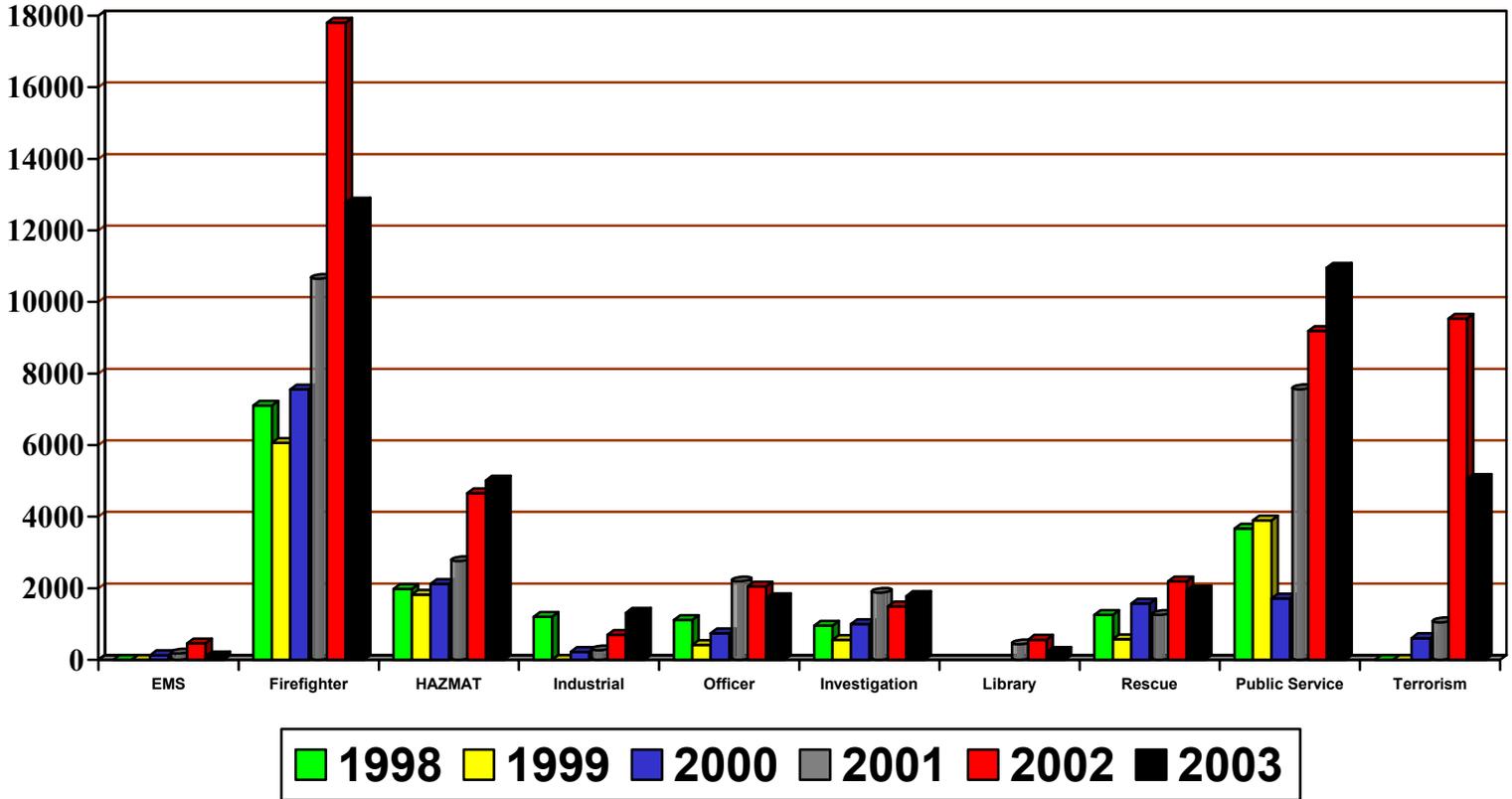
Number of departments
in the county that had
firefighters attend IFSI
training.

12

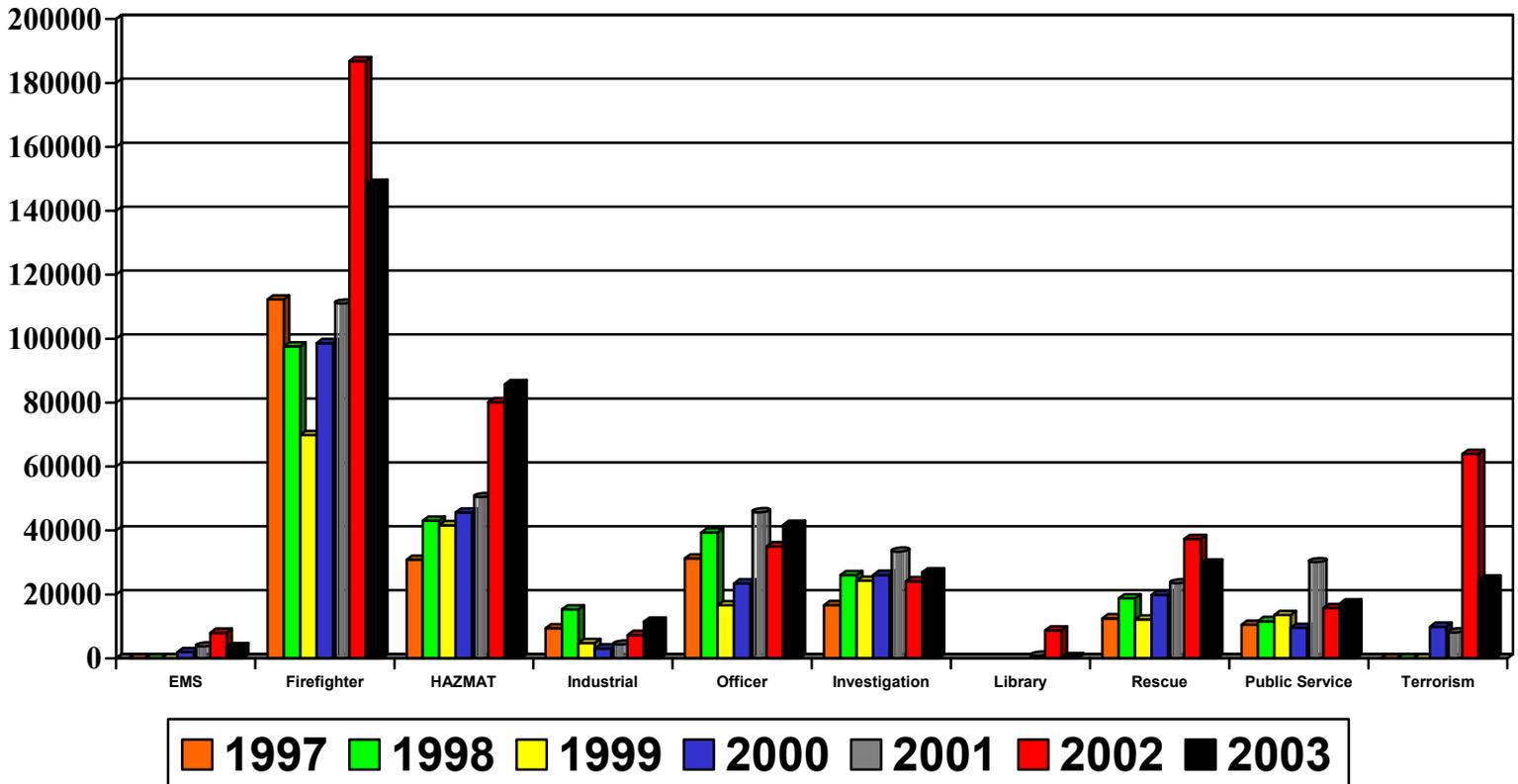




1998-2003 Enrollments



1998-2003 Student Hours

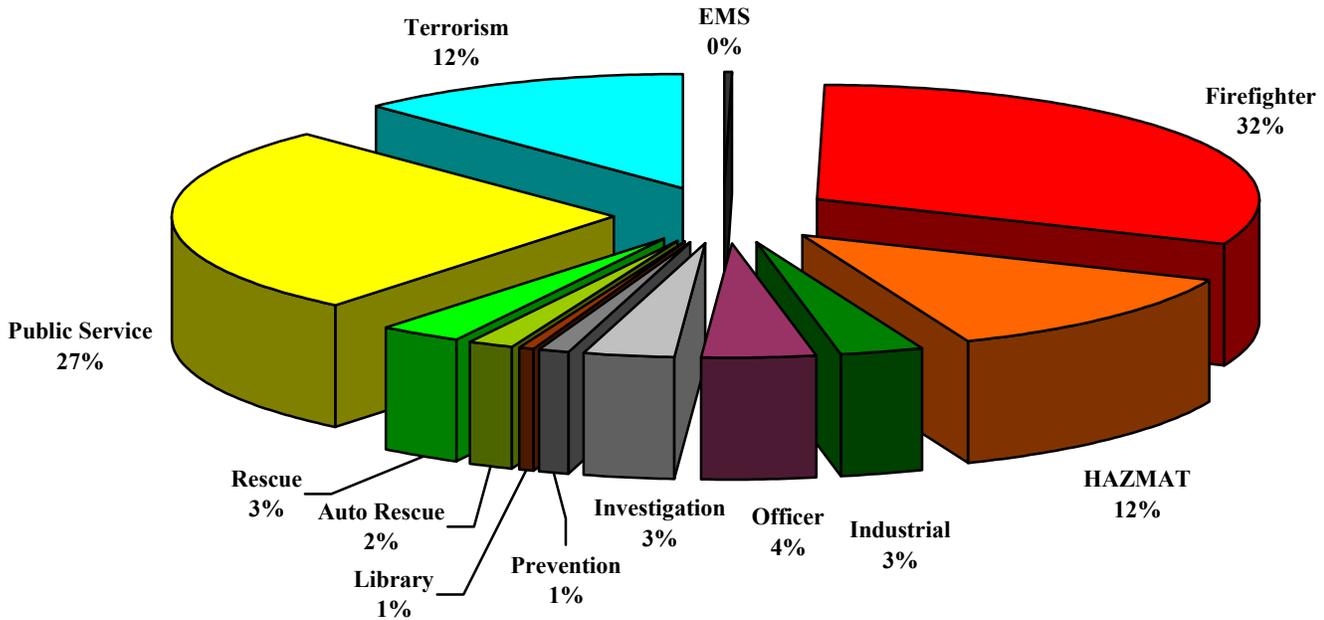




2003 Illinois Fire Service Institute



Enrollments 40,868



Student Hours 389,674

