

ACEMS PI & E Committee
 EMS SURVEY RESULTS 2006-2007
 Total of 110 responses returned
 Compiled by Terry Stone

Where do you primarily provide EMS care?

<u>2006-2007</u>			<u>Responses</u>			<u>2004-2005</u>			<u>Responses</u>		
Isolated/Remote	29	26.85%				Isolated/Remote	43	42.57%			
Rural	53	49.07%				Rural	49	48.51%			
Urban	26	24.07%				Urban	9	8.91%			
	Total	108					Total	101			
dual responses	10	9.26%									

Are you paid to provide EMS services?

If paid:

<u>2006-2007</u>		<u>Responses</u>	
Yes	61	56.48%	
No	47	43.52%	
	Total	108	

Full time 39 63.93%

<u>2004-2005</u>		<u>Responses</u>	
Yes	26	25.24%	
No	77	74.76%	
	Total	103	

Full time 18 69.23%

Other responses

Both—paid job and volunteer	4
Paid on-call; stipend	3
Summer pay	1
Ski patrol, mountain rescue, wild land fire	1

Level of Training/Certification

<u>2006-2007</u>		<u>Responses</u>	
EMT-1	30	27.52%	
EMT-2	23	21.10%	
EMT-3	45	41.28%	
EMT-P/MICP	11	10.09%	
	Total	109	

EMT Instructor	30
ETT Instructor	5
BLS Instructor	27
Response #	62
Advance Level	5
Other	5

<u>2004-2005</u>		<u>Responses</u>	
EMT-1	48	46.60%	
EMT-2	18	17.48%	
EMT-3	24	23.30%	
EMT-P/MICP	10	9.71%	
Other	3	2.91%	
	Total	103	

Number of years in EMS

2006-2007			2004-2005		
	Responses			Responses	
0-1 year	1	0.92%	0-1 year	16	15.53%
1-3 years	5	4.63%	1-3 years	13	12.62%
3-5 years	14	12.96%	3-5 years	17	16.50%
5-10 years	25	23.15%	5-10 years	18	17.48%
10-20 years	34	31.48%	10-20 years	19	18.45%
more than 20	29	26.85%	more than 20	20	19.42%
	108			103	

Number of years with your current service

2006-2007			2004-2005		
	Responses			Responses	
0-1 year	4	3.70%	0-1 year	19	18.45%
1-3 years	15	13.89%	1-3 years	21	20.39%
3-5 years	21	19.44%	3-5 years	23	22.33%
5-10 years	26	24.07%	5-10 years	16	15.53%
10-20 years	29	26.85%	10-20 years	14	13.59%
more than 20	13	12.04%	more than 20	10	9.71%
	108			103	

What prompted you to join EMS?

2006-2007		2004-2005 Responses	
	Responses		Responses
Community Responsibility	66	Community Responsibility	57
Self Satisfaction	53	Self Satisfaction	43
Knowledge	51	Knowledge	42
Training	35	Training	38
Career	31	Career	20
Socializing	11	Socializing	8
Personal Recognition	4	Personal Recognition	5
Money	4	Money	2
Boredom	3	Boredom	1
Incentives	1	Incentives	1
other	12		
	109		

Other comments:

Firefighter & Rescue Tech, wanted to know the patient care side
 Wanting to make a difference
 Opportunity to provide succor
 Prevented daughter from choking with Heimlich
 Kids with owies
 Desire to be able to care for my family
 I was talked into taking an ETT course
 Nursing student who wanted some hands on to be sure
 Problem solver; enjoy people
 Been in healthcare most of my life
 Assist the department with training better qualified responders
 Job requirement, military

What is the **most important** reason you are in EMS?

2006-2007 Responses		2004-2005 Responses	
Community Responsibility	44	Community Responsibility	43
Self-satisfaction, helping others	32	Self-satisfaction	24
Career	15	Career	13
Knowledge	9	Knowledge	9
Training	3	Training	3
Personal Recognition	2	Personal Recognition	1
Other	5		

Other:

- All of the above
- No new volunteers
- Helping others
- I wanted to be prepared to help others, if needed
- In memory of my father, MI '77

What do you like the least about your EMS experience? [A few multiple responses]

2006-2007 Responses		Multiple Responses	
Internal Politics	48		3
Time away from family	13		2
On-call time	6		4
Amount of training	5		3
Lack of recognition	4		1
Time away from work	3		3
Cost	2		1
Risks	1	Health	1
Other	14		

Other comments:

- 90+% ETOH related calls; Bad calls involving people you know well
- After being an EMT for 20 yrs it gets old having to recert every 2 yrs
- Amount of training required; EMT curriculum & skill sheets
- Hard to stay current with low caseload; Not enough call to get good at what we do
- Lack of opportunity to use skills; Inability to get instructors to Prince of Wales
- Difficulty in recertification & synchronizing with co-workers
- Hard to stay current with low caseload; Lack of support from employers
- Does not appeal to me; Long-term toll of trauma
- EMS vs Fire, fire's attitude; External politics; Government politics; Pettiness
- Lack of sleep; Getting up at night
- Paramedics hunting down EMT-2/3s; Testing beyond scope
- Responding to multiple codes, back-to-back call; CISD excellent
- State—lack of help with incentives to get new personnel
- Lack of respect from MatSu Boro

2004-2005 Responses	
Internal politics	45
Time away from family	15
Risks	10
Cost	8
Lack of recognition	8
On-call time	7
Amount of training required	7
Lack of market value pay	1
Other	16

I feel supported in EMS by my:

2006-2007 Responses			2004-2005 Responses				
	Yes	No	Total		Yes	No	Total
Family	98	3	101	Family	90	8	98
Community	84	15	99	Community	90	7	97
EMS Organization	87	13	100	EMS Organization	91	9	100
Region	71	18	89	Region	83	7	90
State	64	21	85	State	79	10	89

2006-2007 Because Comments

Family	State
Husband and sons are EMTs	???
Husband does not complain	All they want is paramedics
No family	Answer changes, day-to-day
They are glad I can help others	Burnout
They put up with my time away	Don't know
They recognize its importance	EMT-3 scope of practice to limited
Understanding	Inflexible for recertification
Value my knowledge & work ethic	It would be good to extend recert time to 3-4 years if active with EMS
Wife is an EMT	Lack of training programs
Wife lets me play	Never hear from them
	No comment
	No incentive to progress to a higher level
	No incentive for unpaid volunteers
	No interaction except for recert
	Not much connection with the state except for certification
	Politics
	Poor communication
	Prompt service
	Pushing 2/3s out and putting them down
	State of AK continues to cut support for providers [PERRS]
	There are no symposium times in the summer
	They don't feel it is important enough
	They need responders
	We are military since we are transit, most blow us off
	Well organized & appropriate answers

Because Comments--continued

Organization	Region
Redundant training; lack of respect for volunteers	Burnout
Bad training	Failed shipments, cost of equipment, poor support
Comradeship	IREMS rocks
Could use more	Keep getting told we are not government agencies
In-fighting and minimal training	Lack of training programs
Instruction at paramedic level	Most of their budget goes to salaries
Internal politics	Need support with class, including COs
Lack of support	Never hear from them
Management lacks skills & education to properly obtain funding	No incentives for unpaid volunteers
Politics	No interaction except for recert
Sometimes	Politics
Supervisor politics	Poor communication
They are available when I need assistance	Staff is great
	Supervisor politics lack support emotionally
They need responders	
Volunteer' is superfluous in the organization	Symposium
We have up-to-date equipment	There are no course times in the summer
	They need responders
	We are military

Are you considering leaving EMS in the next 2 years?

2006-2007 Responses				2004-2005 Responses			
Leaving	Yes	No	Total	Leaving	Yes	No	Total
	28	76	104		18	84	102

- #1-Age/retirement
- #2-Burnout/lack of time
- #3-Career shift/job-related
- #4-Politics

- #1-age/retiring
- #2-burnout/tired

What incentives does your service offer to the volunteers?

2006-2007 Responses		90
Pay/Stipend/Per diem	20	On-call, fuel, drill, per call
Training, CME, Symposium	21	
Dinner, monthly, annual	10	
Awards, gifts	10	Annual, service
Coats, uniform, t-shirts	10	
None	7	
Others: Dump pass, retirement, movie passes, free cable TV, hugs, immunizations, camaraderie, community with other volunteers, driveway plowed, property tax break, ems equipment, fire hall access		

What types of incentives would you like to see offered?

2006-2007 Responses		15
CME, training, free training, symposium		
Wearing apparel, jackets, EMS equipment		
Awards, volunteer of the month award		
Dinners, Christmas/annual dinner		
Free gym & pool access, wireless		
Social events, social interaction		
Fire hall access for personal use		

Would you encourage others to join?

2006-2007 Responses			
Encourage	Yes	No	Total
	101	2	103

- #1-On a personal level
- #2-Community need related

Negativity toward organizational politics, primarily with EMS/Fire based services

2004-2005 Responses			
Encourage	Yes	No	Total
	99	3	102

- #1-Satisfying/rewarding
- #2-community need/help

What keeps you volunteering or what would make you stay?

- 1 more respect for the individual
- 2 ability to help others
- 3 always learning something new about EMS
- 4 appreciation for what we do
- 5 Assisting the community; leadership
- 6 Been in some sort of health care for most of my life
- 7 being a part of the team
- 8 career [X2]
- 9 community commitment; enjoyment of belonging to a great group
- 10 community minded, like the challenge
- 11 Community need
- 12 drop the requirement [but then no one would show up for calls], it's a problem
- 13 emotional support and positive encouragement from regional office personnel
- 14 enjoy figuring out the puzzle
- 15 enjoy it
- 16 Enjoy the job
- 17 enjoying career
- 18 excitement in what we do
- 19 family atmosphere
- 20 feeling valued by the organization, leadership attitude not stuff or money
- 21 Frustrated with the EMS system for remote & rural areas--requirements for advancement does not meet expectations/requirements
- 22 health and feeling of contribution
- 23 helping others [X2]
- 24 helping others; knowledge gained
- 25 I do think a more in-depth listing of CME courses that are accepted by SIP EMS for recertification would be greatly helpful
- 26 I enjoy it

- 27 I enjoy the challenge of a medical aid and training others
- 28 I like helping people in my community
- 29 I like what I do
- 30 I like what I do, but the State requirements keep adding up
- 31 I truly enjoy it
- 32 I volunteered for 9 yrs because I enjoyed helping people in need
- 33 I want to be prepared to help others if needed
- 34 I want to do scenarios with squad but don't know how
- 35 if my service could hire me
- 36 In 5 yrs I'll have 33 yrs, I'm thinking I will be done then.
- 37 In it for life
- 38 job benefits [health, retirement, etc]
- 39 knowledge and the feeling of helping
- 40 lack of interest to join from other people
- 41 like what I do
- 42 Love it [X2]
- 43 love of EMS & community involvement
- 44 loves working with the EMS family & community responsibility
- 45 money, self-satisfaction
- 46 more money
- 47 my fellow responders
- 48 necessity, someone has to go
- 49 no one else will do the job
- 50 not a volunteer
- 51 not enough EMS in our area
- 52 non-monetary incentives would greatly improve moral in the local department
- 53 not many people available
- 54 on a LOA at the moment
- 55 paid for skills, ie: college education
- 56 pay, benefits
- 57 personal obligation to the community
- 58 personal satisfaction
- 59 personal success and confidence
- 60 positive environment
- 61 responsibility to my community
- 62 satisfaction of helping my fellow men; if I was younger
- 63 self satisfaction & appreciation shown from the patients; lengthen recert period to 3-4 yrs
- 64 self-rewarding, a hobby that makes me feel good; like the excitement
- 65 self-satisfaction [X3]
- 66 sense of duty, there is no one else
- 67 serving my community
- 68 the community needs me
- 69 the fact there is always something new to learn
- 70 the military
- 71 there is a need, I am able to fill it
- 72 there is no other organization in the world that is such a family, maybe the mafia
- 73 training -it's hard to keep them
- 74 Training, additional incentives would increase commitment
- 75 very good information to know, I like to be helpful
- 76 will continue to help teach, but won't take call