



# TAX SAVINGS GENERATED BY NEW YORK'S VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE



PREPARED BY:  
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The Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY) commissioned Resolution Economics (ResEcon), a national firm of economists and policy analysts, to measure the economic value that volunteer firefighters provide to New York residents.

In completing this assignment, ResEcon analyzed both paid and volunteer fire departments throughout the state, excluding New York City. We employed economic models to measure firefighting requirements in each locality, using not only population but also geography, real property, service areas, and local experience. This multi-factor approach improves the accuracy of the calculations in a complex state like New York to account for its varied demographics and geography.

Volunteer firefighters reduce municipal government expenses by eliminating the need to pay for career firefighter wages, benefits and related costs. Volunteer organizations engage in extensive fundraising, which avoids tax levies for purchasing, maintaining, and operating firefighting equipment. Municipalities do not need to spend funds on fire stations with living quarters or other structures, which saves them a full range of annual operating expenses such as administration and utility costs.

- An additional 31,058 career firefighters would be necessary to go to an all-paid fire service;
- Currently, volunteer firefighters save New York taxpayers \$3.8 billion in salaries and benefits alone;
- The annual cost of an all-career fire service (salaries, benefits, operating costs and debt service) would be \$4.7 billion;
- In addition, there would be a one-time cost of \$8.2 billion to acquire existing stations/structures, vehicles and equipment;
- Approximately 1,500 fire stations would have to be built new or reconstructed;
- Property taxes would rise an average 28.4% statewide.

The complete tax impact study will be made available to legislators in the near future.



**Significantly Higher Property Taxes if No Volunteer Fire Departments:  
New York State Senate Districts 2022**

Senate District	Additional Active Career FFs Required	Additional Pay and Benefits	All Other Annual Operating & Debt Costs	Total Additional Annual Cost less Available Fire Funding	Average Increase in Existing Property Tax
1	829	102,311,866	22,742,219	42,275,429	6.0%
2	451	55,741,439	12,390,391	23,032,453	6.0%
3	499	61,573,728	13,686,811	25,442,365	6.0%
4	352	43,424,033	9,652,437	17,942,881	6.0%
5	518	63,920,277	14,208,410	34,470,710	7.0%
6	424	52,357,655	11,638,232	28,235,259	7.0%
7	739	91,210,716	20,274,619	49,187,805	7.0%
8	445	54,990,948	12,223,569	25,055,314	6.3%
9	431	53,171,701	11,819,181	28,674,254	7.0%
34	22	2,694,649	598,975	1,959,324	8.0%
35	302	37,318,443	8,295,267	27,134,864	8.0%
37	450	55,566,139	12,351,425	40,403,069	8.0%
38	513	63,341,437	14,079,744	45,817,883	9.0%
39	923	114,019,492	25,344,629	123,287,977	49.4%
40	1,145	141,359,514	31,421,859	118,937,067	16.6%
41	1,411	174,252,100	38,733,332	186,723,634	46.6%
42	1,251	154,516,043	34,346,336	157,106,342	43.0%
43	836	103,265,509	22,954,198	112,699,175	45.7%
44	904	111,582,984	24,803,034	118,173,603	75.4%
45	2,137	263,804,189	58,639,265	307,679,109	94.3%
46	962	118,770,605	26,400,722	127,980,170	41.7%
48	921	113,753,403	25,285,482	127,124,502	52.0%
49	1,921	237,150,151	52,714,518	275,641,912	79.1%
50	927	114,421,719	25,434,037	128,443,188	54.2%
51	2,418	298,538,380	66,360,096	336,130,014	71.6%
52	826	102,029,591	22,679,474	113,673,284	44.1%
53	1,221	150,775,204	33,514,810	173,129,372	77.2%
54	998	123,191,218	27,383,350	128,658,523	40.0%
55	249	30,742,476	6,833,539	22,319,557	9.0%
56	222	27,446,391	6,100,874	19,926,544	9.0%
57	1,582	195,327,934	43,418,137	227,663,514	65.1%
58	1,185	146,312,655	32,522,859	159,466,806	51.7%
60	1,512	186,746,709	41,510,674	210,181,808	39.0%
61	536	66,182,899	14,711,353	74,488,281	39.0%
62	805	99,389,954	22,092,727	108,698,853	36.9%
63	190	23,518,992	5,227,879	26,470,423	39.0%
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>31,058</b>	<b>\$3,834,721,143</b>	<b>\$852,394,464</b>	<b>\$3,774,235,268</b>	<b>28.4%</b>

**Significantly Higher Property Taxes if No Volunteer Fire Departments:  
New York State Assembly Districts 2022**

Assembly District	Additional Active Career FFs Required	Additional Pay and Benefits	All Other Annual Operating & Debt Costs	Total Additional Annual Cost less Available Fire Funding	Average Increase in Existing Property Tax
1	466	57,511,496	12,783,845	23,763,843	6.0%
2	341	42,105,498	9,359,349	17,398,060	6.0%
3	200	24,746,378	5,500,706	10,225,244	6.0%
4	174	21,526,738	4,785,034	8,894,883	6.0%
5	162	19,969,335	4,438,850	8,251,362	6.0%
6	136	16,778,469	3,729,573	6,932,891	6.0%
7	179	22,134,256	4,920,075	9,145,910	6.0%
8	185	22,900,413	5,090,379	9,462,488	6.0%
9	175	21,606,707	4,802,810	10,028,976	6.3%
10	193	23,865,551	5,304,913	10,348,732	6.1%
11	150	18,533,787	4,119,751	7,818,277	6.1%
12	176	21,728,203	4,829,817	8,978,129	6.0%
13	256	31,616,950	7,027,920	17,050,282	7.0%
14	234	28,881,880	6,419,960	15,575,322	7.0%
15	350	43,187,107	9,599,773	23,289,796	7.0%
16	248	30,656,632	6,814,457	16,532,404	7.0%
17	177	21,800,429	4,845,871	11,756,461	7.0%
18	159	19,639,484	4,365,529	10,591,114	7.0%

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Assembly District	Additional Active Career FFs Required	Additional Pay and Benefits	All Other Annual Operating & Debt Costs	Total Additional Annual Cost less Available Fire Funding	Average Increase in Existing Property Tax
19	198	24,431,153	5,430,637	13,175,149	7.0%
20	197	24,326,067	5,407,278	13,118,479	7.0%
21	176	21,751,715	4,835,043	11,730,191	7.0%
22	154	19,004,117	4,224,298	10,248,476	7.0%
88	131	16,231,219	3,607,929	11,801,990	8.0%
91	170	20,965,986	4,660,388	15,244,719	8.0%
92	286	35,358,298	7,859,559	25,709,609	8.0%
93	497	61,391,867	13,646,387	44,639,053	8.0%
94	533	65,868,891	14,641,554	67,557,744	31.7%
95	380	46,876,148	10,419,785	37,726,238	10.7%
96	216	26,649,474	5,923,733	19,276,836	9.0%
97	181	22,313,211	4,959,854	16,140,210	9.0%
98	613	75,709,237	16,828,899	72,759,463	30.3%
99	401	49,454,118	10,992,824	48,182,378	39.1%
100	954	117,774,350	26,179,271	128,686,269	60.6%
101	720	88,872,766	19,754,932	94,621,798	48.9%
102	1,097	135,406,607	30,098,627	149,615,951	70.1%
103	452	55,859,618	12,416,660	60,351,436	45.9%
104	220	27,221,257	6,050,831	28,628,201	45.4%
105	543	67,010,252	14,895,260	72,805,637	52.0%
106	644	79,540,803	17,680,592	85,782,006	49.9%
107	524	64,722,707	14,386,777	69,505,794	43.4%
108	138	17,075,339	3,795,563	18,160,545	46.5%
109	144	17,821,340	3,961,386	18,996,931	45.0%
110	301	37,212,870	8,271,799	39,645,222	42.9%
111	234	28,931,136	6,430,908	31,103,852	36.1%
112	481	59,365,410	13,195,939	63,629,589	73.1%
113	329	40,649,591	9,035,725	43,922,850	76.9%
114	1,026	126,716,335	28,166,925	146,313,460	71.6%
115	915	113,018,890	25,122,212	131,411,012	105.3%
116	540	66,684,866	14,822,932	75,273,779	85.9%
117	1,072	132,332,825	29,415,377	154,283,874	91.4%
118	987	121,835,257	27,081,943	144,071,641	80.3%
119	154	19,051,713	4,234,878	22,444,097	89.0%
120	481	59,431,952	13,210,730	68,167,517	54.4%
121	752	92,874,382	20,644,424	104,603,799	56.7%
122	552	68,157,050	15,150,174	78,615,373	78.7%
123	126	15,518,566	3,449,518	18,414,102	45.0%
124	429	53,002,074	11,781,476	55,766,618	47.2%
125	505	62,398,050	13,870,044	67,535,955	45.6%
126	675	83,332,425	18,523,406	92,838,662	52.9%
127	427	52,742,031	11,723,673	58,567,187	54.2%
128	281	34,723,731	7,718,505	38,588,913	54.0%
129	108	13,306,076	2,957,718	14,787,207	54.0%
130	379	46,749,942	10,391,731	50,266,631	39.7%
131	474	58,550,625	13,014,826	63,975,327	44.3%
132	554	68,352,393	15,193,595	75,689,862	50.4%
133	469	57,932,390	12,877,403	61,866,461	43.8%
134	175	21,626,309	4,807,167	15,701,066	9.0%
135	181	22,319,858	4,961,332	16,204,594	9.0%
136	82	10,169,588	2,260,530	7,383,293	9.0%
137	30	3,764,599	836,807	2,733,162	9.0%
138	128	15,797,596	3,511,542	11,469,322	9.0%
139	501	61,813,504	13,740,110	66,932,828	42.7%
140	218	26,916,759	5,983,146	30,607,494	40.0%
142	163	20,134,431	4,475,548	22,661,128	39.0%
143	251	30,945,540	6,878,677	34,828,938	39.0%
144	500	61,687,855	13,712,180	71,511,035	41.4%
145	261	32,199,069	7,157,315	37,760,399	42.8%
146	287	35,456,263	7,881,335	39,905,717	39.0%
147	951	117,408,696	26,097,992	132,921,391	43.4%
148	1,021	126,108,510	28,031,816	148,929,946	94.6%
149	153	18,833,711	4,186,419	21,197,179	39.0%
150	371	45,842,422	10,190,005	51,195,503	41.0%
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>31,058</b>	<b>\$3,834,721,143</b>	<b>\$852,394,464</b>	<b>\$3,774,235,268</b>	<b>28.4%</b>