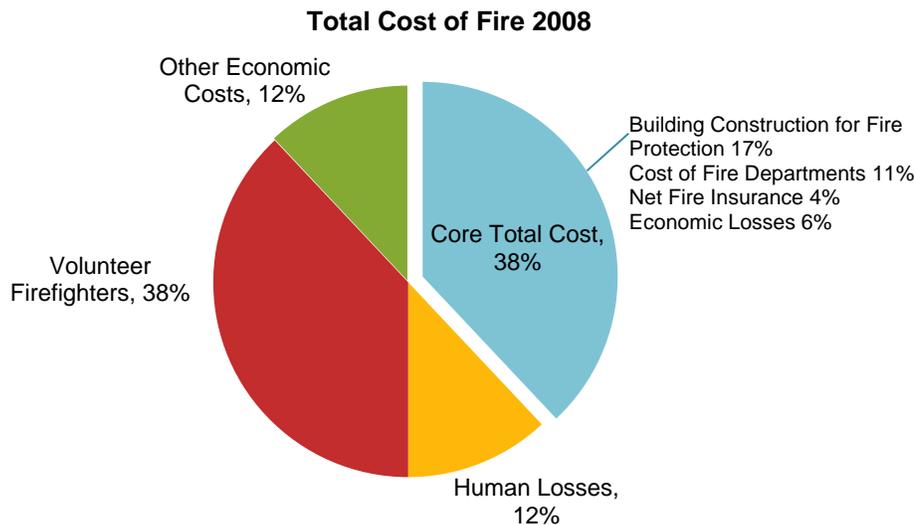


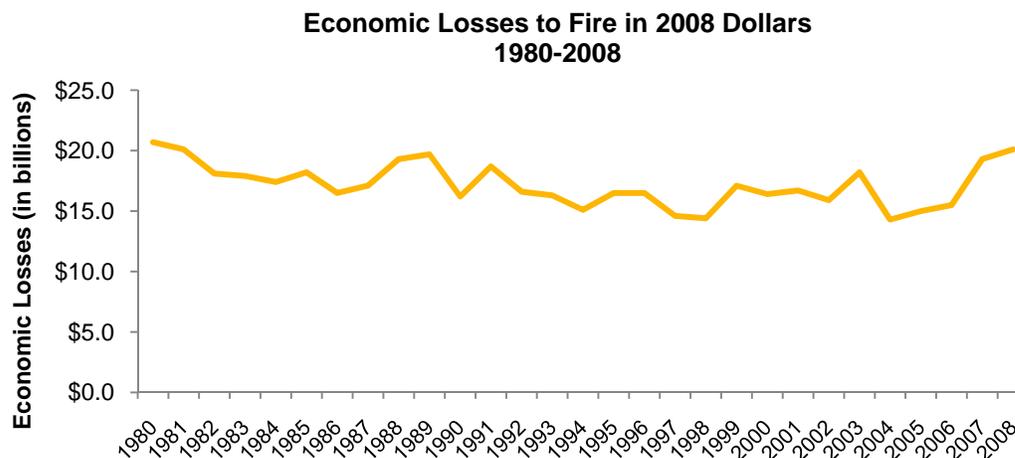


## The Total Cost of Fire in 2008

In 2008, the total cost of fire was an estimated \$362 billion, or 2.5 percent of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP). The total cost of fire includes the losses that fire causes, such as human losses (e.g., lives lost, medical treatment of injuries, pain and suffering) and economic losses (e.g., property damage, business interruption); and the cost of provisions to prevent or mitigate the cost of fire, such as fire departments, insurance, and fire protection equipment and construction.



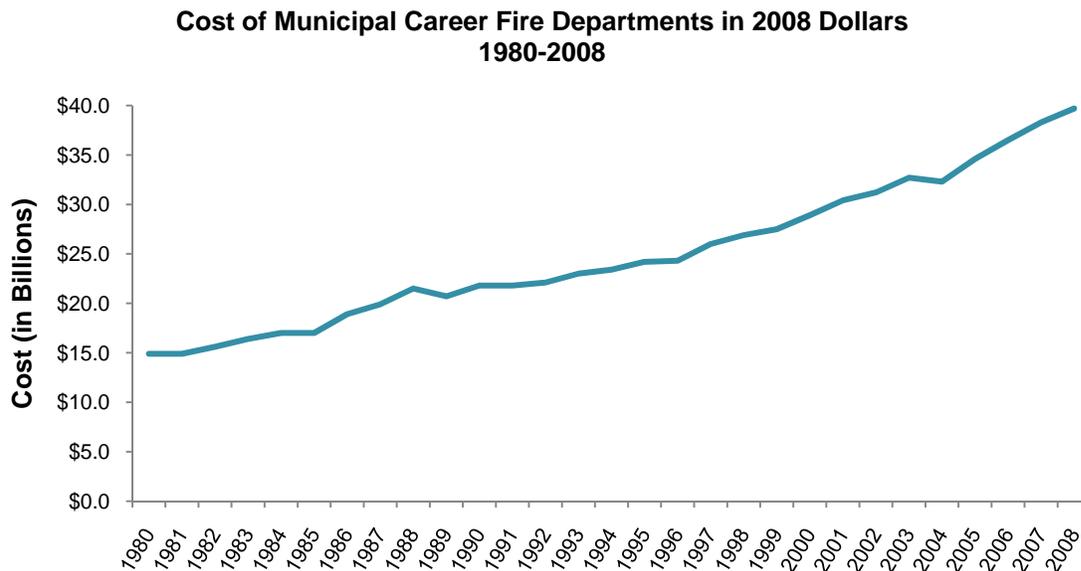
In 2008, economic losses to fire (direct and indirect, reported and unreported) totaled an estimated **\$20.1 billion**.



**FACT:** Fires in 2008 caused \$17.6 billion in reported or unreported direct property damage which was 88% of economic loss that year. The other 12% was indirect loss, such as business interruption.

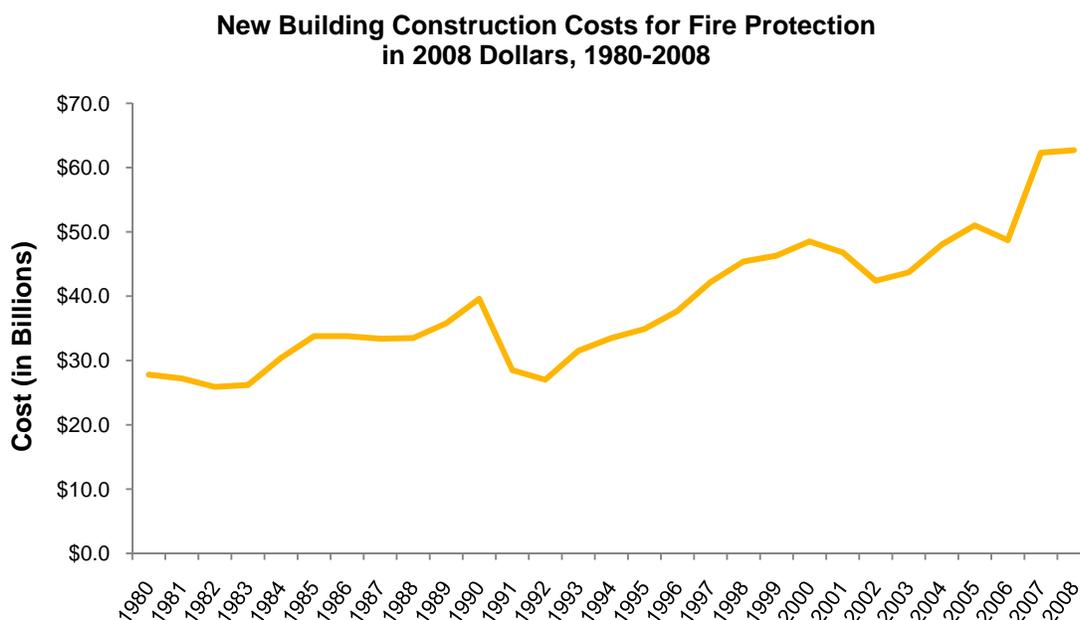
The year 2001 excludes the events of September 11.

Career fire departments<sup>1</sup> cost **\$39.7 billion** in 2008.



**FACT:** Part of increase in fire department cost is due to shift from volunteer to career fire departments.

New building construction for fire protection cost an estimated **\$62.7 billion** in 2008.



**FACT:** New building construction costs include passive protection, such as compartmentation, and active protection, such as detection and

<sup>1</sup>A fire department is a public or private organization that provides fire prevention, fire suppression, and associate emergency and non-emergency services to a jurisdiction such as a county, municipality, or organized fire district.