

# Neosho Fire Department 2015 Annual Report



*It is the design of the department to serve the public to the best of our ability.*

*The mission of the department is to assist people through Prevention, Planning, Education, and Action. We pursue this mission with determination and resolve with emphases on Dedication, Compassion, and Constant Improvement.*

## Introduction

The Neosho Fire Department kept busy with 175 more calls in 2015 than in 2014. The fire department budget continued to improve allowing us to continue all aspects of service that we have provided in the past. We responded to 2,031 calls for service. A break down of the call history, response by district, department training, and history of calls for service is provided later in this report.

Over the summer of 2015 ISO came into the City and evaluated the city services. In result of that, the city received a rating of "4/4X". This was an improvement from our previous rating. This improved rating shows the cities dedication to improving our services to the citizens.

I would like to say "Thank You" to the citizens that have continued to support the fire department. We have worked very hard at maintaining the high standards that the citizens of Neosho have come to expect. I would also like to say "Thank You" to the members of the department, their families and fellow City employees that have sacrificed their personal lives to assist residents and visitors to our community and our department.

## Chief Mike Eads

### Departmental facts

Fire Station 1  
125 N. College St.  
Neosho, Missouri 64850  
Phone: 417-451-8021  
Fax: 417-451-8027

Fire Station 2  
501 Industrial Drive  
Neosho Missouri 64850  
Phone: 417-451-8030  
Fax: 417-451-8047

Department e-mail: Fire Chief Mike Eads, [meads@neoshomo.org](mailto:meads@neoshomo.org)  
Administrative Assistant Mari Mallory, [mmallory@neoshomo.org](mailto:mmallory@neoshomo.org)

### Staffing-40 hour

Fire Chief  
Administrative Assistant  
Training Officer

### Staffing-24 hr Shift

3 Battalion Chiefs  
3 Captains  
12 Engineers  
6 Firefighters

### Staffing-Paid-per-call

5 firefighters

The Deputy Chief position was removed in 2011 and was not funded in 2015/2016 budget year.

**Fire Department Personnel Current staff  
End of year 2015  
(Year of Full Time)**

**Administrative Staffing (40 hr)**

Chief Mike Eads (86)  
Administrative Assistant Mari Mallory (99)  
Fire Inspector/Firefighter Scott Maness (11)

**A-Shift (24)**

Bat. Chief Brad Morris (92)  
Capt. Adrian Hitchcock (02)  
Eng. Bryan McCutcheon (01)  
Eng. Beau Davis (05)  
Eng. Dustin Wright (11)  
Eng. Jacob Pim (11)  
FF Cody Bunch (14)  
FF Lance Parsons (15)

**B-Shift (24)**

Bat. Chief Jim Ledford (97)  
Capt. Roy Haskett (02)  
Eng. Mark Solomon (02)  
Eng. Tim Duncan (02)  
Eng. Ryan Bogle (05)  
Eng. Heath Crowder (11)  
FF Dakota Pendleton (14)  
FF Josh Anderson (15)

**C-Shift (24)**

Bat. Chief Bret Smith (91)  
Capt. Kyle Rogers (03)  
Eng. Al Cervantes (95)  
Eng. Wade Sterling (04)  
Eng. Luke Powell (12)  
Eng. Travis Bracht (11)  
FF Jacob Guernsey (13)  
FF Derek Williams (Jan. '16)

**Paid-per-Call**

Firefighter Gregg Lee (77)  
Firefighter Steffen Wiest (11)  
Firefighter Derek Lawrence (11)  
Firefighter Phillip Doke (13)  
Firefighter Eric Brodie (14)



The Fire Service is a noble calling, one which is founded on mutual respect and trust between firefighters and the citizens they serve. To ensure the continuing integrity of the Fire Service, the highest standards of ethical conduct must be maintained at all times.

**Response area of the department is approximately 93 square miles, which includes:**

**City of Neosho (15.75 Sq. Miles)**  
**District A**-Inside City limit, north of South Street  
**District B**-Inside City limit, south of South Street

**Neosho Area Fire Protection District District C**-Area outside City of Neosho (77.25 Sq. Miles)  
Limits: Iris Road on the north, Goldfinch on the west, AA Highway on the south, Panda Road on the east. District lines follow section lines where no roads are located.

**Mutual Aid (M/A)**

Assistance requested from and provided to all local fire or other agencies that request personnel, equipment, or special assistance from the fire department. Department also participates in the State Wide Mutual Aid assistance program when requested if resources and personnel are available.

**Equipment Operated by the Fire Department: (year of vehicle)**

**City:**

2 Engines (2013 & 1999)  
1 Reserve Engine (1987)  
1 Aerial-75 Ft. (1996)  
1 Light rescue (2008)  
4 Service units-pickup trucks, & Air Unit (2001, 2001, 2005, 2005)  
1 Command vehicle-Staff (2006)  
1 Educational trailer (CARE)  
1 Radio/Rehab vehicle (1992)

**District:**

2 Engines (2009 & 1995)  
1 Reserve Engine (1997)  
2 Tankers (1999 & 2000)  
3 Brush trucks (2001, 2006, 2009)  
1 Light rescue (2005)  
1 Command vehicle (Chief) (2009)  
1 Flatbed trailer  
1 Tanker (2009) Build in process

**County Supplied Vehicle (2001)**-Air Unit 1 is a Mobile Air Supply unit purchased through a joint agreement of the Newton County Fire Departments and Newton County Commission. (Pickup used to supply breathing air for firefighters during emergencies.) Area departments share cost of operations of this equipment.

**Homeland Security Equipment operated by fire department**- In September 2008, the City of Neosho Opted out of this program due to funding available to support the program. In January 2010, we closed out funding from Missouri's Homeland Security Regional Response System (HSRRS) program funds. Teams retained all equipment received through the program. Unencumbered funds were reallocated to the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee. Team was comprised of members of the Neosho Police (Law Enforcement), Neosho Fire (Haz-mat), and Newton County Ambulance District (Medical). Equipment has been used to support local and mutual aid operations when requested or Regional or State Responses when called for. Primary mission of the Neosho Haz-Mat Team was to support other Regional and State teams during times of emergency. Equipment listed consists of Hazardous materials and Decontamination Equipment used by the Neosho Fire Department HSRRS.

3-Prime equipment Movers (F250, F-550, and Bobcat loader)  
1-28 foot Cargo Trailer-Hazardous Materials Equipment  
1-20 foot Cargo Trailer-Equipment Mover  
1-16 foot Flatbed Trailer-Equipment Mover  
4-ATV's with Trailers and Carts-Equipment Movers  
Assorted logistical support equipment (Sheltering tents, generators, heating system, etc).  
Neosho Police and Newton County Ambulance District also received specialized equipment through the program.  
Equipment issued to and purchased for the team through the Homeland Security Program was in excess of \$410,000.

### **Vehicle Maintenance and Service**

Due to the nature of the services the fire department provides, the task of proper operation and maintenance of all equipment is of utmost importance. The maintenance programs of the department consist of daily, weekly, monthly, six-month and annual service. Records are maintained on all apparatus and motorized equipment. Minor service and repairs, such as oil changes, adjustments to vehicles, and equipment are performed by duty personnel or individuals within the department that have been factory trained in maintenance procedures on specific equipment. These would include major repairs, computerized diagnostics on apparatus engines and electrical equipment, air sampling and service of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and their air cylinders. Our annual ISO testing of pumpers, SCBA's, aerial, and ground ladders are performed by an outside vendor since the department does not have proper equipment for these types of testing. NFPA recommends an outside testing source as well. We do attempt to schedule and offer these testing requirements to other departments within our area to help with reducing the cost to all departments for these services.

We also rely on the public works maintenance shop and personnel. Allowing the fire department to use the shop and pit area to perform maintenance has greatly helped our personnel. Shop personnel have also helped and or provided support in areas that we needed assistant with maintenance and repair of our apparatus.



## Fire Department Response Information

### Calls by District

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
District A (870) =42.83%		40.30%	46.24%	45.26%	42.09%
District B (543) =26.73%		26.02%	25.96%	24.94%	27.17%
District C (536) =26.39%		29.63%	24.30%	26.27%	25.94%
Mutual Aid (82) =4.03%		4.04%	3.48%	3.52%	4.80%

### 5 year average for Calls by District

City-District A 43.34% City-District B 26.16% District C: 26.51% Mutual Aid: 3.97%

### Yearly Average Response Time for the First Arriving Unit (from receiving alarm to arrival) (Fire calls only) (In minutes) (Times are from Station to call)

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
District A	5:05	5.35	5.32	5.12	5.24
District B	5:48	7.12	6.48	4.30	6.00
District C:	9:37	9.30	8.11	10.12	10.03

### 5 year average for first arriving unit

City-District A 5.22 City-District B 5.88 District C: 9.39

### Yearly Average Response Time for the Second Arriving Unit (from receiving alarm to arrival) (Fire calls only)

	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
District A	7:20	7.16	6.30	6.26	6.52
District B	5:45	7.12	7.48	5.36	6.00
District C:	10:27	10.27	9.18	10.49	10.41

### 5 year average for second arriving unit

City-District A 6.69 City-District B 6.28 District C: 10.12

Factors that can effect response times are location of call, travel routes, traffic, overlapping or multiple calls, calls outside the district areas (Example: Dist. Apparatus responding to Dist. B area or Dist. B responding to Dist. A area) and Dispatching of call.

Insurance Services Organization criteria say that a build-upon area of a community should have a first-due engine company within 1.5 road miles of the protected properties and a ladder-service company within 2.5 miles. This benchmark criterion produces an expected response time of 3.2 minutes for an engine company and 4.9 minutes for a ladder-service company, based on a

formula developed by the RAND Corporation. During our last evaluation ISO awarded 2.28% of a possible 4% for Distribution of Companies.

**Man-hours by District (Man-hours=number of personnel responding X length of call) (From receiving alarm till apparatus and equipment are returned to service) (All call types)**

District A (Calls for service-870)	1,472.01 man hours
District B (Calls for service-543)	1,018.98 man hours
District C (Calls for service-536)	1,649.65 man hours
Mutual Aid (Outside City and District 82 calls for service)	360.84 man hours

**Average Response Turnout (Personnel On-scene of working structure fires only)**

District A (Incidents-13)	Average turn out per incident-9
District B (Incidents-5)	Average turn out per incident -8
District C (Incidents-18)	Average turn out per incident-9

ISO recommends 10 personnel for structure alarms

**5 year average turn out per incident**

City-District A 9	City-District B 9	District C 9
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**Major structure incidents, with over \$5,000 fire department estimated loss:**

January	City-3101 Lusk Dr-\$17,000
	District-11158 Moose Dr-\$59,000
February	District-9152 Nettle Dr-\$120,000
	District-18958 Kendall Ln-\$12,000
April	City-411 Adams St-\$10,000
	City-700 Spencer Dr-\$75,000
	City-1015 Lafayette St-\$15,500
September	District-15273 Ibex Rd-\$6,000
	City-1105 Main Ave-\$15,000
December	City-409 Gooch Rd-\$95,000
	District-18339 Hwy D-\$45,000

We responded to 50 calls for service that were logged as a fire (Structure, vehicle, etc.) and of that number we had an estimated dollar loss amount of \$713,220. This number reflects all calls where there was a reported loss of any amount. (Estimates for dollar loss are just an estimate from fire personnel on scene and do not reflect the actual dollar loss by the Insurance Company or Home Owner)

**Fire related injuries or deaths (Civilian or Fire Personnel)**

1-Civilian deaths in the City or District

2-Civilian injury in the City or District

0-Fire personnel deaths in the City or District

5-Fire personnel injury in the City or District

**Fire Department Manning/Personnel:**

ISO-In 2015 ISO came in and graded the city in several areas, that being Fire Department, water supply and dispatching services. These areas were broke down even further and a point system is used to determine an ISO or insurance rating for the city. Before 2015, the city had a rating of “5” but with improvements to various areas, the city received a rating of: “4/4X.

This lowering in rating shows the city is improving in all services toward fire protection in the city and it is our hopes that this progressive attitude will continue into the next ISO visit.

1999 Personnel Levels	2004 Personnel Levels	2015 Personnel Levels
2 Chief Officers*	2 Chief Officers**	1 Chief Officer***
1 Admin. Assist.	1 Admin. Assist.	1 Admin. Assist.
1 Fire Inspector*	1 Sec.	1 Trng. Officer/Inspect.***
3 Captains*	1 Building Inspector**	3 Bat. Chiefs***
3 Lieutenants*	1 Training Officer**	3 Captains***
12 Engineers*	3 Captains**	12 Engineers***
8 Paid per call Firefighters	3 Lieutenants**	6 Firefighters***
	12 Engineers**	5 Paid per call Firefighters
	6 Firefighters**	
	8 Paid per call Firefighters	
21 Fulltime Firefighters*	28 Fulltime Firefighters**	26 Fulltime Firefighters***
8 PPC Firefighters	8 PPC Firefighters	5 PPC Firefighters
2 Stations	2 Stations	2 Stations

The numbers above show our staff levels differences between 1999 and 2015. In 1999 ISO made several recommendations to the city, those being; water line improvements, dispatching improvements, road improvements, additional fire personnel, additional apparatus and additional stations. Between 1999 and 2015 improvements have taken place in the form of additional personnel (6 full time firefighters), training and documentation, dispatching services, water supply upgrades and updated equipment. In 2015 those improvements helped the city get a lower classification rating, that being a drop to the “4/4X” rating. We are still behind in certain recommendations with that being fire additional stations, personnel, apparatus, pre-planning and water supply.

It comes down to the better the service we can provide to the homeowner, the cheaper their insurance rates can be. For every 1 point drop in the ISO rating we can achieve, the homeowner could see a \$100 to \$200 drop in their homeowners insurance. Currently the city has a “4/4X” rating and the district has a “9” rating. (District re-rating should take place during the 2016 calendar year)

These concerns were noted during our 2015 ISO visit and long term goals have been established to try to work on these items as budget allows.



### **2015 in Review:**

**Tri-State Fire Recruitment Alliance**-This program allows individuals interested in the fire service to test only one time per year for all departments participating in the program. There are currently seventeen fire departments participating in the program. This allows us to have a set standard for testing and a hiring list when or if the need arises to hire personnel.

**Annual Pump Testing**-Annual testing of all apparatus pumps. All city apparatus passed testing with the exception of Engine 7. The pump failed the vacuum/Suction test and is slowly decreasing its pump capacity rating. The cost of repairing vs. value of the apparatus is not cost prohibitive at this time. (Factors are: Cost to rebuild or replace-pump, motor, transmission, piping, valves plus the cab does not meet NFPA standards with it being an open cab configuration)

**Annual Ladder Testing**-Annual testing of all ladders. No problems found this year.

**Annual SCBA Testing**-All self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) where tested. Some minor issues were found and corrected.

**Community Events**-Personnel assisted with several organizations for fund raising and community assistance programs. Children's Miracle Network, Newton County Fire Chiefs Christmas for Kids, Shop with a Cop, Food Basket Brigade, Neosho Christmas Parade, Neosho School System events, Newton County Relay for Life, Fourth of July activities, numerous other city and chamber events and filled numerous dunk tanks.

**Neosho Area Fire Protection District**- The district continues to work with supporting the fire department. One area that is being looked at is the ISO rating in the district and what improvements need to be made to help lower the ISO rating. In September the District took possession of their new fire station west of Neosho on Ireland Lane. Final touches are being made to the new facility and an open house was held in January of 2016. A pumper and brush truck has been placed at the station and a third tanker is in the works. As soon as we get all apparatus in the new facility, the district will be rerated by ISO.

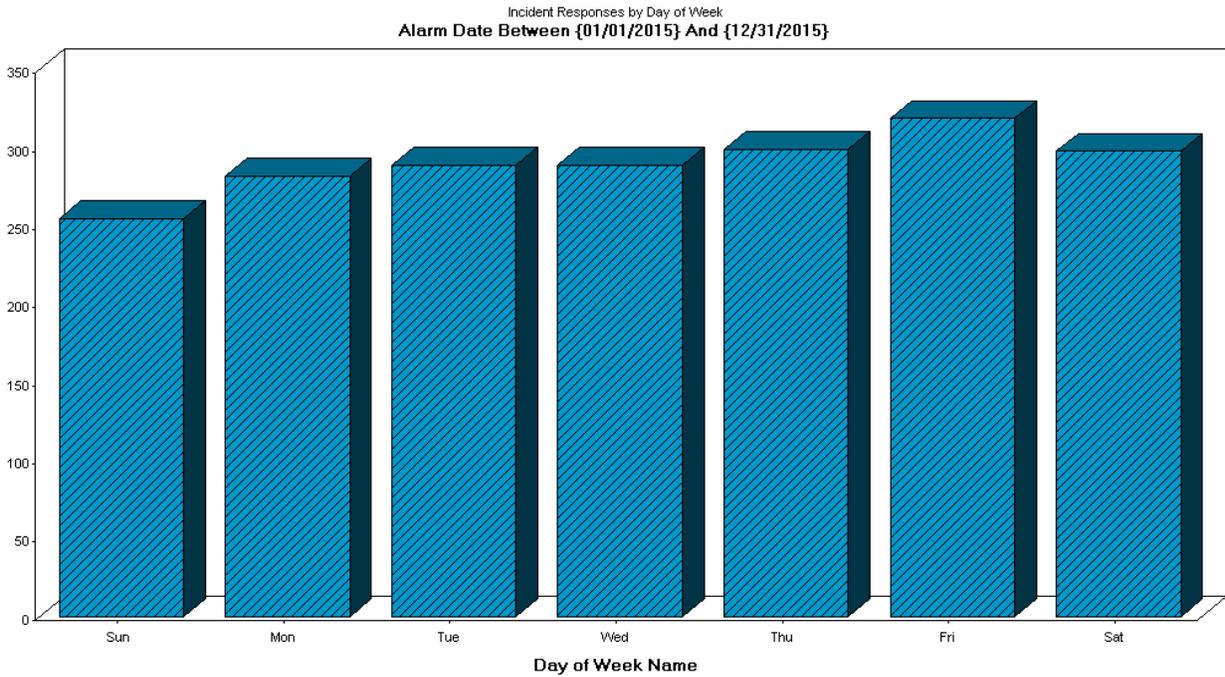
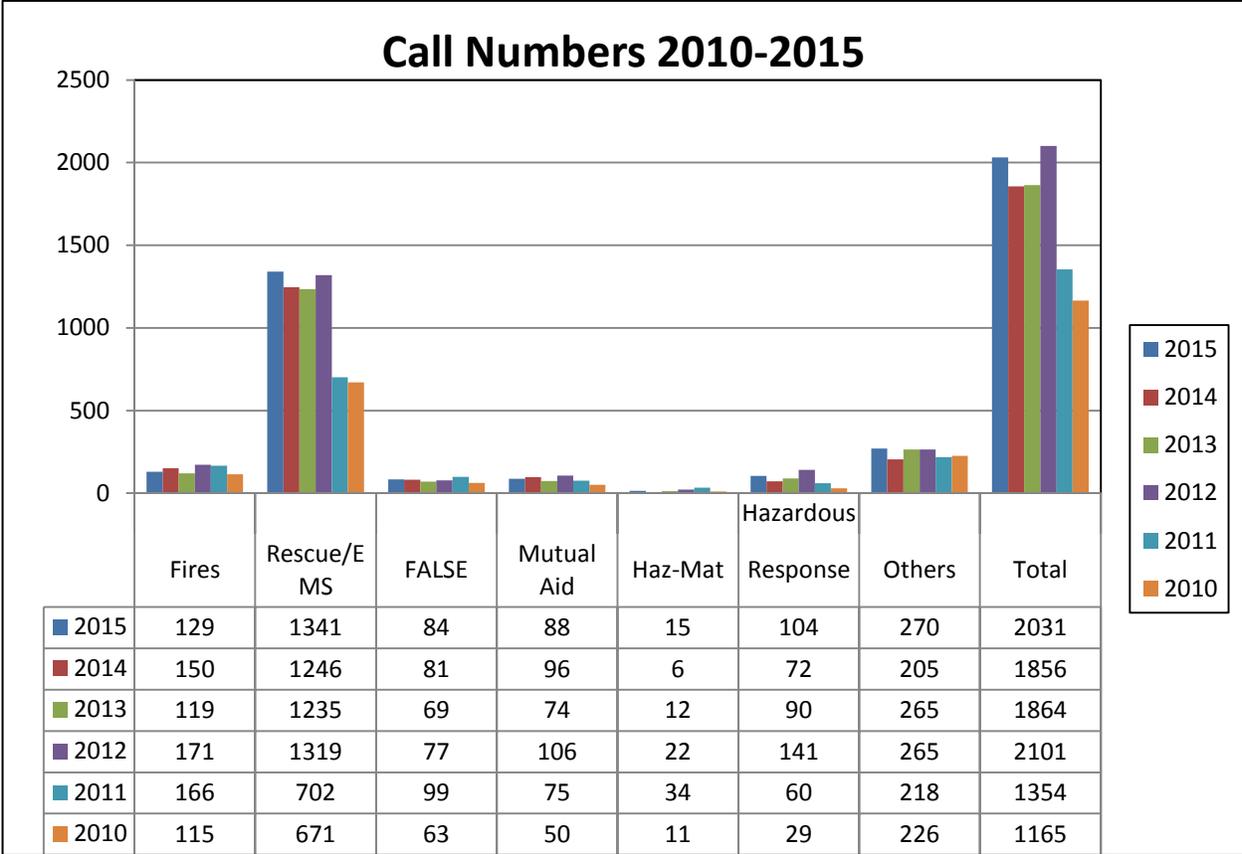
**Firefighter Training**-Personnel participated in 5,456.11 hours of in-house and outside department training. That breaks down to 155.89 hours of training per individual.

**Community Training**-23 hours of public education was performed during the year with over 1,200 participating citizens that consisted of extinguisher training, school fire prevention programs, fire safety talks for businesses, industry and the public.

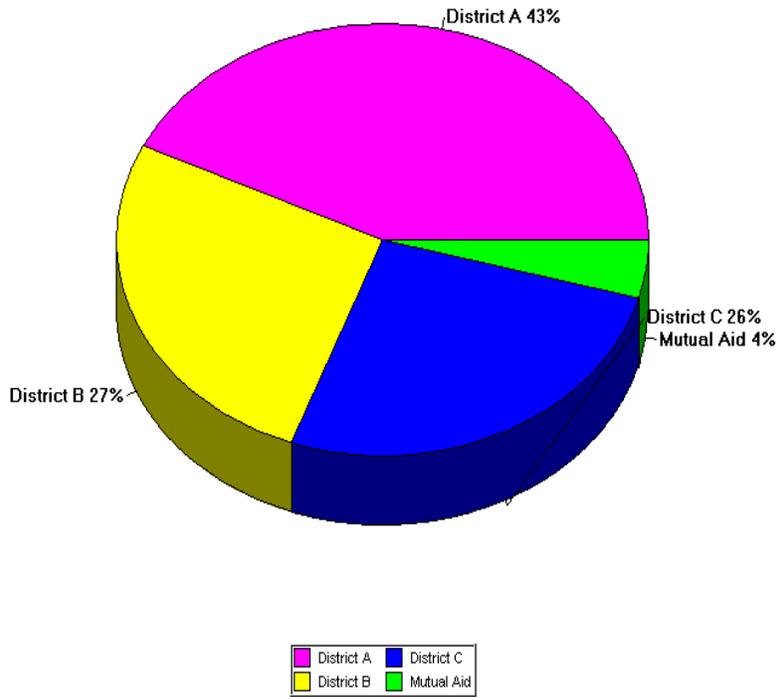
**Inspections**- 347 inspections where preformed during the year, those include Business/Company/Industry, new construction, remodels, tent, fireworks, and burn permits. An additional 88 re-inspections where preformed to follow up on questions and or concerns brought up from the first inspection.

**Firefighter Training**-We continue to train all Firefighters to be Engineers so we have the flexibility to have enough operators of the apparatus to respond to structure fires. These changes will give us more flexibility in our operations and what we can offer.

**Open House**-Our open house was a great success. This was our third year to hold the open house during the City Fall Festival. The Chili cook-off went over very well again this year. The competition was opened up to other agencies, police, sheriffs, fire, public works and ambulance. This year the three shifts from the fire department and the Part Time personnel competed. A-Shift won the chili completion this year. All chili was good and none went to waste.



Incidents by District (Modified)  
 Alarm Date Between {01/01/2015} And {12/31/2015}



Fire vs EMS by Month  
 Fire Alarm Date Between {01/01/2015} And {12/31/2015}  
 EMS Alarm Date Between {01/01/2015} And {12/31/2015}

