



# STUDY ON RESPONSE TIME

San Francisco Fire Department Calls for service

## ABSTRACT

Using the San Francisco Fire Department call logs to extract the 90th percentile Response Times each month by Battalion for the past 12 months and visualize them accordingly.

## INTRODUCTION

The Fire Department plays a vital role in helping the Community rapidly return to life in critical moments by reacting immediately to incidents and resolving the crisis accordingly. Fire Calls-For-Service covers the response of fire units to requests.

## OBJECTIVE

The key goal in this analysis is to explain Fire Department's response time between the moment they receive a call at the 911 Watch Center until the time they appear on the scene. This timeframe is known to be crucial so knowing this statistic from this point of view will allow San Francisco Fire Department officials to coordinate and respond efficiently. In specific, we would concentrate on 90th percentile Response Time depending on Month and their respective Battalion in detail.

## ENVIRONMENT

Scripting language: Python

Version used: 3.7.3 (preferred 3.6 or above)

External Libraries: Pandas, Matplotlib

Input filename: Fire\_Department\_Calls\_for\_Service.csv

Execution command: python ResponseTime.py (or) python3 ResponseTime.py

## DATA ANALYSIS

Data analysis is critical in business to identify the problems facing an enterprise and to analyze data in practical ways. Data is nothing more than statistics and figures. Data processing organizes, interprets, integrates and introduces data to relevant knowledge that provides a context for the data.

- To work with our data, we will first import necessary libraries

```
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

- Initially, we start by reading the data using read\_csv function followed by analyzing the raw data and understanding the big picture before we jump into the study itself. Pandas has been selected since it is simple, efficient, versatile and easy-to-use open source data analysis and manipulation tool that can be used with Python programming language. We start our analysis with raw data and sample few rows to understand them.

```
1 fire_dept_data = pd.read_csv('Fire_Department_Calls_for_Service.csv')
2 fire_dept_data.head(3)
```

|   | Call Number | Unit ID | Incident Number | Call Type        | Call Date  | Watch Date | Received DtTm          | Entry DtTm             | Dispatch DtTm          | Response DtTm          | ... | Supervisor Districts | Fire Prevention Districts | Current Police Districts |
|---|-------------|---------|-----------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 | 201560006   | 86      | 20064818        | Medical Incident | 06/04/2020 | 06/03/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:00 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:09 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:13 AM | ... | 9.0                  | NaN                       | 2.0                      |
| 1 | 201560006   | E48     | 20064818        | Medical Incident | 06/04/2020 | 06/03/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:00 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:09 AM | 06/04/2020 12:04:08 AM | ... | 9.0                  | NaN                       | 2.0                      |
| 2 | 201560006   | RA48    | 20064818        | Medical Incident | 06/04/2020 | 06/03/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:00 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:09 AM | 06/04/2020 12:04:12 AM | ... | 9.0                  | NaN                       | 2.0                      |

- In summary, we have around 5,313,695 records out of which we are only interested in last twelve months. In addition, there are about 44 columns in which only a few columns, such as 'Call Date', 'Received DtTm', 'On Scene DtTm', 'Battalion', would be needed for our analysis. So instead of loading the entire csv file in our DataFrame, we can restrict the columns thereby reducing the memory consumption and speeding up the performance time.

```
1 fire_dept_data.info()
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
Int64Index: 5313695 entries, 0 to 5313694
Data columns (total 44 columns):
Call Number      int64
Unit ID          object
Incident Number  int64
Call Type        object
Call Date        object
Watch Date       object
Received DtTm    object
Entry DtTm       object
Dispatch DtTm    object
Response DtTm    object
On Scene DtTm    object
Transport DtTm   object
Hospital DtTm    object
Call Final Disposition object
Available DtTm   object
Address          object
City            object
Zipcode of Incident float64
Battalion        object
Station Area     object
Box             object
Original Priority object
Priority          int64
Final Priority    int64
ALS Unit         bool
Call Type Group  object
Number of Alarms int64
Unit Type        object
Unit sequence in call dispatch object
Fire Prevention District object
Supervisor District object
Neighborhoods - Analysis Boundaries object
Location         object
RowID            object
Supervisor Districts float64
Fire Prevention Districts float64
Current Police Districts float64
Neighborhoods - Analysis Boundaries float64
Zip Codes        float64
Neighborhoods (old) float64
Police Districts float64
Civic Center Harm Reduction Project Boundary float64
HSOC Zones       float64
Central Market/Tenderloin Boundary Polygon - Updated float64
memory usage: 1.7+ GB
```

- From below output we can find that 'RowID' which is a unique combination of Call Number and Unit ID matches the total number of records. In addition, we can figure out there are duplicate records for Call Number and Incident Number.

```
1 len(fire_dept_data)
5313695

2 RowID_count=len(fire_dept_data['RowID'].unique())
3 Call_Number_count=len(fire_dept_data['Call Number'].unique())
4 Incident_Number_count=len(fire_dept_data['Incident Number'].unique())
5 print("Number of unique rows:",RowID_count)
6 print("Number of unique Call Numbers :",Call_Number_count)
7 print("Number of unique Incident Numbers :",Incident_Number_count)
Number of unique rows: 5313695
Number of unique Call Numbers : 2415491
Number of unique Incident Numbers : 2415491
```

- Now, let's review one of the Incident Numbers and figure out more about the duplicate data. From below results, we can realize that even if the 'Call Number' and 'Incident Number' values are duplicated, the 'Unit ID' remains distinct for each record. This makes sense because we may have the same Incident Number and Call Number for any reported accidents, but different units will be dispatched to deal with the situation.

```
1 fire_dept_data[fire_dept_data['Incident Number']==20064818]
```

|   | Call Number | Unit ID | Incident Number | Call Type        | Call Date  | Watch Date | Received DtTm          | Entry DtTm             | Dispatch DtTm          | Response DtTm          | ... | Supervisor Districts | Fire Prevention Districts | Current Police Districts |
|---|-------------|---------|-----------------|------------------|------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 | 201560006   | 86      | 20064818        | Medical Incident | 06/04/2020 | 06/03/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:00 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:09 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:13 AM | ... | 9.0                  | NaN                       | 2.0                      |
| 1 | 201560006   | E48     | 20064818        | Medical Incident | 06/04/2020 | 06/03/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:00 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:09 AM | 06/04/2020 12:04:08 AM | ... | 9.0                  | NaN                       | 2.0                      |
| 2 | 201560006   | RA48    | 20064818        | Medical Incident | 06/04/2020 | 06/03/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:00 AM | 06/04/2020 12:02:09 AM | 06/04/2020 12:04:12 AM | ... | 9.0                  | NaN                       | 2.0                      |

3 rows x 44 columns

In general, there are 838 different units available for service. It can refer to Engine(E01), Truck(T01) etc.

```
1 len(fire_dept_data['Unit ID'].unique())
```

838

- We will now check whether there are any missing values in our data for the necessary columns. As per result, we can find that only 'On Scene DtTm' column has missing values and therefore these records should be dropped during Data Manipulation since we will calculate Response Time by taking difference between 'On Scene DtTm' and 'Received DtTm'.

```

1 battalion_missing = pd.isnull(fire_dept_data["Battalion"])
2 battalion_missing_count=len(fire_dept_data[battalion_missing] )
3
4 Receiveddtm_missing = pd.isnull(fire_dept_data["Received DtTm"])
5 Receiveddtm_missing_count=len(fire_dept_data[Receiveddtm_missing] )
6
7 OnScenedttm_missing = pd.isnull(fire_dept_data["On Scene DtTm"])
8 OnScenedttm_missing_count=len(fire_dept_data[OnScenedttm_missing] )
9
10 print(f"Number of records with Missing values\n Battalion:{battalion_missing_count}\n Recieved DtTm:{Receiveddtm_missing_count}\n On Scene DtTm:{OnScenedttm_missing_count}")

```

Number of records with Missing values  
 Battalion:0  
 Recieved DtTm:0  
 On Scene DtTm:1199690

## DATA MANIPULATION

- Based on the use-case, we will import the csv file with necessary columns to save memory and accelerate processing time.

```

col_list=['Call Date','Received DtTm','On Scene DtTm','Battalion']
fire_dept_data=pd.read_csv('Fire_Department_Calls_for_Service.csv',usecols=col_list)
fire_dept_data.head(3)

```

| Call Date  | Received DtTm          | On Scene DtTm          | Battalion |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| 06/04/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:15:50 AM | B03       |
| 06/04/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:07:11 AM | B03       |
| 06/04/2020 | 06/04/2020 12:00:17 AM | 06/04/2020 12:07:38 AM | B03       |

- When a csv file is imported and a DataFrame is generated, the Date Time objects in the file are interpreted as a string object rather than a Date Time object and thus it is very difficult to perform operations such as last("12M") to get recent twelve months data. The Pandas to\_datetime method helps to translate the Date time string to the Python Date time object.

```

fire_dept_data['Call Date']=pd.to_datetime(fire_dept_data['Call Date'])

```

Call Date

datetime64[ns]

- We will need a new column 'Year\_Month' for further analysis on grouping data based on Month. So, we will create one using existing column 'Call Date' using strftime method.

```

1 fire_dept_data['Year_Month'] = fire_dept_data['Call Date'].apply(lambda x: x.strftime('%Y-%m'))
2 fire_dept_data[['Year_Month','Call Date']].head()

```

|   | Year_Month | Call Date  |
|---|------------|------------|
| 0 | 2020-06    | 2020-06-04 |
| 1 | 2020-06    | 2020-06-04 |
| 2 | 2020-06    | 2020-06-04 |
| 3 | 2020-06    | 2020-06-04 |
| 4 | 2020-06    | 2020-06-04 |

- We will now sort and index the data based on 'Call Date' column, filter the last 12-month records and finally drop any records with missing values since it will affect Response time calculation. In conclusion, we have 232910 out of 5313695 records for our case study.

```
1 fire_dept_data_12Month = fire_dept_data.sort_values(by="Call Date",ascending=True) \
2   .set_index("Call Date")\
3   .last("12M")\
4   .dropna()
5 fire_dept_data_12Month.head(3)
```

|            | Received DtTm          | On Scene DtTm          | Battalion | Year_Month |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Call Date  |                        |                        |           |            |
| 2019-08-01 | 08/01/2019 01:28:53 AM | 08/01/2019 01:36:57 AM | B03       | 2019-08    |
| 2019-08-01 | 08/01/2019 08:36:30 AM | 08/01/2019 08:52:17 AM | B08       | 2019-08    |
| 2019-08-01 | 08/01/2019 08:33:24 PM | 08/01/2019 08:41:11 PM | B10       | 2019-08    |

```
1 len(fire_dept_data_12Month)
232910
```

- For the filtered records, we will calculate 'Response Time seconds' column from 'On Scene DtTm' field and 'Received DtTm' field.

```
1 #Create Response Time column
2 fire_dept_data_12Month.insert(0,"Response Time seconds",\
3   (pd.to_datetime(fire_dept_data_12Month['On Scene DtTm'])-pd.to_datetime(fire_dept_data_12Month['Received DtTm']))\
4   .dt.total_seconds())
5
1 fire_dept_data_12Month.head(3)
```

|            | Response Time seconds | Received DtTm          | On Scene DtTm          | Battalion | Year_Month |
|------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Call Date  |                       |                        |                        |           |            |
| 2019-08-01 | 484.0                 | 08/01/2019 01:28:53 AM | 08/01/2019 01:36:57 AM | B03       | 2019-08    |
| 2019-08-01 | 947.0                 | 08/01/2019 08:36:30 AM | 08/01/2019 08:52:17 AM | B08       | 2019-08    |
| 2019-08-01 | 467.0                 | 08/01/2019 08:33:24 PM | 08/01/2019 08:41:11 PM | B10       | 2019-08    |

- Since 'Received DtTm' and 'On Scene DtTm' is no longer needed we will drop these columns for reducing DataFrame size and faster processing in next steps. This will also help us achieve on retaining only required columns in our DataFrame.

```
1 fire_dept_data_12Month=fire_dept_data_12Month.drop(['Received DtTm','On Scene DtTm'],axis=1)
2 fire_dept_data_12Month.head(3)
```

|            | Response Time seconds | Battalion | Year_Month |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Call Date  |                       |           |            |
| 2019-08-01 | 484.0                 | B03       | 2019-08    |
| 2019-08-01 | 947.0                 | B08       | 2019-08    |
| 2019-08-01 | 467.0                 | B10       | 2019-08    |

- In addition, we will also remove the index on 'Call Date' since it does not serve any purpose anymore. Finally, we were able to reduce from 1.7GB of raw data to 5.3 MB of relevant data and just the required columns needed for analysis.

```
fire_dept_data_12Month=fire_dept_data_12Month.reset_index(drop=True)
```

```
1 fire_dept_data_12Month.info()

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 232910 entries, 0 to 232909
Data columns (total 3 columns):
Response Time seconds    232910 non-null float64
Battalion                232910 non-null object
Year_Month               232910 non-null object
dtypes: float64(1), object(2)
memory usage: 5.3+ MB
```

```
1 fire_dept_data_12Month.head(3)
```

|   | Response Time seconds | Battalion | Year_Month |
|---|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| 0 | 484.0                 | B03       | 2019-08    |
| 1 | 947.0                 | B08       | 2019-08    |
| 2 | 467.0                 | B10       | 2019-08    |

- quantile function could be used for calculating 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile value for Response time as shown below

```
#Percentile Function
def Percentile90(x):
    return x.quantile(0.9)
```

- Finally, we group the data using groupby method on 'Year\_Month' and 'Battalion' column, calculate 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile value for the 'Response time seconds' field, and then save the results to a table named as 'ResponseTime\_Percentile90.csv'(snapshot added below for reference)

```
#Group Data on Month and Battalion, collect the percentile information, and save to csv file
fire_dept_data_12Month.groupby(['Year_Month', 'Battalion'])\
    .agg({'Response Time seconds': Percentile90})\
    .rename(columns={'Response Time seconds': '90th percentile Response Time'})\
    .to_csv('ResponseTime_Percentile90.csv')
```

| Year_Month | Battalion | 90th percentile Response Time |
|------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 2019-08    | B01       | 1009.6                        |
| 2019-08    | B02       | 934.1                         |
| 2019-08    | B03       | 1121.1                        |
| 2019-08    | B04       | 914.8                         |
| 2019-08    | B05       | 881.9                         |
| 2019-08    | B06       | 914.2                         |
| 2019-08    | B07       | 1064                          |
| 2019-08    | B08       | 1171                          |
| 2019-08    | B09       | 1077.7                        |
| 2019-08    | B10       | 1091.4                        |
| 2019-08    | B99       | 1134.6                        |
| 2019-09    | B01       | 1098.5                        |
| 2019-09    | B02       | 995                           |
| 2019-09    | B03       | 1130.1                        |
| 2019-09    | B04       | 960.6                         |
| 2019-09    | B05       | 898.7                         |
| 2019-09    | B06       | 975                           |
| 2019-09    | B07       | 1090.4                        |
| 2019-09    | B08       | 1141.4                        |
| 2019-09    | B09       | 1078.3                        |
| 2019-09    | B10       | 1171                          |
| 2019-09    | B99       | 1090                          |
| 2019-10    | B01       | 998                           |
| 2019-10    | B02       | 957.6                         |
| 2019-10    | B99       | 1110.8                        |

## DATA VALIDATION

- To validate the data that is grouped by 'Year\_Month' and 'Battalion' we will generate excel file for each unique group using the below code.

```
1 fire_dept_data_12Month_grouped = fire_dept_data_12Month.groupby(['Year_Month', 'Battalion'])
2
3 for key, group in fire_dept_data_12Month_grouped:
4     group.to_csv('{} .csv'.format(key))
```

For instance, in case of 2019 August we have below list of unique combinations with Battalion

- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B01') .csv
- ☒ ('2019-08', 'B02') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B03') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B04') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B05') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B06') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B07') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B08') .csv
- ☐ ('2019-08', 'B09') .csv

Let us sample one of the excel file that is for 2019\_08 and 'B02' Battalion combination and find the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile using Excel through the formula("=PERCENTILE.EXC(A1:AX,k)") .Thus from below output, we have validated our results that is obtained programmatically and saved in 'ResponseTime\_Percentile90' csv file.

| Response | Battalion | Year_Month | 90th Percentile Response Time |
|----------|-----------|------------|-------------------------------|
| 264      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 1068     | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 183      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 504      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 282      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 504      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 364      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 562      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 171      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 505      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 391      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 347      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |
| 418      | B02       | 2019-08    |                               |

| Year_Month | Battalion | 90th percentile Response Time |
|------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 2019-08    | B01       | 1009.6                        |
| 2019-08    | B02       | 934.1                         |
| 2019-08    | B03       | 1121.1                        |
| 2019-08    | B04       | 914.8                         |
| 2019-08    | B05       | 881.9                         |
| 2019-08    | B06       | 914.2                         |
| 2019-08    | B07       | 1064                          |
| 2019-08    | B08       | 1171                          |
| 2019-08    | B09       | 1077.7                        |
| 2019-08    | B10       | 1091.4                        |
| 2019-08    | B09       | 1334.6                        |
| 2019-09    | B01       | 1098.5                        |

## DATA VISUALIZATION

- To visualize the data, we will first import the prepared table saved in 'ResponseTime\_Percentile90.csv' to a DataFrame named 'fire\_dept\_data\_12Month\_visualize'

```
1 fire_dept_data_12Month_visualize=pd.read_csv('ResponseTime_Percentile90.csv')
2 fire_dept_data_12Month_visualize.head(5)
```

|   | Year_Month | Battalion | 90th percentile Response Time |
|---|------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 0 | 2019-08    | B01       | 1009.6                        |
| 1 | 2019-08    | B02       | 934.1                         |
| 2 | 2019-08    | B03       | 1121.1                        |
| 3 | 2019-08    | B04       | 914.8                         |
| 4 | 2019-08    | B05       | 881.9                         |

- We will now extract unique Month\_Year combinations from the DataFrame so we can generate scatter plots individually based on Month indicating the 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Response time with respect to the 'Battalion'

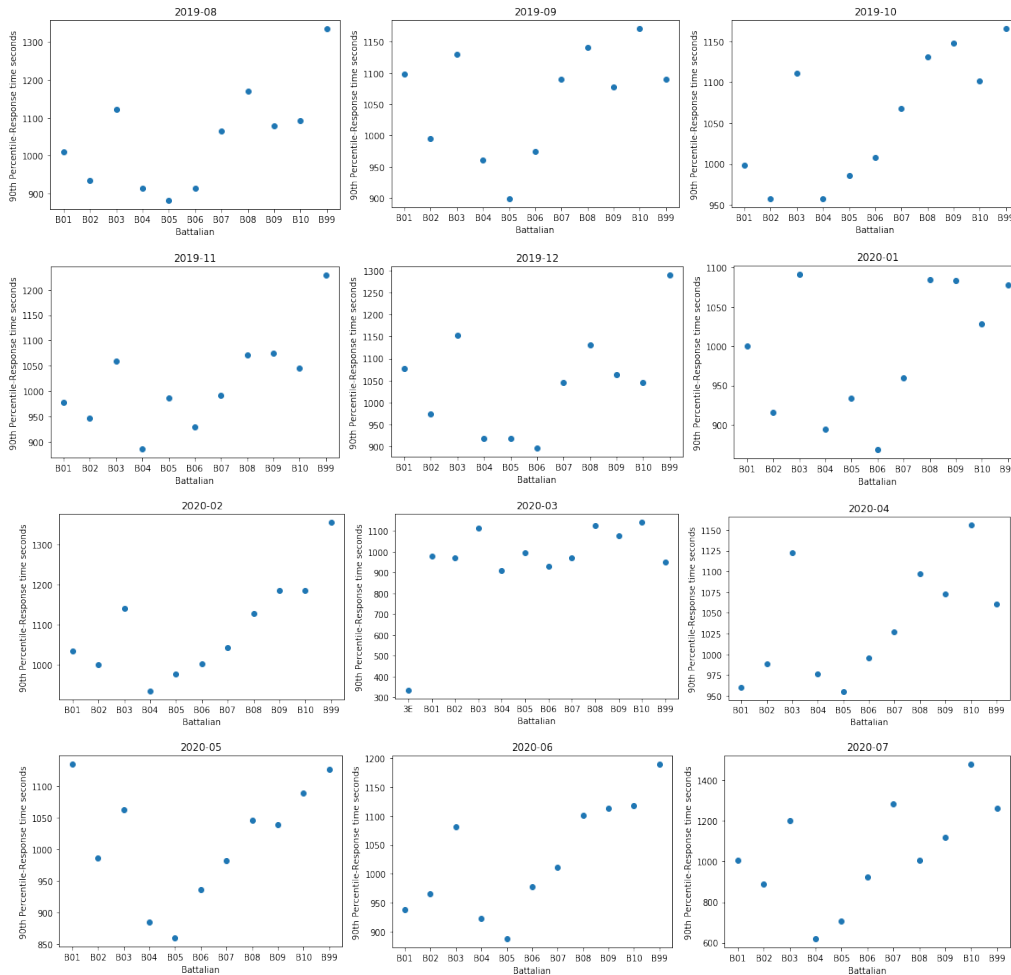
```
1 Month_Year_Combo=fire_dept_data_12Month_visualize.Year_Month.unique()
2 Month_Year_Combo
array(['2019-08', '2019-09', '2019-10', '2019-11', '2019-12', '2020-01',
      '2020-02', '2020-03', '2020-04', '2020-05', '2020-06', '2020-07'],
      dtype=object)
```

- Initially, line plot was created but the visual representation was not depicting the actual relationship. So I have used matplotlib library for scatter plot between 'Battalion' and their respective 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile data. It

is to be noted that Pandas require x column to be numeric for scatter plot. However, as per our data 'Battalion' is categorical so matplotlib has been used for this purpose. Based on unique combination we will run through the loop and obtain monthly data and plot 90<sup>th</sup> percentile Response time with respect to the Battalion.

```
1 for x in Month_Year_Combo:
2     Fire_dep_data_month=fire_dept_data_12Month_visualize[fire_dept_data_12Month_visualize['Year_Month']==x]
3     plt.scatter(Fire_dep_data_month['Battalion'], Fire_dep_data_month['90th Percentile Response Time'])
4     plt.title(x)
5     plt.xlabel("Battalion")
6     plt.ylabel("90th Percentile-Response time seconds")
7     plt.show()
```

Below visualization has been obtained for months from August 2019 to July 2020.



#### Observation:

From above scatter plot, we can find that the Battalion with the least 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Response time could be best for the respective Month. For example, 'B05' Battalion have surpassed all other Battalion teams for the month of August 2019 with the least value of 889.1 seconds.



In fact, 'B05' Battalion have been the best for 5 months(2019\_08, 2019\_09, 2020\_04, 2020\_05, 2020\_06, 2020\_07).In contrast, B99 Battalion have the highest 90<sup>th</sup> Response time for 6 months. This suggest that there might be some improvement to be considered by 'B99' for better performance in the future.

## **CONCLUSION**

To conclude, we focused on Fire Department Calls for Service data to determine the 90th percentile Response Time for Month and Battalion. While the raw data is about 1.7 GB, our data analysis supplemented by data engineering has helped to minimize the bulk of the data to just 5.3 MB. In fact, this has helped us to achieve better performance and memory usage. Finally, we made use of visualization to recognize the bigger picture of the data and discussed few observations that would help future performance.