

Distracted Driving

Distracted driving crashes are those where investigating law enforcement officer indicates that either inattention or a distraction in or on the vehicle was a contributing factor in the crash. Distraction is defined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as a specific type of inattention that occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of driving to focus on another activity. Distraction is categorized into the three following types: visual (taking your eyes off the road), manual (taking your hands off the wheel), and cognitive (taking your mind off the road).

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Change 2011-2012	Avg. Change 2008-2011
Total Distracted Driving Crashes	6,723	6,136	5,882	4,925	4,890	-0.7%	-9.7%
Fatalities	72	60	60	41	41	0.0%	-16.1%
Serious Injuries	527	490	517	372	422	13.4%	-9.9%
Visible Injuries	1,152	1,153	1,256	1,064	1,005	-5.5%	-2.1%
Possible Injuries	2,413	2,284	2,316	1,906	1,792	-6.0%	-7.2%
Distracted Driving Crashes as a % of All Crashes	26.9%	26.7%	26.1%	23.6%	22.8%	-3.4%	-4.1%
Distracted Driving Fatalities as a % of All Fatalities	31.0%	26.5%	28.7%	24.6%	22.3%	-9.2%	-6.9%
Distracted Driving Injuries as a % of All Injuries	34.1%	34.5%	34.9%	30.8%	29.3%	-4.7%	-3.2%
All Fatal and Injury Crashes	8,060	8,124	8,124	7,644	7,799	2.0%	-1.7%
Distracted Fatal/Injury Crashes	2,781	2,647	2,673	2,248	2,153	-4.2%	-6.6%
% Distracted Driving	34.5%	32.6%	32.9%	29.4%	27.6%	-6.1%	-5.1%
Distracted Driving Fatality and Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Of Travel	3.92	3.56	3.71	2.68	2.92	9.1%	-10.9%

Distracted driving crashes made up 23% of all crashes in 2012 and were responsible for 22% of all fatalities. While 71% of all distracted driving crashes occurred on urban roadways, 84% of the fatal distracted driving crashes occurred on rural roadways.

While only 21% of all distracted driving crashes involved a single vehicle, 38% of fatal distracted driving crashes involved a single vehicle.

The economic cost of crashes involving distracted driving was more than \$601.4 million dollars in 2012. This represents 26% of the total costs of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).

Figures 15 and 16 on the following page show what the distractions were for crashes where the officer indicated Distracted in or on Vehicle as a contributing circumstance. There were 10 fatal and 828 total crashes that involved Distracted in or on Vehicle. Inattention makes up a larger portion of the distracted driving crashes. Of course, both Inattention and Distracted in or on Vehicle could be contributing circumstances in a single crash.

Figure 15
Percentage of Fatal Distracted In or On Vehicle Crashes by Type of Distraction: 2012

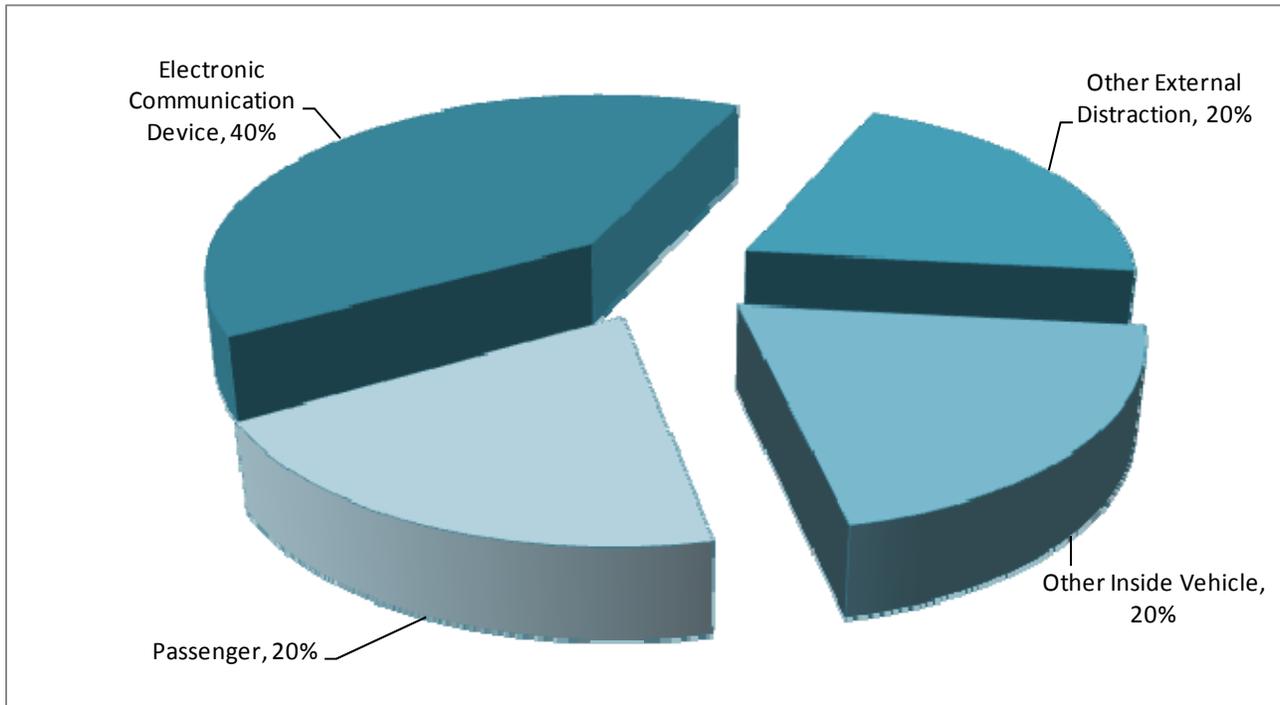


Figure 16
Percentage of Total Distracted In or On Vehicle Crashes by Type of Distraction: 2012

