

Motor Vehicle Crashes in Work Zones

Table 46
Crashes in Work Zones: 2009-2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Change 2012-2013	Avg. Change 2009-2012
Work Zone Crashes	378	517	441	342	332	-2.9%	-0.1%
Fatalities	3	1	3	1	3	200.0%	22.2%
Serious Injuries	13	43	35	23	12	-47.8%	59.3%
Visible Injuries	53	64	79	34	50	47.1%	-4.3%
Possible Injuries	110	162	128	104	109	4.8%	2.5%
% All Crashes	1.6%	2.3%	2.1%	1.6%	1.5%	-7.0%	2.4%
Workers Injured	1	0	2	1	1	0.0%	-16.7%

Workers on the roadway are especially vulnerable since their attention is focused on the task at hand rather than on the traffic passing by. While most crashes occurring in work zones do not involve a worker, there have been a few crashes that have involved workers.

In 2009, a flagger was struck in Kootenai County in a hit and run crash. In 2011, a worker was struck by the passenger mirror by a hit and run vehicle while moving traffic cones in Kootenai County and a worker was backed over by a cement truck in Canyon County. In 2012, a construction worker was injured when backed over by a construction vehicle in a closed construction zone in Idaho County. In 2013 a flagger was injured in a crash in Ada County.

Single-vehicle crashes comprised 21% of the crashes in work zones in 2013. Overturn (26%) was the predominant most harmful event in single-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Other Object - Not Fixed (14%), Wild Animal (13%), Embankment (9%), and Concrete Traffic Barrier (6%). Rear End (56%) was the predominant most harmful event for multiple-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Side-Swipe - Same Direction (8%) and Angle-Turning (8%).

Table 47 shows work zone crashes by road type.

Table 47 Work Zone Crashes by Roadway Type: 2013								
	Fatal Crashes		Injury Crashes		Property Damage Crashes		All Crashes	
Interstate								
Urban	0	0.0%	2	1.7%	12	5.7%	14	4.2%
Rural	0	0.0%	10	8.5%	18	8.5%	28	8.4%
U.S. or State Highway								
Urban	0	0.0%	31	26.3%	55	26.1%	86	25.9%
Rural	0	0.0%	37	31.4%	65	30.8%	102	30.7%
Local								
Urban	1	33.3%	30	25.4%	51	24.2%	82	24.7%
Rural	2	66.7%	8	6.8%	10	4.7%	20	6.0%
Total	3	0.9%	118	35.5%	211	63.6%	332	

Table 48 shows the severity of crashes by transportation district. Transportation district boundaries can be found in Appendix A.

Table 48 Crashes in Work Zones by Transportation District: 2013				
	Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes	Total Crashes
District 1	1	17	34	52
District 2	0	5	11	16
District 3	2	50	77	129
District 4	0	21	28	49
District 5	0	11	32	43
District 6	0	14	29	43
Statewide	3	118	211	332

In 2013, the economic cost of crashes in work zones was \$35 million dollars. This represents 1% of the total cost of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).