

Motor Vehicle Crashes in Work Zones

Table 46
Crashes in Work Zones: 2010-2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Change 2013-2014	Avg. Change 2010-2013
Work Zone Crashes	517	441	342	332	407	22.6%	-13.4%
Fatalities	1	3	1	3	1	-66.7%	111.1%
Serious Injuries	43	35	23	12	34	183.3%	-33.6%
Visible Injuries	64	79	34	50	108	116.0%	4.5%
Possible Injuries	162	128	104	109	204	87.2%	-11.6%
% All Crashes	2.5%	2.1%	1.5%	1.5%	1.8%	23.8%	-15.2%
Workers Injured	0	2	1	1	0	-100.0%	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 17% of the crashes in work zones in 2014. Overturn (28%) was the predominant most harmful event in single-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Concrete Traffic Barrier (16%), Other Object - Not Fixed (15%), Wild Animal (7%), and Guardrail Face (7%). Rear End (59%) was the predominant most harmful event for multiple-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Side-Swipe - Same Direction (14%) and Angle-Turning (5%).

Table 47 shows work zone crashes by road type.

Table 47									
Work Zone Crashes by Roadway Type: 2014									
	Fatal Crashes		Injury Crashes		Property Damage Crashes		All Crashes		
Interstate									
Urban	1	100.0%	110	52.6%	39	19.8%	150	36.9%	
Rural	0	0.0%	15	7.2%	17	8.6%	32	7.9%	
U.S. or State Highway									
Urban	0	0.0%	21	10.0%	36	18.3%	57	14.0%	
Rural	0	0.0%	20	9.6%	31	15.7%	51	12.5%	
Local									
Urban	0	0.0%	37	17.7%	64	32.5%	101	24.8%	
Rural	0	0.0%	6	2.9%	10	5.1%	16	3.9%	
Total	1	0.2%	209	51.4%	197	48.4%	407		

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: 2014				
	Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes	Total Crashes
District 1	0	22	25	47
District 2	0	4	6	10
District 3	1	156	119	276
District 4	0	10	21	31
District 5	0	14	14	28
District 6	0	3	12	15
Statewide	1	209	197	407

In 2014, the economic cost of crashes in work zones was nearly \$41 million dollars. This represents 2% of the total cost of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).