

Crashes by Roadway Classification

Table 9 compares the number of fatal, injury, and total crashes by urban and rural classification. Urban roadways are defined as those within the city limits of cities with 5,000 people or more. Urban roadways tend to carry higher volumes of traffic at lower speeds, while rural roads carry lower traffic volumes at higher speeds.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change 2015-2016	Avg. Change 2012-2015
Fatal Crashes	152	175	175	198	232	17.2%	9.4%
Urban	30	41	40	43	50	16.3%	13.9%
Rural	122	159	135	155	182	17.4%	10.0%
Injury Crashes:	7,492	8,217	8,217	9,050	9,327	3.1%	6.6%
Urban	4,762	4,963	5,399	5,898	6,209	5.3%	7.4%
Rural	2,730	2,667	2,818	3,152	3,118	-1.1%	5.1%
Total Crashes:	20,833	22,134	22,134	24,018	25,328	5.5%	4.9%
Urban	12,993	13,705	14,670	15,422	16,492	6.9%	5.9%
Rural	7,840	7,697	7,464	8,596	8,836	2.8%	3.4%

In 2016, 78% of fatal crashes occurred on rural roads, whereas 35% of all crashes occurred on rural roads. In Idaho in 2016, 88% of the total road mileage was classified as rural roadway. Rural roads tend to have higher speed limits. Crashes at higher impact speeds have a greater probability of resulting in a fatality.³

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change 2015-2016	Avg. Change 2012-2015
Fatal Crash Rate	0.96	1.10	1.08	1.19	1.35	13.8%	7.6%
Urban Fatal Crash Rate	0.45	0.62	0.59	0.60	0.69	13.9%	11.5%
Rural Fatal Crash Rate	1.33	1.72	1.44	1.63	1.84	13.3%	8.8%
Injury Crash Rate	47.30	51.76	50.89	54.32	54.38	0.1%	4.8%
Urban Injury Crash Rate	71.74	74.63	79.82	82.78	85.39	3.1%	4.9%
Rural Injury Crash Rate	29.67	28.90	30.04	33.05	31.56	-4.5%	3.8%
Total Crash Rate	131.54	139.41	137.09	144.15	147.67	2.4%	3.2%
Urban Total Crash Rate	195.73	206.09	216.87	216.46	226.80	4.8%	3.4%
Rural Total Crash Rate	85.22	83.42	79.56	90.13	89.43	-0.8%	2.2%

Table 11 shows the number of crashes and crash rates on local and state system roadways (both interstate and non-interstate) for 2012-2016, and the number of crashes and crash rates statewide. Crash rates are lower than the statewide fatality and injury rates shown in Table 2 because multiple fatalities or injuries may result from a single crash.

Table 11
Crash Rates for Local and State System Roadways: 2012-2016

Roadway Information	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change 2015-2016	Avg. Change 2012-2015
Local Roads:							
VMT (100 millions)	74.0	73.5	74.5	75.8	77.3	1.9%	0.8%
Fatal Crashes	74	85	75	81	92	13.6%	3.7%
Injury Crashes	4,491	4,603	4,819	5,208	5,318	2.1%	5.1%
Total Crashes	12,606	13,499	13,852	14,498	15,067	3.9%	4.8%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.2	11.4%	2.9%
Injury Crash Rate	60.7	62.6	64.7	68.7	68.8	0.2%	4.2%
Total Crash Rate	170.3	183.6	185.9	191.2	195.0	2.0%	4.0%
U.S. and State Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	48.4	48.8	49.5	51.1	52.1	2.0%	1.8%
Fatal Crashes	71	87	75	83	94	13.3%	6.5%
Injury Crashes	2,519	2,532	2,493	2,884	3,002	4.1%	4.9%
Total Crashes	6,882	6,807	6,603	7,619	8,055	5.7%	3.8%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.8	11.0%	4.6%
Injury Crash Rate	52.1	51.9	50.4	56.5	57.6	2.0%	3.0%
Total Crash Rate	142.2	139.5	133.4	149.2	154.6	3.6%	1.9%
Interstate Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	36.0	36.5	37.4	39.7	42.1	6.0%	3.4%
Fatal Crashes	24	28	25	34	46	35.3%	14.0%
Injury Crashes	620	715	905	958	1,007	5.1%	15.9%
Total Crashes	1,914	2,041	1,679	1,901	2,206	16.0%	0.7%
Fatal Crash Rate	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.1	27.6%	10.1%
Injury Crash Rate	17.2	19.6	24.2	24.1	23.9	-0.9%	12.3%
Total Crash Rate	53.2	56.0	44.8	47.9	52.4	9.4%	-2.7%
Statewide Totals:							
VMT (100 millions)	158.4	158.8	161.5	166.6	171.5	2.9%	1.7%
Fatal Crashes	169	200	175	198	232	17.2%	6.3%
Injury Crashes	7,630	7,850	8,217	9,050	9,327	3.1%	5.9%
Total Crashes	21,402	22,347	22,134	24,018	25,328	5.5%	4.0%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.4	13.8%	4.6%
Injury Crash Rate	48.2	49.4	50.9	54.3	54.4	0.1%	4.1%
Total Crash Rate	135.1	140.8	137.1	144.1	147.7	2.4%	2.2%