

Motor Vehicle Crashes in Work Zones

Table 46
Crashes in Work Zones: 2012-2016

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Change 2015-2016	Avg. Change 2012-2015
Work Zone Crashes	342	332	407	444	324	-27.0%	9.6%
Fatalities	1	3	1	2	0	-100.0%	77.8%
Serious Injuries	23	12	34	27	19	-29.6%	38.3%
Visible Injuries	34	50	108	95	59	-37.9%	50.3%
Possible Injuries	104	109	204	222	96	-56.8%	33.6%
% All Crashes	1.5%	1.5%	1.8%	1.8%	1.3%	-30.8%	7.1%
Workers Injured	1	1	0	1	0	-100.0%	0.0%

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 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. In 2015, a worker was struck and injured while setting up orange barrels in a work zone in Ada County.

Single-vehicle crashes comprised 22% of the crashes in work zones in 2016. Overturn (30%) was the predominant most harmful event in single-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Other Object – Not Fixed (21%), Wild Animal (7%), Guardrail Face (7%), and Utility/Light Support (6%). The majority of work zone crashes involve multiple vehicles and Rear End (54%) was the predominant most harmful event for multiple-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Side-Swipe - Same Direction (15%), Angle (8%), and Angle Turning (5%).

Table 47 shows work zone crashes by road type.

Table 47 Work Zone Crashes by Roadway Type: 2016									
	Fatal Crashes		Injury Crashes		Property Damage Crashes		All Crashes		
Interstate									
Urban	0	0.0%	4	3.5%	6	2.9%	10	3.1%	
Rural	0	0.0%	19	16.7%	33	15.7%	52	16.0%	
U.S. or State Highway									
Urban	0	0.0%	20	17.5%	43	20.5%	63	19.4%	
Rural	0	0.0%	21	18.4%	48	22.9%	69	21.3%	
Local									
Urban	0	0.0%	42	36.8%	71	33.8%	113	34.9%	
Rural	0	0.0%	8	7.0%	9	4.3%	17	5.2%	
Total	0	0.0%	114	35.2%	210	64.8%	324		

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: 2016				
	Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes	Total Crashes
District 1	0	8	21	29
District 2	0	4	8	12
District 3	0	52	100	152
District 4	0	14	18	32
District 5	0	15	33	48
District 6	0	15	30	45
Statewide	0	108	210	318

In 2016, the economic cost of crashes in work zones was nearly \$25 million dollars. This represents 1% of the total cost of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).