

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.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Change 2018-2019	Avg. Change 2015-2018
Fatal Crashes	198	232	224	215	201	-6.5%	3.2%
Urban	43	50	54	59	52	-11.9%	11.2%
Rural	155	182	170	156	149	-4.5%	0.9%
Injury Crashes:	9,050	9,327	8,818	9,083	9,153	0.8%	0.2%
Urban	5,898	6,209	5,957	6,118	6,285	2.7%	1.3%
Rural	3,152	3,118	2,861	2,965	2,868	-3.3%	-1.9%
Total Crashes:	24,018	25,328	25,851	24,031	27,015	12.4%	0.2%
Urban	15,422	16,492	17,153	16,217	18,478	13.9%	1.8%
Rural	8,596	8,836	8,698	7,814	8,537	9.3%	-3.0%

In 2019, 74% of fatal crashes occurred on rural roads, whereas 32% of all crashes occurred on rural roads. In Idaho in 2019, 86% 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

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Change 2018-2019	Avg. Change 2015-2018
Fatal Crash Rate	1.08	1.19	1.35	1.21	1.11	-8.3%	4.4%
Urban Fatal Crash Rate	0.59	0.60	0.69	0.78	0.65	-16.5%	10.0%
Rural Fatal Crash Rate	1.44	1.63	1.84	1.53	1.47	-3.8%	3.2%
Injury Crash Rate	50.89	54.32	54.38	51.29	50.69	-1.2%	0.4%
Urban Injury Crash Rate	79.82	82.78	85.39	81.26	79.07	-2.7%	0.7%
Rural Injury Crash Rate	30.04	33.05	31.56	29.13	28.37	-2.6%	-0.7%
Total Crash Rate	137.09	144.15	147.67	135.70	149.60	10.2%	-0.2%
Urban Total Crash Rate	216.87	216.46	226.80	215.39	232.47	7.9%	-0.1%
Rural Total Crash Rate	79.56	90.13	89.43	76.76	84.45	10.0%	-0.6%

Table 11 shows the number of crashes and crash rates on local and state system roadways (both interstate and non-interstate) for 2015-2019, 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: 2015-2019							
Roadway Information	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Change 2018-2019	Avg. Change 2015-2018
Local Roads:							
VMT (100 millions)	75.8	77.3	76.6	77.2	79.4	2.8%	0.6%
Fatal Crashes	81	92	92	81	82	1.2%	0.5%
Injury Crashes	5,208	5,318	4,958	5,223	5,372	2.9%	0.2%
Total Crashes	14,498	15,067	15,256	14,185	16,083	13.4%	-0.6%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	-1.5%	-0.1%
Injury Crash Rate	68.7	68.8	64.7	67.6	67.7	0.1%	-0.4%
Total Crash Rate	191.2	195.0	199.1	183.6	202.6	10.3%	-1.2%
U.S. and State Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	51.1	52.1	53.1	55.0	56.0	1.8%	2.5%
Fatal Crashes	83	94	93	95	88	-7.4%	4.8%
Injury Crashes	2,884	3,002	2,838	2,927	2,727	-6.8%	0.6%
Total Crashes	7,619	8,055	8,210	7,630	7,813	2.4%	0.2%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	-9.0%	2.2%
Injury Crash Rate	56.5	57.6	53.4	53.2	48.7	-8.5%	-1.9%
Total Crash Rate	149.2	154.6	154.5	138.6	139.4	0.6%	-2.2%
Interstate Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	39.7	42.1	43.2	44.8	45.2	0.8%	4.1%
Fatal Crashes	34	46	39	39	31	-20.5%	6.7%
Injury Crashes	958	1,007	1,022	933	1,054	13.0%	-0.7%
Total Crashes	1,901	2,206	2,385	2,216	3,119	40.7%	5.7%
Fatal Crash Rate	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.7	-21.1%	2.2%
Injury Crash Rate	24.1	23.9	23.6	20.8	23.3	12.1%	-4.6%
Total Crash Rate	47.9	52.4	55.1	49.5	69.1	39.6%	1.5%
Statewide Totals:							
VMT (100 millions)	166.6	171.5	173.0	177.1	180.6	2.0%	2.1%
Fatal Crashes	198	232	224	215	201	-6.5%	3.2%
Injury Crashes	9,050	9,327	8,818	9,083	9,153	0.8%	0.2%
Total Crashes	24,018	25,328	25,851	24,031	27,015	12.4%	0.2%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	-8.3%	1.1%
Injury Crash Rate	54.3	54.4	51.0	51.3	50.7	-1.2%	-1.8%
Total Crash Rate	144.1	147.7	149.4	135.7	149.6	10.2%	-1.9%