Executive Summary

A summary of findings for 2020 are listed below:

• The number of motor vehicle crashes decreased by 16.6 percent, from 27,015 in 2019 to 22,528 in 2020. The number of fatalities resulting from motor vehicle crashes decreased from 224 in 2019 to 214 in 2020, a 6.5 percent decrease. The number of fatal crashes decreased from 201 in 2019 to 188 in 2020. The number of suspected serious injuries decreased from 1,154 in 2019 to 1,102 in 2020, a 4.5 percent decrease.

• Idaho’s fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 1.23 in 2020, down slightly from 1.24 in 2019.

• While 65 percent of all motor vehicle crashes occurred on urban roadways, 77 percent of the fatal motor vehicle crashes occurred on rural roadways in 2020.

• Fatalities resulting from impaired driving crashes decreased in 2020 by 7 percent and 43 percent of all fatalities resulted from impaired driving. Of the 92 people killed in impaired driving crashes, 77 (84 percent) were either the impaired driver, a person riding with an impaired driver, or an impaired pedestrian.

• Idaho’s observed seat belt was 85.7 percent in 2019. No observational survey was done in 2020 due to COVID-19. Only 35 percent of the motor vehicle occupants killed in crashes were wearing seat belts. If everyone had been wearing seat belts, 43 of the 86 unbelted motor vehicle occupants may have been saved.

• Aggressive driving was a contributing factor in 48 percent of the motor vehicle crashes and 78 people were killed in aggressive driving crashes in 2020.

• Distracted driving was a factor in 19 percent of the motor vehicle crashes in 2020 and 22 people were killed in distracted driving crashes.

• Youthful drivers, ages 15 to 19, continue to be over-involved in motor vehicle crashes. In 2020, youthful drivers were 2.6 times as likely as all other drivers to be involved in a fatal or injury crash. There were 32 people killed in crashes involving youthful drivers in 2020.

• The number of motorcyclists killed in motor vehicle crashes increased to 27 in 2020. Just over half (52 percent) of fatal motorcycle crashes in 2020 involved just the motorcycle and more than a third (41 percent) of fatal motorcycle crashes involved an impaired motorcycle driver.

• There were 14 pedestrians and 3 bicyclists killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2020.

• Fatal crashes involving commercial motor vehicles increased from 34 in 2019 to 37 in 2020. The number of injury crashes involving commercial motor vehicles increased by 4 percent. There were 42 people killed and 1,024 people injured in commercial motor vehicle crashes in 2020.
Idaho’s Traffic Crash Clock: 2020

- A Traffic Crash occurred every 23 Minutes
- A Person was Killed in a traffic crash every 41 Hours
- A Person was Injured in a traffic crash every 46 Minutes
- A Person was Killed in an Impaired Driving crash every 4 Days
- A Motorcyclist was Injured in a traffic crash every 20 Hours
- An Unbelted passenger motor vehicle occupant was Killed every 4 Days
- A Pedestrian was Injured in a traffic crash every 46 Hours
- A Person was Killed in an Aggressive Driving crash every 5 Days
- A Bicyclist was Injured in a traffic crash every 61 Hours