Impaired Driving

An impaired driving crash is identified by information provided on the crash report. A law enforcement officer determines whether the driver was alcohol or drug impaired or whether alcohol or drugs contributed to the crash, regardless of whether a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) test was given or not. Crashes where a sober driver collided with an impaired pedestrian or bicyclist are also included.

Table 21
Impaired Driving Crashes: 2016-2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019-2020	Avg. Change 2016-2019
Impaired Driving Crashes	1,535	1,529	1,456	1,501	1,513	0.8%	-0.7%
Fatalities	88	80	78	99	92	-7.1%	5.1%
Suspected Serious Injury	223	218	212	217	234	7.8%	-0.9%
Suspected Minor Injury	397	338	334	329	385	17.0%	-5.8%
Possible Injuries	482	489	523	525	548	4.4%	2.9%
Impaired Driving Crashes as a % of All Crashes	6.1%	5.9%	6.1%	5.6%	6.7%	20.9%	-2.8%
Impaired Driving Fatalities as a % of All Fatalities	34.8%	32.7%	33.3%	44.2%	43.0%	-2.7%	9.5%
Impaired Driving Injuries as a % of All Injuries	8.1%	8.1%	8.0%	8.0%	10.2%	26.8%	-0.1%
All Fatal and Injury Crashes	9,559	9,042	9,298	9,354	8,110	-13.3%	-0.7%
Impaired Fatal/Injury Crashes	821	764	808	789	831	5.3%	-1.2%
% Impaired Driving	8.6%	8.4%	8.7%	8.4%	10.2%	21.5%	-0.6%
Impaired Driving Fatality and Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Of Travel	1.81	1.72	1.64	1.75	1.88	7.3%	-1.0%
Annual DUI Arrests by Agency*							
Idaho State Police	1,305	1,400	1,518	1,555	1,410	-9.3%	6.0%
Local Agencies	6,015	5,927	6,412	6,529	5,529	-15.3%	2.8%
Total Arrests	7,320	7,327	7,930	8,084	6,939	-14.2%	3.4%
DUI Enforcement Rate**	0.63	0.61	0.63	0.63	0.53	-16.4%	0.2%

**Source: Idaho State Police, Bureau of Criminal Identification*

***DUI Arrests per 100 Licensed Drivers per Year.*

In 2020, while total crashes decreased substantially from 2019, the number of impaired driving crashes actually increased slightly. While fatalities resulting from impaired driving crashes decreased by 7%. More than 10% of all fatal and injury crashes involved an impaired driver, an impaired pedestrian, or an impaired bicyclist. In 2020, 43% of all fatalities were the result of an impaired driving crash. Only 29% of the passenger motor vehicle occupants killed in impaired driving crashes were wearing a seatbelt.

Table 21 also presents a five-year summary of annual DUI arrests by the Idaho State Police (ISP) and local agencies. Both local agency DUI arrests and ISP DUI arrests decreased in 2020. Overall, DUI arrests decreased by 9% from 2019 levels.

Economic Costs of Impaired Driving Crashes

Table 22 contains the estimated economic costs for impaired driving-related motor vehicle crashes in 2020. The estimated cost of Idaho impaired driving crashes in 2020 was nearly $1.2 billion dollars. This estimate represents 30% of the total cost of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).

Table 22
Economic Costs of Impaired Driving Crashes: 2020 Estimates

Incident Description	Total Occurrences	Cost Per Occurrence	Cost Per Category
Fatalities	92	$10,322,433	$949,663,873
Suspected Serious Injury	234	$493,671	$115,518,941
Suspected Minor Injury	385	$134,460	$51,767,226
Possible Injuries	548	$68,660	$37,625,553
No Injuries	1,645	$3,478	$5,721,717
Total Estimate of Economic Cost			**$1,160,297,310**

Victims of Fatal Crashes Involving Impaired Drivers

Table 23
Persons Killed in Impaired Driving Crashes: 2020
by Vehicle Type, Seating Position, and Impaired Status

	Passenger Vehicles		Commercial Vehicle	Motorcycle			ATV	
Impaired Status*	Driver	Passenger	Driver	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Driver	Other
Impaired	45	14	0	10	1	5	1	1
Not Impaired	10	3	1	0	0	1	0	0

** For drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians, impaired status implies whether the person killed was impaired or not. For passengers, it implies whether the passenger killed was riding with an impaired driver.*

Of the 92 people killed in impaired driving crashes, 77 (or 84%) were impaired drivers, impaired pedestrians, or passengers of a motor vehicle riding with an impaired driver.

Impaired Driving by Age

Table 24 shows the number and percent of licensed drivers, DUI arrests, and impaired drivers in crashes by age. Drivers, ages 21 to 25, were the most over-represented in impaired driving crashes in 2020. They are involved in 2.4 times as many impaired driving crashes as you would expect them to be. Drivers, ages 26 to 30 years-old, were the next most over-represented ages. They are involved in 1.8 times as many impaired driving crashes as you would expect them to be. In 2020, 11% of the impaired drivers involved in crashes were under 21 years of age.

Table 24
DUI Arrests and Impaired Driving Crashes by Driver Age: 2020

	Licensed Drivers		DUI Arrests		Impaired Drivers in Crashes	
Age	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 to 15	3,447	0.3%	10	0.1%	5	0.3%
16-20	89,938	6.8%	556	8.0%	159	10.6%
21-25	107,243	8.1%	1,243	17.9%	290	19.3%
26-30	110,794	8.4%	1,058	15.2%	228	15.2%
31-35	109,411	8.3%	935	13.5%	180	12.0%
36-40	112,313	8.5%	825	11.9%	154	10.3%
41-45	104,929	8.0%	589	8.5%	106	7.1%
46-50	98,311	7.5%	529	7.6%	104	6.9%
51-55	96,217	7.3%	383	5.5%	73	4.9%
56-60	106,636	8.1%	393	5.7%	81	5.4%
61-65	107,870	8.2%	223	3.2%	40	2.7%
66 +	269,291	20.5%	195	2.8%	51	3.4%
Missing or Unknown				0.0%	30	2.0%
TOTALS	1,316,400		6,939		1,501	

Males comprised 72% of the drivers involved in impaired driving crashes in 2020.

Impaired Driving by Counties and Cities

Table 25 presents information on impaired driving crashes for Idaho counties by population groupings. Population numbers are based on 2020 U.S. Census estimates for counties.

Table 25
Impaired Driving Crashes by County: 2020

	2020 Population (in 1,000s)	Number of Crashes			Number of Persons		Impaired Driving Fatal and Injury Crash Rate Per 1,000 Population
		Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	
50,000 and over							
Ada	494.4	359	11	175	14	267	0.4
Bannock	88.8	91	4	43	4	63	0.5
Bonneville	122.1	92	7	40	9	58	0.4
Canyon	237.1	206	6	103	7	151	0.5
Kootenai	170.6	140	7	67	7	105	0.4
Twin Falls	88.4	89	2	48	3	75	0.6
Mean Crash Rate							**0.4**
20,000 - 49,999							
Bingham	47.2	36	1	19	2	26	0.4
Blaine	23.4	12	0	7	0	10	0.3
Bonner	46.8	28	5	15	7	23	0.4
Cassia	24.3	34	0	14	0	16	0.6
Elmore	27.4	30	2	21	2	36	0.8
Jefferson	30.6	15	0	8	0	11	0.3
Jerome	24.6	30	1	18	1	24	0.8
Latah	40.8	19	1	12	1	19	0.3
Madison	40.3	22	1	9	1	20	0.2
Minidoka	21.2	14	0	7	0	13	0.3
Nez Perce	40.8	53	2	29	2	43	0.8
Payette	24.8	17	2	6	4	10	0.3
Mean Crash Rate							**0.5**
10,000 - 19,999							
Boundary	12.7	6	1	4	1	5	0.4
Franklin	14.2	2	0	1	0	1	0.1
Fremont	13.2	13	3	7	3	22	0.8
Gem	18.7	9	2	3	2	4	0.3
Gooding	15.6	17	3	6	3	18	0.6
Idaho	16.8	24	3	14	3	19	1.0
Owyhee	12.1	13	1	7	1	11	0.7
Shoshone	12.9	16	1	5	2	8	0.5
Teton	12.5	7	0	2	0	3	0.2
Valley	11.8	21	2	9	2	20	0.9
Washington	10.4	7	1	6	1	7	0.7
Mean Crash Rate							**0.5**

Table 25 (Continued)
Impaired Driving Crashes by County: 2020

	2020 Population (in 1,000s)	Number of Crashes			Number of Persons		Impaired Driving Fatal and Injury Crash Rate Per 1,000 Population
		Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	
5,000 - 9,999							
Bear Lake	6.1	9	0	8	0	11	1.3
Benewah	9.4	10	0	4	0	6	0.4
Boise	8.1	9	3	3	3	4	0.7
Caribou	7.1	6	0	4	0	4	0.6
Clearwater	8.8	5	0	4	0	4	0.5
Lemhi	8.1	9	2	2	2	4	0.5
Lincoln	5.4	9	1	5	1	16	1.1
Power	7.6	8	1	5	1	8	0.8
Mean Crash Rate							**0.7**
0 - 4,999							
Adams	4.4	2	0	2	0	3	0.4
Butte	2.6	3	1	1	1	2	0.8
Camas	1.1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Clark	0.9	1	1	0	1	0	1.2
Custer	4.2	8	0	2	0	4	0.5
Lewis	3.8	6	1	3	1	4	1.0
Oneida	4.5	6	0	4	0	9	0.9
Mean Crash Rate							**0.7**
Statewide Totals	**1,826.9**	**1,513**	**79**	**752**	**92**	**1,167**	**0.5**

Table 26 presents information on impaired driving crashes for cities with populations exceeding 2,000 people by population groupings. Population figures are from the U. S. Census Bureau's estimates for cities for 2020.

Table 26
Impaired Driving Crashes by City: 2020

	2020 Population (in 1,000s)	Number of Crashes			Number of Persons		Impaired Driving Fatal and Injury Crash Rate Per 1,000 Population
		Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	
40,000 and over							
Boise	229.8	193	6	82	8	113	0.4
Caldwell	121.2	60	2	33	2	51	0.3
Coeur d'Alene	103.2	46	2	23	2	34	0.2
Idaho Falls	64.1	50	1	24	1	31	0.4
Meridian	60.7	87	1	44	1	72	0.7
Nampa	57.0	88	2	43	2	66	0.8
Pocatello	53.4	62	0	29	0	44	0.5
Twin Falls	51.4	43	0	20	0	41	0.4
Mean Crash Rate							**0.4**

Table 26 (Continued)
Impaired Driving Crashes by City: 2020

	2020 Population (in 1,000s)	Number of Crashes			Number of Persons		Impaired Driving Fatal and Injury Crash Rate Per 1,000 Population
		Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	
15,000 - 39,999							
Ammon	17.7	2	0	2	0	2	0.1
Chubbuck	16.0	8	0	4	0	5	0.3
Eagle	31.7	14	1	12	1	22	0.4
Hayden	15.7	10	1	2	1	4	0.2
Kuna	23.9	9	0	6	0	8	0.3
Lewiston	33.0	28	1	14	1	17	0.5
Moscow	26.1	9	0	7	0	8	0.3
Post Falls	38.9	18	1	7	1	13	0.2
Rexburg	29.7	5	0	1	0	1	0.0
Mean Crash Rate							**0.1**
5,000 - 14,999							
Blackfoot	12.0	10	0	4	0	5	0.3
Burley	10.7	19	0	7	0	8	0.7
Emmett	7.3	3	0	2	0	3	0.3
Fruitland	5.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Garden City	11.9	11	0	4	0	5	0.3
Hailey	8.9	3	0	2	0	2	0.2
Jerome	12.1	10	0	6	0	7	0.5
Middleton	8.9	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Mountain Home	14.5	6	0	4	0	8	0.3
Payette	8.0	5	0	2	0	2	0.2
Preston	5.7	1	0	1	0	1	0.2
Rathdrum	9.4	9	0	6	0	10	
Rupert	5.9	1	0	1	0	1	0.2
Sandpoint	9.3	4	0	1	0	1	0.1
Star	11.3	2	0	0	0	0	0.0
Weiser	5.5	1	0	1	0	1	0.2
Mean Crash Rate							**0.3**

Table 26 (Continued)
Impaired Driving Crashes by City: 2020

	2020 Population (in 1,000s)	Number of Crashes			Number of Persons		Impaired Driving Fatal and Injury Crash Rate Per 1,000 Population
		Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	
2,000 - 4,999							
American Falls	4.3	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Bellevue	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Bonners Ferry	2.7	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Buhl	4.5	4	0	0	0	0	0.0
Dalton Gardens	2.4	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Filer	2.9	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Gooding	3.5	4	0	1	0	2	0.3
Grangeville	3.3	2	0	1	0	1	0.3
Heyburn	3.5	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Homedale	2.8	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Iona	2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Kellogg	2.1	2	0	0	0	0	0.0
Ketchum	2.9	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Kimberly	4.2	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Malad	2.1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
McCall	3.8	3	0	0	0	0	0.0
Montpelier	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Orofino	3.1	2	0	1	0	1	0.3
Parma	2.1	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Rigby	4.4	4	0	2	0	2	0.5
St. Anthony	3.2	2	0	0	0	0	0.0
St. Maries	4.7	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Salmon	3.0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Shelley	2.6	2	1	1	1	1	0.8
Soda Springs	3.6	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Spirit Lake	2.5	3	0	0	0	0	0.0
Victor	2.6	1	0	0	0	0	0.0
Wendell	2.8	2	0	1	0	1	0.4
Mean Crash Rate							**0.1**