

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.

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019-2020	Avg. Change 2016-2019
Fatal Crashes	232	224	215	201	188	-6.5%	-4.7%
Urban	50	54	59	52	44	-15.4%	1.8%
Rural	182	170	156	149	144	-3.4%	-6.4%
Injury Crashes:	9,327	8,818	9,083	9,153	7,922	-13.4%	-0.6%
Urban	6,209	5,957	6,118	6,285	5,124	-18.5%	0.5%
Rural	3,118	2,861	2,965	2,868	2,798	-2.4%	-2.6%
Total Crashes:	25,328	25,851	24,031	27,015	22,528	-16.6%	2.5%
Urban	16,492	17,153	16,217	18,478	14,653	-20.7%	4.2%
Rural	8,836	8,698	7,814	8,537	7,875	-7.8%	-0.8%

In 2020, 77% of fatal crashes occurred on rural roads, whereas 35% of all crashes occurred on rural roads. In Idaho in 2020, 87% 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

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019-2020	Avg. Change 2016-2019
Fatal Crash Rate	1.19	1.35	1.21	1.11	1.08	-2.7%	-1.6%
Urban Fatal Crash Rate	0.60	0.69	0.78	0.65	0.60	-8.7%	3.8%
Rural Fatal Crash Rate	1.63	1.84	1.53	1.47	1.44	-2.2%	-2.4%
Injury Crash Rate	54.32	54.38	51.29	50.69	45.64	-10.0%	-2.2%
Urban Injury Crash Rate	82.78	85.39	81.26	79.07	69.54	-12.1%	-1.5%
Rural Injury Crash Rate	33.05	31.56	29.13	28.37	28.01	-1.3%	-4.9%
Total Crash Rate	144.15	147.67	135.70	149.60	129.78	-13.3%	1.5%
Urban Total Crash Rate	216.46	226.80	215.39	232.47	198.86	-14.5%	2.6%
Rural Total Crash Rate	90.13	89.43	76.76	84.45	78.83	-6.7%	-1.6%

Table 11 shows the number of crashes and crash rates on local and state system roadways (both interstate and non-interstate) for 2016-2020, 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: 2016-2020							
Roadway Information	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Change 2019-2020	Avg. Change 2016-2019
Local Roads:							
VMT (100 millions)	77.3	76.6	77.2	79.4	76.4	-3.8%	0.9%
Fatal Crashes	92	92	81	82	75	-8.5%	-3.6%
Injury Crashes	5,318	4,958	5,223	5,372	4,548	-15.3%	0.5%
Total Crashes	15,067	15,256	14,185	16,083	12,632	-21.5%	2.5%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	-5.0%	-4.4%
Injury Crash Rate	68.8	64.7	67.6	67.7	59.5	-12.0%	-0.5%
Total Crash Rate	195.0	199.1	183.6	202.6	165.3	-18.4%	1.6%
U.S. and State Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	52.1	53.1	55.0	56.0	55.1	-1.6%	2.4%
Fatal Crashes	94	93	95	88	91	3.4%	-2.1%
Injury Crashes	3,002	2,838	2,927	2,727	2,530	-7.2%	-3.1%
Total Crashes	8,055	8,210	7,630	7,813	7,216	-7.6%	-0.9%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	5.1%	-4.5%
Injury Crash Rate	57.6	53.4	53.2	48.7	45.9	-5.7%	-5.4%
Total Crash Rate	154.6	154.5	138.6	139.4	130.9	-6.1%	-3.2%
Interstate Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	42.1	43.2	44.8	45.2	42.0	-6.9%	2.4%
Fatal Crashes	46	39	39	31	22	-29.0%	-11.9%
Injury Crashes	1,007	1,022	933	1,054	844	-19.9%	1.9%
Total Crashes	2,206	2,385	2,216	3,119	2,680	-14.1%	13.9%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.5	-23.8%	-14.0%
Injury Crash Rate	23.9	23.6	20.8	23.3	20.1	-14.0%	-0.3%
Total Crash Rate	52.4	55.1	49.5	69.1	63.8	-7.7%	11.5%
Statewide Totals:							
VMT (100 millions)	171.5	173.0	177.1	180.6	173.6	-3.9%	1.7%
Fatal Crashes	232	224	215	201	188	-6.5%	-4.7%
Injury Crashes	9,327	8,818	9,083	9,153	7,922	-13.4%	-0.6%
Total Crashes	25,328	25,851	24,031	27,015	22,528	-16.6%	2.5%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	-2.7%	-6.3%
Injury Crash Rate	54.4	51.0	51.3	50.7	45.6	-10.0%	-2.3%
Total Crash Rate	147.7	149.4	135.7	149.6	129.8	-13.3%	0.7%