Executive Summary

A summary of findings for 2021 are listed below:

- The number of motor vehicle crashes increased by 22 percent, from 22,528 in 2020 to 27,547 in 2021. The number of fatalities resulting from motor vehicle crashes increased from 214 in 2020 to 271 in 2021, a 27 percent increase. The number of fatal crashes increased from 188 in 2020 to 244 in 2021. The number of suspected serious injuries increased from 1,102 in 2020 to 1,367 in 2021, a 24 percent increase.

- Idaho’s fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 1.40 in 2021, up from 1.23 in 2020.

- While 65 percent of all motor vehicle crashes occurred on urban roadways, 68 percent of the fatal motor vehicle crashes occurred on rural roadways in 2021.

- Fatalities resulting from impaired driving crashes increased in 2021 by 17 percent and 40 percent of all fatalities resulted from impaired driving. Of the 108 people killed in impaired driving crashes, 91 (84 percent) were either the impaired driver, a person riding with an impaired driver, or an impaired pedestrian.

- Idaho’s observed seat belt use was 82.9 percent in 2021. No observational survey was done in 2020 due to COVID-19. Only 36 percent of the motor vehicle occupants killed in crashes were wearing seat belts. If everyone had been wearing seat belts, 52 of the 103 unbelted motor vehicle occupants may have been saved.

- Aggressive driving was a contributing factor in 489 percent of the motor vehicle crashes and 94 people were killed in aggressive driving crashes in 2021.

- Distracted driving was a factor in 18 percent of the motor vehicle crashes in 2021 and 30 people were killed in distracted driving crashes.

- Youthful drivers, ages 15 to 19, continue to be over-involved in motor vehicle crashes. In 2021, youthful drivers were 2.4 times as likely as all other drivers to be involved in a fatal or injury crash. There were 34 people killed in crashes involving youthful drivers in 2021.

- The number of motorcyclists killed in motor vehicle crashes increased to 32 in 2021. More than two-thirds (69 percent) of fatal motorcycle crashes in 2021 involved just the motorcycle and just under a third (31 percent) of fatal motorcycle crashes involved an impaired motorcycle driver.

- There were 22 pedestrians and 3 bicyclists killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2021.

- Fatal crashes involving commercial motor vehicles increased from 37 in 2020 to 38 in 2021. The number of injury crashes involving commercial motor vehicles increased by 14 percent. There were 43 people killed and 1,218 people injured in commercial motor vehicle crashes in 2021.
Idaho’s Traffic Crash Clock: 2021

- A Traffic Crash occurred every 19 Minutes
- A Person was Killed in a traffic crash every 32 Hours
- A Person was Killed in an Impaired Driving crash every 3.4 Days
- An Unbelted passenger motor vehicle occupant was Killed every 3.5 Days
- A Person was Killed in an Aggressive Driving crash every 3.9 Days
- A Person was Injured in a traffic crash every 42 Minutes
- A Motorcyclist was Injured in a traffic crash every 17 Hours
- A Pedestrian was Injured in a traffic crash every 41 Hours
- A Bicyclist was Injured in a traffic crash every 53 Hours
- A Person was Killed in an Impaired Driving crash every 3.4 Days