

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.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change 2020-2021	Avg. Change 2017-2020
Fatal Crashes	224	215	201	188	244	29.8%	-5.7%
Urban	54	59	52	44	78	77.3%	-6.0%
Rural	170	156	149	144	166	15.3%	-5.4%
Injury Crashes:	8,818	9,083	9,153	7,922	8,665	9.4%	-3.2%
Urban	5,957	6,118	6,285	5,124	5,582	8.9%	-4.3%
Rural	2,861	2,965	2,868	2,798	3,083	10.2%	-0.7%
Total Crashes:	25,851	24,031	27,015	22,528	27,547	22.3%	-3.7%
Urban	17,153	16,217	18,478	14,653	17,877	22.0%	-4.1%
Rural	8,698	7,814	8,537	7,875	9,670	22.8%	-2.9%

In 2021, 68% of fatal crashes occurred on rural roads, whereas 35% of all crashes occurred on rural roads. In Idaho in 2021, 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

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change 2020-2021	Avg. Change 2017-2020
Fatal Crash Rate	1.35	1.21	1.11	1.08	1.26	16.7%	-7.1%
Urban Fatal Crash Rate	0.69	0.78	0.65	0.60	0.96	61.6%	-3.8%
Rural Fatal Crash Rate	1.84	1.53	1.47	1.44	1.48	2.6%	-7.6%
Injury Crash Rate	54.38	51.29	50.69	45.64	44.88	-1.7%	-5.6%
Urban Injury Crash Rate	85.39	81.26	79.07	69.54	69.05	-0.7%	-6.5%
Rural Injury Crash Rate	31.56	29.13	28.37	28.01	27.47	-1.9%	-3.9%
Total Crash Rate	147.67	135.70	149.60	129.78	142.67	9.9%	-3.7%
Urban Total Crash Rate	226.80	215.39	232.47	198.86	221.14	11.2%	-3.9%
Rural Total Crash Rate	89.43	76.76	84.45	78.83	86.15	9.3%	-3.6%

Table 11 shows the number of crashes and crash rates on local and state system roadways (both interstate and non-interstate) for 2017-2021, 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: 2017-2021							
Roadway Information	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Change 2020-2021	Avg. Change 2017-2020
Local Roads:							
VMT (100 millions)	76.6	77.2	79.4	76.4	83.9	9.8%	0.0%
Fatal Crashes	92	81	82	75	92	22.7%	-6.4%
Injury Crashes	4,958	5,223	5,372	4,548	4,859	6.8%	-2.4%
Total Crashes	15,256	14,185	16,083	12,632	15,414	22.0%	-5.0%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	11.7%	-6.4%
Injury Crash Rate	64.7	67.6	67.7	59.5	57.9	-2.7%	-2.5%
Total Crash Rate	199.1	183.6	202.6	165.3	183.7	11.1%	-5.3%
U.S. and State Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	53.1	55.0	56.0	55.1	61.2	10.9%	1.3%
Fatal Crashes	93	95	88	91	115	26.4%	-0.6%
Injury Crashes	2,838	2,927	2,727	2,530	2,715	7.3%	-3.6%
Total Crashes	8,210	7,630	7,813	7,216	8,697	20.5%	-4.1%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.9	13.9%	-1.8%
Injury Crash Rate	53.4	53.2	48.7	45.9	44.4	-3.3%	-4.9%
Total Crash Rate	154.5	138.6	139.4	130.9	142.2	8.7%	-5.3%
Interstate Highways:							
VMT (100 millions)	43.2	44.8	45.2	42.0	48.0	14.2%	-0.8%
Fatal Crashes	39	39	31	22	37	68.2%	-16.5%
Injury Crashes	1,022	933	1,054	844	1,091	29.3%	-5.2%
Total Crashes	2,385	2,216	3,119	2,680	3,436	28.2%	6.5%
Fatal Crash Rate	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.8	47.3%	-16.1%
Injury Crash Rate	23.6	20.8	23.3	20.1	22.7	13.2%	-4.6%
Total Crash Rate	55.1	49.5	69.1	63.8	71.6	12.3%	7.2%
Statewide Totals:							
VMT (100 millions)	173.0	177.1	180.6	173.6	193.1	11.2%	0.2%
Fatal Crashes	224	215	201	188	244	29.8%	-5.7%
Injury Crashes	8,818	9,083	9,153	7,922	8,665	9.4%	-3.2%
Total Crashes	25,851	24,031	27,015	22,528	27,547	22.3%	-3.7%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.3	16.7%	-5.8%
Injury Crash Rate	51.0	51.3	50.7	45.6	44.9	-1.7%	-3.5%
Total Crash Rate	149.4	135.7	149.6	129.8	142.7	9.9%	-4.1%