

Motor Vehicle Crashes in Work Zones

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change 2021-2022	Avg. Change 2018-2021
Work Zone Crashes	630	590	753	693	649	-6.3%	4.4%
Fatalities	10	7	5	5	5	0.0%	-19.5%
Suspected Serious Injury	34	18	26	28	23	-17.9%	1.7%
Suspected Minor Injury	100	66	99	112	87	-22.3%	9.7%
Possible Injuries	197	203	277	225	212	-5.8%	6.9%
% All Crashes	2.6%	2.2%	3.3%	2.5%	2.3%	-6.7%	3.9%
Workers Injured	1	1	0	1	0	-100.0%	0.0%

Workers on the roadway are especially vulnerable since their attention is focused on the task at hand rather than on the traffic passing by. While most crashes occurring in work zones do not involve a worker, there have been a few crashes that have involved workers.

A worker was struck while setting up a flashing arrow-board trailer in Ada County in 2017. A flagger was struck in 2018 in Canyon County. A worker was struck while standing next to traffic cones in a lane closure in 2019. A flagger was struck in 2021 in Twin Falls County.

Single-vehicle crashes comprised 18% of the crashes in work zones in 2022. Other Object – Not Fixed (18%) was the predominant most harmful event in single-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Overturn (17%), Concrete Traffic Barrier (16%), Embankment (9%), and Guardrail Face (8%).

The majority of work zone crashes involve multiple vehicles and Rear End (58%) was the predominant most harmful event for multiple-vehicle crashes in work zones followed by Side-Swipe - Same Direction (15%), Parked Car (4%), Angle (4%), Angle Turning (3%), Same Direction Turning (3%), Head-On Turning (2%), and Side-Swipe – Opposite Direction (2%).

Table 47 shows work zone crashes by road type.

Table 47 Work Zone Crashes by Roadway Type: 2022								
	Fatal Crashes		Injury Crashes		Property Damage Crashes		All Crashes	
Interstate								
Urban	0	0.0%	87	41.4%	171	39.2%	258	39.8%
Rural	1	33.3%	16	7.6%	55	12.6%	72	11.1%
U.S. or State Highway								
Urban	0	0.0%	37	17.6%	77	17.7%	114	17.6%
Rural	2	66.7%	28	13.3%	46	10.6%	76	11.7%
Local								
Urban	0	0.0%	33	15.7%	63	14.4%	96	14.8%
Rural	0	0.0%	9	4.3%	24	5.5%	33	5.1%
Total	3	0.5%	210	32.4%	436	67.2%	649	

Table 48 shows the severity of crashes by transportation district. Transportation district boundaries can be found in Appendix A.

Table 48 Crashes in Work Zones by Transportation District: 2022				
	Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes	Total Crashes
District 1	2	32	80	114
District 2	0	6	15	21
District 3	0	131	232	363
District 4	0	19	38	57
District 5	1	13	49	63
District 6	0	9	22	31
Statewide	3	210	436	649

In 2022, the economic cost of crashes in work zones was nearly \$109 million dollars. This represents 2% of the total cost of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).