

Distracted Driving

Distracted driving crashes are those where investigating law enforcement officer indicates that either inattention or a distraction in or on the vehicle was a contributing factor in the crash. Distraction is defined by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration as a specific type of inattention that occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of driving to focus on another activity. Distraction is categorized into the three following types: visual (taking your eyes off the road), manual (taking your hands off the wheel), and cognitive (taking your mind off the road).

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Change 2016-2017	Avg. Change 2013-2016
Total Distracted Driving Crashes	4,757	4,781	5,470	4,973	4,808	-3.3%	1.9%
Fatalities	43	39	51	64	39	-39.1%	15.7%
Serious Injuries	339	364	425	367	318	-13.4%	3.5%
Visible Injuries	996	1,033	1,285	1,193	989	-17.1%	7.0%
Possible Injuries	1,831	1,846	2,211	2,121	2,020	-4.8%	5.5%
Distracted Driving Crashes as a % of All Crashes	21.3%	21.6%	22.8%	19.6%	18.6%	-5.3%	-2.3%
Distracted Driving Fatalities as a % of All Fatalities	20.1%	21.0%	23.6%	25.3%	15.9%	-37.1%	8.0%
Distracted Driving Injuries as a % of All Injuries	27.9%	27.6%	29.7%	26.9%	25.7%	-4.8%	-0.9%
All Fatal and Injury Crashes	8,049	8,392	9,248	9,559	9,042	-5.4%	5.9%
Distracted Fatal/Injury Crashes	2,112	2,200	2,569	2,355	2,151	-8.7%	4.2%
% Distracted Driving	26.2%	26.2%	27.8%	24.6%	23.8%	-3.4%	-1.8%
Distracted Driving Fatality and Serious Injury Rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Of Travel	2.41	2.50	2.86	2.51	2.06	-17.9%	2.1%

Distracted driving crashes made up 19% of all crashes in 2017 and were responsible for 16% of all fatalities. While 73% of all distracted driving crashes occurred on urban roadways, 80% of the fatal distracted driving crashes occurred on rural roadways.

While only 19% of all distracted driving crashes involved a single vehicle, 34% of fatal distracted driving crashes involved a single vehicle.

The economic cost of crashes involving distracted driving was over \$820 million dollars in 2017. This represents 20% of the total costs of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).

Figures 15 and 16 on the following page show what the distractions were for crashes where the officer indicated Distracted in or on Vehicle as a contributing circumstance. There were 4 fatal and 908 total crashes that involved Distracted in or on Vehicle. Inattention makes up a larger portion of the distracted driving crashes. Of course, both Inattention and Distracted in or on Vehicle could be contributing circumstances in a single crash.

Figure 15
Percentage of Fatal Distracted In or On Vehicle Crashes by Type of Distraction: 2017

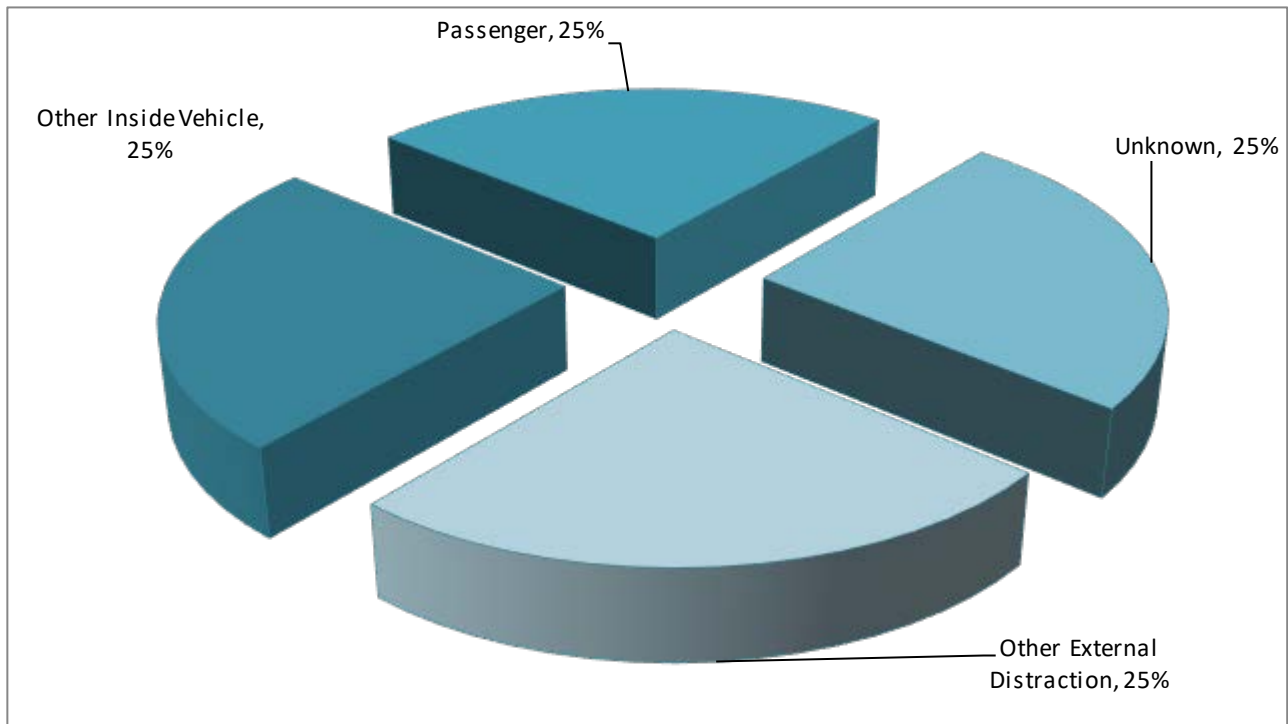


Figure 16
Percentage of Total Distracted In or On Vehicle Crashes by Type of Distraction: 2017

