

2003 Michigan Traffic Crash FACT SHEET



According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of accidental death among persons living in Michigan 1 to 24 years old.



635,766 motor vehicles were involved in 391,485 reported crashes. 1,172 of these were fatal crashes. These fatal crashes resulted in 1,283 deaths, compared to the 1,279 deaths that were the result of 1,175 fatal crashes in 2002.



Of the 1,283 motor vehicle deaths in 2003, 696 (54.2%) were drivers of vehicles, 269 (21.0%) were passengers in motor vehicles, 169 (13.2%) were pedestrians, 76 (5.9%) were motorcyclists, 32 (2.5%) were bicyclists, 13 (1.0%) were snowmobile operators, 11 (0.9%) were ORV/ATV operators, and 1 (0.1%) was an operator of farm equipment. The person type is unknown/other for 16 (1.2%) of the fatalities.



Of the 965 drivers and passengers killed, 367 (38.0%) were not wearing seatbelts and 477 (49.4%) were wearing seatbelts. It is unknown whether 121 (12.5%) of the fatalities were belted.



588 deaths resulted from 557 single vehicle fatal crashes.



A higher proportion of all crashes involved male drivers than female drivers. Of the 338,913 crashes involving male drivers, 1,245 (0.4%) were fatal. Of the 252,716 crashes involving female drivers, 578 (0.2%) were fatal.



Excessive speed was reported by police as the hazardous action of 13.1 percent of the drivers in fatal crashes.



Of all fatal crashes, 26.1 percent occurred at intersections.



Most fatal crashes occurred on dry roadways (70.2%) in clear weather conditions (50.3%).



The majority of all crashes occurred during daylight hours (60.2%). Dark conditions created the greatest hazard, as they were overrepresented in fatal crashes.



In 2003:
More fatal crashes occurred between 3:00 and 5:59 PM than any other time period.
More fatal crashes occurred on both Friday and Saturday than any other day.
More fatal crashes occurred in July than any other month.