

General Facts



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.



592,671 motor vehicles were involved in 350,838 reported crashes. 1,030 of these were fatal crashes. These fatal crashes resulted in 1,129 deaths, compared to the 1,159 deaths that were the result of 1,055 fatal crashes in 2004.



Of the 1,129 motor vehicle deaths in 2005, 579 (51.3%) were drivers of vehicles, 246 (21.8%) were passengers in motor vehicles, 138 (12.2%) were pedestrians, 122 (10.8%) were motorcyclists, 25 (2.2%) were bicyclists, 12 (1.1%) were ORV/ATV operators, 4 (0.4%) were snowmobile operators, 2 (0.2%) were moped operators, and 1 (0.1%) was an operator of farm equipment.



Of the 825 drivers and passengers killed, 274 (33.2%) were not wearing seatbelts and 454 (55.0%) were wearing seatbelts. It is unknown whether 97 (11.8%) of the fatalities were belted.



508 deaths resulted from 483 single vehicle fatal crashes.



A higher proportion of all crashes involved male drivers than female drivers. Of the 309,487 crashes involving male drivers, 1,141 (0.4%) were fatal. Of the 237,343 crashes involving female drivers, 452 (0.2%) were fatal.



Excessive speed was reported by police as the hazardous action of 12.5 percent of the drivers in fatal crashes.



Of all fatal crashes, 25.9 percent occurred at intersections.



Most fatal crashes occurred on dry roadways (72.9%) in clear weather conditions (53.6%).



The majority of all crashes occurred during daylight hours (60.9%). Dark conditions created the greatest hazard, as they were overrepresented in fatal crashes.



In 2005:
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.