

DEFINITIONS

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) provides data relating to registered vehicles, registered motorcycles, licensed drivers, and licensed motorcycle operators.

The Maryland State Highway Administration's (SHA) Office of Traffic and Safety's Traffic Safety Analysis Division provides data for vehicle miles traveled.

Population data is provided by the United States Census Bureau. In the Census year, data is available for age groups within counties. For non-census years, data for age groups is available through census estimates. However, these estimates are not broken down into county groups, so that data is only updated when a new census is conducted every 10 years.

Statewide police reported data, as presented in this report, are organized by type of person involved in the vehicle crash. The categories of person type are defined below:

1. "All drivers" includes all operators of motor vehicles with the exception of motorcycle operators.
2. The determination of alcohol and/or drug use for all drivers defined above was based on blood alcohol concentration, driver condition, indication that an illegal substance was used, and circumstances that contributed to the crash.
3. "Heavy truck drivers" includes those drivers of a vehicle having body type designated as "07 - truck tractor".
4. "Occupants" of a motor vehicle represents passengers only (i.e., drivers are excluded).
5. "Pedestrians" refers to all individuals who were not drivers or occupants of a motor vehicle, including those who are on foot.

Other Terms

Alcohol-Related Crash: Any crash reported in which one of the vehicle operators or pedestrians involved were noted to be drinking

Alcohol-Related Fatality: A person who died within 30 days as a result of injuries received in a crash in which alcohol was involved

Blood Alcohol Concentration: The BAC is measured as a percentage by weight of alcohol in the blood (grams/deciliter). In Maryland, a level of .10 or higher indicates intoxication.

Bus: Large motor vehicles used to carry more than ten passengers, including school buses, inter-city buses, and transit buses.

Construction Zone: The area between the first advance warning sign and the point beyond the work area where traffic is no longer affected.

Crash: An occurrence that originates or terminates on a traffic way, involving at least one motor vehicle in transport and results in property damage, or injury or death to any person. Only incidents reported to a police agency are included in this report.

Crash Rate: The number of crashes per 100 million vehicle miles traveled.

Crash Severity:

Fatal Crash - A motor vehicle traffic crash in which one or more persons were killed (Severity=5)

Injury Crash - A motor vehicle crash in which one or more persons was injured or suspected by the investigating officer of having sustained an injury (Severity=2,3,4)

Property Damage Crash - A motor vehicle crash involving property damage only (Severity=1)

Driver/Operator: The occupant of a vehicle who is in actual physical control of a vehicle in transit or, for an out-of-control vehicle, the occupant who was in control before control was lost.

DUI: Driving Under the Influence.

DWI: Driving While Intoxicated

Ejection: Refers to occupants being totally or partially thrown from the vehicle as a result of an impact or rollover.

Fatality: A person who dies within 30 days from injuries received as the result of a motor vehicle crash.

First Harmful Event: The first occurrence of injury or property damage in a motor vehicle crash.

Fixed Object: Stationary structures or substantial vegetation attached to the terrain.

Intersection Related: A crash resulting from an activity, behavior or traffic control that affects a vehicles' or persons' movement in relation to an intersection.

Most Harmful Event: The event during a crash that is judged to have produced the greatest personal injury or property damage.

Motorcycle: A two- or three-wheeled motor vehicle including motorscooters, minibikes, and mopeds.

Motor Vehicle: A self-propelled vehicle, including trailers and semi-trailers designed for use with such vehicles

Passenger: Any occupant of a vehicle who is not the driver.

Passive Restraint: A safety restraint that is not actively engaged by a vehicle occupant (i.e. airbags and motorized shoulder belts)

Reportable Crash: A crash resulting in a death within the 30 days of the crash, or injury to any person involved; or resulting in damage to any vehicle serious enough to prevent the vehicle from leaving the scene under its own power.

Restraint Use: The occupant's use of available vehicle restraints both passive and manual.

Roadway: That part of a traffic way designed and ordinarily used for motor vehicle travel.

Seating Position: The location of the occupants in the vehicle.

TCD: Traffic Control Device. Includes traffic signals, stop signs, yield signs, and railroad crossing controls.

Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT): The number of miles traveled by vehicles on Maryland roadways.