

## FAST FACTS

Wyoming crash data from 2018-2022 report that:

- Around 20% of all traffic crashes were speed related.
- Roughly 35% of all critical crashes indicated speed was a likely contributing factor in the crash.
- Speeding was indicated in 42% of all fatal crashes, resulting in 267 fatalities.
- Driving too fast for current conditions was reported in 68% of all speed related crashes.
- Most speed related crashes occurred in the winter (42.1%) with nearly 85% reporting a driver driving too fast for the current conditions.
- Over half (53.4%) of the speed related crashes occurred in rural locations with nearly 68% of rural crashes located on an interstate or highway.
- Male drivers account for 69% of all speeding drivers and tend to have higher levels of crash severity.

#### **CRASH CATEGORIES:**

Critical Crashes – fatal and suspected serious injury crashes. Serious Crashes – suspected minor injury and possible injury crashes. Damage Crashes – no apparent injury and injury unknown crashes.

# Highway Safety Report



#### **Speed Related Crashes**

A crash is speed related if any driver/vehicle directly involved in the crash was exceeding the posted speed limit, racing, or driving too fast for the current environmental conditions. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), speeding endangers everyone on the road and can be a form of aggressive driving. The higher the collision speed, the more serious the consequences in terms of injury and property damage. Speeding is more likely to result in serious injury and death. In fact, speeding has been a contributing factor in approximately one-third of all motor vehicle fatalities for more than two decades.

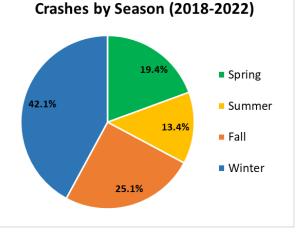
The risk of a crash occurring is greater as speeds get higher. Speed is especially dangerous if it is higher than the current environmental circumstances allow (e.g. due to weather and/or road conditions or large traffic volume). The consequences of speeding include increased stopping distance after the driver perceives a danger, a greater potential for loss of control, reduced effectiveness of occupant protection equipment, and increased level of crash severity leading to more severe injuries.

In Wyoming, during the most recent five-year period (2018-2022), 14,085 traffic crashes were speed related crashes, which accounts for around 20% of all traffic crashes. These speed related crashes included 793 critical crashes (35% of all critical crashes), 2,672 serious crashes (26% of all serious crashes), and 10,620 damage crashes (19% of all damage crashes) resulting in 267 fatal injuries, 754 suspected serious injuries, 2,184 suspected minor injuries, and 1,653 possible injuries.

When looking specifically at critical crashes over the last five years, 233 (42%) of fatal crashes and 560 (33%) of suspected serious injury crashes were speed related crashes.

The majority of speed related crashes occurred during the winter (December season through February; 42.1%), followed by fall (September November; 25.1%), through spring (March through May; 19.4%), then summer (June through August; 13.4%).

The basic speed rule generally requires drivers to operate a motor vehicle at a speed that is



reasonable and prudent for current roadway conditions. Roadway conditions may be impacted by weather, surface conditions, traffic volume, and special locations (e.g. work zones, school zones, or other environmental conditions). Driving too fast for conditions was reported in 68% (9,609) of speed related crashes, including 43% (339) of critical crashes, 60% (1,601) of serious crashes, and 72% (7,669) of

### **BY THE NUMBERS**

WYDOT Crash Data August 1, 2023 vs. (August 1, 2022)

Fatalities: 77 (62)

Serious Injuries: 256 (265)

Alcohol-Involved Fatalities: 16 (17)

Bicycle-Involved Fatalities: 0 (0)

CMV-Involved Fatalities: 24 (14)

Drug-Involved Fatalities: 12 (18)

Motorcycle-Involved Fatalities: 6 (8)

Pedestrian-Involved Fatalities: 8 (4)

Speed-Related Fatalities: 35 (31)

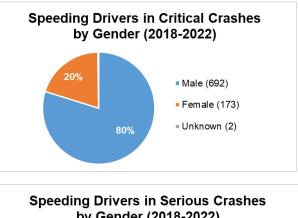
Data current as of 08/10/2023

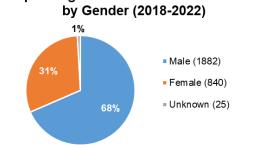


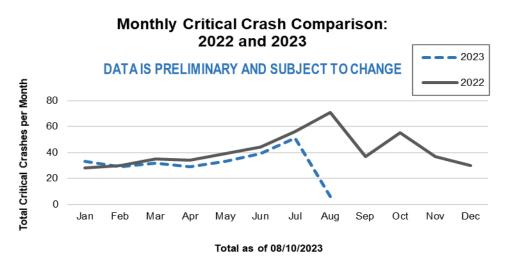
5300 Bishop Blvd. Cheyenne, WY 82009 www.dot.state.wy.us damage crashes. Driving too fast for conditions included 84.9% of winter crashes, 65% of fall crashes, 64.3% of spring crashes, and 27.6% of summer crashes.

The rural nature of Wyoming highways often requires motorists to navigate long distances between urban areas on rural roadways with sparsely spaced resources. This can make risky driving behaviors such as speeding more appealing. Over half (53.4%) of the speed related crashes occurred in rural locations with nearly 68% of rural crashes located on a principal arterial roadway (interstate, freeway, or highway).

engaged Drivers in risky speeding behaviors are typically male (69% of all speeding drivers involved in a crash) or younger drivers under 35 years of age (56% of all speeding drivers involved in a crash). Young male drivers account for just over 38% of all speeding drivers involved in a crash. In addition, male speeding drivers were involved in higher levels of crash severity than female speeding drivers. Of the speeding drivers involved in critical crashes, 80% were male and 20% were female. Of the speeding drivers involved in serious crashes, 69% were male and 31% were female.







#### WYDOT Completed Safety Treatment Locations (Active) as of August 10, 2023

District	Count	Ann	ual Lifecycle Cost	Average Benefit to Cost	Annual Critical Crash Reduction
1	267	\$	81,727.00	242.77	10.03
2	269	\$	84,261.00	108.06	5.57
3	558	\$	220,788.00	56.23	7.1
4	491	\$	86,247.00	137.45	6.15
5	65	\$	24,365.00	359.54	1.05
State	1,650	\$	497,388.00	130.98	29.91