



## Texas Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Highlights Calendar Year 2003

- The Fatality Rate on Texas roadways for 2003 was 1.75 deaths per hundred million vehicle miles traveled. This is a 1.13% decrease from 2002.
- Texas experienced a decrease in the number of motor vehicle traffic fatalities. The 2003 death toll of 3,822 was a decrease of .03% from the 3,823 deaths recorded in 2002.
- There were 68,131 serious injury crashes in Texas in 2003. These crashes resulted in 97,346 people sustaining a serious injury.
- The annual vehicle miles traveled in Texas during 2003 reached 218.209 billion, an increase of 1.08% over the 215.873 billion traveled in 2002.
- Fatalities in traffic crashes in rural areas of the state accounted for 58.1% of the state's traffic fatalities. There were 2,219 deaths in rural traffic crashes.
- Single vehicle, run-off the road crashes resulted in 1,483 deaths in 2003. This was 39% of all motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2003.
- In 2003 there were 959 people killed in crashes occurring in intersections or related to an intersection.
- There were 693 people killed in head-on crashes in 2003.
- There were no deathless days on Texas roadways in 2003.
- Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> was the deadliest day in 2003 with twenty-eight (28) persons killed in traffic crashes. December was the deadliest month with 378 persons killed.
- Based on reportable crashes in 2003:
  - **1 person was killed every 2 hours 17 minutes**
  - **1 person was injured every 1 minute 42 seconds**
  - **1 reportable crash occurred every 69 seconds**
- Of all persons killed in vehicles where restraint usage was applicable and usage was known in 2003, 50% were reported as not restrained when the fatal crash occurred.
- 308,360 persons were injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2003.
- There were 345 motorcyclists (operators and passengers) killed in 2003. Fifty-five percent (55%) of motorcyclists killed were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.
- Pedestrian fatalities totaled 408 in 2003.
- Pedalcyclist fatalities totaled 58 in 2003.
- In 2003, there were 1,032 people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes where a driver was under the influence of alcohol. This is 27% of the total number of people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes.
- During 2003, more DUI - Alcohol crashes were reported in the hour between 2:00 am and 2:59 am than any other hour of the day. Also, more alcohol related crashes occurred on Saturday than any other day of the week.