Texas Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Facts
Calendar Year 2017

- The Fatality Rate on Texas roadways for 2017 was 1.36 deaths per hundred million vehicle miles traveled. This is a 2.41% decrease from 2016.

- Texas experienced an increase in the number of motor vehicle traffic fatalities. The 2017 death toll of 3,726 was a decrease of 1.79% from the 3,794 deaths recorded in 2016.

- There were 14,314 serious injury crashes in Texas in 2017 with 17,571 people sustaining a serious injury*.

- The annual vehicle miles traveled in Texas during 2017 reached 272.981 billion, an increase of 0.63% over the 271.263 billion traveled in 2016.

- Fatalities in traffic crashes in rural areas of the state accounted for 52.33% of the state’s traffic fatalities. There were 1,950 deaths in rural traffic crashes.

- Single vehicle, run-off the road crashes resulted in 1,312 deaths in 2017. This was 35.21% of all motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2017.

- In 2017 there were 763 people killed in crashes occurring in intersections or related to an intersection.

- There were 553 people killed in head-on crashes in 2017.

- There were no deathless days on Texas roadways in 2017.

- There was one crash that resulted in 6 or more fatalities in 2017.

- Saturday, March 18th, Saturday, July 29th, and Friday, November 17th were the deadliest days in 2017 with twenty-five (25) persons killed in traffic crashes. July was the deadliest month with 352 persons killed.

- Based on reportable crashes in 2017:
  - 1 person was killed every 2 hours 21 minutes
  - 1 person was injured every 2 minutes 4 seconds
  - 1 reportable crash occurred every 59 seconds

- Of all persons killed in vehicles where restraint usage was applicable and usage was known in 2017, 40% were reported as not restrained when the fatal crash occurred.

- 255,259 persons were injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2017.

- There were 498 motorcyclists (operators and passengers) killed in 2017. Fifty one percent (51%) of motorcyclists killed were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.

- Pedestrian fatalities totaled 618 in 2017. This is a 9.12% decrease from 2016.

- Pedalcyclist fatalities totaled 57 in 2017. This is a 13.64% decrease from 2016.

- In 2017, there were 1,049 people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes where a driver was under the influence of alcohol. This is 28% of the total number of people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes.

- During 2017, 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 of these crashes occurred on Sunday than any other day of the week.

- In 2017, there were 452 people killed in crashes involving distracted driving. This is a 2% decrease from 2016.

- There were no fatalities caused by a bridge collapse in 2017.

*Effective with the 2010 Annual Summary reports, the definition of “Serious Injury” was changed to only include “Incapacitating Injury”. Therefore, Serious Injury data cannot be compared to prior years.

Information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from Texas Peace Officer’s Crash Reports (CR-3) received and processed by the Department as of April 13, 2021.