

Speed



Speeding is one of the leading unsafe driving behavior that contributes to deaths

- In 2018, a total of 8,865 speed-related crashes occurred in Utah, which resulted in 4,203 injured persons and 69 deaths.
- 27% of fatal crashes were speed-related and resulted in 26% of all motor vehicle crash deaths.

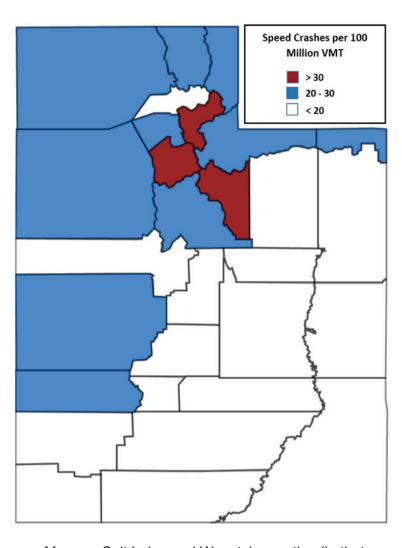
Age of Drivers in Speed-Related Crashes (Utah 2018)

25% 20% 15% 5% 0% 5% Driver Age

 Drivers aged 15-24 years had the highest percentage of total speed-related crashes.

Note: A crash is considered speed-related when at least one of the drivers was exceeding the posted speed limit or driving too fast for conditions, as indicated by the police officer in the crash report under the driver contributing circumstances.

Speed-Related Crash Rates by County (Utah 2018)

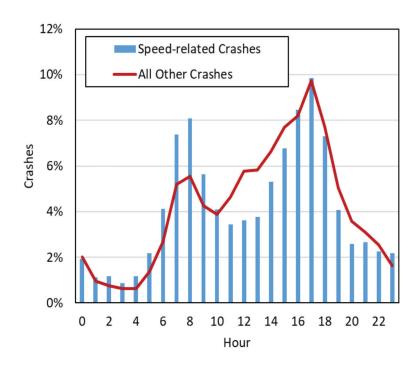


 Morgan, Salt Lake, and Wasatch counties (in that order) had the highest speed-related crash rates per miles traveled.

Speed

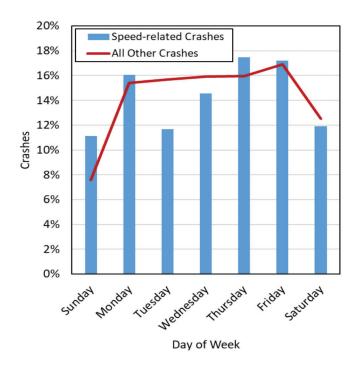


Speed-Related Crashes by Hour (Utah 2018)



 Speed-related crashes were more frequent during morning hours compared to all other crashes, particularly between 6 a.m. and 9 a.m.

Speed-Related Crashes by Day of Week (Utah 2018)



 Speed-related crashes were more frequent on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays. In general, weekdays also experienced higher overall crash frequencies.

Speeding is one of the leading factors contributing to traffic crashes. Speeding is dangerous because it:

- Magnifies drivers' errors;
- Extends the distance necessary to stop a vehicle;
- Increases the distance a vehicle travels while the driver reacts to a situation;
- Reduces a driver's ability to steer safely around curves or objects in the road;
- Decreases the effectiveness of vehicle design features, such as seat belts;
- Reduces the stability of the vehicle structure;
- Increases the number of crashes;
- Increases the severity of crashes. Speeding crashes were twice more likely to be fatal than other crashes.

Drivers need to remember that there is a reason for speed limits. Roadways are to be driven with caution and the speed limits are designed to protect everyone—drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

The posted speed limit is the law. Slow down and obey speed limits.