

Speeding Fact Sheet

December 2022 enforcement

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began more than two years ago, law enforcement agencies across the nation have reported an alarming rise in speeding and fatal crashes. In winter-weather states like Michigan, many traffic crashes occur as a result of motorists driving too fast for slick winter-road conditions.

To combat this disturbing trend, municipal, county and Michigan State Police law enforcement agencies across Michigan will conduct overtime speed enforcement between December 1, 2022, and February 28, 2023.

Michigan

- In 2021, there were 237 speed-related fatalities on Michigan roadways compared to 200 in 2020—an increase of 18.5 percent. (University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute)
- In 2021, 13.7 percent of drinking drivers involved in crashes were speeding.
- In 2021, 13.3 percent of unrestrained drivers involved in crashes were speeding.
- In 2021, 10.2 percent of drivers in the 15- to 20-year-old age group involved in crashes were speeding. This is higher than the overall speeding-driver rate of 5.2 percent in 2021.
- There were 24,555 speed-related crashes in 2021, which is a 10.3 percent increase from the 22,260 speed-related crashes in 2020.
- There were 924 suspected serious injuries in 2021 crashes, up 12.5 percent from 2020 (821).

Nationally

- In 2020, 11,258 traffic fatalities involved crashes in which one or more drivers were speeding, an increase of 18 percent over 2019 when there were 9,478 fatalities. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)
- Of drivers involved in fatal crashes during 2020, 37 percent were speeding and had a blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or higher.
- In 2019, 47 percent of speeding drivers involved in fatal crashes were not wearing seat belts. (NHTSA)
- In 2019, 31 percent of male drivers in the 15- to 20-year-old age group involved in fatal crashes were speeding, the highest among age groups.
- In 2020, local roads saw the most speeding, with 87 percent of all speeding-related traffic fatalities occurring on non-interstate roads.
- For more than two decades, speeding has been involved in approximately one-third of all motor vehicle fatalities. (NHTSA)
- According to insurance industry reports, every day in the U.S. about 112,000 drivers (on average) are ticketed for going too fast.

Fines and penalties

- All traffic ticket convictions add points to a person's driving record. Depending on the infraction, Michigan will assign a driving record between 2 and 6 points. The more severe the infraction, the higher the point total.

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