

2021 Michigan Crash Data Talking Points

Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, June 2022

Key Points

- There were 1,131 traffic crash fatalities in Michigan during 2021. This was a 4 percent increase from 1,083 fatalities in 2020.
- The 1,131 fatalities during 2021 marked the most Michigan traffic fatalities since 1,129 in 2005.
- The number of crashes in Michigan also increased from 245,432 in 2020 to 282,640 in 2021, up 15 percent.
- Bicyclist fatalities in Michigan dropped from 38 fatalities in 2020 to 29 in 2021, down 24 percent.
- Effective traffic safety strategies combine education and enforcement.
- Increasing seat belt use and reducing impaired driving remain two of the most effective ways to reduce traffic crash fatalities and injuries.

Summary of additional 2021 Michigan crash data

- Traffic crash injuries increased from 60,986 in 2020 to 71,246 in 2021, up 17 percent.
- Suspected serious injuries increased from 5,433 in 2020 to 5,979 in 2021, up 10 percent.
- Alcohol-involved fatalities increased from 326 in 2020 to 357 in 2021, up 10 percent.
- Motorcyclist fatalities increased from 152 in 2020 to 166 in 2021, up 9 percent.
- Pedestrian fatalities increased from 175 in 2020 to 183 in 2021, up 5 percent.
- Commercial motor vehicle-involved fatalities increased from 78 in 2020 to 103 in 2021, up 32 percent.
- Deer-involved fatalities increased from 5 in 2020 to 10 in 2021, up 100 percent.
- Construction zone fatalities increased from 14 in 2020 to 20 in 2021, up 43 percent.
- Distracted-involved fatalities increased from 52 in 2020 to 59 in 2021, up 13 percent.

Nationally

- There were an estimated 42,915 fatalities in motor vehicle crashes nationwide during 2021, the most since 2005 and an average of 117 deaths every day. Crash deaths rose by 10.5 percent in 2021 compared to the year before. *National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)*
- The all-time high in traffic crash fatalities nationwide was 54,589 in 1972. (*NHTSA*).