

2012 MT Tribal Transportation Safety Summit

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Fatalities in Montana

- 33% wearing Seat Belts
- 47% drinking
- 59% went off the road
- 73% are Male

Run-off-the-road crashes

- SUV's 3X more likely to roll over
- Pickup's 2X more likely to roll over
- 2 to 3 X more likely to die without seat belts
 - Compared to cars and mini-vans-

2009 Run-off-the-Road data:

- 6000 ROR Crashes
- 117 fatalities caused by ROR Crashes
- 51 Crashes per fatality

2009 Crash Data (continued)

In Rural Areas:

- 4721 ROR Crashes
- 110 fatalities
- = 43 Crashes per fatality
- 4376 Other types of Crashes
- 70 fatalities caused by Other types of Crashes
- = 63 crashes per fatality
 - 46% greater death rate for ROR crashes

In Rural Montana:

- 72% of Fatalities are Single Vehicle Crashes
- 22% of Fatalities are 2 Vehicle Crashes

In Urban Montana

- 33% of Fatalities are Single Vehicle Crashes
- 56% of Fatalities are 2 Vehicle Crashes

2009 Urban Crash data:

- 11613 Total Crashes
- 18 Fatalities
- = 645 Crashes per fatality
- 55% of all Crashes
- 50% of all Injuries
- 13% of all Fatalities

Alcohol is involved in:

- 10% of all crashes
- 18% of all injuries
- Over 40% of all fatalities

Speeding and Alcohol

- 51% of Fatalities were Speeding and using Alcohol
- 27% of Fatalities were Speeding without using Alcohol

Causes of Crashes

- #1) Inattentive Driving
- #2) Careless Driving
- #3) Failure to Yield
- #4) Follow too close
- #5) Speed
- #6) Alcohol
- #7) Disregarded signs
- #8) Improper backing
- #9) Improper turn

Pedestrian Crashes

- 211 Crashes
- 14 Fatalities
- = 15 Crashes per fatality

Montana Crash Data

- About 87% of Fatalities are Rural
- Greatest number of Crashes are Urban
- Combining Rural and Urban Data distorts what is going on in the Rural Areas
 - MT state average is 125 Crashes per fatality
 - Rural average is 50 Crashes per fatality
 - Urban average is 645 Crashes per fatality

Tribal Fatalities

- 15% of all Fatalities
- Only represent 6.2% of the state population
 - Over represented in fatalities by a factor of 2.5 times

Current reported Tribal information

- Blackfeet- 32.7 crashes per fatality
- Salish –Kootenai 62.4 crashes per fatality
- Rocky Boy's 2.0 crashes per fatality
- Fort Belknap 0.0 crashes per fatality
- Fort Peck 82.9 crashes per fatality
- Crow 41.0 crashes per fatality
- N. Cheyenne 9.0 crashes per fatality

What is causing the Fatalities:

- #1) Run-off-the-Road Crashes cause 59% of fatalities
- #2) Alcohol/Drugs and Speed involved in 51% of fatalities
- #3) 67% of Fatalities are not wearing Seat Belts
- #4) Speeding involved without Alcohol in 27% of fatalities

What causes ROR Crashes?

- Bad Weather- poor visibility
- Slippery Roads- icy, snow, rain, low friction surface
- Poor road geometry – too much crown, etc
- Impaired Driving – Drugs and Alcohol
- Speeding

What causes ROR Crashes (continued)

- Inattentive Driving- Texting, phone, etc
- Road Edge Drop Off
- Steep Ditches- less than 5 to 1 slopes
- Improper Clear Zone- trees, poles, rocks, etc
- Vehicle Center of Gravity and/or ABS
 - Pickups and SUV's
 - Early model vehicles equipped with ABS

How do we keep Drivers on the Road?

- Stripes
- Rumble Strips
- Delineators
- Signs

How do we keep Drivers on the Road? (continued)

- Safety Edge
- Good Road geometry
- Good Road Friction
- Stability Control equipped vehicles

How do we stop Impaired Driving?

- Enforcement
- Cultural Changes
- You tell me-

How do we stop Speeding?

- Enforcement
- Cultural Changes
- You tell me-

How to we stop Inattentive Driving?

- Enforcement
- Cultural Changes
- You tell me-

What else can we do?

- Get more people to wear their seat belts
- Improve the Roadside Safety
 - Less steep ditches
 - Adequate Recovery Areas
 - No Trees
 - No Rocks
 - No Utility Poles or Guide Wires
 - Grated Culverts
 - Breakaway Mail Box Posts