

ALBERTA TRAFFIC COLLISION FACTS

2002

WHAT HAPPENED ON ALBERTA'S ROADWAYS IN 2002?

During 2002...

- 372 people were killed as a result of traffic collisions.
- 28,989 people were injured in traffic collisions
- A total of 116,308 collisions occurred.

Every day in 2002 approximately...

- 1 person was killed.
- 79 people were injured.
- 319 traffic collisions were reported.

ALBERTA TRAFFIC COLLISIONS 1998-2002

Severity of Collision	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Fatal	358	305	312	341	322
Non-Fatal Injury	16987	17398	18246	19000	20152
Property Damage	81256	77543	85905	88050	95834
Total Reportable Collisions	98601	95246	104463	107391	116308
Number Killed	429	347	364	404	372
Number Injured	24935	25451	26464	27583	28989
Total Number of Casualties	25364	25798	26828	27987	29361

WHO WERE THE VICTIMS?

Traffic Fatalities (%)	Traffic Injuries (%)
197 Drivers (53.0)	17650 Drivers (60.9)
88 Passengers (23.7)	8418 Passengers (29.0)
39 Pedestrians (10.5)	1298 Pedestrians (4.5)
7 Bicyclists (1.9)	558 Bicyclists (1.9)
24 Motorcyclists (6.5)	590 Motorcyclists (2.0)
17 Other road user class/unspecified (4.6)	475 Other road user class/unspecified (1.7)

SPECIAL ROAD USER CLASSES

Pedestrians

Based on population, pedestrians between the ages of 15 and 19 were most likely to be involved in a crash. Pedestrian casualty collisions were most likely to occur during the evening rush hour. Of pedestrians involved in injury collisions 15.5% had consumed alcohol, compared to 27.0% of pedestrians in fatal collisions.

Motorcycles

There were 24 people killed in collisions involving motorcycles. Motorcycle drivers under the age of 25 were most likely to be involved in casualty collisions. Compared to other drivers, motorcyclists were more likely to have consumed alcohol before the crash. Compared to drivers in total casualty collisions, motorcycle drivers were more likely to run off the road or pass improperly.

Truck Tractors

In 2002, there were 49 people killed and 744 injured in collisions involving truck tractors. Compared to drivers of other vehicles, truck tractor drivers were more likely to run off the road, but less likely to have consumed alcohol before the crash.

Trains

In 2002, six people were killed and 38 people were injured in crashes in which a train was involved.

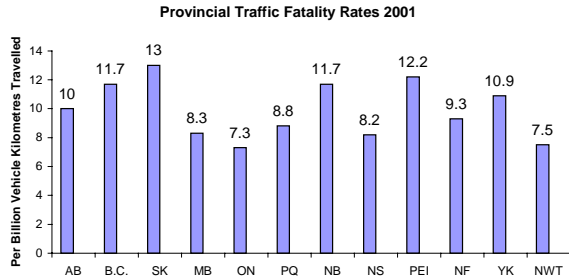
Bicycles

Young bicyclists, 10-14 years of age, were the group most frequently involved in bicycle casualty collisions. Compared to other drivers, bicyclists were more likely to fail to yield the right-of-way at an uncontrolled intersection or be left of the centre line.

WHEN DID THE COLLISIONS OCCUR?

December saw more fatal collisions than other months. December also recorded the highest number of injury collisions. The highest number of property damage collisions occurred during March. There are more collisions on Friday than any other day of the week. The afternoon rush-hour period accounted for the highest number of crashes.

HOW DOES ALBERTA COMPARE TO OTHER PROVINCES?



Note: The fatality rate for Nunavut for 2001 was 47.6. Figures for 2002 are not available at this time.

Sources: Transport Canada Canadian Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision Statistics TP3322 and Statistics Canada, "Canadian Vehicle Survey", catalogue No. 53-223-XIE.

Looking back...

- Fatality rates have decreased slightly from the past year.
- Injury rates have increased over the past year.
- Property damage collision rates have increased over the past year.

WHERE DID THE COLLISIONS OCCUR?

Approximately four-fifths of all collisions occurred in urban areas. Fatal collisions were more frequent in rural areas.

Urban (%)

0.1 Fatal collisions
17.5 Injury collisions
82.4 Property Damage collisions

Rural (%)

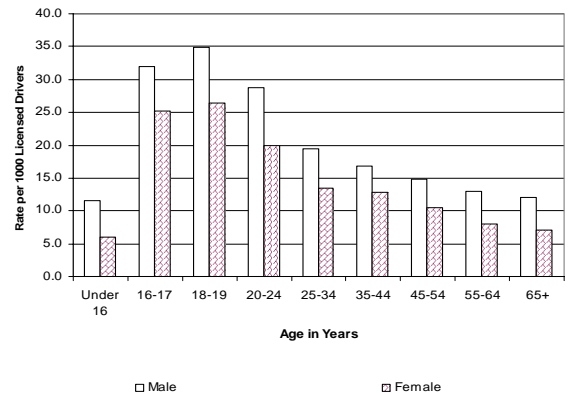
1.0 Fatal collisions
16.8 Injury collisions
82.2 Property Damage collisions

WHAT ABOUT DRINKING AND DRIVING?

Of all drivers involved in fatal collisions, 20.7% had consumed alcohol before the crash. Of all drivers involved in injury collisions 4.4% had consumed alcohol before the crash. The majority of drinking drivers were males between the age of 25 and 44. In terms of involvement per 1,000 licensed drivers, males 18-21 years of age were more likely to have consumed alcohol prior to a casualty collision than any other age group. Alcohol related casualty crashes were most likely to occur in the month of August on the weekends and during the late night/early morning hours.

WHO WERE THE DRIVERS INVOLVED IN CASUALTY COLLISIONS?

Age and Sex of Drivers Involved in Casualty Collisions
Alberta 2002



WHAT ABOUT SEAT BELTS?

The data shows that occupants who were using restraints at the time of the collision were injured less often (14.0%) than occupants who were not using restraints (38.8%). Therefore, non-restraint users were two and one half times as likely to be injured as restraint users.

For further information:

Alberta Transportation, Driver Safety, Research and Traffic Safety Initiative
4999 – 98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6B 2X3
Phone: (780) 427-8901 Fax: (780) 422-3682
www.trans.gov.ab.ca