



Michigan's "Newest" Public Health Threat

A Look at Michigan
traffic crash data that
every health
department should
know about

Sandra Enness, MPH, MA
Office of Highway Safety Planning
Michigan State Police

Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)



Mission

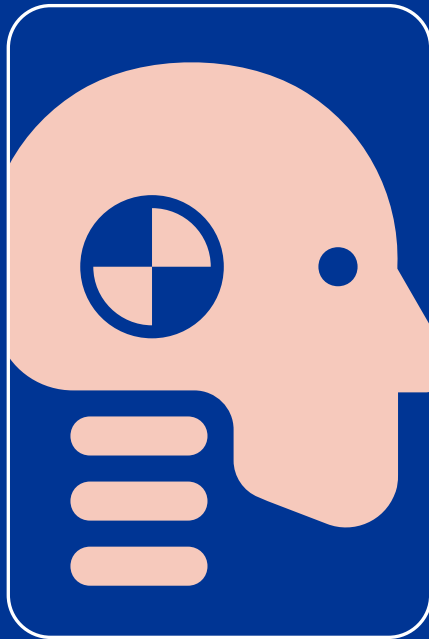
To save lives and reduce injuries on Michigan roads through leadership, innovation, facilitation, and program support in partnership with other public and private organizations.



“Road safety is not a transportation challenge, it’s a public health crisis that must be addressed.”

STATEMENT FROM JOSÉ LUIS CASTRO, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF VITAL STRATEGIES, ON UN GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK 2021

Crash Not Accident



When we call something an "accident," it implies that no one is at fault and that no one, including the driver, bears responsibility for the outcome.

The term "crash," on the other hand, is more specific in terms of the action's outcome without the unpreventable implication.

It is vitally important that we use the right words to describe the situation, especially when distracted driving, impaired driving, and other avoidable actions are at the center of an incident.

2023 Michigan Crash Clock



Every **1 minute and 50 seconds**, a traffic crash was reported in Michigan.

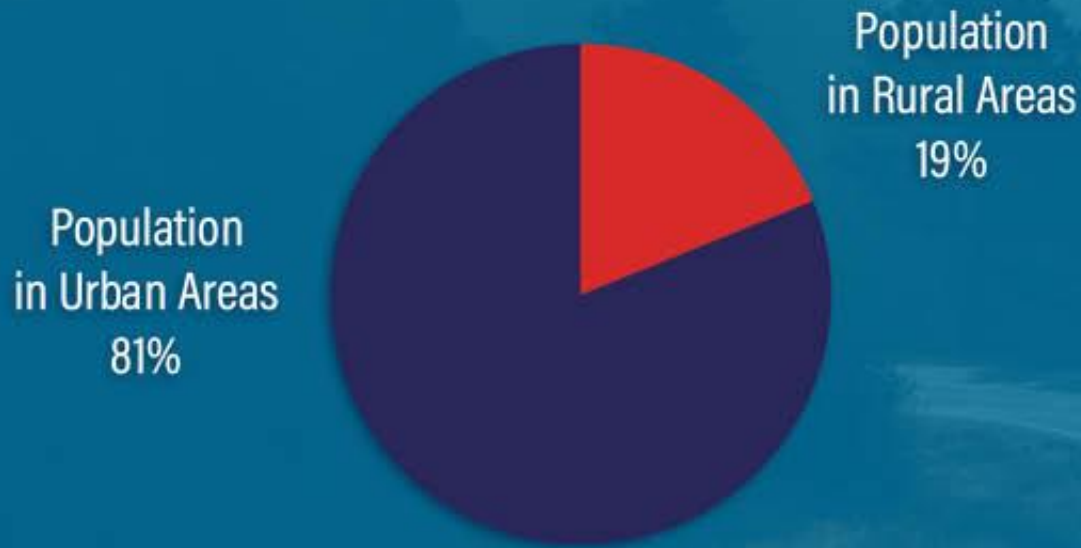
Because of a traffic crash:

- Every **7 minutes and 24 seconds**, one person was injured.
- Every **8 hours**, one person was killed.

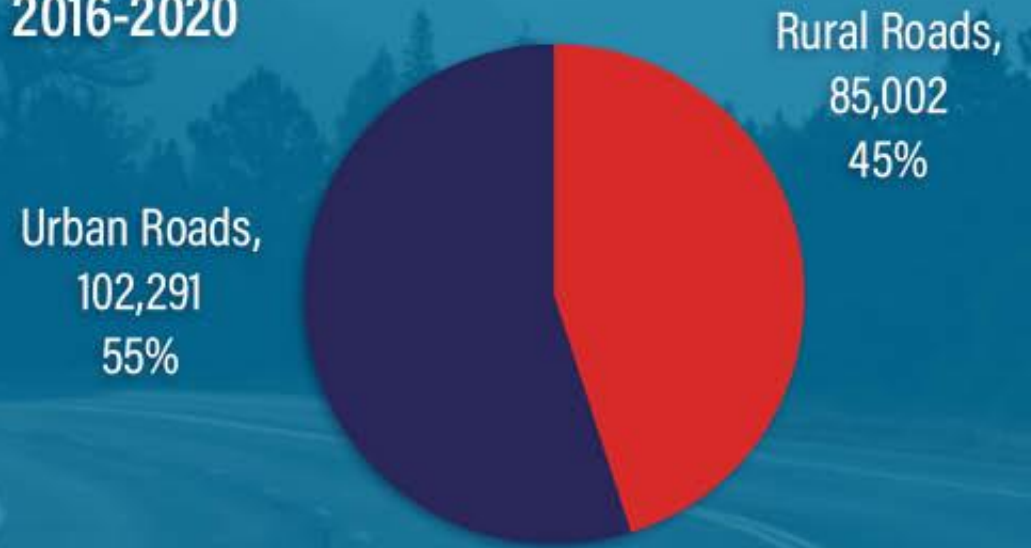
Source: Michigan Traffic Crash Facts University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute

Rural and Urban Proportions of U.S. Population and Proportions of Crash Fatalities

Where We Live:
U.S. Population Residence



Where We Die:
Lives Lost on U.S. Roads,
2016-2020



Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System 2016-2020,
U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2018

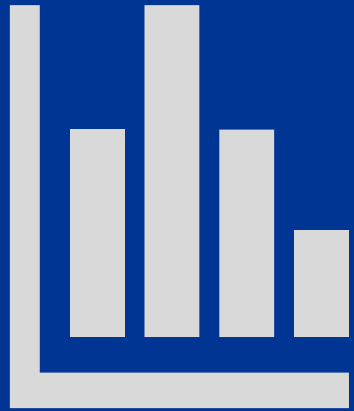


Surprised?



For your county or district:

- Do you know the number of crash-related injuries or fatalities?
- Who in your organization looks at traffic crash data? How often?
- Do you know where to look for accurate traffic crash data?



2023 Michigan Traffic Crash Data

About

Updates

Webinar

30 Years of MTCF

Webinar

The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning hosted two pandemic crash webinars featuring one of the leading national experts, Dr. Carol Flannagan of The University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, as she discussed 2020 Michigan crash data.

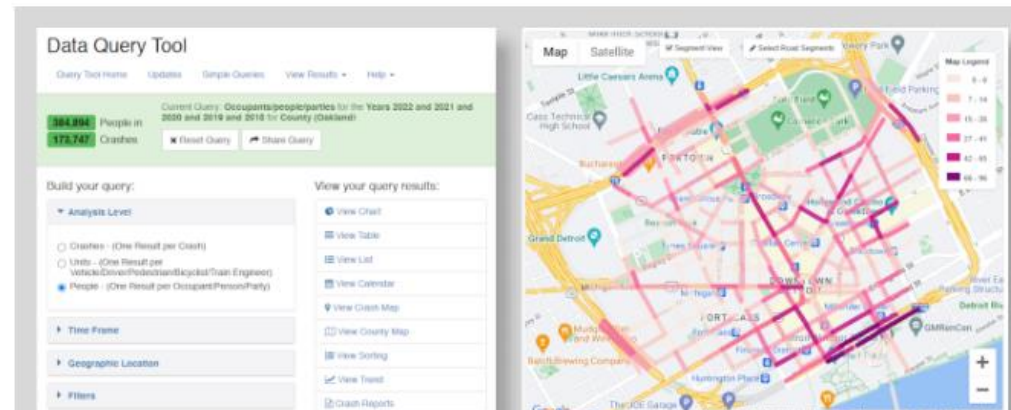
[View Recordings and Report](#)



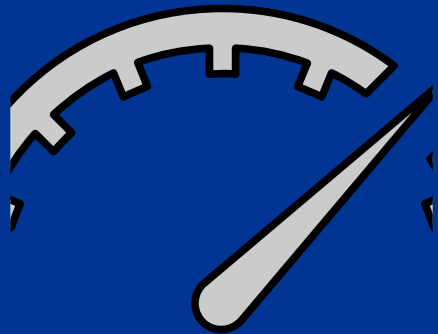
Reports and Fact Sheets



Data Query Tool

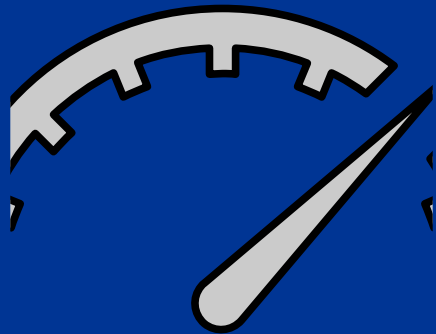


Speeding/Aggressive Driving



Excessive speed by any motorist, or non-motorist, that was a factor in the crash.

Who Determines MI Speed Limits?

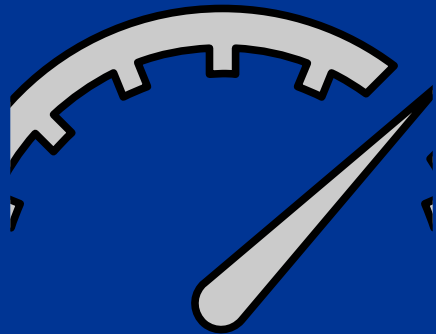


State law dictates that MDOT and the MSP jointly set speed limits based on the 85th percentile speed, which is the speed at or below which 85 percent of drivers are currently driving a given section of road.

For example, if 85 percent of drivers on a section of road are driving 55 mph or less, the 85th percentile speed would be 55.

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdot/travel/safety/road-users/speed-limits>

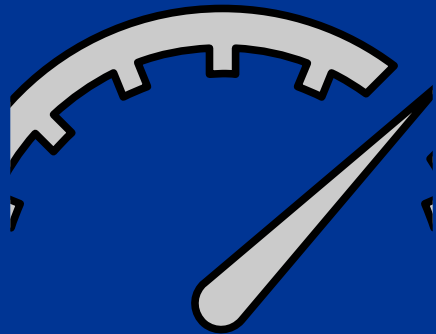
2023 Speeding/Aggressive Driving



Of the **484,281** motor vehicle drivers involved in crashes, **21,535** had a hazardous action of “Speed too Fast.”

Single motor vehicle crashes were the **most common** type associated with speed-involved crashes.

2023 Speeding/Aggressive Driving



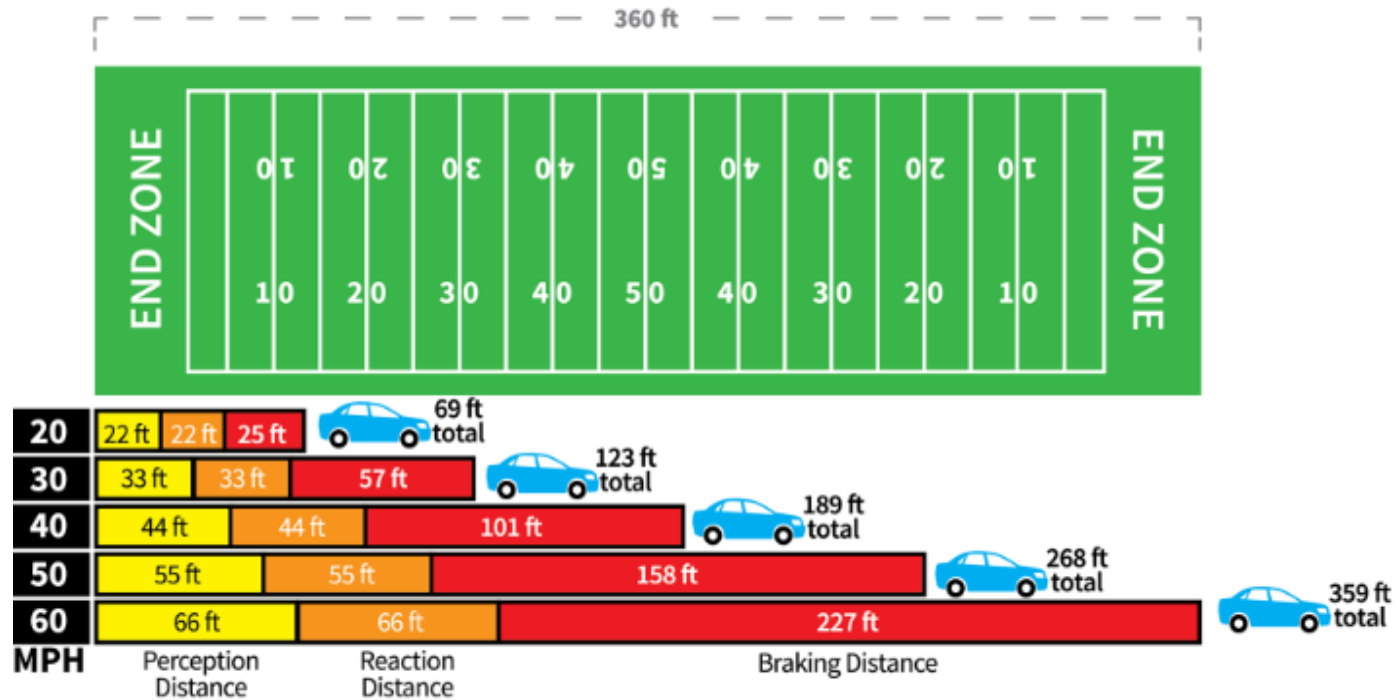
Excessive speed was a factor in:

- 210 fatalities in crashes
- 805 suspected serious injuries

“Speed too Slow” was also reported as a hazardous action for 146 crashes.

Speed and Braking Distance

Are you giving yourself enough time to stop?



Perception Distance

How far your vehicle travels - in ideal conditions - from the time you see a hazard until your brain recognizes it.

Reaction Distance

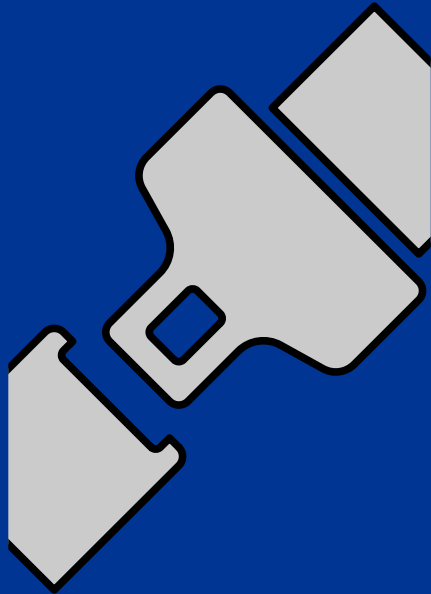
How far you will travel after seeing the hazard until you physically hit the brakes.

Braking Distance

How far your vehicle will travel - in ideal conditions - while you are braking.

Graphic courtesy of:
Florida Dept of Highway Safety
and Motor Vehicles

Occupant Protection



Seat belt use by motorists is measured two ways:

- what motorists **report** to police at the scene of a traffic crash (reported usage)
- **observation surveys**, where motorists are unaware of the presence of researchers (observed usage)

Michigan Seat Belt Law

Michigan has a primary seat belt law, which means law enforcement **can stop and ticket motorists** solely for not being buckled up.

The law requires:

Passengers 8-15 years of age to buckle up in all seating positions.

Drivers and front-seat passengers are to be buckled up.

<https://www.michigan.gov/msp/divisions/ohsp/safety-programs/seat-belts/seat-belt-law>

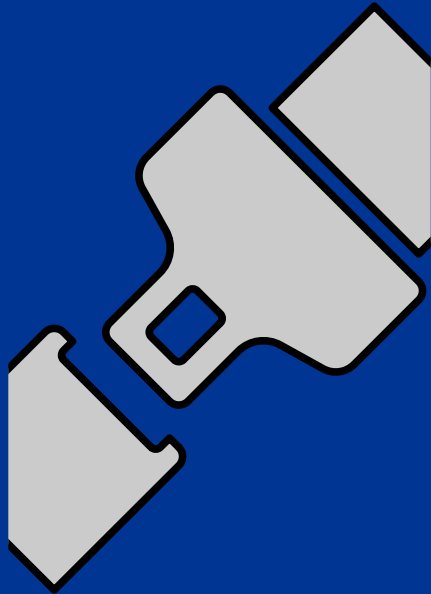
Michigan Seat Belt Law

Michigan's child passenger safety law requires:

Children **younger than age 4 to ride in a car seat in the rear seat if the vehicle has a rear seat**. If all available rear seats are occupied by children under 4, then a child under 4 may ride in a car seat in the front seat. A child in a rear-facing car seat may only ride in the front seat if the airbag is turned off.

Children are to be properly buckled in a **car seat or booster seat until they are 8 years old or 4 feet 9 inches tall**. Children must ride in a seat until they reach the age requirement or the height requirement, whichever comes first.

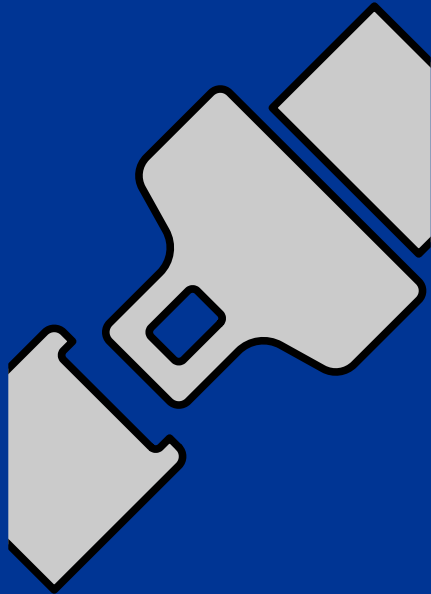
2023 Failure to Use Restraint(s)



Of the **478,648** reported drivers and passengers involved in crashes when seat belt use was known:

- **471,106** reported **they were using** seat belts at the time of the crash
- **7,542** reported **they were not using** seat belts at the time of the crash

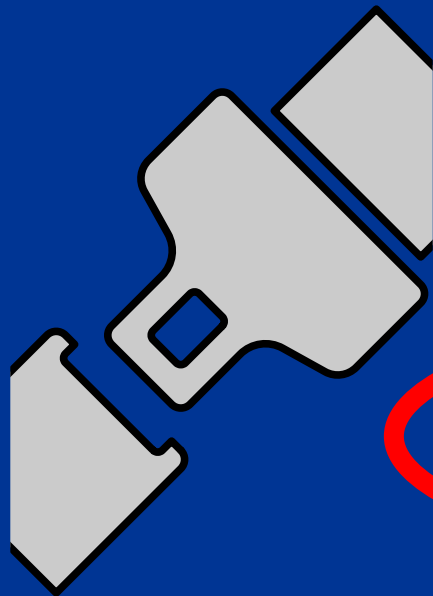
2023 Failure to Use Restraint(s)



A total of **285** people in motor vehicle crashes were **ejected** while **not wearing** a seat belt.

- **179** were drivers
- **102** were injured passengers
- **4** were uninjured passengers
- **66** unbelted people were killed

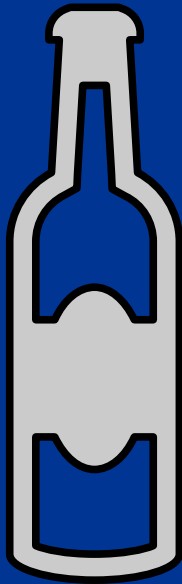
2023 Failure to Use Restraint(s)



Restraint usage among drivers and injured passengers **aged 0-14**, as reported by police at the scene of a traffic crash was **90.6%**.

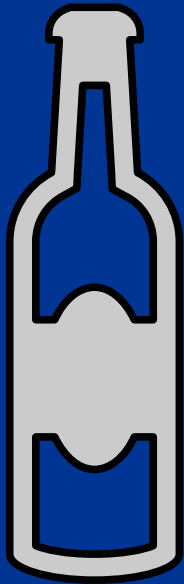
The age group with the **lowest restraint usage** was **children aged 11-14 (88.6%)**.

2023 Alcohol-Impaired Crashes



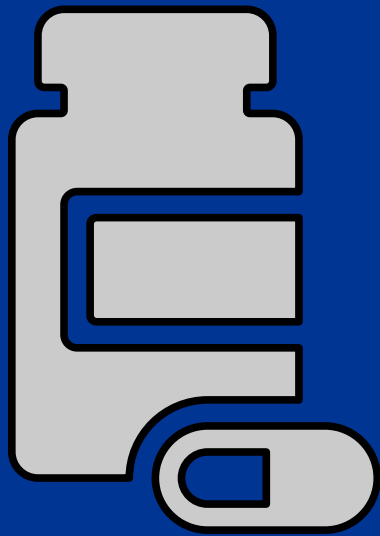
Any driver, pedestrian, or cyclist involved in the crash reported as “had-been-drinking (HBD)” by the police officer.

2023 Alcohol-Impaired Crashes



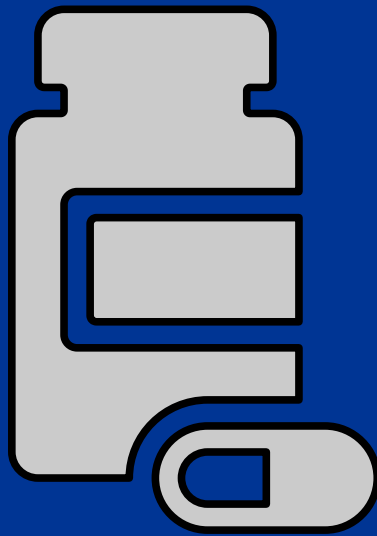
There were **1,589 drinking drivers** in crashes who were aged **24 or younger**.

2023 Drug-Impaired Crashes



A crash is drug-involved if any driver, pedestrian, or cyclist involved was reported as suspected of drug use by the police officer on the Traffic Crash Report.

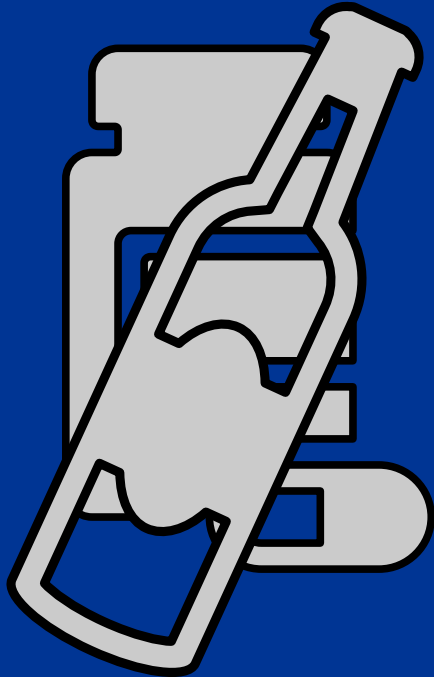
2023 Drug-Impaired Driving



Drugs Analyzed by MSP Laboratory

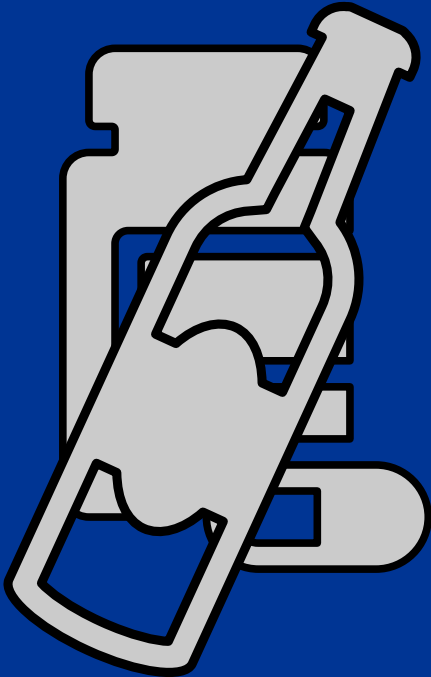
Nitrous Oxide	Alprazolam
THC and Alcohol/THC	Tramadol
Adderall	Trazadone
Cocaine	Meth
Buprenorphine	Computer Canned Air Duster

2023 Alcohol-Drug Impaired Crashes

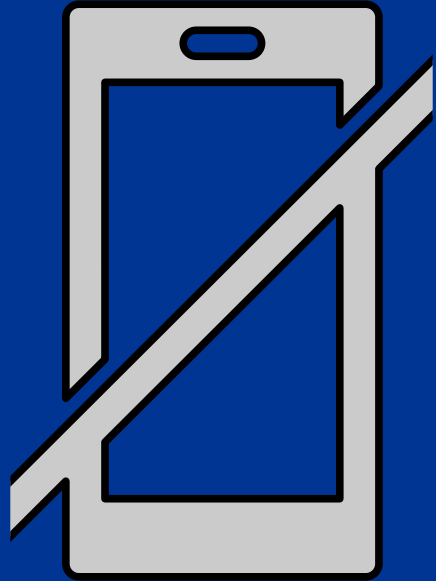


Of the **1,021** fatal crashes that occurred, **230** were drug-involved, with at least **one drugged bicyclist or pedestrian.**

2023 Alcohol-Drug Impaired Crashes



- Alcohol was involved in **98** of the **230** fatal drug-involved crashes
- Of the **183** pedestrian deaths:
 - **45** were drug-involved
 - **15** were suspected of drug use
- Of the **33** drug-involved motorcyclist crash deaths, **21** of those operators were coded as suspected drugs



Michigan Hands-Free Law

2023 Distracted-Driving Crashes



Driver distraction includes any activity that shifts attention from the driving task:

- Talking , texting, recording on cell phone
- Talking to passengers
- Eating and drinking
- Adjusting the radio or GPS
- Adjusting hair, make-up

2023 Distracted Driving Crashes



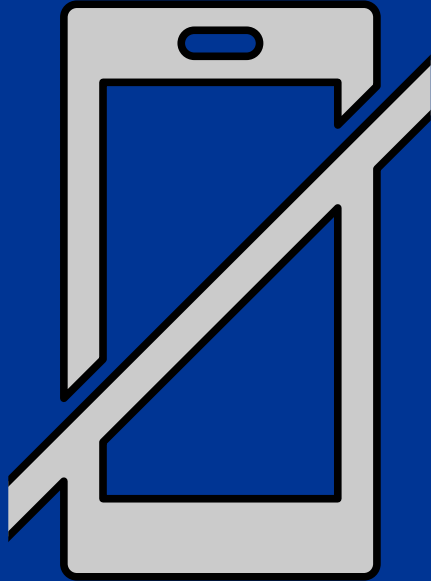
A total of **15,136** crashes occurred that involved a distracted driver.

56 of those crashes involved a fatality, resulting in **59** fatalities.

2,940 of those crashes involved a lane departure.

5,490 of the crashes took place at an intersection.

2023 Cell Phones & Crashes

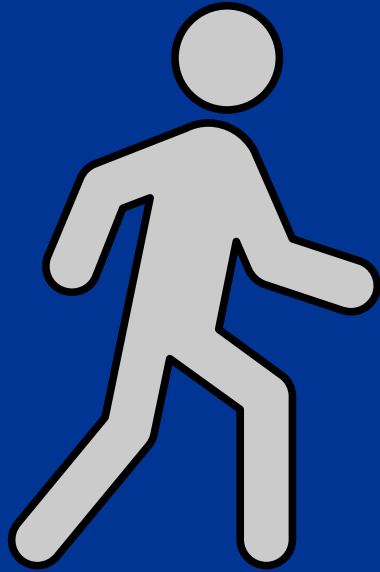


A total of **2,269** crashes occurred where a motor vehicle driver was using a cell phone.

- **11 pedestrians** and **7 bicyclists** were reported to be using cell phones at the time of the crash

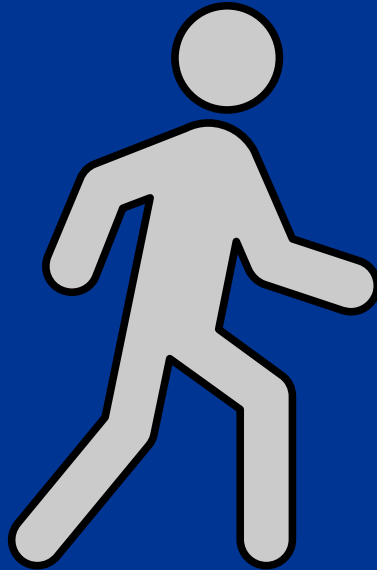
Michigan's Vulnerable Roadway Users and Traffic Safety

2023 Pedestrian Crashes



At least one pedestrian
in a crash with a motor
vehicle on a public
roadway.

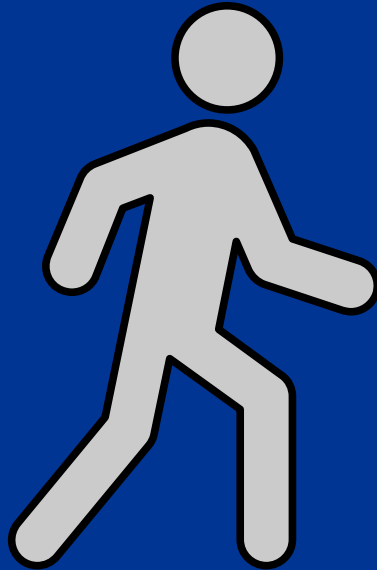
2023 Pedestrian Crashes



Pedestrians are defined as a person

- On foot
- On skis
- On skates
- On rollerblades
- On a non-motorized wheelchair
- As the rider of a horse or a horse and buggy

2023 Pedestrian Crashes



- For **each pedestrian killed** (183) there were about **10 pedestrians injured** (1,743)
- Not crossing at an intersection was the deadliest action committed by the pedestrian.
- **14 were under 20** years of age and **42 were over age 65**.

2023 Bicyclist Crashes



There is no law that requires Michigan cyclists to wear helmets or prevents them from talking on cell phones while riding.

2023 Bicyclist Crashes



There were **1487** bicyclists involved in motor vehicle crashes in Michigan in 2023.

24 bicyclists were killed in **24** fatal crashes.

- **8** were the result of a **had-been-drinking crash**
- **4** of the **8** bicyclists **had been drinking**

2023 Bicyclist Crashes



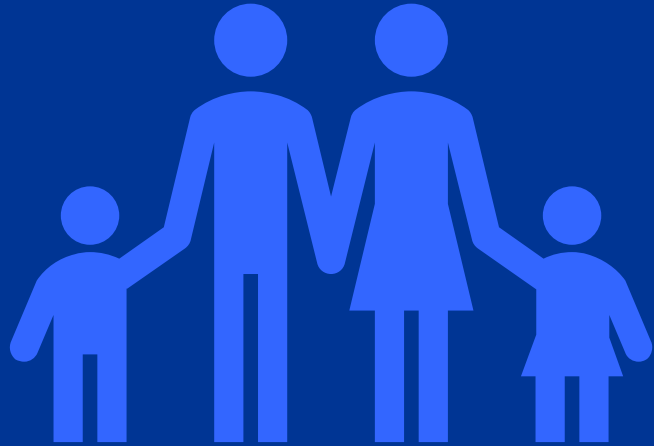
MICHIGAN LAW



PASS SAFE, SAVE LIVES

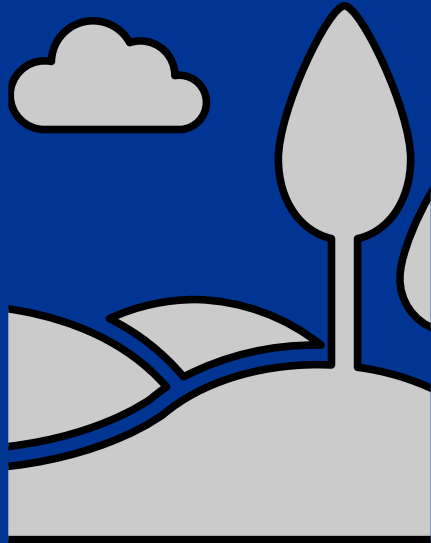


Immigrant Population



How are you engaging immigrant populations in your county to help educate them in Michigan traffic laws when you may also be providing other services to them?

Let's Think About...



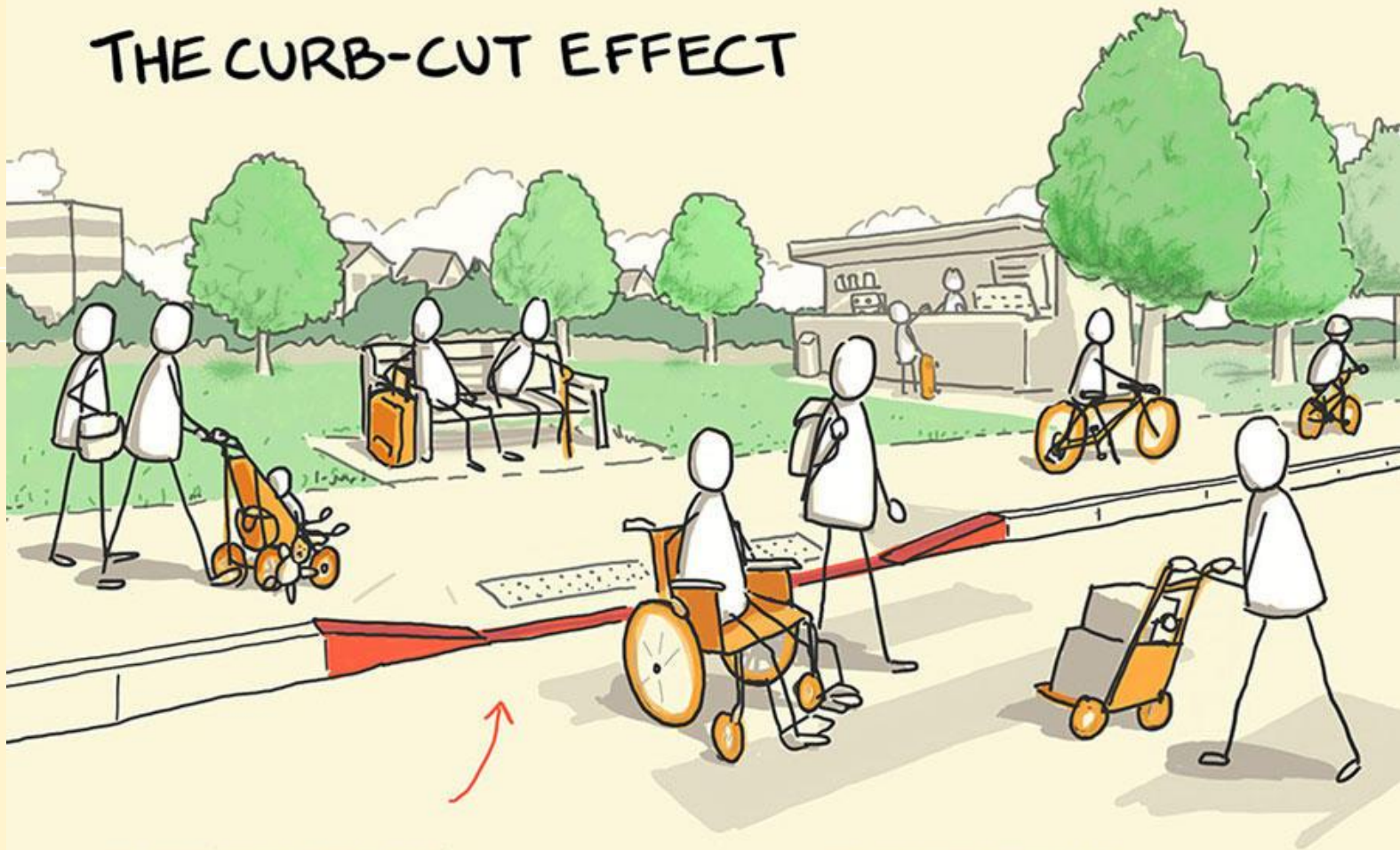
Think about people who make up your county's vulnerable population of road users.

Do you have residents that:

- Walk or roll on the road because there are no sidewalks or shoulders?
- Use their wheelchairs on the road because curbs are barriers?
- Rely on walking or cycling because there is no public transportation, and they have no other way to get about?
- Run or cycle on the road because there is no shoulder?

Can you identify areas of high risk to these road users to determine what safety improvements could mitigate their safety risks?

THE CURB-CUT EFFECT



WHEN WE DESIGN
FOR DISABILITIES

... WE MAKE THINGS
BETTER FOR EVERYONE

sketchplanations



What's My BIG Ask of You?

What Can You Do To Help?



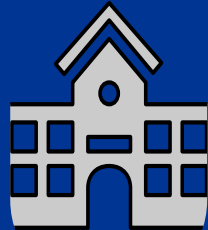
While you're spinning plates in the air because of all that you are handling, where could efforts to help educate your county's communities about traffic safety come into play?

Traffic Safety Partners in Your Community



You Are Here!

Local businesses, faith-based organizations & various agencies in your county/district

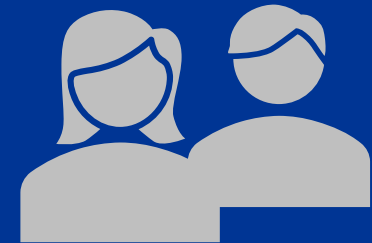


K -12 schools, colleges & universities, student groups in your communities

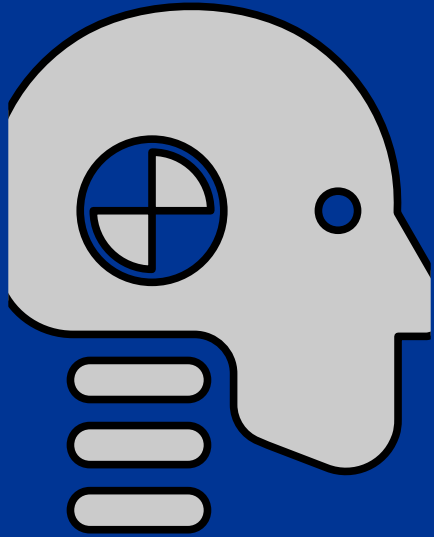
Local law enforcement



Healthcare providers, local insurance agents, small businesses



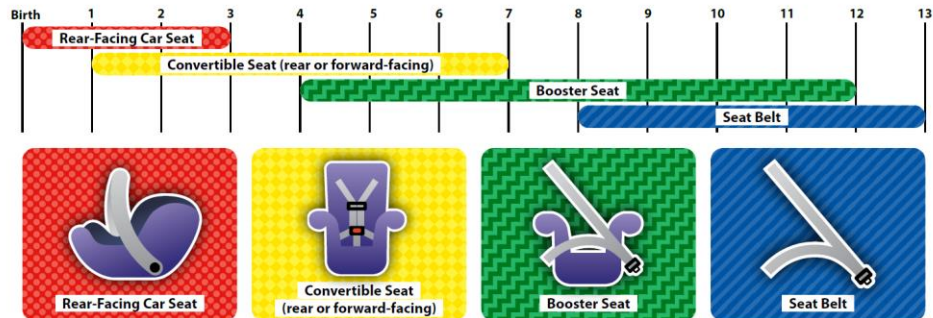
Partner With OHSP



Visit the OHSP Online Catalog to order **FREE** traffic safety educational materials!

<https://www.michigan.gov/ohspcatalog>

How to Choose the Right Car Seat



المشي بأمان وسلامة

ينبغي على المشاة التقيد بهذه التصاح المعينة بسلامتهم ليتفادوا إصاباتهم بإصابات خطيرة أو الوفاة.

يجب على المشاة:

- أن يستخدموا أرفصة المشاة كلما كان ذلك ممكناً.
- أن يتقيدوا بتعليمات إشارات المرور الكهربائية وإشارات المرور والحظوظ المتعلمة على أرض عبور الشوارع.
- أن يصبروا الشوارع عند زاوية التقاطعوا والتقيت بإشارات المرور والصور من الممرات المخصصة للمشاة كلما كان ذلك ممكناً.
- وإذا لزم الأمر المشي بمحاذاة الطريق في حال عدم وجود رصيف للمشاة، فيجب المشي على الجانب الأيمن من الطريق مواجهاً حركة مرور المركبات القادمة نحوهم متباعدين عنها بأثر قدر ممكن.

ينبغي على المشاة:

- أن يحرسوا دائماً على التوقف عند حافة سيارة واقفة أو الشارع أو المرصية قبل التروع في دخول حركة مرور السيارات.
- أن يحرسوا دائماً على الالتفات بعيناً وسائراً قبل عبور الشارع ومواصلة توجيه النظر بعيناً وسائراً أثناء عبورهم للشارع.
- أن يحرسوا على توجيه نظرههم إلى وجوه سائقي المركبات ليعلموا بوجودهم قبل التروع في عبور الشارع.
- أن يكونوا مرصين لاجين الآخرين: إبتداء ملابس مصنوعة من أقمشة عاكسة للور وحمل مصابيح ضوئية أثناء الليل وإبتداء ملابس ساطعة الألوان أثناء النهار.
- ألا يسمحوا أيضاً للأولاد دون سن العاشرة عبور الشوارع لوحدهم. لا يمنع الأولاد الصغار بالمهارات اللازمة ليدركوا بدقة مخاطر المرور وعبور الشوارع.

لاطلاع على قوانين الولاية السارية المفعول المعينة بسلامة المشاة، تفضلوا بزيارة موقع الإلكتروني على العنوان التالي: www.michigan.gov/walksafe

الطريق للجميع

EVERYBODY'S ROAD EVERYBODY'S RULES

تسري القوانين على الجميع

Rural Road Safety

19% of Americans live in rural areas

but make up 45% of traffic crash fatalities

START SEEING MOTORCYCLISTS

Kelsey's Law

Don't wear phone in your pocket.

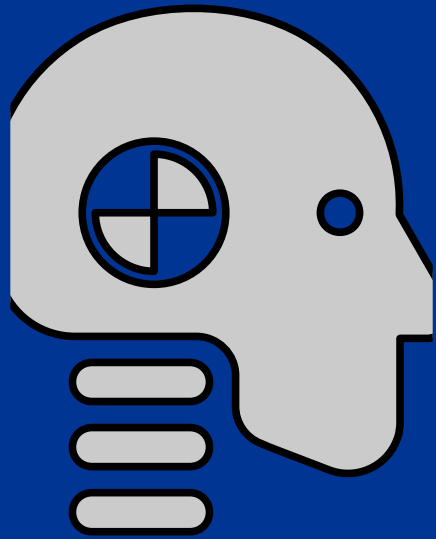
IT'S THE LAW.

Under 21?

Be a Safe Cyclist

Drunk driving is a costly crime.

Partner With OHSP



Invite Vince & Larry
or Click-It the Cricket
to your event!

<https://www.michigan.gov/ohspcatalog>



Get Involved in Your Regional Traffic Safety Network

WHAT IS A TRAFFIC SAFETY NETWORK?

A Traffic Safety Network (TSN) is a group of persons concerned about the safety of motorists traveling on Michigan roadways.

TSNs are co-sponsored by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) and AAA Michigan (AAA) to network, strengthen relationships, share best practices, provide educational programming, and promote traffic safety solutions.

Participation is open to anyone. Geographic location, the professional makeup of attendees, and the region's diverse needs shape the culture and focus of each network.

While every TSN is unique, all have a core membership comprised of professionals from public and private agencies representing traffic safety stakeholders.



Regional Traffic Safety Network

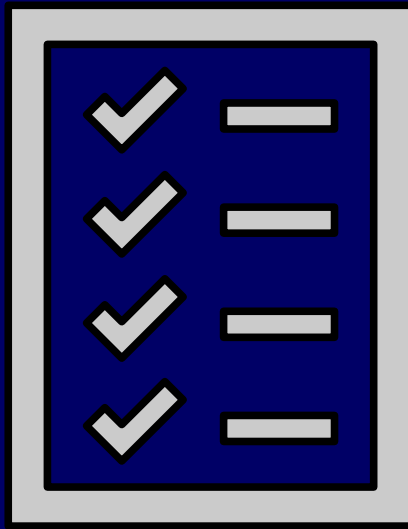
- Upper Peninsula: Cathy Fitzgerald**
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alvaem1@michigan.gov
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- Wayne County: Cathy Fitzgerald**
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Updated 4-4-2024

Get Involved in Your Regional Traffic Safety Network

Apply for OHSP Grants



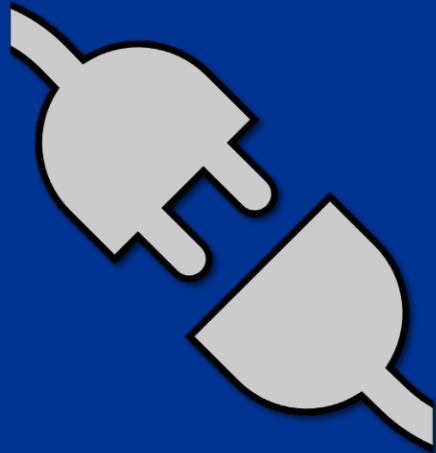
The Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) utilizes a two-tier annual grant process:

1. Grant Project Proposal; and
2. Grant Application.

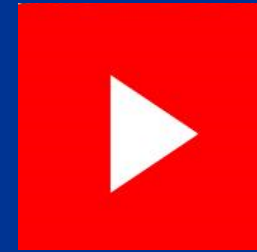
All documents are completed in the OHSP online grant system – MGX.

Proposals for Grant Projects will open on February 1, 2025 for fiscal year FY26.

Connect With OHSP



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@ohsp



@mihosp



www.michigan.gov/ohsp

Join us at the 28th
Annual Michigan Traffic
Safety Summit.

A fantastic opportunity
to meet traffic safety
professionals from
across the state.

Engaging presentations
from traffic safety
experts from across the
state and country.

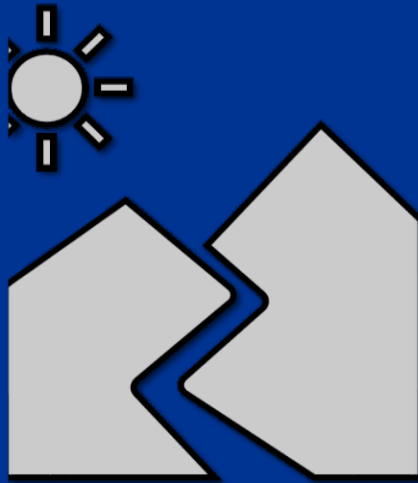


The graphic features a large yellow diamond with a black border containing the text "SAVE THE DATE". Above it are five smaller diamonds: a red one with a road icon labeled "Safer Roads", a purple one with icons of a person on a bicycle, a person in a wheelchair, and a car labeled "Safer Road Users", an orange one with icons of a bus and a car labeled "Safer Vehicles", a green one with a speedometer icon labeled "Safer Speeds", and a blue one with a fire truck icon labeled "Post-Crash Care".

**MICHIGAN TRAFFIC SAFETY
SUMMIT**
March 4-5, 2025

Amway Grand Plaza in
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Thank You



Thank you for your attention and becoming a new traffic safety partner.

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