

# About This Report

This report presents descriptive statistics summarizing motor vehicle traffic crashes that occurred from 1990-1999 in each of the seventeen states that participate in the State Data System, as well as other useful information about state crash data. These data are not representative of the nation as a whole, but do provide a comprehensive and illustrative census of motor vehicle crash patterns and trends in 17 states. Crash statistics are presented in ten sections. General information can be found in the first three sections: Crashes, Vehicles, and People. The remaining sections focus on more specific data subsets. Sections 4 and 5 present alcohol- and speeding-related crash summary data. Specific vehicle actions and types are presented in Sections 6-8 (Rollovers, Motorcycles, and Large Trucks). Finally, Section 9 provides additional information regarding the ages of persons who were killed and injured, while Section 10 focuses on vehicle safety equipment. State data availability, to include vehicle identification number (VIN) availability, is provided in Appendix A. Other state-specific information is given in the Appendices B-G.

The *State Data System Crash Data Report* is intended to replace the previous State Data System motor vehicle crash data report, *A Summary of Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes from State Crash Data Files*, DOT HS 808 626, published in 1998. A summary of the major differences between this report and the earlier *Crash Data Files* follows.

- *Crash Data Report* provides extensive motor vehicle crash data from 1990-1999, while *Crash Data Files* provided basic data for the years 1989-1994, and more specific data only for the year 1994. *Crash Data Files* Exhibits 60, 101, 106, 107, 108, and 116 have been deleted. The remaining non-graphical exhibits in *Crash Data Files* have comparable equivalents in *Crash Data Report*, with several new tables being added.
- *Crash Data Report* corrects some minor data inaccuracies reported in *Crash Data Files* for the years 1990-1994.
- Due to space considerations, *Crash Data Files'* index of state crash variables and crash severity graphs have been deleted. *Crash Data Files'* graphical representations of percentiles (Exhibits 103A, 104A, 112A, 113A) have also been deleted. Injury severity graphs have been collected in Appendix E: Fatalities and Injuries By State—Total, Alcohol, and Speeding of *Crash Data Report*.
- *Crash Data Report* introduces Appendix A: State Years and VIN Available for Analysis; Appendix C: State Reporting Policies for Uninjured Occupants; Appendix E: Fatalities and Injuries by State—Total, Alcohol, and Speeding; Appendix F: Illegal BAC Levels and Maximum Legal Speed Limits; and, Appendix G: Population, Licensed Drivers, and Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT).

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- *Crash Data Report* Appendix B: State Crash Inclusion Criteria updates *Crash Data Files* Appendix A.
- *Crash Data Report* Appendix D: SAS Methodology contains the actual SAS® queries used to generate the crash data and replaces Appendix B in *Crash Data Files*.

Readers should be aware that discrepancies may be found if this report's descriptive statistics are compared with a given state's own publications using data from the state crash data files. These discrepancies can result from data updates made to the state crash data files between the time state publications were generated and the time the states prepared their files for NHTSA. Also, interpretations of a particular variable code may differ between NHTSA and a given state. For example, classification of motorcycles by NHTSA includes mopeds, while some states do not classify mopeds as motorcycles.

Fatality statistics in the *Crash Data Report* may also vary slightly from the fatality statistics reported in *Traffic Safety Facts*, another NHTSA publication. The *Crash Data Report* is extracted from the State Data System database while the *Traffic Safety Facts* is extracted from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and the National Automotive Sampling System General Estimates System (GES), and the criteria that the State Data System uses for reporting motor vehicle traffic crashes differs in some ways from the criteria used by FARS and GES. FARS has one set of data reporting criteria that is applied nationally. The states participating in the State Data System each have their own unique set of data reporting criteria, and that criteria may change from one year to the next (as reflected in the data queries provided in Appendix D).

Updates to this report can be obtained at:

**<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/departments/nrd-30/ncsa/SDS.html>**