



Oklahoma Highway Safety Fact Sheet

Work Zone Crashes 2003

May 19, 2005

Work Zones in 2003

Crashes, Fatalities & Injuries

In 2003, there were 842 traffic crashes that occurred in Work Zones on Oklahoma's roads. This represents 1.1% of the total traffic crashes. Of these crashes, seven were fatal with 10 people killed. In addition, 305 of these crashes were injury crashes with 502 people injured.

Fatalities

Of the 10 fatalities, six were drivers, three were passengers, and one was a pedestrian.

Fatalities in 2003 Work Zone Crashes			
Vehicle Type	Driver	Passenger	Total
Passenger Vehicle	1	1	2
Truck-tractor	1	2	3
Motorcycle	1		1
Pickup Truck	3		3
Total	6	3	9
One pedestrian not included in above totals.			

Safety Equipment Use

In passenger vehicles/pickup trucks, one driver fatality was not using a safety belt and three driver fatalities were using safety belts. Safety belt use for the passenger fatality was unknown.

The motorcyclist fatality was not wearing a helmet.

Driver Age & Gender

There were 1,015 drivers involved in Work Zone crashes in 2003. Of these drivers, 14.0% were age 16-20, 12.9% were age 21-25, and 10.6% were age 36-40. Some 61.1% of the drivers involved in Work Zone crashes were male.

Alcohol/Drug-Related

Some 2.8% of the drivers in Work Zone crashes had an Alcohol/Drug-Related driver condition.

Of the drivers with an Alcohol/Drug-Related driver condition, 63.0% were impaired.

Some 93.5% of the drivers with an Alcohol/Drug-Related driver condition were male.

Causes

In 2003, the three principal causes of Work Zone crashes were:

1. Following Too Closely (20.1%)
2. Unsafe Speed (18.8%)
3. Inattention (12.0%)

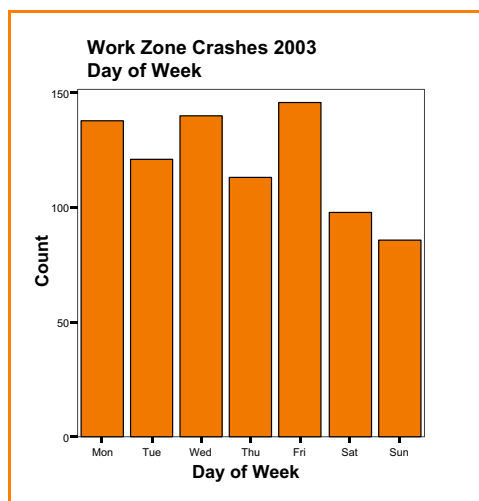
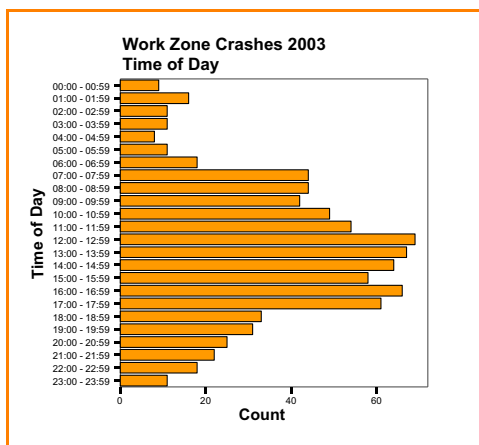
Of the crashes caused by Following Too Closely, 49.7% were following too closely for traffic conditions.

Of the crashes caused by Unsafe Speed, 55.1% were traveling at speeds unsafe for traffic conditions.

Of the crashes caused by Inattention, 71.3% were an unspecified distraction.

Time & Day

Work Zone crashes peaked between the hours of 1200 (Noon) to 1800 (6 p.m.) and were on Friday more than any other day of the week.



Other Crash Facts

- 76.0% of Work Zone crashes were in daylight.
- 47.9% of Work Zone crashes were in cloudy weather and 44.5% were in clear weather.
- 51.1% of Work Zone crashes occurred in a business locality.
- 69.5% of Work Zone crashes involved two vehicles.
- 35.6% of Work Zone crashes occurred on Interstates.
- 30.5% of Work Zone crashes occurred in Oklahoma County.
- 19.5% of Work Zone crashes occurred in Tulsa County.
- 8.0% of Work Zone crashes occurred in Carter County.

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