



Oklahoma Highway Safety Fact Sheet

Christmas 2001

December 2, 2002

Christmas Holiday 2001 December 21, 2001 (6 p.m.) through December 25, 2001 (Midnight)								
	All Crashes		Alcohol/Drug Related		Seat Belt Use Among Fatality Victims			
	Crashes	*Persons	Crashes	*Persons	Person Type	Unknown	In Use	Not in Use
Fatal	10	12	3	5	Drivers	1		3
Injury	256	399	56	88	Passengers		1	4
**Total	683	1,378	95	180	3 Pedestrians - Not applicable			

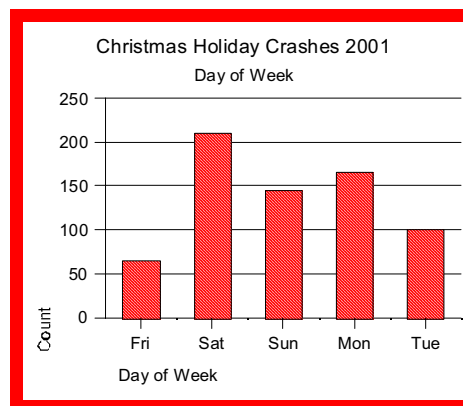
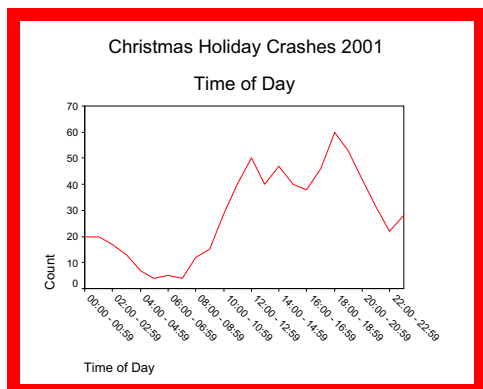
*Uninjured passengers are not entered into the DPS crash database.
** Total includes property damage only crashes.

Crashes, Fatalities, & Injuries

The Christmas Holiday period for 2001 was a total of 102 hours which began at 6 p.m. on December 21, 2001 and ended at midnight on December 25, 2001. During this time period, there were 1,378 persons¹ involved in 683 crashes, 12 persons killed in 10 fatal crashes, and 399 injured in 256 injury crashes.

Crashes by Time & Day

Crashes occurred more frequently between 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. during the holiday period. Some 30.7% of the holiday crashes occurred on the Saturday before Christmas.



Cause of Crashes

The primary cause of crashes in rural areas was Unsafe Speed (18.5%), followed by Other Improper Act/Movement (13.6%), and Failed To Yield (12.1%).

The primary cause of crashes in urban areas was Failed to Yield (19.0%), followed by Other Improper/Act Movement (15.6%), and Followed Too Closely (12.6%).

Driver Age

Drivers age 16-25 (19.2%) were involved in crashes during the Christmas Holiday period more than any other age group. Failed To Yield (21.3%) was the primary cause of crashes involving this age group, followed by Improper Turn (14.5%), and

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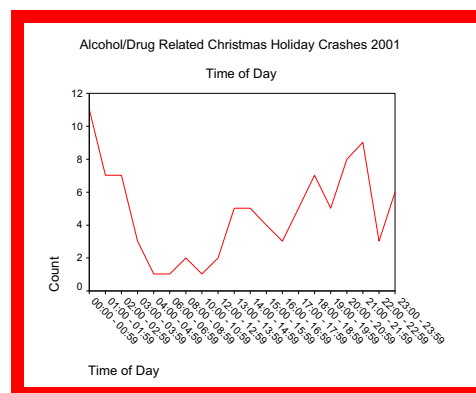
Unsafe Speed (13.6%). Of the drivers in this age group, 52.8% were male.

hours with a sharp increase in the early morning hours.

Lighting and Weather

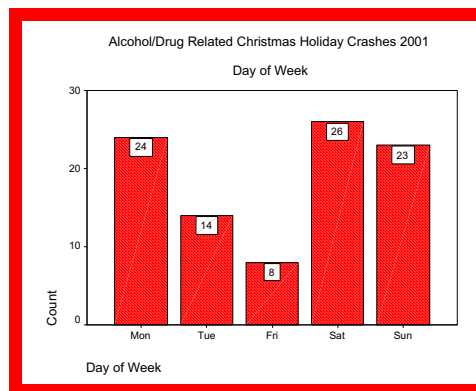
Some 47.3% of the crashes during the Christmas Holiday occurred in daylight, while 42.8% occurred in darkness. However, 60.0% of the fatal crashes occurred in darkness.

Some 64.0% of the crashes occurred during clear weather and another 35.0% occurred when clouds were present. Of the fatal crashes, 80.0% were during clear weather and 20.0% were with clouds present.



Safety Equipment

Of the 12 fatalities, three were pedestrians. Of the remaining nine fatalities, seven (77.8%) were not using safety equipment.



Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Fatalities, & Injuries

There were a total of 95 Alcohol/Drug Related crashes, three which were fatal and 56 which involved an injury. A total of five persons were killed and 88 were injured.

Driver Age - Alcohol/Drug Related

During the Christmas Holiday period, 17.3% of the drivers in Alcohol/Drug Related crashes were age 21-25 and 16.0% were age 26-30.

Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Lighting & Weather

All of the Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes during the Christmas Holiday occurred during clear or clouds present weather conditions. Some 61.1% of these same crashes occurred during darkness.

Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Time & Day

As is common with Alcohol/Drug Related crashes, the most frequent occurrence begins around 6 p.m. and continues during the late evening

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