

# Oklahoma Highway Safety Fact Sheet

Memorial Day 2002

May 8, 2003

Memorial Day Holiday 2002 May 24, 2002 (6 p.m.) through May 27, 2002 (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	5	8	0	0	Drivers	1	3	0
Injury	217	356	26	47	Passengers	0	1	0
**Total	534	1,051	51	97	3 not applicable (1 pedestrian and 2 motorcyclists)			

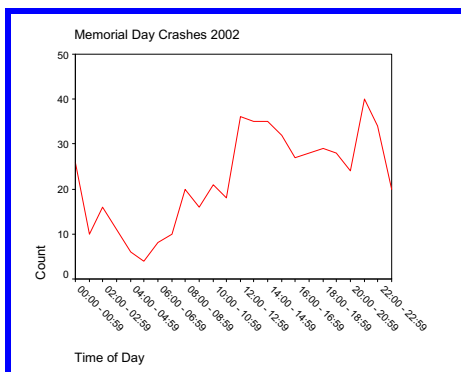
\*Uninjured passengers are not entered into the DPS crash database.  
\*\* Total includes property damage only crashes.

## Crashes, Fatalities & Injuries

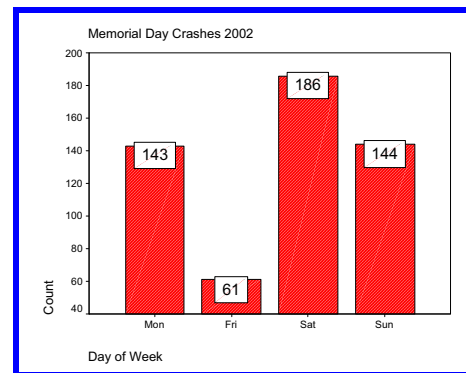
The Memorial Day Holiday period for 2002 was a total of 78 hours which began at 6 p.m. on May 24, 2002 and ended at midnight on May 27, 2002. During this time period, there were 1,051 persons<sup>1</sup> involved in 534 crashes, eight persons killed in five fatal crashes, and 356 persons injured in 217 injury crashes.

## Crashes by Time & Day

Crashes occurred more frequently between 12:00 noon and 11:00 p.m. during the holiday period.



Some 34.8% of the holiday crashes occurred on the Saturday before Memorial Day.



## Cause of Crashes

In rural areas, the primary causes of crashes were Unsafe Speed (24.2%), Failed To Yield (16.7%), and DUI-Alcohol (8.4%).

In urban areas, the primary causes of crashes were Improper Turn (15.5%), Failed To Yield (13.4%), and Followed Too Closely (13.4%).

## Driver Age & Gender

Drivers age 16-20 (24.5%) were involved in crashes during the Memorial Day Holiday period more than any other age group. The next highest age group was age 21-25 with 15.6%.

<sup>1</sup>Uninjured passengers are not entered into the DPS database.

Some 62.4% of the drivers in Memorial Day Holiday crashes were male.

### Lighting & Weather

Some 62.2% of the Memorial Day Holiday crashes occurred in daylight, while 27.5% occurred in darkness. Some 60.0% of the fatal crashes occurred in daylight.

Some 28.3% of the crashes occurred during clear weather and another 55.8% occurred when clouds were present. Of the fatal crashes, 80.0% occurred with clouds present.

### Seat Belts

Of the eight fatalities, one was a pedestrian, two were motorcyclists, and one was in a truck-tractor/semi-trailer. Of the remaining four fatalities, all were using seat belts.

### Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Fatalities, & Injuries

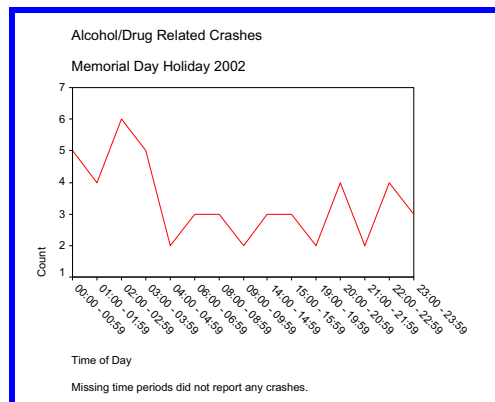
There were a total of 51 Alcohol/Drug Related crashes. Of the 51 crashes, 26 were injury crashes with 47 persons injured.

### Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Lighting & Weather

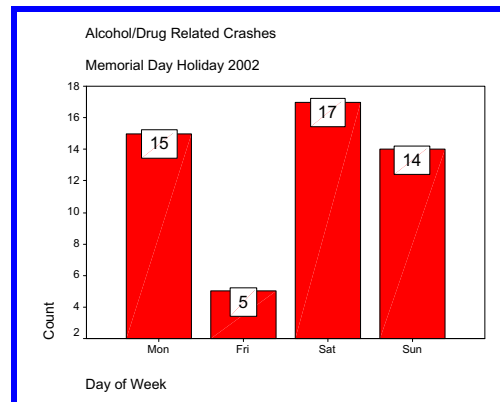
Some 88.2% of the Alcohol/Drug Related crashes during the Memorial Day Holiday period occurred during clear or clouds present weather conditions. Some 52.9% of these crashes occurred during darkness.

### Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Time & Day

The incidence of Alcohol/Drug Related crashes was higher in the late evening and early morning hours.



The Saturday before Memorial Day had the highest incidence of Alcohol/Drug Related crashes.



### Alcohol/Drug Related Crashes, Driver Age

During the Memorial Day Holiday period, 26.4% of the drivers in Alcohol/Drug Related crashes were age 16-20 and 16.7% were age 21-25.

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