

# SPEED

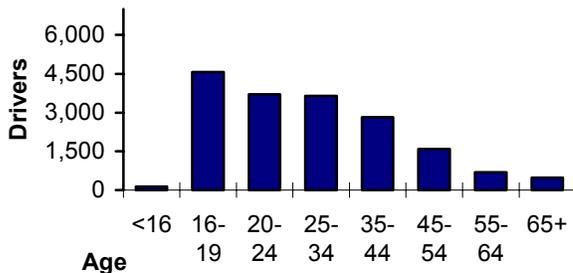


## Did You Know...

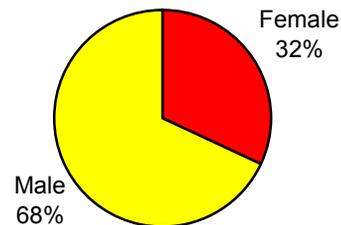
**In Wisconsin, in 2001, one person was injured or killed in a speed-related crash every 46.9 minutes.**

- 18,089 speed-related crashes occurred in Wisconsin in 2001.
- In these crashes, 248 people were killed and 10,981 people were injured.
- Speed was listed as a contributing cause in 14% of all crashes and 36% of all fatal crashes.

**2001 Drivers "Driving Too Fast" in Crashes by Age**

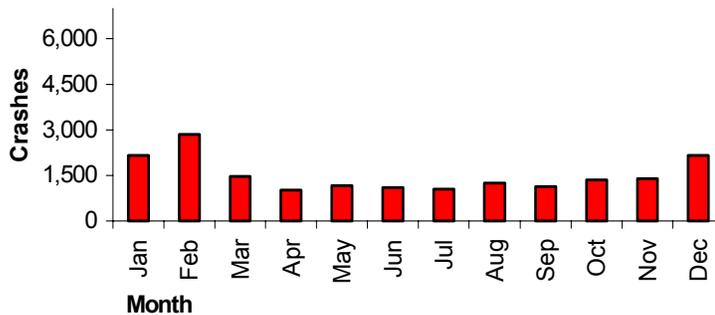


**2001 Drivers "Driving Too Fast" in Crashes by Gender**



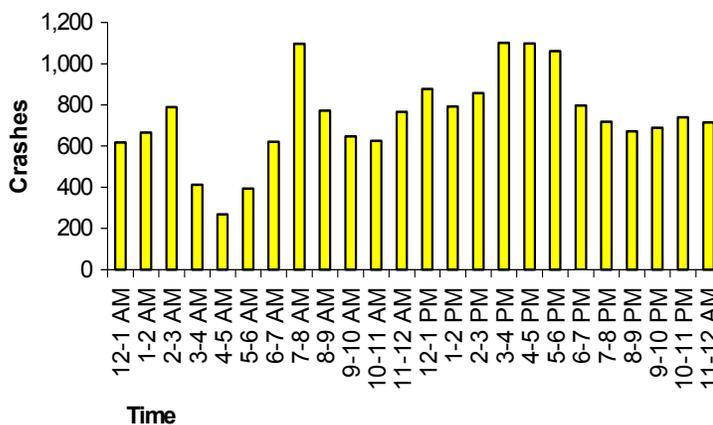
- 16-19 year old males accounted for 16% of the drivers "driving too fast" in crashes.
- This trend was a factor supporting the implementation of Wisconsin Graduated Driver's License (GDL) on February 1, 2000.

**2001 Speed-Related Crashes by Month**



- The varied seasons Wisconsin residents enjoy, are echoed by the months the majority of crashes occur.
- Driving too fast for winter conditions is the primary cause of speed-related crashes in December, January and February.

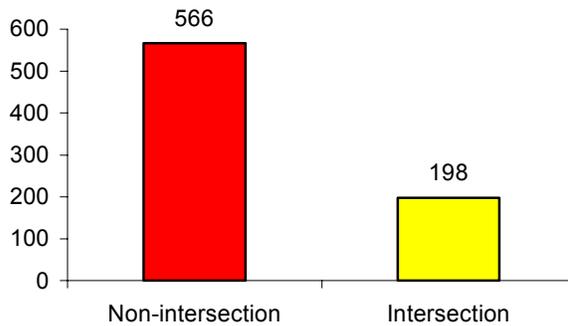
**2001 Speed-Related Crashes By Time of Day**



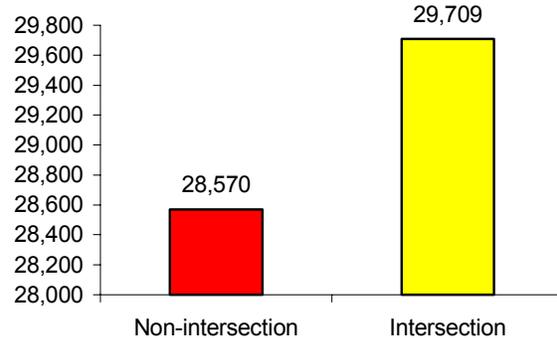
- Most speed-related crashes occur from 7-8 AM and from 3-6 PM.
- Most crashes occur during prime commuter times to and from work and school.

## Aggressive Driving Behaviors

2001 People Killed by Location



2001 Persons Injured by Location



- *Aggressive driving behaviors* are ones in which a driver operates a vehicle in a way that endangers or is likely to endanger people or property. Commonly identified aggressive driving behaviors include speeding, failure-to-yield, disregarding a traffic sign or signal, improper lane changing, following too closely, and improper overtake. Speed is often the primary contributing factor in crashes in rural non-intersection locations where 488 people were killed in 2001. Speed combined with other aggressive behaviors is often the cause of urban intersection crashes in which 29,709 people were injured in 2001.

## Current Speed Laws

Wis. Stats. 346.57 (2) and (3) and (4)

- Drivers are required to drive vehicles at a speed that does not exceed the posted limit and is reasonable given conditions of the road. The speed of the vehicle must be controlled to avoid colliding with any object, person or vehicle.
- Situations that may require reduced speeds include approaching intersections, railways, curves, hillcrests, narrow and winding roads, the presence of children or adverse weather.
- Drivers may not drive in excess of the following fixed and posted limits: 15 mph in school zones during school hours, 15 mph in safety zones when pedestrians are present, 15 mph in an alley, 25 mph on highways within corporate city limits unless modified and posted, 35 mph in outlying districts of city limits or semi-urban areas outside of city limits, 65 mph on freeways and expressways, 45 mph on designated rustic roads, 55 mph in the absence of any other fixed or posted limits.



## What Can I Do?

- Obey posted speed limits.
- Use caution and reduce travel speeds in unfavorable weather and road conditions and sudden, unexpected situations.
- Be alert when traveling in work zones, school zones and railway grade crossings.
- Obey speed limits and wear safety belts to reduce the risk of being injured or killed in a speed-related crash.