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GUIDING QUESTION:

What factors impact the severity of a car crash?

Defining Factors & Severity

Possible Factors--

movement, weather, speed limit, time/date, light

Measuring Severity--

3 types of crashes- property damage, injury, fatal

Finding Data

- Initial difficulties with first question
- https://data.gov/
- Crash Reporting Drivers Data

Understanding the Dataset

Police collision reports within Montgomery County, MD

- -Most populous county in Maryland, part of Washington DC metropolitan area
- -Average household income is 20th highest in the nation
- -Highest percentage of residents with post-grad degrees (29.2%)



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3	EJ7885003	2.3E+08	Gaithersb P	roperty I	C ########	Maryland	FREDERIC	Unknown	WATKINS	MILL RD	N/A		STRAIGHT	CLEAR	DRY	DAYLIGHT	TRAFFIC S	NONE DET	ECTED I
4	MCP20090	2.3E+08	Montgom Pr	roperty I	C ########	Maryland	GEORGIA	Maryland	NORBECK	RD	N/A		STRAIGHT	CLEAR	DRY	DAYLIGHT	TRAFFIC S	NONE DET	ECTED 2
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6	MCP23290	2.3E+08	Montgom Pi	roperty l	C ########	County	MONTGO	County	CENTERW	AY RD	N/A		HEAD ON	CLOUDY	DRY	DAYLIGHT	TRAFFIC S	NONE DET	ECTED !
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8	MCP33510	2.3E+08	Montgom Pr	roperty I	C ########	Maryland	COLESVILL	US (State)	COLESVILL	E RD	N/A		SAME DIF	CLEAR	DRY	DUSK	NO CONT	FNONE DET	ECTED 3
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13	MCP20090	2.3E+08	Montgom Pr	roperty I	C ########	Maryland	GEORGIA	Maryland	NORBECK	RD	N/A		STRAIGHT	CLEAR	DRY	DAYLIGHT	TRAFFIC S	NONE DET	ECTED :
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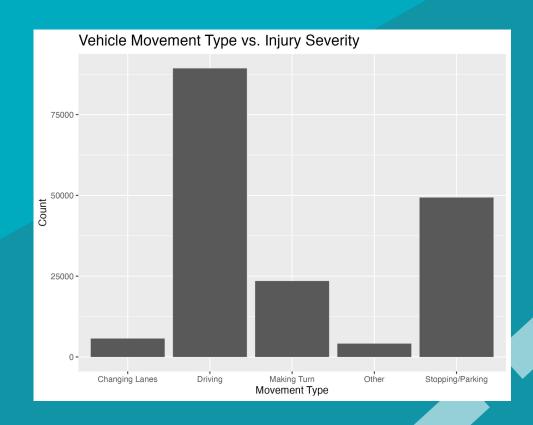
Cleaning the Data

- More than 170k accident instances
- Group by movement, speed limit, light, and injury severity, and summarise the count for each combination
- Further summarise the count and calculate the proportion for each factor

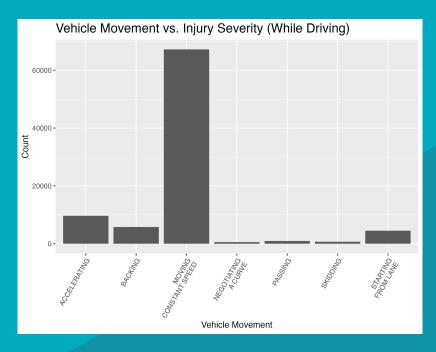
Vehicle Movement Results

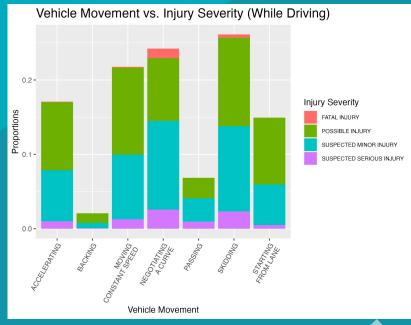
25 Vehicle Movements → 5 Movement Types

For example, the type of "driving" contains 7 movements: accelerating, backing, moving at constant speed, passing, negotiating a curve, skidding, starting from lane

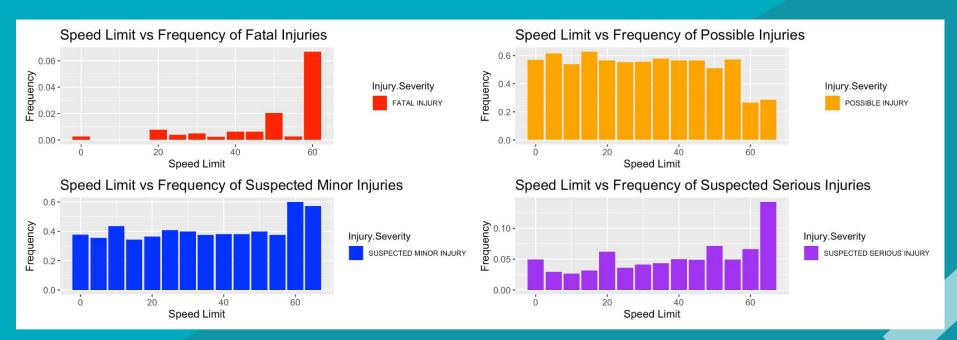


Vehicle Movement Results

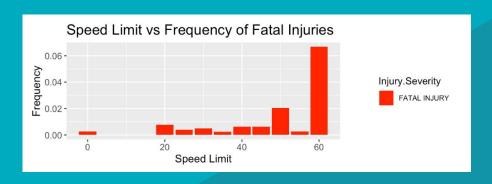


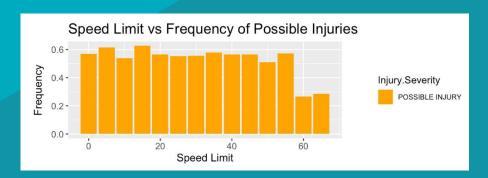


Speed Limit Results



Speed Limit Results

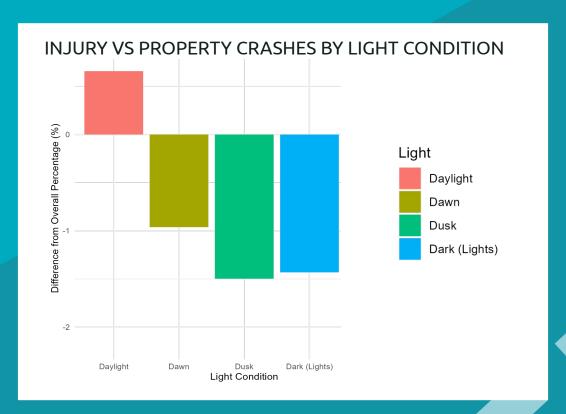




Light Results

Compares each injury percentage to the base injury percentage

Higher injury crash percentage means **more** injury, less property crashes



Conclusions

We should be more careful when

- Negotiating a curve, skidding
- Driving at high speed, and/or
- Driving in the daylight

Challenges

Finding and accessing a useful dataset proved to be challenging

Fatal car crashes were a very small percentage for each factor, so hard to measure impact with so little data

Our data set contained many factors and 172,075 crash reports, which made it hard to manipulate

Next Steps

Look at additional factors -

- Date/Time of year
- Weather
- Locations

Focus on fatal injuries

Analyze the correlation between different factors