

1999 Virginia Traffic Crash Facts



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Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles
Richmond, Virginia
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Commissioner's Message

Dear Reader,

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles is pleased to present the 1999 edition of **Virginia Traffic Crash Facts**. This document is the result of the cooperative efforts of the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, the Virginia Department of State Police and the Virginia Department of Transportation. It provides a comprehensive view of traffic crashes occurring in Virginia.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our fellow highway safety advocates for their endeavors. We at DMV pledge our continued commitment to safe highways for all citizens through innovative, effective and efficient public service.

I hope you will find this publication to be a comprehensive and useful tool in problem identification, education and community activities. Any comments you may have about the information or format are welcome.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard D. Holcomb".

Richard D. Holcomb
Commissioner

Table of Contents

	Page
Glossary	iii
1999 Quick Facts About Virginia	1
Virginia Crashes: 1999	
Statewide.....	2
Monthly Crash Data.....	2
Looking Back.....	2
On the Average	2
Speeding.....	2
Cumulative Mileage Death Rate.....	2
Crash Vehicles.....	2
Important Circumstances.....	3
Occupation of Driver.....	3
Crashes by Hour and Day.....	3
Age and Sex of Persons Killed.....	5
Age and Sex of Persons Injured	6
DMV Districts	7
Counties	8
Cities	10
Towns.....	11
Virginia Driving Trends:	
Summary: 1990-1999	15
Death Rate	15
Vehicles Registered	15
Licensed Drivers.....	15
Gasoline Consumption.....	15
Vehicular Mileage.....	15
Crashes	15
Fatalities	15
Injuries	15
Alcohol-Related Crashes.....	15
Alcohol-Related Fatalities.....	15
Alcohol-Related Injuries.....	15
Deaths on Major Holidays.....	15
Leading Death Causes: 1998	15
Monthly Crashes/Fatalities/Injuries	16
Economic Cost: 1994-1998	16
Virginia Crash Summaries: 1999	
Fatalities, Injuries, Crashes, Driver Action, Drinking Condition, Physical Condition, Age, Sex, Vehicle Action, Defect, Environment, Weather, Light, Traffic Controls	
Virginia Crashes	17
Virginia Fatalities	19
Alcohol.....	21
Automobiles.....	27
Bicycles.....	29
Buses	31
Mopeds.....	33
Motorcycles.....	35
Motorhomes/Recreational Vehicles	37
Pedestrians	39
Pickup and Passenger Trucks.....	41
Safety Restraints.....	43
School Buses.....	45
Trains/Vehicles.....	47
Straight Trucks.....	49
Tractor-Trailers	51
Tractor Twin-Trailers	53
Vans	55

Glossary

Alcohol-related crash: Crash where either a driver, bicyclist or pedestrian is listed on the police report as drinking before the crash.

Alcohol-related fatality: Person who dies within 30 days as a result of a traffic crash involving alcohol.

Crash rate: Number of crashes per 100 million vehicle miles, unless otherwise stated.

Death rate per vehicle miles traveled: Number of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles.

Death rate per drivers: Number of fatalities per 1,000 Virginia licensed drivers.

Fatal crash: Crash which results in one or more fatalities.

Fatality: Person who dies within 30 days as a result of a traffic crash.

Percentage: Based on “known” totals within categories or actions. Does not include “unknown” or “not stated” data.

Personal injury crash: Crash which results in no fatalities but one or more persons are injured.

Property damage crash: Crash which results in no fatalities or injuries, but there is property damage of at least \$1,000.

Reportable traffic crash: Crash on a public highway which involves death, injury or property damage in excess of \$1,000.

Vehicle miles traveled (VMT): Total number of miles traveled on Virginia highways.

NOTE: Percentage on tables within documents are rounded and may not equal 100 percent.

1999 Quick Facts About Virginia

General Facts

- 877 persons were killed, a 6.10 percent decrease from 1998
- 81,204 persons were injured, a 0.02 percent decrease from 1998
- 139,573 traffic crashes were reported, a 2.52 percent increase from 1998
- There were 4,942,186 licensed drivers, a 1.97 percent increase from 1998
- There were 80,197,000,000 estimated vehicle miles traveled, a 5.16 percent increase from 1998
- There were 6,083,902 registered vehicles, a 3.56 percent increase from 1998

Alcohol-Related Facts

- 364 persons were killed in alcohol-related crashes, a 8.33 percent increase from 1998*
- 8,359 persons were injured in alcohol-related crashes, a 2.29 percent decrease from 1998
- 34 teenagers, aged 15-19, were killed in alcohol-related crashes, 3.88 percent of the total (877) traffic fatalities
- 1,057 teenagers, aged 15-19, were injured in alcohol-related crashes, 1.30 percent of the total (81,204) traffic injuries
- 29,358 persons were tested with blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 percent or greater a 0.40 percent increase from 1998
- The average BAC of tested drinking drivers was .1354 **
- 32,954 persons were arrested for DUI, 9.80 percent increase from 1998
- Of those arrested for DUI, 83.36 percent were male and 16.64 percent were female
- 88.82 percent of those arrested for DUI were convicted in 1998; approximately 86.65 percent of those arrested for DUI were convicted in 1999

NOTE: * Medical examiner data used in addition to police reports to determine alcohol-related status.

** This includes an average of both breath and blood tests.