

This dataset looks at day and time patterns in traffic accident data across six U.S. cities. These cities were chosen as a result of being listed among the ten most accident-prone cities in America. The question behind this visualization what trends, if any, appear when looking at day and time data separated by city? And, how different are these trends across cities? Finally, this visualization separates accidents between having severity-level 1 or 2 (where 2 is average) and 3 or 4 (where 4 is severe) \* to see if any further divisions in trends would appear.

Data:

The data source for this project “U.S. Accidents: A Countrywide Traffic Accident Dataset”, consisting in 3.5 million records that have been continuously collected since 2016. This visualization specifically focuses on data from 2017 to 2019, which were all the years that had complete data across the six cities.

Methodology:

Rates were calculated by taking the number of accidents over three years and dividing it by three times the 2018 population. That gives the rate per person, which was then multiplied by 1,000 to give us the rate per 1,000 people.

\*Severity is defined by the impact on traffic, where 1 indicates the least impact on traffic (i.e., short delay as a result of the accident) and 4 indicates a significant impact on traffic (i.e., long delay). Severity is not defined by injuries involved.