Speeding In Fatal and Injury Crashes

Crashes in this report are defined as speed-related if the attending officer specified that racing, driving too fast for conditions, or exceeding the posted speed limit was a contributing factor (NHTSA).

- The share of injury crashes involving speed has remained relatively stable from 2002-2012. Fatal speed-related crashes are more fluid over the same time with a high of 42% in 2007 and a low of 25% in 2003. Ten year averages are comparable: fatal, 33% and injury, 32%. There is a higher incidence of male drivers than females in speeding crashes (56% and 44% respectively). Lower seat belt use is typical in this crash type - 65% compared to 71% use in other crashes.

- November, December, and January have the most speed-related crashes - 31% of the annual total. Fridays have more crashes (18%) than other days of the week, and Sundays have the fewest (12%). Most speeding crashes occur between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

- Since 2008, speeding crashes in the eastern half of the state have remained steady at about 18% while the west registers slightly higher - approximately 23% over the same time.

- Speeding crashes represent a larger share of lane departure and rollover crashes, and interstates have a higher percentage of crashes involving speed compared to other road types.