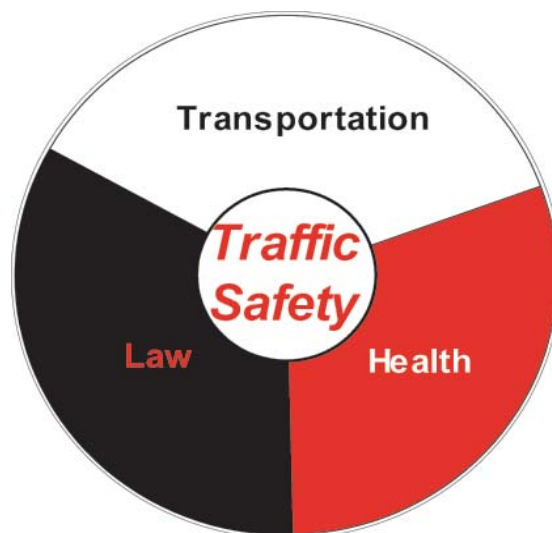


2003

NEW MEXICO TRAFFIC CRASH INFORMATION



New Mexico Department of Transportation
Programs Division
Traffic Safety Bureau



Rhonda Faught
Secretary, NMDOT

The New Mexico Department of Transportation is pleased to provide the state with a compilation of traffic crash information utilized by our safety partners to implement and develop programs that make our roadways safer for the traveling public.

The mission of the Traffic Safety Bureau of the New Mexico Department of Transportation is to reduce traffic related fatalities, injuries and crashes. The Bureau is responsible for the development of the State Highway Safety and Performance Plan and is instrumental in obtaining federal funds authorized under the Transportation Equity Act. Federal grants administered by the Bureau fund programs associated with occupant protection, child protective education, impaired driving, state and community highway safety, data systems, alcohol incentives, etc.

The Traffic Safety Bureau, law enforcement agencies, and partnering organizations are making great strides in preventing traffic-related crashes. State and federally funded programs such as statewide driver education, DWI driving schools, selective traffic enforcement projects, operation DWI, operation buckle down, Super Blitz checkpoints and saturation patrols, pedestrian safety, motorcycle safety, and related law enforcement training programs are framing the attitudes and beliefs of the driving public.

Our partners, state and local government agencies, non-profit organizations, legislators, and law enforcement agencies are responsible for the successful changes and safer New Mexico roadways.

Thank you all for your service and dedication.

Requests for further information or additional copies of this report should be addressed to:

Traffic Safety Bureau
Programs Division
Department of Transportation
State of New Mexico
P.O. Box 1149
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1149
(505) 827-0427
web site: <http://www.unm.edu/~dgrint/tsb.html>

New Mexico Traffic Crash Information 2003

New Mexico Department of Transportation
Programs Division
Traffic Safety Bureau

February 2005

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New Mexico Statute 66-7-214
as a reference source regarding
New Mexico traffic crashes

INTRODUCTION

This edition of *New Mexico Traffic Crash Information* reviews traffic crash data in New Mexico from January through December, 2003. It presents crash data in the form of graphs for those who prefer an impressionistic view and tables for those who require reference information. Maps are provided where a geographic perspective is useful.

The statistics shown in this publication reflect only those crashes that occurred on public roadways and resulted in death, personal injury, or \$500 or more in property damage according to the investigating officer's judgement. No account is kept of unreported crashes or crashes that occurred on private property.

The information found in this report was drawn from the Uniform Accident reports, which are distinct from those required by New Mexico's Financial Responsibility Act: statutes 66-5-201 to 66-5-239. These reports are compiled and processed by the Transportation Statistics Bureau of the New Mexico Department of Transportation, and analyzed under contract by the Division of Government Research for statistical analysis and report generation. Since the data are occasionally incomplete or imprecise, discrepancies may be found in a few tables, or in comparison to other data sources. Estimated and revised figures are indicated where applicable. The tables and graphs which appeared in editions of this report prior to 1993 **only** showed counts of occupants that were involved in fatal or injury crashes. Since 1993, these same tables and graphs display counts of **all** occupants involved in crashes (i.e., this now includes occupants involved in property-damage-only crashes).

A great debt is owed to those hundreds of police officers across the state who made this report possible.

Note: The 1999 crash file contains 15% fewer crashes than the 1998 file. This may be due to problems in implementing the new system after the old system failed, or to underreporting. Care should be used in interpreting differences between 1999 and other years.

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The following is a list of terms and associated definitions which appear throughout this report.

Alcohol-involved - a crash in which the Uniform Accident report indicated that 1) a DWI citation was issued, 2) alcohol was a contributing factor to the crash, or 3) a driver or pedestrian involved in the crash had been drinking.

Crash Rate - crashes per 100 Million Vehicle Miles (mvm) unless otherwise specified.

Death Rate - traffic fatalities per 100 Million Vehicle Miles (mvm) unless otherwise specified.

Drivers - drivers do not include pedalcyclists or pedestrians.

Fatal Crash - a crash in which at least one individual was killed.

Fatalities - see killed.

Injured - the number of people injured in a crash, as opposed to the number of crashes in which people were injured. Counts include people injured but not killed in fatal crashes.

Injury Crash - a crash in which at least one individual was injured. Fatal crashes are not included in this category.

Killed - the number of people killed in a crash, as opposed to the number of crashes in which people were killed. The term fatalities is synonymous with killed.

Local Resident - a person whose residence was within 25 miles of the crash site.

Minor Injuries - a possible non-visible injury, or an injury of unknown severity.

Property Damage Only (Property Damage) - designates a crash that did not involve injuries or fatalities.

Rural - an area with a population of 2,500 or less.

Serious Injuries - 1) an incapacitating injury, 2) a visible but not incapacitating injury.

Traffic Crash - an incident on a public roadway involving one or more motor vehicles that resulted in death, personal injury, or at least \$500 in property damage.

Urban - a town or a city with a population of 2,500 or more.

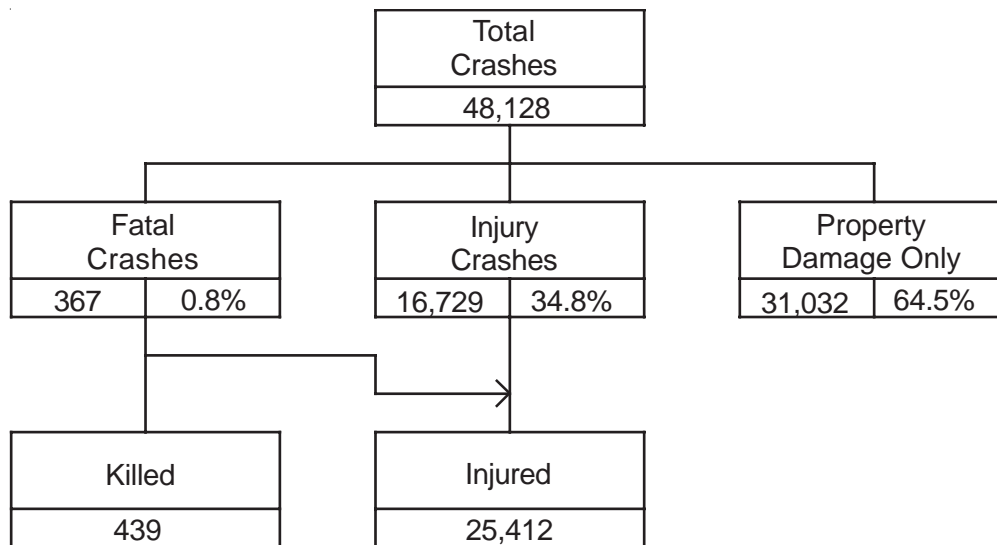
Vehicle Miles - the number of miles traveled annually by motor vehicles. MVM and 100 MVM stand for million and one hundred million vehicle miles, respectively.

OVERVIEW

In 2003 ...

- An individual died in a crash every 20 hours.
- A person was injured in a crash every 21 minutes.
- A traffic crash occurred every 11 minutes.

Crashes in New Mexico by Severity, 2003



New Mexico Roadway Statistics, 1994 - 2003

Calendar Year	New Mexico					Death Rates ¹	
	Motor Vehicle Registrations	MVM ² Traveled	Population	Traffic Fatalities	Traffic Injuries	New Mexico	United States ³
2003	NA*	22,855	1,874,614	439	25,412	23.4	14.7
2002	NA*	22,728	1,884,617	449	26,441	23.8	14.9
2001	NA*	22,709	1,841,446	464	27,536	25.0	14.8
2000	1,392,501 ⁴	22,709	1,819,046	435	27,380	23.8	14.9
1999	1,336,880 ⁴	22,451	1,739,844	460	24,240	25.7	15.3
1998	1,774,614 ⁴	22,173	1,736,931	424	28,112	24.0	15.3
1997	1,570,192	21,895	1,723,965	484	29,719	27.9	15.7
1996	1,550,514	21,509	1,707,902	481	31,352	28.2	15.8
1995	1,513,487	21,149	1,683,773	485	30,996	28.8	15.9
1994	1,484,239	20,481	1,653,777	447	29,910	27.0	15.6

¹ Rates are per 100,000 population.

^{2,3} Definition: see page 37. Note: MVM data were re-estimated in 2000 for 1992-2000.

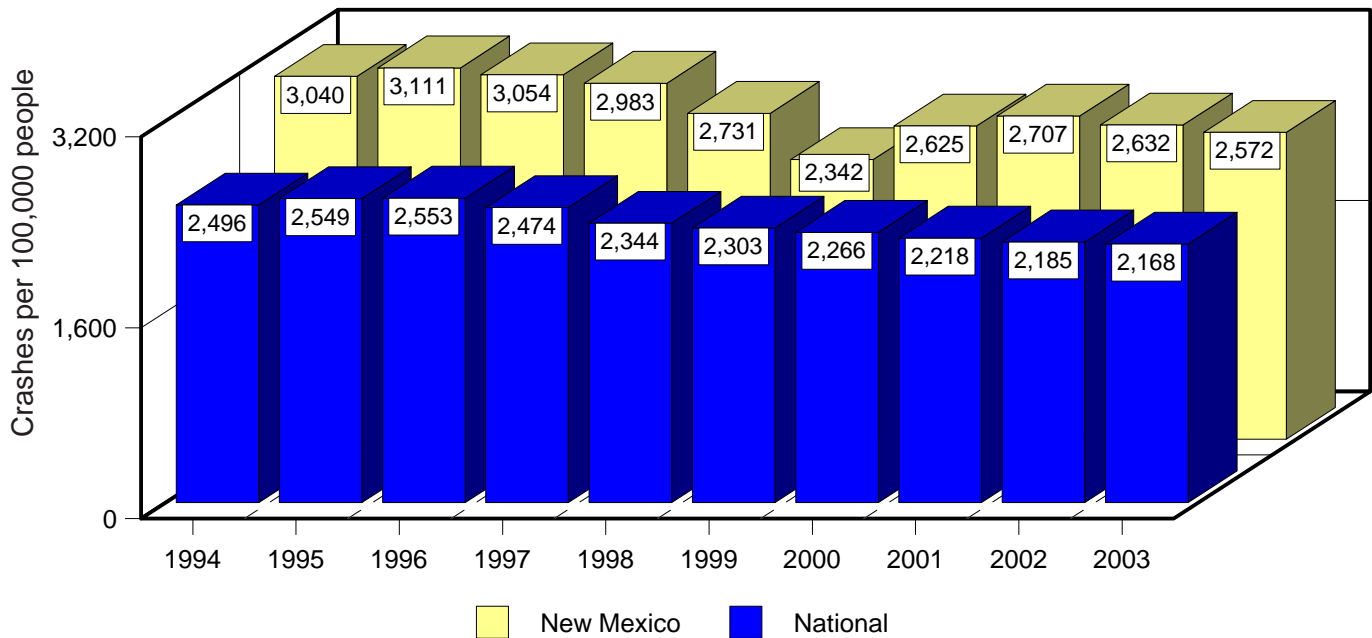
⁴ These are counts of registration transactions which were affected by the advent of 2-year registration in 1998.

* not available.

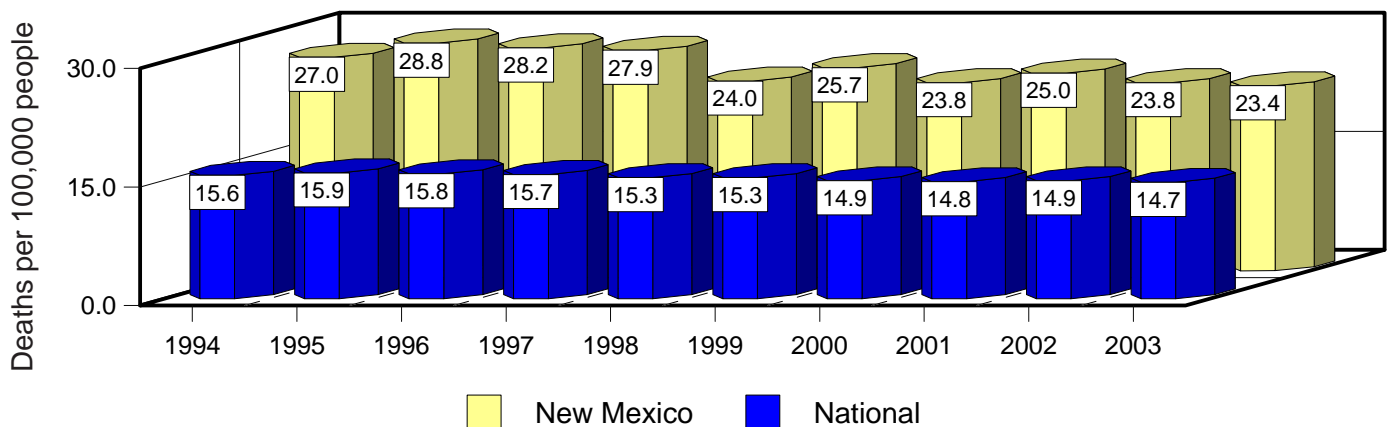
In New Mexico ...

- Overall, the New Mexico crash rate decreased by 17 percent from 1994 to 2003.

New Mexico and National Crash Rates, 1994 - 2003



New Mexico and National Crash Death Rates, 1994 - 2003

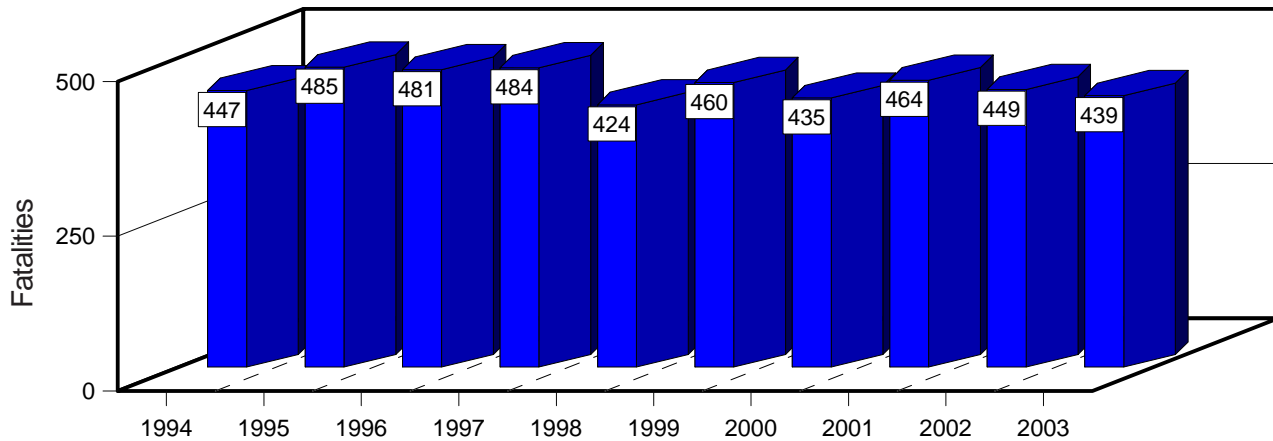


OVERVIEW

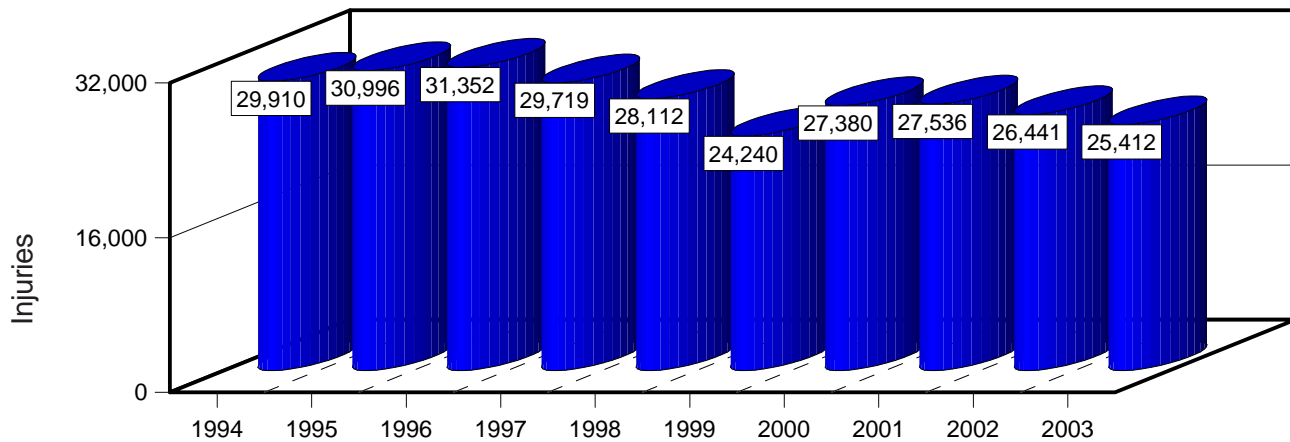
In 2003 compared to 2002, there were ...

- 1,029 (3.89 percent) fewer injuries in crashes.

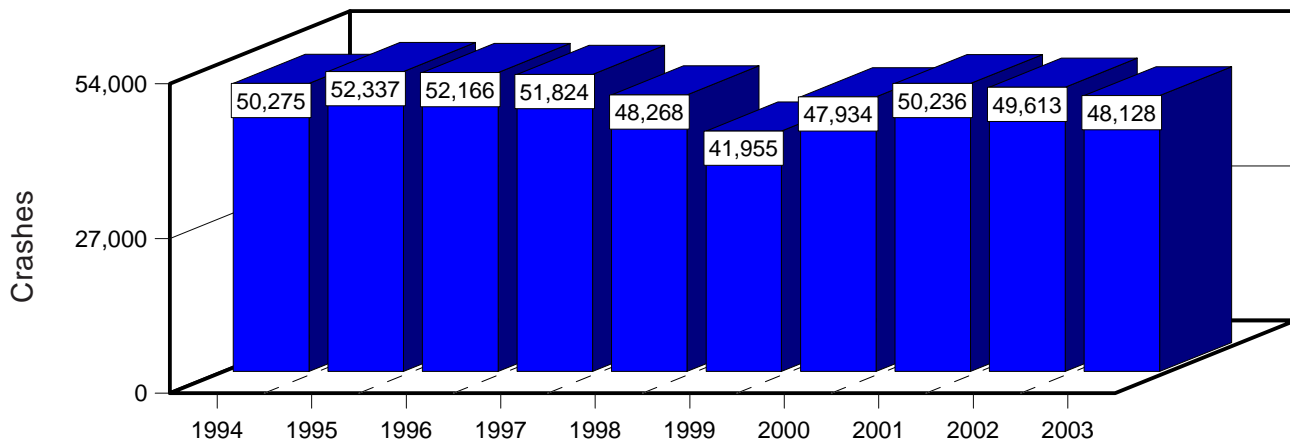
Crash Fatalities in New Mexico by Year, 1994 - 2003



Crash-related Injuries in New Mexico by Year, 1994 - 2003









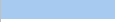





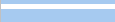











Crashes in New Mexico by Year, 1994 - 2003



In 2003, there were on average ...

- four (12 percent) more fatal crashes per month during June through September than the rest of the year.















Crashes in New Mexico by Month, 2003

Month	Total	Percent	Total	Fatal	Percent	Fatal
January	3,453	7.2		31	8.4	
February	3,313	6.9		22	6.0	
March	4,075	8.5		24	6.5	
April	3,761	7.8		30	8.2	
May	4,140	8.6		33	9.0	
June	3,812	7.9		30	8.2	
July	4,120	8.6		40	10.9	
August	4,252	8.8		33	9.0	
September	4,265	8.9		30	8.2	
October	4,633	9.6		34	9.3	
November	3,942	8.2		36	9.8	
December	4,362	9.1		24	6.5	
Total	48,128	100.0	2,000 4,000	367	100.0	20 40

In 2003 ...

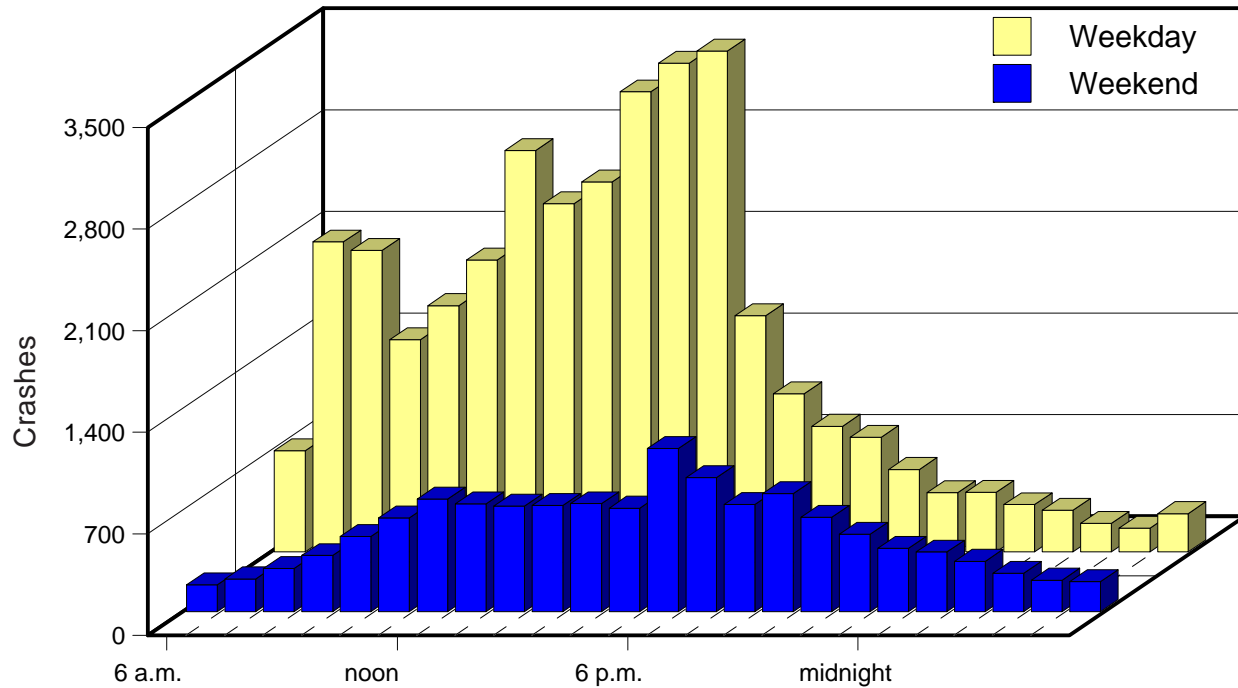
- 52 percent of all fatal crashes occurred during from Friday through Sunday.
- 31 percent of all crashes occurred on Friday and Saturday.

Crashes in New Mexico by Day of the Week, 2003

Day	Total	Percent	Total	Fatal	Percent	Fatal
Sunday	4,376	9.1		43	11.7	
Monday	6,997	14.6		41	11.2	
Tuesday	7,172	14.9		42	11.4	
Wednesday	7,424	15.5		44	12.0	
Thursday	7,233	15.1		49	13.4	
Friday	8,512	17.7		67	18.3	
Saturday	6,308	13.1		81	22.1	
Total	48,022	100.0	4,000 8,000	367	100.0	40 80

• For this table, each day was considered to run from 6:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. the following morning.

Crashes in New Mexico by Hour of the Day, 2003



- The weekend is defined as beginning on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. and ending on Monday morning at 5:59 a.m. For perspective, the weekend has 60 hours total, while the weekday period consists of 108 hours.

Friday between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. was the least safe time to drive in urban areas.

The Seven Least Safe Hours of the Week in New Mexico, 2003

Urban			
Day	Hour	Crashes	% of Total
Friday	4 p.m.	622	1.6
Wednesday	5 p.m.	618	1.6
Tuesday	5 p.m.	614	1.6
Friday	3 p.m.	611	1.6
Thursday	5 p.m.	605	1.6
Friday	5 p.m.	600	1.6
Tuesday	4 p.m.	571	1.5

Rural			
Day	Hour	Crashes	% of Total
Friday	3 p.m.	118	1.2
Friday	4 p.m.	115	1.1
Friday	5 p.m.	109	1.1
Sunday	5 p.m.	101	1.0
Wednesday	5 p.m.	101	1.0
Saturday	4 p.m.	100	1.0
Friday	7 p.m.	98	1.0

1 An hour begins at :00 and ends at :59; 4 p.m. represents 4:00-4:59.

Crashes in New Mexico During Holiday Periods, 2000 - 2003

Holiday	Total Hours	Beginning (6 p.m.)	Ending (midnight)	Crashes			People	
				Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Easter								
2003	54	4/18	4/20	240	4	92	4	153
2002	54	3/29	3/31	252	3	100	3	161
2001	54	4/13	4/15	252	0	108	0	176
2000	54	4/21	4/23	243	7	86	9	149
Memorial Day								
2003	78	5/23	5/26	346	4	108	4	184
2002	78	5/24	5/27	321	3	111	3	174
2001	78	5/25	5/28	323	7	134	12	226
2000	78	5/26	5/29	345	5	128	6	206
Fourth of July								
2003	78	7/03	7/06	358	3	134	4	216
2002	30	7/03	7/04	144	5	43	8	84
2001	30	7/03	7/04	145	3	54	3	84
2000	30	7/03	7/04	158	2	71	2	125
Labor Day								
2003	78	8/29	9/01	343	3	131	4	237
2002	78	8/30	9/02	361	7	129	7	201
2001	78	8/31	9/03	326	2	117	2	191
2000	78	9/01	9/04	341	3	126	3	186
Thanksgiving								
2003	102	11/26	11/30	397	7	133	8	199
2002	102	11/27	12/01	464	5	168	6	261
2001	102	11/21	11/25	457	6	150	8	263
2000	102	11/22	11/26	429	6	163	7	286
Christmas								
2003	30	12/24	12/25	99	1	28	1	51
2002	30	12/24	12/25	113	1	30	1	39
2001	30	12/24	12/25	79	3	27	3	53
2000	78	12/22	12/25	503	6	168	7	269
New Year's								
2003-2004*	30	12/31	1/01/04	22	0	NA	0	NA
2002-2003	30	12/31	1/01/03	120	1	42	1	66
2001-2002	30	12/31	1/01/02	151	4	51	4	74
2000-2001	78	12/29	1/01/01	291	3	99	3	165

* 2003-2004 New Year's Data are preliminary as of 1/2005

WHEN

New Mexico Fatalities by Day and Alcohol Involvement, 2003*

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

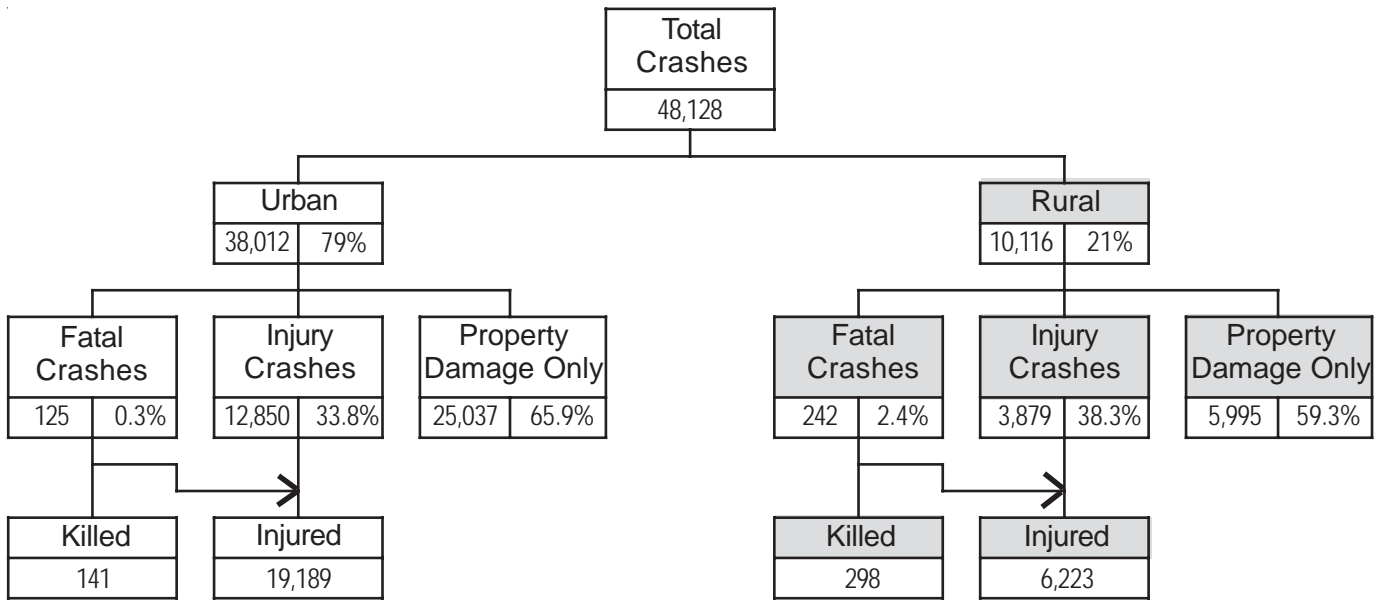
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

○ Non Alcohol-involved Fatality

■ Alcohol-involved Fatality

* Unlike other graphs and tables in this section, crashes that occur between midnight and 5:59 am are not shifted to the previous day.

Crashes in New Mexico by Road System, 2003



In 2003, three times as many people were injured in urban area crashes as in rural.

Crashes on New Mexico Pueblos and Reservations, 2003

Pueblo or Reservation	Crash				Killed	Injured
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage		
Acoma	36	2	16	18	2	25
Alamo Navajo	6	0	4	2	0	4
Cochiti	4	1	3	0	1	6
Isleta	21	1	3	17	1	7
Jemez	11	0	7	4	0	10
Jicarilla Apache	51	2	18	31	2	32
Laguna	89	7	41	41	8	67
Mescalero Apache*	41	2	13	26	2	22
Nambe	3	0	1	2	0	1
Navajo	108	7	41	60	8	83
Picuris	16	0	8	8	0	14
Pojoaque	52	1	27	24	1	37
Ramah Navajo	14	0	3	11	0	4
Sandia	54	1	20	33	1	28
San Felipe	51	1	22	28	3	33
San Ildefonso	9	0	2	7	0	2
San Juan	49	1	27	21	1	36
Santa Ana	13	0	7	6	0	14
Santa Clara	16	1	5	10	1	6
Santo Domingo	32	0	17	15	0	25
Taos Pueblo	5	0	1	4	0	1
Tesuque	40	1	9	30	1	15
Zuni	49	1	15	33	2	33

*Crashes in Mescalero Apache reservation maybe under reported.

WHERE

New Mexico Crashes by County, 2003

County	Crashes				People		Rates		Economic Loss*	100 MVM	Licensed Drivers	2003+ Population
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured	Crash Rate	Death Rate				
Bernalillo	19,593	54	6,848	12,691	61	10,083	382	1.19	939,696	51.3	393,996	581,442
Catron	84	3	25	56	4	38	76	3.61	11,038	1.1	3,160	3,415
Chaves	1,467	4	442	1,021	5	691	262	0.89	91,818	5.6	41,433	60,591
Cibola	520	12	197	311	14	335	78	2.11	62,709	6.6	15,810	26,453
Colfax	453	10	153	290	17	261	144	5.41	50,459	3.1	10,502	14,051
Curry	1,006	6	342	658	7	516	281	1.95	53,456	3.6	28,996	45,440
De Baca	57	3	19	35	3	30	88	4.62	6,883	0.6	1,695	2,091
Doña Ana	4,080	26	1,481	2,573	29	2,256	217	1.54	281,964	18.8	115,827	182,165
Eddy	1,211	14	349	848	17	501	165	2.32	81,012	7.3	36,615	51,470
Grant	765	5	246	514	5	362	164	1.07	65,891	4.7	22,085	29,818
Guadalupe	216	4	74	138	6	124	45	1.24	33,615	4.8	3,011	4,574
Harding	10	0	3	7	0	5	42	0.00	1,369	0.2	626	747
Hidalgo	118	3	42	73	3	71	46	1.17	19,349	2.6	3,724	5,234
Lea	1,159	11	353	795	13	539	196	2.19	73,067	5.9	37,784	55,504
Lincoln	605	3	203	399	3	283	167	0.83	56,878	3.6	16,017	20,322
Los Alamos	259	1	89	169	1	122	221	0.85	11,907	1.2	15,846	18,802
Luna	494	10	174	310	15	300	87	2.63	51,382	5.7	17,578	25,732
McKinley	1,653	34	511	1,108	43	881	133	3.46	165,383	12.4	37,284	72,555
Mora	127	4	47	76	4	70	86	2.70	21,290	1.5	3,458	5,216
Otero	1,149	13	366	770	14	590	197	2.40	90,046	5.8	37,733	62,371
Quay	244	7	78	159	12	112	54	2.65	30,882	4.5	7,425	9,605
Rio Arriba	657	13	275	369	15	442	130	2.97	78,896	5.0	28,403	40,731
Roosevelt	366	2	110	254	2	163	137	0.75	27,658	2.7	11,495	18,107
Sandoval	1,485	16	553	916	19	820	143	1.83	117,810	10.4	71,265	98,786
San Juan	2,780	37	967	1,776	41	1,554	181	2.67	199,165	15.3	72,861	122,272
San Miguel	662	8	229	425	11	343	174	2.89	59,734	3.8	17,853	29,670
Santa Fe	4,430	16	1,676	2,738	18	2,562	246	1.00	312,688	18.0	98,081	136,423
Sierra	208	6	57	145	6	84	100	2.89	22,365	2.1	9,273	13,125
Socorro	374	11	102	261	13	159	68	2.38	43,304	5.5	12,185	18,178
Taos	629	5	228	396	6	328	172	1.64	57,267	3.7	23,064	31,269
Torrance	265	8	102	155	11	164	52	2.15	36,622	5.1	10,555	16,802
Union	89	4	38	47	4	64	60	2.71	9,056	1.5	3,051	3,814
Valencia	913	14	350	549	17	559	206	3.84	85,428	4.4	45,214	67,839
Total	48,128	367	16,729	31,032	439	25,412	211	1.92	3,250,086	228.6	1,253,905	1,874,614

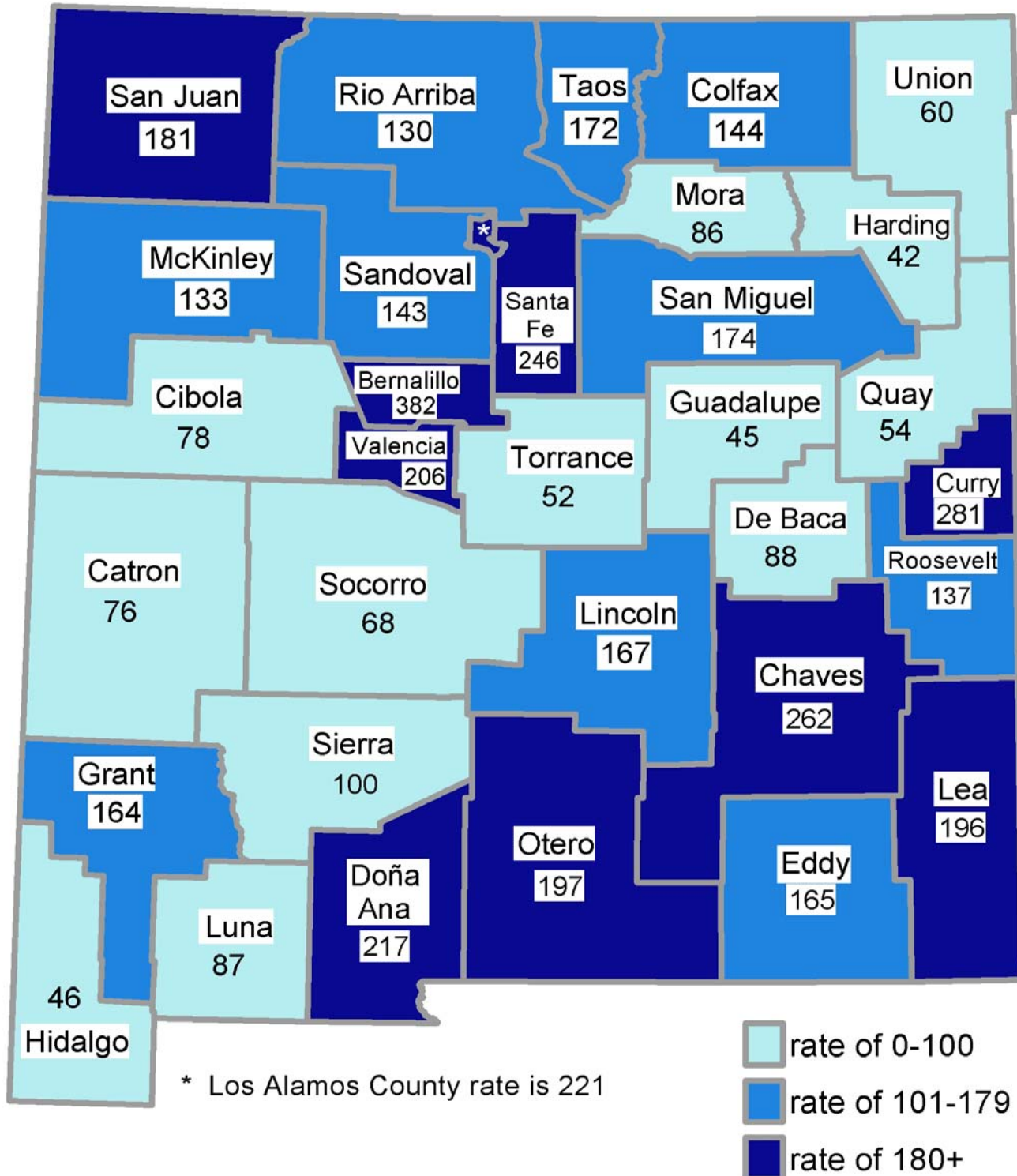
* Crash cost estimates are in thousands of dollars, and are based on FHWA Economic Loss Formulae (see page 37).

+ see page 37

In 2003 ...

- The overall crash rate in New Mexico was 211.

Crash Rates in New Mexico by County, 2003



WHERE

Crashes in New Mexico by City, 2003

City	Crashes				People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Alamogordo	692	2	197	493	2	306
Albuquerque	19,089	49	6,678	12,362	55	9,852
Anthony	72	2	20	50	4	41
Artesia	243	0	49	194	0	66
Aztec	174	0	43	131	0	62
Bayard	38	0	5	33	0	6
Belen	223	0	63	160	0	81
Bernalillo*	34	1	15	18	1	23
Bloomfield	150	3	39	108	3	61
Bosque Farms	32	1	13	18	1	23
Capitan	8	0	3	5	0	8
Carlsbad	678	1	179	498	1	251
Carrizozo	18	0	7	11	0	15
Central	7	0	5	2	0	10
Chama	9	0	4	5	0	8
Cimarron	1	0	0	1	0	0
Clayton	31	0	7	24	0	10
Cloudcroft	17	0	3	14	0	5
Clovis	905	4	298	603	5	446
Columbus	15	0	7	8	0	11
Corrales	64	0	28	36	0	36
Cuba	25	0	9	16	0	12
Deming	257	0	70	187	0	98
Des Moines	1	0	1	0	0	2
Dexter	2	0	1	1	0	4
Eagle Nest	1	0	0	1	0	0
Encino	1	0	0	1	0	0
Española	658	2	293	363	2	491
Estancia	6	1	2	3	1	2
Eunice	15	0	3	12	0	4
Farmington	1,522	6	546	970	7	839
Floyd	2	0	2	0	0	3
Folsom	1	0	0	1	0	0
Fort Sumner	10	0	1	9	0	2
Gallup	855	6	218	631	7	324
Grady	2	0	2	0	0	3
Grants	182	1	72	109	2	113
Grenville	1	0	1	0	0	1
Hagerman	4	0	1	3	0	1
Hatch	32	0	7	25	0	12
Hobbs	724	1	208	515	1	309
Hurley	6	0	2	4	0	2
Jal	9	0	1	8	0	1
Jemez Springs	7	0	4	3	0	5

Data from this table are not comparable to the data from page 14.

(continued on the next page).

Crashes in New Mexico by City, 2003 (cont.)

City	Crashes				People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Lake Arthur	3	0	1	2	0	2
La Mesilla*	3	0	0	3	0	0
Las Cruces	2,963	9	1,033	1,921	10	1,524
Las Vegas	394	3	124	267	4	197
Logan	4	0	2	2	0	3
Lordsburg	15	1	5	9	1	9
Los Alamos	256	1	87	168	1	114
Los Lunas	205	3	81	121	4	147
Lovington	175	1	51	123	1	75
Melrose	1	0	1	0	0	1
Milan	46	0	13	33	0	35
Moriarty	67	1	20	46	1	28
Mountainair	1	0	0	1	0	0
Pecos	18	0	7	11	0	8
Portales	242	0	53	189	0	80
Questa	6	0	4	2	0	7
Raton	193	1	54	138	1	90
Reserve	5	0	1	4	0	1
Rio Rancho	909	7	331	571	7	496
Roswell	1,176	0	342	834	0	538
Ruidoso	251	1	80	170	1	107
Ruidoso Downs*	5	0	1	4	0	1
San Ysidro	6	0	3	3	0	7
Santa Fe	2,838	4	1,023	1,811	4	1,536
Santa Rosa	43	0	7	36	0	12
Shiprock	124	6	56	62	7	110
Silver City	396	0	126	270	0	174
Socorro	169	1	31	137	1	45
Springer	3	1	2	0	1	2
Sunland Park	116	0	52	64	0	83
Taos	306	1	90	215	1	123
Tatum	6	0	2	4	0	4
Texico	8	0	1	7	0	2
Tijeras	8	0	4	4	0	5
T or C	105	2	23	80	2	33
Tucumcari	92	1	24	67	1	28
Tularosa	22	1	4	17	1	7
Wagon Mound	3	0	1	2	0	1
Willard	1	0	0	1	0	0

Data from this table are not comparable to the data from page 14.

* may be under reported.

Crash Rates for Selected¹ New Mexico Cities, 2003

City ¹	Crashes ²		Rates ³		Estimated
	Total	Fatal and Injury ⁴	Total	Fatal and Injury ⁴	2003 Population
Alamogordo	668	68	18.8	1.91	35,551
Albuquerque	14,185	1,624	30.1	3.44	471,856
Artesia	218	14	20.7	1.33	10,518
Aztec	169	13	24.8	1.91	6,818
Belen	186	22	26.7	3.16	6,961
Bernalillo*	3	0	0.4	0.00	6,986
Bloomfield	126	17	17.5	2.36	7,210
Bosque Farms	29	5	7.4	1.28	3,898
Carlsbad	659	56	26.0	2.21	25,303
Clovis	890	117	27.1	3.57	32,815
Corrales	61	11	8.1	1.46	7,553
Deming	214	22	14.9	1.53	14,381
Española	610	65	62.5	6.66	9,762
Farmington	1,486	195	35.9	4.71	41,420
Gallup	804	72	40.5	3.62	19,868
Grants	148	20	16.5	2.23	8,972
Hobbs	711	78	25.1	2.76	28,311
Las Cruces	2,680	279	34.8	3.62	76,990
Las Vegas	354	33	24.9	2.32	14,194
Los Lunas	134	34	11.9	3.02	11,265
Lovington	161	22	17.0	2.33	9,456
Portales	176	20	15.9	1.81	11,078
Raton	156	12	21.7	1.67	7,186
Rio Rancho	823	133	14.0	2.25	58,981
Roswell	1,138	119	25.7	2.69	44,228
Ruidoso	221	24	26.7	2.90	8,270
Santa Fe	2,466	254	37.1	3.82	66,476
Silver City	386	33	38.4	3.28	10,052
Socorro	152	14	17.5	1.61	8,708
Sunland Park	112	11	8.1	0.80	13,815
Taos	288	20	57.5	3.99	5,008
T or C	99	12	13.9	1.69	7,116
Tucumcari	80	8	14.4	1.44	5,564

1 Cities selected are those with a population of 3,500 or more.

2 Only crashes investigated by local police departments are included. This is not comparable to this table in reports prior to 1997.

3 Rates are per 1,000 residents.

4 Fatal and injury crashes include crashes involving fatal, incapacitating, and visible injuries, but exclude crashes where there was only complaint of injury.

* may be under reported.

New Mexico's Seven Highest Fatal and Injury Crash Intersections, 2003

Intersection	City	Crashes		
		Total	Fatal	Injury
Coors Blvd NW & Paseo Del Norte Blvd NE	Albuquerque	123	0	48
Jefferson St NE & Paseo Del Norte Blvd NE	Albuquerque	105	0	41
Montgomery Blvd NE & Wyoming Blvd NE	Albuquerque	130	0	38
Coors Blvd By-pass NW & Ellison Dr NW	Albuquerque	101	0	37
Montgomery Blvd NE & San Mateo Blvd NE	Albuquerque	118	1	32
NM 584 & Riverside Dr	Española	71	0	33
7 Bar Loop NW & Coors Blvd NW	Albuquerque	80	0	32

- Intersections are ranked by the total number of fatal and injury crashes. Busy intersections will tend to have the highest number of crashes, but will not necessarily have the highest number of fatal and injury crashes.

New Mexico's Highest Crash Rate Rural Highway Segments, 2003

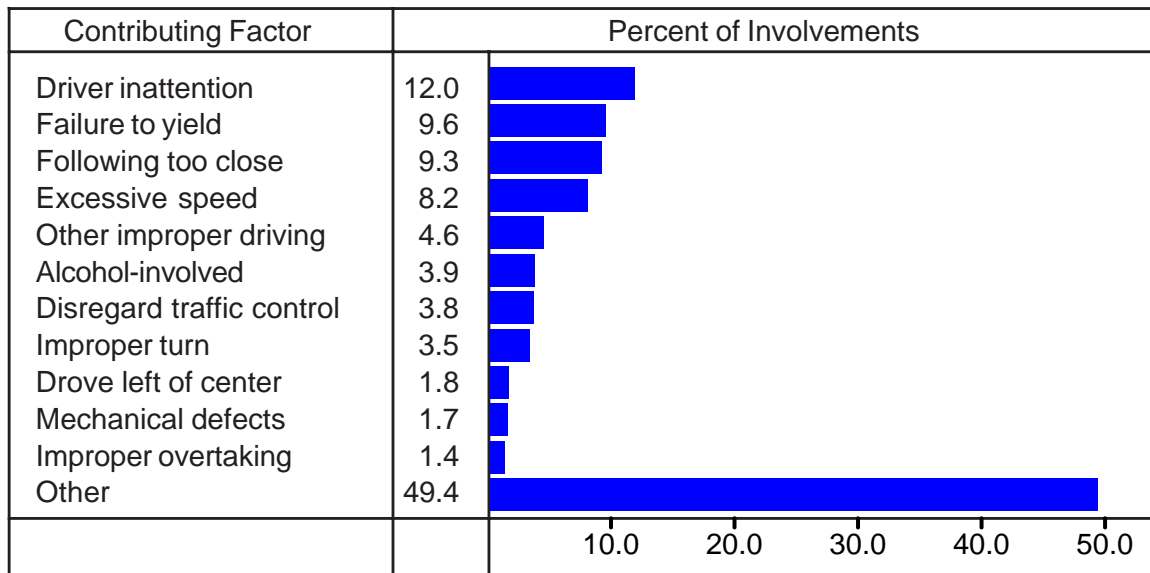
Highway	Mile post	County	Crashes			
			Total	Fatal	Injury	Rate
NM 76	4.0 to 6.1	Santa Fe	21	0	11	233.5
US 82	1.2 to 3.0	Otero	8	0	6	208.6
NM 28	5.3 to 10.0	Doña Ana	10	0	8	203.3
NM 75	13.4 to 15.5	Taos	8	0	4	171.7
NM 68	40.3 to 42.4	Taos	39	1	17	168.4
NM 28	10.0 to 13.1	Doña Ana	8	0	4	167.5
NM 47	17.4 to 19.1	Valencia	7	0	6	160.6

Map: see inside back cover.

- The highway segment ranking was done on the basis of fatal and injury crashes per million vehicle miles. The most heavily traveled segments are likely to have the most crashes, but will not necessarily have the highest crash rates. Segments selected have high rates compared to segments with similar characteristics.
- The two segments on NM 28 are adjacent, i.e. they form a single segment on the route. They are presented separately because segments are defined based on similar road characteristics.

CRASH DETAILS

Contributing Factors of Crashes in New Mexico, 2003



- Percent of involvements is the percentage of all vehicles in crashes for which each contributing factor was coded. More than one contributing factor may be coded for each vehicle. For 49 percent of all vehicles, no contributing factors were indicated.

Crash Involvements in New Mexico by Vehicle Type, 2003

Vehicle Type	Total	Fatal	Injury	Total
Passenger Car	45,948	184	17,086	
Pickup	21,088	133	6,955	
Van or 4WD	14,062	118	5,122	
Semi	2,029	36	542	
Motorcycle	998	39	782	
Pedestrian	496	53	407	
Pedalcyclist	276	3	229	
Bus	271	2	73	
Other	882	4	264	
Unknown	3,882	6	773	
Total	89,932	578	32,233	24,000 48,000

Crashes Involving Vehicle or Road Defects in New Mexico, 1997 - 2003

Year	All Crashes	Vehicle Defects	% With Vehicle Defects	Road Defects	%With Road Defects
2003	48,128	1,357	2.8	283	0.6
2002	49,613	1,503	3.0	733	1.5
2001	50,236	1,486	3.0	315	0.6
2000	47,934	1,464	3.1	336	0.7
1999	41,955	1,403	3.3	325	0.8
1998	48,268	1,618	3.4	330	0.7
1997	51,824	1,657	3.2	452	0.8

CRASH DETAILS

In 2003 ...

- "Overturns" account for 6% of all crashes, but 41% of all fatal crashes.

Crashes in New Mexico by Class, 2003

Class	Crashes					People	
	Total	% of Total	Fatal	% of Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Other Vehicle	33,993	71	111	30	12,270	143	19,354
Fixed Object	5,408	11	37	10	1,567	44	2,031
Parked Vehicle	3,014	6	3	1	298	3	399
Overturn	2,786	6	152	41	1,672	175	2,557
Animal	1,343	3	3	1	165	3	211
Other Non-collision	549	1	2	1	120	3	144
Pedestrian	465	1	49	13	382	52	423
Other Object	278	1	1	0	40	3	56
Pedalcyclist	246	1	3	1	201	3	205
Vehicle on Other Road	34	0	4	1	10	7	26
Railroad Train	12	0	2	1	4	3	6
Total	48,128	100	367	100	16,729	439	25,412

- Crash class is based on the first harmful event in the crash, such as colliding with something or overturning.

Among the fixed object crashes ...

- 42 percent involved signs, poles, meters, hydrants, or fences.
- 46 percent of fatal crashes involved trees, guard rails or posts.

Fixed Object Crashes in New Mexico, 2003

Object	Crashes			People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Fence	1,168	1	306	1	372
Sign, Pole, Meter, Hydrant	1,077	5	265	7	346
Median or Curb	916	0	241	0	294
Guard Rail or Post	632	10	231	12	313
Tree	322	7	130	8	191
Embankment	145	1	65	1	86
Building	71	3	19	3	24
Culvert or Drain	52	1	14	2	20
Barricade	35	0	4	0	5
Bridge or Pier	34	1	9	1	16
Cattle Guard	23	0	4	0	4
Other or Unknown	933	8	279	9	360
Total	5,408	37	1,567	44	2,031

CRASH DETAILS

In 2003 ...

- 81 percent of all **hit-and-run** crashes involved property damage only, compared to the 64 percent of **all** crashes which involved property damage only.
- 93 percent of all crashes happened in clear weather.
- 46 percent of the fatalities occurred in daylight.

Hit and Run Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003

Year	Crashes			People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
2003	5,206	9	972	9	1,261
2002	4,825	17	1,253	17	1,704
2001	5,960	26	1,262	26	1,706
2000	5,387	14	1,218	15	1,663
1999	4,741	19	1,080	19	1,438

Crashes by Weather Conditions in New Mexico, 2003

Weather Condition	Crashes				People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Clear	44,599	334	15,514	28,751	394	23,555
Rain	1,944	13	692	1,239	19	1,061
Snow, Sleet	647	5	192	450	5	283
Dust, Wind	550	10	200	340	13	316
Fog	97	1	41	55	1	54
Other	255	2	76	177	2	117
Total	48,092	365	16,715	31,012	434	25,386

Crashes by Lighting Conditions in New Mexico, 2003

Lighting Condition	Crashes				People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
Daylight	35,022	159	12,344	22,519	201	18,656
Dark (Lighted)	5,717	34	1,947	3,736	38	2,977
Dark (Unlighted)	5,382	149	1,771	3,462	169	2,733
Dusk	1,385	11	470	904	12	745
Dawn	505	12	177	316	14	267
Other	63	0	4	59	0	5
Total	48,074	365	16,713	30,996	434	25,383

Residence of Drivers in New Mexico Crashes, 2003

Residence	Total	Fatal	Injury	Total
Local	1,701	245	561	
Elsewhere in NM	66,425	147	25,825	
Outside NM	6,710	127	2,437	
Unknown	3,583	42	1,618	
Total	78,419	561	30,441	15,000 30,000 45,000 60,000

Of drivers ...

- 15-19 year olds had the highest crash involvement rate.
- 59 drivers of every 1,000 drivers were in crashes during 2003.
- On average eight drivers were involved in crashes every hour in 2003.

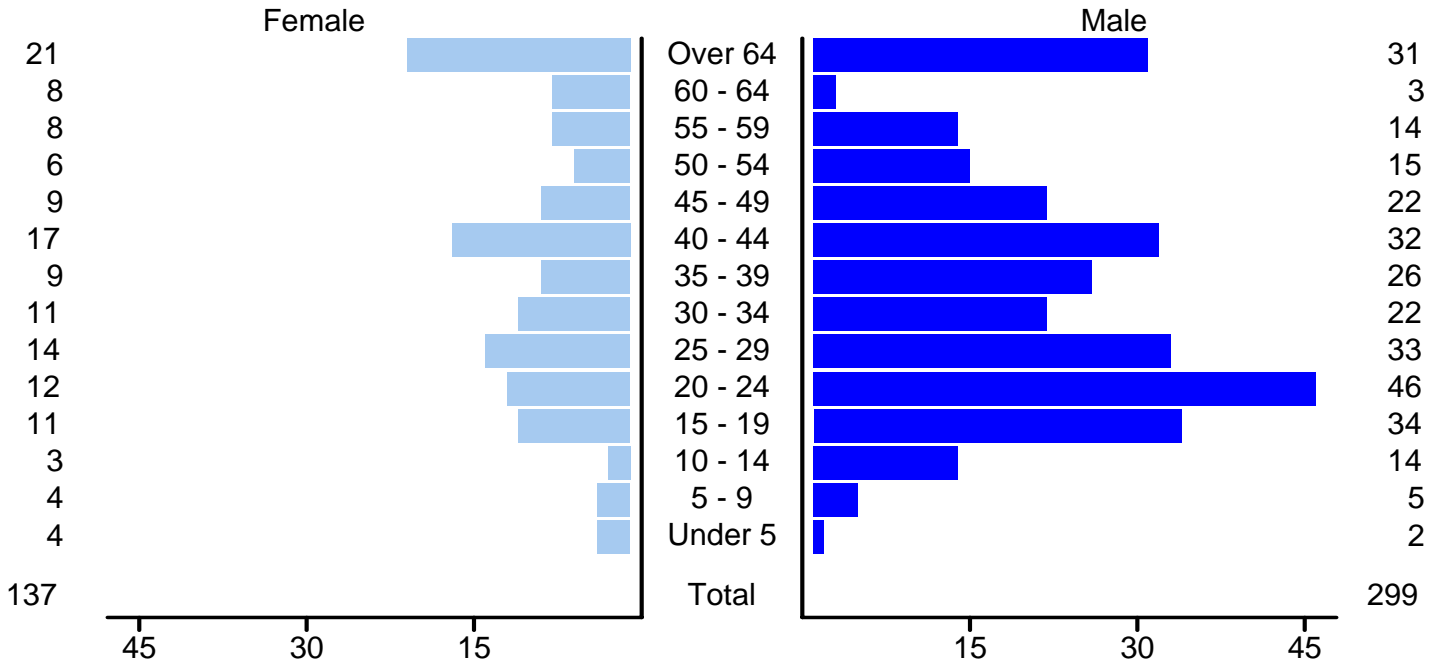
New Mexico Drivers in Crashes, 2003 Involvements by Age

Age	Driver Involvements	July 03 Drivers	Involvements per 1,000 drivers
15-19	11,973	67,554	177.24
20-24	11,312	110,548	102.33
25-29	7,646	105,650	72.37
30-34	6,968	111,234	62.64
35-39	6,353	114,505	55.48
40-44	6,753	134,109	50.35
45-49	5,846	132,464	44.13
50-54	4,914	122,345	40.17
55-59	3,718	101,927	36.48
60-64	2,670	77,397	34.50
Over 64	6,117	176,135	34.73
Total	74,270	1,253,868	59.23

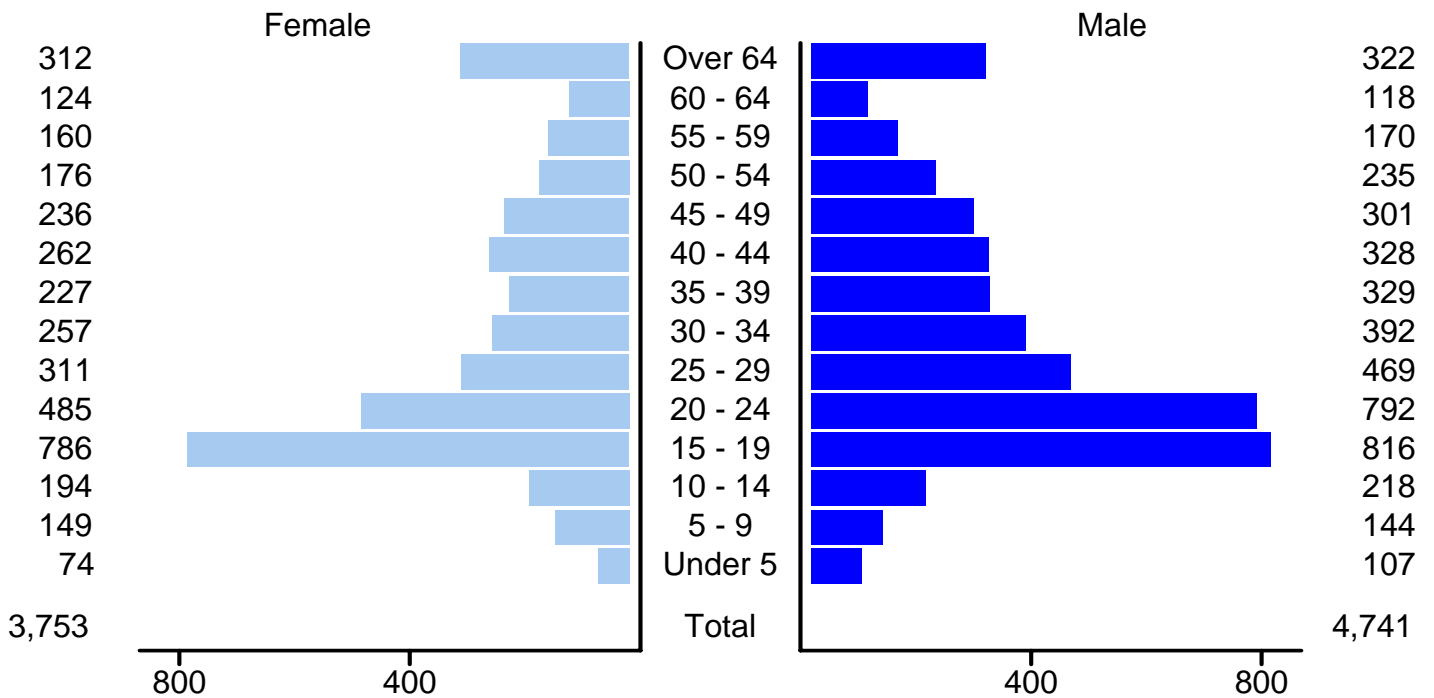
In 2003 ...

- People ages 20 through 24 accounted for 13 percent of all traffic deaths and 15 percent of serious injuries, even though they accounted for only nine percent of licensed drivers.

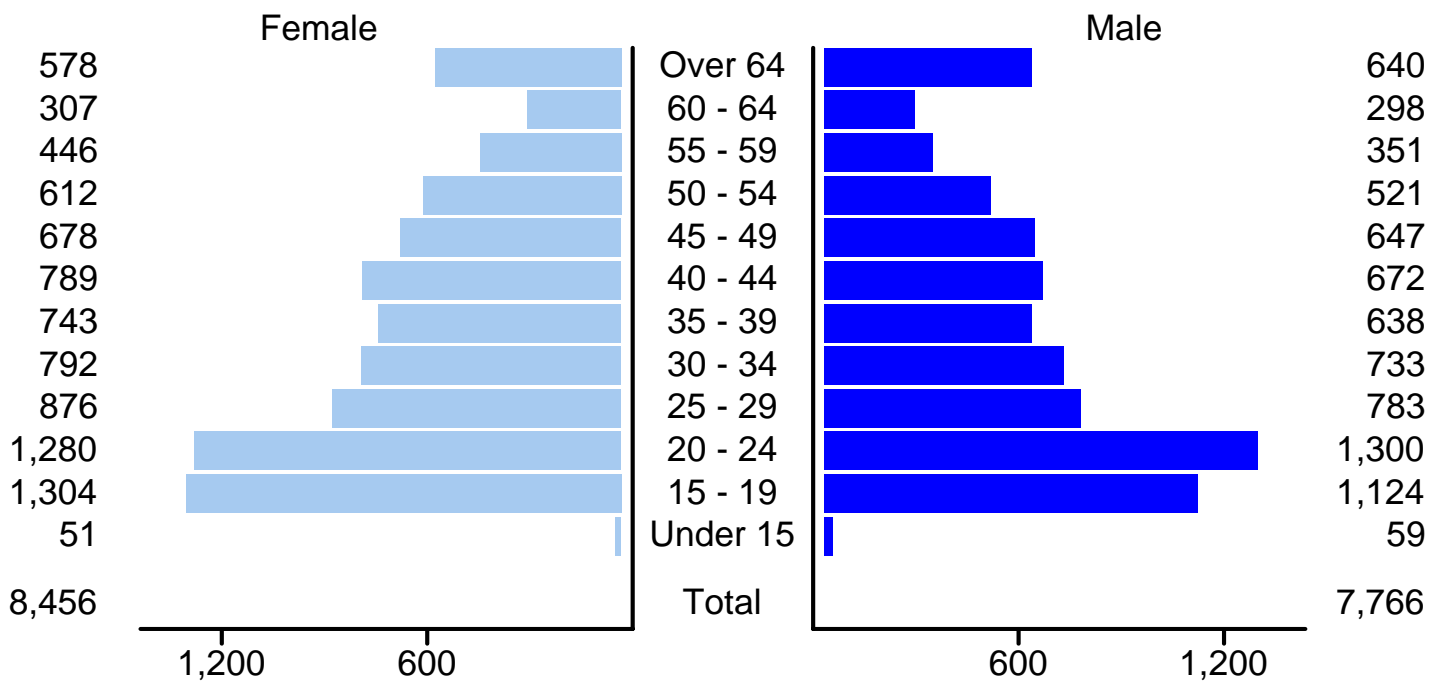
Crash Fatalities in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



Serious Injuries in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



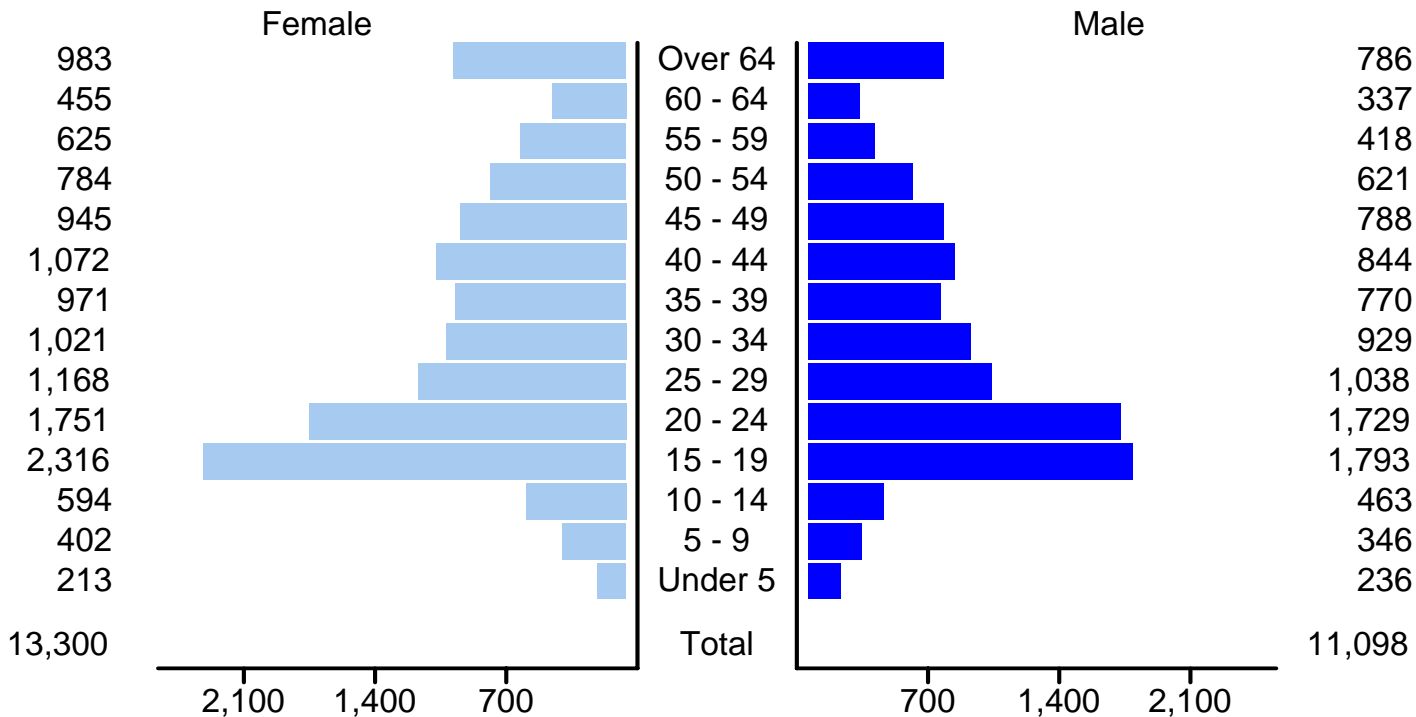
Drivers Injured in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



In 2003 ...

■ 25 percent of all females involved in crashes were injured, compared to 18 percent of all males.

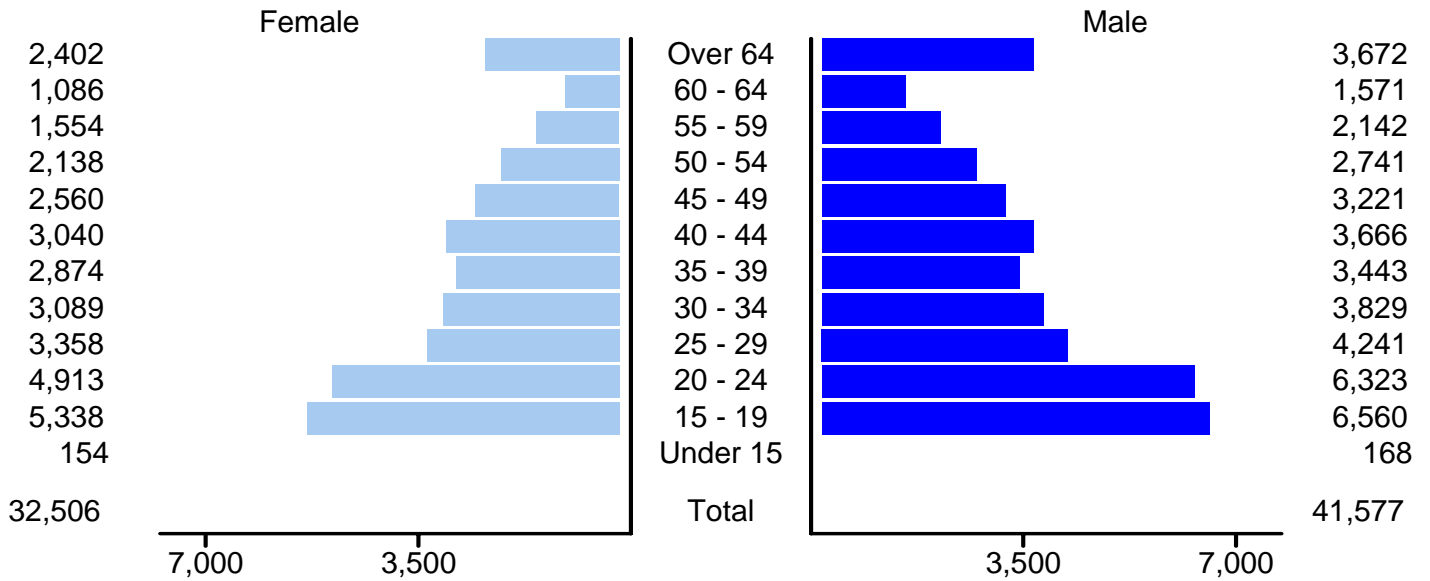
People Injured in Crashes in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



In 2003 ...

- Males accounted for 56 percent of the drivers in crashes, but they represented only 49 percent of all licensed drivers in New Mexico.

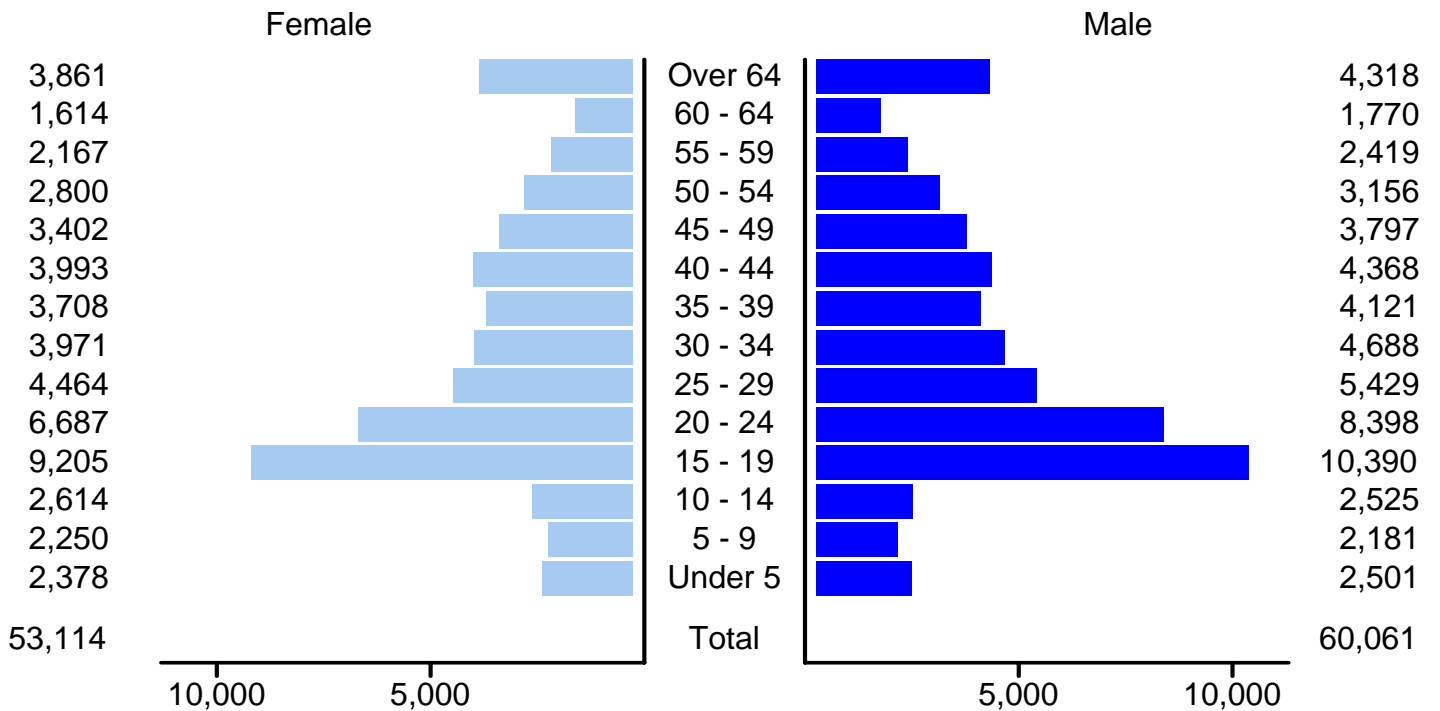
Drivers in Crashes New Mexico By Age and Sex, 2003



In 2003 ...

- 17 percent of people in crashes were 15-19 year olds.

People in Crashes in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003

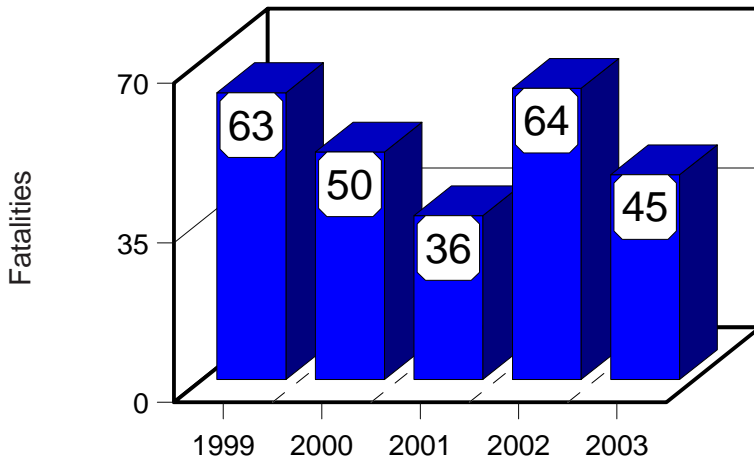


Teenagers in Crashes in New Mexico by Vehicle Type, 2003

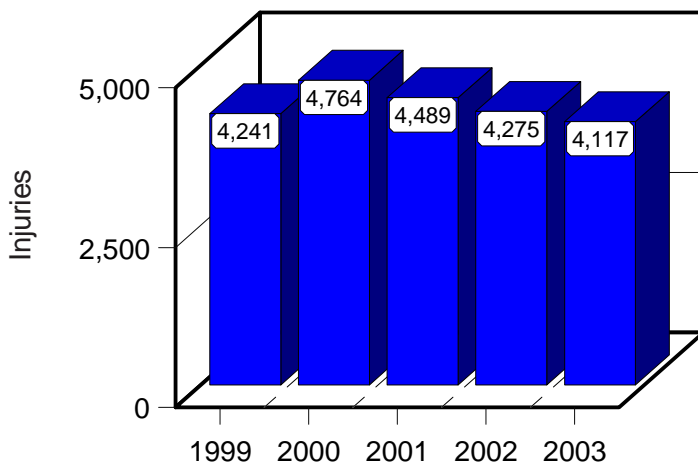
Vehicle Type	Drivers			Victims	
	Total	Crash Severity		Killed	Injured
		Fatal	Injury		
Passenger Car	8,009	28	3,137	25	2,763
Pickup	2,375	11	841	6	650
Van or 4WD	1,303	15	502	8	487
Motorcycle	94	2	82	3	92
Pedestrian	53	3	48	3	48
Pedalcyclist	22	0	20	0	20
Semi	7	0	2	0	3
Bus	1	0	1	0	4
Other	73	0	31	0	27
Unknown	69	0	25	0	33
Total	12,006	59	4,689	45	4,117

For this page, drivers and victims are teenagers (people between the ages of 15 and 19). Victims are teenagers killed or injured in crashes regardless of the age of the driver.

Teenagers Killed in Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003



Teenagers Injured in Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003



Teenage Crash Facts in New Mexico, 2003

- Of all drivers in crashes, 16 percent were teenagers, although teenagers comprised only five percent of New Mexico's drivers.
- The number of teenage fatalities decreased from 64 to 45 in 2003.
- Male teenagers died in crashes more than three times as often as female teenagers.
- Fifty six percent of teenage crash deaths involved alcohol.
- A teenager was killed in a traffic crash every eight days and one was injured every 128 minutes.
- Teenage occupants' self-reported seatbelt use was 93 percent, while that of all occupants was 97 percent.
- Twenty eight percent of crashes involving teenage drivers occurred at night, while 27 percent of all crashes occurred at night.

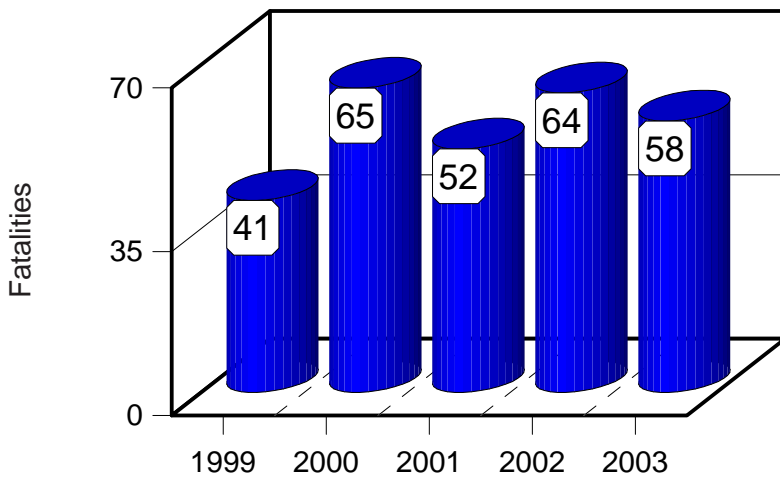
YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adults in Crashes in New Mexico by Vehicle Type, 2003

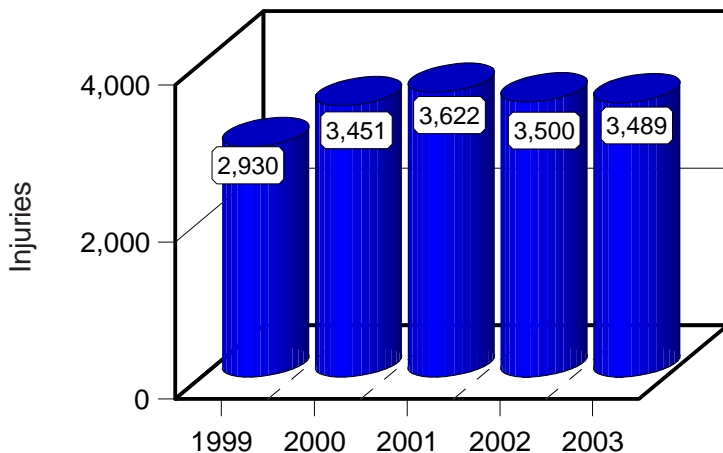
Vehicle Type	Drivers				Victims	
	Total	Crash Severity				
		Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured	
Passenger Car	7,225	37	2,911	26	2,265	
Pickup	2,253	25	810	10	528	
Van or 4WD	1,359	19	541	13	440	
Motorcycle	153	5	119	5	132	
Semi	89	0	27	0	15	
Pedestrian	52	3	47	3	46	
Pedalcyclist	24	1	19	1	20	
Bus	6	0	3	0	0	
Other	82	0	35	0	21	
Unknown	94	0	38	0	22	
Total	11,337	90	4,550	58	3,489	

For this page, drivers and victims are young adults (people between the ages of 20 and 24). Victims are all young adults killed or injured in crashes regardless of the age of the driver.

Young Adults Killed in Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003



Young Adults Injured in Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003



Young Adult Crash Facts in New Mexico, 2003

- Fifteen percent of all drivers in crashes were young adult drivers, although young adults comprised only nine percent of New Mexico's drivers.
- The number of fatalities among young adults decreased from 64 to 58 in 2003.
- Young adult males died in crashes almost four times as often as young adult females.
- Fifty percent of crash deaths among young adults involved alcohol.
- A young adult was killed in a traffic crash every six days and one was injured every two and a half hours.
- Young adult occupants' self-reported seatbelt use was 91 percent, while that of all occupants was 97 percent.
- Twenty nine percent of crashes involving young adult drivers occurred at night, while only 27 percent of all crashes occurred at night

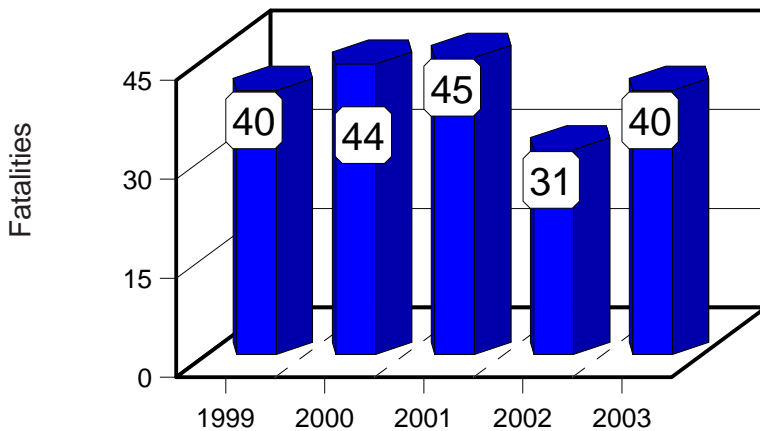
Senior Citizens in Crashes in New Mexico by Vehicle Type, 2003

Vehicle Type	Drivers			Victims	
	Total	Crash Severity		Killed	Injured
		Fatal	Injury		
Passenger Car	2,545	13	923	14	756
Pickup	945	11	314	9	213
Van or 4WD	552	7	212	9	168
Pedestrian	31	6	22	6	22
Semi	21	1	9	1	1
Motorcycle	7	0	6	0	6
Bus	10	0	5	1	1
Pedalcyclist	2	0	2	0	2
Other	32	0	8	0	7
Unknown	22	0	6	0	5
Total	4,167	38	1,507	40	1,181

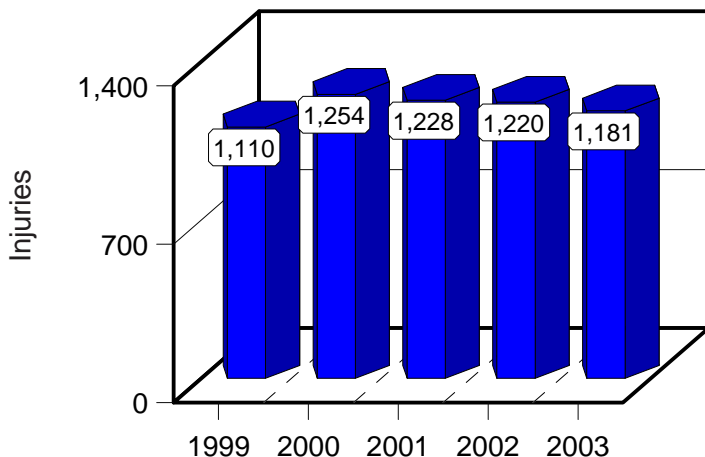
For this page, drivers and victims are senior citizens (people age 70 and older). Victims are all seniors killed or injured in crashes regardless of the age of the driver.

Prior to 1998 seniors were defined as 55 years or older. This year's data are therefore not comparable to data prior to 1998.

Senior Citizens Killed in Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003



Senior Citizens Injured in Crashes in New Mexico, 1999 - 2003



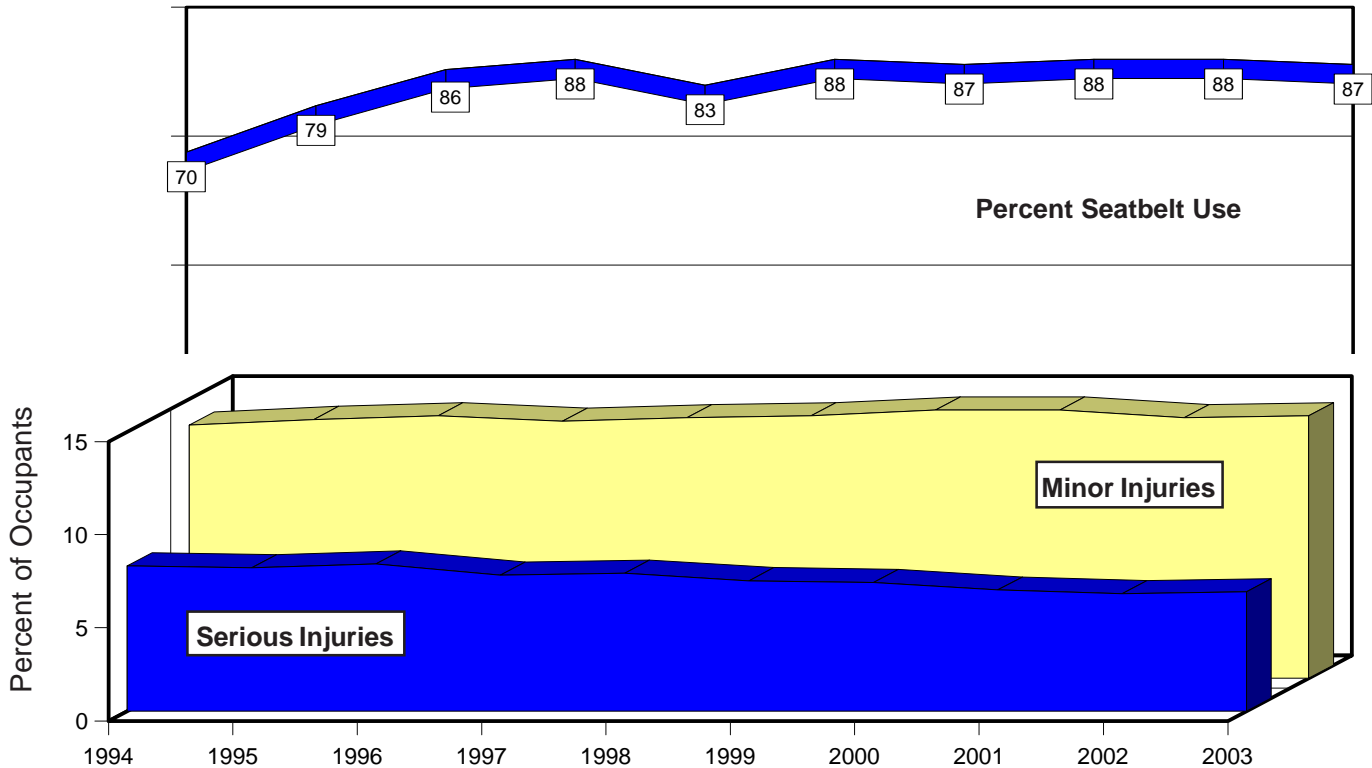
Senior Citizen Crash Facts in New Mexico, 2003

- Six percent of all drivers in crashes were seniors, although seniors comprised nine percent of New Mexico's drivers.
- The number of senior injuries decreased from 1,220 to 1,181 in 2003.
- Twenty three male seniors and 17 female seniors died in crashes in 2003.
- Alcohol was a contributing factor in 15 percent of all crash deaths involving seniors.
- A senior was killed in a traffic crash every nine days and one was injured every seven hours.
- Senior occupants' self-reported seatbelt use was 95 percent while that of all occupants was 97 percent.
- Eleven percent of crashes involving senior drivers occurred at night, while 27 percent of all crashes occurred at night.

SEATBELT

The mandatory seatbelt law for drivers and front-seat passengers in cars became effective on January 1, 1986. A similar law for drivers and front-seat passengers riding in vehicles under 10,000 pounds became effective on June 16, 1989. The law was extended to *all* seating positions as of July, 2001. The fine for non-compliance is \$25.00.

Observed Seatbelt Usage and Crash Injury Severity for Front-seat Occupants, 1994 - 2003*



Source: see page 37.

Since 1991, the proportion of people injured in crashes has increased, perhaps due to higher driving speeds. However, as observed seatbelt usage has increased there has been a noticeable shift from more severe to less severe injuries. This is particularly evident between 1990 and 1995, where a steady increase in minor injuries coincided with a consistent decrease in serious injuries. In 1998 a new technique was used to estimate seatbelt usage therefore, data from 1998 and thereafter are not comparable to previous years' data.

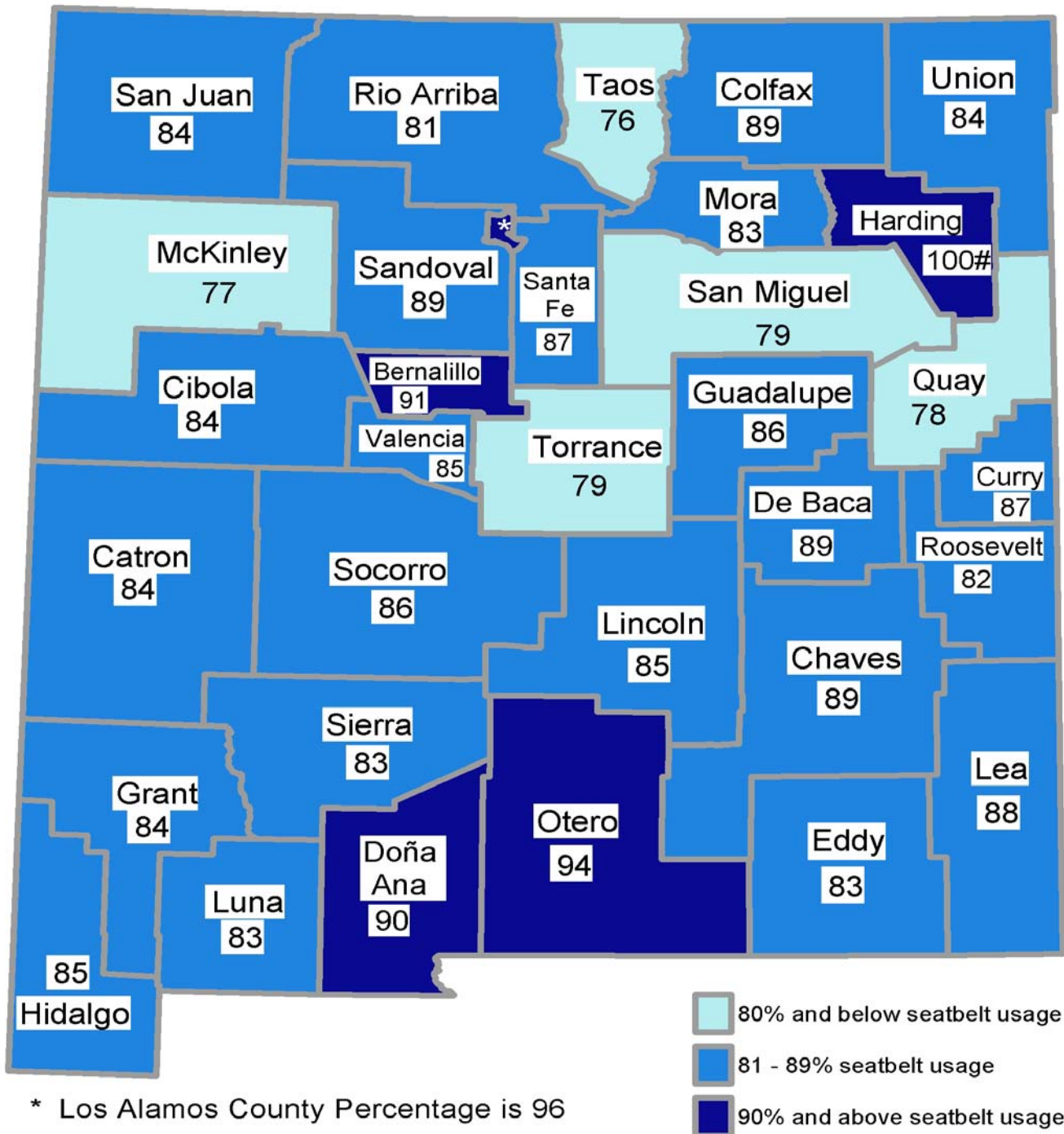
Crash Injuries in New Mexico by Reported Seatbelt Usage, 2003*

Severity	Belt worn ¹		Belt not worn		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Killed	98	0.1	201	7.0	299	0.3
Incapacitating injury	2,061	1.9	487	16.9	2,548	2.3
Visible injury	3,766	3.6	572	19.8	4,338	4.0
Complaint of injury	14,970	14.2	424	14.7	15,394	14.2
Unhurt	84,871	80.2	1,205	41.7	86,076	79.2
Total	105,766	100.0	2,889	100.0	108,655	100.0

¹ In order to avoid citations, some people in less severe crashes may have reported wearing a seatbelt when they were not.

* Information on this page only includes passenger cars, pickups, and vans or 4WD.

Seat Belt Usage among Injured Occupants by County, 2001-2003



In crashes, two people were injured in Harding County both were wearing seatbelts

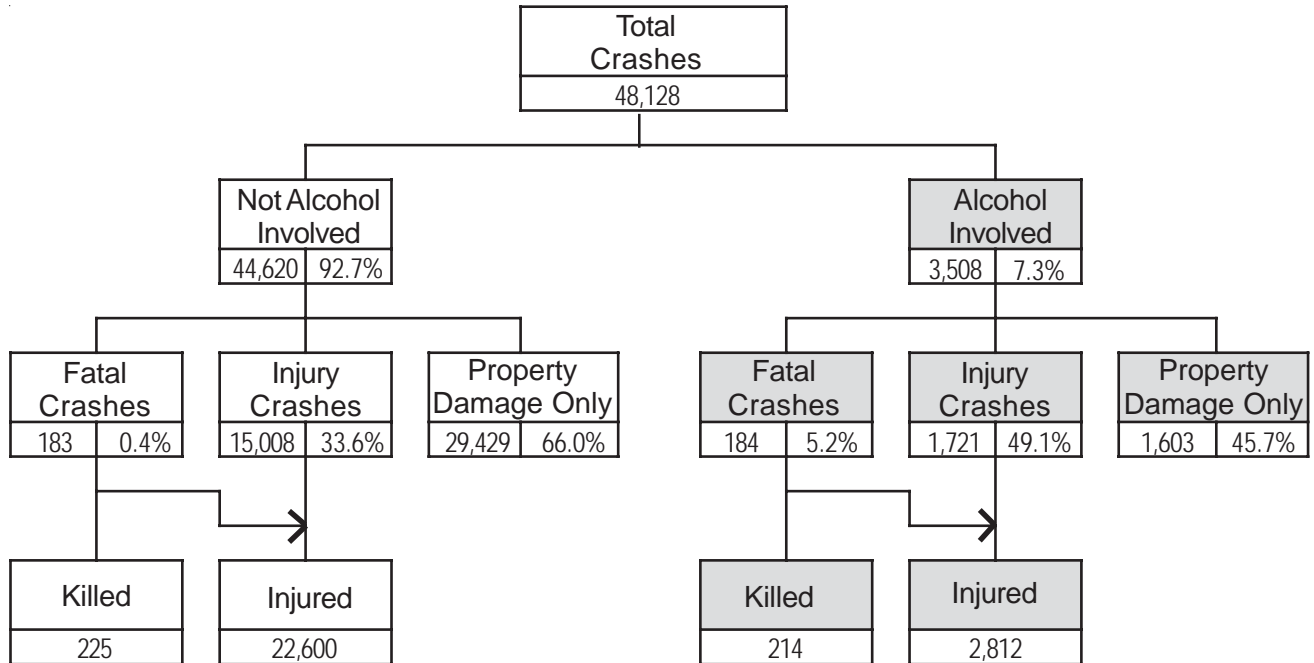
This map shows the average reported seatbelt usage in crashes for 2001-2003. The data are for drivers and right front passengers in vehicles registered in NM who received visible or incapacitating injuries in crashes. This proxy for overall seatbelt usage is used here because it has matched the results of observational surveys closely over the past 10 years. The statewide average for 2001-2003 was 87%.

ALCOHOL

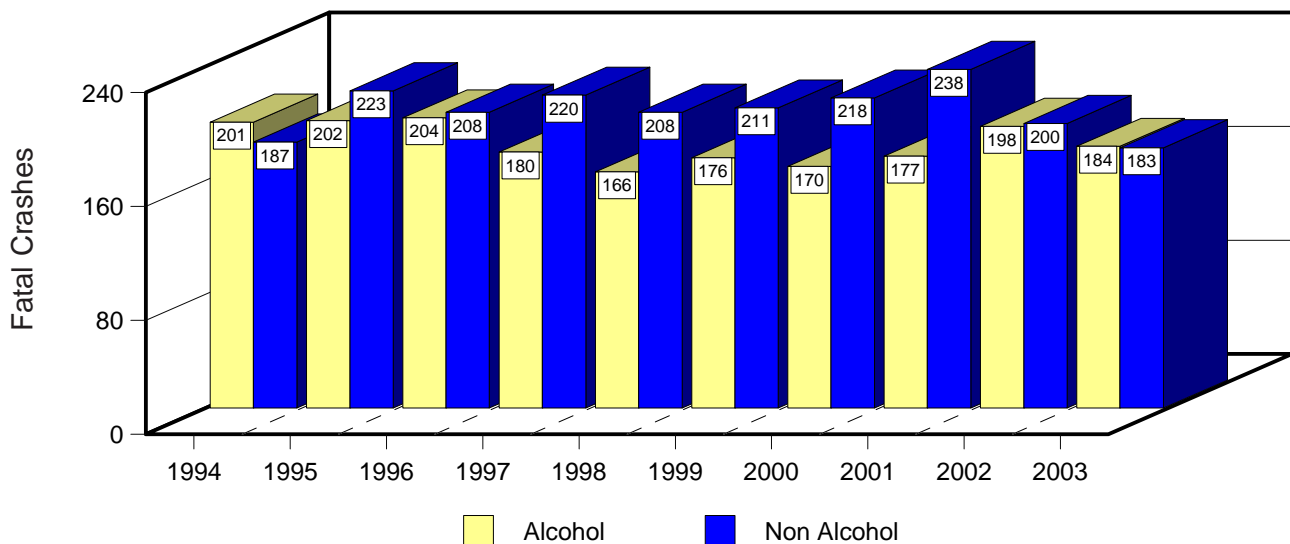
In 2003 ...

- 50 percent of all fatal crashes involved alcohol.
- A person died in an alcohol-involved crash every 41 hours.
- A person was injured in an alcohol-involved crash every three hours.
- An alcohol-involved crash occurred every 150 minutes.

Crashes in New Mexico by Alcohol Involvement, 2003



Fatal Crashes in New Mexico by Alcohol Involvement, 1994 - 2003



In 2003 ...

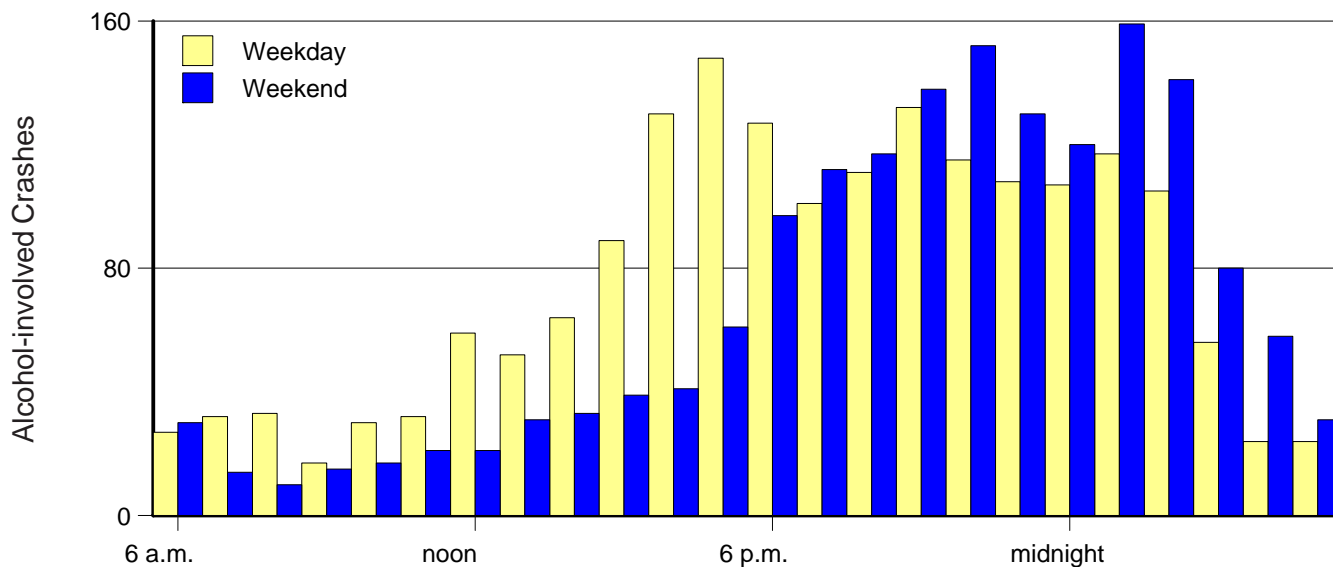
- 54 percent of all alcohol-involved fatal crashes occurred on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.
- 41 percent of all alcohol-involved crashes happened on Friday or Saturday.
- More alcohol-involved crashes occurred between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. than any other hour on weekdays.

Alcohol-involved Crashes in New Mexico by Day of the Week, 2003

Day	Total		Fatal	
Sunday	402		20	
Monday	346		18	
Tuesday	426		20	
Wednesday	455		26	
Thursday	437		20	
Friday	725		37	
Saturday	713		43	
Total	3,504		184	

• For this table, each day was considered to run from 6:00 a.m. to 5:59 a.m. the following morning.

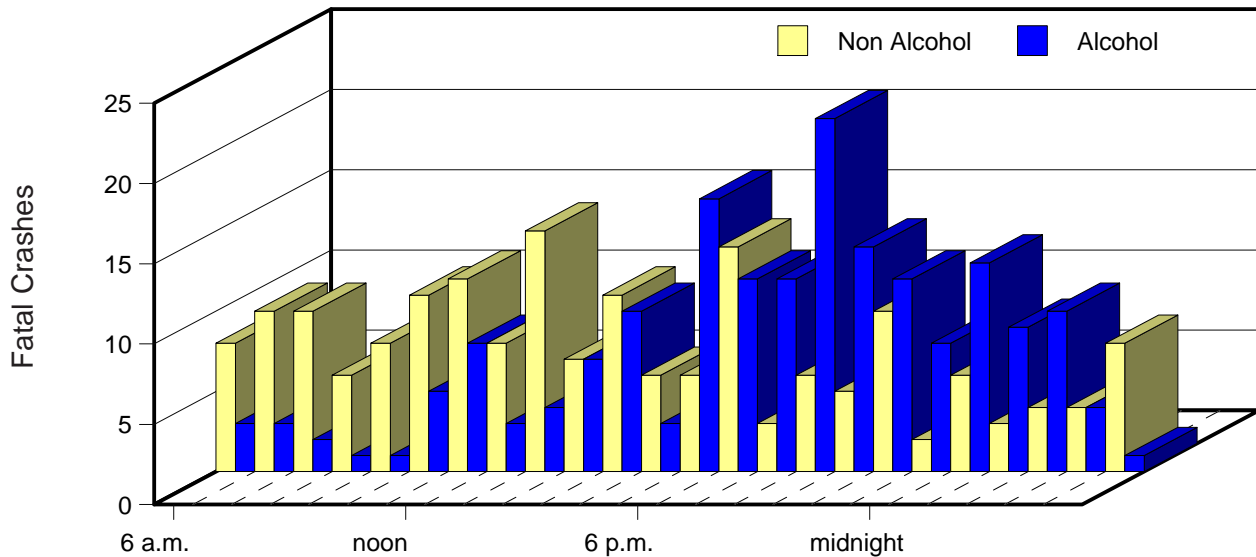
Alcohol-involved Crashes in New Mexico by Hour of the Day, 2003



• The weekend is defined as beginning on Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. and ending on Monday morning at 5:59 a.m. For perspective, the weekend period has 60 hours total, while the weekday period consists of 108 hours.

ALCOHOL

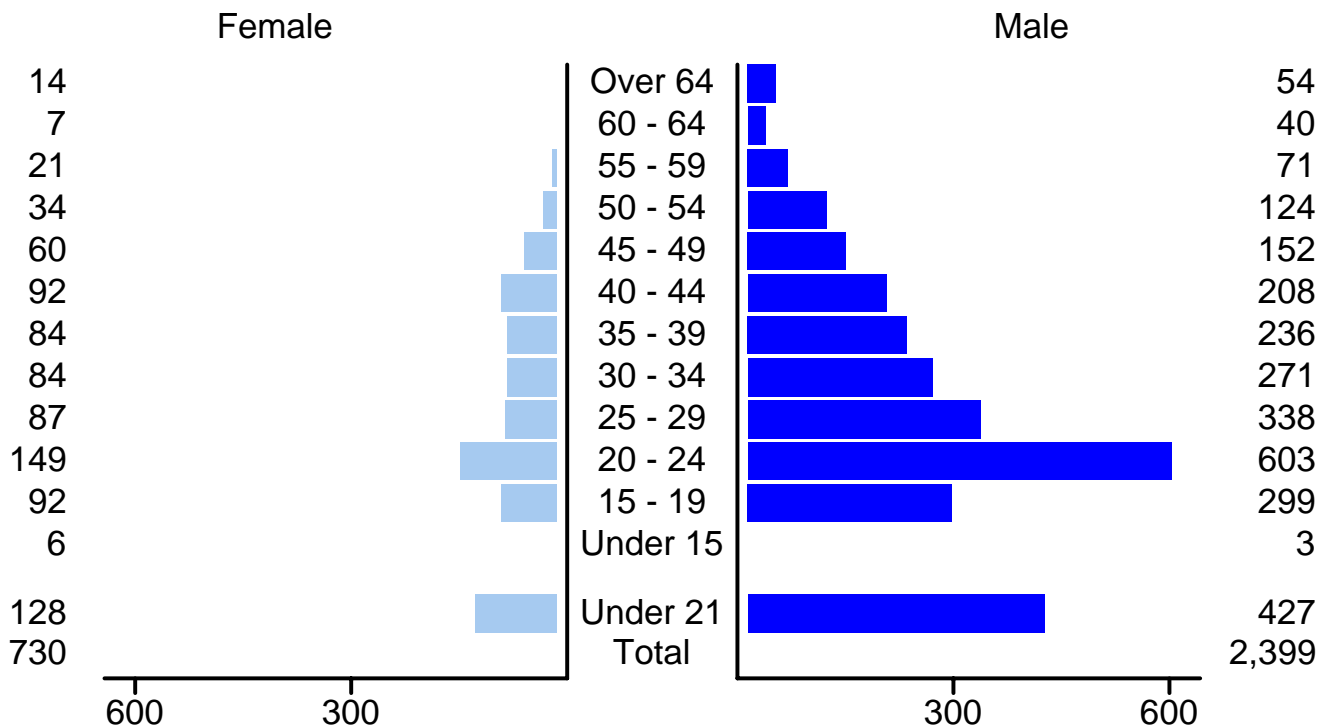
Fatal Crashes in New Mexico by Hour of the Day and Alcohol Involvement, 2003



In 2003...

- 18 percent of the alcohol-involved drivers in crashes were less than 21 years old.
- Males are more than three times as likely as females to be alcohol-involved drivers in crashes.

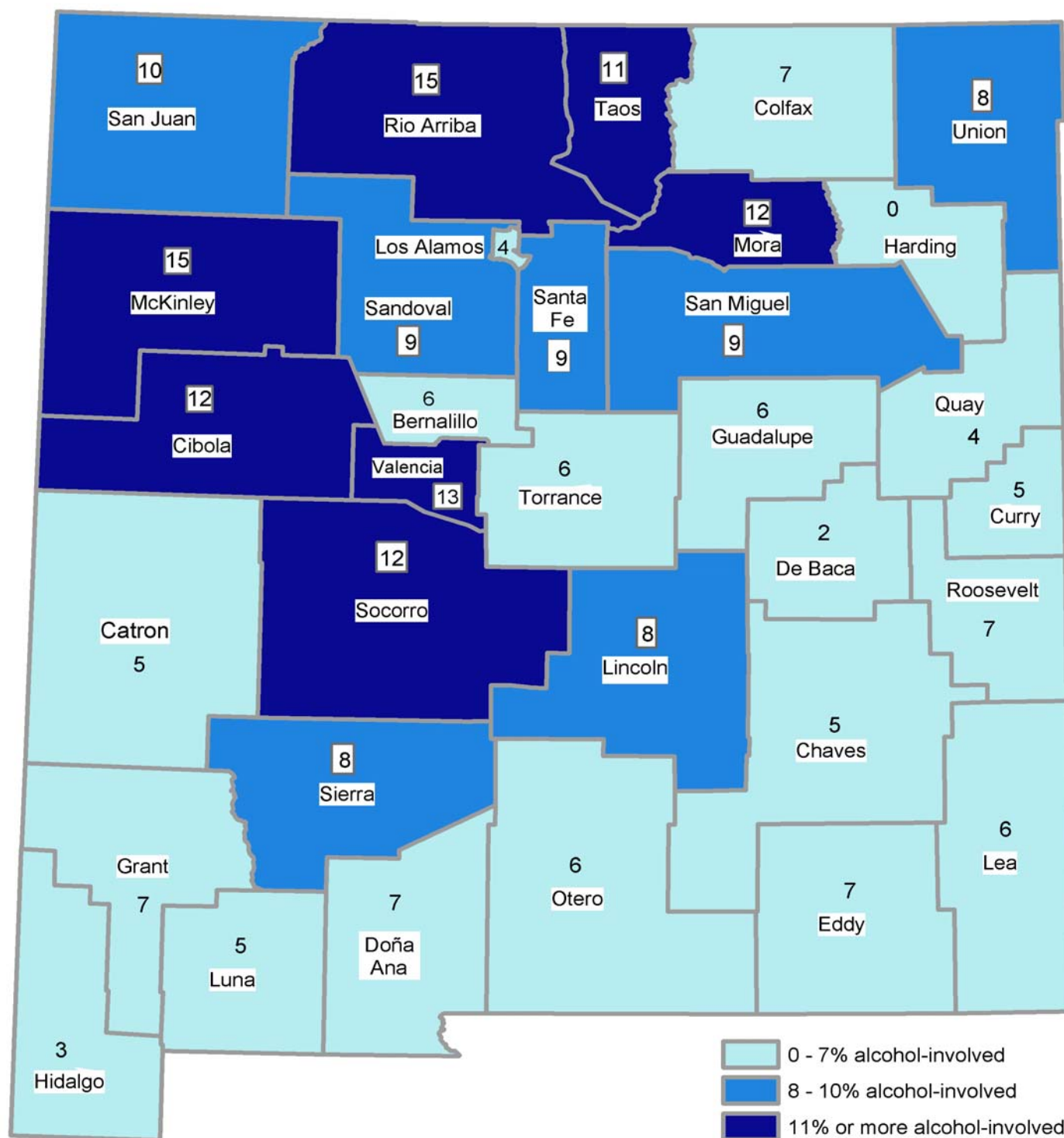
Alcohol-involved Drivers in Crashes in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



Percent Alcohol-involved Crashes in New Mexico by County, 2003

In 2003 ...

- 7.3 percent of the crashes in New Mexico were alcohol-involved crashes.

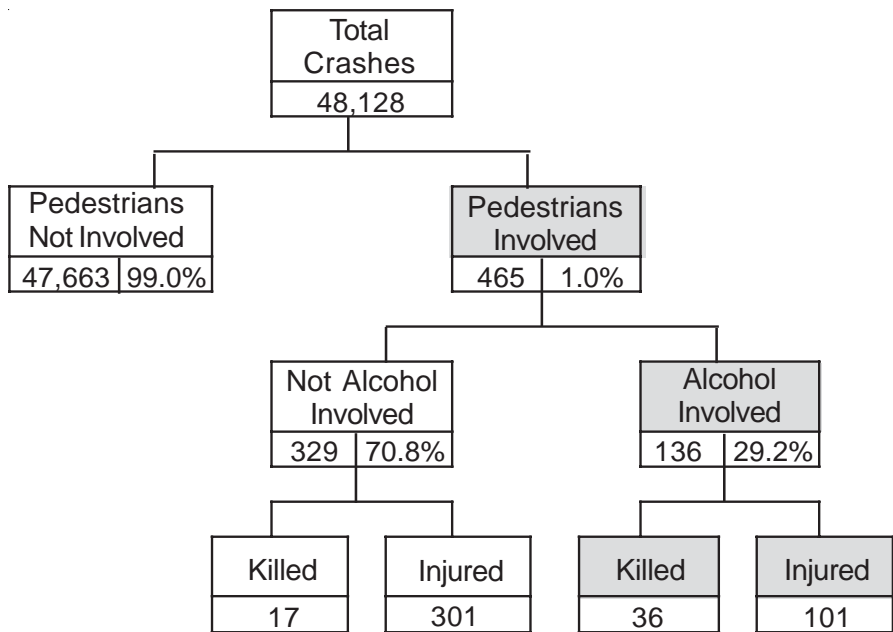


PEDESTRIANS

In 2003 ...

- 68 percent of pedestrian deaths were alcohol-involved.

Alcohol-involved Pedestrian Crashes in New Mexico, 2003



Seven Counties with Highest Pedestrian Death Rates, 2003

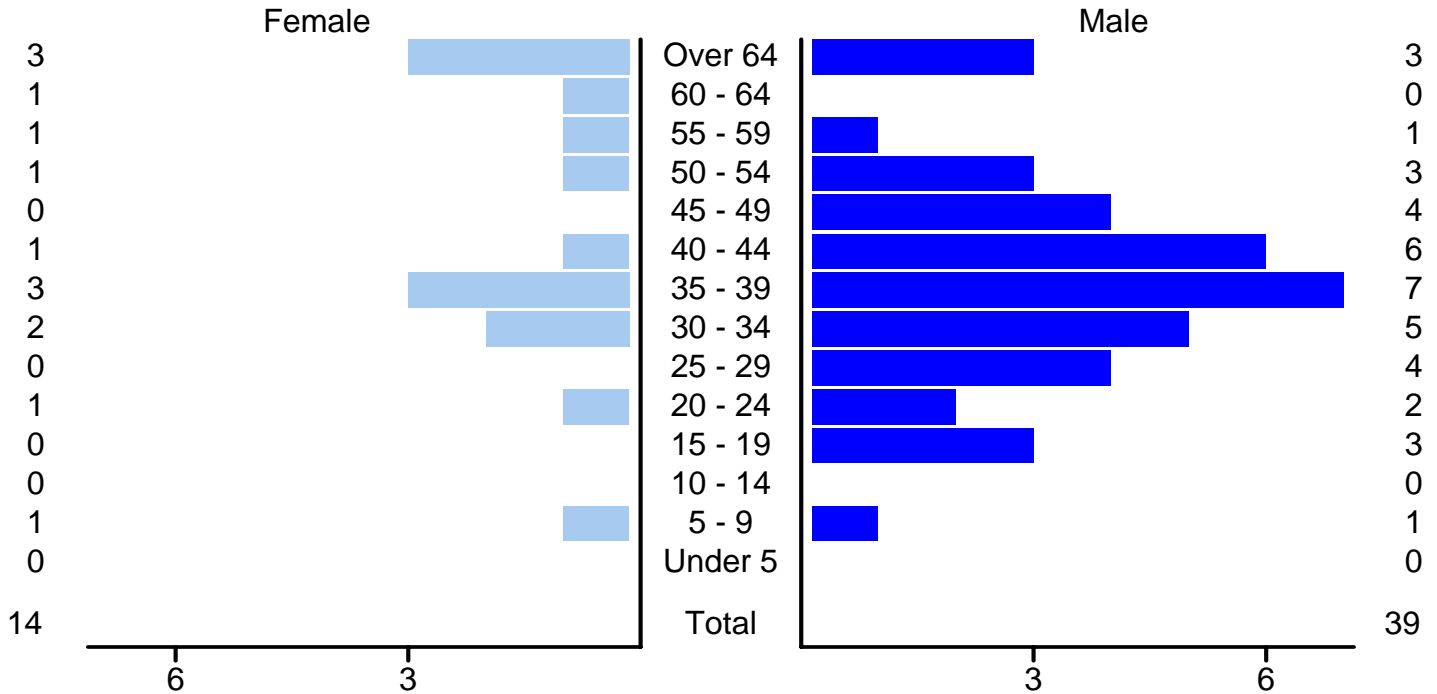
County	Pedestrians in Crashes			Deaths per 100 MVM
	Total	Killed	Injured	
Valencia	11	3	6	0.68
Curry	15	2	12	0.56
San Juan	39	7	30	0.46
Cibola	9	3	6	0.45
Rio Arriba	6	2	4	0.40
Luna	5	2	3	0.35
Otero	15	2	10	0.34

PEDESTRIANS

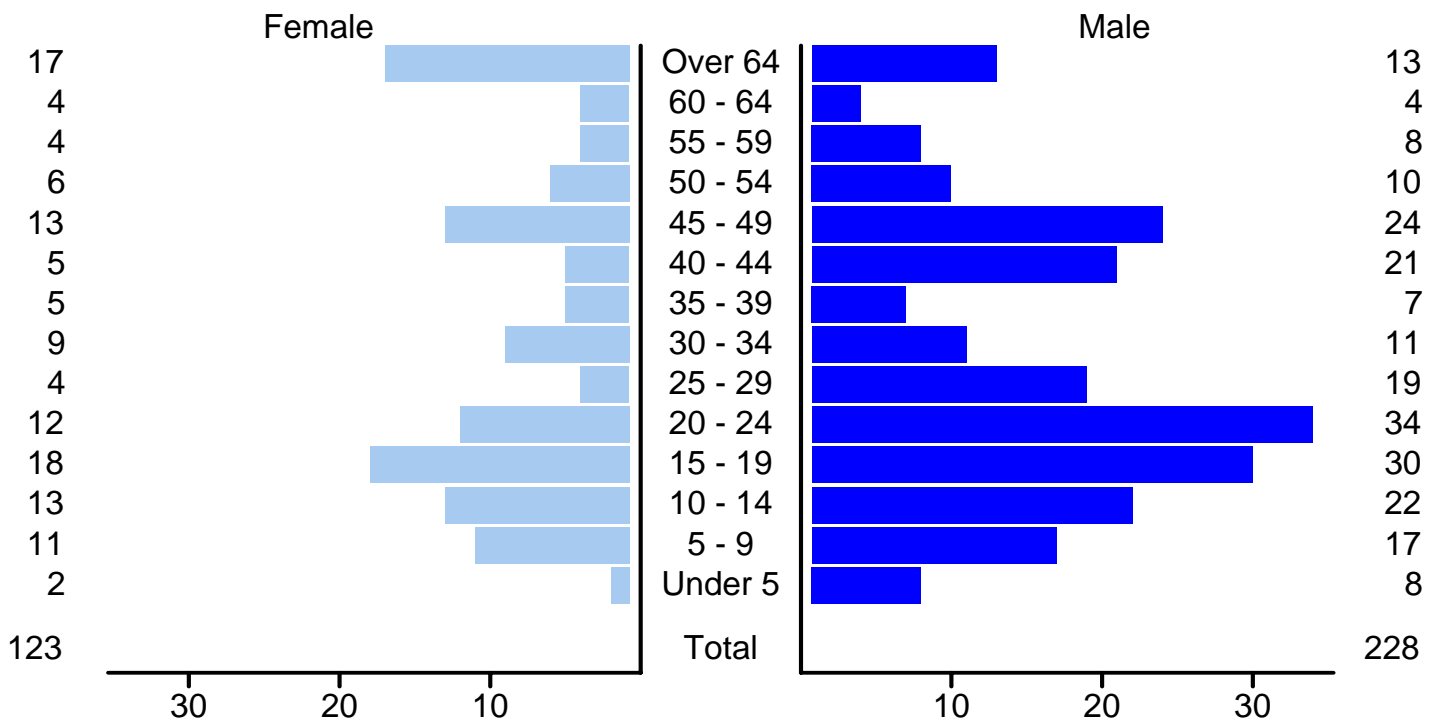
In 2003 ...

- 66 percent of pedestrian deaths involved pedestrian error.

Pedestrians Killed in Crashes in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



Pedestrians Injured in Crashes in New Mexico by Age and Sex, 2003



MOTORCYCLES

Motorcyclists in Crashes in New Mexico, 1994 - 2003

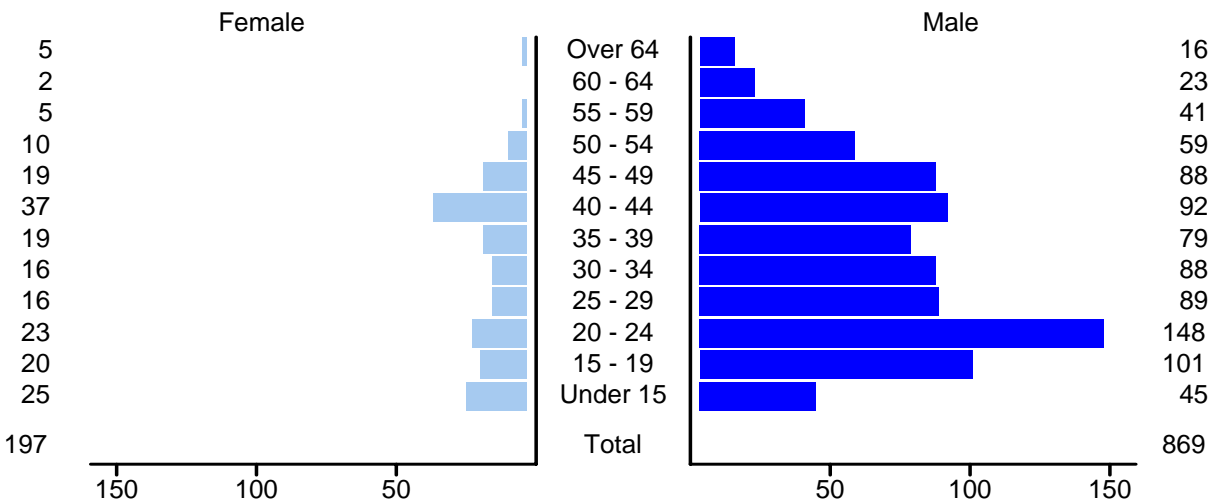
Year	Number of riders ¹	Number of Fatalities		Motorcylcle Registrations
		No Helmet	Helmet	
2003	1,133	31	9	NA*
2002	1,136	27	9	NA*
2001	1,044	25	9	NA*
2000	873	22	10	25,339 ²
1999	739	20	7	38,528 ²
1998	849	19	4	37,706 ²
1997	870	24	2	31,512
1996	1,007	25	2	31,341
1995	1,117	25	8	31,146
1994	1,179	18	5	31,158

1 Riders include drivers and passengers on motorcycles.

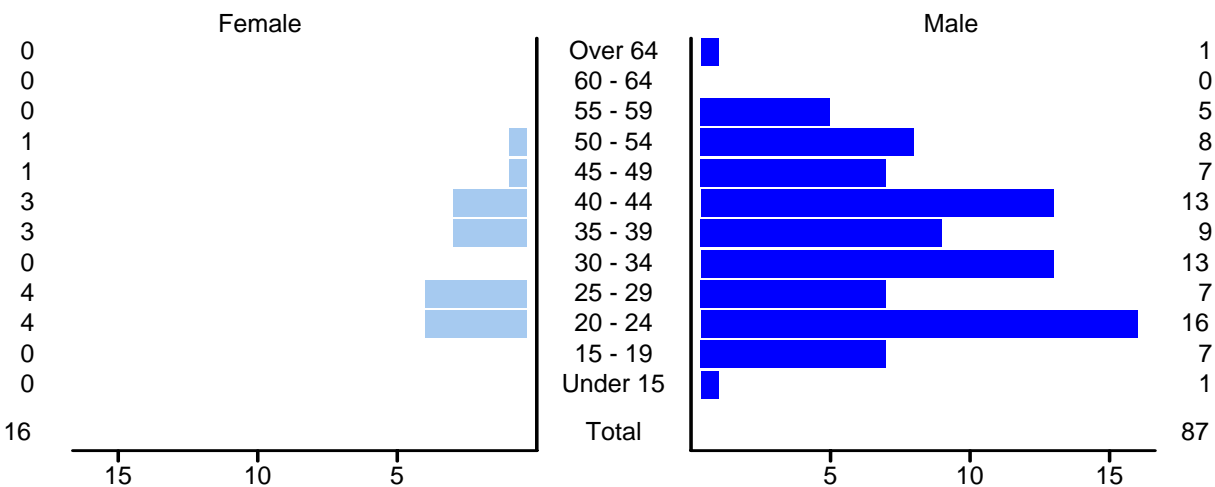
2 These are counts of registration transactions which were affected by the advent of 2-year registration in 1998.

* not available.

Motorcyclists in Crashes by Age and Sex, 2003



Motorcyclists in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Age and Sex, 2003



Motorcyclists' Helmet Usage and Injuries in New Mexico, 2003

Injury	With Helmet	Without Helmet	Total
Killed	9	31	40
Incapacitating	76	172	248
Visible injury	142	305	447
Complaint	64	97	161
Unhurt	70	167	237
Total	361	772	1,133

Motorcyclists in Crashes in New Mexico by Age, 2003

Driver Age	Drivers			Riders ¹	
	Total	Crash Severity		Killed	Injured
		Fatal	Injury		
Under 15	46	2	41	2	56
15-19	94	2	82	3	83
20-24	153	5	119	5	131
25-29	91	4	67	4	76
30-34	96	6	80	6	83
35-39	90	3	76	2	83
40-44	107	5	89	5	98
45-49	99	5	77	6	85
50-54	61	2	46	2	51
55-59	44	3	36	4	39
60-64	24	1	21	1	21
Over 64	20	1	16	0	17
Total	925	39	750	40	823

¹ Riders include drivers and passengers on motorcycles.

Motorcycle Crash Involvements in New Mexico by Class, 2003

Class	Total	Fatal	Injury	Total
Other Vehicle	521	24	381	
Overturn	248	4	222	
Fixed Object	141	8	115	
Other Non-collision	33	0	30	
Parked Vehicle	23	1	8	
Animal	22	2	16	
Other Object	6	0	6	
Pedestrian	4	0	4	
Total	998	39	782	

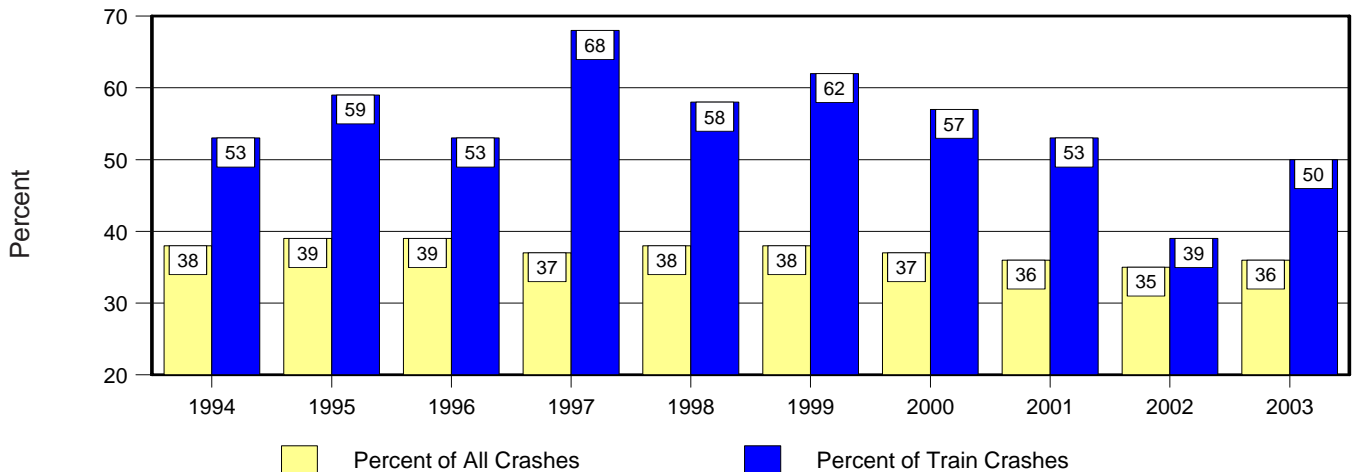
All vehicles: see page 17.

TRAINS

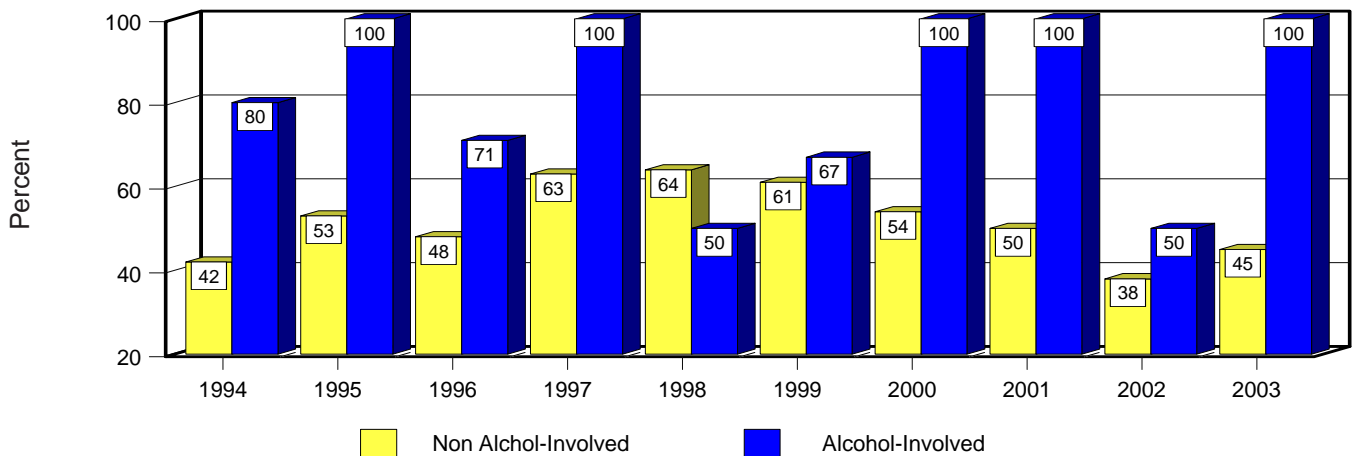
Traffic Crashes Involving Trains by Severity in New Mexico, 1994 - 2003

Year	Crashes				People	
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Property Damage	Killed	Injured
2003	12	2	4	6	3	6
2002	18	0	7	11	0	9
2001	19	3	7	9	5	9
2000	14	0	8	6	0	12
1999	21	3	10	8	3	13
1998	19	4	7	8	4	9
1997	22	4	11	7	5	18
1996	30	4	12	14	8	21
1995	17	4	6	7	4	11
1994	17	2	7	8	2	13

Percent of Crashes Resulting in Fatalities or Injuries by Train Involvement, 1994 - 2003



Percent of Train Crashes Resulting in Fatalities or Injuries by Alcohol-involvement, 1994 - 2003



The data sources are:

Crash Files - information from crash reports submitted by the many law enforcement agencies in the state, which are compiled and processed by the Transportation Statistics Bureau and analyzed by the Division of Government Research, UNM.

Licensed Drivers - driver's license data maintained by the Motor Vehicle Division of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department. Counts are current as of July 2003.

Motor Vehicle Registrations - counts are from the Motor Vehicle Division of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, which are published by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UNM (*University of New Mexico, Institute of Applied Research Services, Data Bank, 2002*).

Population - counts are from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Population Estimates Branch, July 2003.

Cost Estimates - the cost of crashes in New Mexico is based on Federal Highway Administration estimation formulae (*The Cost of Highway Crashes*, FHWA-RD-91-055, Federal Highway Administration, 1991). These are estimates, not actual dollar amounts. Included are direct costs such as lost wages and medical expenses, and indirect "willingness to pay" estimates of lost quality of life.

Million Vehicle Miles (MVM) - computations are based on the daily average vehicle miles traveled and system mileages by county and functional classification from the Highway Planning and Research Division of the New Mexico Department of Transportation. In 2000, the MVM for 1993-2000 were re-estimated, which resulted in lower MVMs and thus higher rates. Rates in reports prior to 2000 are not comparable.

National Death Rates - figures are calculated using fatalities from *the Monthly Traffic Fatality Report*, the National Center for Statistics & Analysis - Research & Development, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the population counts from the Census Bureau.

National Crash Rates - The data for the national crash rates are derived from the General Estimates System (GES) which began operation in 1988. Care should be taken when comparing National and New Mexico crash rates because the statistics obtained from the GES are estimates based on a sample of crashes.

Seatbelt - data for seatbelts was prepared by the Injury Epidemiology Unit, Office of Epidemiology, Public Health Division (*Occupant Protection Survey, State of New Mexico, Department of Health, 2004*).

We are happy to have prepared this annual report for the New Mexico Traffic Safety Bureau for the twenty fifth year. This report displays a very small fraction of the data and information which are available about traffic crashes and highway conditions in New Mexico. The preparation of this publication entailed the extensive use of computerized files which are maintained by DGR, but owned by the New Mexico Department of Transportation. Hence, special requests for the use of crash data should be directed to the New Mexico Traffic Safety Bureau at (505) 827-0427.

For further information on these products and our specialized services in these and other fields, please contact:

Mr. James Davis, Director - DGR (505) 277-3305.
email: dgrint@unm.edu
web site: <http://www.unm.edu/~dgrint>

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This report was produced by: Christopher Leitch and Schuyler Smith. Bich-Hanh Nguyen was the project leader and editor.

Traffic Fatalities in New Mexico by County, 2003

