

# Traffic-related Crashes and Deaths

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# Data on Traffic-related Crashes and Deaths

# **NMDOT Crash Database**

- Crashes reported by law enforcement involving a motor vehicle
- Involves a fatality, injury or >\$500 in damages
- On public roadways (excludes private property, and minor, non-injury crashes)
- Fatal crashes exclude suicide, natural death (e.g. heart attack), and homicide
- Not based on a survey or sampling

# **UNM Geospatial and Population Studies**

- Maintain NMDOT's statewide crash database (1978 to present)
- Crash data entry and analysis
  - Compile crash reports into a database
  - Improve data quality: Geocode, clean, and standardize
  - Perform crash trend analysis for NMDOT
  - Produce regular and ad-hoc reports, including statistics for each community in NM
- Most requested crash statistics: gps.unm.edu

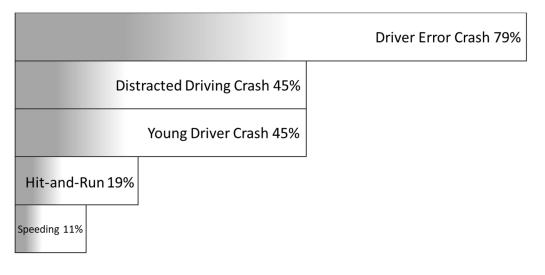


# Common Characteristics of New Mexico Crashes in 2021

### Crash-related Deaths

# Unbelted in Passenger Vehicles 64% Nighttime Crash 45% Distracted Driving Crash 41% Drug Crash 39% Alcohol Crash 37% Speeding Crash 35% Non-Motorists 23%

### **All Crashes**

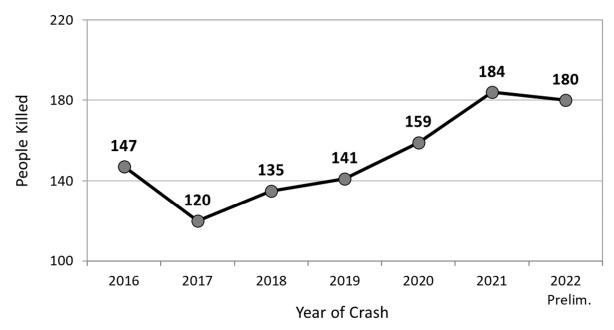


<sup>\*</sup>These are not necessarily behaviors of the person killed.



Source: NMDOT Crash Database, 2021

# **Unbelted People Killed in Crashes in New Mexico**



# Unbelted

These are the number unbelted people killed in passenger vehicles (passenger cars, vans, SUVs, and pickups) in crashes in New Mexico.

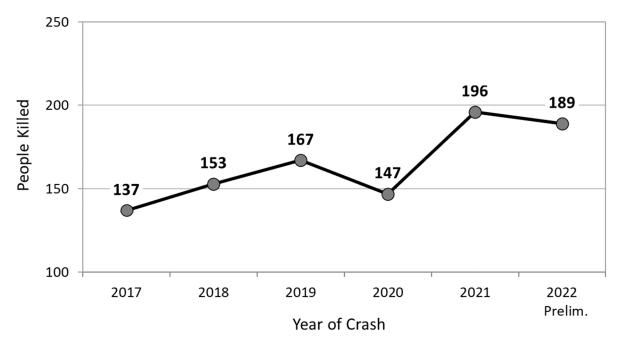
Typically, 70% occur on rural roadways, but urban roadways saw a record-high number of unbelted fatalities in 2020 and 2022.

2006 was the last time NM had more than 180 unbelted fatalities.



Source: NMDOT Crash Database and NMDOT Fatallog.

## People Killed in Distracted-Driving Crashes in New Mexico



# Distracted

These are the number of people killed in distracted driving crashes in New Mexico. They account for 41% of all people killed in crashes in 2021.

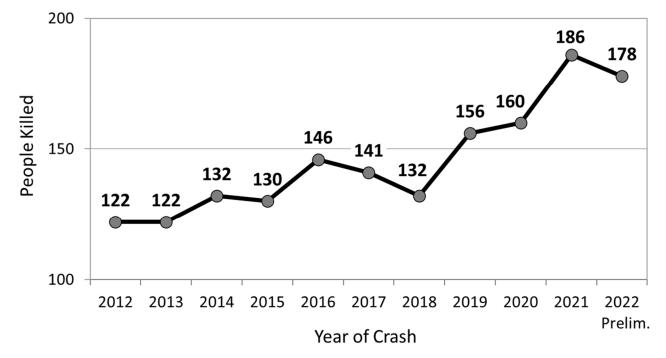
48% rural non-Interstate 39% urban 13% rural Interstate

"Texting" specifically is reported in very few crashes. Instead, many are reported with "driver inattention" as a contributing factor.



Source: NMDOT Crash Database

# **People Killed in Speeding-related Crashes in New Mexico**



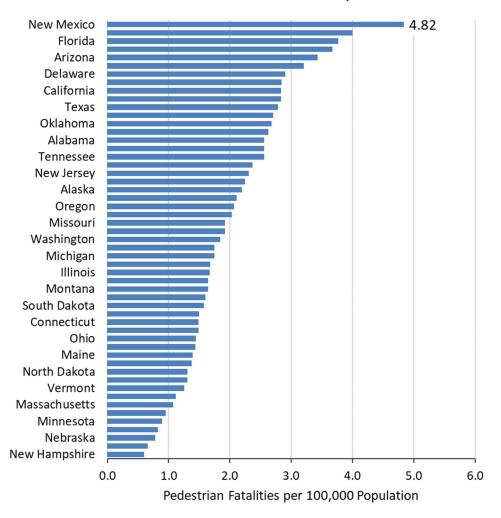
# Speeding

These are the number people killed in speeding-related crashes in New Mexico.

52% rural roadways 48% urban roadways



### 2021 State Pedestrian Fatality Rates



# Pedestrian Fatality Rates

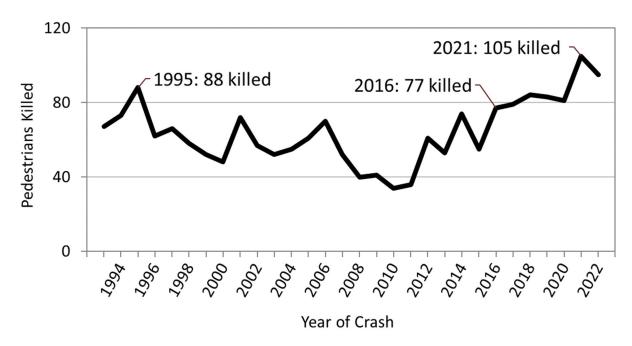
New Mexico has the highest pedestrian fatality rate in the country.

Albuquerque has the second highest pedestrian fatality rate compared to other cities with populations above 500,000.



Source: National Center for Statistics and Analysis, NHTSA. Pedestrians: 2021 data (Traffic Safety Facts. Report No. DOT HS 813 458). June 2023. https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813458

# **Pedestrians Killed in Crashes in New Mexico**



# **Pedestrians**

These are the number pedestrians killed in crashes in New Mexico.

70% on urban roadways

1995 was the last time NM had more than 80 pedestrians killed in crashes.



Source: NMDOT Crash Database, preliminary 2022. Excludes suicides.