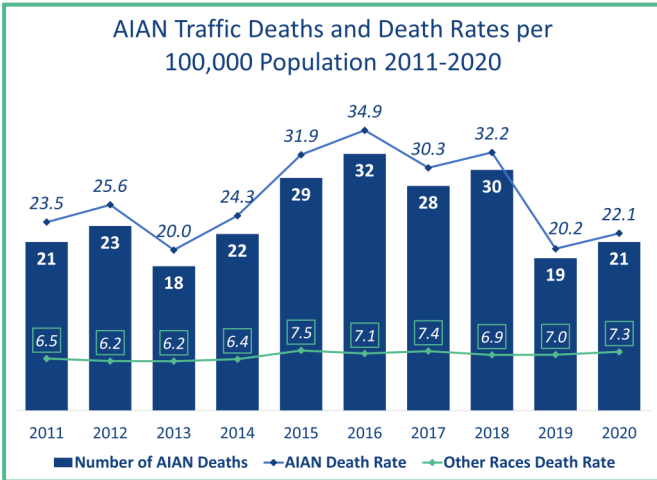




# American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) Traffic Deaths

**Trends** show the traffic death rate per 100,000 population consistently runs three to four times higher for AIAN people, even if the actual number of traffic deaths varies from year to year. The AIAN traffic death rate has trended slightly upward in the previous decade whereas for other races the rate remained unchanged.



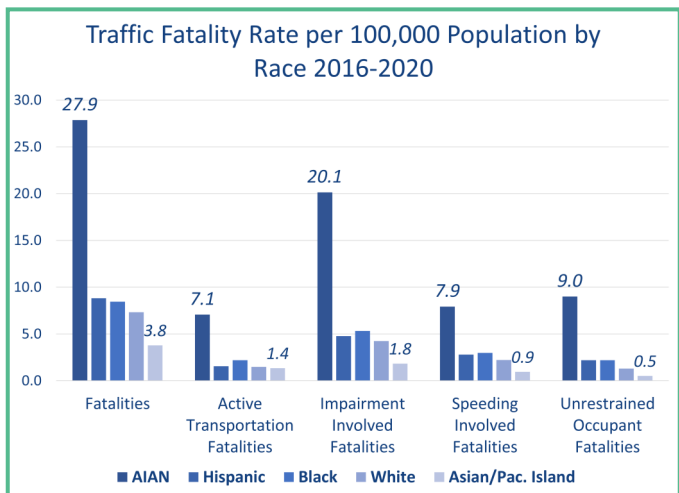
**I care, because** only one of every hundred Washingtonians are AIAN yet one of every twenty traffic fatalities are AIAN people. Further, one of every fourteen unrestrained vehicle occupant fatalities are AIAN people. In the previous ten years Washington lost 243 AIAN people to traffic death.

**Impairment and not wearing seat belts are the most common high-risk behaviors leading to traffic death among AIAN people.**

**AIAN traffic death rates** per 100,000 population reveal substantial disparities in risk leading to traffic deaths. An AIAN active transportation user (walker or rollers) is almost five times more likely to be a traffic death victim compared to all other races. AIAN people are also involved in high-risk driving behaviors at a higher rate than all other races, particularly impaired driving and not wearing seat belts. In addition to high proportions of AIAN traffic deaths being unrestrained, seat belt observation surveys consistently show much lower seat belt use rates on tribal lands versus statewide seat belt use estimates.

## Did you know?

- ⇒ From 2016-2020 more than 50% of AIAN traffic deaths occurred on county roads or reservation lands, versus 25% of all other races.
- ⇒ Over one-third of AIAN traffic deaths occurred in Yakima County, versus less than 5% of all other races.
- ⇒ Almost half of AIAN traffic fatalities were people ages 26-45, versus 32% of all other races.
- ⇒ Eight percent of AIAN traffic deaths were youth under age 18, versus 5% of all other races.
- ⇒ Nearly three of every four (72%) AIAN traffic deaths involved impairment, versus 60% of all other races.
- ⇒ One-third of AIAN deaths were unrestrained vehicle occupants, versus less than 20% of all other races.



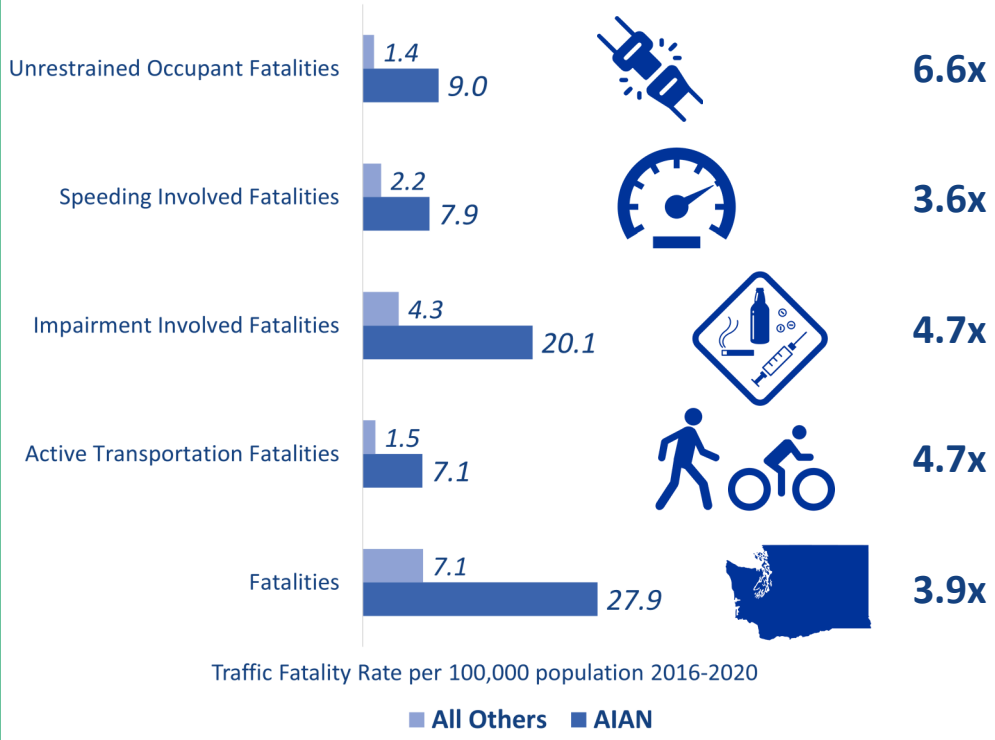
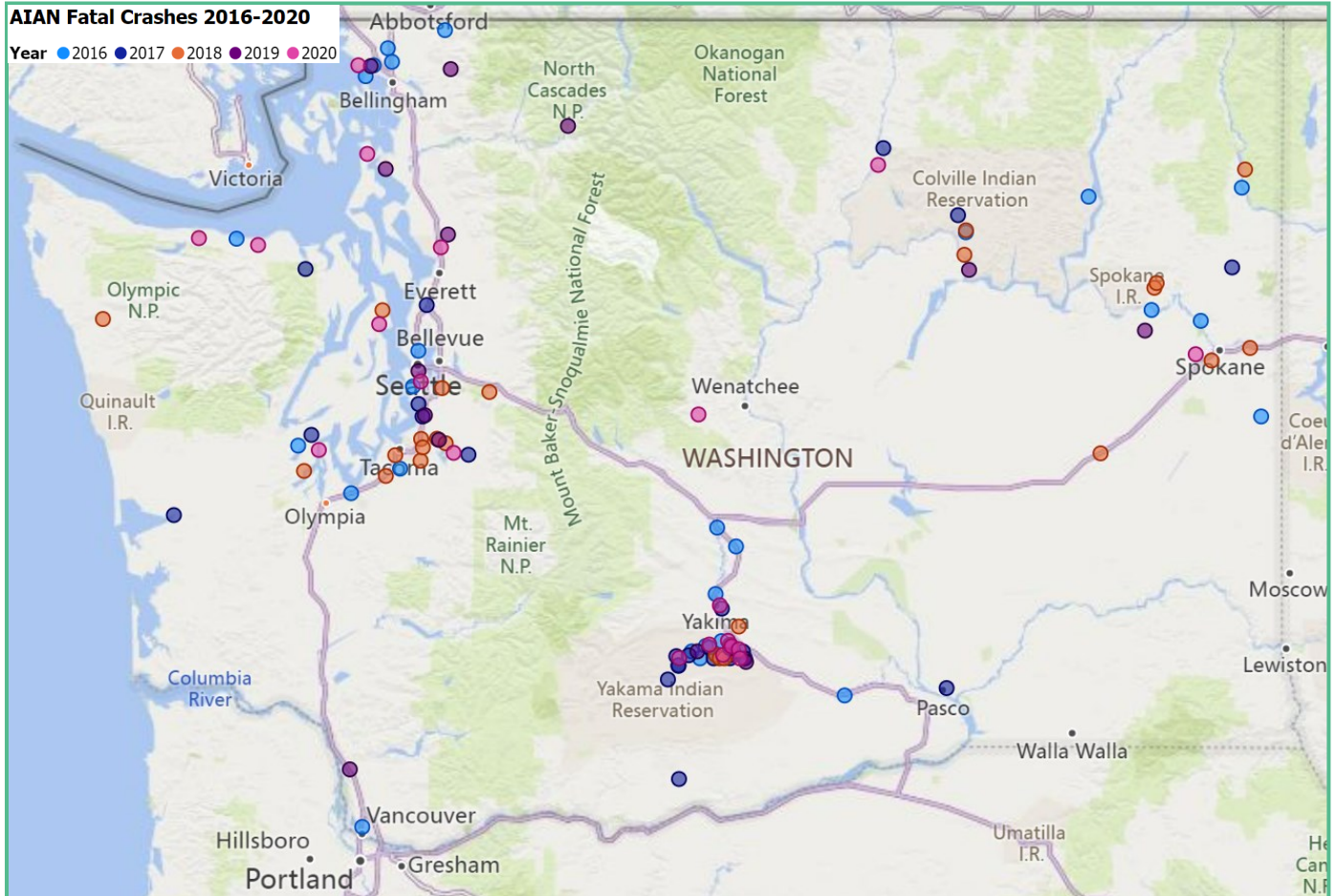
### Data Sources

Coded Fatal Crash (CFC) files, Washington Traffic Safety Commission, Washington Population Estimates, The Office of Financial Management

For more information, please contact Washington Traffic Safety Commission, Research and Data Division (360) 725-9860.



# American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) Fatality Crashes 2016-2020



## Did you know?

- ⇒ More than half of AIAN traffic deaths occurred in just three counties; Yakima, King, and Okanogan. One-quarter of other deaths occurred in these counties.
- ⇒ The AIAN traffic death rate is nearly four times higher than all other races.
- ⇒ AIAN people are overrepresented among traffic deaths involving high-risk behaviors.