



WTSC Data Release Updates

Staci Hoff, Ph.D., Research Director
Washington Traffic Safety Commission
Quarterly Meeting of the WTSC
April 18, 2024

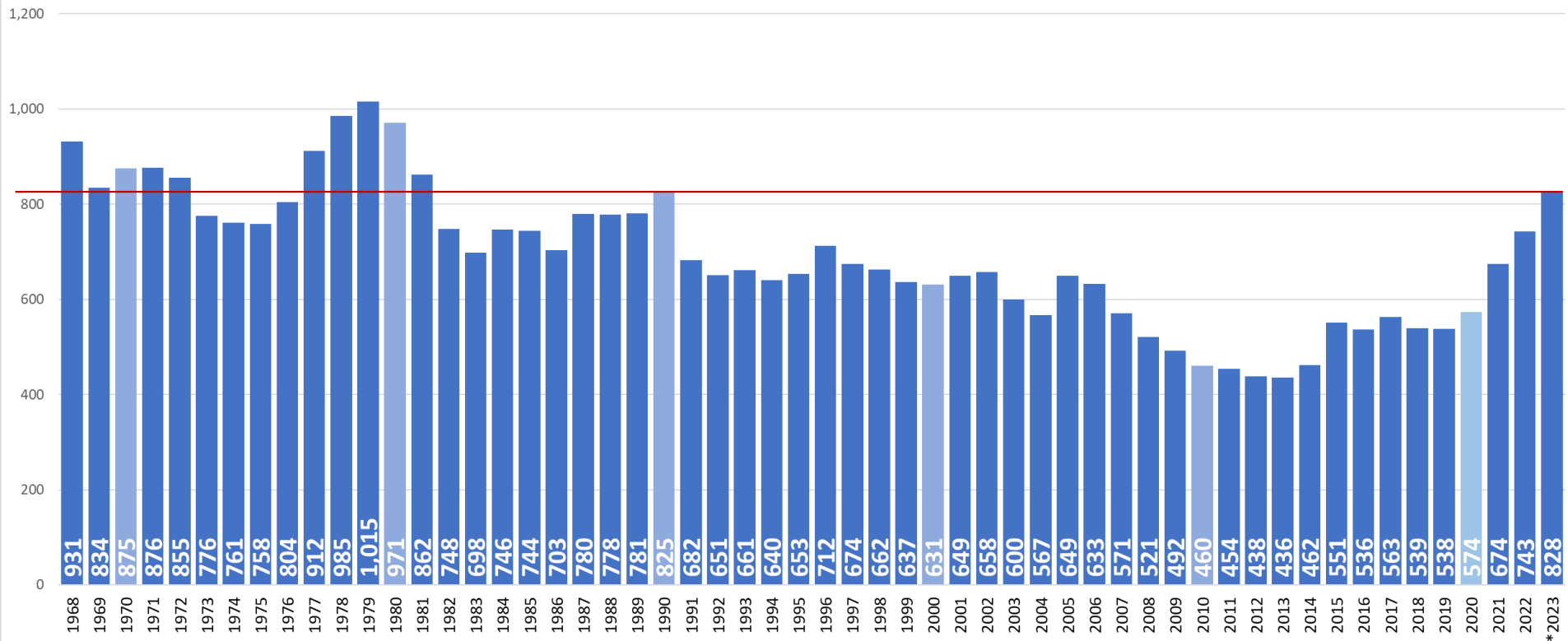
OVERVIEW

- Update on 2023 fatality numbers (the first official preliminary estimates will be released in May 2024)
- Overview of new WTSC data releases
 - New Data Dashboards
 - New and Updated Data Briefs



Washington State Traffic Fatalities 1968 - Present

Source: WTSC Historical Counts, CFC Files



- 2023 was the deadliest year since 1981 and the tenth deadliest year since 1968
- This is the most rapid five-year increase in traffic fatalities EVER (up 54% since 2019, compared to 1979 up 34% from 1975)

EARLY ESTIMATES FOR 2023

FROM WSDOT CRASH DATA PORTAL AS OF 4/1/2024 (796 FATALITIES, 3,400 SERIOUS INJURIES)

- Serious injuries up another 10%, up 51% since 2019
- Pedestrian Fatalities highest number ever (147), just over the number in 2021 (145), pedestrian serious injuries up 14% and highest number ever (472)
- Unrestrained fatalities (over 200 fatalities in 2023 and the highest number since 2002, the year we implemented a primary seat belt law and HVE)
- Increases in fatalities involving distraction (153, +34%), opposite direction (119, +55% in 2023), Young drivers 16-25 (244, +28%), and motorcyclists (137, highest ever)
 - Impairment, Speeding, and Older Driver involved currently similar to 2022 fatalities

WTSC DATA DASHBOARDS

NEW! Statewide Survey (5 Dashboard Pages)

<https://wtsc.wa.gov/dashboards/>



Traffic Safety Enforcement

Last updated:
Jan, 2024

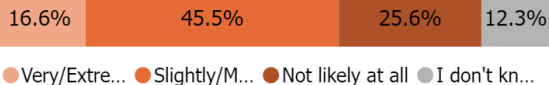
Washington Traffic Safety Commission Annual Statewide Traffic Safety Survey (click here)

Number of survey responses

10,964

How likely is a driver in your community to be caught by the police for...

Driving while using a cell phone



Driving 10 mph or more over the speed limit



Driving under the influence of alcohol



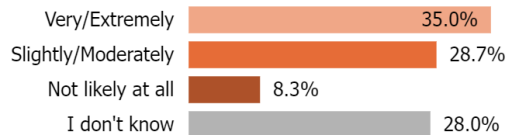
Driving under the influence of cannabis



Driving while not wearing a seat belt

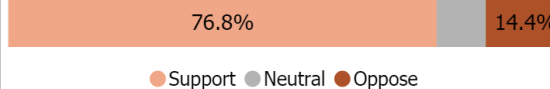


How likely is a driver in your community who is arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or cannabis going to be prosecuted?



How much do you support or oppose law enforcement enforcing...

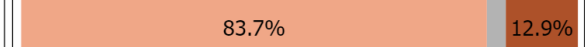
Driving while using a cell phone



Driving 10 mph or more over the speed limit



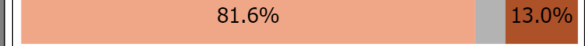
Driving under the influence of alcohol



Driving under the influence of cannabis



Driving through a red light or not stopping at a stop sign



Driving while not wearing a seat belt

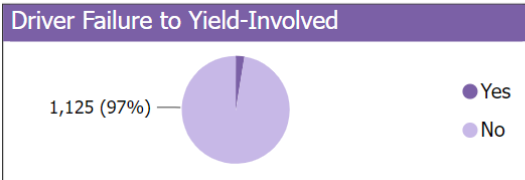
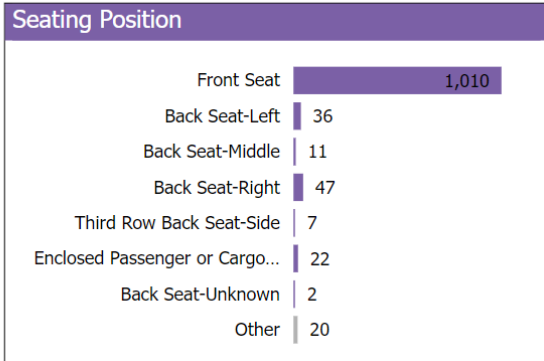
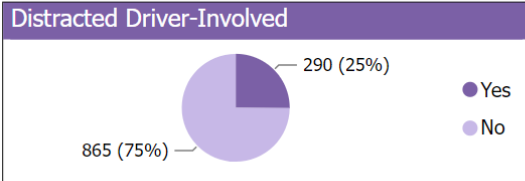
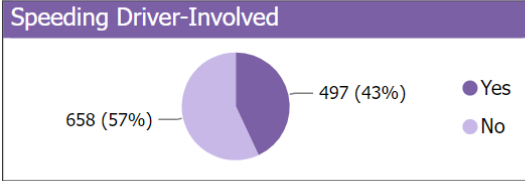
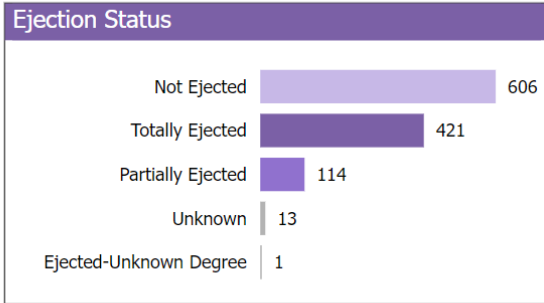
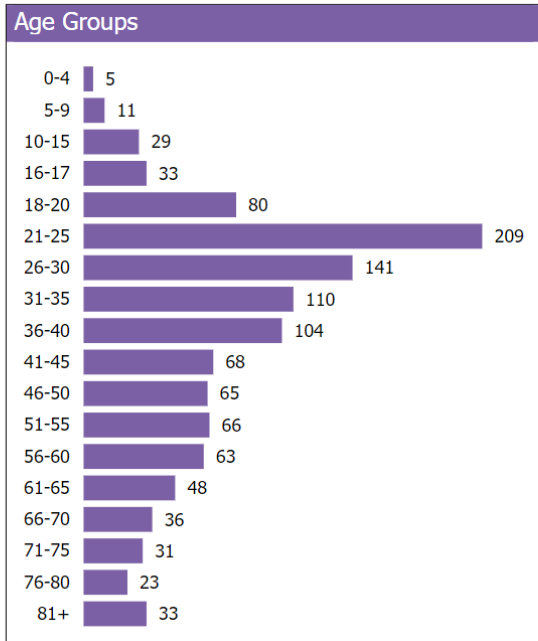
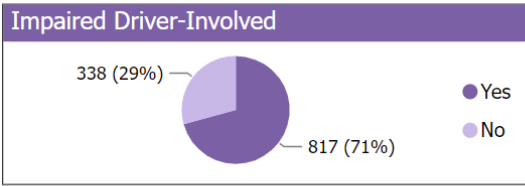
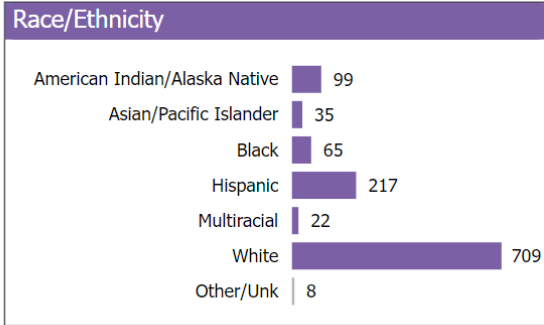
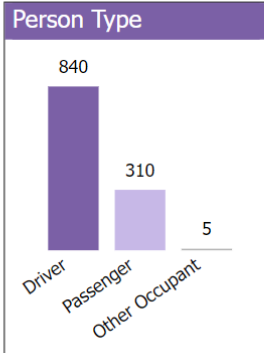
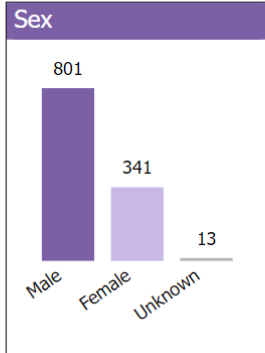
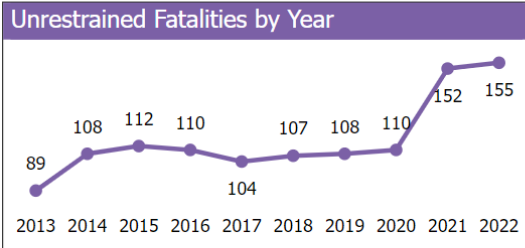


WTSC DATA DASHBOARDS

NEW! Unrestrained Motor Vehicle Occupant Fatalities

<https://wtsc.wa.gov/dashboards/>

Unrestrained Motor Vehicle Occupant Fatalities in Washington Last updated: Feb, 2024

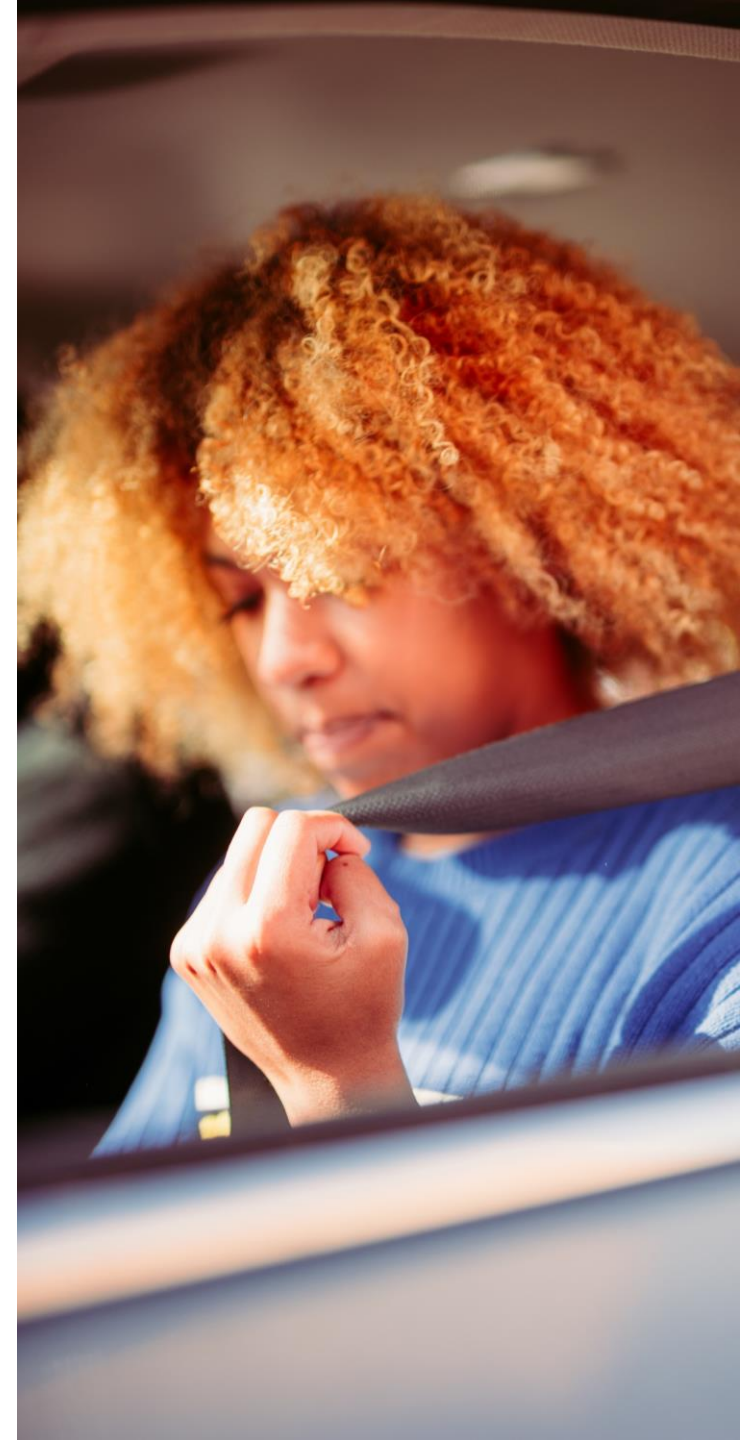
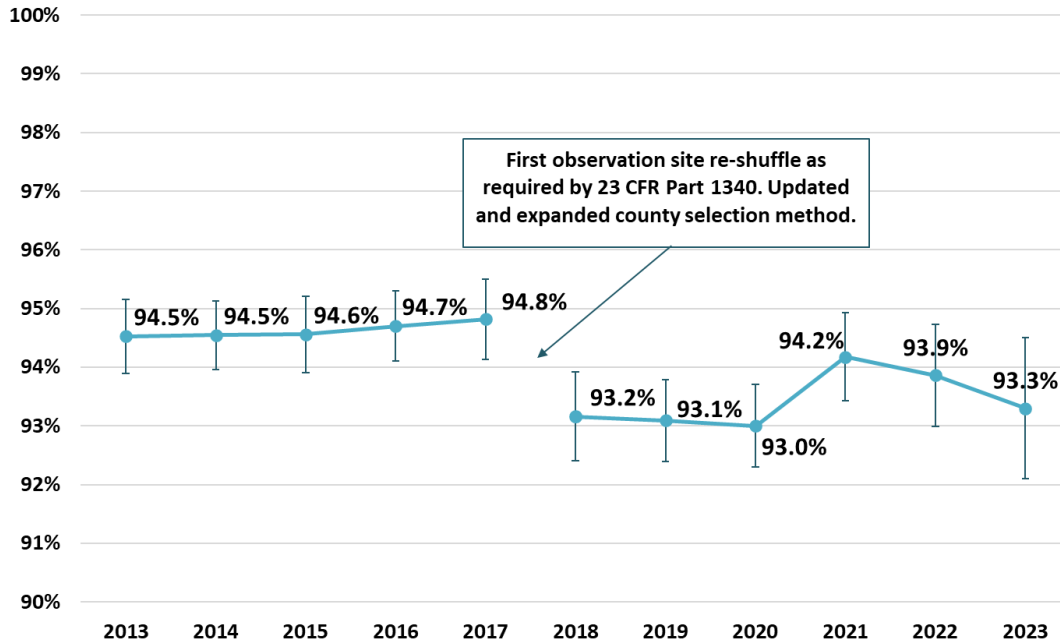


2023 SEAT BELT USE RATE – 93.3%

Seat Belt Use Rates in Washington State 2013-2023

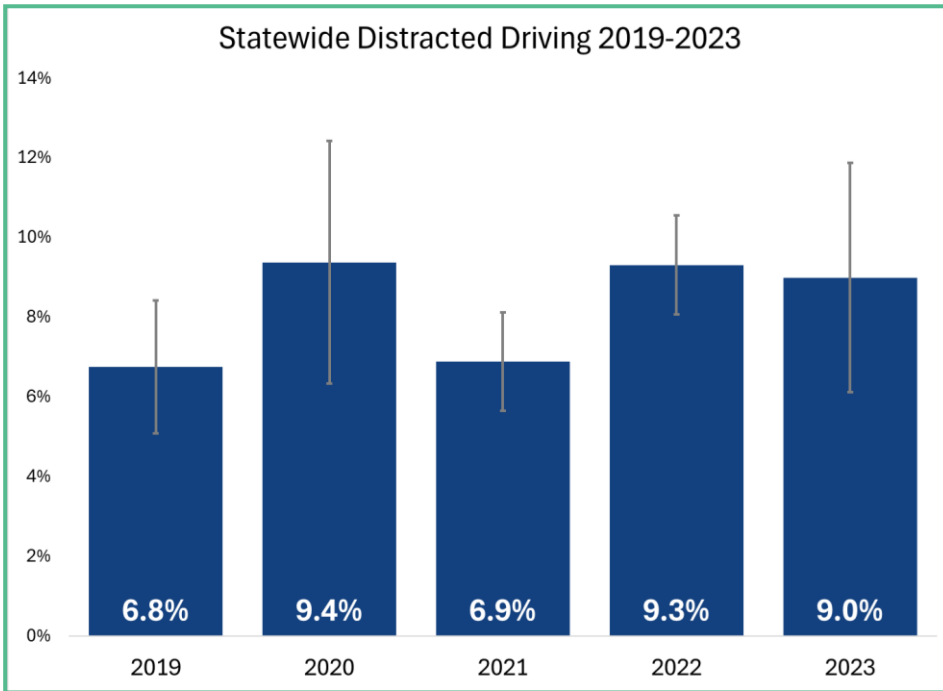
Percent of Front Seat Motor Vehicle Occupants Using Seat Belts

Source: Washington Seat Belt Observation Survey Weighted Rate



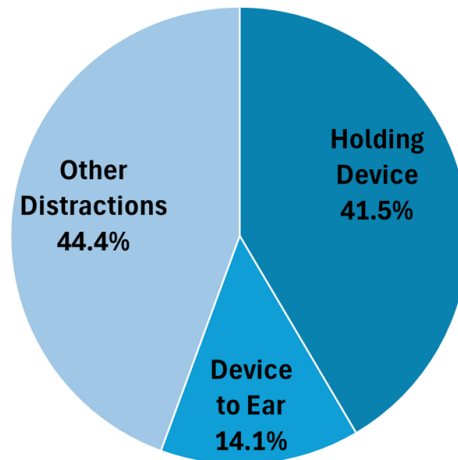
https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Seat-Belt-Use-in-WA-State-2023_Feb2024.pdf

2023 DISTRACTED DRIVER RATE = 9.0%



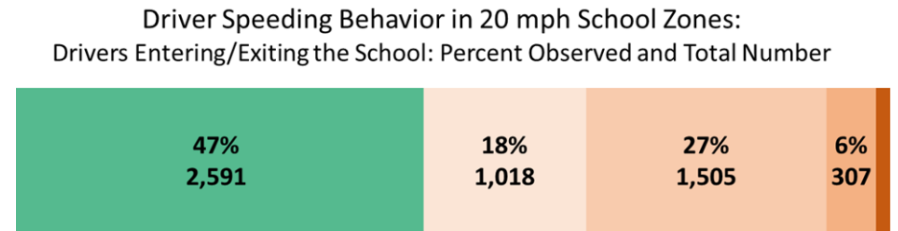
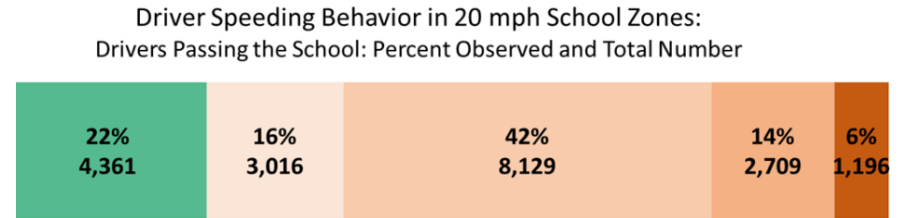
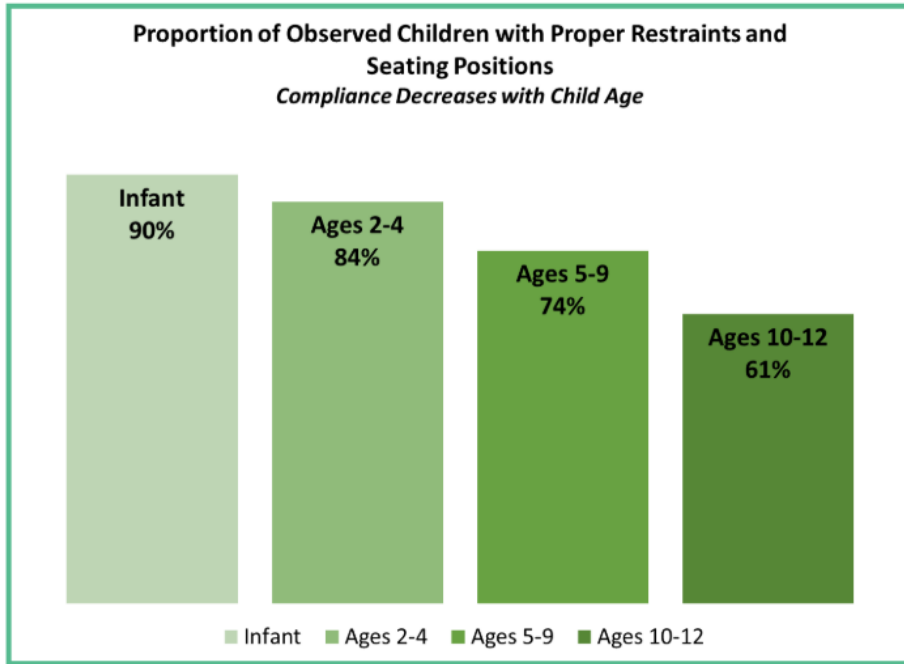
Type of Driver Distraction 2023

The most common type of distraction is from device use. Other sources of driver distractions included eating/drinking, grooming, reading, or interacting with passengers/pets in a way that interfered with driving.



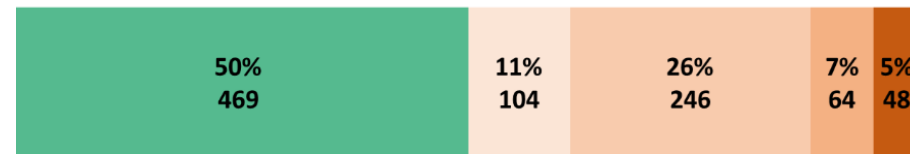
https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/10_Distracted-Driver-Observation-Survey-2023.pdf

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SURVEY AND DRIVER SPEEDING IN SCHOOL ZONES



- Driving <=20 mph (Not Speeding)
- Speeding 21-25 mph
- Speeding 26-30 mph
- Speeding 31-35 mph
- Speeding 35 mph+

School Bus Drivers Speeding Behavior in 20 mph School Zones:
 Percent of School Bus Drivers Observed and Total Number

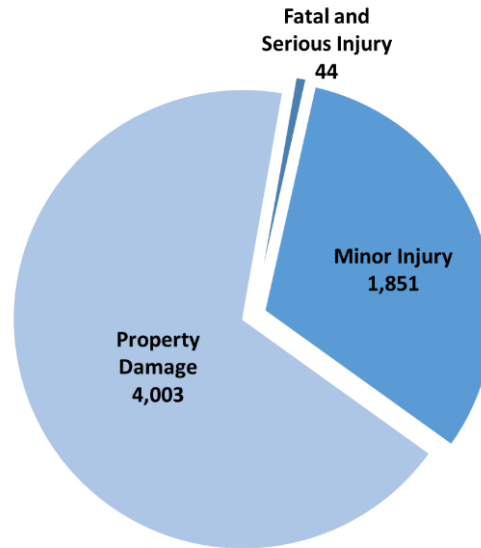
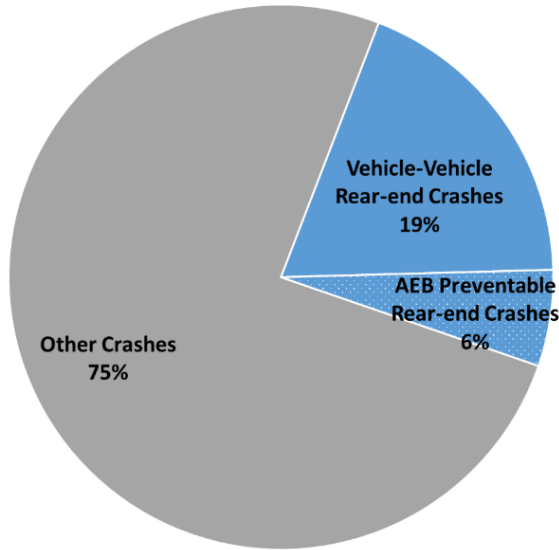


<https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/CPS-Survey-2023.pdf>

https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2023/12/16_Driver-Speeding-in-School-Zones_Dec2023.pdf

AEB PREVENTABLE CRASHES

Crashes in Washington State 2022:
What if every car had AEB?



Four of every five 2022 model year vehicles are equipped with AEB compared to less than half in 2018.

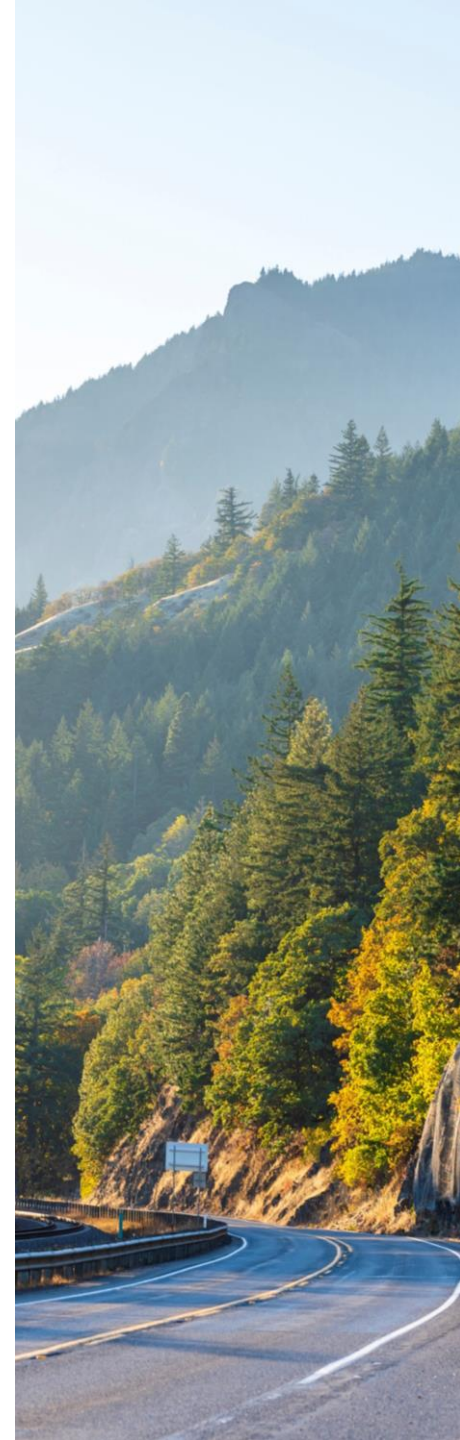
If every car in WA had AEB, \$83 million per year in crash-related costs could be saved.



https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/AEB_Crash_Reduction.pdf

OTHER BRIEFS UPDATED WITH 2022 FINAL FATALITY DATA

- Cannabis Involvement in Fatal Crashes
 - https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/05_Cannabis-Involvement-in-Fatal-Crashes_March-2024-1.pdf
- American Indian/Alaska Native Deaths 2018-2022
 - https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2024/02/AIAN-Deaths-2018-2022_Feb2024.pdf
- American Indian/Alaska Native Occupant Protection
 - https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2024/02/14_AIAN-OP-brief.pdf
- Unlicensed Drivers in Fatal Crashes 2018-2022
 - https://wtsc.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/dlm_uploads/2024/02/09_Unlicensed-drivers-2018-2022_Feb_2024.pdf



Questions

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<https://wtsc.wa.gov/dashboards/>

<https://wtsc.wa.gov/traffic-safety-reports/>