Motor Vehicle Crashes in Work Zones

Table 45
Crashes in Work Zones: 2004-2008

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Change 2007-2008	Avg. Change 2004-2007
Work Zone Crashes	265	197	198	297	279	-6.1%	8.3%
Fatalities	8	0	2	2	7	250.0%	-200.0%
Serious Injuries	23	14	21	20	27	35.0%	2.0%
Visible Injuries	42	27	32	46	54	17.4%	8.9%
Possible Injuries	85	71	71	68	108	58.8%	-6.9%
% All Crashes	0.9%	0.8%	0.8%	1.1%	1.1%	-0.6%	8.3%
Workers Injured	1	0	2	3	2	-33.3%	50.0%

Workers on the roadway are especially vulnerable since their attention is focused on the task at hand rather than on the traffic passing by. While most crashes occurring in work zones do not involve worker, there have been a few crashes that have involved workers.

There was one worker injured while moving cones in 2004. In 2006, a worker was struck on US 30 in Bannock County while placing sticky tabs along the center line and a flagger was struck while attempting to stop traffic at Ramsey Road and Prairie Ave in Kootenai County. There were 3 workers visibly injured in 2007; a flagger was struck in Bonner County, a flagger was struck in Canyon County, and a flagger was struck in Elmore County. In 2008, a flagger was struck by a car ignoring the flagger's instructions and an electrical worker was struck by a semi trailer that was making a right hand turn.

Single-vehicle crashes comprised 26% of the crashes in work zones in 2008. While overturn was the predominant most harmful event in single-vehicle crashes in work zones, rear end was the predominant most harmful event for multiple-vehicle crashes in work zones.

Table 46 shows work zone crashes by road type.

Table 46
Work Zone Crashes by Roadway Type: 2008

	Fatal Crashes		Injury Crashes		Property Damage Crashes		All Crashes	
Interstate								
Rural	1	0.0%	1	0.9%	7	4.2%	9	3.2%
Urban	4	0.0%	35	33.0%	69	41.3%	108	38.7%
U.S. or State Highway								
Rural	1	0.0%	27	25.5%	38	22.8%	66	23.7%
Urban	0	0.0%	11	10.4%	24	14.4%	35	12.5%
Local								
Rural	0	0.0%	6	5.7%	5	3.0%	11	3.9%
Urban	0	0.0%	26	24.5%	24	14.4%	50	17.9%
Total	**6**	**2.2%**	**106**	**38.0%**	**167**	**59.9%**	**279**	

Table 47 shows the severity of crashes by transportation district. Transportation district boundaries can be found in Appendix A.

Table 47
Crashes in Work Zones by Transportation District: 2008

	Fatal Crashes	Injury Crashes	Property Damage Crashes	Total Crashes
District 1	1	16	19	36
District 2	0	4	2	6
District 3	4	65	104	173
District 4	0	5	9	14
District 5	0	6	10	16
District 6	1	10	23	34
Statewide	**6**	**106**	**167**	**279**

In 2008, the economic cost of crashes in work zones was $61 million dollars. This represents 2% of the total cost of Idaho crashes (as shown in Table 4).