

## Crashes by Roadway Classification

Table 9 compares the number of fatal, injury, and total crashes by urban and rural classification. Urban roadways are defined as those within the city limits of cities with 5,000 people or more. Urban roadways tend to carry higher volumes of traffic at lower speeds, while rural roads carry lower traffic volumes at higher speeds.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Change 2008-2009	Avg. Change 2005-2008
Fatal Crashes	243	239	212	212	199	-6.1%	-4.3%
Urban	49	62	47	49	44	-10.2%	2.2%
Rural	194	177	171	163	155	-4.9%	-5.6%
Injury Crashes:	9,810	9,536	8,227	8,227	7,861	-4.4%	-5.5%
Urban	5,996	5,871	5,764	5,053	4,838	-4.3%	-5.4%
Rural	3,814	3,665	3,470	3,174	3,023	-4.8%	-5.9%
Total Crashes:	28,238	24,225	25,002	25,002	22,992	-8.0%	-3.7%
Urban	17,504	14,810	16,693	15,362	14,215	-7.5%	-3.5%
Rural	10,734	9,415	9,759	9,640	8,777	-9.0%	-3.3%

In 2009, 78% of fatal crashes occurred on rural roads, whereas 38% of all crashes occurred on rural roads. In Idaho in 2009, 88% of the total road mileage was classified as rural roadway. Rural roads tend to have higher speed limits. Crashes at higher impact speeds have a greater probability of resulting in a fatality.<sup>3</sup>

The high percentage of rural roadways in Idaho primarily contributes to the fact that Idaho's fatality rate is consistently higher than the U.S. fatality rate as evidenced in Table 10.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Change 2008-2009	Avg. Change 2005-2008
Fatal Crash Rate	1.62	1.57	1.34	1.39	1.29	-7.0%	-4.8%
Urban Fatal Crash Rate	0.82	1.00	0.73	0.77	0.68	-11.2%	0.3%
Rural Fatal Crash Rate	2.16	1.95	1.82	1.83	1.72	-5.7%	-5.3%
Injury Crash Rate	65.54	62.49	51.95	53.84	50.95	-5.4%	-6.0%
Urban Injury Crash Rate	100.26	94.88	89.14	79.46	75.23	-5.3%	-7.4%
Rural Injury Crash Rate	42.43	40.40	37.03	35.57	33.59	-5.6%	-5.7%
Total Crash Rate	188.65	158.75	157.87	163.61	149.01	-8.9%	-4.3%
Urban Total Crash Rate	292.70	239.35	258.14	241.58	221.05	-8.5%	-5.6%
Rural Total Crash Rate	119.42	103.78	104.15	108.04	97.53	-9.7%	-3.0%

Table 11 shows the number of crashes and crash rates on local and state system roadways (both interstate and non-interstate) for 2005-2009, and the number of crashes and crash rates statewide. Crash rates are lower than the statewide fatality and injury rates shown in Table 2 because multiple fatalities or injuries may result from a single crash.

**Table 11**  
**Crash Rates for Local and State System Roadways: 2005-2009**

<b>Roadway Information</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Change 2008-2009</b>	<b>Avg. Change 2005-2008</b>
<b>Local Roads:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	67.5	69.2	67.2	71.4	71.2	-0.3%	1.9%
Fatal Crashes	99	105	82	84	76	-9.5%	-4.5%
Injury Crashes	5,648	5,517	4,817	5,240	4,539	-13.4%	-2.1%
Total Crashes	17,857	14,031	15,500	16,079	13,502	-16.0%	-2.4%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.1	-9.2%	-6.6%
Injury Crash Rate	83.6	79.7	71.7	73.4	63.8	-13.1%	-4.1%
Total Crash Rate	264.4	202.6	230.8	225.2	189.7	-15.8%	-4.0%
<b>U.S. and State Highways:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	48.2	48.5	49.9	48.0	48.3	0.5%	-0.1%
Fatal Crashes	107	96	90	94	97	3.2%	-4.0%
Injury Crashes	3,184	3,162	3,028	2,652	2,566	-3.2%	-5.8%
Total Crashes	8,789	7,797	8,232	7,620	7,205	-5.4%	-4.4%
Fatal Crash Rate	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.0	2.6%	-3.8%
Injury Crash Rate	66.1	65.2	60.7	55.2	53.2	-3.8%	-5.8%
Total Crash Rate	182.5	160.8	165.1	158.7	149.2	-5.9%	-4.4%
<b>Interstate Highways:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	34.0	34.9	35.8	33.4	34.8	4.3%	-0.5%
Fatal Crashes	37	38	44	38	26	-31.6%	1.6%
Injury Crashes	983	857	846	783	756	-3.4%	-7.2%
Total Crashes	2,626	2,394	2,637	2,640	2,285	-13.4%	0.5%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.7	-34.4%	1.6%
Injury Crash Rate	28.9	24.6	21.7	21.1	21.7	2.9%	-9.8%
Total Crash Rate	47.2	68.7	67.4	71.5	65.6	-8.2%	16.5%
<b>Statewide Totals:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	149.7	152.6	158.4	152.8	154.3	1.0%	0.7%
Fatal Crashes	243	239	218	212	199	-6.1%	-4.4%
Injury Crashes	9,810	9,536	9,234	8,227	7,861	-4.4%	-5.6%
Total Crashes	28,238	24,225	26,452	25,002	22,992	-8.0%	-3.5%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3	-7.0%	-4.9%
Injury Crash Rate	65.5	62.5	58.3	53.8	50.9	-5.4%	-6.3%
Total Crash Rate	188.6	158.8	167.0	163.6	149.0	-8.9%	-4.2%