

## 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.

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change 2009-2010</b>	<b>Avg. Change 2006-2009</b>
Fatal Crashes	239	218	212	199	185	-7.0%	-5.9%
Urban	62	47	49	44	42	-4.5%	-10.0%
Rural	177	171	163	155	143	-7.7%	-4.3%
Injury Crashes:	9,536	9,234	8,227	7,861	7,939	1.0%	-6.2%
Urban	5,871	5,764	5,053	4,838	4,919	1.7%	-6.1%
Rural	3,665	3,470	3,174	3,023	3,020	-0.1%	-6.2%
Total Crashes:	24,225	26,452	25,002	22,992	22,555	-1.9%	-1.4%
Urban	14,810	16,693	15,362	14,215	13,780	-3.1%	-0.9%
Rural	9,415	9,759	9,640	8,777	8,775	0.0%	-2.2%

In 2010, 77% of fatal crashes occurred on rural roads, whereas 39% of all crashes occurred on rural roads. In Idaho in 2010, 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.

	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change 2009-2010</b>	<b>Avg. Change 2006-2009</b>
Fatal Crash Rate	1.57	1.38	1.39	1.29	1.19	-7.8%	-6.1%
Urban Fatal Crash Rate	1.00	0.73	0.77	0.68	0.64	-6.0%	-10.9%
Rural Fatal Crash Rate	1.95	1.82	1.83	1.72	1.58	-8.0%	-4.0%
Injury Crash Rate	62.49	58.31	53.84	50.95	51.04	0.2%	-6.6%
Urban Injury Crash Rate	94.88	89.14	79.46	75.23	75.36	0.2%	-7.4%
Rural Injury Crash Rate	40.40	37.03	35.57	33.59	33.45	-0.4%	-5.9%
Total Crash Rate	158.75	167.03	163.61	149.01	145.00	-2.7%	-1.9%
Urban Total Crash Rate	239.35	258.14	241.58	221.05	211.10	-4.5%	-2.4%
Rural Total Crash Rate	103.78	104.15	108.04	97.53	97.20	-0.3%	-1.9%

Table 11 shows the number of crashes and crash rates on local and state system roadways (both interstate and non-interstate) for 2006-2010, 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: 2006-2010**

<b>Roadway Information</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Change 2009-2010</b>	<b>Avg. Change 2006-2009</b>
<b>Local Roads:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	69.2	67.2	71.4	71.2	72.1	1.2%	1.0%
Fatal Crashes	105	82	84	76	79	3.9%	-9.7%
Injury Crashes	5,517	4,817	5,240	4,539	4,978	9.7%	-5.8%
Total Crashes	14,031	15,500	16,079	13,502	14,238	5.5%	-0.6%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	2.7%	-10.8%
Injury Crash Rate	79.7	71.7	73.4	63.8	69.1	8.3%	-6.9%
Total Crash Rate	202.6	230.8	225.2	189.7	197.6	4.2%	-1.4%
<b>U.S. and State Highways:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	48.5	49.9	48.0	48.3	48.7	1.0%	-0.1%
Fatal Crashes	96	90	94	97	79	-18.6%	0.5%
Injury Crashes	3,162	3,028	2,652	2,566	2,288	-10.8%	-6.6%
Total Crashes	7,797	8,232	7,620	7,205	6,189	-14.1%	-2.4%
Fatal Crash Rate	2.0	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.6	-19.3%	0.7%
Injury Crash Rate	65.2	60.7	55.2	53.2	46.9	-11.7%	-6.6%
Total Crash Rate	160.8	165.1	158.7	149.2	127.0	-14.9%	-2.4%
<b>Interstate Highways:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	34.9	35.8	33.4	34.8	34.8	-0.2%	0.1%
Fatal Crashes	38	44	38	26	27	3.8%	-9.8%
Injury Crashes	857	846	783	756	673	-11.0%	-4.1%
Total Crashes	2,394	2,637	2,640	2,285	2,128	-6.9%	-1.1%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.8	4.1%	-9.9%
Injury Crash Rate	24.6	21.7	21.1	21.7	19.4	-10.8%	-3.9%
Total Crash Rate	68.7	67.4	71.5	65.6	61.2	-6.6%	-1.4%
<b>Statewide Totals:</b>							
VMT (100 millions)	158.4	152.8	154.3	154.3	155.6	0.8%	-0.8%
Fatal Crashes	218	212	199	199	185	-7.0%	-3.0%
Injury Crashes	9,234	8,227	7,861	7,861	7,939	1.0%	-5.1%
Total Crashes	26,452	25,002	22,992	22,992	22,555	-1.9%	-4.5%
Fatal Crash Rate	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	-7.8%	-2.1%
Injury Crash Rate	58.3	53.8	50.9	50.9	51.0	0.2%	-4.3%
Total Crash Rate	167.0	163.6	149.0	149.0	145.0	-2.7%	-3.7%