

# ALBERTA TRAFFIC COLLISION FACTS

## 2008

### WHAT HAPPENED ON ALBERTA'S ROADWAYS IN 2008?

#### During 2008...

- 410 people were killed as a result of traffic collisions.
- 22,015 people were injured in traffic collisions.
- A total of 158,055 collisions occurred.

#### Every day in 2008 approximately...

- 1 person was killed.
- 60 people were injured.
- 432 traffic collisions were reported.

### ALBERTA TRAFFIC COLLISIONS 2004-2008

Severity of Collision	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Fatal	375	402	404	392	339
Non-Fatal Injury	16153	17857	18831	17726	17248
Property Damage	141527	135642	123357	106088	94966
<b>Total Reportable Collisions</b>	<b>158055</b>	<b>153901</b>	<b>142592</b>	<b>124206</b>	<b>112553</b>
Number Killed	410	458	453	466	387
Number Injured	22015	24530	25964	24504	24249
<b>Total Number of Casualties</b>	<b>22425</b>	<b>24988</b>	<b>26417</b>	<b>24970</b>	<b>24636</b>

### WHO WERE THE VICTIMS?

Traffic Fatalities (%)		Traffic Injuries (%)	
228	Drivers (55.6)	13162	Drivers (59.8)
77	Passengers (18.8)	5715	Passengers (26.0)
34	Pedestrians (8.3)	1260	Pedestrians (5.7)
42	Motorcyclists (10.2)	830	Motorcyclists (3.8)
5	Bicyclists (1.2)	538	Bicyclists (2.4)
24	Other road user class/unspecified (5.9)	510	Other road user class/unspecified (2.3)

### SPECIAL ROAD USER CLASSES

#### Pedestrians

Based on population, pedestrians between the ages of 15 and 19 were most likely to be injured in a crash. Pedestrian casualty collisions were most likely to occur during the evening rush hour. Of pedestrians involved in injury collisions 14.0% had consumed alcohol, compared to 33.3% of pedestrians in fatal collisions.

#### Motorcycles

There were 42 people killed in collisions involving motorcycles. Motorcycle drivers under the age of 25 were most likely to be involved in casualty collisions. Compared to other drivers, motorcyclists were more likely to have consumed alcohol before the crash. Compared to drivers in total casualty collisions, motorcycle drivers were more likely to run off the road or pass improperly.

#### Truck Tractors

In 2008, there were 61 people killed and 657 injured in collisions involving truck tractors. Compared to drivers of other vehicles, truck tractor drivers were more likely to run off the road or make an improper lane change but less likely to have consumed alcohol before the crash.

#### Trains

In 2008, three people were killed and 27 people were injured in crashes in which a train was involved.

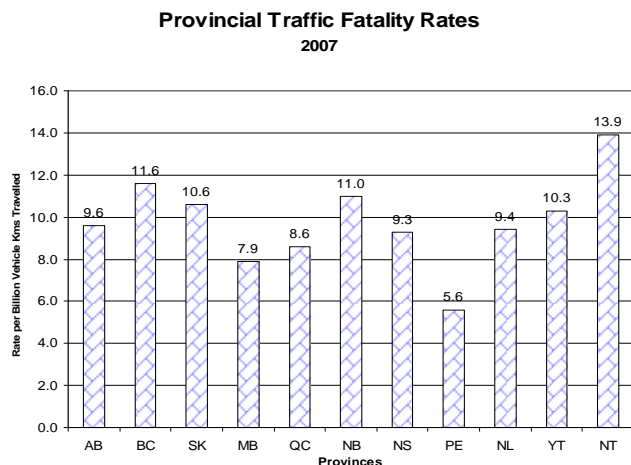
#### Bicycles

Young bicyclists, 10-14 years of age, were the group most frequently injured in bicycle casualty collisions. Compared to other drivers, bicyclists were more likely to disobey a traffic signal or fail to yield the right-of-way at an uncontrolled intersection.

### WHEN DID THE COLLISIONS OCCUR?

The late summer and fall months saw the most fatal collisions. December recorded the highest number of injury and property damage collisions. There are more collisions on Friday than any other day of the week. The afternoon rush-hour period accounted for the highest number of crashes.

## HOW DOES ALBERTA COMPARE TO OTHER PROVINCES?



Note: Figures for 2008 are not available at time of printing.

Sources: Transport Canada Canadian Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision Statistics TP3322 and Statistics Canada, "Canadian Vehicle Survey", catalogue No. 53-223-XIE.

### Looking back...

- Fatality rates have decreased over the past year.
- Injury rates have decreased over the past year.
- Property damage collision rates have increased over the past year.

## WHERE DID THE COLLISIONS OCCUR?

About four out of five collisions occurred in urban areas. Fatal collisions were more frequent in rural areas.

### Urban (%)

0.1 Fatal collisions  
9.5 Injury collisions  
90.4 Property Damage collisions

### Rural (%)

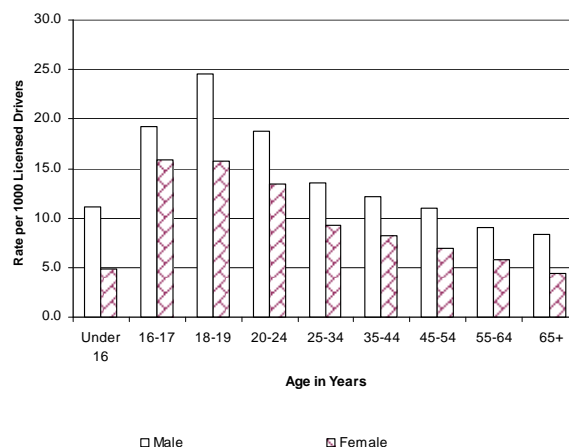
0.9 Fatal collisions  
13.2 Injury collisions  
85.9 Property Damage collisions

## WHAT ABOUT DRINKING AND DRIVING?

Of all drivers involved in fatal collisions, 22.5% had consumed alcohol before the crash. Of all drivers involved in injury collisions 5.3% had consumed alcohol before the crash. The majority of drinking drivers were males. In terms of involvement per 1,000 licensed drivers, males 18-24 years of age were more likely to have consumed alcohol prior to a casualty collision than any other age group. Alcohol related casualty crashes were most likely to occur in the late summer and fall months on the weekends and during the late night/early morning hours.

## WHO WERE THE DRIVERS INVOLVED IN CASUALTY COLLISIONS?

**Age and Sex of Drivers Involved in Casualty Collisions  
Alberta 2008**



## WHAT ABOUT SEAT BELTS?

The data shows that occupants who were using restraints at the time of the collision were injured less often (8.0%) than occupants who were not using restraints (32.8%). Occupants using a restraint reduce the likelihood of sustaining an injury and the severity of injury decreases.

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