



The Facts About Rural Road Safety

Safety on rural roads is an important national concern because a majority of highway fatalities happen on rural roads. In 2014, 19 percent of the US population lived in rural areas but rural road fatalities accounted for 51 percent of all fatalities (NHTSA, 2016). Even with reductions in the number of fatalities on the roadways, fatality rate in rural areas is 2.4 times higher than the fatality rate in urban areas. (FHWA, 2016). The data in this factsheet was derived from national databases and may differ from state maintained databases. For more information, refer to the state’s crash database. For more information, refer to <http://modot.org/safety/BlueprintCrashStatistics.htm>.

Miles by Ownership

	State Highway System	County	Town, Township Municipal	Other Jurisdiction	Federal Agency	Total
Rural	30,762	69,679	5,459	80	1,184	107,165
Urban	3,110	3,664	17,520	30	59	24,384

Source: Highway Statistics, FHWA 2015

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics/2015/hm10.cfm>

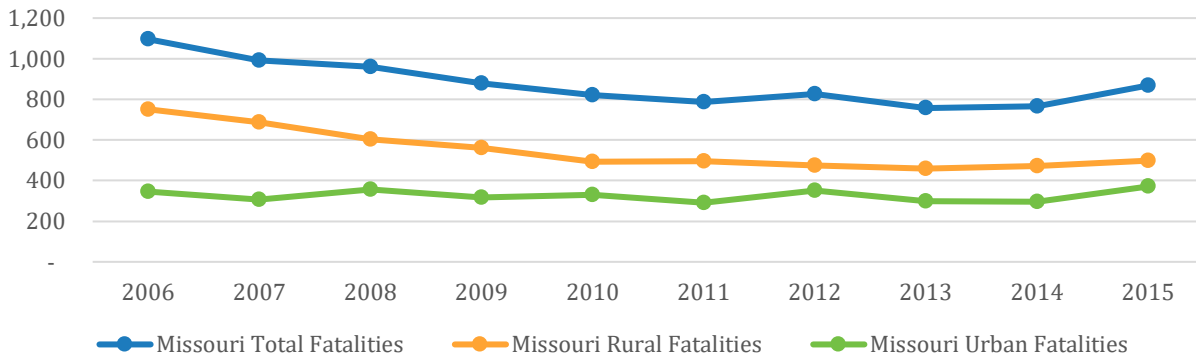
Miles by Functional System (Urban/Rural)

	Total Rural	Interstate/ Freeway	Principal Arterial	Minor Arterial	Major Collector	Minor Collector	Local
Rural	107,165	1,768	2,032	3,987	16,416	6,216	76,746
Urban	24,384	1,016	902	2,161	2,462	93	17,748

Source: Highway Statistics, FHWA 2015

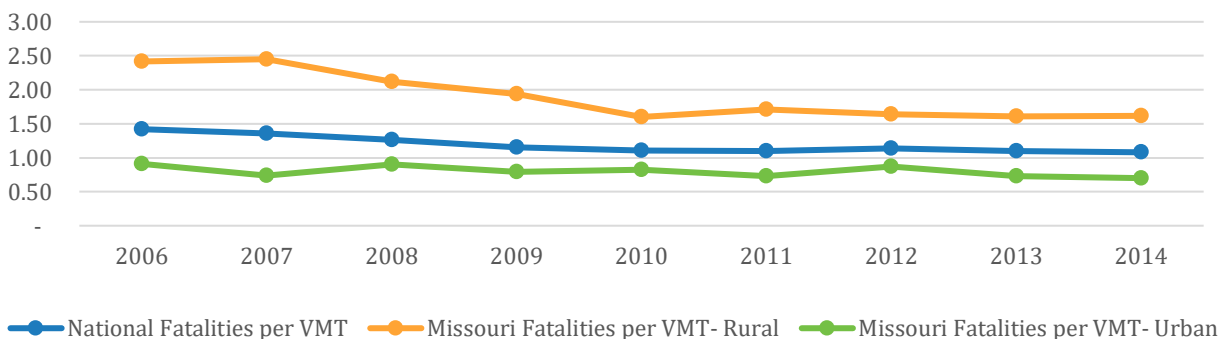
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/statistics/2015/hm20.cfm>

Missouri Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Year (10 years) and Location (Urban and Rural, and National)



Source: NHTSA FARS

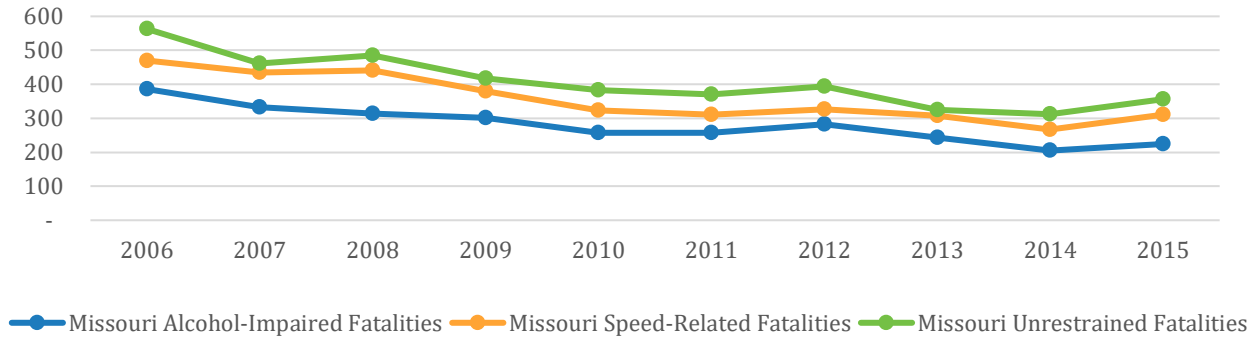
Missouri Motor Vehicle Fatalities by VMT, by Year and Location



Source: NHTSA FARS

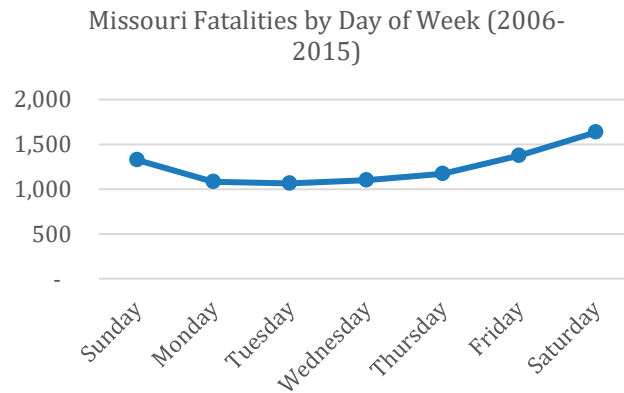
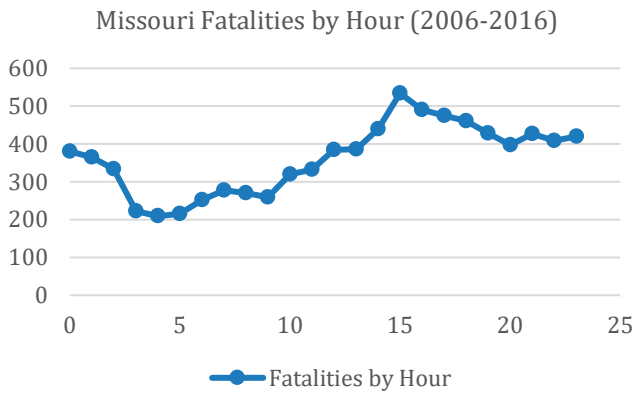


Missouri Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Contributing Factor (Speed, Alcohol, Restraint Use, Time of Day, Day of Week) *



Source: NHTSA FARS, *Numbers may not add up since there can be multiple contributing factors in a crash.

Missouri Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Hour and Day of Week



Source: NHTSA FARS

Resources

Missouri Strategic Highway Safety Plan http://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/modot-pdfs/Blueprint_2016-2020.pdf

Missouri Motor Vehicle Crash Statistics <http://www.modot.org/safety/BlueprintCrashStatistics.htm>

MoDOT Tracker <http://www.modot.org/about/Tracker.htm>

National Center for Rural Road Safety <http://ruralsafetycenter.org/>

FHWA Local and Rural Safety http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/local_rural/

Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) <http://www.ltap.org/>

National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)

National Association of County Engineers (NACE) <http://www.countyengineers.org>

American Public Works Association (APWA) <http://apwa.net/>

Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Transportation under Cooperative Agreement No. DTFH6114H00021. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the Author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Transportation.