MTCF

Michigan Traffic Crash Facts

OLDER DRIVERS

AGES 65+

2024

In Michigan, 19.6 percent of residents are age 65 or older according to 2024 estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Safety problems for the older driver are directly tied to the aging process, including changes in vision, hearing, medication, cognition, and physical condition, which all contribute to driving errors.

INJURY SEVERITY IN MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES WITH A DRIVER AGE 65 AND OLDER



KILLED: 305 (1.8%)

SUSPECTED SERIOUS INJURIES: 1,229 (7.3%)

SUSPECTED MINOR INJURIES: 4,844 (28.8%)

POSSIBLE INJURIES: 10,440 (62.1%)

There were 1,958,161 licensed drivers age 65 and older who represented 26.0 percent of Michigan's driving population. The drivers in this age group represented 12.2 percent (59,183) of drivers in all crashes and 18.7 percent (307) of drivers in fatal crashes.

A total of 270 people age 65 and older were killed in traffic crashes, and 184 (68.1%) of them were drivers.

In addition, 9,661 people age 65 and older were injured in traffic crashes, representing 13.5 percent of all people injured in crashes.

Drivers and injured passengers in crashes, age 65 to 110, had a seat belt usage rate of 99.2%, as reported by police at the scene of a crash.

Older drivers were more involved in angle, left turn head-on, and swideswipe crashes than younger drivers. Older drivers also had a a higher incidence of failure to yield, disregard of traffic control, improper lane use, improper turn, and improper backing as a hazardous action in all crashes.

Of the 156 pedestrians killed in Michigan, 20.5 percent (32) were age 65 and older; 11.0 percent (199) of the 1,809 pedestrians injured were age 65 and older.

Eight (27.6%) bicyclists out of the 29 killed and 153 (11.2%) out of the 1,369 injured bicyclists were age 65 and older.



