
2006 Minnesota Speeding Facts

- In 2002–2006 in Minnesota, illegal or unsafe speed was a contributing factor in 764 fatal crashes resulting in 843 deaths.
- During the same period, fatalities resulting from speed-related crashes cost Minnesota nearly \$930 million.
- Illegal or unsafe speed is a leading contributing factor in fatal crashes. In 2006, 151 people were killed in speeding related crashes.
- In 2002–2006, illegal or unsafe speed is often combined with impaired driving and was cited in 59 percent of all alcohol-related fatal crashes.
- Over the five-year period, there were almost twice as many speed-related fatal crashes in rural areas (less than 5,000 population) as there were in urban areas (506 versus 258).
- Almost 80 percent of rural fatal crashes occurred on interstate, state trunk and county state aid highways.
- Younger drivers who speed are in grave danger — illegal or unsafe speed accounted for 30 percent of the factors cited in fatal crashes for drivers under age 30, compared to only 6 percent of the factors cited for drivers age 65 and older.
- NHTSA reports nearly 60 percent of all drivers report seeing speeding vehicles all or most of the time when they drive on residential streets as well as highways.
- NHTSA research shows motorists wrongly believe speeding is not a great risk to safety or as serious as other traffic violations. In reality, the consequences of excessive speeding include:
 - Greater potential for loss of vehicle control
 - Increased stopping distance
 - Increased crash severity leading to more numerous and severe injuries.

Sources: *Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety;*
National Highways Traffic Safety Administration