

Traffic Crash Summary 2019





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INTRODUCTION



Main Street

Traffic crashes are costly events, which are best avoided. The employees of the City of Rocky Mount are working to assist local motorists to enjoy pleasant driving experiences. From planning and road design, maintenance of facilities, and enforcement of regulations, Public Works, and Police Departments of Rocky Mount are helping to prevent traffic collisions.

The annual <u>Traffic Crash Summary</u> is compiled by the staff of the Rocky Mount Transportation Division from reports provided by the Rocky Mount Police Department. This Summary is also available on the MPO website at <u>rockymountnc.gov/mpo</u>.

NC DMV Form 349 is completed by the RMPD for each traffic crash within the Rocky Mount city limits. A sample form is provided on page 19/20. From these forms the Transportation Division staff has recorded traffic crash data in a computer database. Paper copies of Form 349 are

filed and retained for a period of 3 years in the Public Works Department.

A police officer records crash information for some 86 items on Form 349. Including event location and descriptive data and personal statistics, the Form 349 provides a considerable amount of information to manage. The *Traffic Crash Summary* presents this information graphically and with written explanation for the purpose of reducing future traffic crashes.

In addition to this local traffic crash data, other agencies collect and distribute crash data on the state and national levels. At the NC Department of Transportation, the Transportation Mobility & Safety Section is a source of statewide traffic crash data. For national scale data the Federal Highway Administration provides information. For example the FHWA Office of Safety provides national crash data in a dashboard display at https://rspcb.safety.fhwa.dot.gov/Dashbo ard/Default.aspx. Traffic safety information from the AAA (American Automobile Association) is another product example from a private source. See Appendix for related traffic safety sources.

> Rocky Mount's Traffic Enforcement Crash Reconstruction Unit is committed to the prevention of vehicle collisions.

A synopsis of Rocky Mount traffic crash attributes for recent years is provided on page 18.

TRAFFIC CRASHES

A traffic crash is the result of a vehicle colliding with another vehicle, person or object. Normally a traffic crash results when a motor vehicle collision occurs on a public right-of-way with other traffic. Crashes also occur on private property and at times with no other vehicular units involved. Regardless, the result is undesirable and may be severe.

Traffic crashes or collisions are no accident. The result happens due to a cause. The goal of the traffic crash report is to identify what is happening on the streets of Rocky Mount and to identify the possible causes of the crashes.

In the 2019 calendar year the Rocky Mount Police Department investigated 2618 traffic crashes. 1887 crashes were on public streets and 731 were on private property.

Figure 1 represents the distribution of the 1,887 crashes by type of crash. The city uses seventeen classifications to record the type of traffic crash. While all seventeen crash types were recorded in Rocky Mount, the great majority of crashes were the rear end variety as seen in Table I. A brief statement of each traffic crash type follows.

- 1. Rear end collision of a vehicle by another vehicle from behind
- 2. Right turn a vehicle turning right has a collision
- 3. Run off road collision resulting when a vehicle leaves the road
- 4. Pedestrian a collision in which a pedestrian is involved

- 5. Fixed object a collision of a vehicle with a fixed object other than a parked car
- 6. Railroad a collision involving a train
- 7. Right angle a collision of two vehicles moving perpendicular to each other
- 8. Side swipe a collision of one vehicle drifting into another vehicle
- 9. Parked Vehicle a collision involving a parking vehicle
- 10. Animal a collision of vehicle and an animal
- 11. Lost control a collision resulting of driver losing control of vehicle
- 12. Unusual occurrence a collision associated with strange or unusual circumstance
- 13. Left turn a vehicle turning left has a collision
- 14. Backing a collision involving a moving vehicle in reverse
- Bike/Motorcycle a collision involving a bike or motorcycle vehicle
- 16. Head on a collision of two vehicles moving directly towards each other
- 17. Overturn on road a collision in which a vehicle overturns on the road

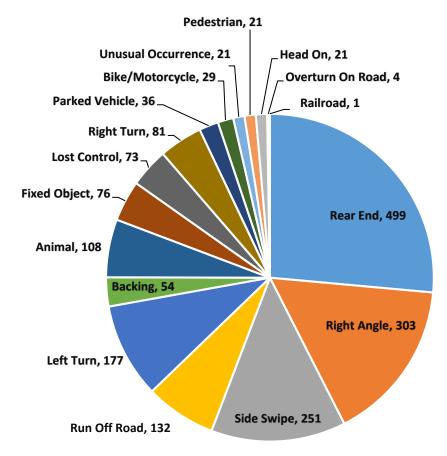
Crashes on public streets	1,887
Crashes on private property	731
Total 2019 crashes	2,618

The greatest number of Rocky Mount crashes are rear end collisions, and this has been true for many years. Rear end, right angle and side swipe crashes account for 57% of crashes on public streets.

Distribution By Type of Crash (Calendar Year 2019)

Number	Type of Crash	Number of	% of Total	Number of	Involved	Involved
Number	Type of Crash	Crashes	Crashes	Fatalities	Speeding	DWI
1	Rear End	499	26.44%	0	27	11
2	Right Angle	303	16.06%	2	37	6
3	Side Swipe	251	13.30%	0	15	1
4	Run-Off-Road	132	7.00%	4	51	17
5	Left Turn	177	9.38%	0	13	1
6	Backing	54	2.86%	0	0	0
7	Animal	108	5.72%	0	10	0
8	Fixed Object	76	4.03%	0	18	7
9	Lost Control	73	3.87%	1	23	4
10	Right Turn	81	4.29%	1	4	4
11	Parked Vehicle	36	1.91%	0	5	0
12	Bike/Motorcycle	29	1.54%	1	3	0
13	Unusual Occurrence	21	1.11%	1	3	0
14	Pedestrian	21	1.11%	0	3	0
15	Head On	21	1.11%	0	1	4
16	Overturn On Road	4	0.21%	0	2	0
17	Railroad	1	0.05%	0	0	0
	Totals	1,887	100.00%	10	215	55

2019 Crash Distribution by Type



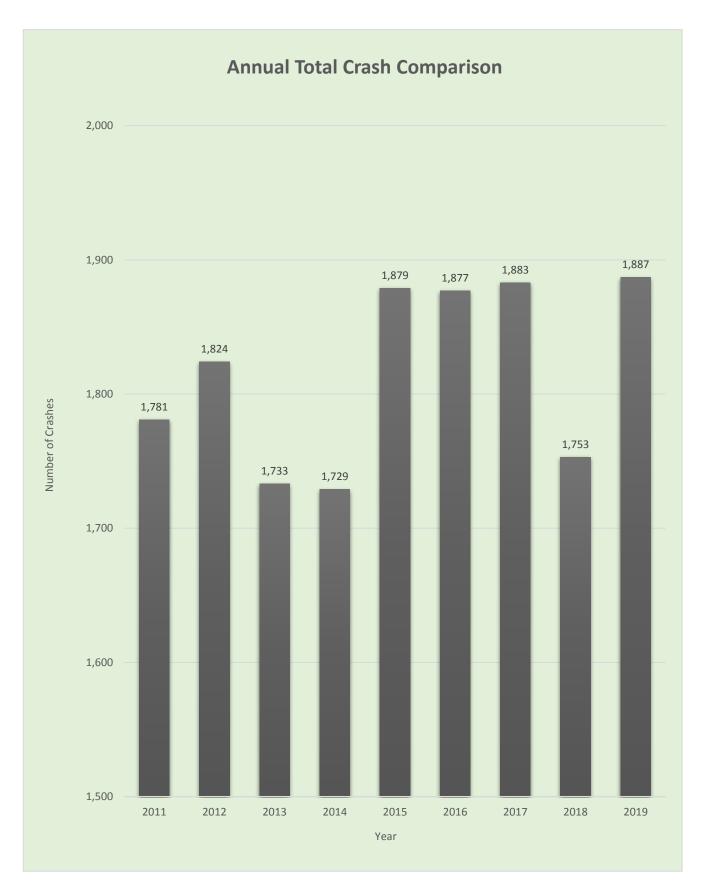


Figure 2

Annual Change of Crash Types in Rocky Mount 2018 - 2019

Type of Crash	Number of Crashes 2018	Number of Crashes 2019	Change (+/-)	% Change
Rear End	499	499	0	0.0%
Right Angle	289	303	14	4.0%
Side Swipe	127	251	124	97.0%
Left Turn	151	177	26	17.0%
Run-Off-Road	211	132	-79	-37.0%
Animal	50	108	58	54.0%
Backing	85	54	-31	-38.0%
Lost Control	65	73	8	12.0%
Fixed Object	75	76	1	1.0%
Right Turn	68	81	13	19.0%
Unusual Occurrence	33	21	-12	-36.0%
Bike/Motorcycle	30	29	-1	3.0%
Parked Vehicle	23	36	13	56.0%
Head On	13	21	8	61.0%
Pedestrian	24	21	-3	-13.0%
Overturn on Road	5	4	-1	-20.0%
Railroad	5	1	-4	-80.0%
Totals	1,753	1,887	134	7%

TRAFFIC CRASH RECORDING

When do traffic crashes occur in Rocky Mount? Is there a pattern of occurrence? From the Form 349, crashes are recorded as to when they happen.

Crashes occur when the causes reach a tipping point. There is no good time for a traffic crash, but factors like driver behavior, weather conditions, traffic congestion and vehicle performance affect the likelihood of a crash.

The map on page 9 indicates the top ten crash locations in the City of Rocky Mount. The top ten crash locations are represented by a color shaded circle, the lager circles have the greatest number of crashes.

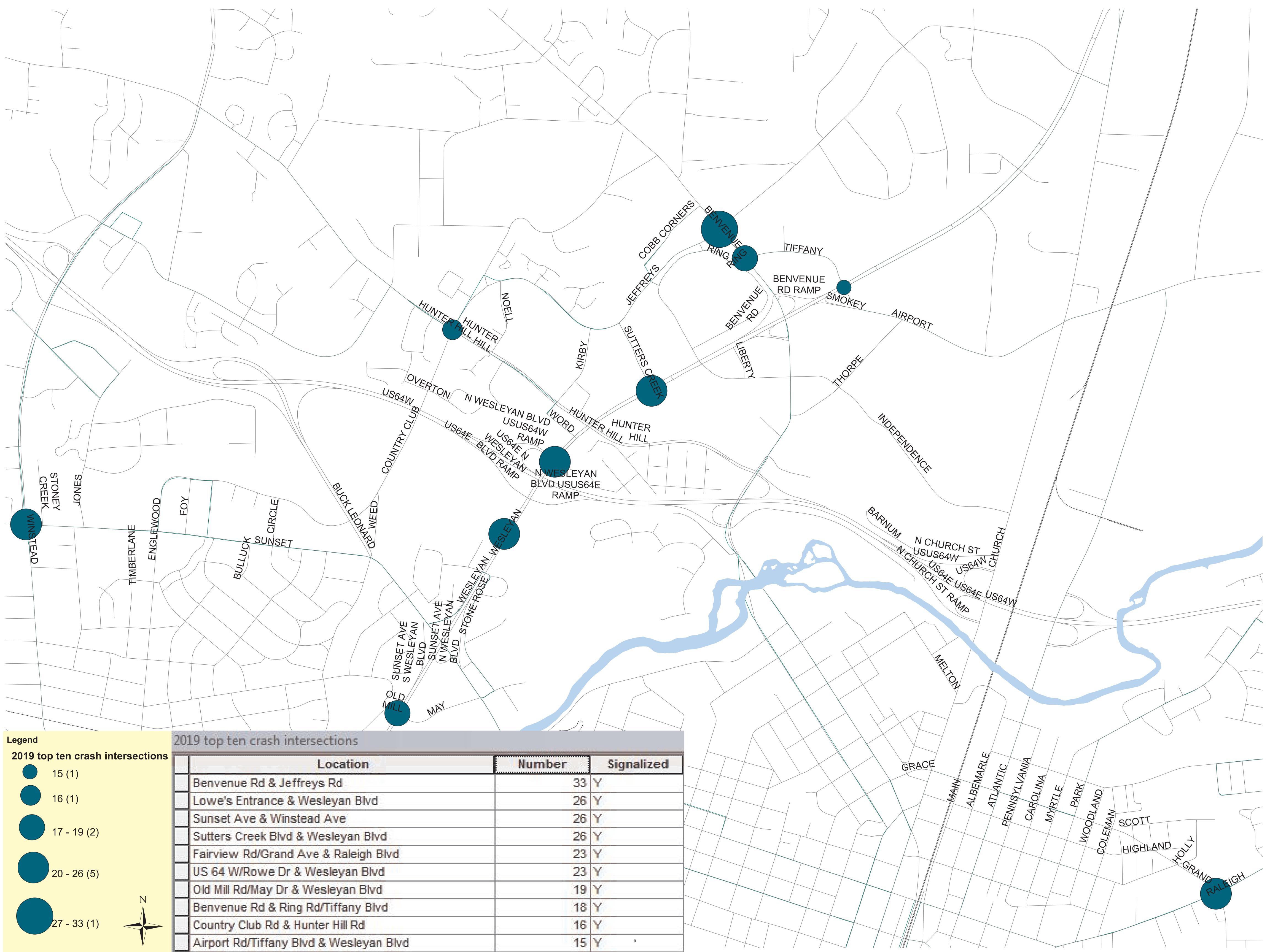
Figures 3, 4 and 5 represent the 2019 distribution of crashes by month, day and hour. Figures 6 and 7 represent the distribution of crashes for the recent three years.

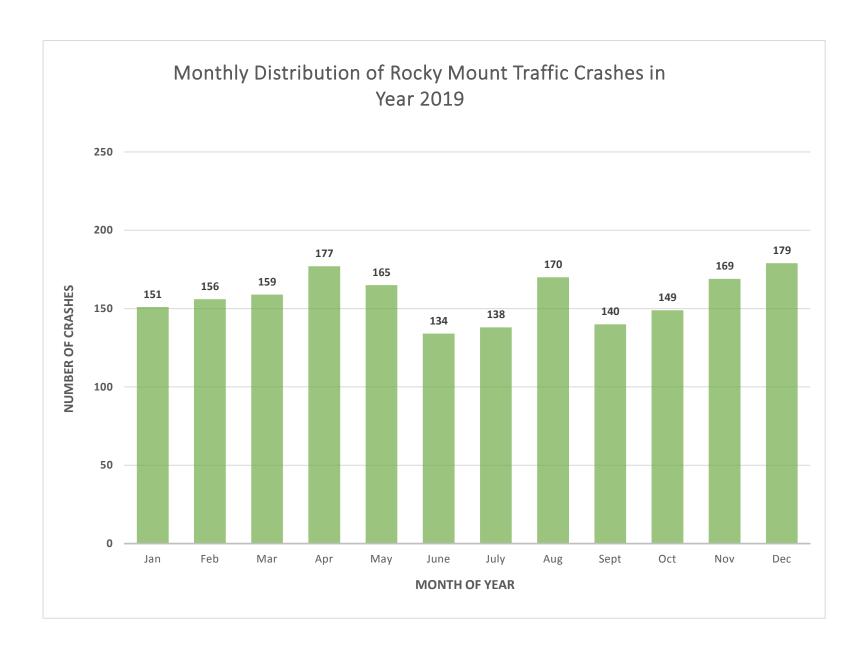
Research suggests traffic crashes occur more often in rush hour traffic, the summer season, on holiday weekends, and in snow/ice storms.

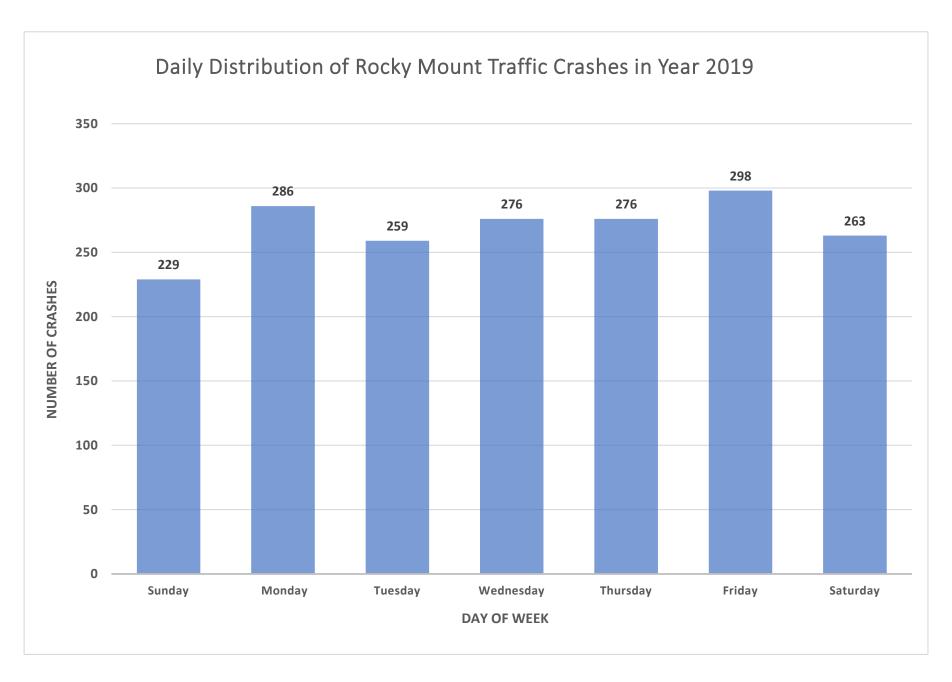
On average 5.2 crashes were recorded per day on Rocky Mount streets in 2019. There were only 2 days in 2019 that no crashes were recorded.

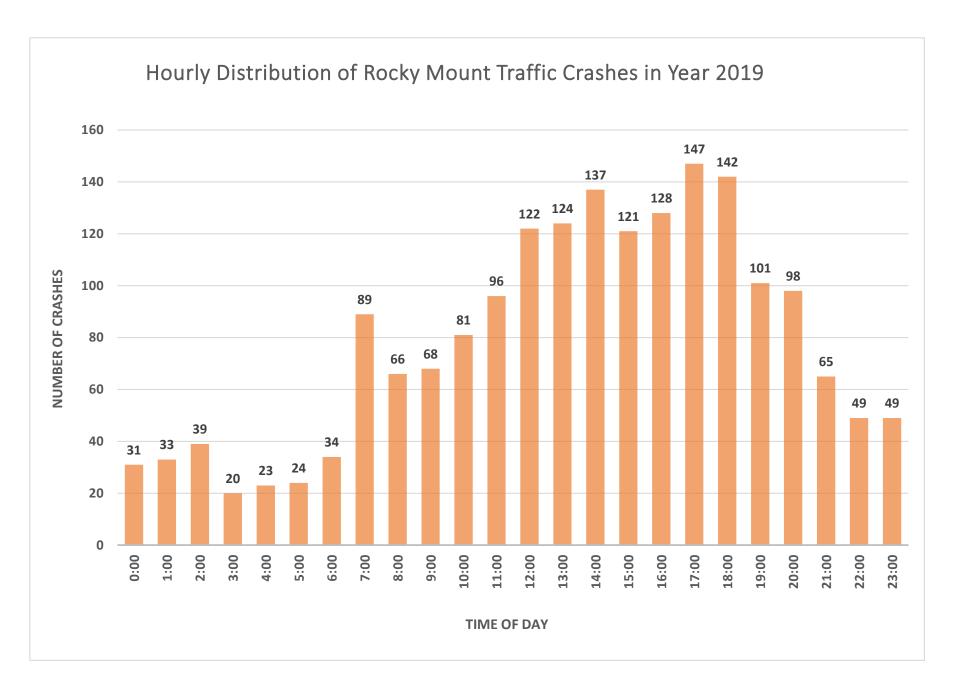


In 2019, there were 21 pedestrian crashes, resulting in zero fatalities.









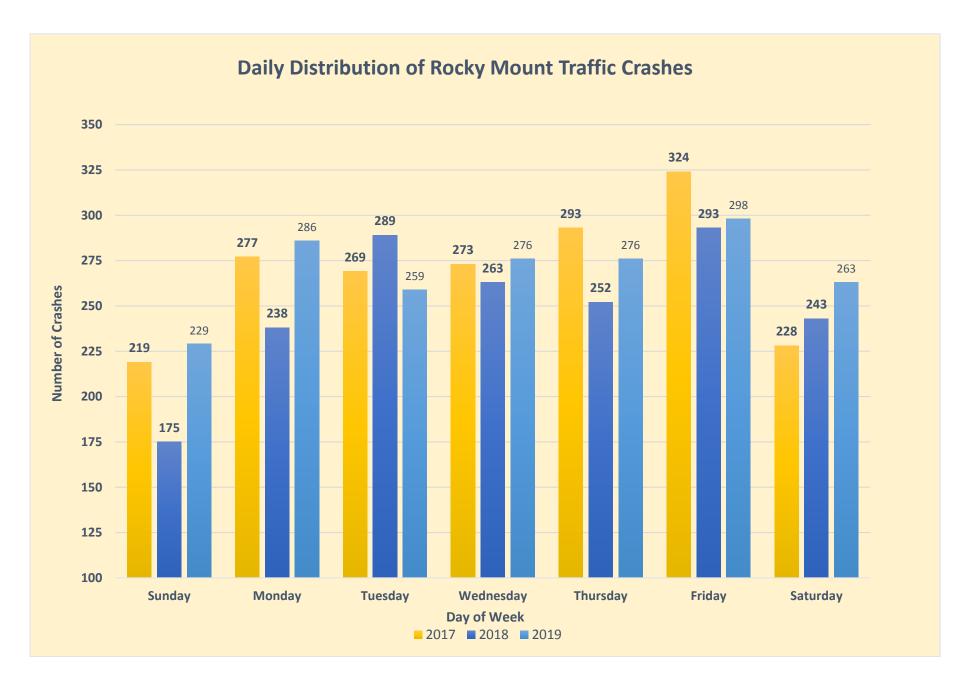


Figure 6

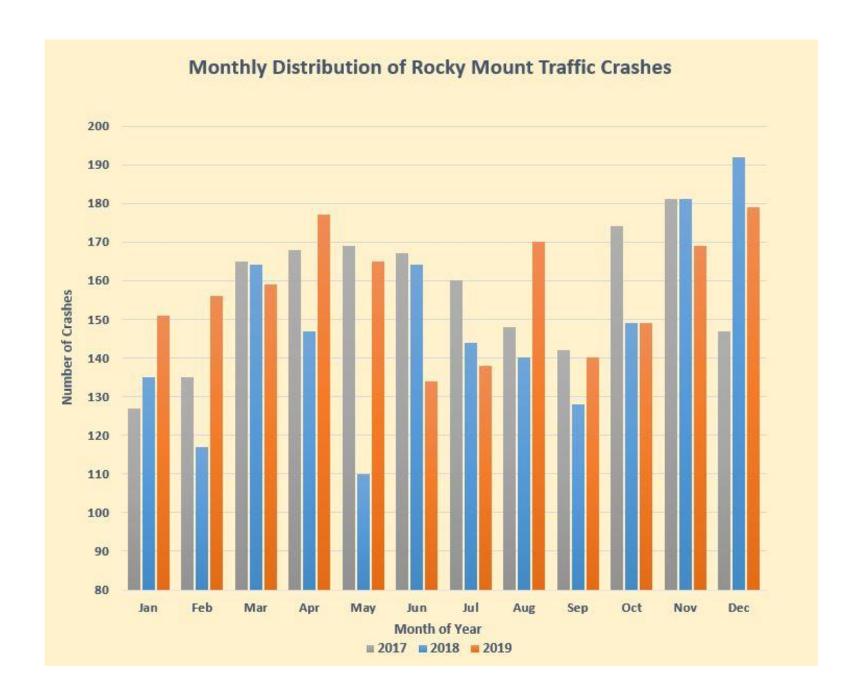


Figure 7

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

One traffic fatality is too many! Vision Zero is a USDOT program to combat traffic crashes, reduce serious injury, and eliminate traffic fatalities.

Risky driving behavior, like alcohol use, speeding, failure to wear seat belt and distracted driving contribute to traffic fatalities. Pedestrian violations too can be dangerous.

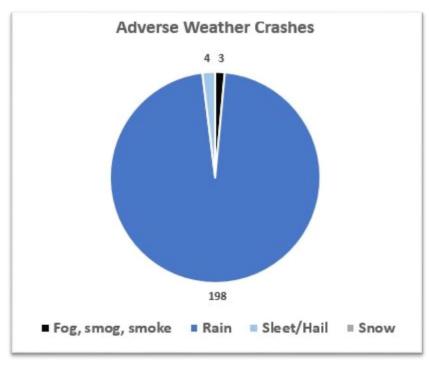
36,560 people died in motor vehicle crashes in the U.S. in 2018.

The Table on page 16 is a summary of 2019 traffic fatalities in Rocky Mount.

Figure 9 shows the continuing traffic fatality problem in Rocky Mount over a twenty-year period. Often the fatality number for the year will be low, and then within days the annual fatality count will climb. After watching the local trend for years, one can sense the coming tragedy. The Rocky Mount traffic fatality count in 2019 was ten.

See Figure 10 for a display of annual traffic fatality development.





10.8% of all traffic crashes in 2019 happened during adverse weather conditions, however no fatalities were recorded during this inclement weather.

Figure 8

Rocky Mount Traffic Fatality Report Year 2019

#	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u> of Day	<u>Type</u>	<u>DWI</u>	Speeding	Number of Vehicles	Number of Injuries	Number of Fatalities
1	Beechwood Dr & Old Mill Rd	01/17/19	21:50	ROR	No	Yes	1	1	1
2	Airport Rd/Tiffany Blvd & Wesleyan Blvd	03/28/19	12:29	RA	No	Yes	2	4	1
3	NC 97 & Tanner Rd	04/01/19	18:10	ROR	Yes	Yes	1	0	1
4	Grace St & Raleigh Blvd	04/08/19	23:36	RA	Yes	Yes	2	3	1
5	Cooley Rd & US 301/Wesleyan Blvd	04/20/19	15:29	ROR	No	No	2	1	2
6	Cloverdale Dr & Farmington Rd	05/24/19	17:32	UO	Yes	No	1	2	1
7	Arlington St & Vestal Rd	08/13/19	18:23	LC	No	No	1	2	1
8	Goldrock Rd & Roundtree Dr/Waterloo Dr	08/28/19	18:11	RT	Yes	Yes	3	3	1
9	Hunter Hill Rd & Strawbush Rd	11/25/19	11:37	BIKE	No	No	2	0	1
	Total Fatalities Year 2019				·				10

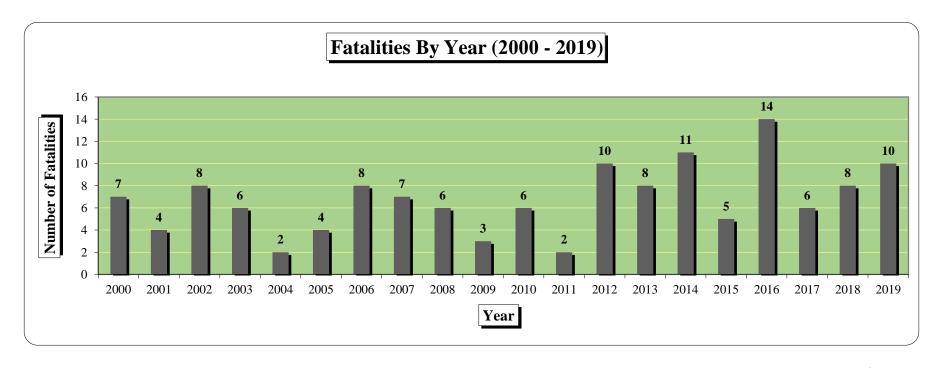
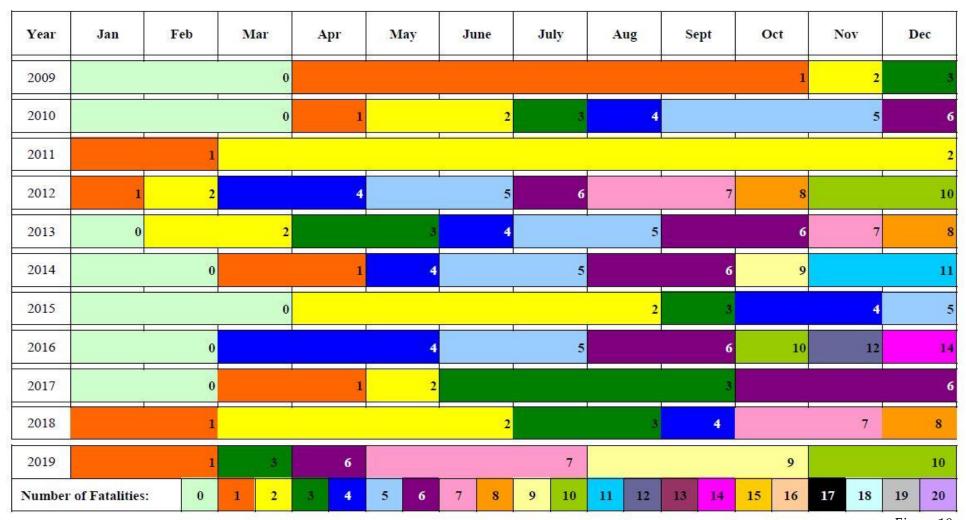


Figure 9

The Annual Tally of Rocky Mount Traffic Fatalities by Month



CITY of ROCKY MOUNT TRAFFIC CRASH STATISTICS

Key Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Crashes	1,879	1,877	1,883	1753	1887
Total Fatalities	5	14	6	8	10
Average Crashes Per Day	5.1	5.1	5.2	4.8	5.2
Most Frequent Crash Day	Friday	Friday	Friday	Friday	Friday
Least Frequent Crash Day	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
Most Frequent Crash Hour	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM
Least Frequent Crash Hour	3:00 AM	4:00 AM	4:00 AM	4:00 AM	3:00 AM
Most Frequent Crash Month	December	November	November	December	December
Least Frequent Crash Month	July	January August	January	May	June
Days Per Year Without a Crash	4	3	4	4	2
Most Frequent Crash Type	Rear End	Rear End	Rear End	Rear End	Rear End
State of NC Crash Ranking * (City of Rocky Mount)	10	8	12	9	Not Available

^{*} State of North Carolina Crash rankings are based on many factors. For 86 cities with populations of 10,000 or more, a ranking of "1" would indicate the worst case situation, and a ranking of "86" would indicate the best case situation.

The data presented in this document reflects public street crashes only and does not include crashes that occur on private property.

No. of U	nits Involved F	orm of		Suppleme	ental Repo	rt	Non-Reportable	Date Received by DMV
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mm	/dd/ccyy				(24 Hours	Clock)		
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0				Municipality		(D.D.C.	ossing # Mik	esft N S E W
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37 Alcohol/	38	Alcohol/	39 Result			ehicle		39 Results 40 Vehicle (if known) Seizure (DWI)
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Owner							Owner	
	erne as Driver?						Same as Driver?	
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City							City	
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APPENDIX

Traffic Safety Resources

NCDOT Traffic Safety Information and Resources https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Pages/default.aspx

USDOT Transportation Safety Institute https://www.transportation.gov/transportation-safety-institute

UNC Highway Safety Research Center http://www.hsrc.unc.edu/

Governor's Highway Safety Program https://www.ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/safety/ghsp/Pages/default.aspx

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety https://www.iihs.org/iihs

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety https://aaafoundation.org/