

TEXAS MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH DEATHS 2015-2019 FACT SHEETS



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

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Background

Motor vehicle crashes (MVC) are one of the top 10 causes of death among people ages one to 54 in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 100 people die in MVCs every day and over 32,000 die each year.¹ In 2016, the number of lives lost on roads in the United States was nearly 37,500.² The MVC fatality rate was 11.59 per 100,000 population for 2007-2016.

The most frequent category of MVC death in 2016 was motor vehicle occupants accounting for 36 percent of the total, followed by light-truck occupants (28 percent), nonoccupants (18 percent), motorcyclists (14 percent), and large-truck/bus/other vehicle occupants (4 percent).³ Thus, the burden of fatalities has been an issue with substantial increases in 2015 and 2016.^{4,5} However, deaths resulting from MVCs are preventable.

Motor vehicle deaths from 2015 to 2019 was gathered and categorized by demographical characteristics and counties in Texas. All data used for surveillance analysis were obtained from CDC WONDER.⁶

This report provides an overview of MVC-related death data statistical results and gives researchers the opportunity to select specific topics for further study. Furthermore, information in this report can be useful for identifying the causes of MVC-related deaths, setting priorities to reduce mortality, developing programming to reduce the cost due to MVC, and supporting a safer transportation infrastructure.

¹ Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2016). Retrieved from <https://cdc.gov/vitalsigns/motor-vehicle-safety/index.html>

² Fatal Traffic Crash Data, 2016, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (2017). Retrieved from <https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/usdot-releases-2016-fatal-traffic-crash-data>

³ Summary of Motor Vehicle Crashes, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (2018). Retrieved from <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812580>

⁴ Fatality Analysis Reporting System, 1994-2017, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Retrieved from <https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Main/index.aspx>

⁵ 2016 Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes: Overview. (2017). Retrieved from <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/api/public/viewpublication/812456>

⁶ Underlying Cause of Death 1999-2019 on CDC WONDER Online Database (2018). Retrieved from <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>

Data

Table 1. Motor Vehicle Crash (MVC) Age Adjusted Death Rates, 2015-2019

Death Rates per 100,000 People (95% confidence interval)

Texas	US
13.5(13.3-13.7)	11.7(11.6-11.7)

Analysis: The MVC death rate in Texas was significantly higher than in Unites States (US) rate from 2015 to 2019.

Table 2. MVC Age-Adjusted Death Rates by Health and Human Services (HHS) Region, 2015 – 2019

Death Rates per 100,000 People (95% confidence interval)

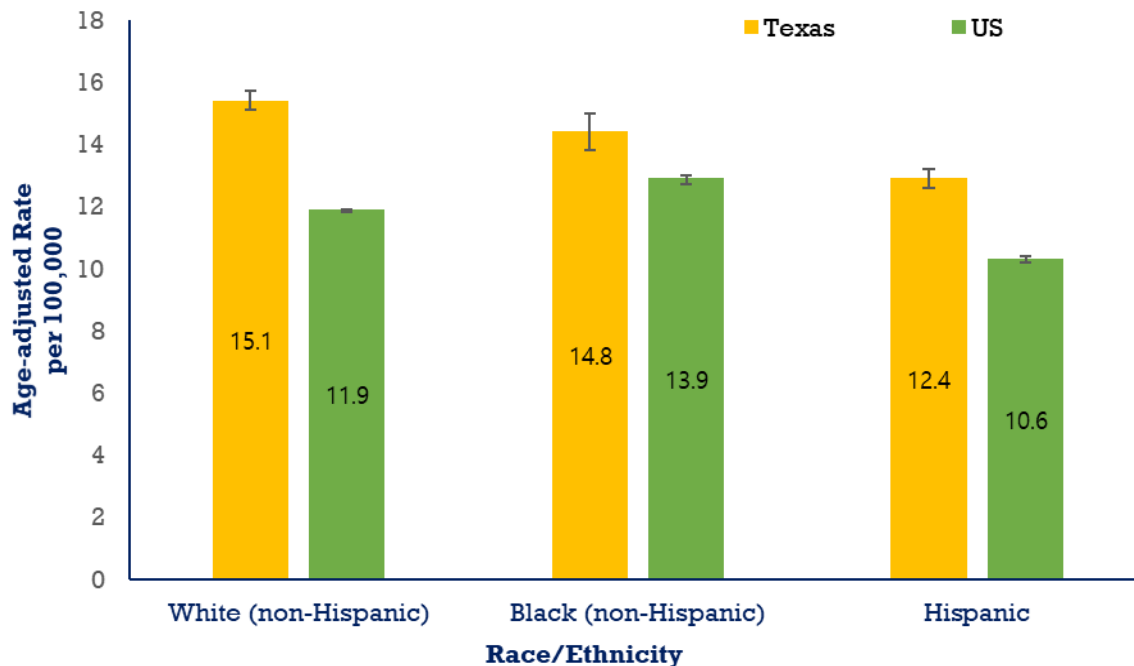
Region	Rates
HHS Region #1 CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	7.1 (6.9 - 7.3)
HHS Region #2 NJ, NY	5.7 (5.6 - 5.8)
HHS Region #3 DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	9.7 (9.6 - 9.9)
HHS Region #4 AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	16.2 (16.1 - 16.3)
HHS Region #5 IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	9.9 (9.8 - 10.1)
HHS Region #6 AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	14.9 (14.7 - 15.1)
HHS Region #7 IA, KS, MO, NE	13.9 (13.6 - 14.1)
HHS Region #8 CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	12.1 (11.8 - 12.3)
HHS Region #9 AZ, CA, HI, NV	10.4 (10.2 - 10.5)
HHS Region #10 AK, ID, OR, WA	10.3 (10.1 - 10.6)

Analysis: Southern US states, including HHS region #4 and #6, had significantly higher MVC death rates than the rest of the US from 2015 to 2019.

Table 3. MVC Age Adjusted Death Rates by Race and Ethnicity, 2015-2019
Death Rates per 100,000 People (95% confidence interval)

	Texas	US
Race and Ethnicity		
Hispanic	12.4 (12.1-12.7)	10.6 (10.4-10.7)
White (non-Hispanic)	15.1 (14.8-15.4)	11.9 (11.8-12.0)
Black (non-Hispanic)	14.8 (14.2-15.3)	13.9 (13.7-14.0)

Figure 1: MVC Age Adjusted Death Rates by Race and Ethnicity, 2015-2019



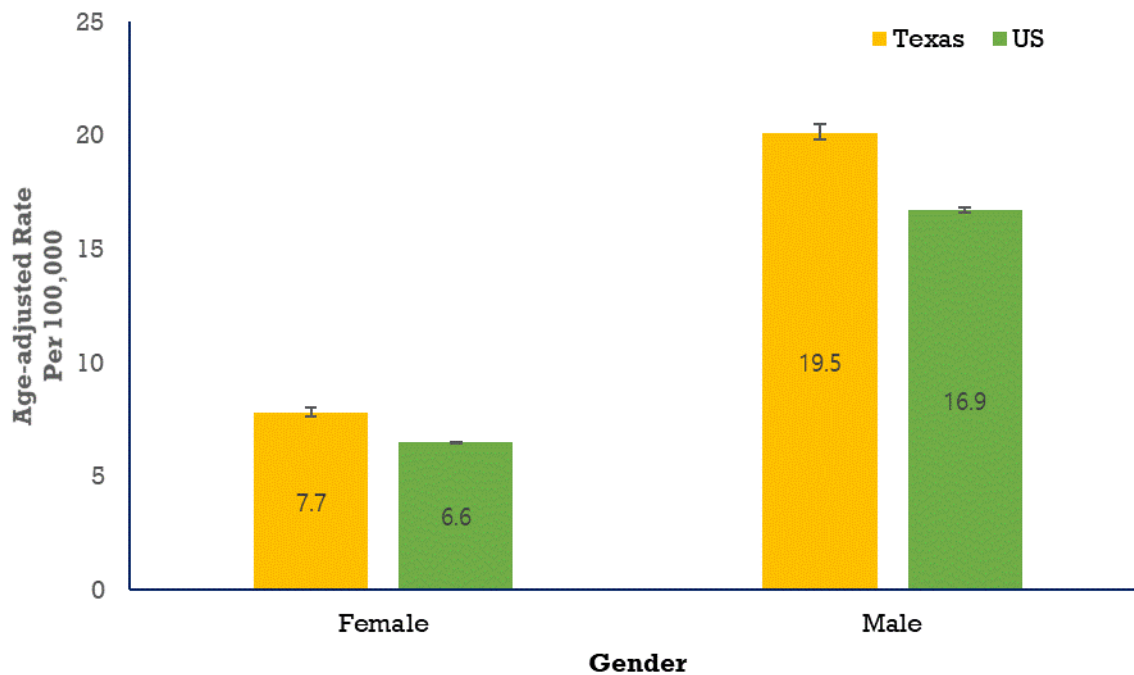
Analysis: MVC Deaths were the most common among non-Hispanic White in Texas, although it was the most common among non-Hispanic Black in the US.

Texas MVC death rates in all racial or ethnic groups was higher than US rates during 2015-2019.

Table 4: MVC Age Adjusted Death Rates by Gender, 2015-2019
 Death Rates per 100,000 People (95 percent confidence interval)

	Texas	US
Gender		
Female	7.7 (7.5-7.9)	6.6 (6.5-6.7)
Male	19.5 (19.2 – 19.8)	16.9 (16.8-17.0)

Figure 2: MVC Age Adjusted Death Rates by Gender 2015-2019



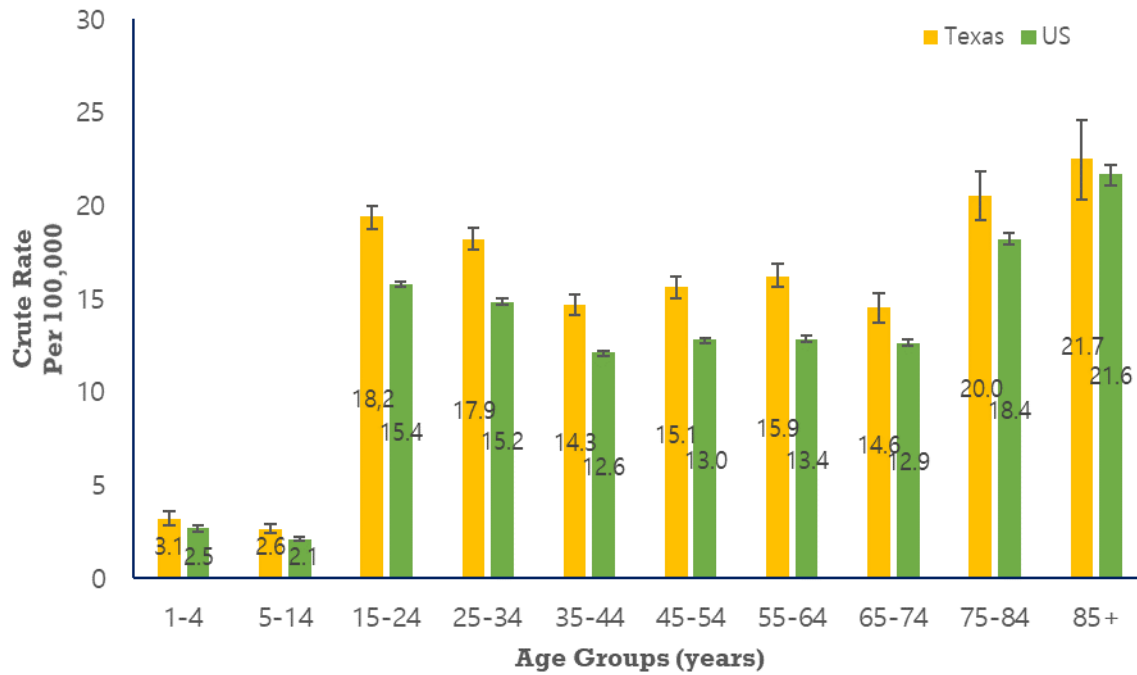
Analysis: Males were 3 times more likely to die from MVCs than females.

Table 5: MVC Death Rates by Age Group, 2015-2019

Death Rates per 100,000 People (95 percent confidence interval)

	Texas	US
Age Groups		
1-4 years	3.3 (2.9-3.7)	2.5 (2.4-2.6)
5-14 years	2.6 (2.4-2.8)	2.1 (2.0-2.1)
15-24 years	18.2 (17.6-18.8)	15.4 (15.3-15.6)
25-34 years	17.9 (17.4-18.5)	15.2 (15.1-15.4)
35-44 years	14.3 (13.8-14.9)	12.6 (12.4-12.7)
45-54 years	15.1 (14.6-15.7)	13.0 (12.8-13.1)
55-64 years	15.9 (15.2-16.5)	13.4 (13.2-13.5)
65-74 years	14.6 (13.8-15.3)	12.9 (12.8-13.1)
75-84 years	20.0 (18.8-21.3)	18.4 (18.1-18.7)
85+ years	21.7 (19.7-23.8)	21.6 (21.1-22.1)

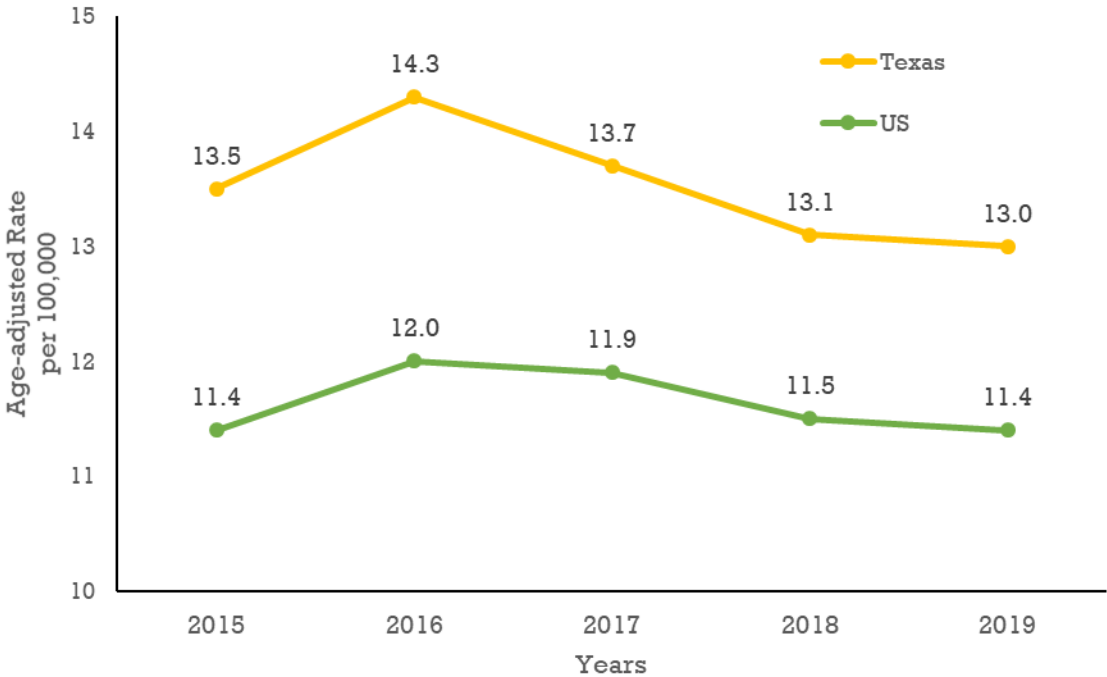
Figure 3: MVC Death Rates by Age Group, 2015-2019



Analysis: Deaths rates of MVC in all age groups was higher in Texas than in the US; significantly higher among younger adults from ages 15 to 64 years old.

The highest risk age group was adults aged 85 years and older.

Figure 4. Age-adjusted Rates of MVCs, 2015 – 2019



Analysis: Texas MVC death rates were consistently higher than ones in the US from 2015 to 2019.

General Information

General Information

The Office of Injury Prevention (OIP) was formed in 2017 as a component of Texas Health and Human Services' transformation. Although the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) had various injury prevention and surveillance programs across divisions, there was not a concentrated area for this programming. DSHS houses the OIP within the Maternal and Child Health Unit (MCHU). Creating a centralized injury prevention program allows DSHS to dedicate staff to the topic, apply directly for injury prevention programming and surveillance grants, and act as a hub for injury data, subject matter expertise, and guidance support.



Our Mission

The Office of Injury Prevention's mission is to leverage data to Texans' health by reducing injuries.

Our vision is to use data, epidemiological principles, and public health best practices to inform injury prevention activities and programs.

Contact Information

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