

Car vs. Deer

Here are some statistics about car-deer accidents in Michigan: 2022: In 2022, there were 58,984 car-deer crashes in Michigan, which was a 13% increase from 2021. This was the highest number of crashes in a decade.

Injuries and deaths: In 2022, 1,633 people were injured and 11 people were killed in car-deer crashes. Five of the deaths were people in vehicles, and six were people riding motorcycles.

When crashes occur: Deer are most active from April through June and from October through December. In 2021, deer crashes were most common from 5 to 8 a.m. and from 6 to 10 p.m.

Where crashes occur: About 80% of car-deer crashes in 2022 were on two-lane roads.

Number of crashes over time: Since 2011, Michigan has recorded at least 50,000 vehicle-deer crashes each year. The number of crashes has stayed fairly consistent over the last 10 years, with some slight fluctuations.

Communities with the most crashes: In 2022, Midland had the most deer-involved collisions, with 190 crashes.

Firearm deer hunting season: Firearm deer hunting season in Michigan runs from November 15-30.

In 2023, Michigan had 58,806 vehicle-deer crashes, resulting in 19 deaths and 1,725 injuries:

Number of crashes: Michigan's 2023 total was a slight decrease from 2022's 58,984 crashes.

Number of deaths: 19 people were killed, including 11 motorcyclists.

Number of injuries: 1,725 people were injured.

Vehicle types involved: 79.2% of vehicles involved were passenger cars, SUVs, or vans, while 18.6% were pickup trucks.

Counties with the most crashes: Kent County had the most crashes with 2,171.

Upper Peninsula: 3,290 crashes occurred in the Upper Peninsula, with 102 injuries and 1 death. Delta County had the most crashes in the Upper Peninsula with 500.

Time of day: 24.7% of crashes occurred between 6-8:59 PM. Michigan is the fourth most likely state to have a deer-involved crash, with odds of 1 in 60. The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is seeking grants to help identify high-risk wildlife crossings



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