

Frequently Asked Questions About Crash Data

What information about crash data is available?

The crash data includes:

- Crash location
- Date and time
- Severity of the crash
- Weather, light and other environmental conditions
- Restraint usage, sobriety and other behavioral factors

Are there any restrictions on the use of this crash data?

Under 23 U.S. Code § 148 and 23 U.S. Code § 409, safety data, reports, surveys, schedules, lists compiled or collected for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, or planning the safety enhancement of potential crash sites, hazardous roadway conditions, or railway-highway crossings are not subject to discovery or admitted into evidence in a Federal or State court proceeding or considered for other purposes in any action for damages arising from any occurrence at a location mentioned or addressed in such reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or data.

Do you have crash records for all roads?

Yes. WSDOT maintains records for crashes on all public roadways in the state. This includes Interstate highways, US highways, State highways, county roads and city streets.

Who can request crash data?

There are no restrictions on who can request the data.

How far back in time do your records cover?

Crash data has a 15 year plus available current year retention schedule.

What is the source data for crash information?

Crash data records contain data from the Police Traffic Collision Reports (PTCRs), data derived from PTCR data (e.g., officer's narrative and diagram), and data identified and included to support safety analysis and engineering.

What information do you need from me to fill a request?

Please provide as much information as possible describing the location for which you want the crash data. This could be a specific intersection or stretch of roadway, or a larger area, such as all crashes within a city or county. In addition, if there are any special factors you wish to use to limit the search, such as only crashes involving alcohol, these factors need to be included in your request. Finally, please provide your complete address and phone number so that we may contact you if we need additional clarification to fulfill your request.