



# Drivers and Passengers in Motor Vehicle Crashes

## 2024 Annual Report of Non-Fatal Drivers and Passengers in Motor Vehicle Crashes in Washington State Emergency Departments

### Summary

In 2024 there were 52,562 Emergency Department (ED) visits for drivers and passengers in a motor vehicle crash in Washington. This represents a 1.1% decrease from 2023, which saw 53,139 ED visits. Visits were identified by searching ED visit information for indications that the patient was an occupant of a passenger vehicle (car, SUV, pick-up truck, or van) on a public roadway.

Figure 1. Monthly count of non-fatal ED visits for drivers and passengers involved in a motor vehicle crash in Washington, 2024 compared to 2023.

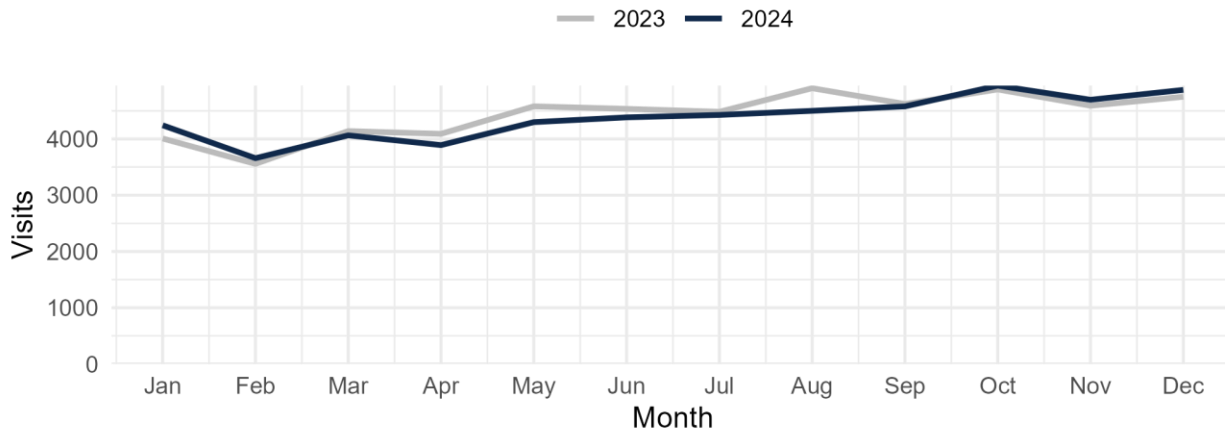


Figure 2. Monthly count of non-fatal ED visits for drivers and passengers involved in a motor vehicle crash in Washington, by age groups, 2024.

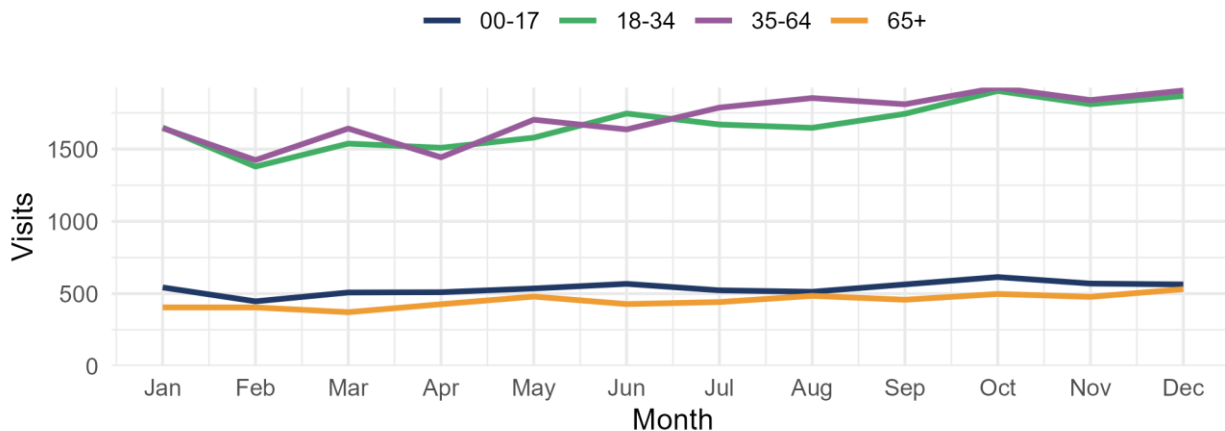


Table 1. Severity<sup>1</sup> of non-fatal drivers and passengers involved in a motor vehicle crash, stratified by demographic grouping, 2024.

	Visits	Severity <sup>1</sup>	
		Percent ED Only	Percent Admitted
<b>Age Group</b>			
00-17	6,461	97%	3%
18-34	20,040	96.1%	3.9%
35-64	20,612	95%	5%
65+	5,409	87.1%	12.9%
<b>Sex</b>			
Female	27,149	95.9%	4.1%
Male	25,364	93.7%	6.3%
<b>Race</b>			
American Indian or Alaska Native	1,023	92.9%	7.1%
Asian	2,767	95.5%	4.5%
Black or African American	6,086	97.2%	2.8%
Multiracial	377	95.5%	4.5%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	677	94.2%	5.8%
Other Race	9,564	96.1%	3.9%
White	29,406	93.8%	6.2%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
Hispanic or Latino	10,529	96.2%	3.8%
Not Hispanic or Latino	39,786	94.4%	5.6%

<sup>1</sup>Severity is determined by whether the patient was discharged from the emergency department (ED Only) or hospitalized (Admitted).

### Key Takeaways

- The 65+ age group had the highest proportion of visits resulting in admission (12.9%), suggesting they were more likely to have severe injuries than the younger age groups.
- The proportion of visits by males that resulted in admission was 53.7% greater than that of visits resulting in admission by females (6.3% vs. 4.1%).
- American Indian or Alaskan Native patients had the highest percentage of visits resulting in admission among all race categories.
- Patients of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity accounted for 20.9% of non-fatal motor vehicle crash injury visits.

### Data Notes

The Washington State Department of Health’s Rapid Health Information NetWOrk (RHINO) program collects near real-time health encounter data from participating hospitals and clinics throughout Washington. Washington state law requires emergency departments (EDs) to report each health care visit to the RHINO program in a timely fashion, usually within 24 hours. As of May 2020, 100% of non-federal EDs are reporting data to RHINO. Data include categorical data such as gender, race, ethnicity, age, coded diagnoses, and free-text information such as chief complaint narratives. Data from RHINO does not contain information about the location of traffic-related incidents. For additional information please reach out to [RHINO@doh.wa.gov](mailto:RHINO@doh.wa.gov).

The RHINO program is supported by the Washington Traffic Safety Commission to provide information to the public on traffic-related emergency department visits in the state of Washington.