Crash Rates

Crash Rate is one of six safety and operations factors ODOT may consider when evaluating a highway approach application.

What are Crash Rates?

A Local Crash Rate is a calculation of the crash frequency for a specific highway segment. Local crash rates for a specific highway segment can also be calculated using the ODOT Crash Summary Database tool or calculated manually.

A Statewide Average Crash Rate is a calculation of the average crash frequency for similar highway segments. Crash rates are calculated based on the number of crashes per million vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in a given year.

Why is ODOT Concerned About Crash Rates?

When ODOT reviews an approach permit application, the local crash rate is compared to the statewide average crash rate. This is done to determine whether a proposed approach is on a highway segment with a local crash rate that is 20 percent higher than the statewide average crash rate for similar highways.

• A local crash rate that is significantly higher than the statewide average for similar highway segments may indicate there is a safety and operations concern in the vicinity.

• ODOT considers the number of crashes, type of crashes, direction of travel, location of crashes and other factors that may contribute to crashes when determining whether the local crash rate is a concern as it relates to the proposed approach.

• If ODOT determines that the type of crashes or crash frequency near a proposed approach is a safety and operations concern, the applicant may be required to mitigate the concern. If the concern cannot be mitigated, ODOT may deny the approach permit application.

Contact Access Management Unit
Phone: 503-986-4372
Email the Access Management Unit

ODOT is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer committed to a diverse workforce. We will provide accommodations for persons with disabilities. We will provide alternative formats upon request.