

# Utah Fatal Crash Summary 2014



**State of Utah  
Department of Public Safety  
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**Preliminary Totals as of 1/29/2015**

## Summary

Utah saw an increase in motor vehicle traffic crash deaths in 2014 to the highest number in six years with 256 people killed, an increase of 36 deaths from 2013.

Some areas of concern in Utah during 2014:

- Traffic deaths increased from 220 in 2013 to 256 in 2014;
- Speeding was a leading contributing factor in deaths accounting for 34% of deaths. This was the third straight year of increasing speed deaths with 13 more deaths than in 2013. The speed category includes crashes where the driver exceeded the speed limit or traveled too fast for conditions;
- Unrestrained occupants accounted for 28% of deaths. There were 12 more unrestrained occupant deaths than in 2013;
- Motorcyclists had 14 more deaths than in 2013. The 45 motorcyclist deaths were the highest on record beating the previous high of 44 deaths in 1980;
- Drunk drivers were responsible for 42 deaths, an increase of 19 deaths from 2013;
- Pedestrians had an increase of 7 deaths compared to 2013 for the highest total since 1999.

Utah made progress in decreasing fatalities in only a couple areas in 2014 when compared to 2013. The only categories that saw significant decreases in deaths were:

- 8 fewer drowsy driving deaths;
- 5 fewer deaths involving older drivers (age 65+).

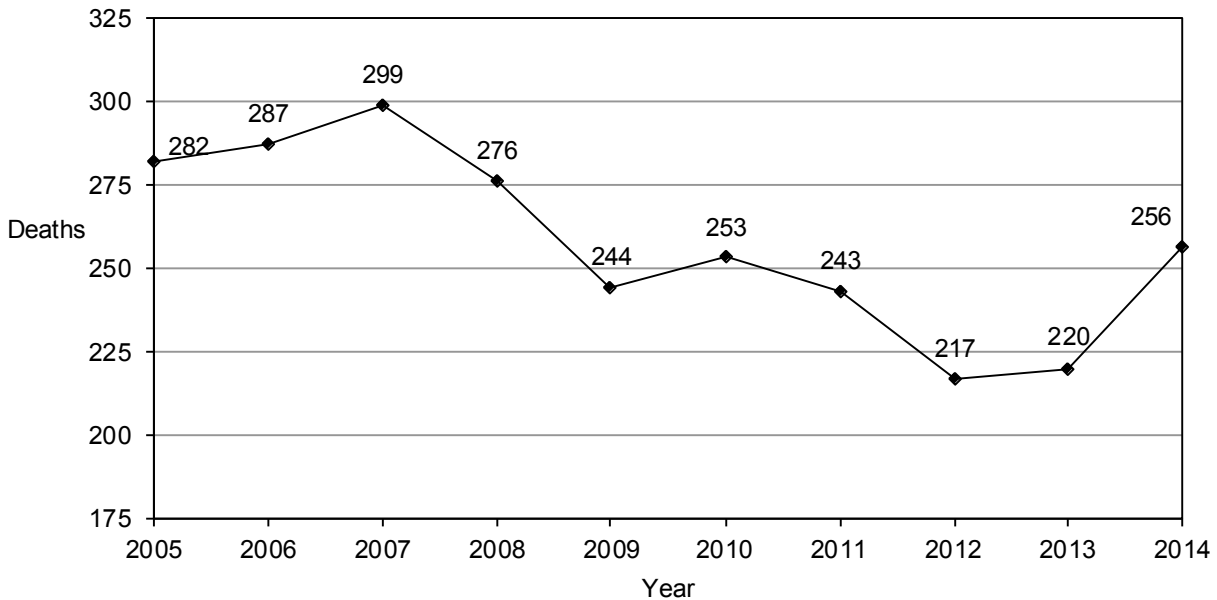
All totals are based on preliminary data and may change slightly.

## 2014 Utah Fatal Crash Synopsis

Category	#	% of Total*
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>256</b>	
Exceeded speed limit or speed too fast for conditions	88	34%
Unrestrained Occupants	72	28%
Older (Age 65+) Driver Crash	49	19%
Motorcyclists	45	18%
Alcohol-Impaired Driver Crash	42	16%
Pedestrians	37	14%
Teenage Driver Crash	33	13%
Failed to Yield Crash	30	12%
Inclement Weather Crash	25	10%
Distracted Driving Crash	22	9%
Heavy Truck Crash	20	8%
Red Light/Stop Sign Running Crash	18	7%
Children (Ages 0-14 Years)	14	5%
Bicyclists	9	4%
Followed Too Closely Crash	9	4%
Improper Passing Crash	8	3%
Drowsy Driving Crash	6	2%
Animal-Related Crash	2	1%
<b>Fatal Crashes</b>	<b>222</b>	
Urban	132	59%
Rural	90	41%
Exceeded speed limit or speed too fast for conditions	73	33%
Motorcycle	45	20%
Older (Age 65+) Driver	45	20%
Pedestrian-Motor Vehicle	36	16%
Alcohol-Impaired Driver	34	15%
Teenage Driver	30	13%
Failed to Yield	27	12%
Inclement Weather	22	10%
Heavy Truck	19	9%
Distracted Driving	17	8%
Red Light/Stop Sign Running	16	7%
Followed Too Closely	9	4%
Bicycle-Motor Vehicle	8	4%
Drowsy Driving	6	3%
Improper Passing	3	1%
Animal-Related	2	1%

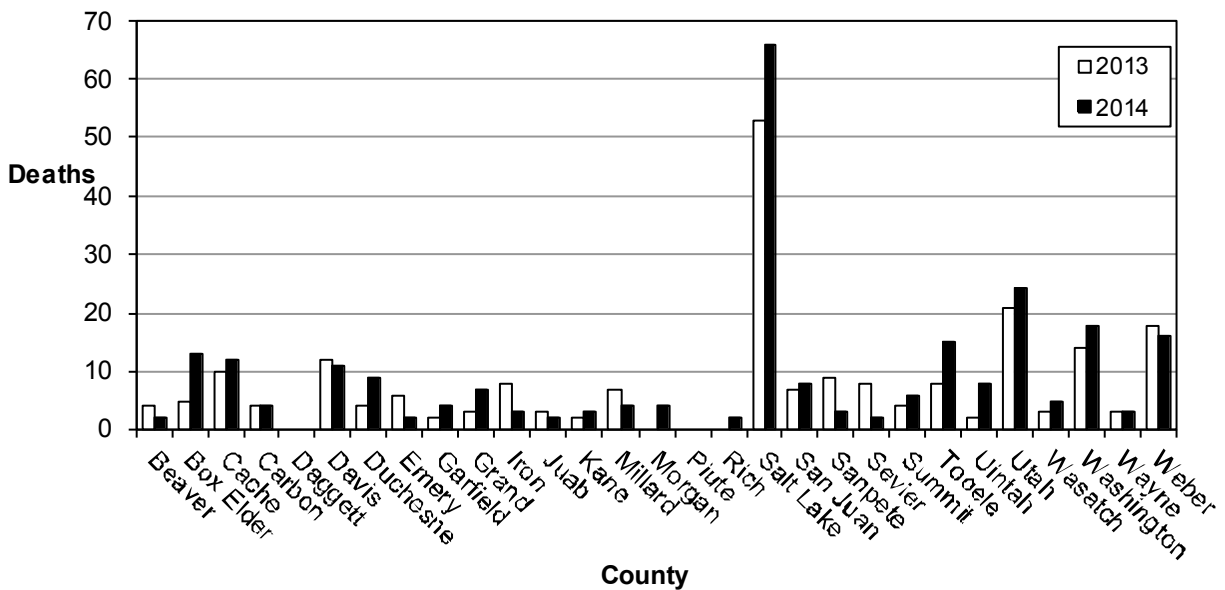
\* NOTE: Groups overlap and do not total 100%.

## Deaths by Year (Utah 2005-2014)



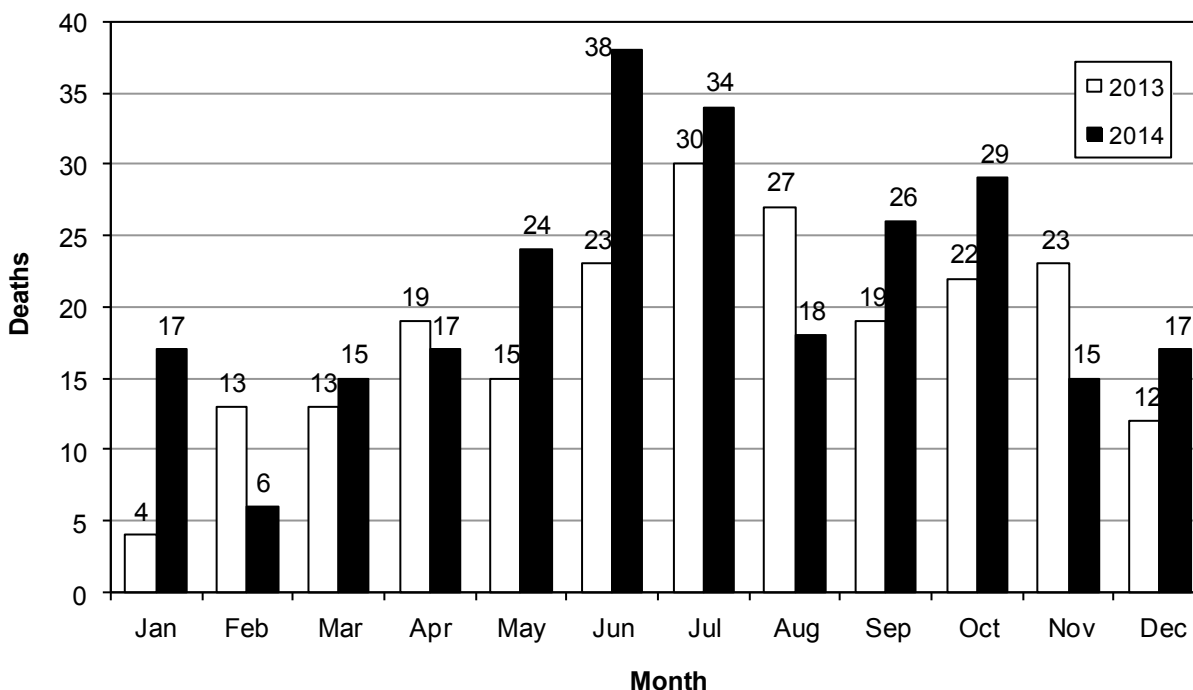
- Deaths increased in 2014 to the highest total in six years.
- After seeing record lows in 2012 and 2013, deaths increased 16% from 2013.

## Deaths by County (Utah 2013-2014)



- Salt Lake (66) and Utah (24) Counties had the highest number of deaths.
- Daggett and Piute Counties had zero deaths.
- Compared to 2013, Sanpete (6 fewer) and Sevier (6 fewer) Counties had the biggest decreases in deaths while Salt Lake (13 more), Box Elder (8 more), and Tooele Counties (7 more) had the biggest increases in deaths.

## Deaths by Month (Utah 2013-2014)



- June (38), July (34), and October (29) had the highest number of deaths.
- February (6), March (15), and November (15) had the lowest number of deaths.
- Compared to 2013, August had the biggest decrease in deaths with 9 fewer while June had the biggest increase in deaths with 15 more.

## Deaths by Month (Utah 1972-2014)

### Lowest Totals for February

1. February 1974 - 3
- 2. February 2014 - 6**
3. February 1988 - 8
4. February 1996 - 8

### Lowest Totals for August

1. August 1974 - 16
- 2. August 2014 - 18**
3. August 1987 - 20
4. August 1976 - 21

### Lowest Totals for November

1. November 2009 - 13
- 2. November 2014 - 15**
3. 1976, 1982, 1988, 1992, 2003, 2011 - 17

### Lowest Overall Months

1. February 1974 - 3
2. January 2013 - 4
- 3. February 2014 - 6**
4. January 1974 - 6
5. January 2012 - 7

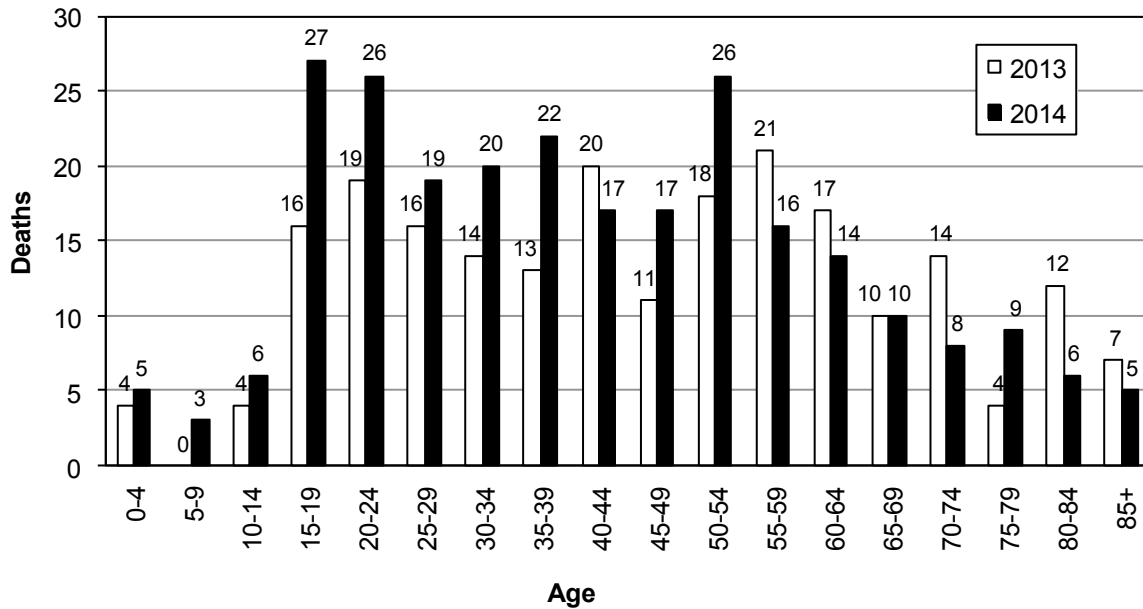
### Highest Totals for June

1. June 1978 - 41
2. June 2003 - 39
3. June 1986 - 39
- 4. June 2014 - 38**
5. June 2000 - 38
6. June 1989 - 38

### Highest Overall Months

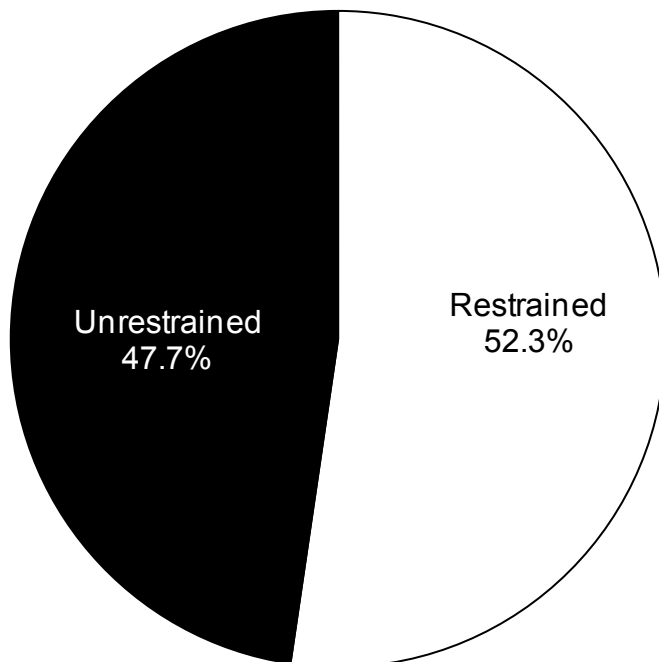
1. July 1978 - 58
2. August 1995 - 50
3. July 2000 - 50
4. July 1973 - 49
5. July 1988 - 49

## Deaths by Age (Utah 2013-2014)



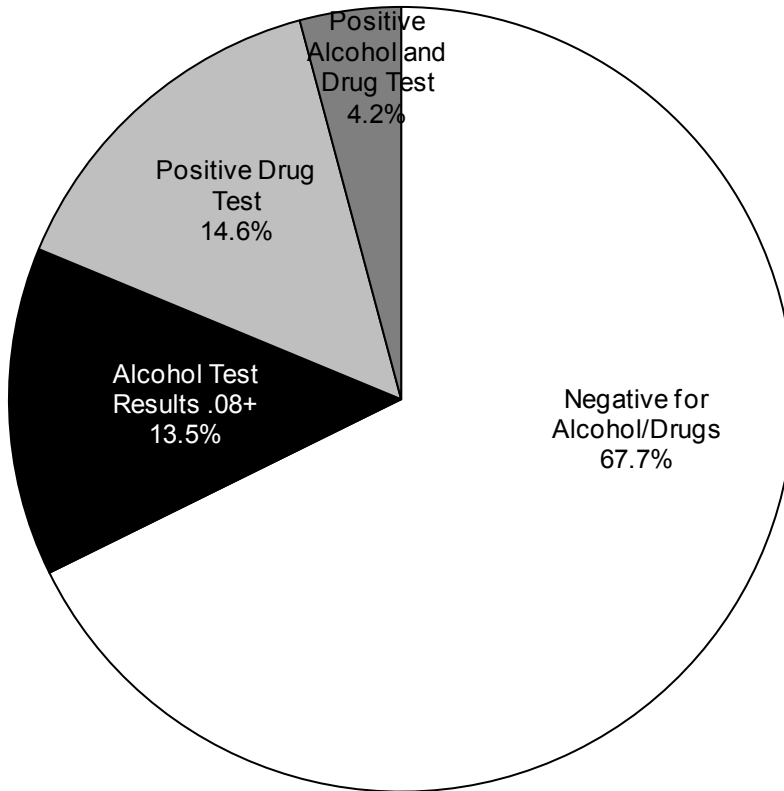
- 45% of persons killed in 2014 were aged 15-39 years.
- The average age of a person killed in 2014 was 41 years. In 2013 it was 47.
- Compared to 2013, the 70-74 and 80-84 age groups had the biggest decreases in deaths with 6 fewer while the 15-19 (11 more), 35-39 (9 more), 50-54 (8 more), and 20-24 (7 more) age groups had the biggest increases in deaths.

## Restraint Use of Occupants Killed (Utah 2014)



- There were 72 deaths to unrestrained occupants.

## Alcohol and Drug Test Results of Drivers in Fatal Crashes (Utah 2014)



- In the 222 fatal crashes there were 356 drivers, of which 54% were tested for alcohol and/or drugs with results available.
- Of the 192 drivers in fatal crashes tested for alcohol and/or drugs, 68% were negative for alcohol/drugs, 15% were positive for drugs only, 14% were positive for alcohol only, and 4% were positive for both alcohol and drugs.
- 21 drivers tested positive for marijuana in 2014 compared to 10 in 2013.

## Previous Driving Violations in Past Three Years of Drivers in Fatal Crashes (Utah 2014)

**At-Fault Drivers**



**Not-At-Fault Drivers**



- 39% of the drivers in fatal crashes had been previously convicted of a moving traffic violation in the past 3 years. The highest number of previous violations was 12.
- At-fault drivers in fatal crashes were 56% more likely to have a previous violation.