

2016
South Dakota
**Motor Vehicle
Traffic Crash
Summary**



Prepared By
Department of Public Safety
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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DENNIS DAUGAARD, GOVERNOR

My Fellow South Dakotans,

The annual South Dakota Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Summary is compiled to identify traffic safety issues and to implement effective counter-measures. This publication is a sobering reminder that not a day goes by without a traffic crash occurring in South Dakota.

A majority of our roadway fatalities occur on rural highways and county roads. During 2016, motor vehicle crashes claimed the lives of 116 individuals. Fifty-five of those deaths were alcohol-related. And sadly, 70 percent of motor vehicle occupants killed on South Dakota roadways were not wearing a seatbelt.

With the growing number of new drivers and vehicles on the roadway, it is important we stay alert and drive safely. Slow down, buckle up, and watch out for the other individual. If you choose to consume alcohol, designate a sober driver and encourage others to do the same. Let's make South Dakota a safer place for its citizens and for the many visitors who travel our roadways each year.

Life is about making the right choices. Thank you in advance for the conscientious safety choices you make each day that make a great tomorrow possible.

Sincerely,

Dennis Daugaard

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