

# MOTOR VEHICLE INJURY IN CONNECTICUT: A FACT SHEET – 2021 UPDATE

INJURY AND VIOLENCE SURVEILLANCE UNIT • March 2023

## What We Know About Motor Vehicle Injury In Connecticut:

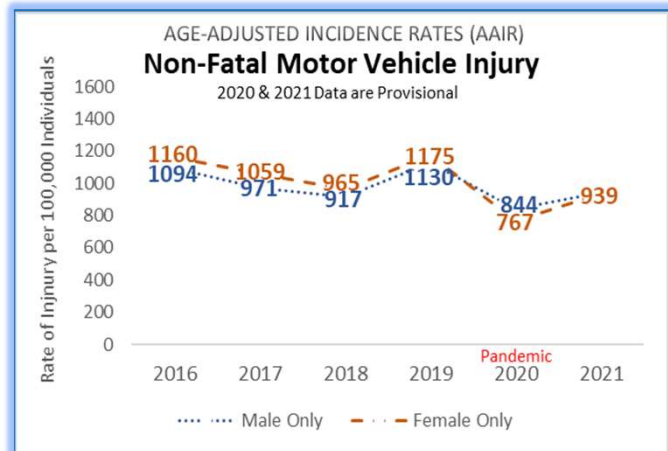
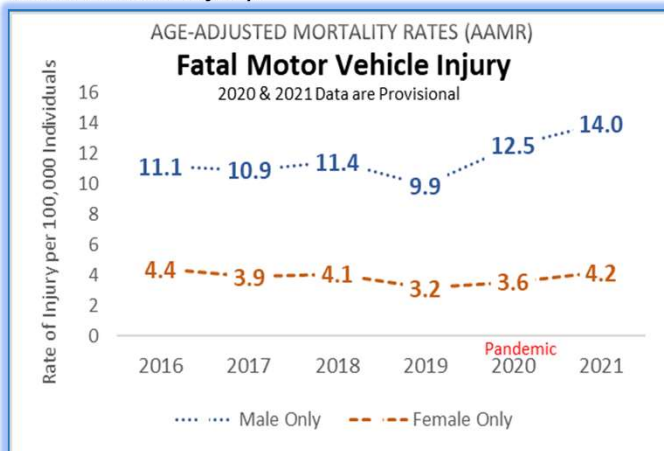
Motor vehicle injury includes crashes from 2-, 3-, and 4-wheel motorized vehicles, heavy trucks, and buses and includes crash-related injury to pedestrians and cyclists. Fatal injury rates appear to be on the rise while non-fatal injury rates appear to be declining. In 2021, these crashes accounted for 9% of all fatal (n=328) and 17% of all non-fatal (n= 31,555) injuries in Connecticut. The CDC estimated nearly \$335 billion in medical, work loss, and quality of life costs were incurred from Connecticut crash-related injuries in 2020. Non-Hispanic Blacks carried a disproportionate burden of risk for both fatal and non-fatal crash-related injuries. Although social, environmental, and economic factors are not typically reported with injury outcome (making socioeconomic analysis difficult to conduct), it would be important to understand the underlying causes of this inequity to implement effective change.

It is too soon to tell how the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021 may have contributed to changes in current trends for motor vehicle crashes and crash-related injuries. We do know the total number of injury records reported by Connecticut hospitals dropped 24% from 2019 to 2020.

In 2021, 31,555 Connecticut residents were treated in the emergency department for a crash-related injury, another 1,050 were admitted to the hospital for care, and an additional 328 died from their crash-related injury.

## Key Points:

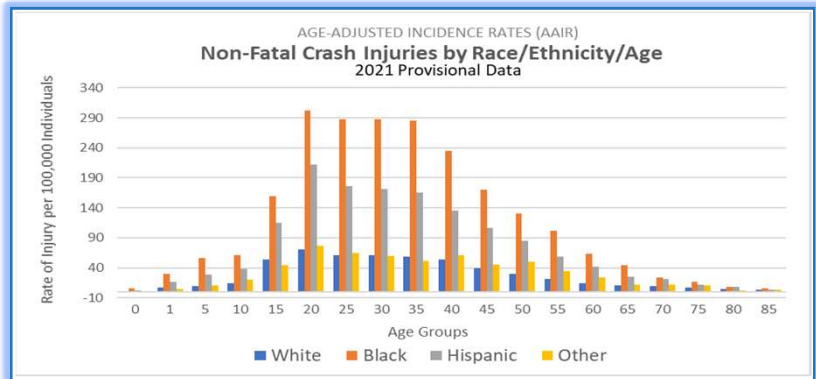
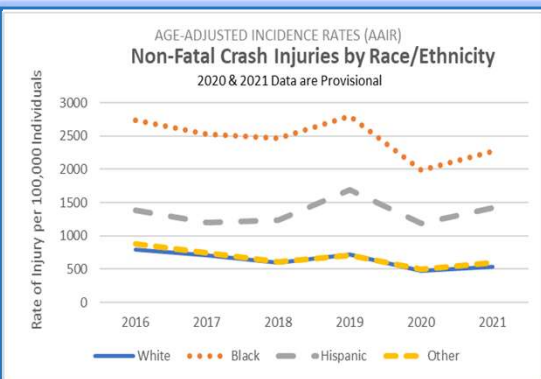
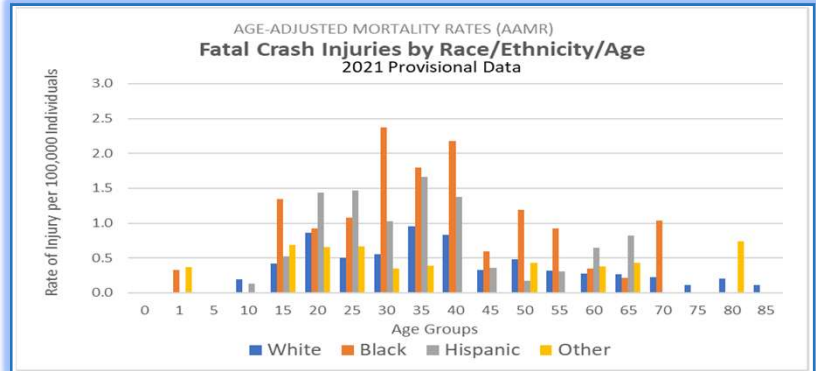
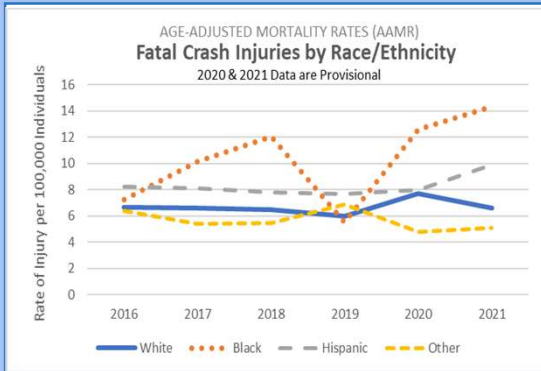
- The recent pandemic may have altered rates by which individuals have been injured by crash.
- Fatal crash-related injury rates for males are rising.
- Year-to-year trends in both Fatal and Non-fatal crash-related injury rates fluctuate over time.
- Middle-aged Non-Hispanic Blacks and Hispanics of all races carry the greatest burden of risk for both fatal and non-fatal crash-related injuries.
- There has been a substantial increase in male fatalities since 2019 that may correlate with increases in excessive speed-related stops during the pandemic.



Data Sources: Fatalities reported from CT Vital Records data and Non-Fatalities reported from Connecticut Hospital Discharge data

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**For more information on preventing motor vehicle injury, contact the following resources:**

- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Traffic Safety website**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/transportationsafety/index.html>
- **Connecticut Vision Zero Council website**  
<https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/VisionZeroCouncil/WhatIsTheVisionZeroCouncil>
- **The State of Connecticut Highway Safety Plan**  
<https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Programs/NHTSA-Highway-Safety-Plans--Reports>
- **Ride4Ever – The Connecticut Rider Education Program website**  
<https://www.ride4ever.org/>

**Connecticut Department of Public Health**  
**Injury and Violence Surveillance Unit • 860-509-8251**  
[www.ct.gov/dph/injuryprevention](http://www.ct.gov/dph/injuryprevention)