

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF POLICY AND PLANNING
CRASH DATA AND ANALYSIS SECTION

ACCIDENT DATA CONTENT

Data in the enclosed report reflects that which was contained in the Department of Transportation's accident file on the date that this report was generated and represents accidents occurring during the time period specified in the report.

REPORTING LEVEL

Investigating police authorities have been required to complete an accident report within five days of the completion of such investigation for any accident that resulted in death, injury or a prescribed dollar amount of damage to the property of any one individual. The prescribed dollar amounts and their effective periods are as follows: \$1,000, from October 1, 1988 to present; \$600, from October 1, 1984 to September 30, 1988; and \$400, from January 1, 1974 to September 30, 1984.

Before October 1, 1990, both operator and police accident reports were required to be completed and forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles. Effective with accidents occurring on October 1, 1990 and thereafter, in accordance with Public Act 90-143, the requirement of involved operators to complete an Operator Accident Report was rescinded by the State Legislature. Investigating police authorities are also now required to forward accident reports to the Department of Transportation instead of the Department of Motor Vehicles as formerly required.

Effective with accidents occurring on January 1, 2009 and thereafter, some investigating police authorities are now submitting accident reports electronically to the Department of Transportation. Other investigating police authorities are continuing to forward hard copy reports. Data in the Department of Transportation's accident file reflects data captured from both electronic and hard copy reports.

EXCLUSION OF LOCAL ROAD PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY ACCIDENTS

Property damage only accidents which occurred on locally maintained roadways from August 1, 1990 to December 31, 1991, from April 1, 1992 to December 31, 2006 and from March 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 were not coded for inclusion in the Department of Transportation's accident file. Data users should be aware of the exclusion of local road property damage only accidents for these time periods.

DATA LIMITATIONS

The Department of Transportation devotes considerable resources to the analysis of each accident received and to the codification of the location of each accident. Each accident entered into the Department's data entry system is reviewed for accuracy and completeness. Quality control routines are included in the system that validate the data. The user of the data contained in the enclosed report should be aware of certain limitations.

All accidents which actually occurred within the area covered by the report:

- May not have been received by the Department of Transportation;
- May not have contained sufficient information to have been located in the physical area covered by this report; or
- May not have been appropriately located by the Department of Transportation during codification, data entry, file maintenance or data retrieval activities.

Accidents contained within the enclosed report may not have actually occurred within the physical area covered by the report, but have been placed there due to, either, insufficient or misleading information contained in the accident report or to misallocation of the accident during codification, data entry, file maintenance or data retrieval activities.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

The contributing factors indicated on the accident experience and/or accident summary have been determined by the Department of Transportation's Crash Data and Analysis section and are used by the Department in its ongoing engineering evaluation of Connecticut's roads and highways. Each contributing factor has been determined subjectively and is not meant to assign legal responsibility.