

**Conover Police Department
Traffic Crash Analysis
Yearly Report
January thru December 2021**

This report contains information collected between January 01, 2021 and December 31, 2021 of all traffic crashes reported to the Patrol Division of the Conover Police Department. There was a total of six hundred eighty-four (684) reported crashes during this time period. The types of crashes included: property damage only, hit and run crashes, traffic crashes involving personal injury, and/ or pedestrian. Traffic crashes in public vehicular areas were omitted. Traffic crashes during this time period accounted for approximately \$2,603,165.00 in property damage and one hundred forty-one (141) reported injuries. The types of injuries include: no visible sign but complaint of injury, class B – non-incapacitating, class A – incapacitating, and fatal.

An analysis of the intersections with the highest number of crashes appears to be at the intersections of (I 40 @ Thornburg Dr. NE) reporting a total of twenty-three (23) reported. The next highest intersections were (NC Hwy 16 N @ Thornburg Dr. NE), (Conover Blvd W @ Northwest Blvd) and (Conover Blvd E @ Seventh St Pl SW) all reporting seventeen (17) crashes. The next highest intersection was (Conover Blvd E @ Thornburg Dr NE) reporting thirteen (13) crashes. The next highest intersection was (I 40 @ First St W) reporting eleven (11) crashes. The intersection (First St W @ First Ave N) reported ten (10) crashes. The next intersections (I 40 @ Rock Barn Rd NE) and (First Ave S @ Seventh St Pl SW) both reported nine (9) crashes. The intersection (First St W @ Fourth Ave SW) reported eight (8) crashes. The next intersections (Conover Blvd E @ Emmanuel Church Rd), (First St W @ Section House Rd), (Conover Blvd E @ Fourth St Pl SE) and (Conover Blvd W @ Old Conover Startown) all reported seven (7) crashes. The intersections (First Ave S @ Third St SE) and (First St W @ Tenth St NW) reported six (6) crashes. The next highest intersections were (Conover Blvd E @ Rock Barn Rd NE), (Rock Barn Rd NE @ Thornburg Dr NE), (First Ave N @ Second St NE), (NC Hwy 16 N @ Zelkova Ct NW), (Emmanuel Church Rd @ Thornburg Dr NE), (First St E @ Rock Barn Rd NE), (County Home Rd @ First Ave N) and (Ninth St SW @ Seventh St Pl SW) all reported five (5) crashes.

The criteria utilized by North Carolina Department of transportation to obtain this data were a minimum of 5 crashes within 150 feet of each intersection. Rear end, slow or stop crashes was the leading cause of crashes followed by Sideswipe same Direction.

Statistical information was obtained through the NCDOT TEASS software utilized by the Conover Police Department for reporting purposes only.

The following information concerning traffic crashes within the City of Conover during this time period was obtained from the NCDOT TEASS.

Crash Analysis Report Jan-Dec

2021
61.1.1

Weather Conditions

Clear	80.8%
Cloudy	11.8%
Rain	6.9%
Snow	0.3%
Other	0.1%

Road Conditions

Dry	87.6%
Wet	11.4%
Unknown	0.1%
Water	0.3%
Snow	0.3%
Mud	0.1%
Other	0.1%
Snow	0%

Age Group

15-Younger	0.2%
16-19	6.6%
20-24	9.9%
25-34	19%
35-44	15.5%
45-54	12.1%
55-59	7.2%
60-64	5%
65-74	8.1%
75 and older	5.8%

Gender

Male	49.4%
Female	40%
Unknown	11.4%

Crash Types

Rear End, Slow or Stop	26.73%
Backing Up	12.86%
Sideswipe, Same Direction	9.39%
Left Turn, Same Roadway	7.23%
Left Turn, Different Roadways	7.08%
Ran Off Road-Right	6.36%
Parked Motor Vehicle	5.92%
Fixed Object	5.06%
Angle	4.19%
Sideswipe, Opposite Direction	2.89%
Ran Off Road-Left	2.60%
Animal	2.17%
Right Turn, Different Roadways	2.02%
Rear End, Turn	.87%
Pedestrian	.72%
Movable Object	.72%
Right Turn, Same Roadway	.72%
Head On	.72%
Ran Off Road - Straight	.72%
Other Non-Collision	.43%
Overturn/Rollover	.29%
Other Collision with Vehicle	.29%
Unknown	0%
RR Train, Engine	0%
Jackknife	0%
Roadways	0%

Month	Day of Week		Time of Day		
	Monday	17.5%	0000-0500	5.0%	
January	4.9%	Tuesday	14.2%	0500-0559	2.7%
February	4.9%	Wednesday	11.3%	0600-0659	3.3%
March	9%	Thursday	10.1%	0700-0759	5.5%
April	9.2%	Friday	16.0%	0800-0859	3.8%
May	7.8%	Saturday	15.8%	0900-0959	3.3%
June	7.7%	Sunday	15.2%	1000-1059	4.2%
July	9.4%			1100-1159	6.4%
Aug	10.7%			1200-1259	6.6%
Sept	7.4%			1300-1359	5.5%
Oct	8.4%			1400-1459	7.4%
Nov	9.5%			1500-1559	9.5%
Dec	11.1%			1600-1659	9.4%
				1700-1759	8.1%
				1800-1859	4.2%
				1900-1959	5.9%
				2000-2059	2.3%
				2100-2159	4.2%
				2200-2259	1.7%
				2300-2359	.9%

Recommended Enforcement / Preventive Actions

Officers at the Conover Police Department continue to enforce speed limit violations, stop light/sign violations, and safe movement violations in an attempt to reduce the number of traffic crashes that occur within the city limits of Conover. Enforcement is not the only tool to be utilized. An increase in visibility at the intersections and sections of road that experience the highest number of crashes would also help reduce the number of crashes. Most crashes appear to be occurring during the mid- afternoon to late evening hours. A recommendation to help address this occurrence would be to utilize maximum staffing by scheduling additional manpower between 1100hrs and 2000hrs. It appears the highest percentages of the crashes are occurring between the hours of 1100hrs-1959hrs. It appears the highest percentages of the crashes occur on Monday.

Most of the crashes appear to be occurring when the weather is clear (80.8%) roadway is dry (87.6%) and during the daylight hours (71.4%). The month of December appears to have the highest number of crashes at (11.1%) with a lowest decline in the months of January and February at (4.9%). The use of drone vehicles and the speed trailer should also be used to help address these issues. When the Patrol Division is at full strength the goal of each supervisor should be to adjust schedules so that more emphasis can be placed on traffic enforcement during peak times of traffic crashes as indicated in this report. Each supervisor should adjust the schedule and utilize the traffic officer to help place more emphasis on traffic enforcement areas that are identified in this report.

Proactive Recommendations

In addition to the above recommendation(s), patrol officers should place emphasis on becoming more involved with educating the public about safe driving habits. Drivers between the ages of 25-44 years old, account for a significant amount of crashes in Conover. The leading cause of those crashes appears to indicate inattention as being the leading cause at (20.23%) with the second leading cause being failure to reduce speed (9.01 %). It appears that the majority of these crashes could have been avoided with better and/or closer attention to their driving habits. Establishing information checkpoints to help educate the motoring public about better driving skills should help in reduction in crashes. In addition to the information checkpoints, media sources should be utilized to get the information out about safety training and the patrol officers should seek additional training that would better assist in their efforts to effectively enforce the traffic laws of the State of North Carolina. Getting additional officers certified in the use of radar and Intoxilyzer certified should be a top priority. Conover Police has additional radar units, but not enough operators at this time. An increase in this area of training would have positive impact on reducing the number of traffic crashes that occur on a daily basis within the city limits of Conover.