The death rate for motor vehicle traffic-related trauma (MVT) in Iowa (13.2/100,000) is lower than the national NCIPC states’ 2004 average (14.7/100,000), but was still the leading cause of injury death in Iowa (420 cases/year), the 3rd leading cause of injury hospitalizations (1,648 cases/year), and the 2nd leading cause of injury ED visits (17,120 cases/year).
In Iowa, from 2002-2006, there were, on average, 420 deaths, 1,648 hospitalizations, and 17,120 ED visits per year due to motor vehicle traffic-related (MVT) crashes.

MVT-related trauma was the leading cause of injury death in Iowa. Approximately 1.15 MVT-related deaths occur each day in Iowa.

- Among Iowans aged 1-34 and 55-64, MVT-related injuries were the leading cause of injury death, and were the 2nd leading cause of injury death for Iowans aged 35-54 and 65-84.
- In Iowa, MVT-related injury death rates were the highest for males aged 85 and older (52/100,000), followed by 75- to 84-year olds (39/100,000) and 15- to 24-year olds (31/100,000).
- The rate of MVT-related deaths is two times higher in males (19/100,000) than in females (10/100,000).

MVT-related injuries were the third leading cause of injury hospitalizations in Iowa (after falls and poisonings), with an average of 1,648 hospitalizations per year in 2002-2006. This is nearly 5 MVT-related hospitalizations per day throughout Iowa.

- In all age groups, males had higher hospitalization rates than females, except children aged 1-4.
- Overall, MVT-related hospitalization rates were 1.6 times higher in males (68/100,000) than in females (42/100,000).
- Hospitalization rates were highest for males aged 15-24 (118/100,000), aged 25-34 (88/100,000), and 85 or older (85/100,000); for females, the highest rates were in persons aged 15-24 (75/100,000) and 75-84 (74/100,000).

MVT was the 2nd leading cause of injury ED visits after falls, with an average of 17,120 ED visits per year in Iowa from 2002-2006.

- Overall, the ED visit rate for females (600/100,000) was higher than for males (543/100,000).
- Among both males and females, ED visit rates were the highest in the 15- to 24-year-old group (1,220/100,000 for males and 1,525/100,000 for females).

More detailed information on the outcomes and other characteristics of motor vehicle crashes in Iowa is available in a subsequent section of this report on the Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System.