

**Michigan Traffic Crash Facts: Deer collisions compared to all collisions
Ann Arbor, Rochester Hills, and Lower Peninsula
2004-2014**

by
Margaret A. Leary

Comments on the tables below:

1. Although Ann Arbor's number and percent of crashes involving deer are lower than both Rochester Hills and the entire lower peninsula, the trend in Ann Arbor is disturbing: up from 31 (under 1%) in 2004 to 54 (almost 2%) in 2010, and 51 (1.33%) in 2014. Our goal should be to reduce deer-vehicle crashes in number and as a percent of all crashes.
2. The Rochester Hills' numbers do not provide evidence that their non-lethal management is effective in reducing collisions as a percent of all collisions. There were 154 (6.55%) DVC's in 2004, and 174 (7.8%) in 2014.
3. Comparison of numbers among these three geographic areas should not be given heavy weight in decision-making because there are so many explanations for variation among locations: geography, human and deer populations, road conditions, etc.
4. Trends in number and percent of DVC crashes in one city do matter.

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004		Accident Year											Total Crashes
		2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	
Crash: Deer Invol/assoc	No deer	3,776	3,464	3,137	3,133	2,742	2,682	2,691	2,863	2,857	3,195	3,307	33,847
	Deer involved	51	50	45	42	54	44	30	35	28	35	31	445
Total Crashes		3,827	3,514	3,182	3,175	2,796	2,726	2,721	2,898	2,885	3,230	3,338	34,292
Percent of Crashes Involving Deer		1.33	1.42	1.41	1.32	1.93	1.61	1.10	1.20	.97	1.08	.93	1.30
Crashes Involving Bicycles		53	63	64	59	59	61	58	34	50	28	45	574

ROCHESTER HILLS, MICHIGAN

2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004		Accident Year											Total Crashes
		2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	
Crash: Deer Invol/assoc	No deer	2,113	2,039	1,909	2,077	1,950	1,727	1,936	1,977	2,041	2,236	2,196	22,201
	Deer involved	174	136	155	139	122	163	165	219	196	186	154	1,809
Total Crashes		2,287	2,175	2,064	2,216	2,072	1,890	2,101	2,196	2,237	2,422	2,350	24,010
Percent of Crashes Involving Deer		7.60	6.25	7.50	6.27	5.89	8.62	7.85	9.97	8.76	7.68	6.55	7.53

ENTIRE LOWER PENINSULA

2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004		Accident Year											Total Crashes
		2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	
Crash: Deer Invol/assoc	No deer	246,844	233,728	219,586	224,708	220,417	223,192	248,230	255,560	247,693	284,958	301,841	2,706,757
	Deer involved	42,729	45,377	44,360	48,793	51,459	56,796	55,956	56,285	55,566	53,180	56,672	567,173
Total Crashes		289,573	279,105	263,946	273,501	271,876	279,988	304,186	311,845	303,259	338,138	358,513	3,273,930
Percent of Crashes Involving Deer		14.76	16.26	16.80	17.84	18.92	20.28	18.40	18.04	18.32	15.73	15.81	17.32

Source: The Michigan State Police's *MichiganTrafficCrashFacts.Org*
(% calculated by author)
Jan. 20. 2016