

8 Investigates Maine's highcrash locations for 2019

Jan 2, 2020 | David Charns

Augusta, Maine — There were more than 34,000 crashes reported across Maine in 2019. The majority of crashes involved rear-ending, going off the road or hitting an animal.

Nearly two-thirds of crashes occurred during daylight and in clear conditions where the road was dry.

Traffic engineers rely on several factors when it comes to determining where highcrash locations are across the state.

Data, including the number of crashes, volume, pedestrian fatalities and other violations, are combined to create a critical rate factor. Locations that then have eight or more crashes and a critical rate factor greater than one over a three-year period are added to the list.

Below is a list of the top 20 high-crash locations for 2019 based on the number of crashes:

- 20. Auburn: Intersection of Mount Auburn Avenue and Turner Street (46 crashes)
- 19. Portland: Ramp off I-295 to Forest Avenue (47 crashes)
- 18. Bangor: Ramp off Stillwater Avenue to I-95 (48 crashes)
- 17. South Portland: Intersection of Broadway and Casco Bay Bridge (49 crashes)
- 16. South Portland: Ramp off I-295 to Westbrook Street (50 crashes)
- 15. Auburn: Intersection of Turner Street and Union Street 51 crashes)
- 14. South Portland: Intersection of Broadway and Westbrook Street (52 crashes)
- 13. Portland: Intersection of Franklin Street and Marginal Way (54 crashes)
- 12. Bangor: Intersection of Hammond Street and I-395 (55 crashes)

- 11. Brunswick: Intersection of Gurnet Road to Route 1 northbound (58 crashes)
- 10. Portland: Intersection of Riverside Street and Warren Avenue (59 crashes)
- 9. Westbrook: Intersection of Cumberland Street and Warren Avenue (59 crashes)
- 8. Saco: Ramp from Ocean Park Road to Main Street (60 crashes)
- 7. Portland: Intersection of Allen Avenue and Forest Avenue (67 crashes)
- 6. Portland: Intersection of Forest Avenue, Kennebec Street, Marginal Way and State Street Extension (74 crashes)
- 5. Sanford: Alfred Road-Maine Street roundabout (82 crashes)
- 4. Portland: Intersection of Larrabee Road off-ramp to Riverside Street (84 crashes)
- 3. Biddeford: Intersection of Alfred Street and Precourt Street ramp (86 crashes)
- 2. Augusta: Intersection of Bangor Street and Cony Street at the Cony Circle (138 crashes)
- 1. Augusta: Intersection of Memorial Circle at Western Avenue (146 crashes)

Not one of the top 20 crash locations included a fatality in 2019, according to state data. However, a person crossing the road was killed near the Memorial Circle in Augusta in 2019.

DOT officials said they rely on the list of high-crash locations to determine where to put resources.

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Maybe if the DOT wasn't wasting so much money on boondoggles like the I-395/Route 9 Connector—they could put some money towards these problems!!