



WORK ZONES FACTSHEET

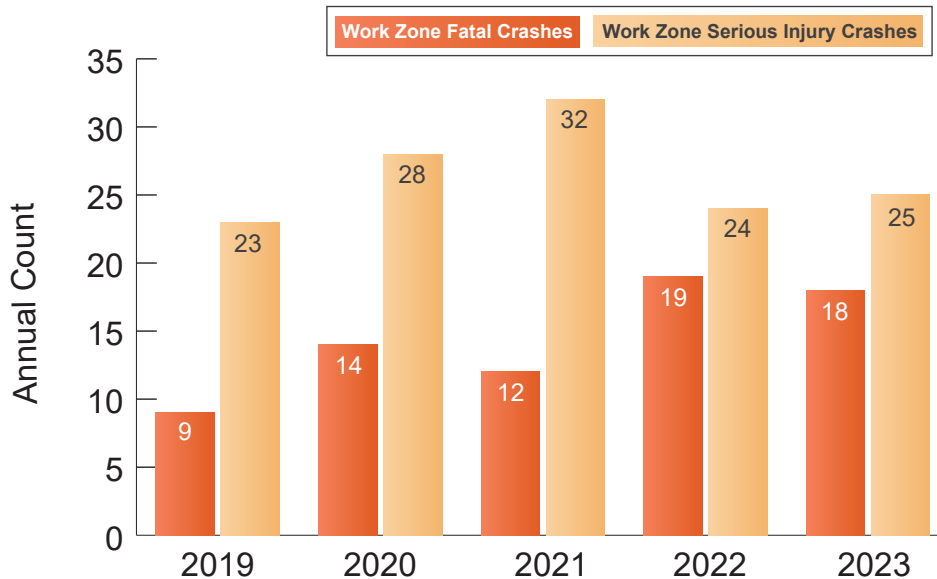
F&SI Crashes = Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes

WHAT IS THE SHSP?

South Carolina's 2025-2029 SHSP is a statewide, comprehensive safety plan that provides guidance for all statewide transportation safety professionals to coordinate efforts toward a common goal of reducing traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries on South Carolina roadways. The SHSP includes information on ongoing state and national safety programs and highlights achievements of SCDOT and SCDPS to improve roadway safety. Thirteen emphasis areas have been identified as the primary focus of the 2025-2029 SHSP, including Work Zones.

WORK ZONES OVERVIEW

South Carolina's transportation system is intended to protect all users, including those working on roadway infrastructure. Work zones encompass all construction-related activities requiring workers to be close to an active roadway. Between 2019 and 2023, 204 crashes in work zones resulted in serious injury or fatality. **More than 1% of all fatal crashes and 1% of all serious injury crashes in South Carolina are work zone-related.** SCDOT and SCDPS are committed to protecting workers and drivers in work zones, which may present additional dangers for both groups.



Between 2019 and 2023, an average of 26 serious injury and 14 fatal work zone crashes occurred each year. Over this time period, fatal crashes have increased and serious injury crashes have fluctuated.



Work Zone F&SI crashes most commonly occur with the following four emphasis areas: Lane Departure (31.4%), Speeding (27.9%), Unrestrained (25%), and Older Drivers (21.1%).



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Crash Statistics (2019–2023)

- Annual average: 14 fatal and 26 serious injury work zone crashes
- Fatal crashes have increased, while serious injury crashes have fluctuated across the five-year period
- The majority of F&SI work zone crashes occur on South Carolina’s interstates, where higher speeds elevate crash severity
- Approximately 34% of work-zone F&SI crashes were rear-end collisions, often related to speeding and inattention
- Top Contributing Factors:
 - » Driving Too Fast for Conditions (50%)
 - » Under the Influence (10.3%)
 - » Failure to Yield (7.8%)
 - » Improper Lane Change/Usage (4.4%)
 - » Lying or Illegally in Roadway (3.9%)
- Location of work zone crashes:
 - » 49% Interstates
 - » 19% SC Routes
 - » 15% US Routes
 - » 15% Secondary Roads
 - » 1.5% Local Roads
 - » 0.5% Ramps

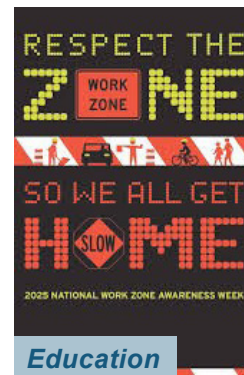
POTENTIAL STRATEGIES



Enforcement



Enforcement



Education

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Work zone crashes disproportionately occur on high-speed interstate facilities; the higher speeds and traffic cause interstate work zones to be more dangerous
- Speeding is the leading contributor to work zone F&SI crashes, accounting for half of all work zone crashes
- Rear-end collisions are common in work zones, reflecting unsafe speeds and driver inattention
- Work zone safety requires both driver behavior changes and coordinated construction practices, particularly during high-volume freight and commuter periods