



Washington State Strategic Highway Safety Plan 2019: Crash Categories

Learn More - Page 91 of the Plan

Challenge: Certain types of vehicle crashes are more serious for drivers and other road users. The data show that crashes that involve lane departure and intersections are top priorities.

Lane Departures

Lane departure crashes involve a vehicle unintentionally leaving its lane of travel. This includes both vehicles leaving a lane to the right (run-off-the road crashes) as well as vehicles leaving a lane to the left (either opposite direction crashes or run-off-the-road crashes).

Key issues for lane departures:

- Roadside conditions
- Horizontal (left- or right-turn) curves
- Nighttime and lighting conditions

Intersections

Intersections are a conflict point for traffic. One of the major objectives of addressing intersection-related crashes is to reduce the severity of those crashes when they occur.

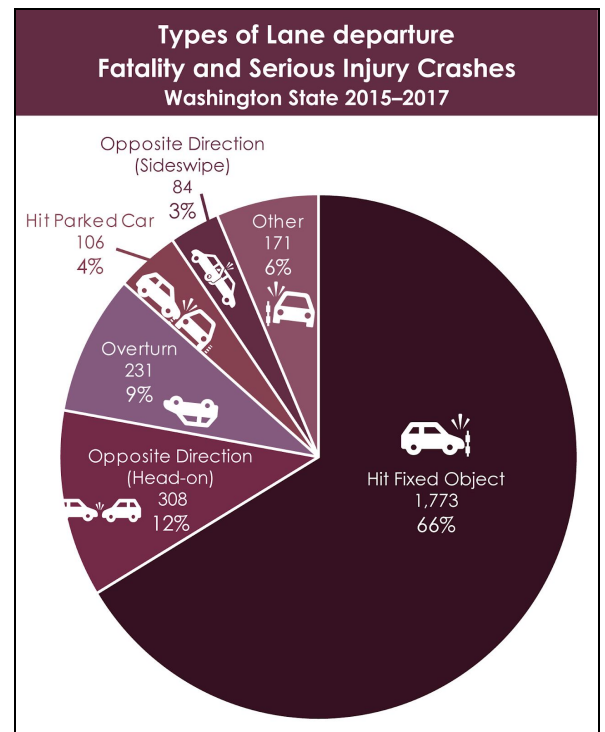
Key issues for intersections:

- Angle crashes
- Nighttime conditions
- Bicyclist and pedestrian crashes

Strategies and Objectives for Positive Change:

Lane Departures:

- Local Road Safety Plans, which use a systemic approach to identifying priority locations to be addressed
- High friction surface treatments that greatly increases the friction between vehicle tires and the roadway
- Improved roadway visibility, including upgraded signing, pavement markings, roadway lighting, and delineation





Intersections:

- Roundabouts to create lower speed environment
- Improved intersection visibility (roadway lighting and markings)
- Signal operations improvements, including leading pedestrian intervals, protected-only left-turn movements, and restricting turn movements (left or right)

What You Can Do:

- Support strategies for reducing fatalities and serious injuries from lane departures (page 98) and at intersections (page 107)
- Support efforts to implement a Local Road Safety Plan
- Support efforts to make roadways safer through engineering solutions