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Contact: Dave Smallen

Tel: 202-366-5568

Factors Involved in Fatal Vehicle Crashes

Friday, October 8, 2010 - The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) today released a technical report, [*Factors Involved in Fatal Vehicle Crashes*](#), examining the numerous factors that contribute to the severity of fatal motor vehicle crashes. Analysis of the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) database shows single-vehicle crash fatalities are the most prevalent. The main factors are: for single-vehicle fatal crashes, whether traffic controls are working, and the first harmful event in a crash (e.g., rollover, traffic barrier, or ditch); for two-vehicle fatal crashes, traffic controls and the characteristics of the roadway (e.g., roadway alignment or surface type); and for multi-vehicle (three or more) crashes, road characteristics, vehicle speed, and road type (e.g., interstate or country road). The report can be found at http://www.bts.gov/publications/bts_technical_report/. Contact Dave Smallen: 202-366-5568.