

Arizona

Speed Limits: 1994 and 2004

State	Limited Access Rural Interstates		Limited Access Urban Interstates		Other Limited Access Roads		Truck Speed (Y or N)
	1994	2004	1994	2004	1994	2004	
Arizona	65	75 (60 Min)	55	55-65	55	55-65	N

The speed data shown applies to all roadways in the state.

Speeding-related Data

Arizona collects speeding-related crash data from Violation/Behavior information retrieved from collision report forms. Data elements include speed too fast for conditions and exceeded speed limit. The state statute defines aggressive driving as speeding and least two of the following: failure to obey a traffic control device, passing on the right out of regular lanes of traffic, unsafe lane change, following too closely, or failure to yield right of way; and the person's driving is an immediate hazard to another person or vehicle. Arizona provided information on the proportion of fatal and injury crashes where speed was cited as a factor in crashes, as shown in the following table:

Year	Percent of Total Drivers	Percent of Fatal Drivers	Percent of Injury Drivers
2003 Exceeded Lawful Speed	0.52	5.62	0.64
2002 Exceeded Lawful Speed	0.58	6.68	0.73
2001 Exceeded Lawful Speed	0.53	5.38	0.69
2003 Too Fast for Conditions	18.84	18.37	19.30
2002 Too Fast for Conditions	18.91	19.11	19.44
2001 Too Fast for Conditions	19.13	21.51	19.77

Annual citations issued by the state patrol or other law enforcement agencies are not available in a statewide database.

Efforts to Reduce Excessive Speeding

Arizona implemented a special speeding program, *Operation Safe Commute 2002* in two phases. The first phase targeted commuter traffic on Interstate 17 from May 20-May 31. The second phase targeted commuter traffic on Interstate 10 from June 3-June 14. The program was overwhelmingly successful, resulting in a combined collision reduction of 32 percent during the enforcement detail. Desiring to replicate the success of the initial program, *Operation Safe Commute 2003* was also implemented in two phases. The first phase targeted commuter traffic on Interstate 17 and State Route 101 from May 19-May 30. The second phase targeted commuter traffic on Interstate 10 both in the east and central valley from June 2-June 13. Combined traffic collisions decreased by 37 percent.

Arizona reported committing 34 percent of federal highway safety dollars to reducing speeding in 2003. In 2004, 29 percent was expended and in 2005, the state estimated expending 33 percent. No state funds are specifically dedicated to addressing speeding. Arizona reported the impact of speed/aggressive driving programs has been a decrease in the number of speeding-related crashes.

Public Perception

Arizona's state highway safety office felt the motoring public believes police give a 10 mph cushion in enforcing the posted speed limit.