

West Virginia

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	
West Virginia	55	70	55	60	55	U 50/R 65	N

West Virginia reported that speed limits listed above apply to all roadways within the state. The current limits for 2004 on other limited access roads are 50 mph in urban areas and 65 in rural areas of the state. There is no separate speed limit for trucks.

Speeding-related Data

West Virginia collects some speeding-related crash data, from a subset of the crash report form under “Circumstances Contributing to Traffic Crashes” and “Circumstances Contributing to Fatal Crashes.” Data elements include exceeding safe speed and exceeding speed limit. The state also collects speeding-related conviction data. The state has not defined aggressive driving and no aggressive driving data is collected.

Proportion Speeding-related Crashes

Year	Circumstances Contributing to Fatal Crashes	State Patrol Speed Citations
2003	22%	28,587
2002	22%	29,229
2001	20%	27,643

The state noted that there may be more than one contributing circumstance for each crash. Data available does not provide for determining over representation by any specific geographic area, race, ethnic group, gender, age or other grouping.

Efforts to Reduce Excessive Speeding

West Virginia efforts are directed primarily toward seat belt and impaired driving enforcement, although speeding is included as a component of funded activities. The state estimates 5 percent of federal highway safety dollars are committed toward efforts to reduce speed. No state funds are used specifically for speed reduction.

Public Perception

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