



BIKE CRASHES

Below is an analysis of reported Traffic Crashes involving bicycles throughout 2013. These incidents include offense codes 1313-1315 and 1330-1332. The analysis includes dates, times, locations, and the nature of the accident (reason). There was a total of 53 reported crashes in 2013.

**The data in this report is taken from the Larimore Incident System

MONTH:

The majority of bike crashes occurred during the late spring to early autumn months (May to September). These five months accounted for 36 of the 53 accidents last year, which is approximately 67.9%. This is consistent with the fact that this is prime bike riding season. The first four months of the year (January to April) had a total of 8 accidents while the last three months of the year (October to December) had a total of 9 accidents.

DAY:

The most crashes (11) occurred on a Wednesday, followed by Monday and Friday with 10 accidents each and third were Tuesday and Thursday with 7 accidents each. Saturday and Sunday each had 4 accidents.

TIME:

The most crashes (17 accidents) occurred between 4:01 PM and 8:00 PM which is consistent with the evening commute. The second most crashes (16) occurred between 8:01 AM and 12:00 PM which is consistent with the morning commute and



early lunch hour. The third most crashes (14 accidents) occurred between 12:01 PM and 4:00 PM which is consistent with the lunch hour and the afternoon commute. Between 8:01 PM and 4:00 AM there a total of 2 incidents and between 4:01 AM and 8:00 AM there were 4 accidents.

LOCATIONS:

The most crashes occurred in Sector 2, which had 16 accidents. This is consistent with the fact that Sector 2 encompasses parts of Harvard Street, Beacon Street, Brookline Avenue and Longwood Avenue, which have significant foot, bicycle and motor vehicle traffic. The second most crashes occurred in Sector 4, which had 13 accidents. This area also encompasses portions of Harvard Street, Beacon Street as well as Washington Street. Sector 3 had 9 accidents, Sector 1 had 6 accidents, Sector 9 had 4 accidents, Sector 5 had 3 accidents, and Sectors 6 and 7 each had 1 accident. Beacon Street and Harvard Street alone comprised 28 accidents in 2013.

FAULT:

Motor Vehicles/Drivers were found to be at fault for 28 accidents, while bicyclists were found to be at fault for 12 crashes. Pedestrians were at fault for 2 accidents, and fault could not be determined in 11 crashes. Of the 53 crashes, citations were issued in 26 of them.

REASONS:

The most common reason for a crash where the driver was at fault was when the driver was attempting to make a turn and cut off bikers. This accounted for 13 accidents. The second most common reason was either the driver had their door open or the driver was entering traffic, but had an obstructed view or was not paying attention. Each of these reasons accounted for 8 crashes. Other reasons include the driver not seeing the bicyclist at all (7 accidents), the driver being distracted by something in the car (2 accidents) and the driver behaving in an aggressive manner (1 accident). The most common reason for an accident where the bicyclist was at fault (5) was negligent operation. The second most common reasons were failure to yield to oncoming traffic, running a red light or riding opposite the flow of traffic. Each of these accounted for 2 accidents. The last reason for an accident with the bicyclist at fault was due to the rider crossing the median (marked yellow line) and riding into the motor vehicle. This accounted for 1 accident. Pedestrian negligence accounted for 2 accidents.