

# Police Data Crashes

## Background

The complete version of the data set contains:

- Somerville crashes that occurred from May 2018 to the current date. Crashes that occurred before May 2018 can be accessed [here](#).
- Crash reports are completed when a motor vehicle crash occurs on a public way and involves at least one of the following:
  - Any person is killed
  - Any person is injured,
  - Damage is in excess of \$1,000 to any one vehicle or other property.
- Data does not include crashes that are under active investigation, nor those that occur on state roads, which are under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts State Police.
  - State roads include I-93 and its exit/entry system, Route 28 (McGrath Highway), Route 38 (Mystic Ave, except the roadway from McGrath Hwy to Lombardi Way), and Route 16 (Alewife Brook Parkway).
  - State crash data may be accessed on the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's crash data portal, [IMPACT](#).

This data set should be refreshed daily with data appearing with a one-month delay (e.g. crashes that occurred from 1/1 will appear on 2/1). If a daily update does not refresh, please email [data@somervillema.gov](mailto:data@somervillema.gov).

## Crash Information

### Crash Number

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** A unique number representing each traffic crash.

### Date and Time of Crash

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** When the crash occurred.

### Police Shift

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The police work shift during which the crash occurred.

**Possible Values:** Day (8 a.m. - 3:59 p.m.); First Half (4 - 11:59 p.m.); Last Half (12 midnight - 7:59 a.m.)

## Crash Location

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Address or intersection where the crash occurred.

## Light Conditions

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The type/level of light that existed at the time of the motor vehicle crash.

**Possible Values:** Daylight; Dawn; Dusk; Dark-Lighted Roadway; Dark-Roadway Not Lighted; Dark - Unknown Roadway Lighting; Other; Unknown

## Weather Conditions

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The prevailing atmospheric conditions that existed at the time of the crash.

**Possible Values:** Clear; Cloudy; Rain; Snow; Sleet, Hail, Freezing Rain or Drizzle; Fog, Smoke, Smog; Severe Crosswinds; Blowing Sand, Snow; Other; Unknown

## Road Surface

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The roadway surface condition at the time and place of a crash.

**Possible Values:** Dry; Wet; Snow; Ice; Sand, Mud, Dirt, Oil, Gravel; Water (standing or moving); Slush; Other; Unknown

## Road Contributing Circumstances

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Apparent environmental or roadway conditions which may have contributed to the crash.

**Possible Values:** None; Traffic Congestion Related; Toll/Booth/Plaza Related; Road Surface Condition (Wet, Icy, Snow, Slush, Etc.); Debris; Rut, Holes, Bumps; Work Zone (Construction/Maintenance/Utility); Non-Highway Work; Worn, Travel-Polished Surface; Obstruction in Roadway; Traffic Control Device Inoperative, Missing, or Obscured; Shoulders (None, Low, Soft); Other; Unknown

## Traffic Control Device Type

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The type of traffic control device (TCD) applicable to this motor vehicle at the crash location.

**Possible Values:** No Controls, Stop Signs, Traffic Control Signal, Flashing Traffic Control Signal, Yield Signs, School Zone Sign, Warning Signs, Railroad Crossing Device, Unknown.

## Roadway Intersection Type

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** An intersection consists of two or more roadways that intersect at the same level.  
**Possible Values:** Not at Intersection; Four-Way Intersection; T-Intersection; Y-Intersection; On Remp; Off Ramp; Traffic Circle; Driveway; Railway Grade Crossing; Unknown

## Trafficway Description

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Indicates whether the trafficway for this vehicle is divided and whether it serves one-way or two-way traffic. A divided trafficway is one in which roadways for travel in opposite directions are physically separated by a median.

**Possible Values:** Two-Way, Not Divided; Two-Way, Divided, Unprotected Medium; Two-Way, Divided, Positive Median Barrier; One-Way, Not Divided, Unknown

## Manner of Collision

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The identification of the manner in which two motor vehicles in transport initially came together without regard to the direction of force. This data element refers only to crashes where the first harmful event involves a collision between two motor vehicles in transport.

**Possible Values:** Single Vehicle Crash; Rear-end; Angle; Sideswipe, Same Direction; Sideswipe, Opposite Direction; Head on; Rear to Rear; Front to Rear; Front to Front; Rear to Side; Unknown

## First Harmful Event

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The first injury or damage-producing event that characterizes the crash type.

**Possible Values:** Collision with Motor Vehicle in Traffic; Collision with Parked Motor Vehicle; Collision with Pedestrian; Collision with Cyclist; Collision with Moped; Collision with Animal-Deer; Collision with Animal-Other; Collision with Work Zone Maintenance Equipment; Collision with Railway Vehicle (Train, Engine); Collision with Movable Object; Collision with Curb; Collision with Tree; Collision with Utility Pole; Collision with Light Pole or Other Post/Support; Collision with Guardrail; Collision with Median Barrier; Collision with Ditch; Collision with Embankment; Collision with Bridge; Collision with Bridge Overhead Structure; Collision with Unknown/Other Fixed Object; Overturn/Rollover; Jackknife; Other Non-Collision; Other; Unknown

## First Harmful Event Location

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The first injury or damage-producing event that characterizes the crash type.

**Possible Values:** Roadway; Median; Roadside; Shoulder-Paved; Shoulder Unpaved; Shoulder-Travel Lane; Outside Roadway; Unknown

## Speed Limit

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The posted/statutory speed limit for the motor vehicle at the time of the crash. The authorization may be indicated by the posted speed limit, blinking sign at construction zones, etc.

## Work Zone

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Indicating a crash that occurs in or related to a construction, maintenance, or utility work zone, identified by warning signs/signals/indicators, including those on transport devices (e.g. signs, flashing lights, channelizing devices, barriers, pavement markings, flagperson, warning signs and arrow boards mounted on the vehicles in a mobile maintenance activity), whether or not workers were actually present at the time of the crash.

**Possible Values:** Y (yes), N (no), Unknown

## Driver Contributing Circumstances

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Whether the actions by one or more drivers may have contributed to the crash. This data element is based on the judgment of the law enforcement officer investigating the crash. For more information on what specific driver actions contributed to a crash, please visit [IMPACT](#). Examples of driver actions are exceeding authorized speed limits, disregarding traffic signals, over-correcting steering; inattention, etc.

**Possible Values:** Yes (actions by one or more drivers may have contributed to the crash), No (No improper driving), Blank

## Count Fatal Injury

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The count of fatal injuries resulting from a crash. The injured party could be a driver, passenger or non-motorist involved in a crash.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Count Suspected Serious Injury

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The count of suspected serious injuries resulting from a crash. The injured party could be a driver, passenger or non-motorist involved in a crash.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Count Suspected Minor Injury

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The count of suspected minor injuries resulting from a crash. The injured party could be a driver, passenger or non-motorist involved in a crash.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Count Possible Injury

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The count of possible injuries resulting from a crash. The injured party could be a driver, passenger or non-motorist involved in a crash.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Total Non-Motorists

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Indicates the total number of non-motorists involved in a crash.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Pedestrian Involvement (Non-Motorist)

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Indicates the number of pedestrians involved in a crash, if any. A pedestrian is one type of non-motorist which is defined as any person other than a motorist.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Cyclist Involvement (Non-Motorist)

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Indicates the number of cyclists involved in a crash, if any. A cyclist is one type of non-motorist which is defined as any person other than a motorist.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Other Non-Motorist Involvement

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Indicates the number of non-motorists other than pedestrians or cyclists involved in a crash, if any. Examples include a skater, motorized scooter, wheelchair, etc.

**Possible Values:** 0, 1, 2, etc.

## Non-Motorist Location

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The location of the non-motorist with respect to the trafficway at the time of crash. In the infrequent cases where multiple non-motorists are involved, only one value will be displayed.

**Possible Values:** Marked Crosswalk at Intersection; At Intersection but no Crosswalk; Non-Intersection Crosswalk; In Roadway; Not in Roadway; Median (But not on Shoulder); Island; Shoulder; Sidewalk; Shared-Use Paths or trails; Unknown

## Non-Motorist Action

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The action of the non-motorist immediately prior to the crash. In the infrequent cases where multiple non-motorists are involved, only one value will be displayed.

**Possible Values:** Entering or Crossing Location; Walking, Running or Cycling; Working; Pushing Vehicle; Approaching or Leaving Vehicle; Working on Vehicle; Standing; Other; Unknown

## Non-Motorist Condition

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Any relevant condition of the individual (non-motorist) that is directly related to the crash. In the infrequent cases where multiple non-motorists are involved, only one value will be displayed.

**Possible Values:** Apparently Normal; Physical Impairment; Emotional (ex: Depression, Angry); Illness; Fell Asleep, Fainted, Fatigue, etc; Under the Influence of Drugs/Alcohol/Med; Other; Unknown

## Hit and Run Flag

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Refers to cases where the vehicle or driver of the vehicle in transport is a contact vehicle in the crash and departs the scene without stopping to render aid or report the crash.

**Possible Values:** Y (yes), N (no)

## Latitude

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Latitude measures the distance north or south of the equator. When coupled with longitude, a specific geographic location is identified.

## Longitude

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Longitude measures distance east or west of the prime meridian. When coupled with longitude, a specific geographic location is identified.

## Block Code

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** Block codes represent the census block where each incident occurred. Somerville is composed of approximately 700 census blocks. Census blocks are numbered uniquely with a four-digit census block number from 0000 to 9999 within census tract code, which nests within state and county codes. These block codes are used to map incidents in the associated Tableau visualizations. Block codes are automatically assigned using the incident address and a small portion of incidents with limited address information may be mapped to a nearby block.

**Example:** For the [census geographic identifier](#) "250173507021008", the 1008 represents the block code which is nestled into the tract code (3507021008) which is nestled within the county

code (0173507021008) which is nestled within the state code (250173507021008). This 15 digit number represents a particular census block in West Somerville, MA.

## Ward

**Data Type:** Text

**Description:** The Ward where the violation occurred.

**Possible Values:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7