

# Sierra County Report, 2001

## Demographics

In 2001, there were 4,164 licensed drivers in Sierra County. Of these, there were 1,930 females and 2,234 males. The population in Sierra County was 5,981. The total number of crashes in 2001 was 144, yielding a crash rate of 24 per thousand people (The total number of crashes 144 divided by the population 5,981 multiplied by 1,000). The corresponding rate for the state was 27 per thousand people.

## General Crash Information

Since 1992 the number of crashes has shown no consistent pattern. Fatal and injury crashes have also shown no consistent pattern since 1992. Belt usage (as a percentage) has decreased from last year, while belt usage in crashes involving visible and incapacitating injuries has also decreased.

## Alcohol-related Crash Information

Information about alcohol-involved crashes is included in all sections of this report. Of the 66 people convicted of DWI in Sierra County in 2001, 61 percent were first-time DWI convictions (Number of first convictions 40 divided by the total number of people convicted 66 multiplied by 100). The corresponding percentage for the state was 57.

## Crash Specifics

Crashes involving overturns were the most common class, accounting for 33 percent of all crashes. Crashes involving overturns, fixed objects, and an other vehicle resulted in fatalities. Pickup trucks were the vehicle type most often involved in crashes, accounting for 33 percent of all vehicles in crashes. Passenger cars accounted for 31 percent of vehicles in crashes. Together these two vehicle types comprised 62 percent of the vehicles involved in injury crashes. The three most common top contributing factors were driver inattention, excessive speed, and alcohol involvement. There were six fatal crash in 2001. The top contributing factors for the fatal crashes were alcohol involvement, driver inattention, and excessive speed.

## People in Crashes

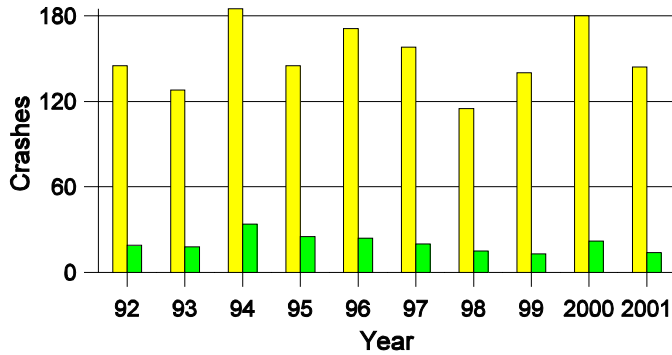
Overall, males were 70 percent of drivers in crashes, although they account for only 54 percent of licensed drivers in Sierra County. No pedestrians were involved in crashes. In 2001, no 'teenagers' or young adults were killed in crashes in Sierra County. Statewide 19 percent of alcohol-involved drivers were under 21; in Sierra County seven percent were under 21.

**Note:** The 1999 crash file contains 15% fewer crashes than the 1998 file. This may be due to problems implementing the new system after the old system failed, or to under reporting. Care should be used in interpreting differences between 1999 and other years in this report.

- Crashes in cities with a population greater than 4,000 are not included in this report.
- Location of arrest/conviction was determined by police agency/court location, not driver residence.
- Crashes and drivers were counted by the city of occurrence/residence.
- Population was counted according to the Census definition, using 2000 estimates.
- Young adults are people between the ages of 20 and 24.
- 'Teenagers' are people between the ages of 15 and 19.
- Tables only include variable values for which there are data.

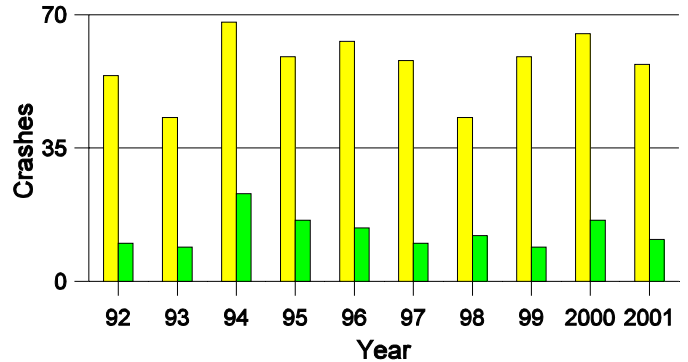
### Crashes in Sierra County

#### by Alcohol Involvement



### Fatal and Injury Crashes in Sierra County

#### by Alcohol Involvement



### Passenger Vehicle Seatbelt Usage and Injuries in Sierra County, 1999-2001

Injury Level	2001		2000		1999	
	Total	No Belt	Total	No Belt	Total	No Belt
Killed	3	2	0	0	6	5
Incapacitating injury	12	8	21	7	11	4
Visible injury	45	12	34	5	38	6
Complaint of injury	12	0	22	2	19	3
Unhurt	141	4	204	14	157	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>21</b>

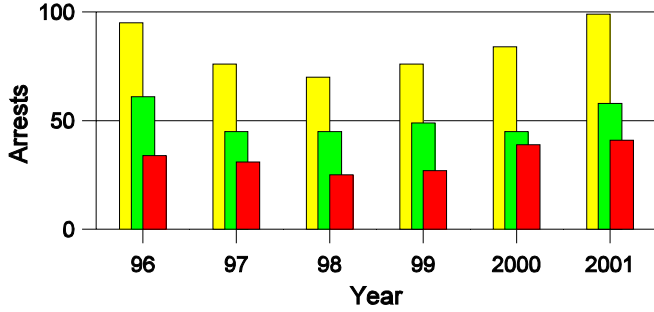
### Lifetime DWI Convictions for Drivers Convicted of DWI Violations in Sierra County, 2001

Convictions	Since 1997	Since 1971
1st	54	40
2nd	9	11
3rd	3	9
4th	0	2
5th	0	1
6th	0	2
7th	0	1
8th	0	0
9th	0	0
10 or more	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>66</b>

Convictions are counts of people convicted of DWI by 7/2002 for violations in 2001 in Sierra County. Convictions are not comparable to arrests.

### DWI Arrests in Sierra County

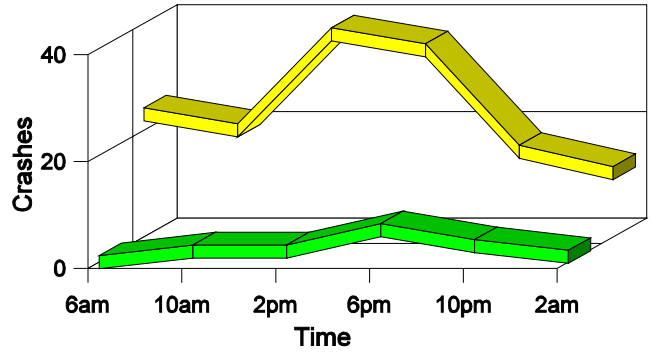
Showing First Arrests and Repeat Offenders



- Total DWI Arrests
- First DWI Arrests
- Repeat DWI Arrests

### Crashes in Sierra County

by Hour and Alcohol Involvement



- All Crashes
- Alcohol-involved Crashes

### Crashes in Sierra County by Class, 2001

Class	Crashes					People	
	Total	% of Total	Fatal	% of Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Other vehicle	16	11	1	17	5	1	8
Fixed object	39	27	2	33	12	2	16
Parked vehicle	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Overturn	48	33	3	50	30	3	56
Other non-collision	13	9	0	0	3	0	3
Animal	24	17	0	0	1	0	1
Other object	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>84</b>

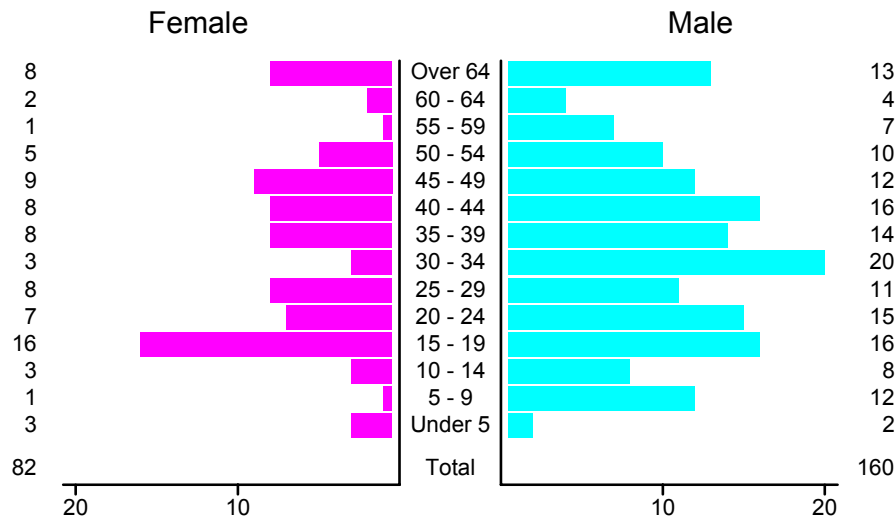
### Crashes in Sierra County by Vehicle Type, 2001

Vehicle Type	Vehicles					People	
	Total	% of Total	Fatal	% of Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Passenger car	53	31	1	14	16	1	27
Pickup	55	33	1	14	20	0	24
Semi	12	7	0	0	5	0	5
Bus	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Motorcycle	9	5	2	29	6	2	6
Van/4 WD	28	17	3	43	8	3	22
Other	4	2	0	0	2	0	0
Unknown	7	4	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>84</b>

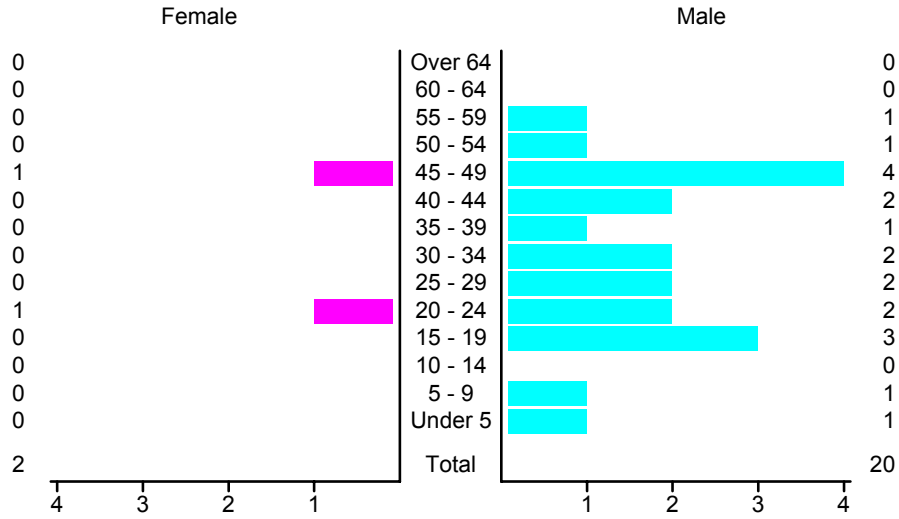
### Crashes in Sierra County by Top Contributing Factor, 2001

Contributing Factor	Crashes					People	
	Total	% of Total	Fatal	% of Fatal	Injury	Killed	Injured
Alcohol involvement	14	10	3	50	8	3	12
Passing a red light	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Failing to yield	5	3	0	0	1	0	1
Excessive speed	22	15	1	17	11	1	21
Driving left of center	9	6	0	0	7	0	12
Following too close	1	1	0	0	1	0	1
Improper turning	2	1	0	0	1	0	1
Mechanical defect	7	5	0	0	1	0	1
Driver inattention	29	20	2	33	11	2	23
Improper driving	4	3	0	0	2	0	4
Other	50	35	0	0	8	0	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>84</b>

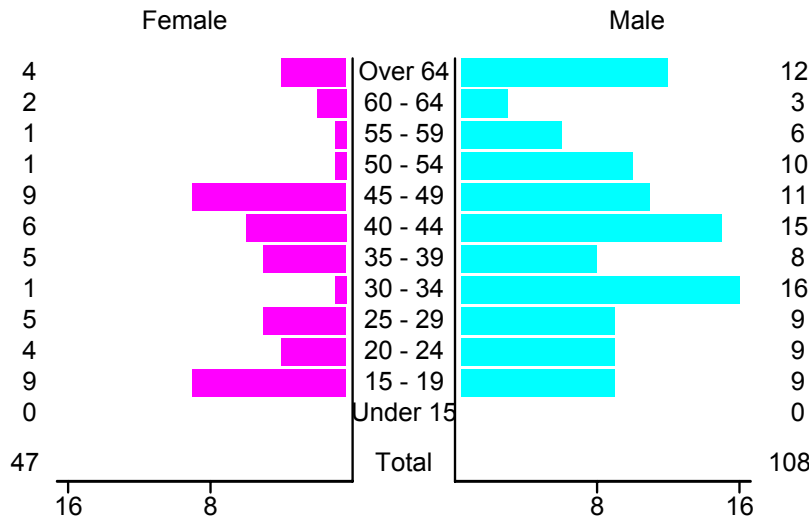
### People in Crashes by Age and Sex in Sierra County, 2001



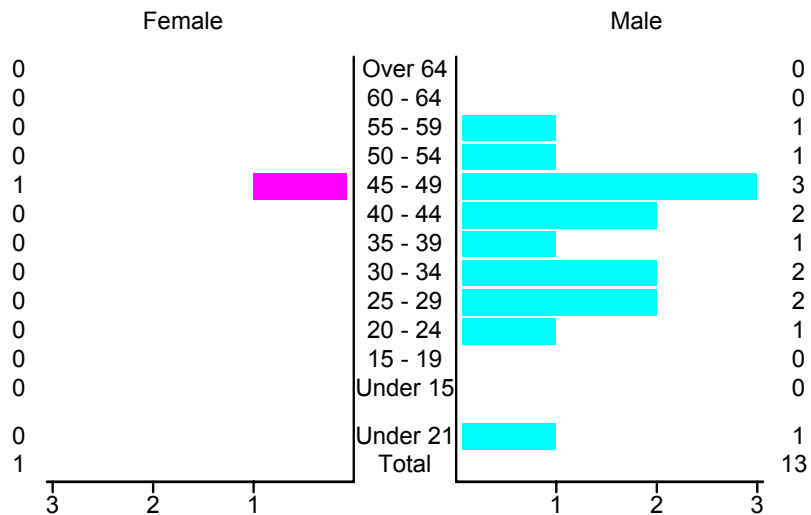
### People in Alcohol-Involved Crashes in Sierra County, 2001 by Age and Sex



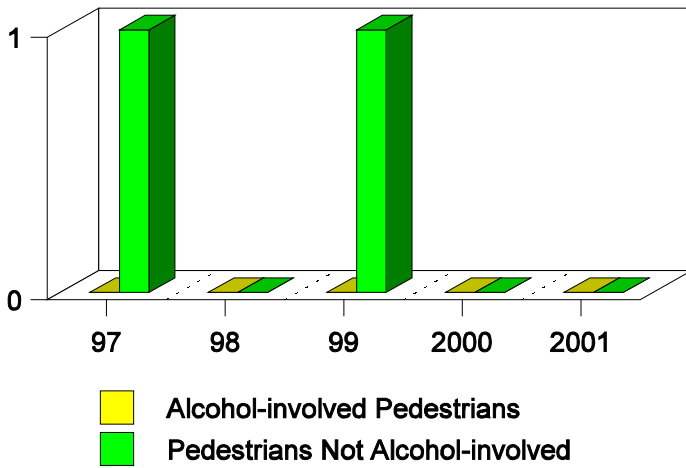
### Drivers in Crashes by Age and Sex in Sierra County, 2001



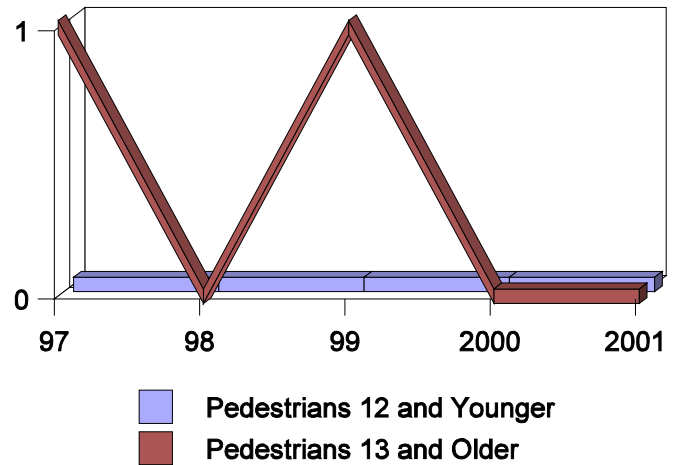
### Alcohol-Involved Drivers in Crashes in Sierra County, 2001 by Age and Sex



**Pedestrian Crashes in Sierra County  
by Pedestrian Alcohol-involvement, 1997-2001**



**Pedestrian Crashes in Sierra County  
by Age Group, 1997-2001**



**'Teenagers' and Young Adults in Crashes in Sierra County by Vehicle Type, 2001**

Vehicle	'Teenage' Drivers			Young Adult Drivers		
	Total	Fatal	Injury	Total	Fatal	Injury
Passenger car	10	0	5	5	0	3
Pickup	6	1	3	5	0	3
Van/4 WD	2	0	0	3	0	2
Total	18	1	8	13	0	8

**'Teenagers' and Young Adults in Crashes in Sierra County, 1992-2001**

Year	'Teenagers'				Young Adults			
	All Crashes		Alcohol Crashes		All Crashes		Alcohol Crashes	
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured
2001	0	17	0	1	0	9	0	2
2000	0	13	0	1	1	13	0	1
1999	2	18	1	2	0	12	0	2
1998	0	18	0	1	0	8	0	4
1997	1	12	0	3	0	17	0	6
1996	1	20	1	10	0	18	0	4
1995	2	15	1	2	2	13	1	7
1994	0	8	0	3	0	13	0	2
1993	0	5	0	0	1	7	1	1
1992	1	11	0	0	0	14	0	7