

Safety in the City of Conroe

The following information applies to safety in the City of Conroe located in Montgomery County. First, there are some caveats about the data:

1. The data H-GAC has analyzed is distributed by the Accident Records Bureau of the Department of Public Safety. This is the state agency vested with documenting crashes for the State. Currently, their reporting requirements are that all fatal crashes, all injury crashes, and all property damage only (PDO) crashes in which one or more vehicles were towed be reported. Thus, they do not include the typical 'fender bender' in which no one is injured and all vehicles are driven away from the crash scene. In other words, the data we have represent the more serious crashes.
2. We've geocoded the crashes. However, because the data are kept in a very old information system by DPS in which road names are represented either by five-digit codes, the first five letters of the road name, or control-section numbers (for rural state roads), there is inevitably some geocoding error. We were able to geocode about 82% of all crashes in the DPS data set with about 90% accuracy on average.
3. To date, we have only geocoded crashes for 1999. Thus, any conclusions about location are only tentative.
4. Spatial accuracy is within 50-100 yards. One would need actual crash diagrams to have more accuracy.
5. Please cite the Accident Records Bureau of the Texas Department of Public Safety as the source for the crash data and cite the Houston-Galveston Area Council as the source for the crash analysis.

The results of the analysis in the City of Conroe were as follows:

1. In 1999, there 803 *serious* crashes that occurred within the boundaries of the City of Conroe. This makes it the fourth highest ranking city in our region in terms of safety severity (after Houston, Pasadena, and Galveston). Of these 803 crashes, 659 occurred on either IH 45 or a major arterial.
 - A. 1999 crashes on IH 45 within the City of Conroe: 293
 - B. 1999 crashes on other arterials within the City of Conroe: 366
2. The State average is 145.8 serious crashes per 100 million VMT while the region's average is 199.5 serious crashes per 100 million VMT. The 350.6 serious crashes per 100 million VMT in Conroe is an extremely high

number, among the highest in the region. The arterials within Conroe are, in terms of safety, among the worst in the region.

A. Annual VMT on other Conroe arterials (100 M):	1.04
B. Crash risk (crashes per 100 M VMT):	350.6
C. Annual VMT on IH 45 (100 M):	2.35
D. Crash risk (crashes per 100 M VMT):	124.8

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