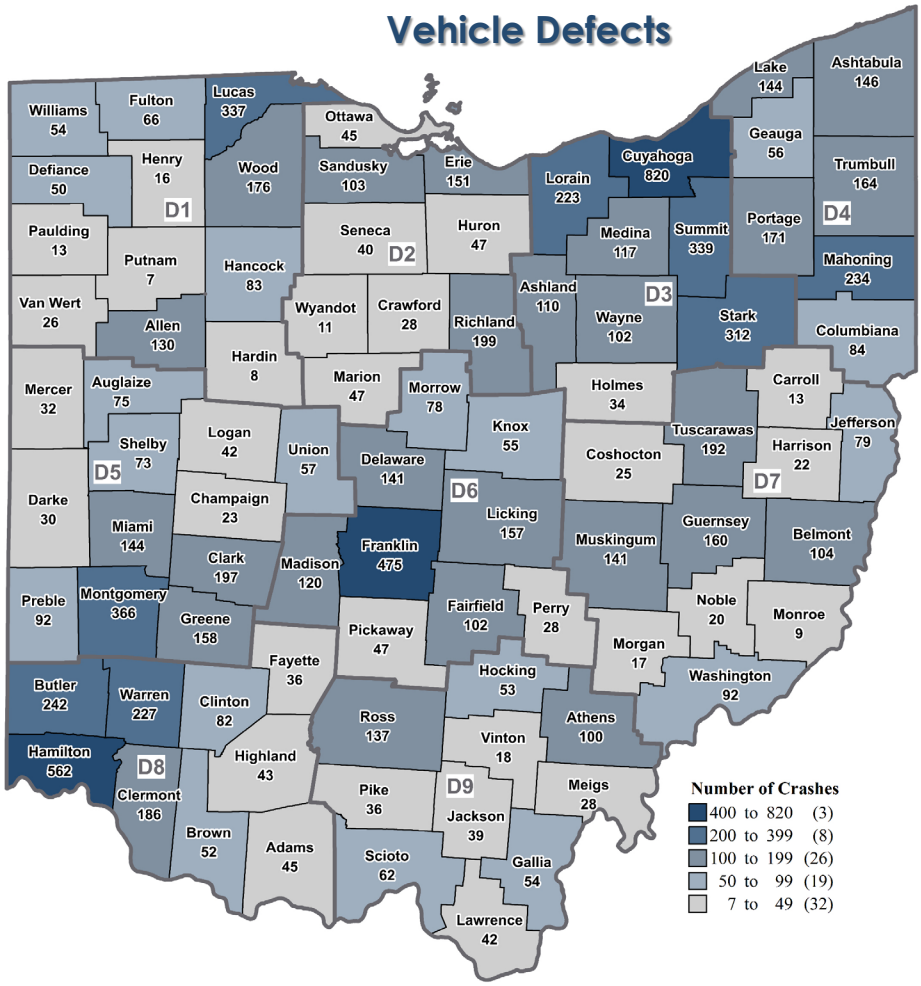
Traffic Safety Bulletin

March 2023

Vehicle Defects



Map and Table:

2018-2022 Vehicle Defect-Related Crashes

OSHP District	Number of Crashes
District 1	966
District 2	671
District 3	2,057
District 4	999
District 5	1,289
District 6	1,203
District 7	874
District 8	1,475
District 9	569
Total	10,103

Ohio Vehicle Defect-Related Crashes[1]

- Over the last five years (2018-2022), there have been 10,103 crashes in Ohio that were caused by some kind of vehicle defect. Among these were 42 defect-related fatal crashes that resulted in 49 deaths. An additional 2,779 people were injured in such crashes. The 1,865 crashes in 2022 were the lowest number of vehicle defect crashes over this time period, down 3% from the 2021 total and down 21% from the peak year, 2019.
- Brake failures (19%) and tire blowouts (19%) were the most common issues in defect-related crashes. In fatal defect-related crashes, tire blowouts were responsible for 31% of crashes.
- Not surprisingly, older vehicles were involved in nearly half of defect-related crashes from 2018 to 2022. Vehicles from model years 2000-2009 accounted for 49% of the defective vehicles in crashes. On the other hand, model years 2011-2020 vehicles were involved in 26% of defect-related crashes. Brakes were the most common defect for older vehicles (21%) while tire blowouts caused the most crashes for newer vehicles (28%).

OSHP Vehicle Defect Traffic Stops

- From 2018 to 2022, OSHP troopers made more than 345,000 traffic stops in which a vehicle defect was found. Common defects included lights being out (tail lights, brake lights, headlights), window tint being too dark, cracked windshields and/or missing or expired registration stickers.

[1]A vehicle defect crash includes any crash involving one or more vehicles with a contributing circumstance of (18) operating defective equipment.