

# Regional Safety Trends

Transportation Policy Board

9 July 2026



Puget Sound Regional Council

# Background

- PSRC Regional Safety Action Plan Adopted in Spring 2025
  - Data through 2023
  - Funded by USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Program (SS4A)
- SS4A Grants have awarded ~\$20 million to over 30 planning and demonstration projects in the region
- Seattle was awarded a \$26 million SS4A implementation Grant
- Planning work in recent years has helped local agencies identify a broad array of effective and efficient safety investments



# Overall Trends

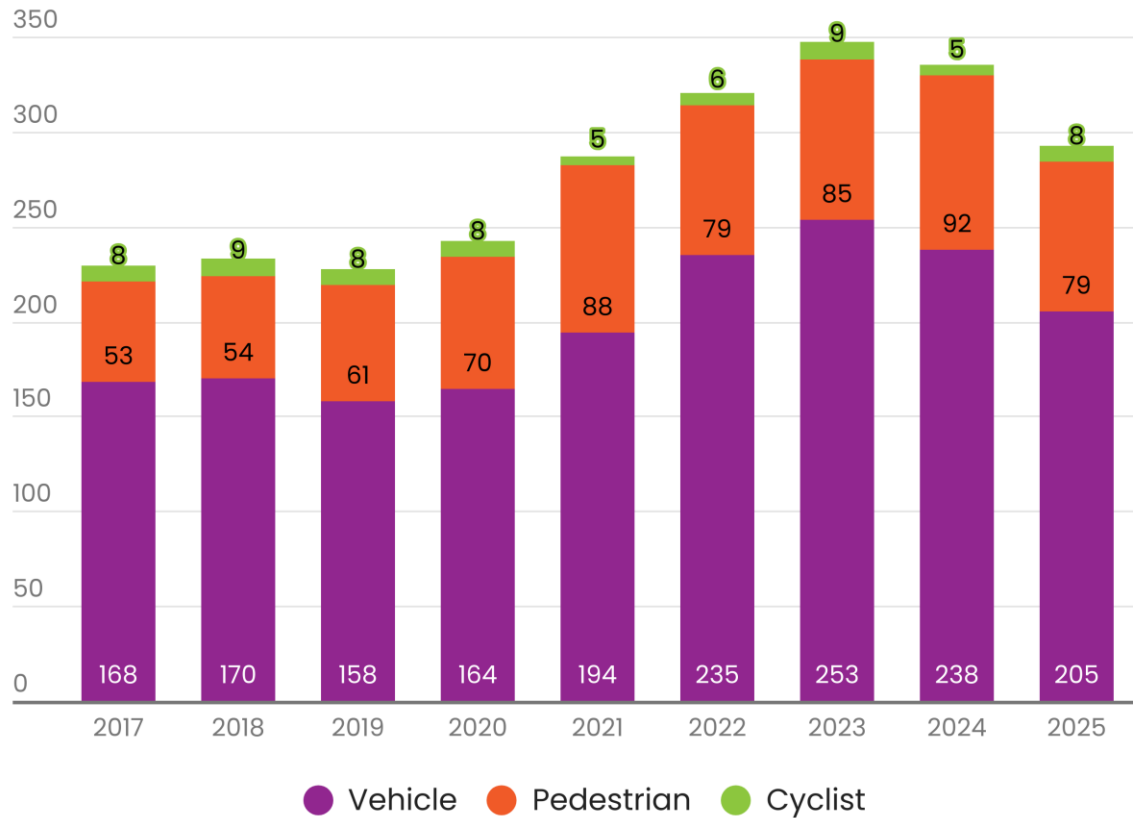


1. By Mode
2. Per-Capita Trends
3. Post-Crash

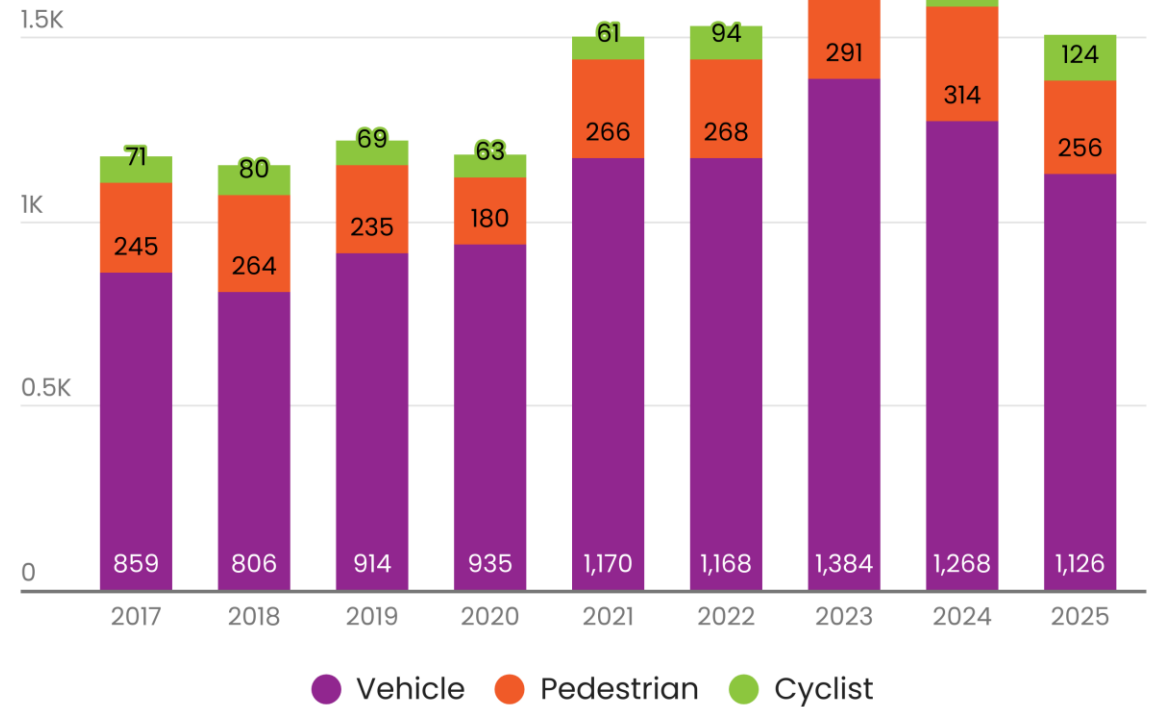


# Total Deaths & Serious Injuries are declining

## Traffic Related Deaths, 2017-2025

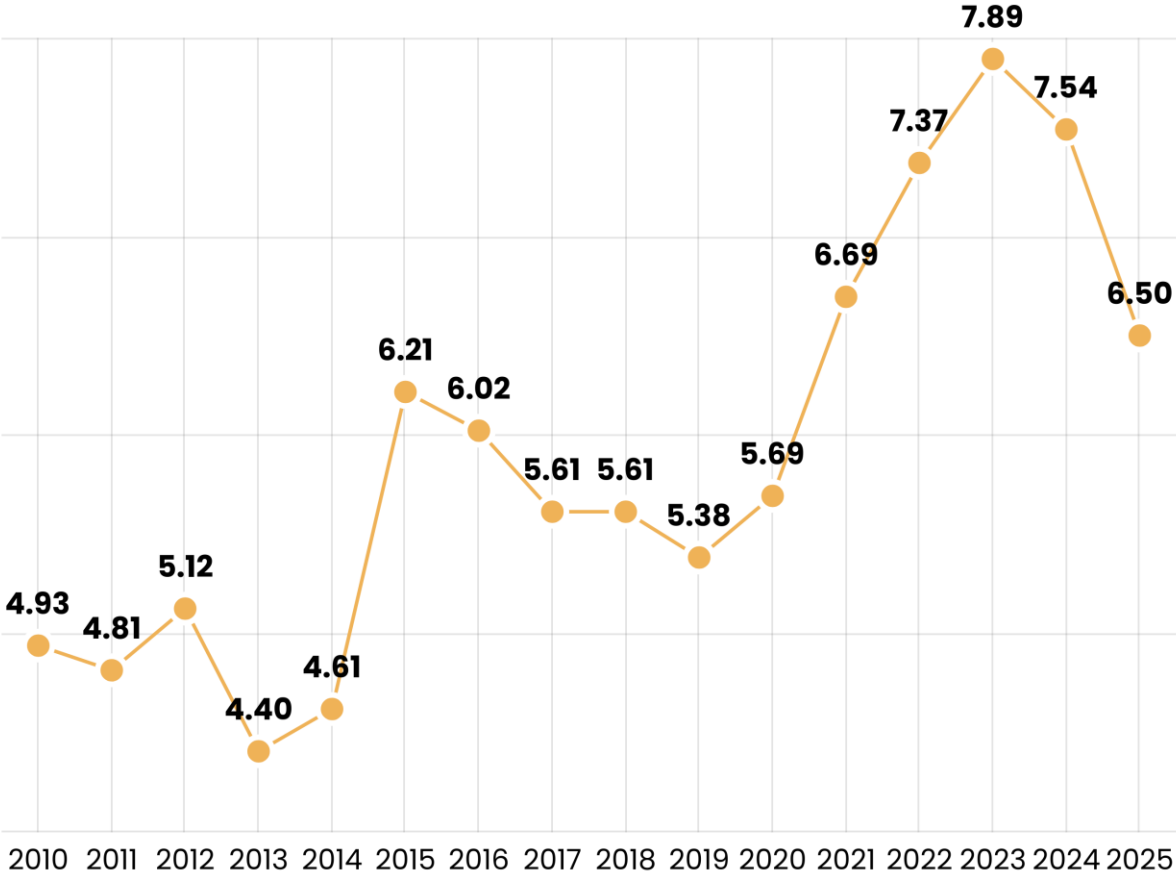


## Serious Injuries, 2017-2025

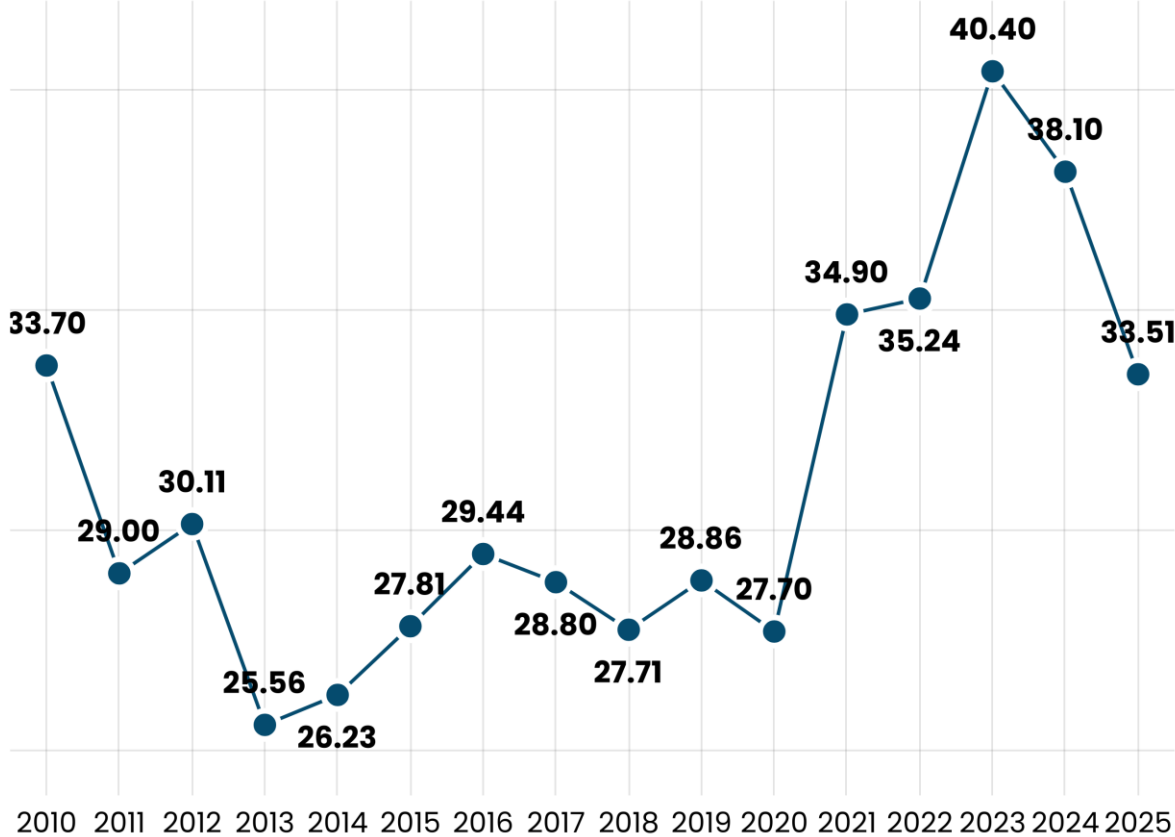


# Rate per-capita is declining but still above historic levels

## Traffic Related Deaths per 100,000 people



## Serious Injuries per 100,000 people

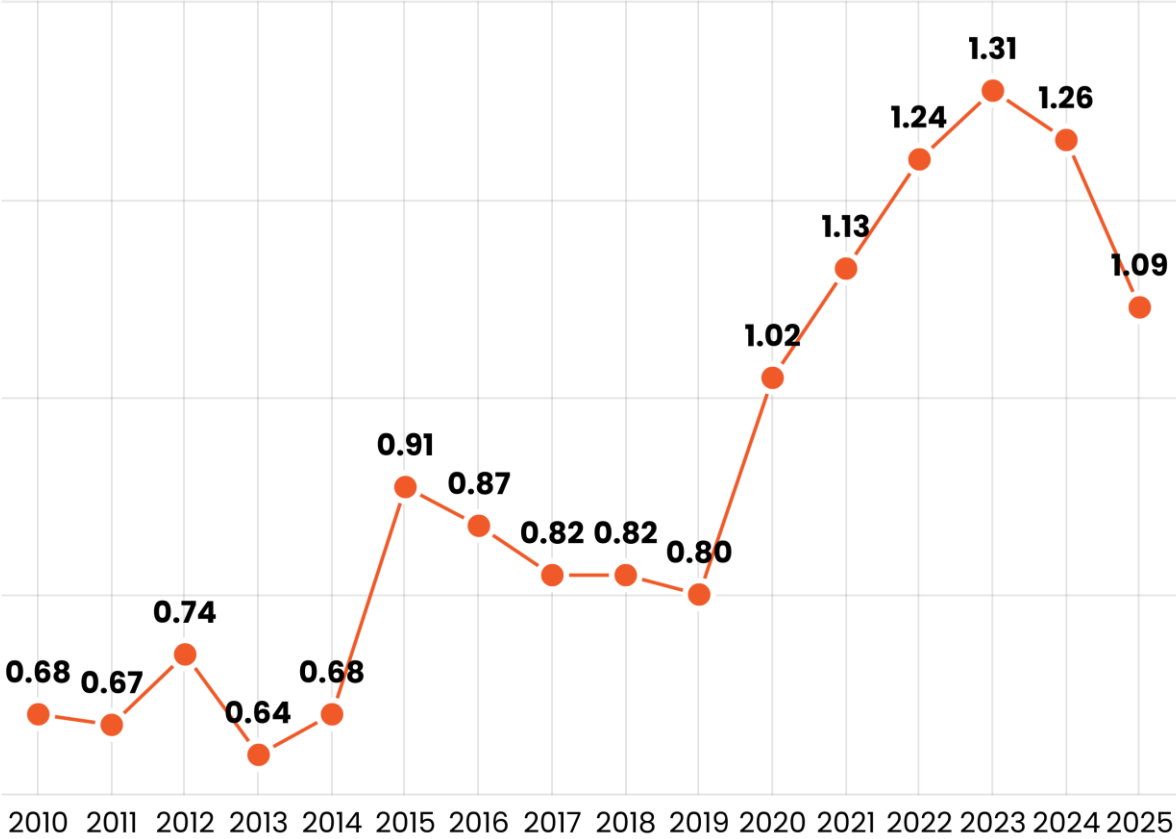


Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data

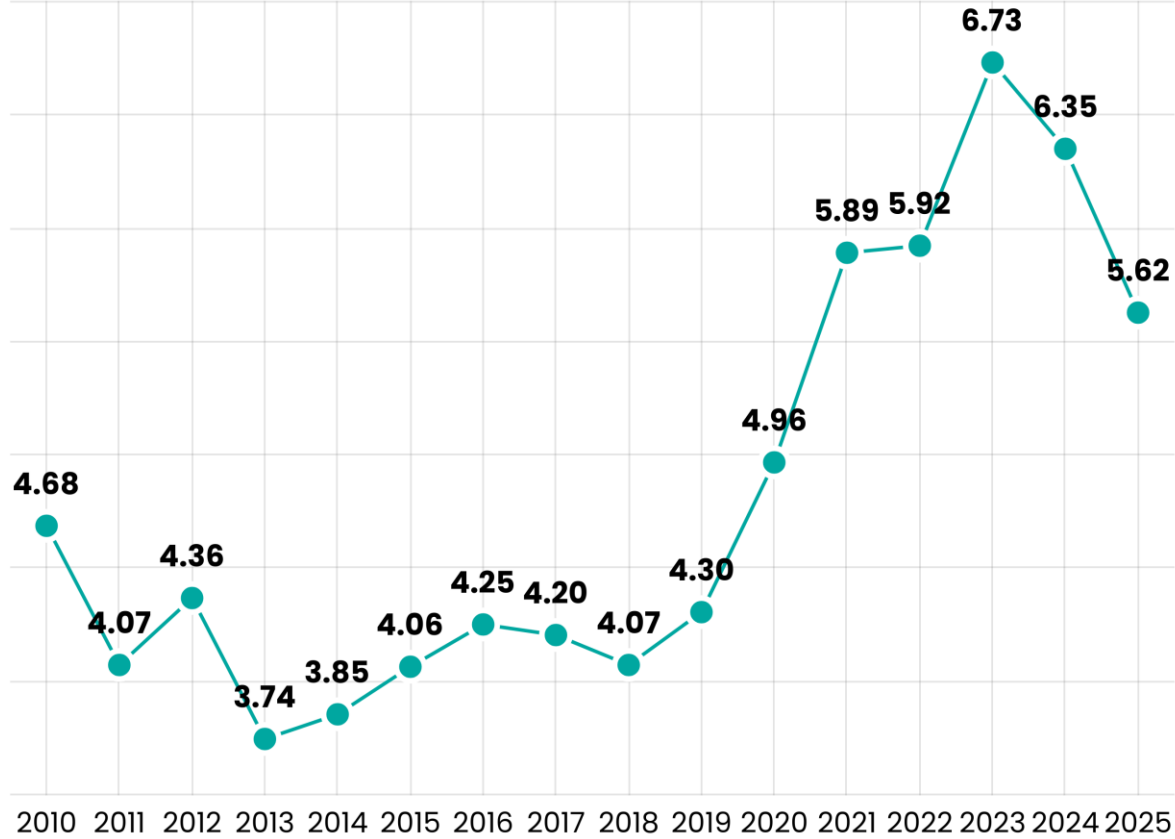


# Rates per mile driven are also declining

### Traffic Related Deaths per 100M Miles Traveled



### Serious Injuries per 100M Miles Traveled

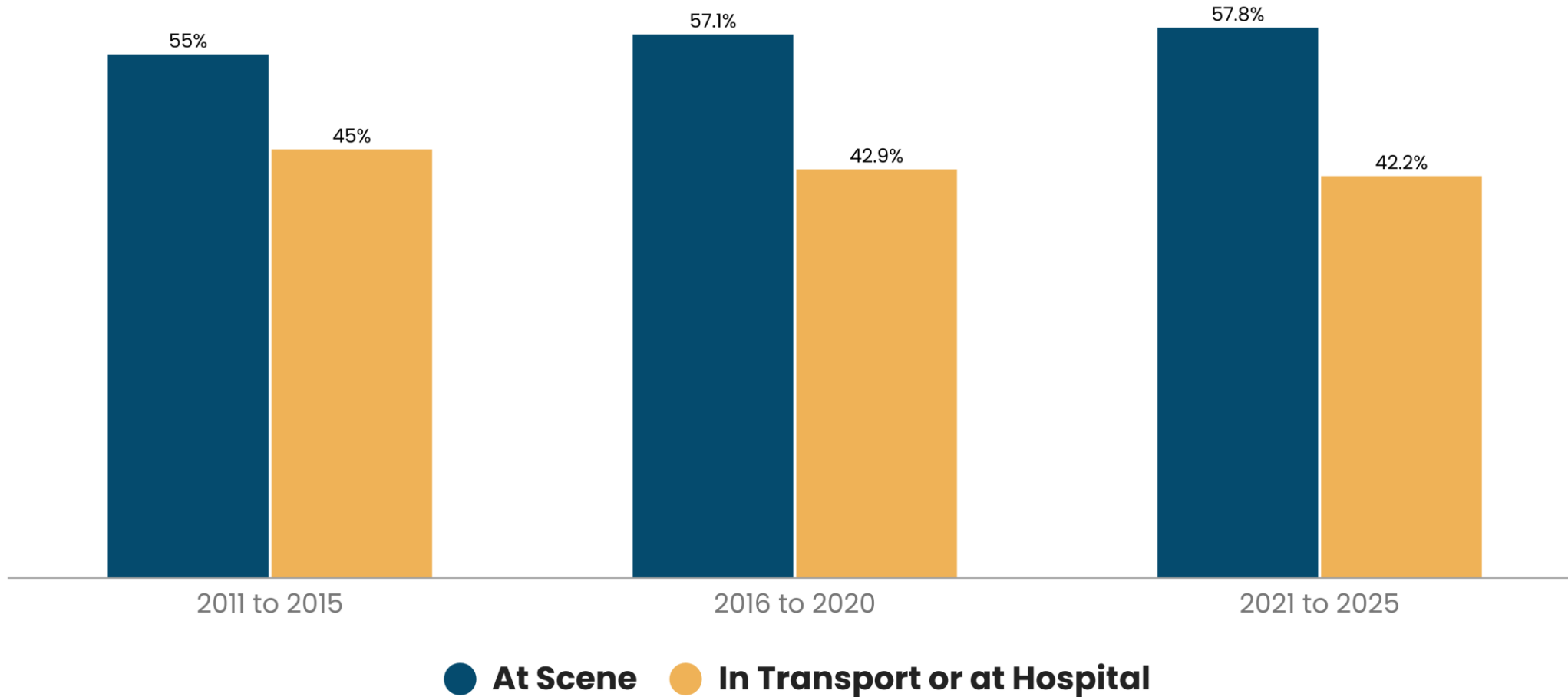


Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# Over 40% of deaths occur after paramedics arrive

## Traffic Related Deaths at Scene or Later



Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# Demographics

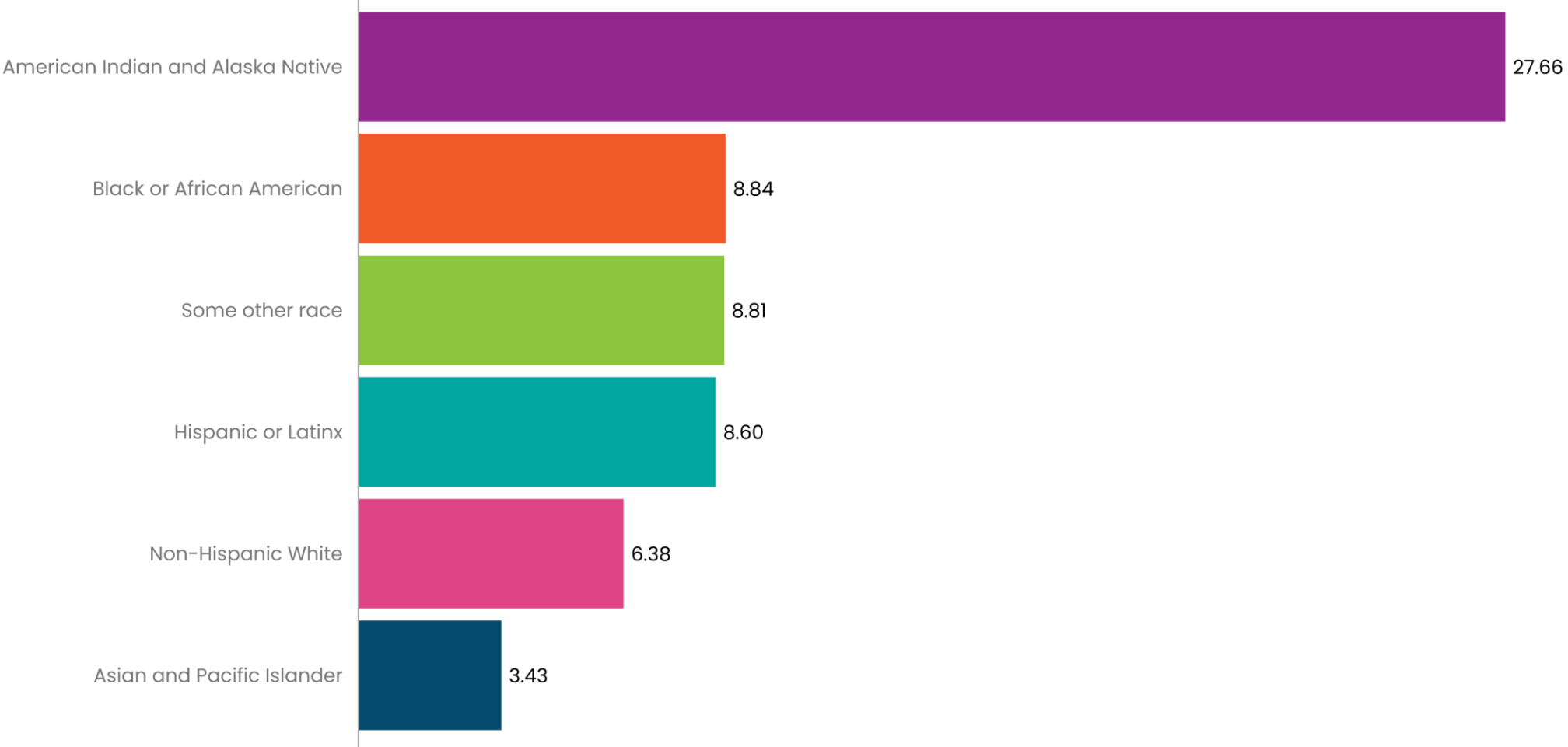


1. Race & Ethnicity
2. Gender
3. Age



# Rates of Traffic Deaths vary by Race & Ethnicity

## Traffic Related Deaths per 100,000 people

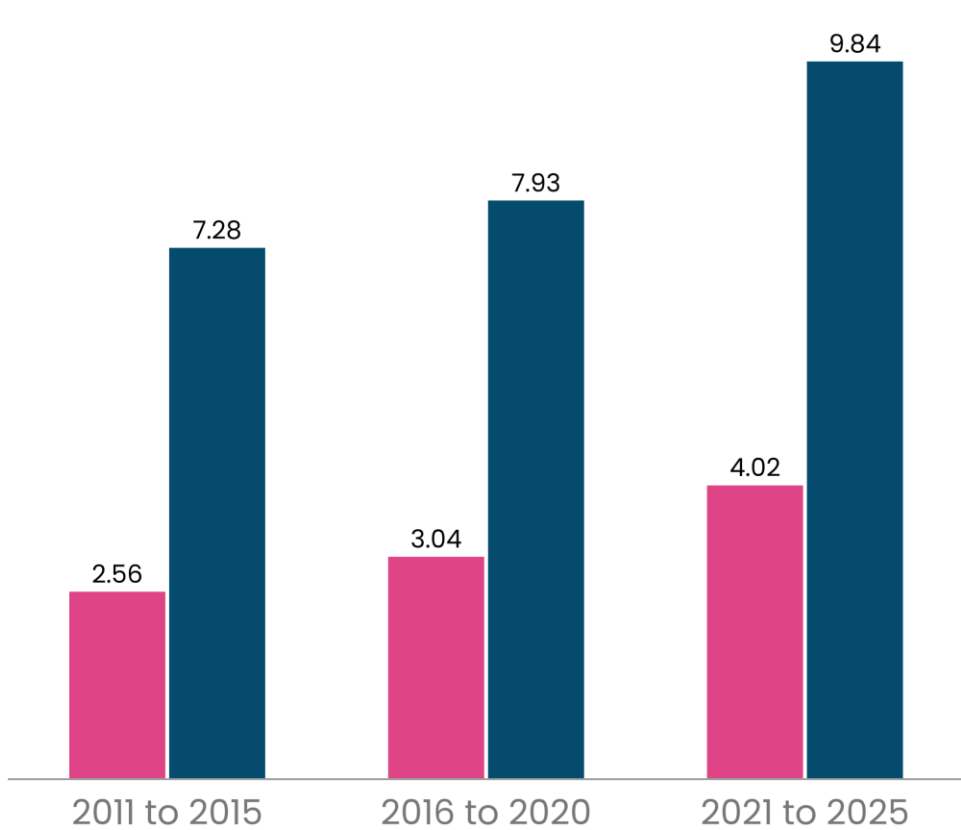


Source: Washington State Traffic Safety Commission, Coded Fatal Crash Data Files, 2025 Preliminary Data



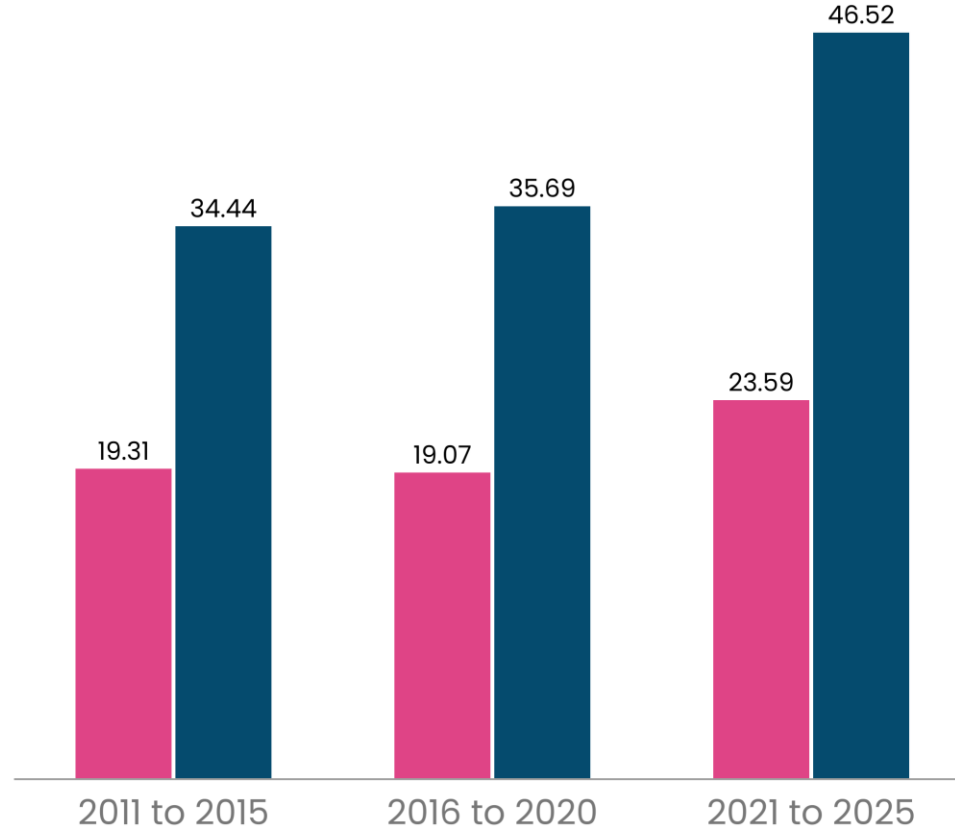
# Men are far more likely to die or be seriously injured

## Deaths per 100k people



● Female ● Male

## Serious Injuries per 100k people

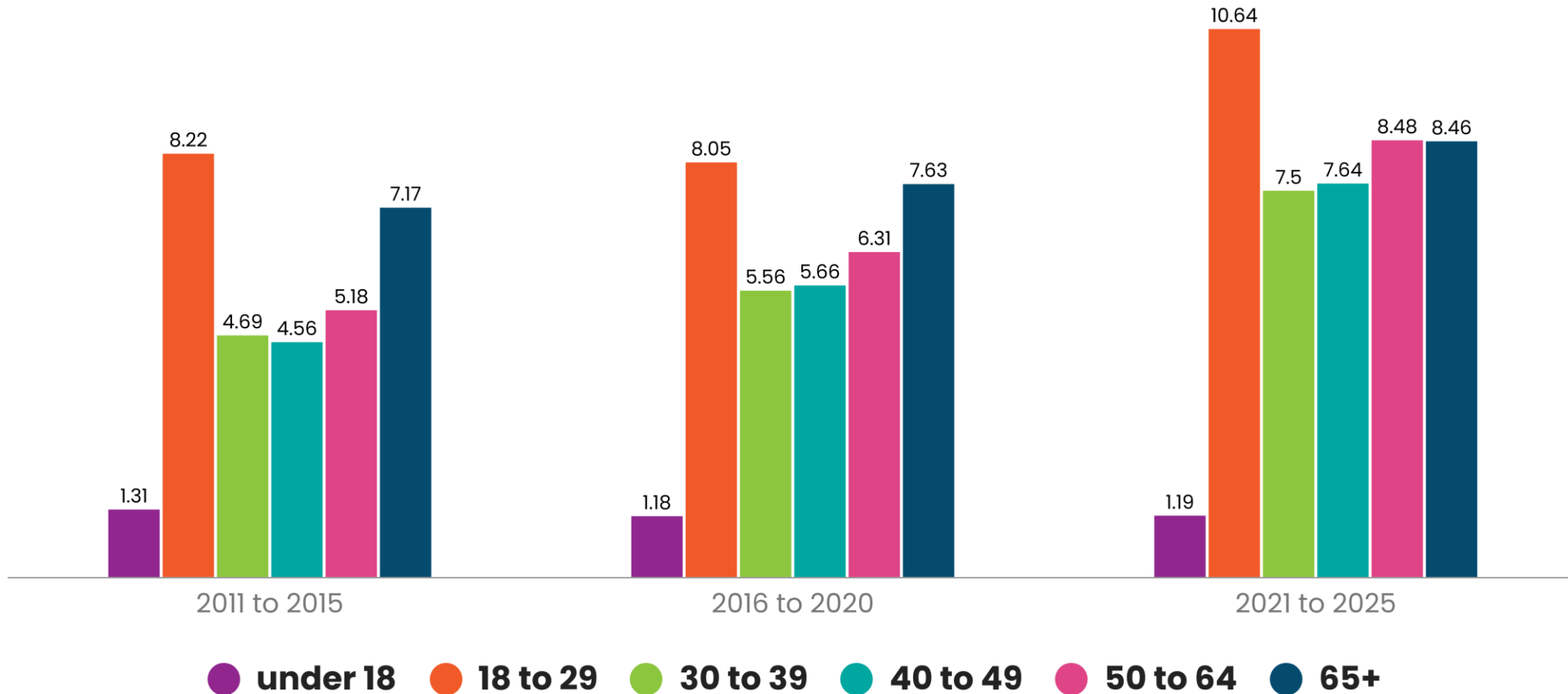


● Female ● Male



# People 18 to 29 are more likely to die in a crash

## Deaths per 100k people

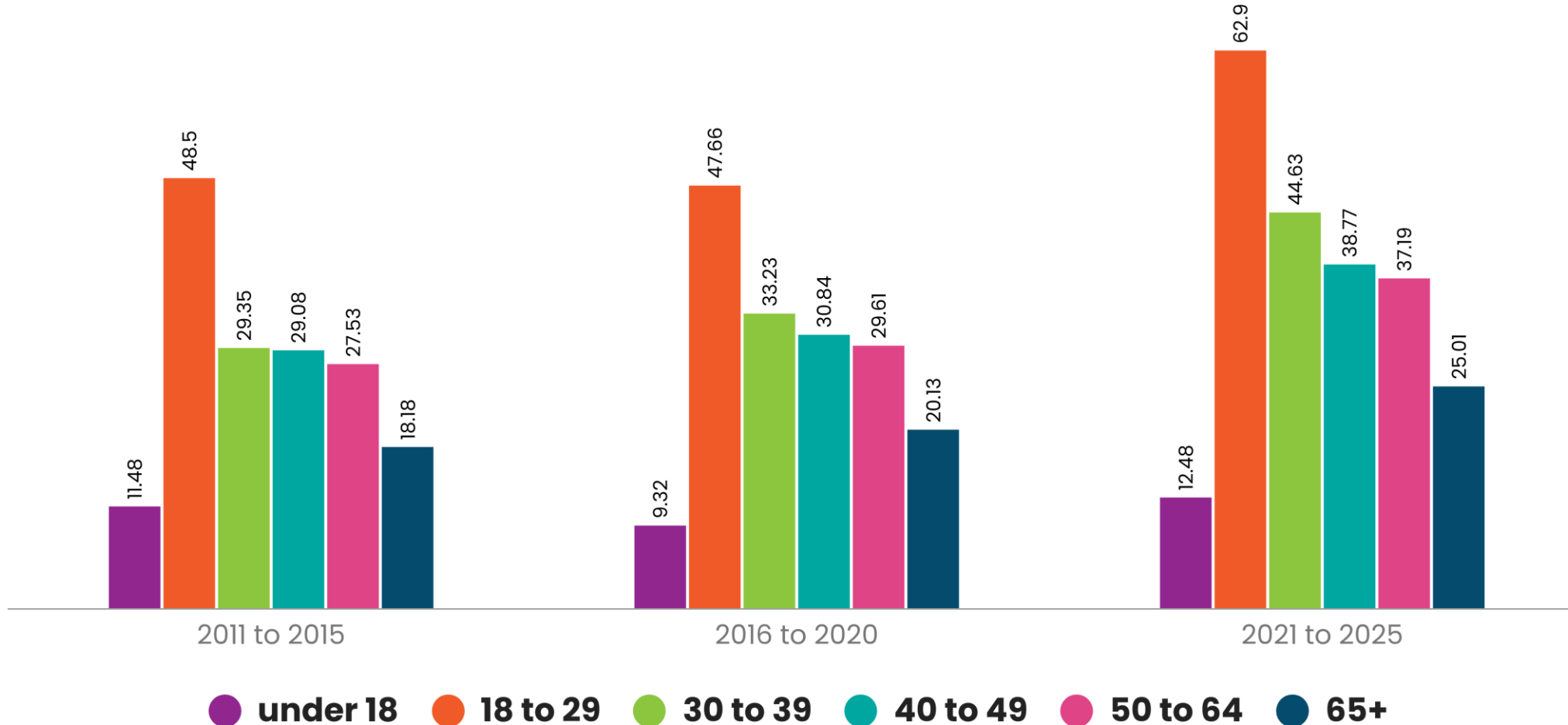


Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# People 18 to 29 are more likely to be seriously injured

## Serious Injuries per 100k people



Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# Geography



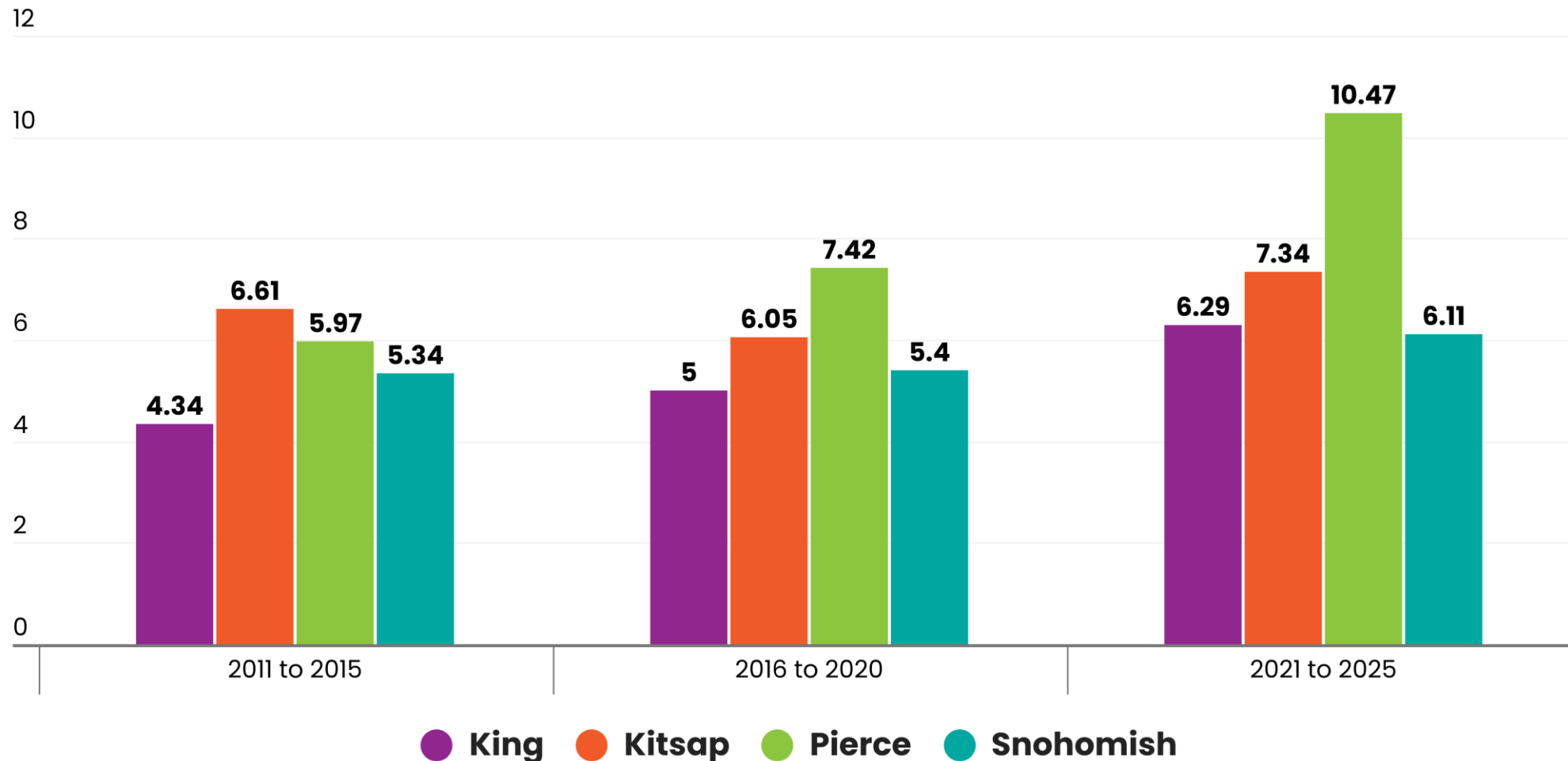
1. County

2. Urban & Rural



# Pierce County has had the highest fatal rates since 2016

## Traffic Related Deaths per 100,000 people

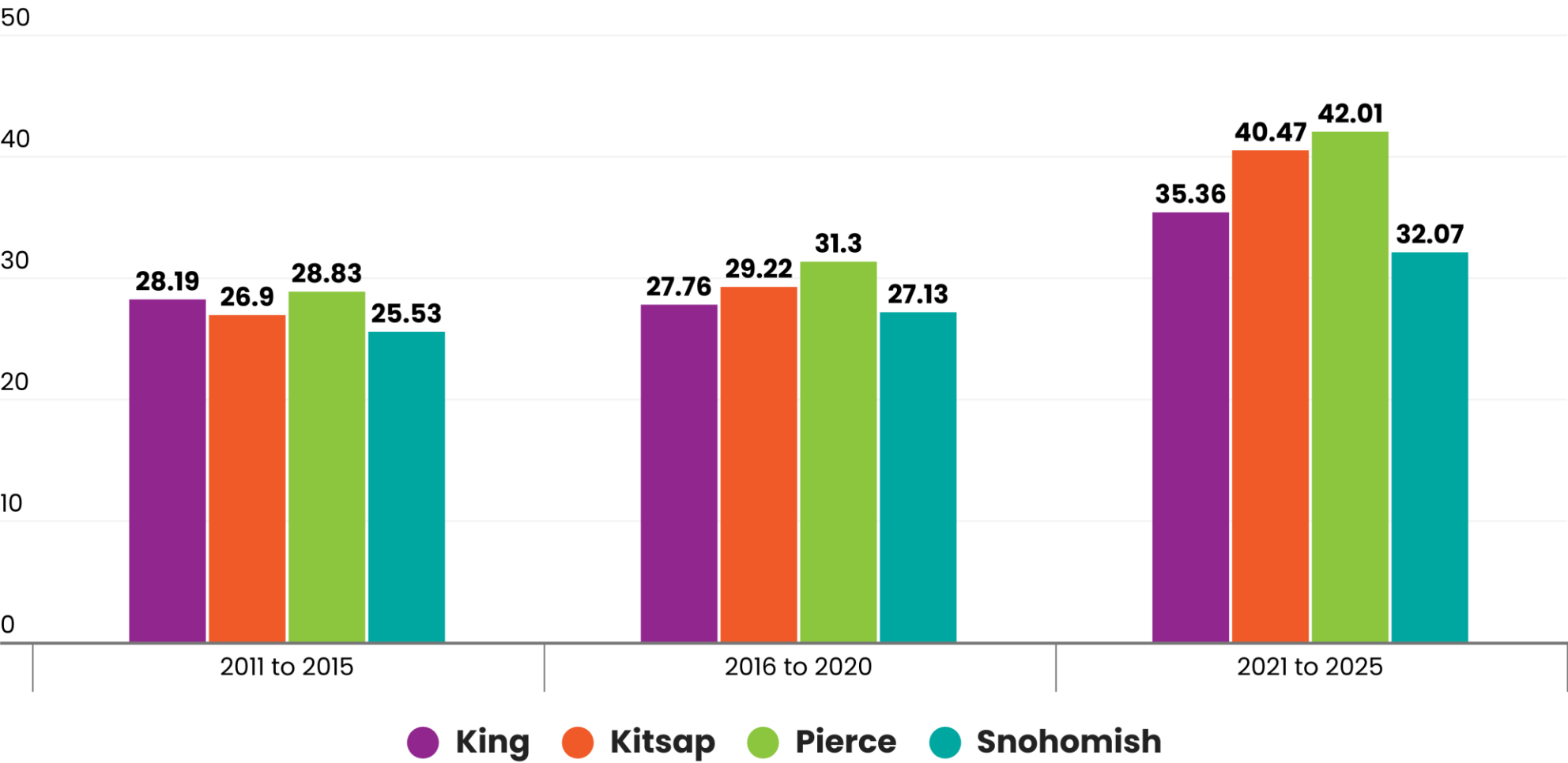


Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# Snohomish County has the lowest serious injury rates

## Serious Injuries per 100,000 people

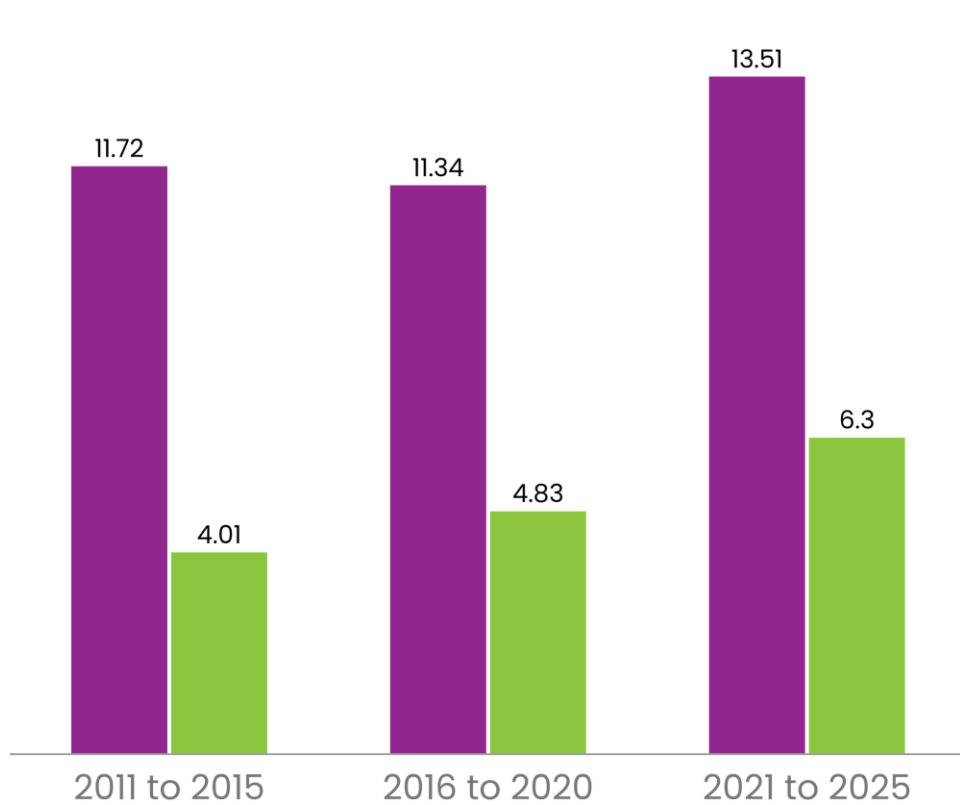


Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



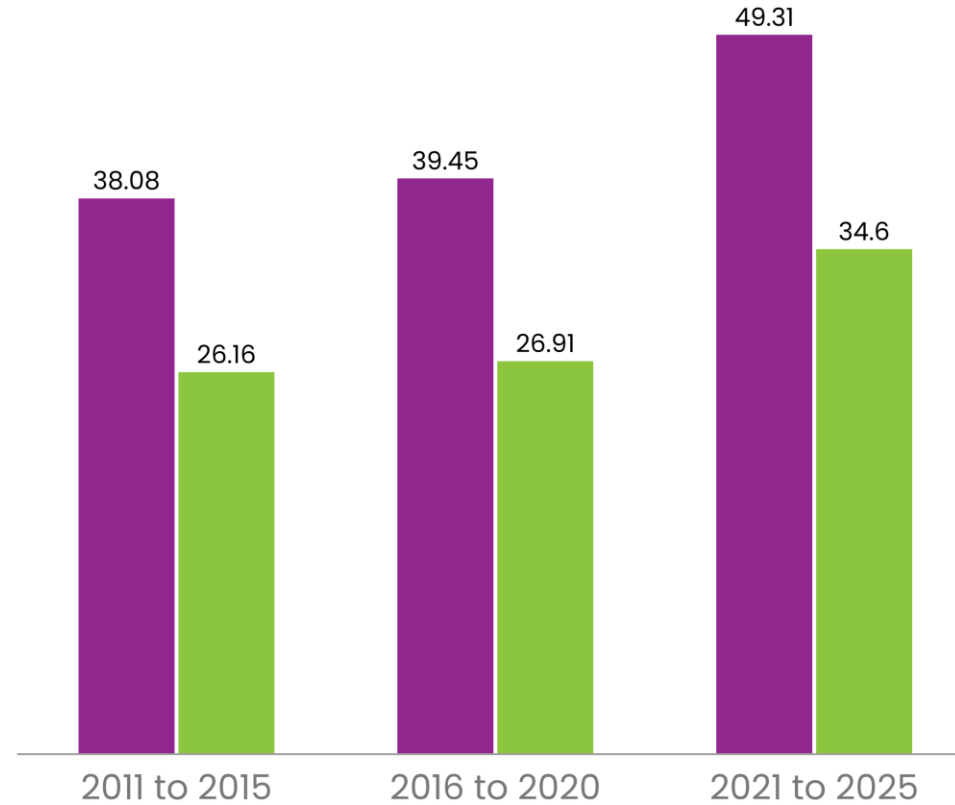
# Rural rates are significantly higher than Urban

## Deaths per 100k people



● Rural ● Urban

## Serious Injuries per 100k people



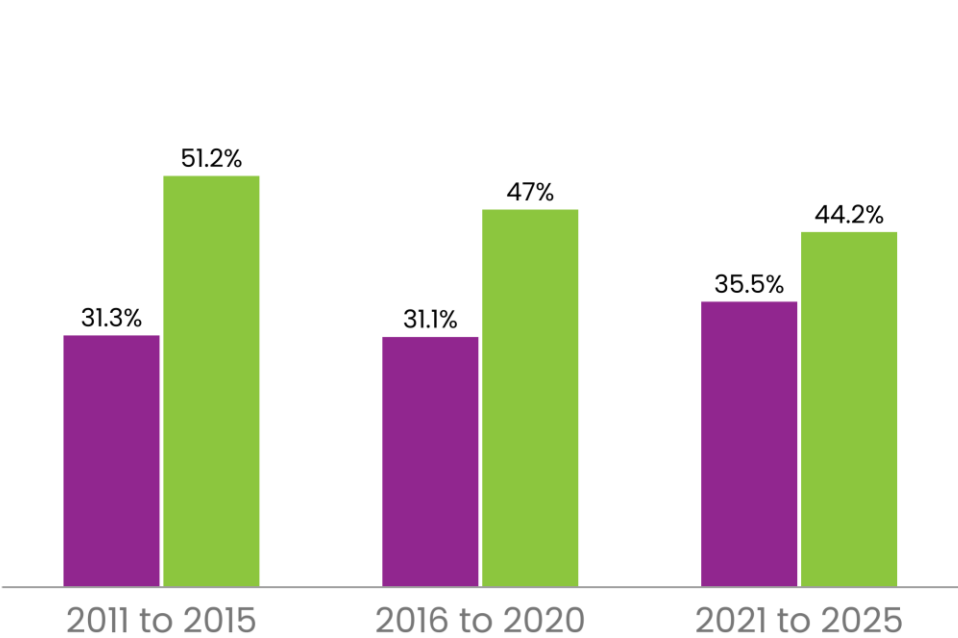
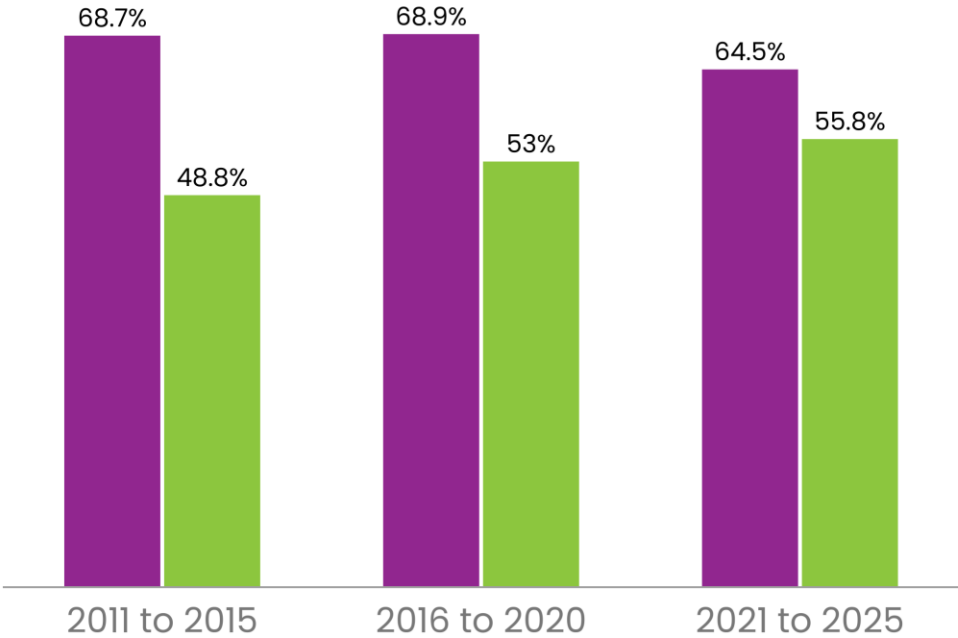
● Rural ● Urban



# Rural Deaths are more likely to occur on scene

## At Scene

## In Transport or at Hospital



● Rural ● Urban

● Rural ● Urban

Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# Other Factors



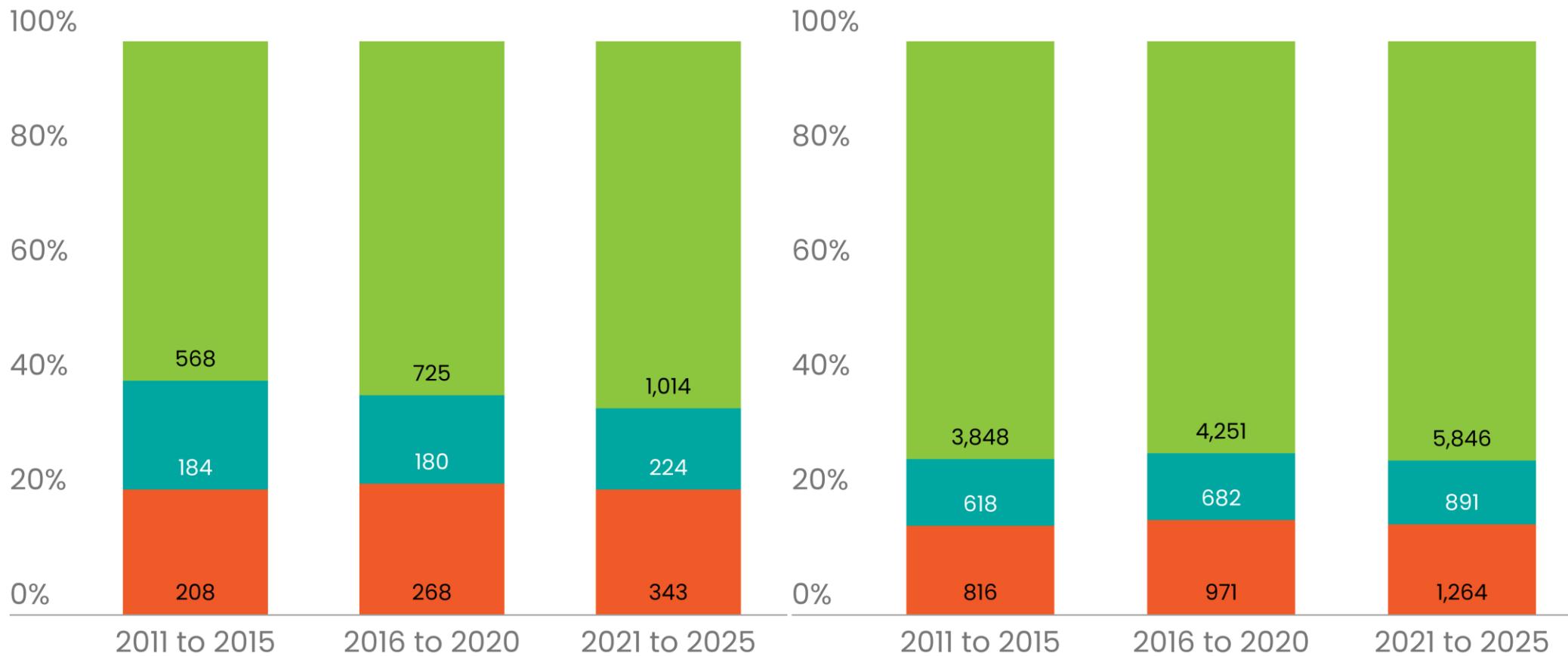
1. Roadway Type
2. Speed Limit
3. Distracted Users
4. Time of Day
5. Day of Week



# Most deaths & serious injuries occur on urban arterials

## Deaths

## Serious Injuries



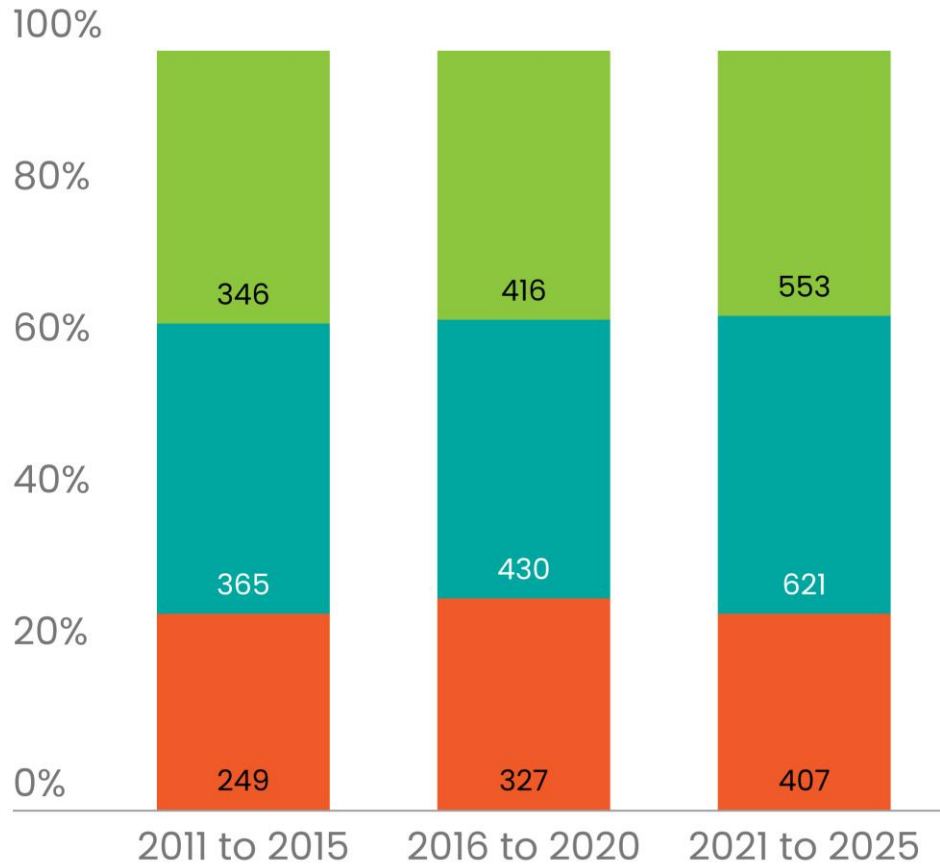
● Freeway 
 ● Non-Urban Arterials 
 ● Urban Arterials 
 ● Freeway 
 ● Non-Urban Arterials 
 ● Urban Arterials

Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data

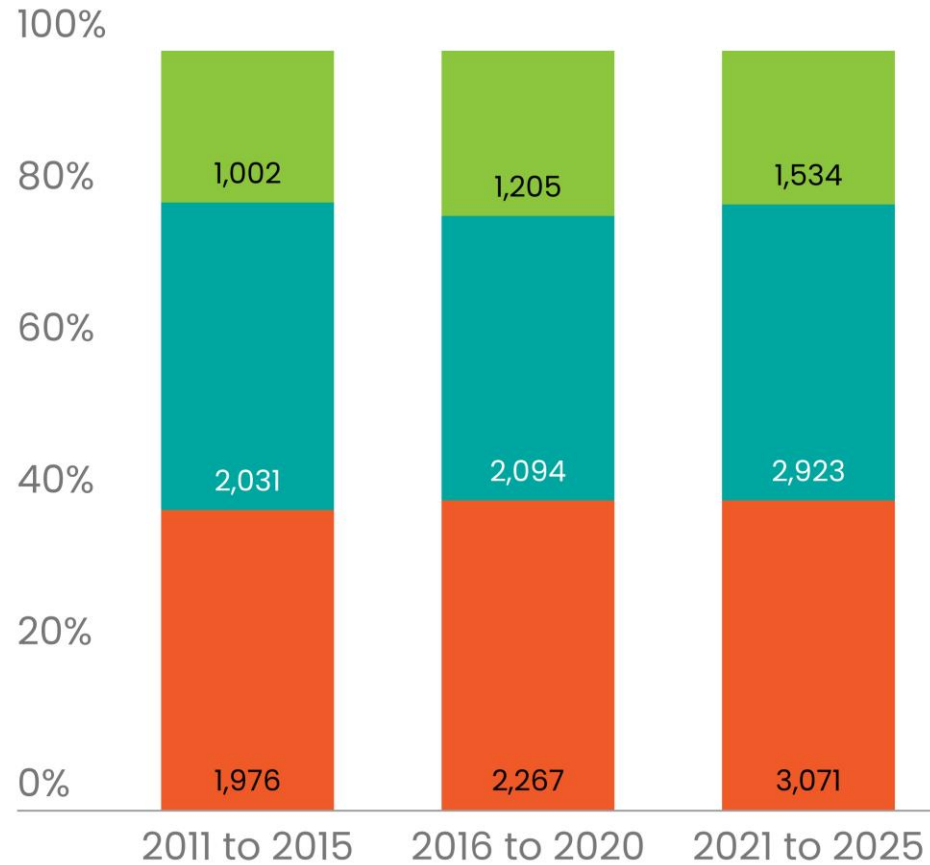


# Most deaths occur on roads with speed limits under 40mph

## Deaths



## Serious Injuries



● under 30mph ● 30 to 40mph ● over 40mph

● under 30mph ● 30 to 40mph ● over 40mph

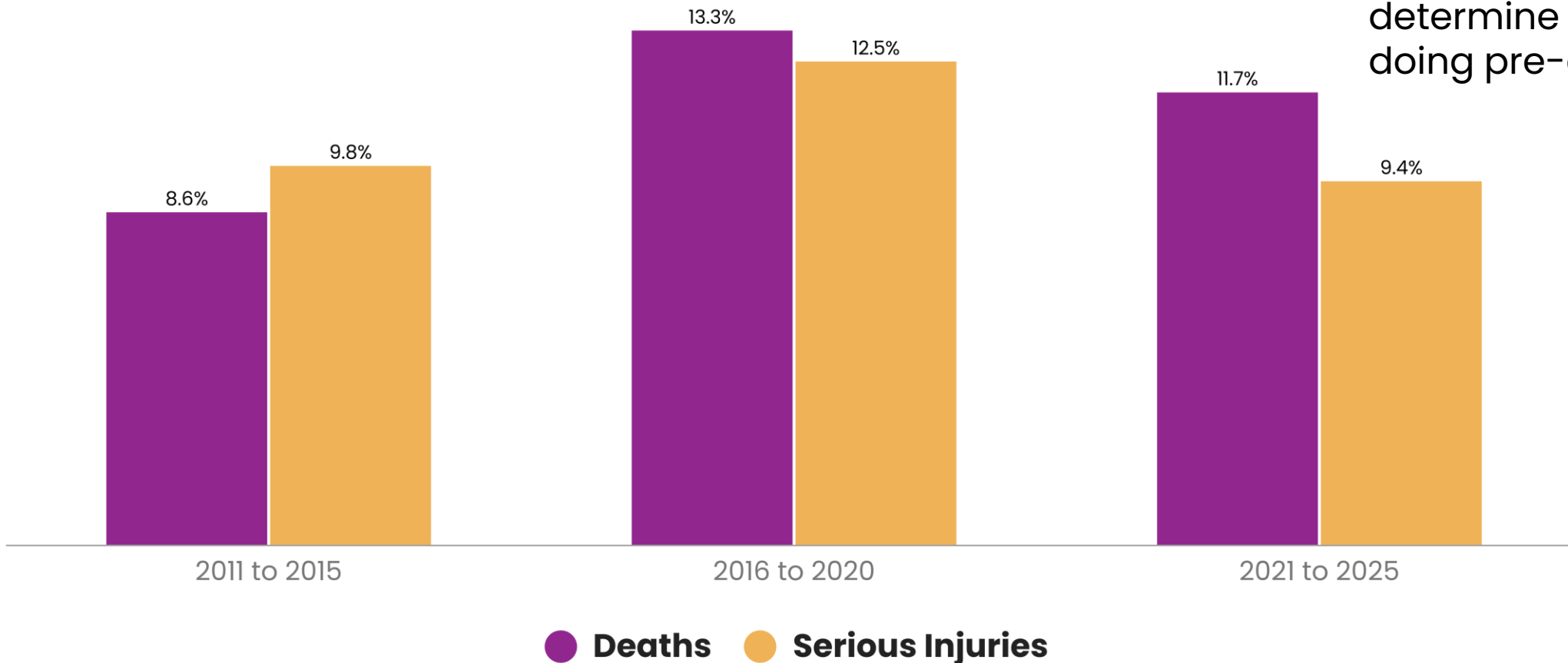
Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data



# Over 1 in 10 deaths involves distracted drivers\*

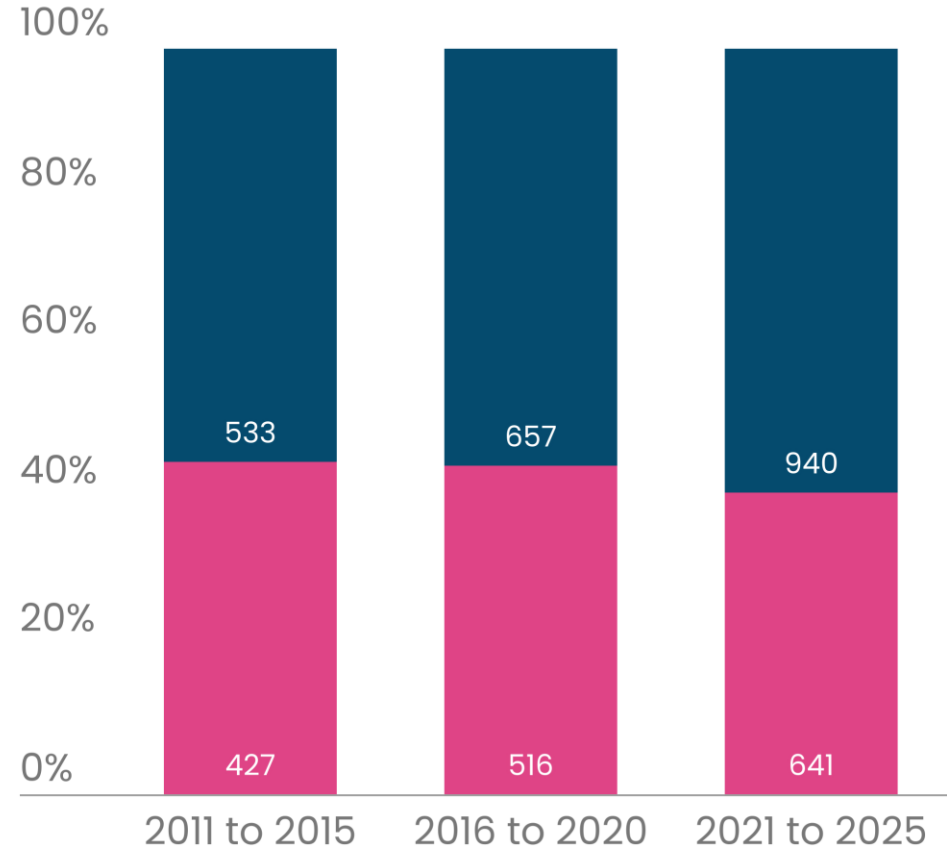
## Deaths & Serious Injuries with Distracted Users

\* Estimates of distracted users are likely under-counted, especially in the case of deaths when it is difficult to determine what a driver was doing pre-crash

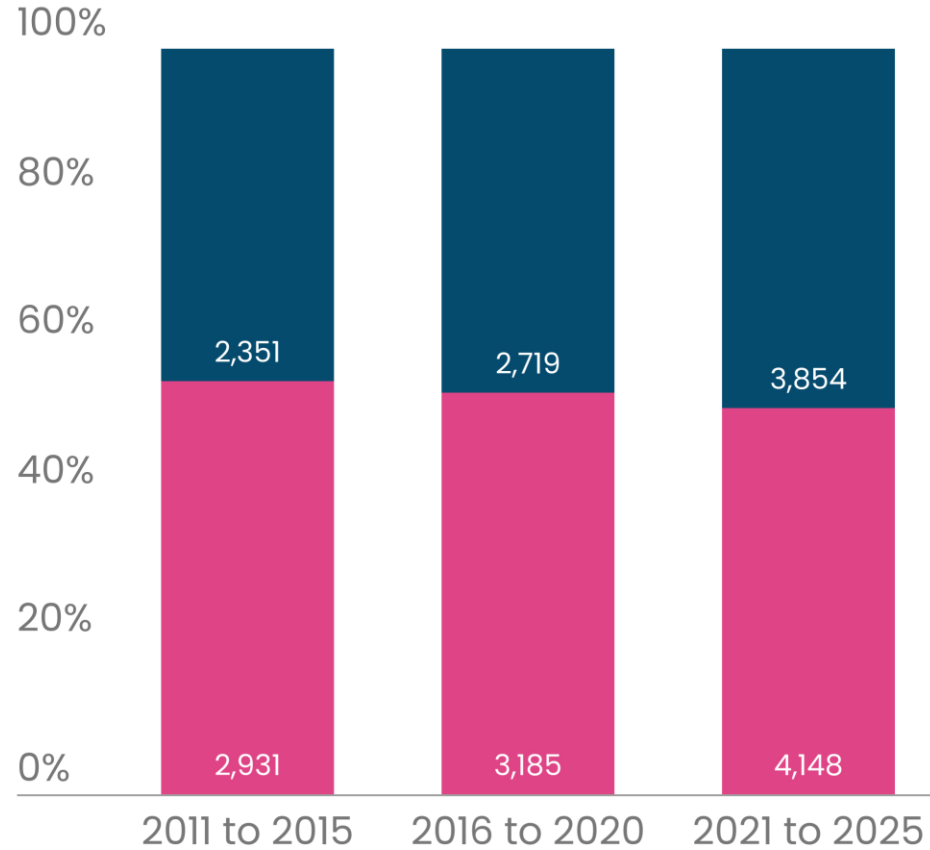


# Over 60% of deaths occur after 6pm

## Deaths



## Serious Injuries



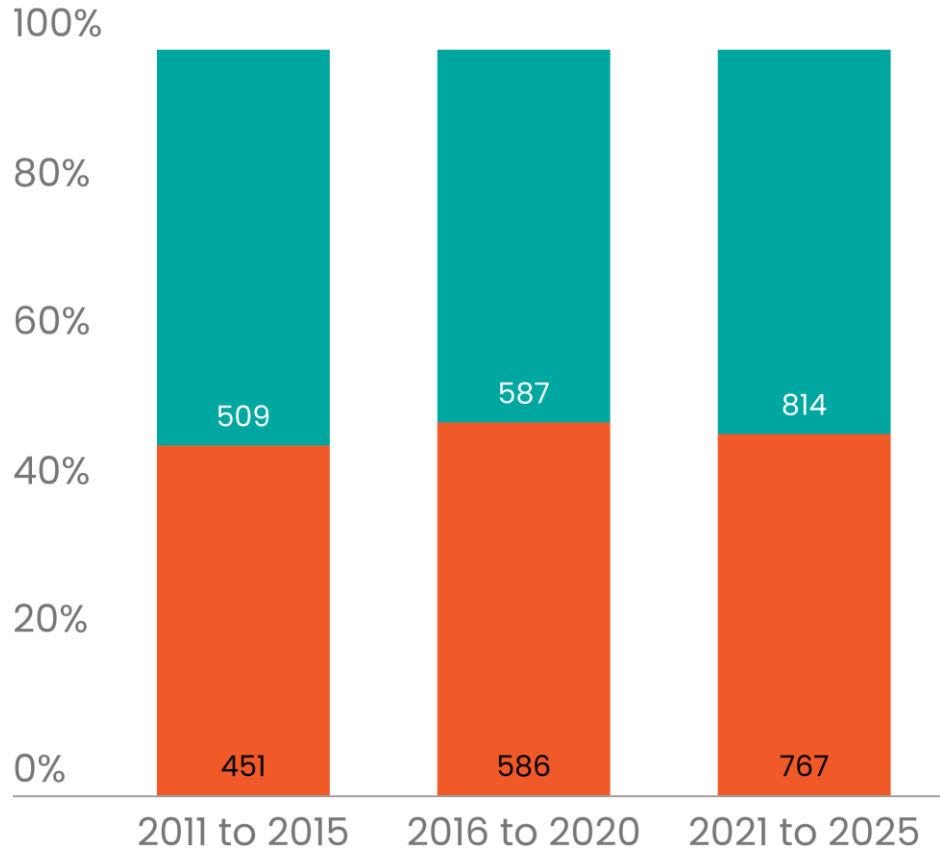
● 6am to 6pm ● 6pm to 6am

● 6am to 6pm ● 6pm to 6am

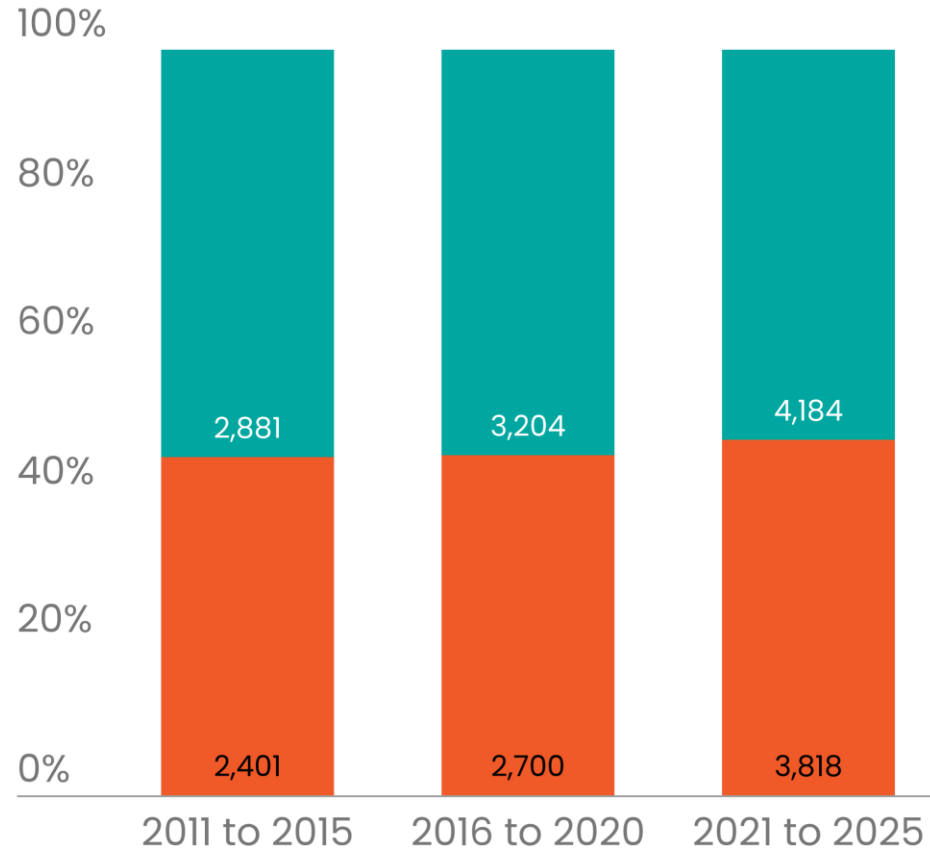


# Death & Serious Injuries are spread throughout the week

## Deaths



## Serious Injuries



● Fri-Sun ● Mon-Thu

● Fri-Sun ● Mon-Thu





# Thank You!

**Gary Simonson**

Senior Planner

[gsimonson@psrc.org](mailto:gsimonson@psrc.org)

**Craig Helmann**

Data Director

[chelmann@psrc.org](mailto:chelmann@psrc.org)



Puget Sound Regional Council