Department *of* Public Safety
Highway Safety Office

Crashes Following First Snowstorm (Salt Lake, Davis, Utah & Counties) 2021-2026 YTD 11/18

Source: Highway Safety Office, Utah Department of Public Safety

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Date of First Snowfall	2021/22 Season 12/09/21	2022/23 Season 11/10/22	2023/24 Season 11/23/23	2024/25 Season 11/12/24	2025/26 Season 12/27/25	2026/27 Season 11/17/26
Snow Accumulation (≥ 0.1 inches)	1.4	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.1	*Ongoing*
Total Crashes (3 Counties)	634	309	170	307	150	*26*
No Injury	512	194	117	203	99	20
Possible Injury	90	74	28	65	26	6
Suspected Minor Injury	30	38	20	33	22	0
Suspected Serious Injury	2	3	5	4	1	0
Fatal Crashes	0	0	0	1	1	0
Fatalities	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**1**	**0**

These dates represent the first measurable snowfall (≥ 0.1 inches) recorded by the NWS at Salt Lake City International Airport. This official baseline excludes unaccumulating trace amounts to ensure accurate historical comparison.

Crash data include a 48 hour timeframe starting on the date of the storm, and the following day. Data are presented by injury severity for crashes that occurred within Salt Lake, Utah, & Davis Counties.

2026 crash data is preliminary and is subject to change

Data updated on 11/18/2026

Data Insights:
Crash data for these counties show a strong statistical link (an 87% correlation) between snow accumulation and crash totals. In other words, the heavier the first snow, the more predictably crash numbers spike.
A spike in crashes doesn't necessarily mean a spike in severe injuries. For the past five years, the largest first snow in 2021 triggered over 600 crashes, but it actually had the lowest injury rate of the last five years. Heavy, early snow predictably results in a spike in non-injury crashes, not fatalities.
The first snowstorms of the 2021, 2022, and 2023 seasons had zero fatal crashes. Unfortunately, the first storms of both 2024 and 2025 each had one fatality.
These counties average 314 total crashes per year during the first snowstorm. 2026 totals are incomplete, as agencies have 30 days to submit completed crash reports.