

Crash Data

All crashes in Colorado investigated by law enforcement are sent to the Department of Revenue (DOR). Crashes in unincorporated Jefferson County are investigated by Colorado State Patrol (CSP). The investigating CSP officer fills out a crash form (DR2447), which is then sent to DOR. Incorporated jurisdictions within Jefferson County are responsible for investigating crashes within their boundaries. DOR processes the crash records and enters them into a database, called DRIVES, where the official legal record is maintained.

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) receives data from the DRIVES system for all crashes, excluding private property and counter reports. Counter reports are self-reported by drivers and are not investigated by a law enforcement officer. CDOT processes or “codes” the crash data received from DOR. This process adds an additional field for crash type, corrects common errors, updates location information where available, and normalizes the data. CDOT typically compiles data and releases the data in 6-month increments, with approximately a 3-month delay when data is available. CDOT may delay the release of data to address known deficiencies allowing for data corrections or to download additional data that is delayed through the DOR process. CDOT provides summary data upon request in a tabular format. CDOT does not release personal identifying information including names, driver’s license numbers, addresses, birth dates, license plate numbers, VIN numbers, local and state identifiers such as case numbers, etc.

When a new crash data increment is available from CDOT, Jefferson County requests the crash data for the entire county. As mentioned above, the County further processes the data to correct spelling errors, to geocode crashes missing longitude and latitude, and to code crashes to an electronic linear referencing system. Finally, the processed data are sent back to CDOT to further improve the state-wide crash record database.

The Jefferson County Transportation and Engineering Division also meets with the Sheriff Department quarterly to discuss non-crash related complaints and/or concerns to address potential traffic engineering deficiencies as well as opportunities for law enforcement to correct behavioral concerns.