2020 Attleboro Motor Vehicle Accident & Crash Report



Executive Summary

When compared to 2019, reports of motor vehicle accidents in the city during 2020 declined by a significant 25% for the year. That percentage equates to 498 fewer accidents reported by motorists throughout the year. The number of reported accidents started on an upwards trend in 2014 for a four-year period before the number of accidents began to slightly decline in 2018. Overall, accident reporting in 2020 decreased by a statistically significant 25% when compared to the ten-year historical average and was more than four standard deviations from the expected norm. This overwhelming drop in accidents is most likely due to the U.S. pandemic situation, which led to stay-at-home advisories, business interruptions / closures and thus leading to fewer drivers on the roads for ten months in 2020.

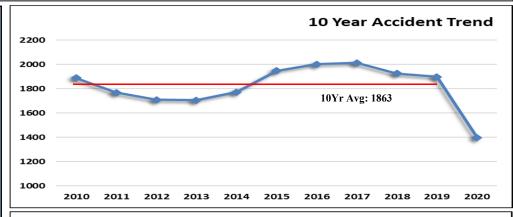
Vehicle-on-vehicle impacts accounted for the majority of accidents last year (90%), a four percent increase from the eighty-six percent of such accidents reported in 2019. Accident volume fell sharply in March when compared to the prior year and did not start to normalize until August, although accident numbers remained well below the average in November and December of 2020. Also, 92% of vehicle-on-vehicle impacts occurred on a public way, which is another sharp increase from the 77% of such accidents reported in 2019. Strikes involving pedestrians and deer also declined in 2020, while reports involving cyclists increased (n=1) during the same timeframe.

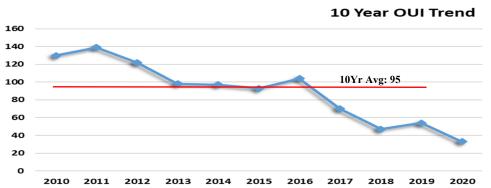
It should be noted that OUI-related offenses dropped to their lowest recorded levels in more than a decade and encountered a 39% decrease when compared to the prior year. It should be additionally noted that OUI-related charges were the consequence of an accident in roughly two-out-of-every-three OUI events in Attleboro in 2020.

Fifty-three percent of accidents in 2020 occurred at or in close proximity to an intersection, which is a 5% jump from the 48% reported in 2019. Page 7 lists the most problematic locations / intersections in 2020 with close to 60% of these problem locations located on either Newport Avenue or Washington Street in South Attleboro.

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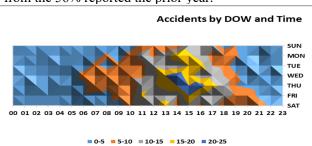


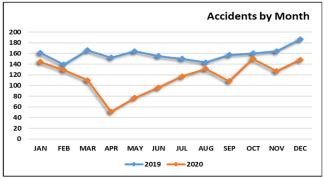


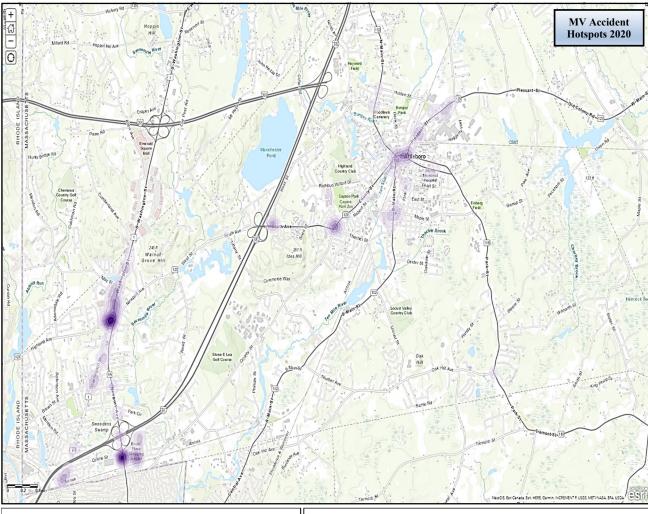
Vehicle-on-Vehicle Accidents 2020

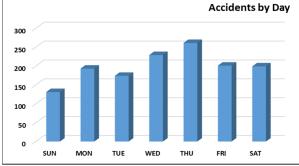
Accidents that involved two or more vehicles accounted for 90% of all accidents in 2020, which is an increase from the 86% of accidents reported in 2019. Accident reporting declined at the start of the year before plummeting between March and July during the pandemic and with reporting levels dropping off again in November and December.

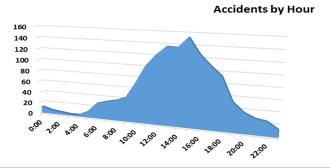
Ninety-two percent (92%) of all reported vehicle-onvehicle accidents occurred on a pubic way last year, a steep increase from the seventy-seven percent (77%) reported in 2019. This may likely be a direct result of fewer patrons, business closures, and reduced hours due to the pandemic. From those accidents which occurred on a public way, 53% of those incident occurred at or in close proximity to a road intersection. This is an increase from the 48% reported in 2019. In addition, roughly half of all vehicle-on-vehicle impacts were reported between 2PM and 7PM, a percentage that is slightly down from the 56% reported the prior year.

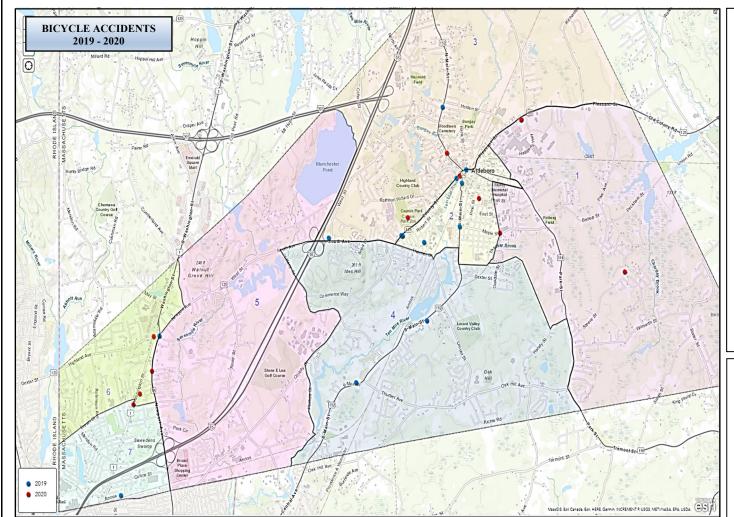












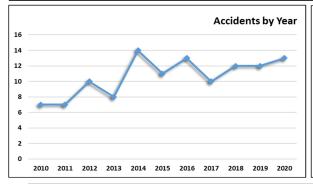
Bicyclist Accidents 2020

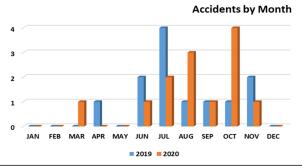
One additional accident (n=13) involving a cyclist was reported in 2020 when compared to the previous year. Two locations in particular (County & Bushee and 521 Pleasant St.) saw repeated events between 2019 and 2020 while several cyclist strikes were reported along Washington Street this year between the 300 and 600 block.

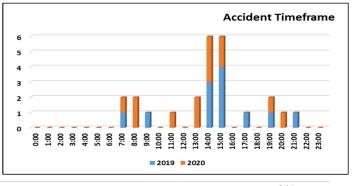
Incidents in 2020 appeared to be primarily contained to the warner months of the year between June and October. Approximately one-quarter of incidents occurred during the morning rush hour while an additional fifty percent occurred between the hours of 2PM and 4PM. The area around Fiske Square continues to be a bicycle accident hotspot.

Top Historic Accident Locations

Brook & Emory Sts.
North Main & Peck Sts.
North Main & Hayward Sts.
Pleasant St. & Starkey Ave.
130 Pleasant St.
505 Pleasant St.
217 South Main St.
Highland Ave. & Washington St.







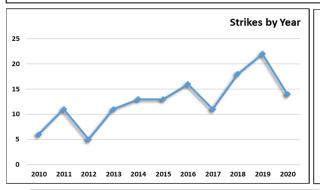
Pedestrian Strikes 2020

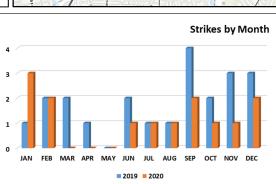
While pedestrian-related accidents have been on the general rise since 2011, these events took a steep 36% decline in 2020 with eight fewer pedestrian events reported than the prior year. The number of pedestrian strikes reported in 2020 is considered statistically aligned and what could have been expected when compared to the prior ten-year historical timeframe.

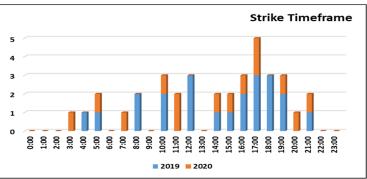
Like the previous year, accidents involving pedestrians in 2020 followed similar patterns to events involving cyclists. Half of all accidents occurred within the general uptown area with several accidents reported on start roads feeding into the city center. Several locations along Washington Street also mirror similar accident hotspots over the last ten years. One-third of all pedestrian strikes occurred between 2PM and 6PM.

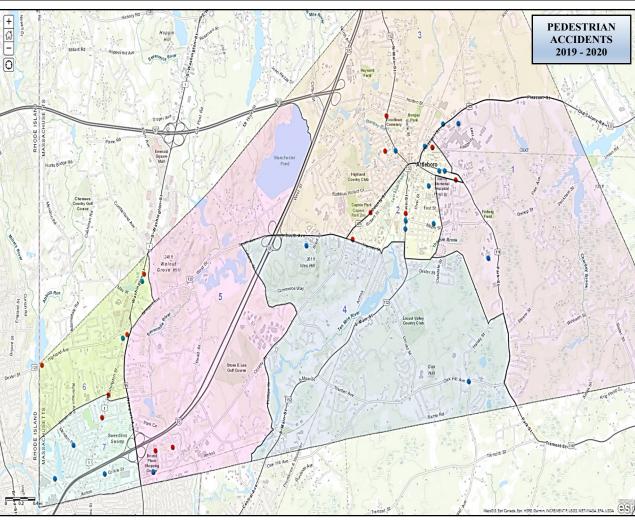
Top Historic Strike Locations

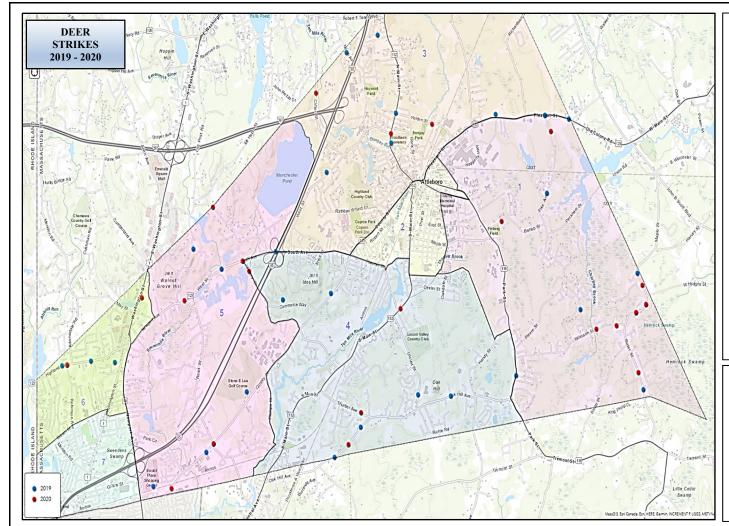
Pleasant St. & Starkey Ave.
Bank & Park Sts.
Peck & Pleasant Sts.
North Main & Mechanic Sts.
North Main & Holden Sts.
Newport Ave. & Collins St.
Washington & Carleton Sts.
366 Washington St.











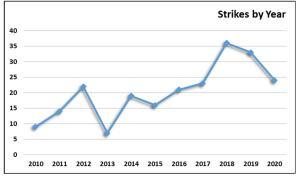
Deer Strikes 2020

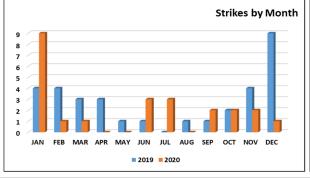
Motor vehicle accidents involving deer declined by 27% in 2020 which follows on a consecutive, smaller decline reported in 2019. Deer continue to be an active threat on particular city roads including several historic accident locations as well as multiple events (n=5) reported along Wilmarth Street.

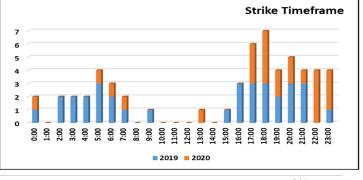
Strikes were highest in January and then declined throughout the year with two or fewer incidents reported during the final months of the year. Deer-related accidents continued to follow similar timeframe patterns in 2020 that were observed the prior year with a high number of deer strikes occurring between the hours of 5PM and midnight.

Top Historic Strike Locations

Pleasant St. & Pike Ave. County & Tiffany Sts. Newport Ave. & Clayton St. Newport Ave. & Route 95 1200 – 1400 Block of West Ave. 500 – 1000 Block of Pleasant St. 100 – 200 of Locust St. 700 – 900 Block of Oakhill Ave.







OUI Incidents 2020

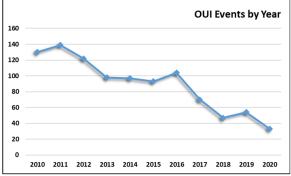
OUI-related events continued their decline with a 39% decrease in 2020 after the offense category experienced a slight uptick in 2019. OUI incidents have been in a state of decline for over ten years and, when compared to the prior ten-year historical timeframe, were more than two standard deviations from the norm.

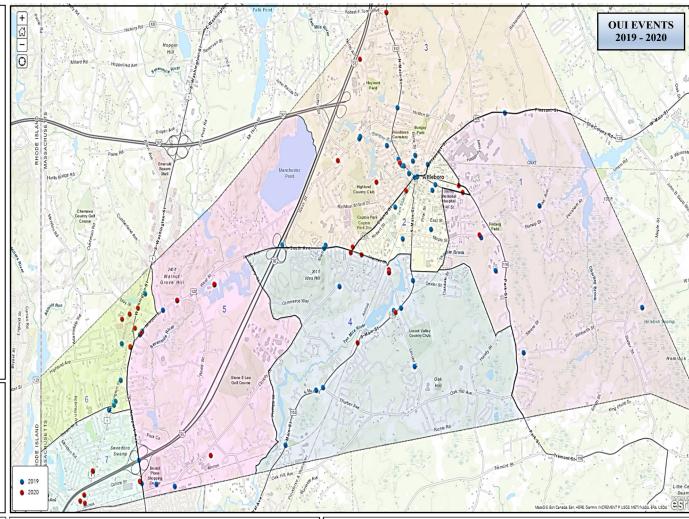
OUI events were reported throughout every month of 2020 with the exception of April, and the months of May and October reported the largest number of events (n=5). Approximately two-thirds of OUI events in the city were reported between 6PM and midnight.

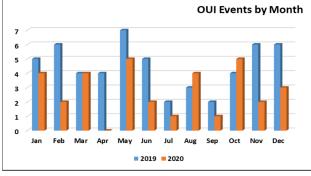
It should be noted that 64% of OUI-related charges were the consequence on an accident. In 2019, 70% of offenders refused a breath test – in 2020 that percentage dropped to 45%. However, an additional 45% of offenders were unable to take the test due to their medical condition.

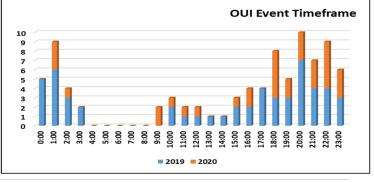
Historic OUI Locations

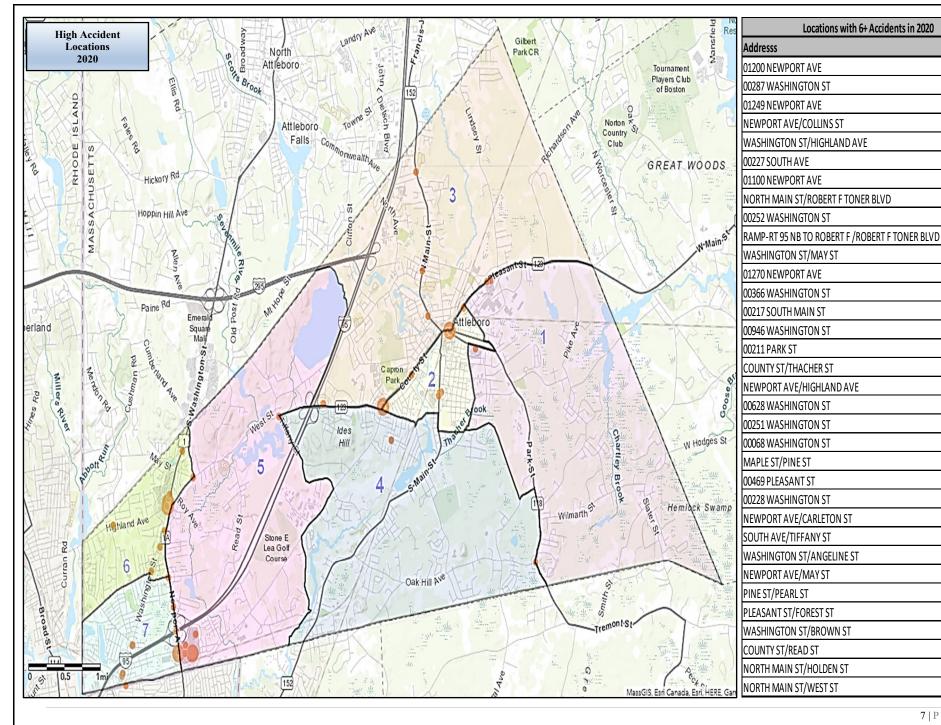
County & Thacher Sts.
80 County St.
1128 Oakhill Ave.
Forest & Pleasant Sts.
North Main St. & Toner Blvd.
514 Washington St.











2020 2019

