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Tuscarawas County  
Health Department

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Contact: Josh Sample  
Health Educator & Safe Communities Coordinator  
jsample@tchdnow.org  
330-343-5555 x182

### **Safe Communities of Tuscarawas County 2022 Quarter 2 Traffic Fatality Report**

DOVER—For the three-month period covering April 1 - June 30, 2022, the Ohio State Highway Patrol reported a total of 459 vehicle crashes investigated in Tuscarawas County. Of the 459 crashes investigated, Tuscarawas County experienced 3 fatal crashes resulting in 3 fatalities.


“When we look at the statistics, we know that seatbelt safety education and enforcement continue to be a top safety priority in our County,” said Josh Sample, Safe Communities Program Coordinator for the Tuscarawas County Health Department. “Of the traffic crashes that occurred this quarter, 26% of drivers were not wearing a seatbelt. Of the three fatalities, none were wearing seatbelts.” Some additional variables factoring into this quarter’s crashes included mature and youthful drivers along with unsafe speed.



Led by the Tuscarawas County Health Department, the Safe Communities Coalition includes partners from various agencies and organizations in Tuscarawas County with the goal to work together as a community to prevent traffic related fatalities and injuries in Tuscarawas County by increasing traffic safety awareness. “We value the unique perspective that each of our partners offers,” explained Sample. The Safe Communities Coalition partners with local law enforcement, Empower Tusc, ODOT, Operation Life Saver, Tuscarawas County Engineer’s Office, Tuscarawas County businesses, and community members who are interested in a safer Tuscarawas County.

Safe Communities conducts traffic safety media campaigns, coordinates events and activities, and distributes educational materials to help prevent fatal traffic crashes and injuries from occurring in Tuscarawas County. The group also educates the driving population of Tuscarawas County on impaired driving, seatbelt use, distracted driving, and motorcycle awareness.

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, members of the Safe Communities Coalition will be meeting to review the traffic fatalities to identify any trends or measures that can be taken to prevent future traffic fatalities in Tuscarawas County. If you would like to know more about the Safe Communities project or join in the effort, please visit [www.tchdnow.org/safe-communities.html](http://www.tchdnow.org/safe-communities.html) . The Safe Communities Program is funded through a grant from the Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO). Learn more about OTSO and statewide efforts to improve safety on Ohio’s roadways at <http://ohiohighwaysafetyoffice.ohio.gov/index.stm>

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 897 E. Iron Ave.  
Dover, OH 44622

 (330) 343-5555  
 (330) 343-1601

 [www.tchdnow.org](http://www.tchdnow.org)  
 [director@tchdnow.org](mailto:director@tchdnow.org)

