



Memphis area's deadliest roads: New data reveals crash hotspots near you

Nearly 240,000 crashes in 5 years, study shows

The graphic features a background image of a city street. On the left, the Memphis MPO logo is displayed with the text "Memphis MPO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION" and "Strengthening Regional Transportation". Below this, four purple boxes contain the text: "SAFER ROADS", "SAFER PEOPLE", "SAFER SPEEDS", and "POST-CRASH CARE". On the right, a large white document titled "MID-SOUTH SAFETY ACTION PLAN (SAP)" is shown, dated "MAY 2023". The document cover includes the Memphis MPO logo and a photograph of a road intersection. At the bottom, a banner reads "DANGER ZONES TRACKING THE MOST DANGEROUS ROADS IN OUR AREA" with the "IMPACT TEAM" logo on the left. On the far right, a blue box shows the time "6:15" and temperature "64°" next to the "ACTION NEWS 5" logo.

By [Jerry Askin](#)

Published: Feb. 9, 2026 at 6:34 PM CST

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (WMC) - New data obtained by the Action News 5 Impact Team tracks some of the most dangerous roads in our area. Some stretches saw nearly a quarter of a million car crashes in just

five years.

Chances are you risked some of those roads just to get home.

Winchester and Riverdale is one of the top 10 locations for car crashes in Memphis. Retired teacher Lubertha Brown is cautious any time she passes through.

"I'm celebrating being a breast cancer survivor now. I was 61 when I was diagnosed. I'm 70 years old now."

Surviving the drive on the stretch near her home is something else altogether.

"People trailing too close, going too fast. Don't even give you a foot in front of them. They cutting in, passing, you know."

Our cameras captured police patrols in the area—officers pulling over one car shortly after we arrived.

Winchester and Riverdale ranks seventh on the list of intersections Memphis cops are called to most often. I-240 and Walnut Grove tops that list, followed by I-40 and Sycamore View and I-240 and Poplar.

Victoria George's job requires her to be behind the wheel. She says she's seen it all. A lot of speeding, a lot of road rage," said George. "It's just frustrating. It's like you feel someone else is not taking into consideration your life and your safety. Things like that." A broader look at Shelby County roads lists Hacks Cross as another danger zone—156 crashes last year. Airline Road has 103. North Houston Levee Road has 88 crashes.

The Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization put together a 117-page report focused on safer roads, safer people, safer speeds and post-crash care. Action plans for today are based on crash data between 2016 and 2020 in Shelby, Desoto, Marshall, Crittenden and Fayette counties.

"Over the 5-year period, we had more than 240,000 crashes within the Mid-South region. That's a lot," said Pragati Srivastava, Administrator of the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The study shows most of those crashes were caused by distracted drivers, resulting in more than 1,000 deaths and 5,000 serious injuries.

"It's available as a guide to our members to kind of use it and then identify what's the appropriate solution for that location."

Bartlett city leaders have already acted on the report.

Action News 5 met Bartlett Police Chief Jeff Cox at the intersection of Stage and Kirby Whitten Road—the site of 229 crashes between 2021 and 2024. Other Bartlett danger zones include Stage and Bartlett Boulevard with 162 crashes and Stage and Summer with 98 crashes.

"One crash concerns me. We don't want any crashes in our city," said Chief Cox. "When we look at crash data, we want to make sure that we are doing something about it."



Bartlett Police Chief Jeff Cox (Action News 5)

Chief Cox said Bartlett is considering adding right turn lanes, relocating utility poles, installing median strips and raised islands, improving lighting and pavement markings, and adding pedestrian signals. But he says the biggest change must happen behind the wheel.

He told Action News 5 his biggest advice for drivers.

"Slow down, stay off your phones, pay attention, and don't push yellow lights," said Chief Cox.

The Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization's Mid-South Safety Action Plan is accessible [HERE](#).
[And here's data on danger zones](#) across our area the Impact Team compiled.

Memphis Police gave the Impact Team these intersections where they say officers respond to mostly frequently for traffic crashes.

Locations:

- I-240 / Walnut Grove
- I-40 / Sycamore View
- I-240 / Poplar
- I-240 / Lamar
- I-40 / Whitten
- I-385 / Ridgeway
- Winchester Rd / Riverdale Rd
- I-240 / Getwell
- I-240 / Norris
- I-40 / N. Germantown Parkway

The Shelby County Sheriff's Office released its list of dangerous roads from last year:

Shelby County Sheriff's Office **"Top 10" Crash Locations** 01/01/2025 to 11/18/2025

N HOUSTON LEVEE RD & S MACON RD	16
HACKS CROSS RD & S LOWRANCE RD	13
BILL MORRIS PKWY & W HACKS CROSS RD	13
HWY 64 & HWY 64	9
HACKS CROSS RD & N LOWRANCE RD	9
WALNUT GROVE RD & E ROCKY POINT RD	8
HACKS CROSS RD & S E HOLMES RD	8
BILL MORRIS PKWY & E HACKS CROSS RD	7
E SHELBY DR & E HACKS CROSS RD	7
AIRLINE RD & HWY 70	7

HACKS CROSS RD	156
AIRLINE RD	103
N HOUSTON LEVEE RD	88
HWY 64	75
MACON RD	71
E SHELBY DR	56
WALNUT GROVE RD	56
BILL MORRIS PKWY	54
RIVERDALE RD	52
CANADA RD	44

Report Date: 11/19/2025

SCSO crash locations (Action News 5)

The City of Bartlett released its list of high crash intersections between 2021-2024.

Stage & Kirby Whitten - 229 crashes

Stage & Bartlett Blvd - 162 crashes

Stage & Summer - 98 crashes

Summer & Kirby Whitten - 84 crashes

Kirby Whitten & Yale - 81 crashes

Copyright 2026 WMC. All rights reserved.