ODOT’s annual statewide crash spatial data can be downloaded from this FTP site: ftp://ftp.odot.state.or.us/tdb/trandata/GIS\_data/Safety ODOT discontinued using shapefiles in favor of geodatabases effective 2014.

The **ReadMe** file contains important information and disclaimers about ODOT crash data.

Shapefiles are currently developed in ArcGIS v.10.5, using the NAD 1983 Oregon Statewide Lambert Feet Int’l projected coordinate system, in Lambert Conformal Conic.

**Road Network**

Crashes are snapped to the “OR-Trans” road network data layer available for the crash code year.  If you’re using a different vintage of OR-Trans or another road network, please add a buffer of at least 5 feet. Otherwise, the crash points may not line up exactly with your linework.

**Shapefile Truncation of Field Names**Crash data shapefiles are generated from a geodatabase that contained longer field names.  The GIS software that was used to generate your shapefile truncated the original field names to 10 characters.  Please refer to the file named **GIS\_FieldNameXref\_2015.xlsx**, for a cross-reference of the truncated field names to the full field name shown in the *Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Analysis and Code Manual*.

**Default Unlocatable Crash Points**

“Unlocatable crashes” are crashes that can't be snapped to a road network because:

* either the crash report didn't provide enough information to identify the location of the crash, or
* linework didn't exist in the OR-Trans layer we used for geocoding crash points at the time the case was coded.

*We deliberately select a default coordinate for these crashes.* They are called Default Unlocatable Crash Points.

These default crash points are placed off the road network but still inside the local jurisdiction in which the crash occurred. This is why you’ll find clusters of crash points that are unrelated to each other, placed somewhere off the road network(i.e., over a lake, field, or about 100 feet away from a road network) within a city, county, or urban area.  To display these records, use this definition query UNLOCT\_FLG <> 0.

The following types of crashes are placed at a default location.

* Crashes that occurred on a highway (mainline, frontage road, ramp, etc.) or mile-pointed county road but at an unknown mile-point (MP = 999.99)
* Local road crashes where the nearest intersecting street or mile-point is unknown
* City street crashes where the distance and/or direction from the nearest intersecting street is unknown

**Code Manual**

This link, <https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Data/Pages/Crash.aspx>, opens the CAR Unit’s Publications web page.  The **Crash Data System Code Manual** link is below the “Additional Links” header on the right panel. The manual serves as a data dictionary for coded crash data.

**CDS\_Database\_Changes\_External\_rev\_4-16-2019.xlsx**

This file lists changes that have occurred to codes, fields and database tables over the years. Because database expansion, conversion, and enhancements occur on an ongoing basis, data for recent years is not always comparable to data from many years prior. Consider also that the physical road network across the State changes annually in many areas due to construction, jurisdictional transfers, and natural events such as landslides that require re-routing of highways. Legislation and national safety hot topics may influence the data that is collected. For these reasons, care must be taken when analyzing historic data.

**CAR Unit Contacts**

For questions on crash coding, call Kimberlee Ward at (503)986-4240, mailto:Kimberlee.S.Ward@odot.state.or.us or Robin Ness at (503) 986-4236, Robin.A.Ness@robin.a.ness@odot.state.or.us

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