



Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 476 Senate Committee on Transportation

Prepared by
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The Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP) appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 476, and we respectfully request the Committee consider our agency's concurrence.

Senate Bill 476 would create a new excessive speeding law providing additional penalties for operating a motor vehicle at a speed of 100 miles per hour or more. These penalties are shown in the table below.

Violation	Action	Time
1 st Conviction	Driver's License Restricted	15 Days
2 nd Conviction in 3 Years	Driver's License Restricted	30 Days
3 rd or Subsequent Conviction in 3 Years	Driver's License Suspended	30 Days

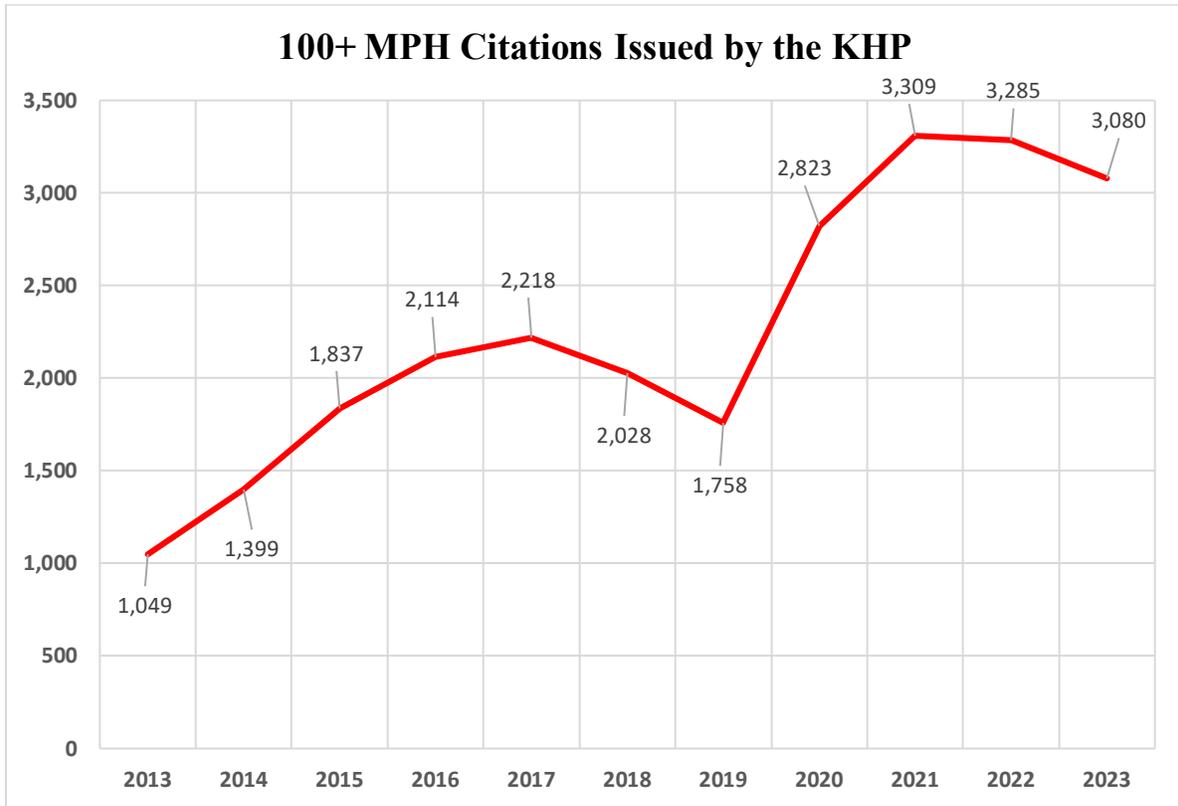
When a violator's driver's license is restricted pursuant to the provisions of the bill, the violator will be allowed to operate a motor vehicle only under the following circumstances:

- Going to or returning from their place of employment or schooling;
- In the course of the person's employment;
- In going to or returning from an appointment to a healthcare provider or during a medical emergency; and
- Going to and returning from probation or parole meetings, drug or alcohol counseling, or any place the person is required to go by a court.

Drivers who exceed the maximum posted speed limit endanger their lives and the lives of all other motorists. Speeding presents a greater potential for the loss of vehicular control, particularly on wet or icy roads. Speeding reduces the effectiveness of occupant protection equipment, such as seatbelts and airbags, while also reducing the effectiveness of roadway safety measures, such as guardrails and median barriers. When one's speed doubles, one's stopping distance quadruples, making every increase in speed an exponentially more dangerous act. Speeding increases the degree of a crash's severity. As more force comes into the crash equation, there are more likely to be injuries and death. Speeding also puts the lives of our law enforcement personnel in peril as they must oftentimes exceed the speed of the violator's vehicle in order to initiate a traffic stop.

According to the latest published data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (2021), speed was a factor in 29% of all traffic fatalities nationwide. In 2022, the Kansas Department of Transportation reported 4,890 speed-related crashes with an estimated cost to motorists of

\$1,910,245,613. In the same year, 93 motorists lost their lives in speed-related fatality crashes – a 22% increase from 2021 – and 2,054 motorists were injured in speed-related crashes.



The KHP has seen a significant increase in the number of citations issued to drivers who are traveling 100 miles per hour or more since 2019. That year, 1,758 citations were issued for triple-digit speeds. In 2023, KHP issued 3,080 citations for motorists traveling 100 miles per hour or more. This increase is in spite of a decrease in the number of troopers and law enforcement officers in the KHP from 530 in 2020 to 459 in 2023. Even with fewer troopers and law enforcement officers to locate excessive speeders, our agency has experienced a surge in extremely high rates of speeding. In 2023, 55% of all citations issued by the KHP were for speeding. Citations for traveling 100 miles per hour or more made up over 5% of all speeding citations and over 3% of all citations issued by the KHP last year.

The data is clear. The number of drivers operating their vehicles in Kansas at excessively high speeds has dramatically increased over the previous five years. Speeding, especially when traveling 100 miles per hour or more, is immensely dangerous and contributes to many fatality and injury crashes in our state. No matter the statistics, any death that is speed-related is unacceptable.

By restricting the driving privileges for those who choose to operate a motor vehicle at a speed of 100 miles per hour or more, our agency believes that Senate Bill 476 will decrease the occurrence of this type of dangerous behavior. We sincerely thank the members of this Committee for their consideration of our testimony, and we urge your support of this bill.

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Appendix

Current Kansas Speeding Fines

	Speed Limit	Speed Over the Limit	Fine	Typical Court Fee	Total Cost
If You Travel at 100 Miles Per Hour	75	25	\$150	\$108	\$258
	70	30	\$195	\$108	\$303
	65	35	\$270	\$108	\$378
	60	40	\$345	\$108	\$453
	55	45	\$420	\$108	\$528
	50	50	\$495	\$108	\$603
	45	55	\$570	\$108	\$678
	40	60	\$645	\$108	\$753
	35	65	\$720	\$108	\$828
	30	70	\$795	\$108	\$903
	25	75	\$870	\$108	\$978
	20	80	\$945	\$108	\$1,053

Speed Over Limit	Fine - K.S.A. 8-2118(c)
1-10 MPH	\$45
11-20 MPH	\$45 + \$6 Per MPH Over 10 MPH
21-30 MPH	\$105 + \$9 Per MPH Over 20 MPH
31+ MPH	\$195 + \$15 Per MPH Over 30 MPH

Additional Data

The KHP has gathered statistical data from the previous four years (2020 through October of 2023) of citations for motorists traveling 100 miles per hour or more to profile the average excessive speeder.

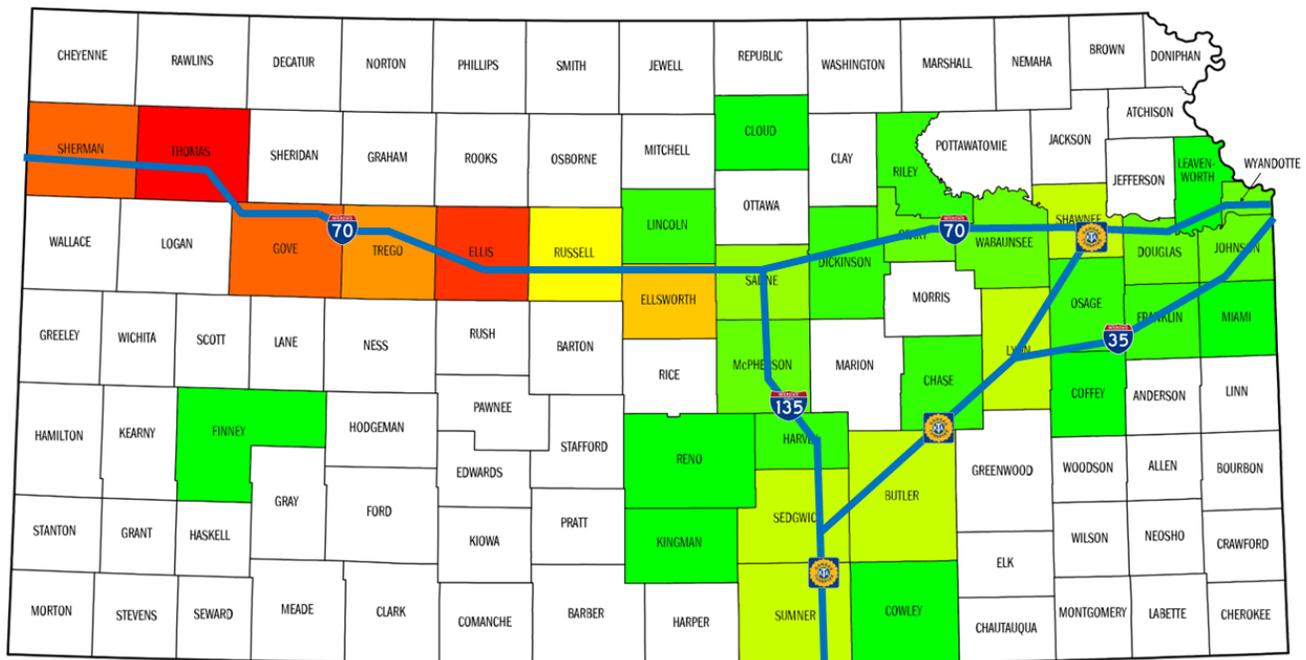
- The median age of an excessive speeder is 27, while the most frequently cited individuals are between 18 and 22 years of age.
- Approximately 70% of excessive speeders are male.
- 83% of excessive speed citations were issued on Interstate highways.
- The most frequently cited time of day was between 5:00 PM and 6:00 PM for excessive speeds.
- Summer months mark the most frequent violations, with July having the highest prevalence of excessive speeders.
- 29% of drivers cited for traveling 100 miles per hour or more were in vehicles registered in Kansas, followed by 17% in Colorado, 8% in Texas, 8% in Missouri, and 5% in Oklahoma. Other states made up the remaining one-third of violations.

In 2020 through October of 2023, 41% of all citations for traveling at 100 miles per hour or more included at least one other violation. The top coinciding violation was for driving with an invalid driver's license, followed by lingering in the left lane, driving while suspended, canceled, or revoked, and failing to provide proof of liability insurance.

From 2020 through 2023, the KHP stopped 214 repeat offenders for multiple violations of traveling 100 miles per hour or more. Of those 214 repeat offenders, 11 were cited 3 times, while another 2 were cited 4 times for excessively speeding.

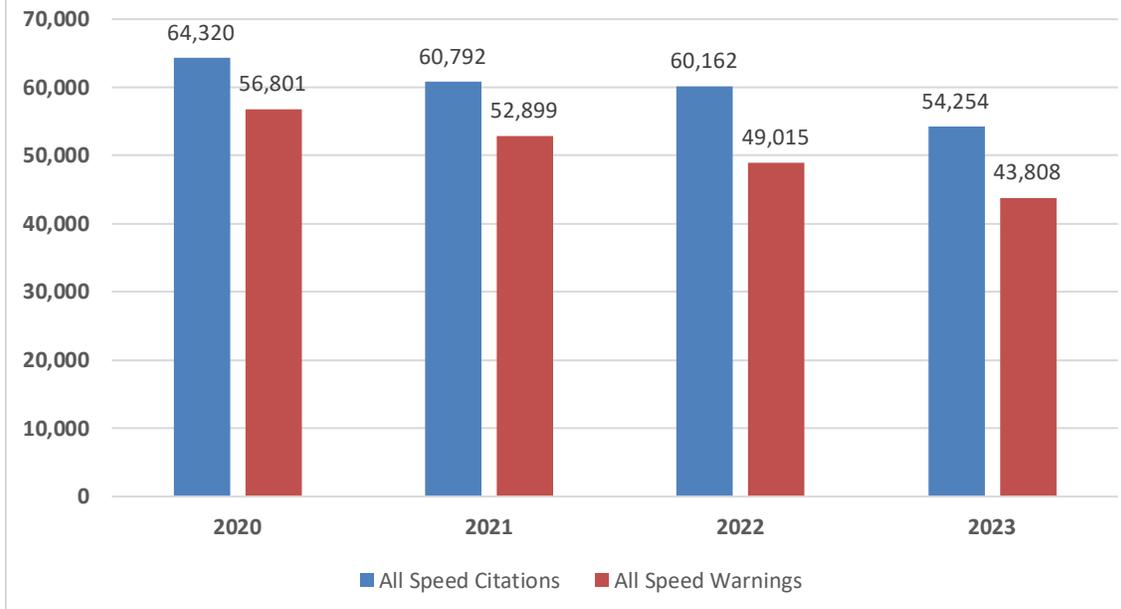
The following map of Kansas shows which counties experienced the highest number of 100 miles per hour or more speeding citations by the KHP in the same time period. It is clear that Interstate highways, especially those in the western half of the state with long, flat, straight stretches of roadway, are where most excessive speeders were located.

Citations for 100+ MPH by the KHP, 2020-October 2023

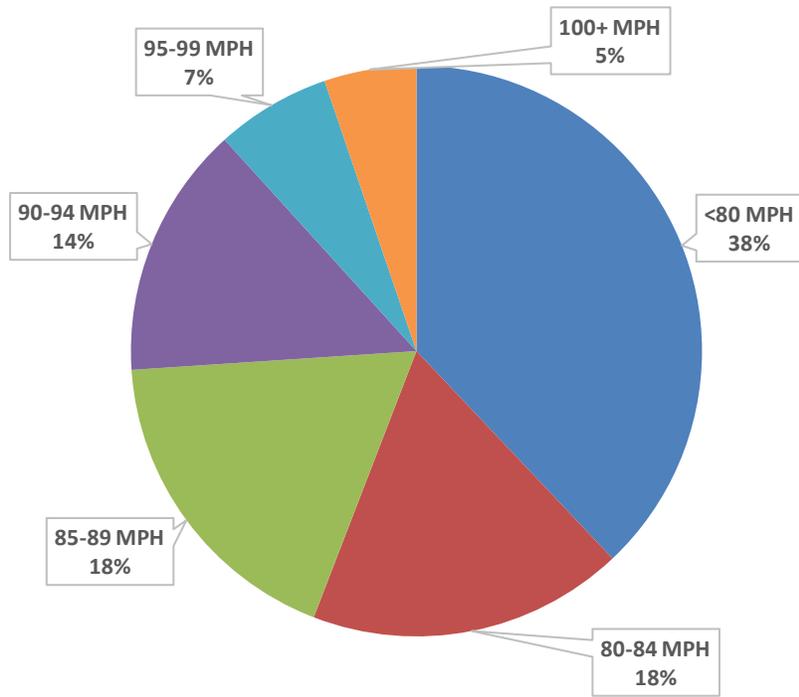


County	100+ MPH Citations	County	100+ MPH Citations
Thomas	1111	McPherson	221
Ellis	965	Geary	207
Sherman	873	Riley	179
Gove	848	Harvey	156
Trego	747	Dickinson	152
Ellsworth	639	Osage	143
Russell	528	Lincoln	133
Lyon	485	Franklin	116
Sedgwick	439	Chase	111
Sumner	437	Reno	94
Shawnee	431	Coffey	88
Butler	400	Leavenworth	74
Saline	392	Cloud	66
Johnson	279	Miami	60
Wyandotte	279	Finney	55
Douglas	253	Cowley	50
Wabaunsee	230	Kingman	50

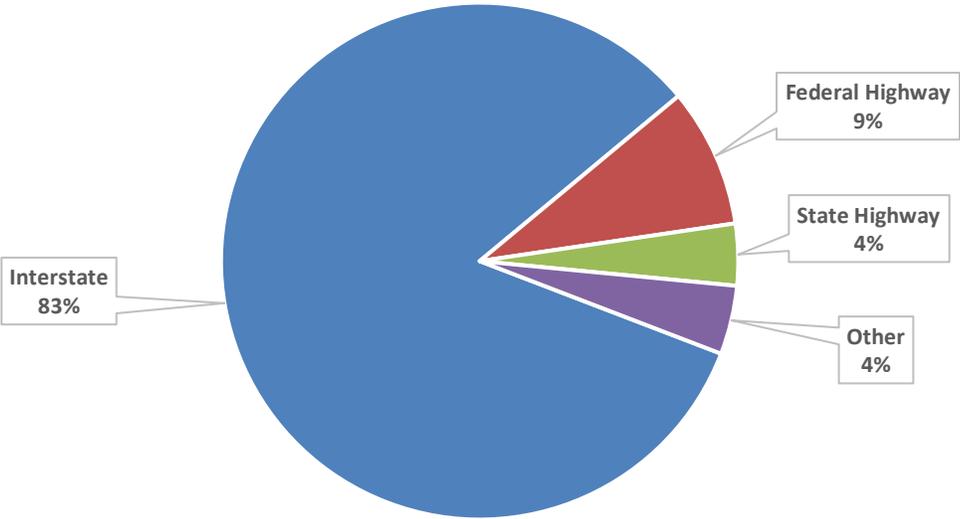
Speeding Citations and Warnings by the KHP



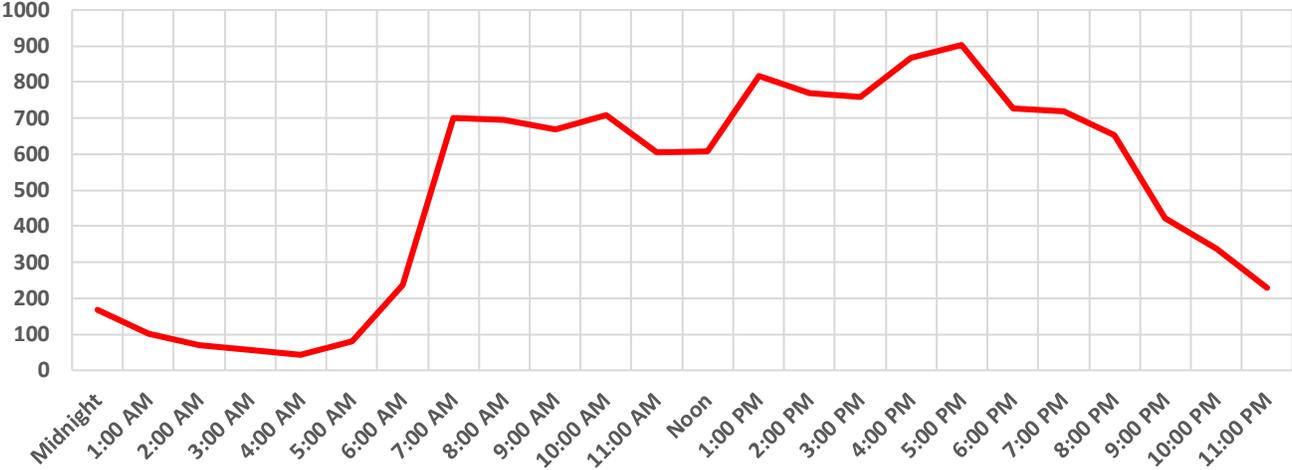
KHP Citation Speed Range 2020-2023



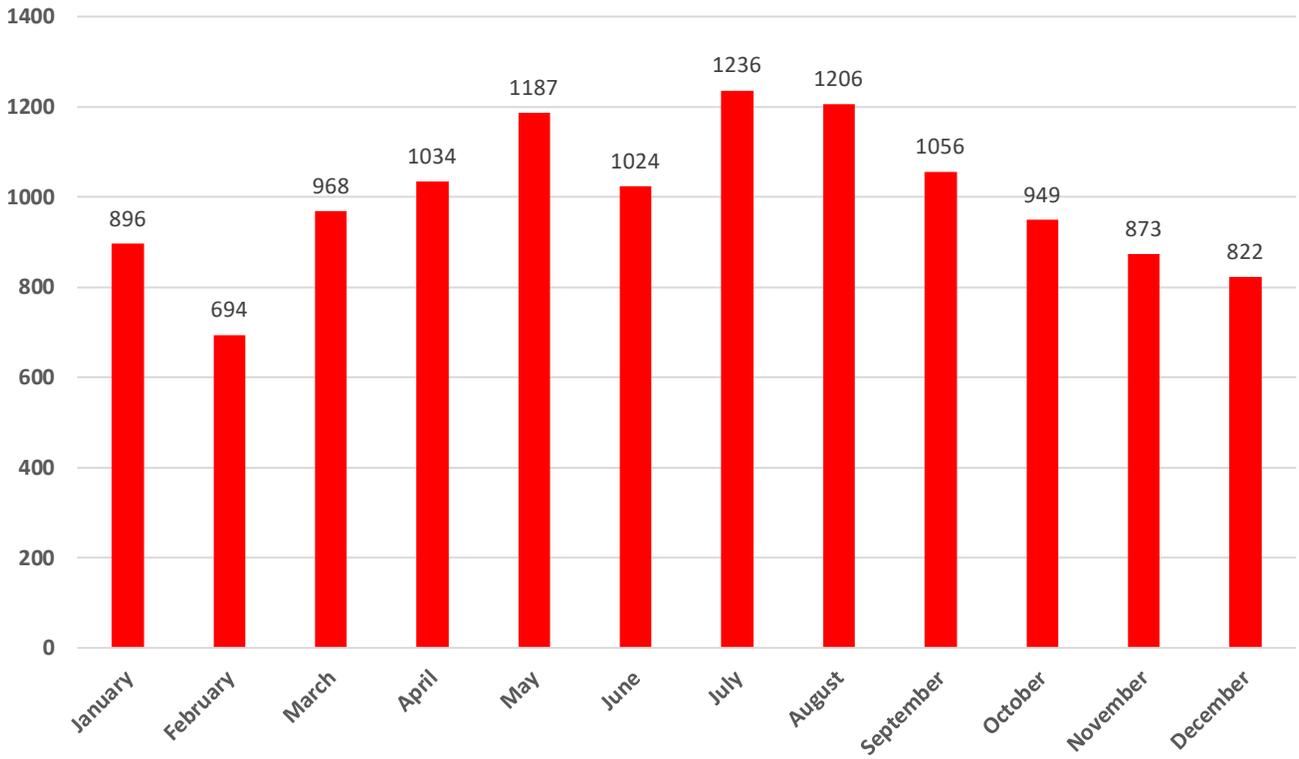
100+ MPH Citations by Highway Type 2020-October 2023



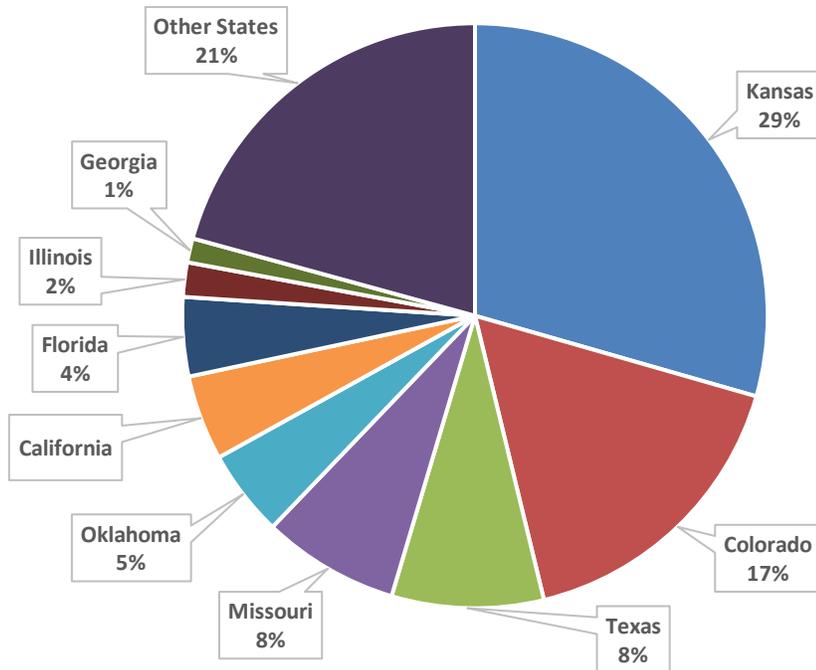
100+ MPH Citations by Time of Day 2020-October 2023



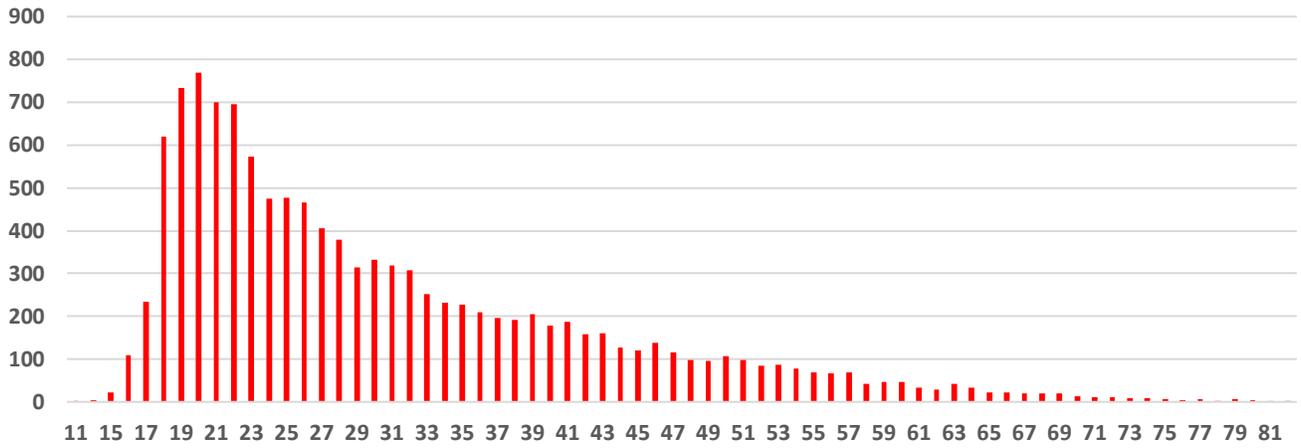
100+ MPH Citations by Time of Year 2020-October 2023



100+ MPH Citations by State of Registration 2020-October 2023



100+ MPH Citations by Age 2020-October 2023



100+ MPH Citations by Gender 2020-October 2023

