



Preliminary Trends in NC Crash Data During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dr. Randa Radwan, Dr. Wes Kumfer, Dr. Raghavan Srinivasan, Dr. Bo Lan, Dr. Katie Harmon, Ms. Cheng Ma
UNC Highway Safety Research Center

January 8, 2021

 Part of a study on COVID-19 Mobility & Health Impacts in NC funded by the NC Collaboratory at UNC

Overall Study Motivation

- Investigate the interrelationships amongst public health policies, mobility changes, traffic safety, and the transmission and impacts of COVID-19.
- Inform policy decisions in North Carolina, specifically if there is resurgence
 of infections due to cyclical outbreaks throughout the year.
- Support the development of expertise, provide foundational research, and build data infrastructure at UNC-CH for mobility research involving future respiratory and other infectious disease pandemics.



NC Mobility Trends



Mobility Data Sources (Jan 1- Sept 30, 2019/2020)

Data For	rmat	Data Type	Data Source	Scope	Time Scale	Unit
Vehicle Count-Based		ATR Count Station Data	NCDOT	State-owned highways (in ~ 58 counties)	Daily Aggregate (collected hourly)	Vehicles per day
	ased	VMT	NCDOT	Statewide (all counties)	Monthly (estimated)	Vehicle miles of travel
Cell Phone- Based		Mobility Index	Cuebiq	Statewide (all counties)	Daily	Unitless (logarithmic measure of median distance traveled)
	ne-	Contact Index	Cuebiq	Statewide (all counties)	Daily	Unitless (ratio of users with installed app to other cell phones within 50 feet)
		VMT	Streetlight	Statewide (all counties)	Daily & monthly	Vehicle miles of travel



Important Dates: *Key Executive Orders*

Implementation Date	Effect
March 10 th , 2020	Declares a State of Emergency
March 14 th , 2020	Closes K-12 public schools statewide
March 17 th , 2020	Closes restaurants and bars for dine-in services
March 23 rd , 2020	Closes K-12 public schools statewide through May 15 th and bans mass gatherings of more than 50 people
March 27 th , 2020	Issues statewide Stay-at-Home-Order
April 23 rd , 2020	Extends until May 8 th the Stay-at-Home-Order
May 5 th , 2020	Eases some restrictions on travel, business operations, and mass gatherings
May 20 th , 2020	Lifts the statewide Stay-at-Home-Order and implements a Safer at Home recommendation (Phase 2)
June 24 th , 2020	Extends the Safer at Home restrictions and requires mask wearing
September 1 st , 2020	Implements Safer at Home Phase 2.5
September 30 th , 2020	Revises restrictions and implements Phase 3

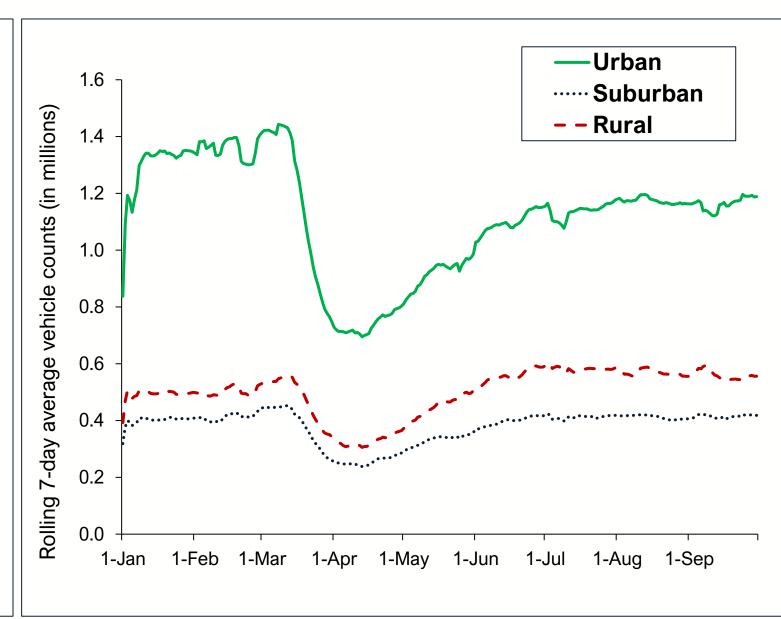


Statewide ATR Trends, 2019-2020

All counties - raw vehicle counts

3.0 Rolling 7-day average vehicle counts (in millions) 2.5 2.0 1.5 **- - 2019** 1.0 -2020 0.5 0.0 1-Feb 1-Mar 1-Apr 1-May 1-Jun 1-Jul 1-Aug

ATR Trends by Area Type, 2020 Counties stratified by rurality-raw vehicle counts





NC Crash Safety Trends (Preliminary Analysis of Speeding-Related Crashes)

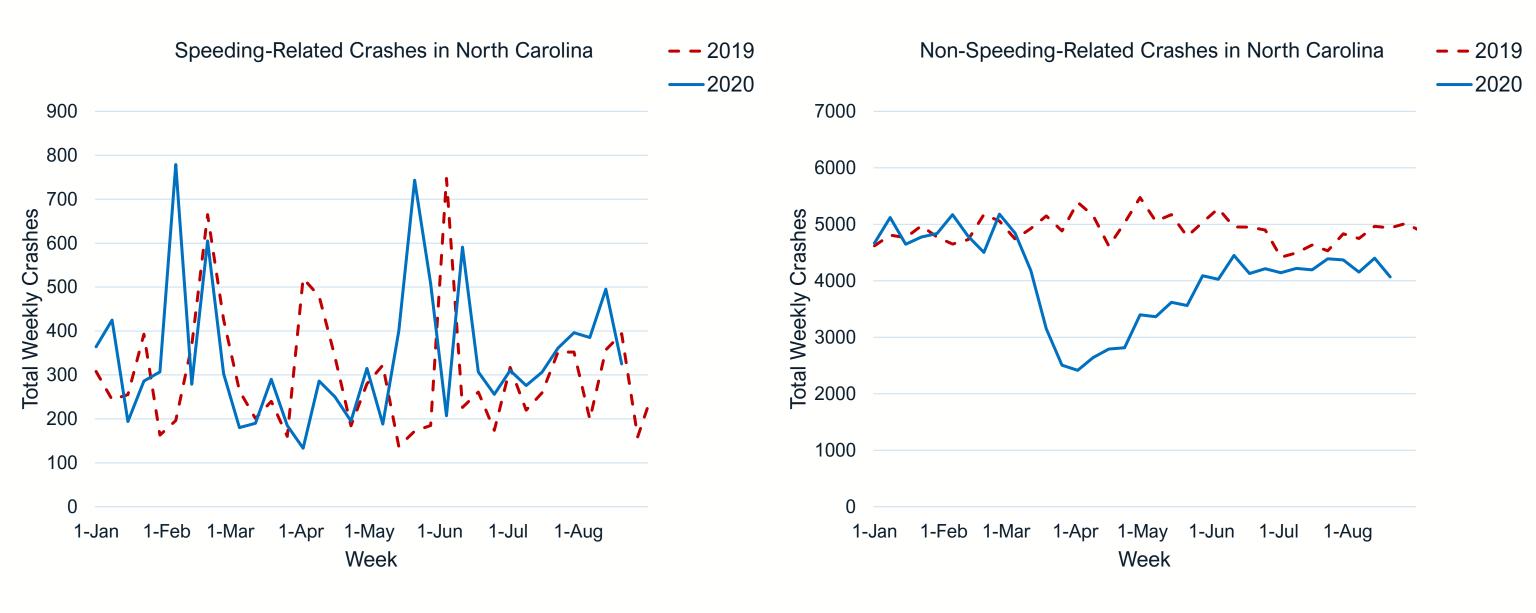


Speeding-Related crash definition in this analysis

"Exceeded Safe Speed For Conditions" or "Exceeded Authorized Speed Limit" reported by the police officer reported as a contributing factor in the crash

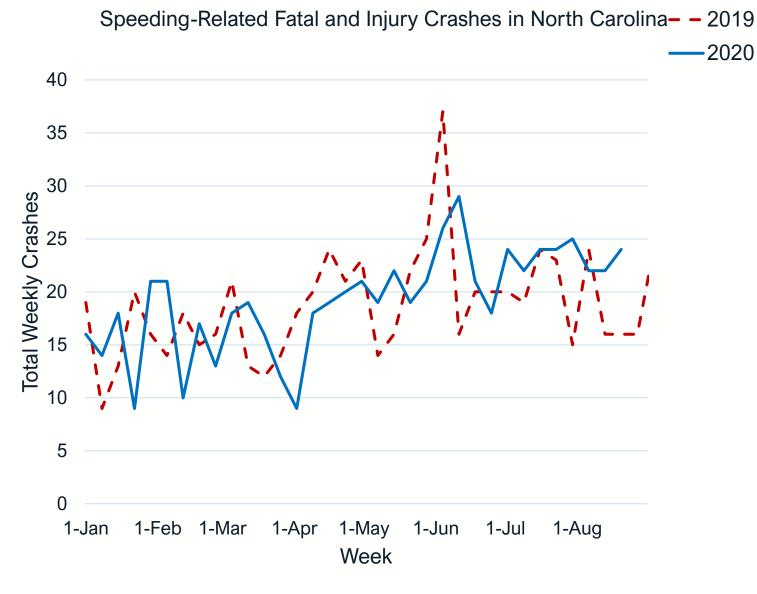


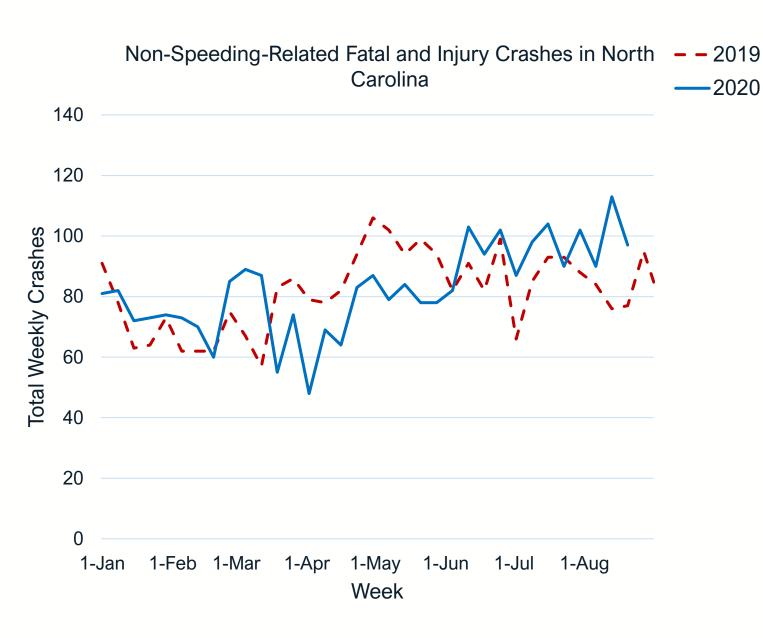
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Total Crashes



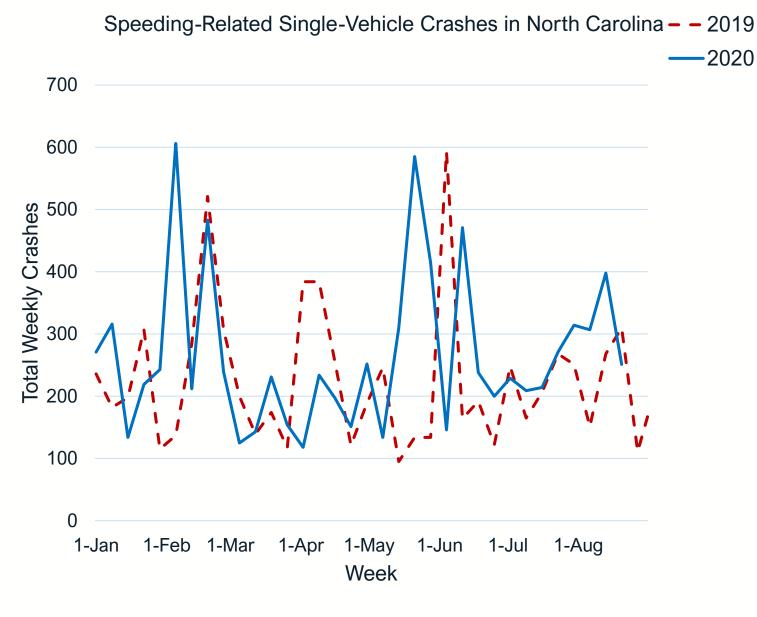


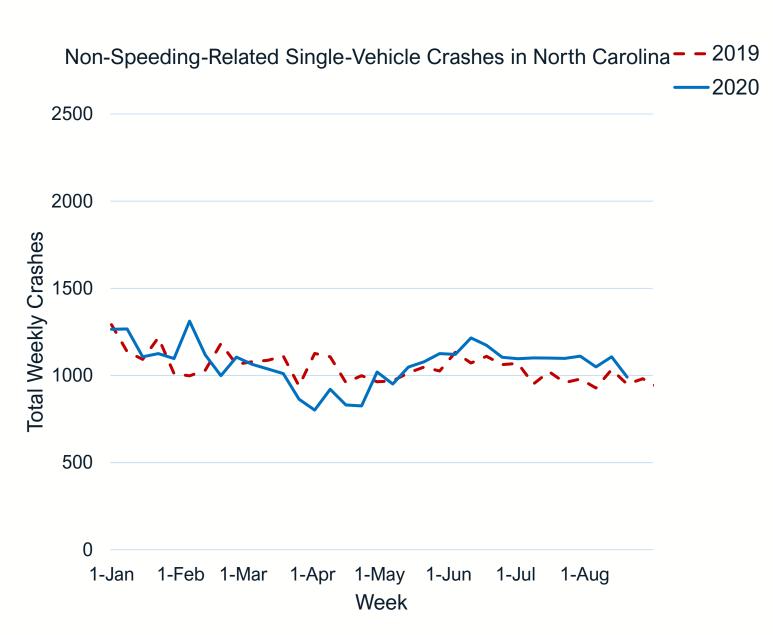
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Fatal and Injury Crashes



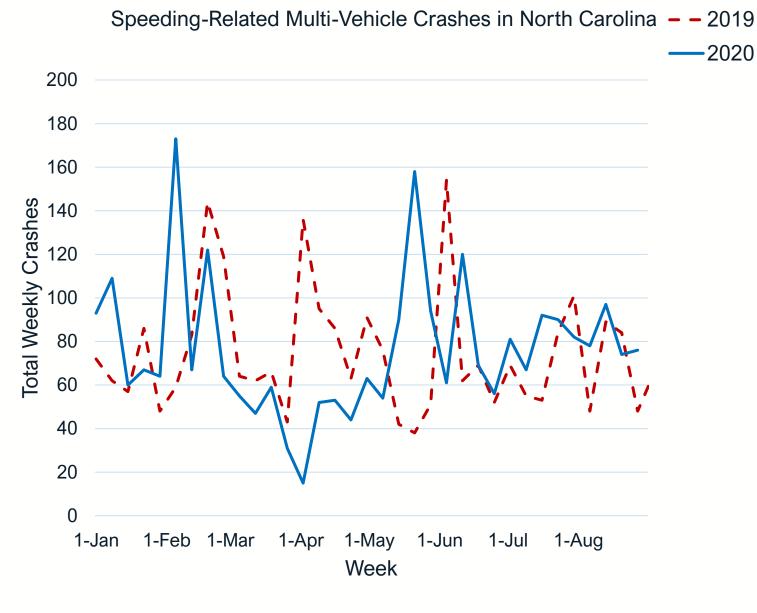


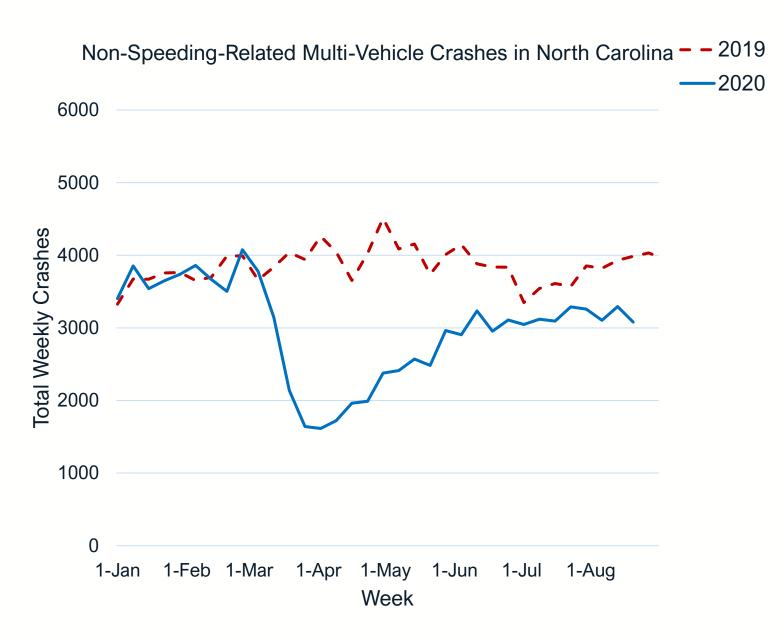
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Single-Vehicle Crashes



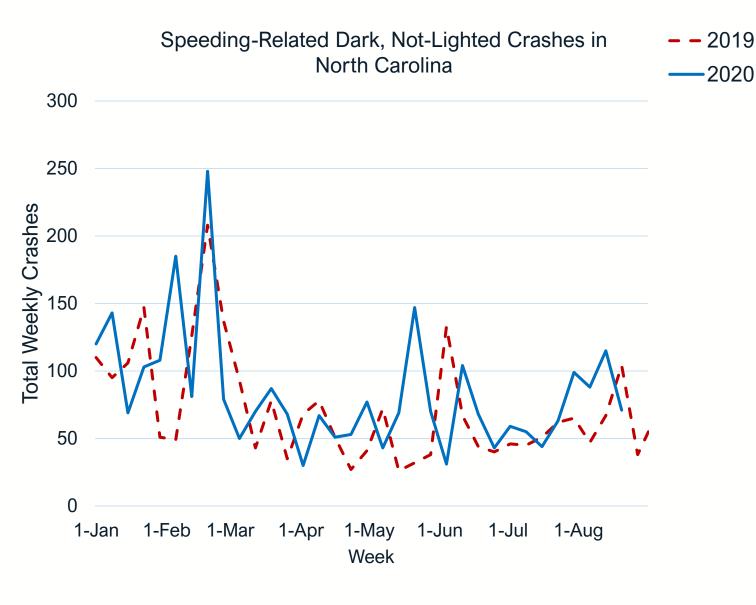


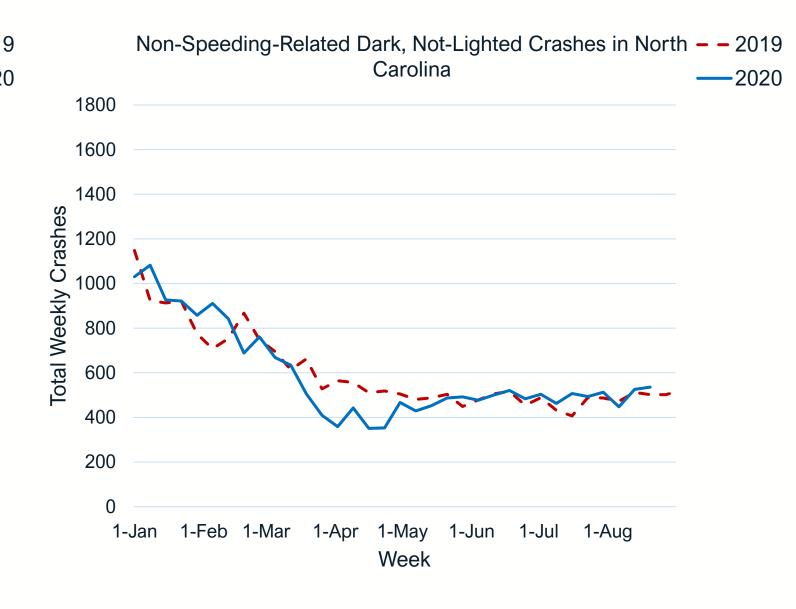
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Multi-Vehicle Crashes



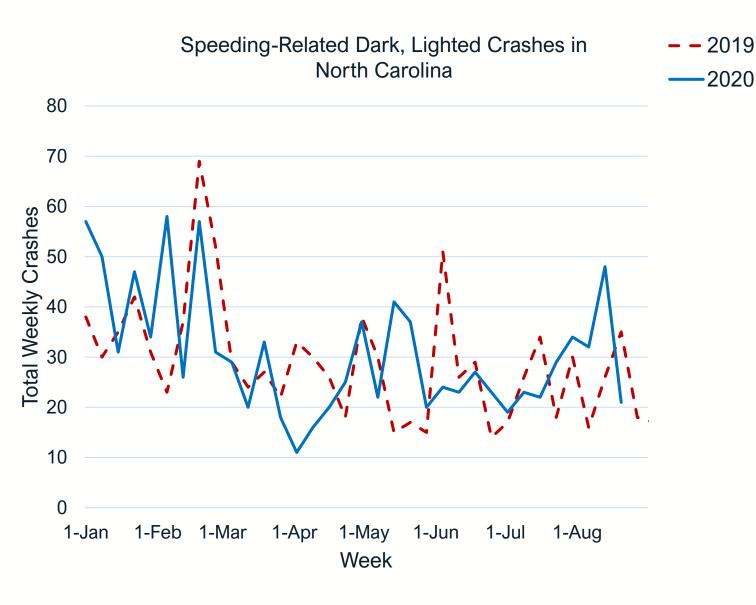


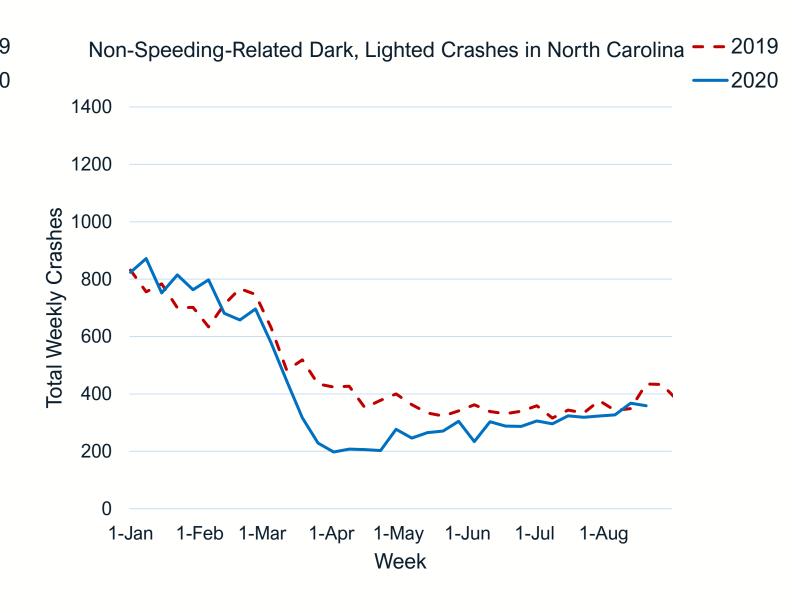
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Dark (Not-Lighted) Crashes



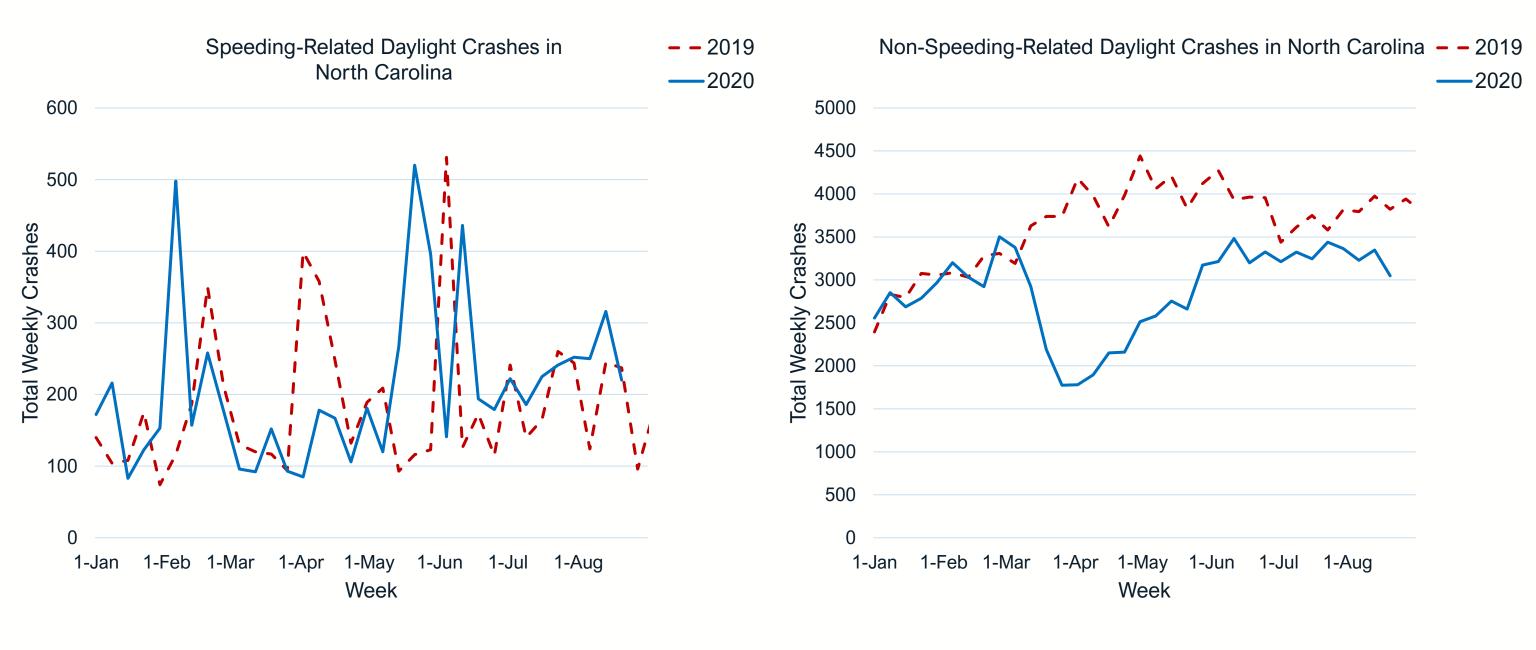


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Dark (Lighted) Crashes



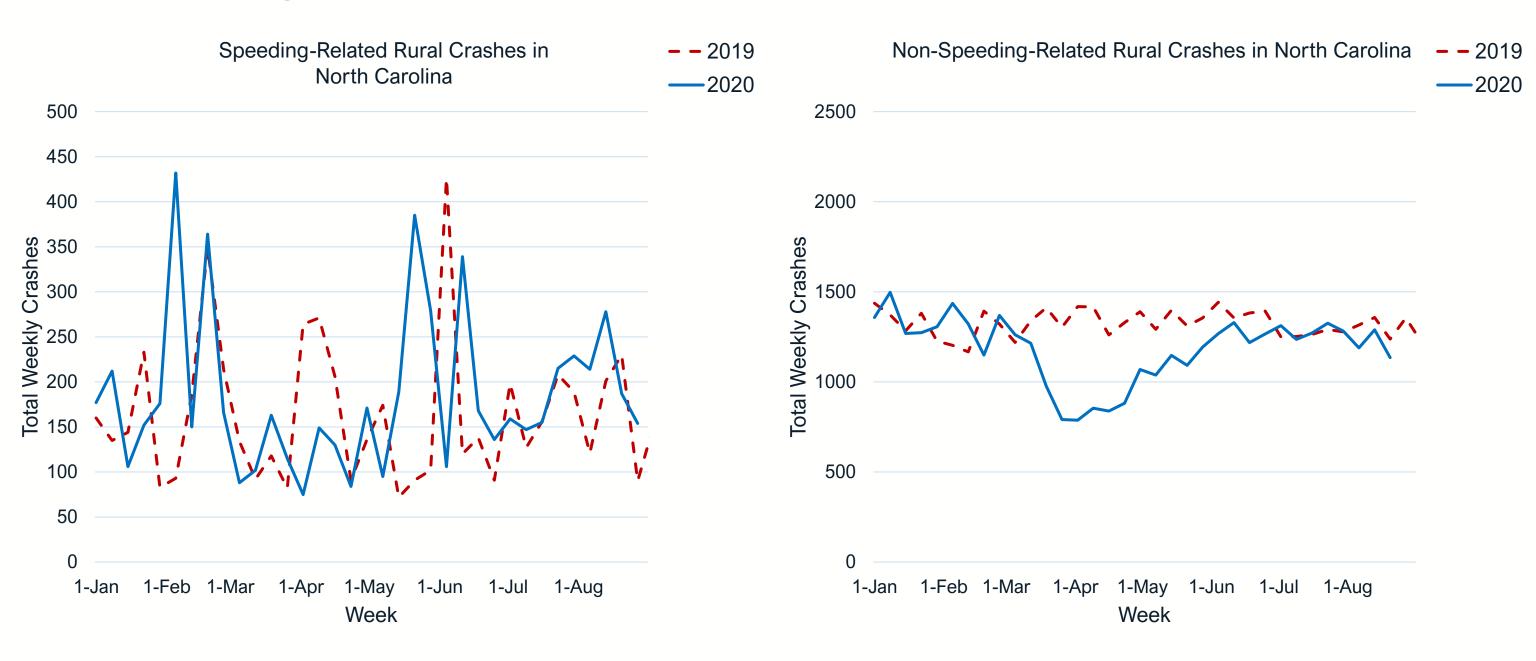


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Daylight Crashes



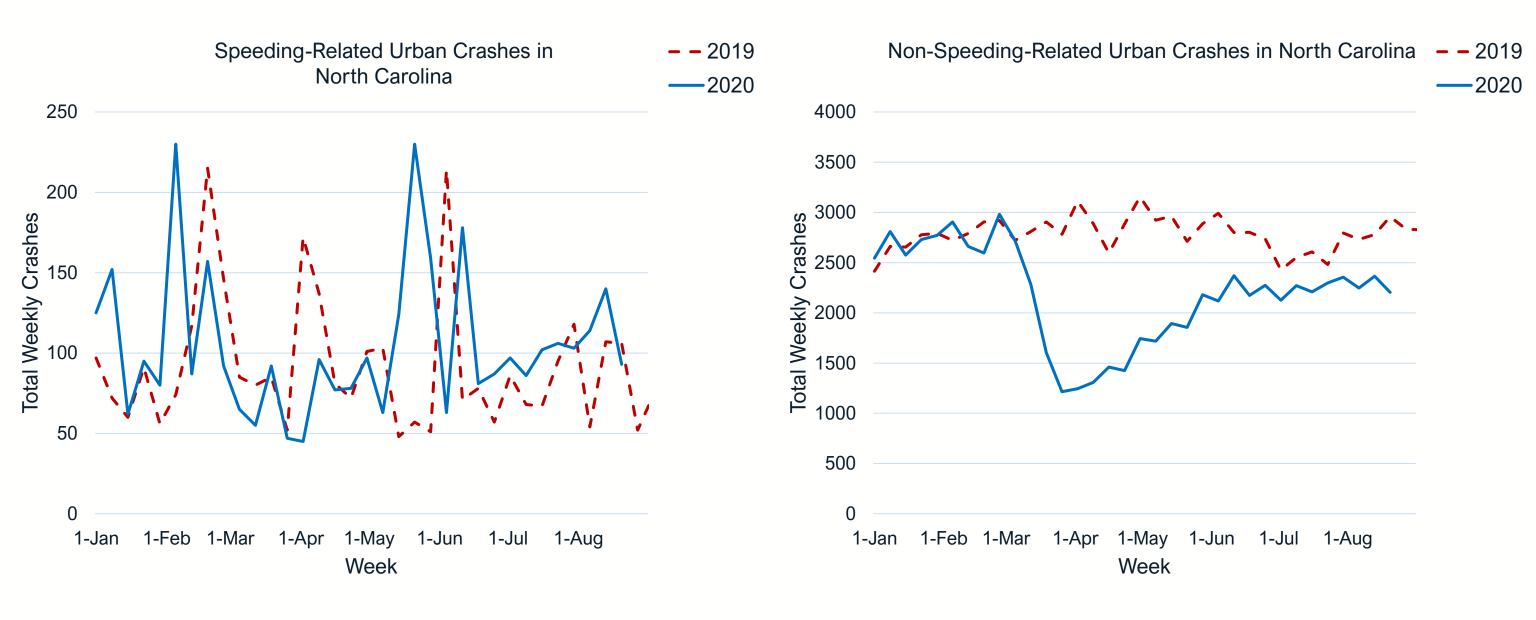


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Rural Crashes



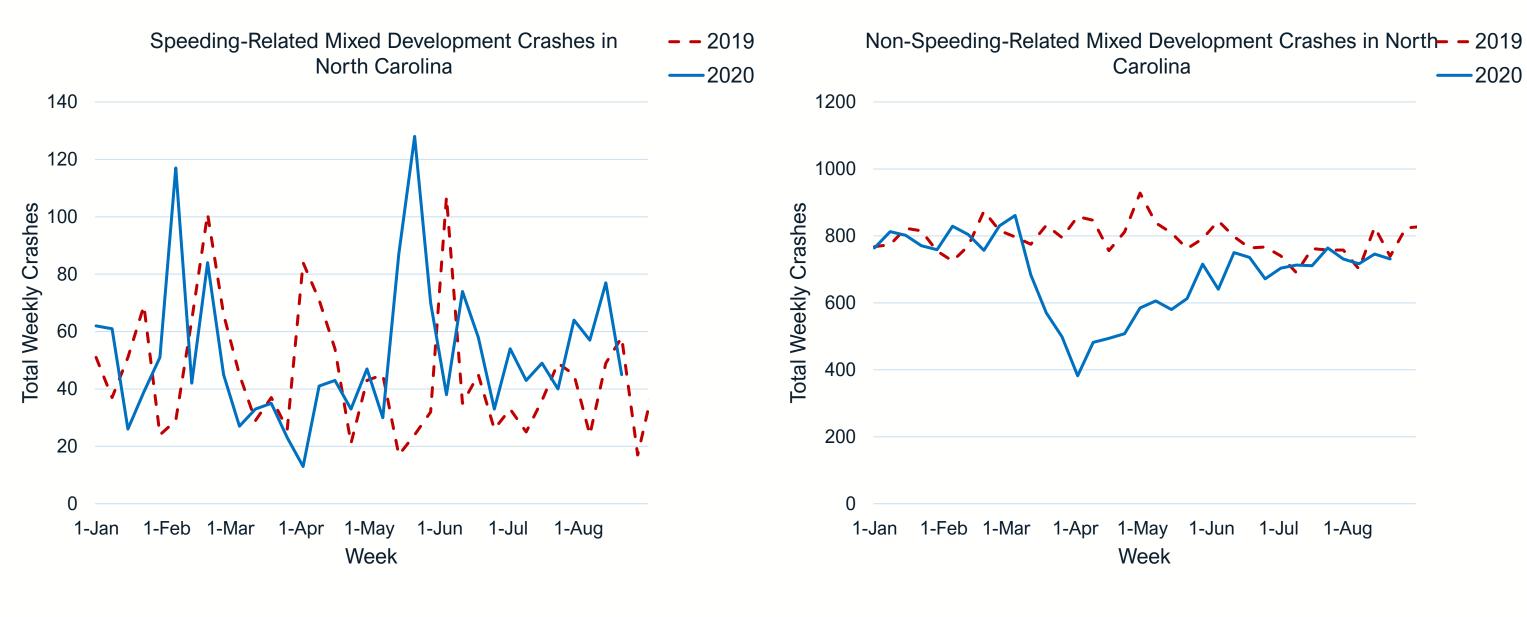


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Urban Crashes



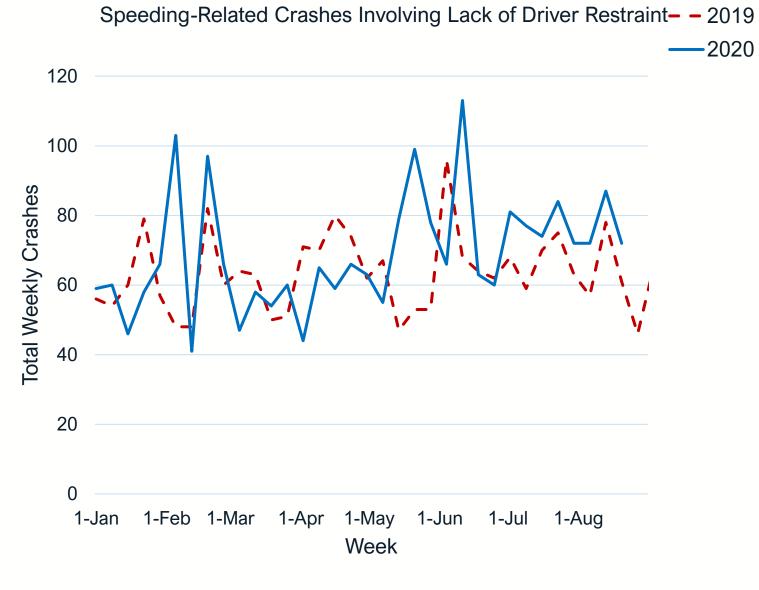


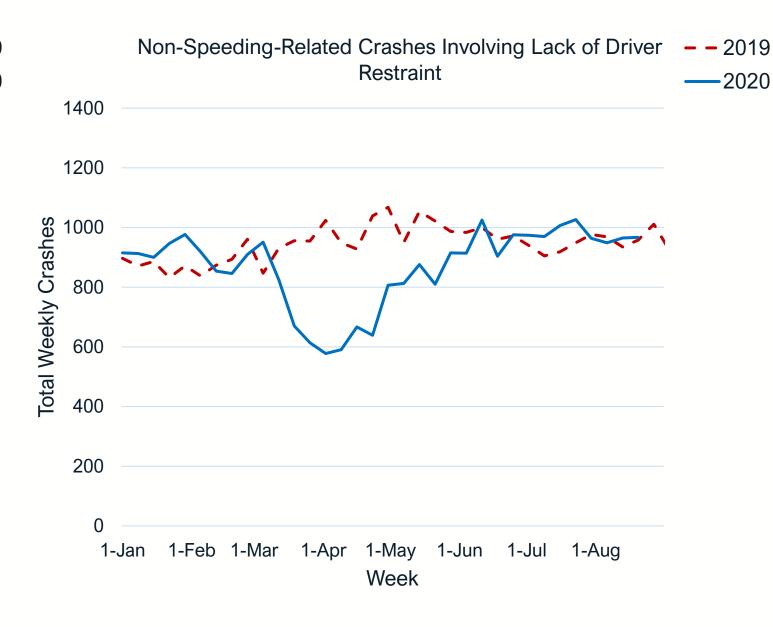
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Mixed Development Crashes





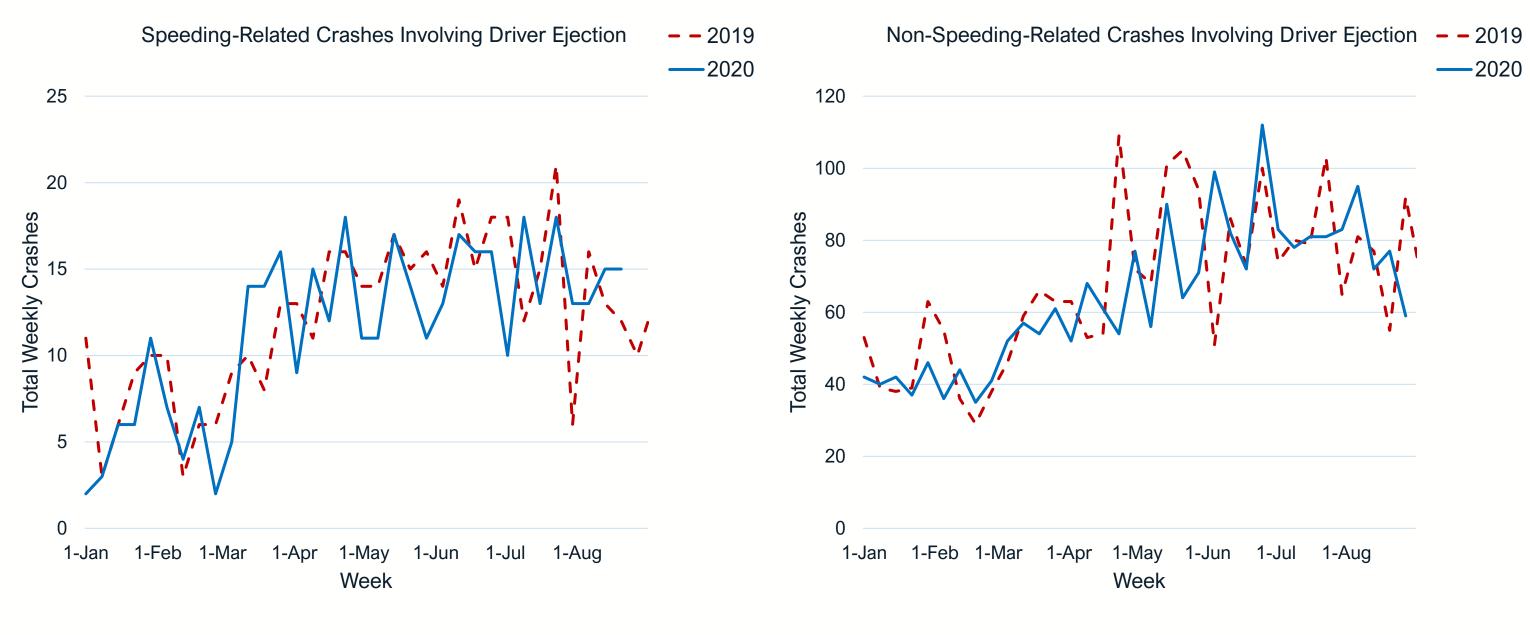
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Driver Restraint





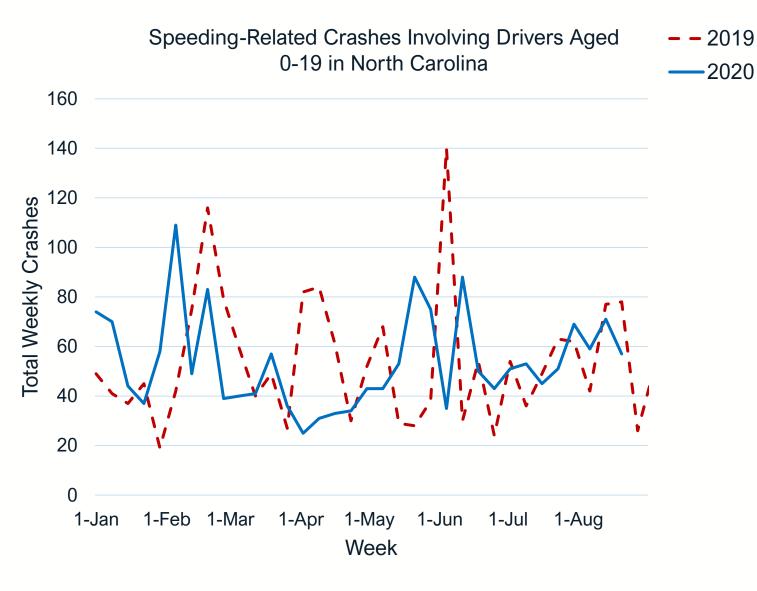


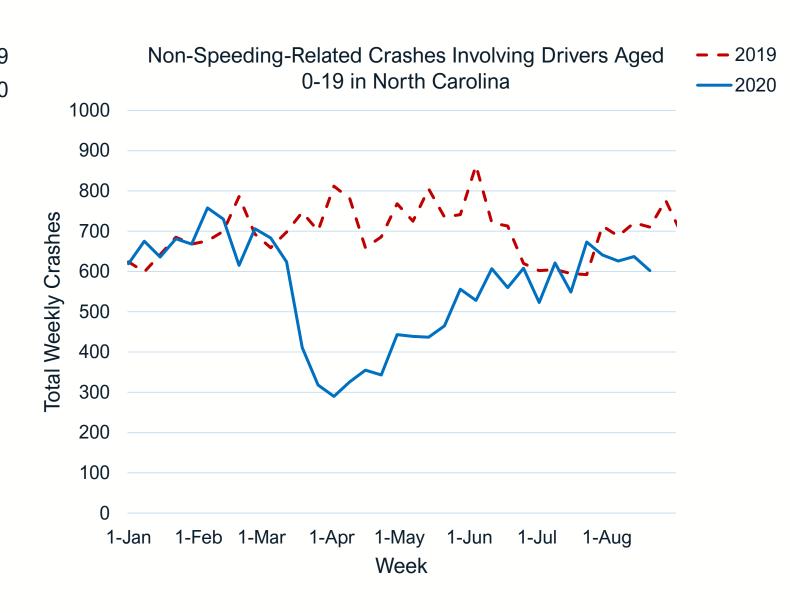
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Driver Ejection





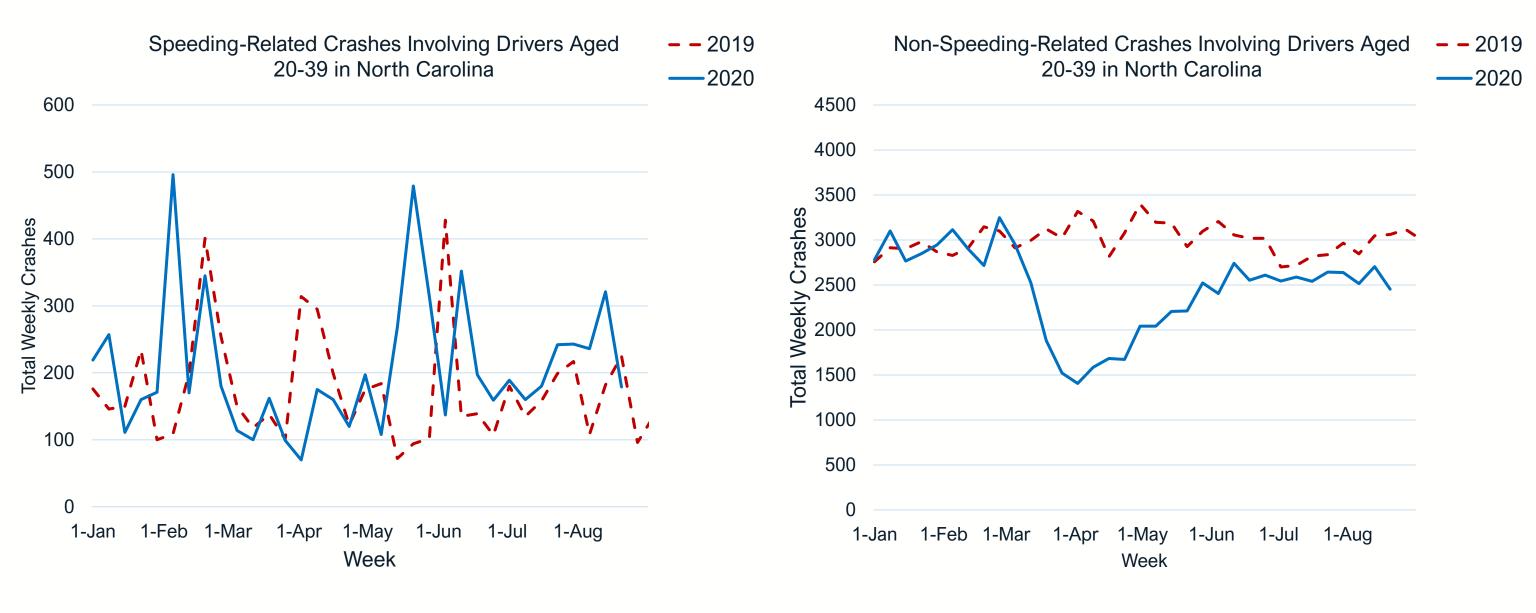
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Drivers Aged 0-19





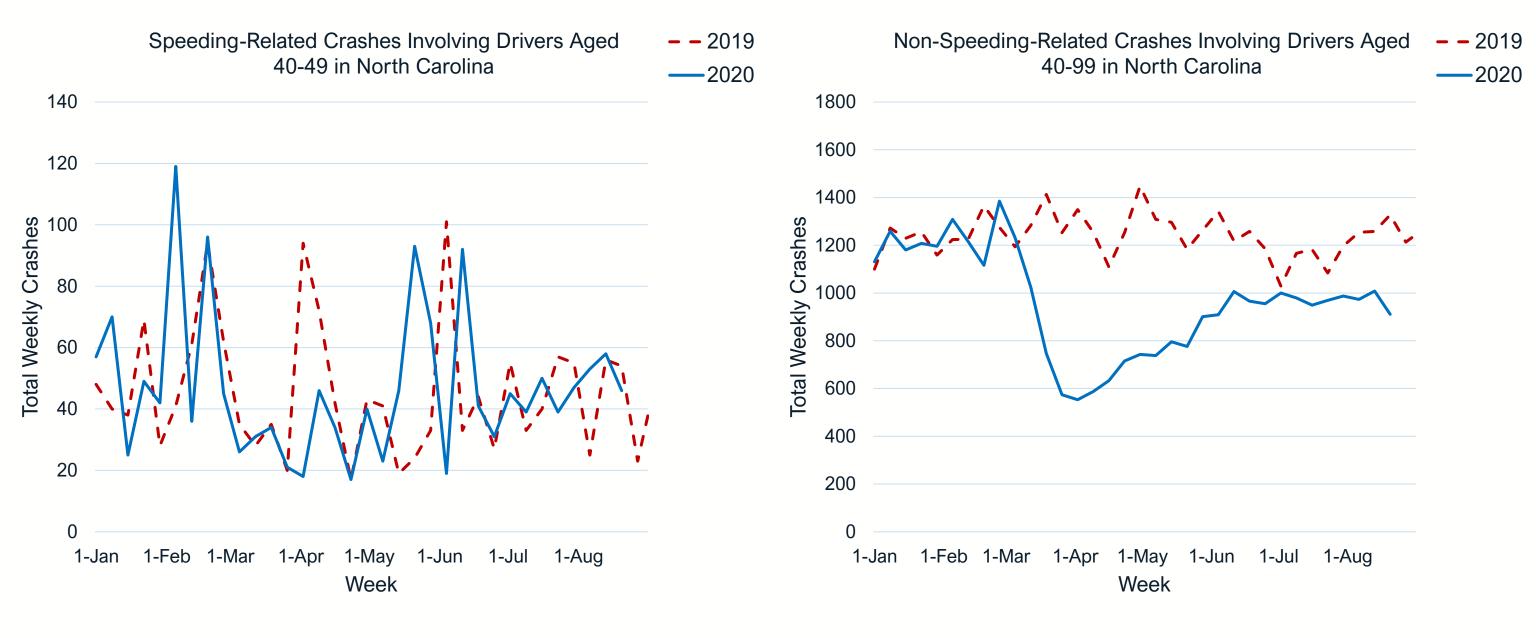


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Drivers Aged 20-39



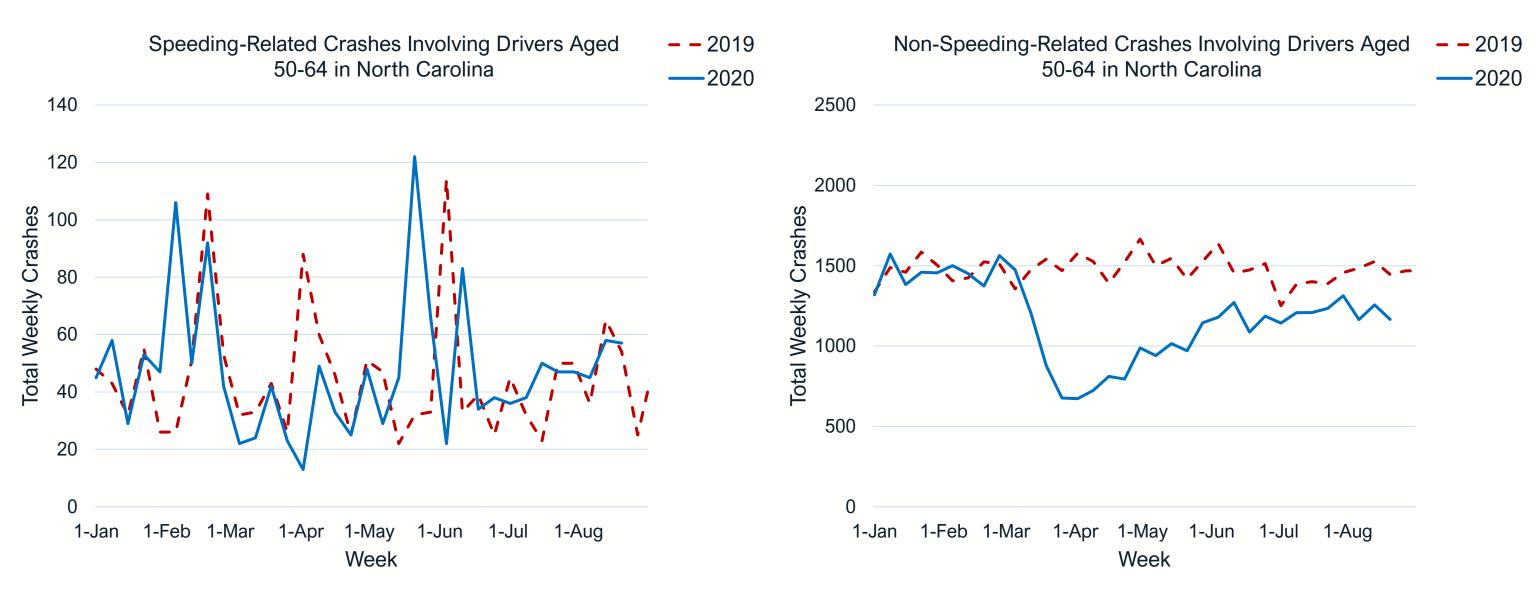


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Drivers Aged 40-49



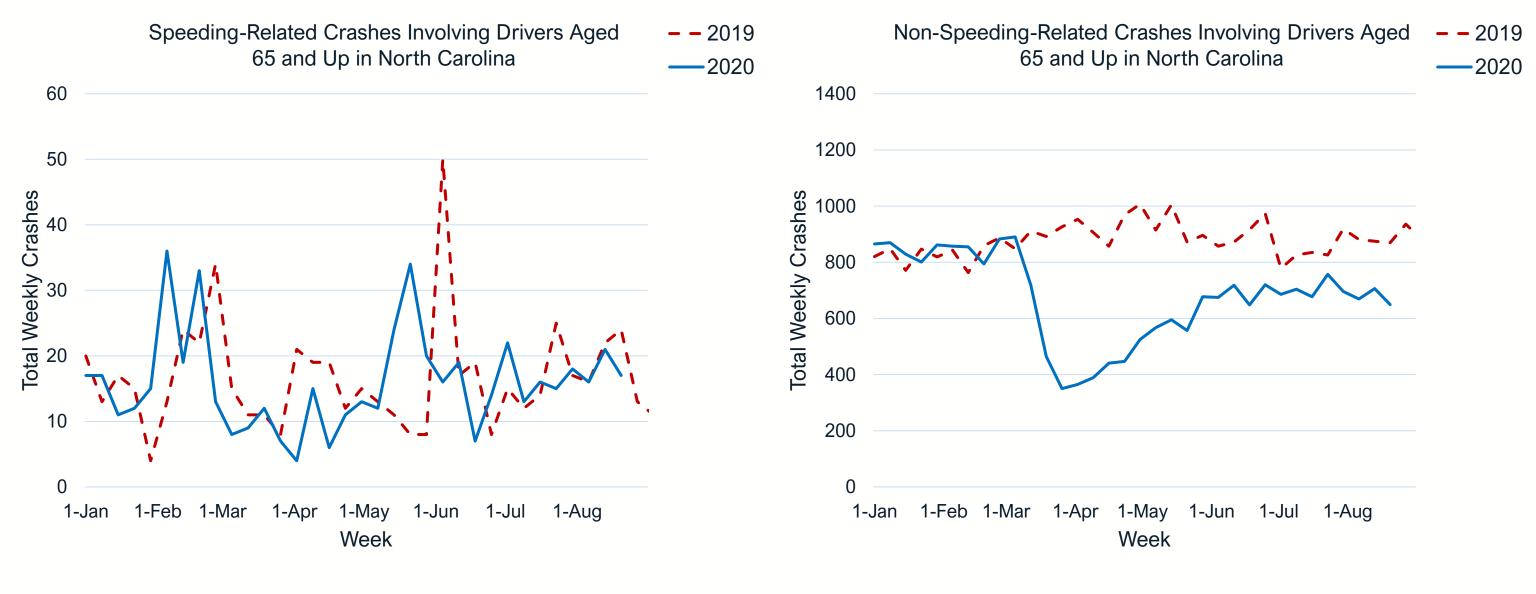


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Drivers Aged 50-64



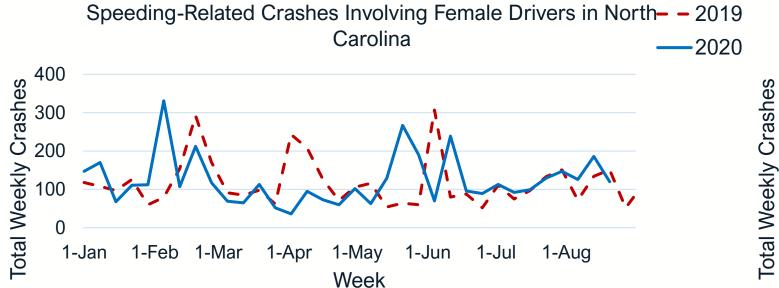


Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Drivers Aged 65+





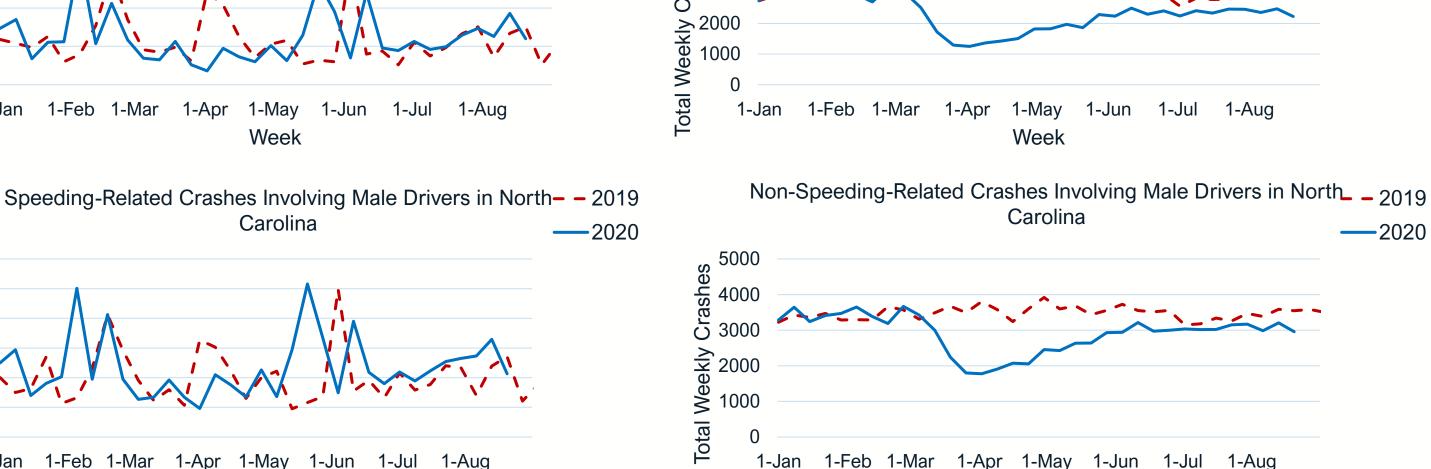
Speeding-Related Crash Trends – Drivers by Gender



Carolina

1-May

Week



4000

3000

Non-Speeding-Related Crashes Involving Female Drivers in North _ _ 2019

1-Jul

1-Jul

Week

1-Aug

-2020

-2020

Carolina



1-Feb 1-Mar

1-Apr

Crashes

Total Weekly

500

Characteristics of Speeding & non-Speeding Related Crashes in NC

- 2019 & 2020 weekly crash averages:
 - Weeks of January 1 to March 4
 - Weeks of March 12 to August 19
- Speeding Related crash:
 - "Exceeded Safe Speed For Conditions" or "Exceeded Authorized Speed Limit" noted as a contributing factor

	2019 P	eriods	2020 Periods	ds 2019 Per		eriods 2020 P		Periods
	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19
		Weekly	Mean		% of Total Crashes (weekly means)			
Speeding-Related Crashes	335	291	394	329	6.5%	5.6%	7.5%	8.2%
Non-Speeding-Related Crashes	4838	4928	4854	3705				

Average Weekly Crash Characteristics for Speeding-Related Crashes

		2019 Periods		2020 Periods		
Speeding or Not Speeding	Crash Type	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	
		% of Total Crashes (weekly means)				
	Total Crashes	335	291	394	329	
	Fatal or Severe Injury Crashes	5%	7%	4%	6%	
	Single-Vehicle Crashes	76%	75%	77%	78%	
	Multi-Vehicle Crashes	24%	25%	23%	22%	
	Crashes on Dark, Unlit Roadways	34%	19%	32%	21%	
	Crashes on Dark, Lit Roadways	12%	9%	11%	8%	
	Crashes on Roadways in Daylight	49%	68%	52%	66%	
	Crashes in Rural (<30% Developed) Areas	53%	55%	55%	54%	
	Crashes in Urban (>70% Developed) Areas	31%	31%	30%	31%	
Speeding-Related Crashes	Crashes in Mixed (30% To 70% Developed) Areas	16%	14%	15%	15%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 0-19 Involved	17%	18%	16%	16%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 20-39 Involved	59%	58%	60%	62%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 40-49 Involved	16%	15%	15%	13%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 50-64 Involved	15%	15%	15%	13%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 65+ Involved	5%	6%	5%	5%	
	Crashes with Female Drivers Involved	40%	39%	39%	35%	
	Crashes with Male Drivers Involved	65%	68%	67%	70%	
	Crashes with Ejected Drivers	2%	5%	1%	4%	
	Crashes with Unrestrained Drivers	18%	22%	17%	22%	



Average Weekly Crash Characteristics for Non-Speeding-Related Crashes

		2019 P	eriods	2020 Periods		
Speeding or Not Speeding	Crash Type	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	Jan 1 - Mar 4	Mar 12 - Aug 19	
		% of Total Crashes (weekly means)				
	Total Crashes	4838	4928	4854	3705	
	Fatal or Severe Injury Crashes	1%	2%	2%	2%	
	Single-Vehicle Crashes	23%	21%	24%	28%	
	Multi-Vehicle Crashes	77%	79%	76%	72%	
	Crashes on Dark, Unlit Roadways	18%	10%	18%	13%	
	Crashes on Dark, Lit Roadways	15%	8%	16%	8%	
	Crashes on Roadways in Daylight	62%	79%	61%	76%	
	Crashes in Rural (<30% Developed) Areas	27%	27%	27%	30%	
	Crashes in Urban (>70% Developed) Areas	57%	57%	56%	53%	
Non-Speeding-Related Crashes	Crashes in Mixed (30% To 70% Developed) Areas	16%	16%	16%	17%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 0-19 Involved	14%	14%	14%	14%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 20-39 Involved	61%	61%	60%	61%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 40-49 Involved	26%	25%	25%	23%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 50-64 Involved	30%	30%	30%	28%	
	Crashes with Drivers Age 65+ Involved	17%	18%	17%	16%	
	Crashes with Female Drivers Involved	62%	62%	61%	55%	
	Crashes with Male Drivers Involved	70%	71%	71%	72%	
	Crashes with Ejected Drivers	1%	2%	1%	2%	
	Crashes with Unrestrained Drivers	18%	20%	19%	23%	





NC STATE UNIVERSITY







This project is supported by the NC Policy Collaboratory at the UNC-CH with funding from the North Carolina Coronavirus Relief Fund established and appropriated by the NC General Assembly.

https://collaboratory.unc.edu/



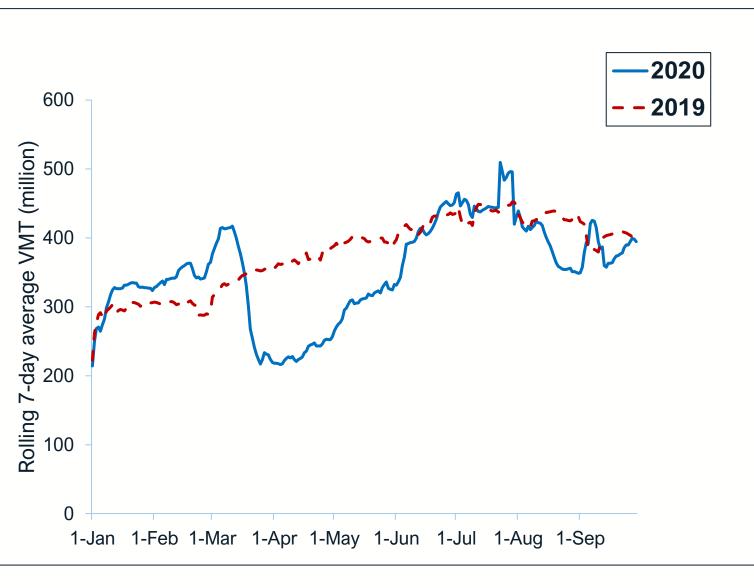
Streetlight VMT

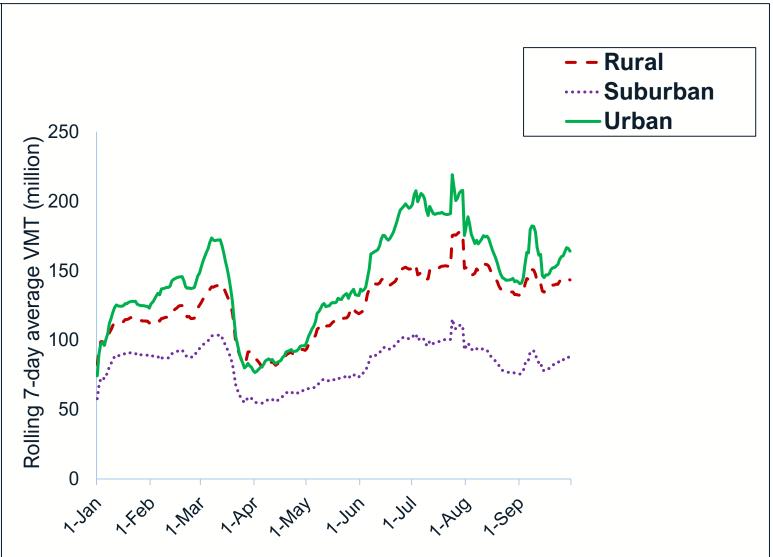
Statewide VMT Trends, 2019-2020

All counties - raw VMT

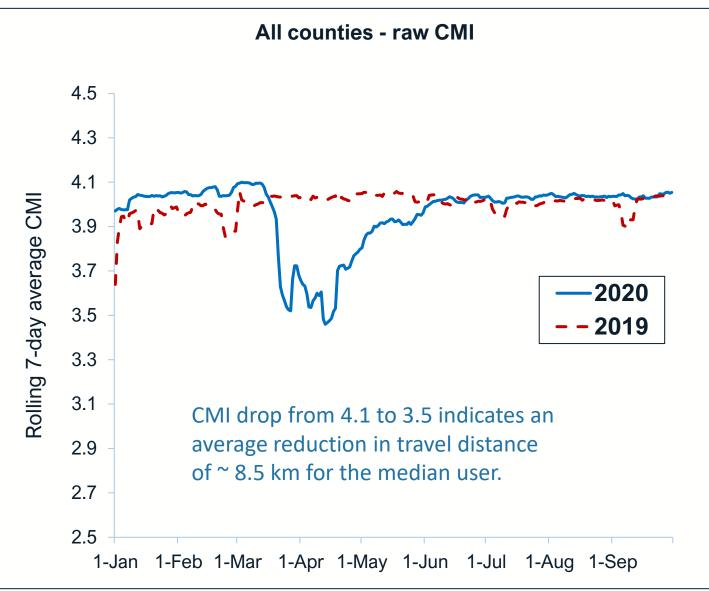
VMT Trends by Area Type, 2020

Counties stratified by rurality - raw VMT

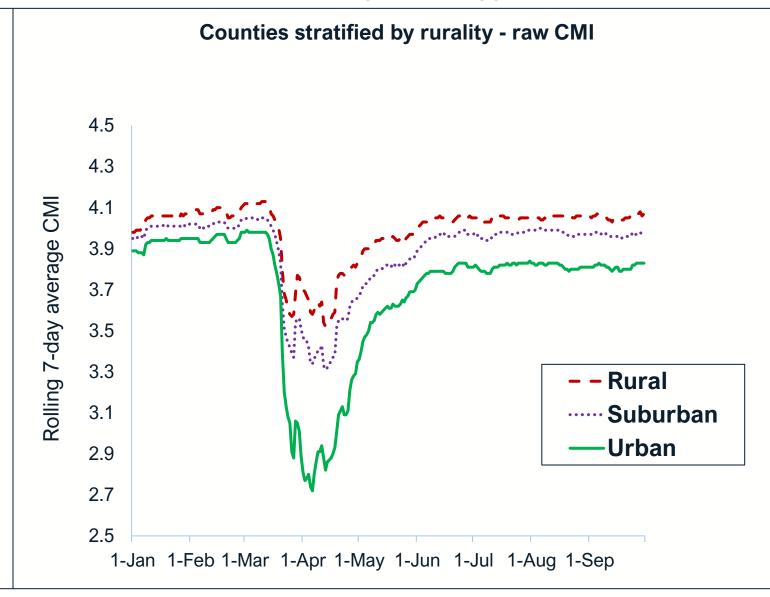




Statewide CMI Trends, 2019-2020



CMI Trends by Area Type, 2020

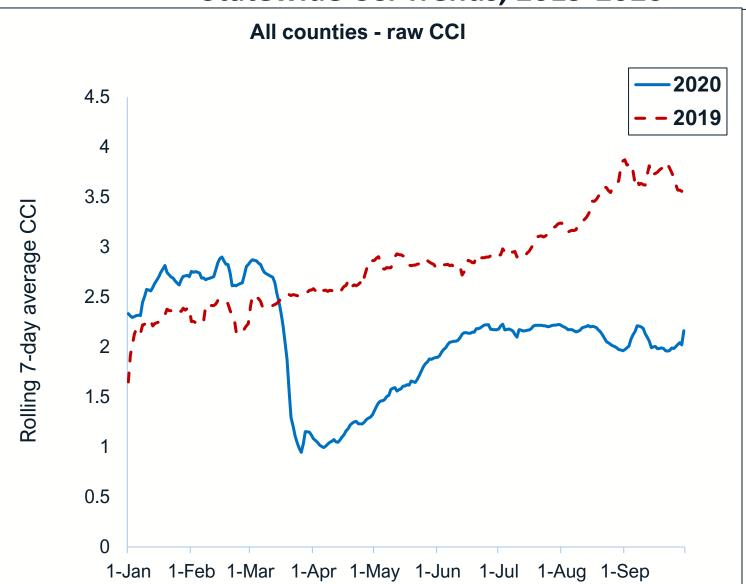




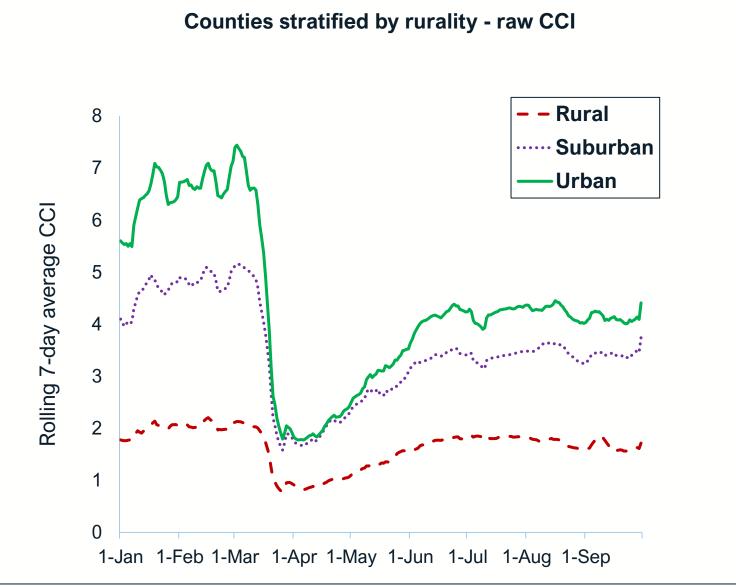
Cuebiq Contact Index (CCI)

Ratio of number of devices in proximity (within 50 ft) to number of devices in an area within 5 minutes



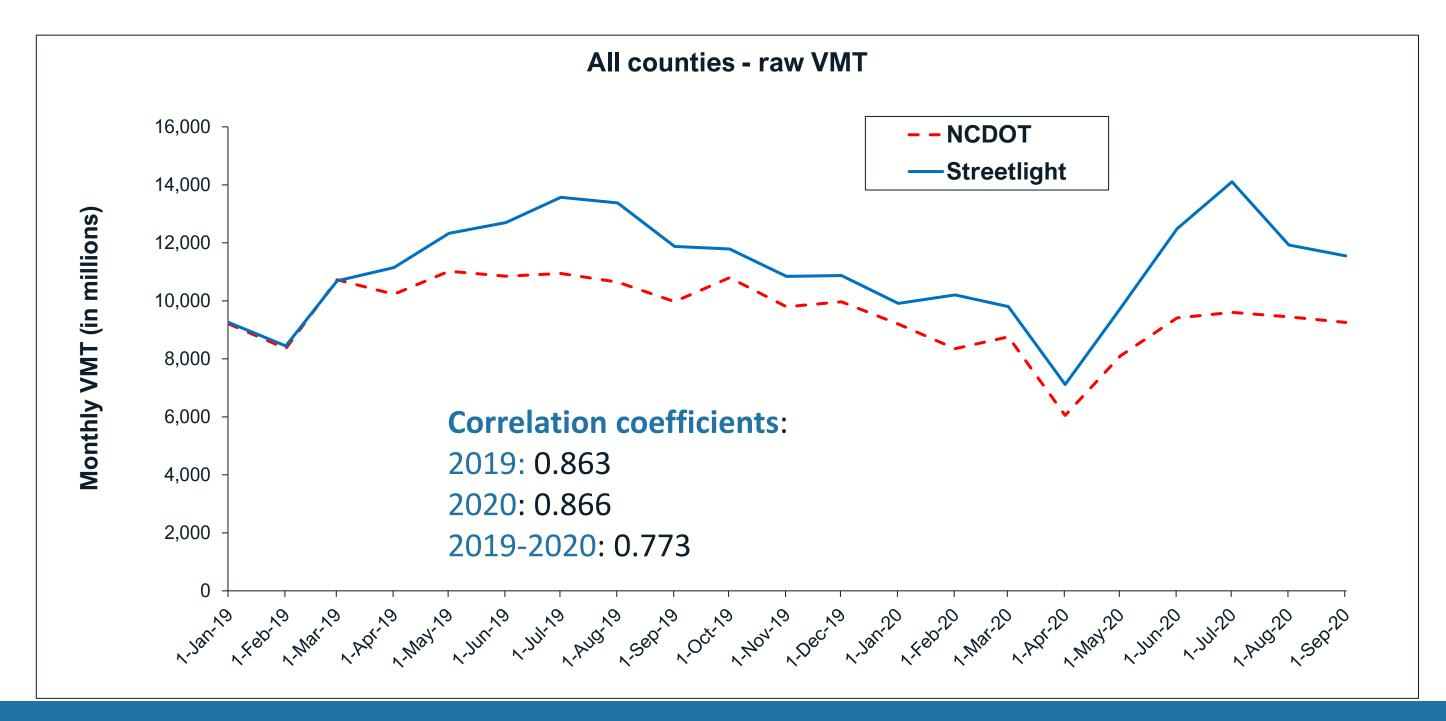


CCI Trends by Area Type, 2020





Vehicle Miles Traveled



Correlation Matrix of Mobility & Health Data (Jan 1- Sept 30, day-by-day basis)

Variables	NCDOT ATR (7-day rolling average)	CMI (7-day rolling average)	CCI (7-day rolling average)	Streetlight VMT (7-day rolling average)
NCDOT ATR (7-day rolling average)				
CMI (7-day rolling average)	0.922			
CCI (7-day rolling average)	0.962	0.931		
Streetlight VMT (7-day rolling average)	0.898	0.869	0.923	
COVID-19 Cases (7-day rolling average)	0.6	0.617	0.601	0.802
COVID-19 Deaths (7-day rolling average)	0.35	0.48	0.371	0.463

