

Traffic Safety Facts

2006 Data

Pedestrians

“In 2006, 4,784 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — a 12-percent decrease from the number reported in 1996.”

A pedestrian is defined as any person not in or upon a motor vehicle or other vehicle.

In 2006, 4,784 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes in the United States — a decrease of 12 percent from the 5,449 pedestrians killed in 1996.

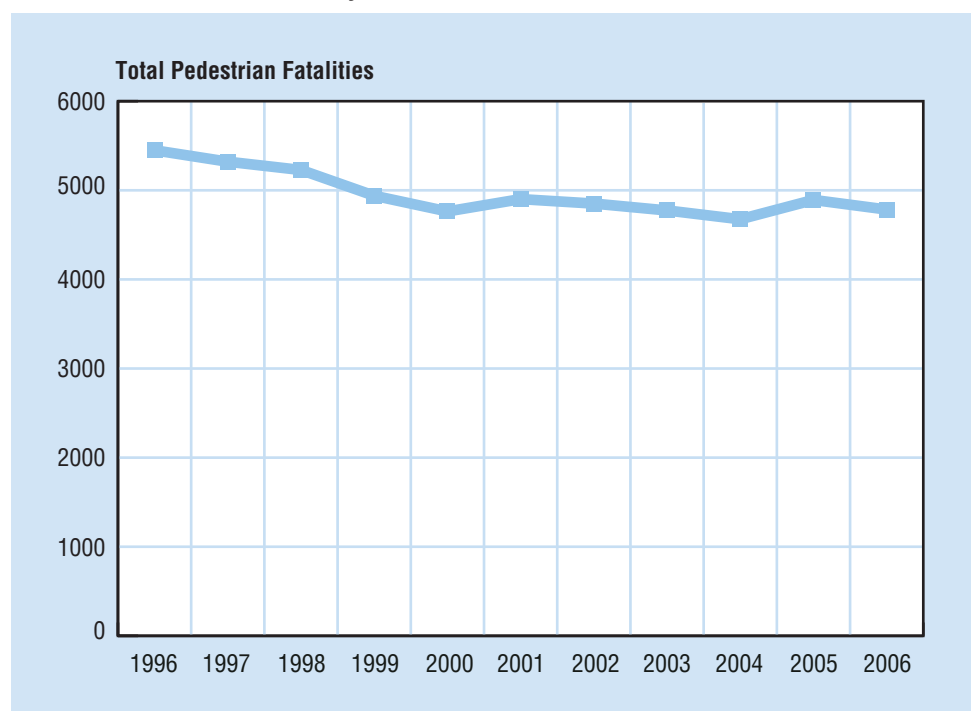
On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 110 minutes and injured in a traffic crash every 9 minutes.

There were 61,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 2006.

Most pedestrian fatalities in 2006 occurred in urban areas (74%), at non-intersection locations (79%), in normal weather conditions (90%), and at night (69%).

More than two-thirds (70%) of the pedestrians killed in 2006 were males. In 2006, the male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.24 — more than double the rate for females (0.95 per 100,000 population). In 2006, the male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 23, compared with 17 for females (see Table 5).

Figure 1
Total Pedestrian Fatalities by Year 1996-2006



Age

Pedestrians (age 70+) accounted for 15 percent (702) of all pedestrian fatalities and an estimated 7 percent (4,000) of all pedestrians injured in 2006.

“In 2006, the fatality rate for pedestrians (age 70+) was 2.61 per 100,000 population – higher than for any other age group.”

In 2006, one-fifth (20%) of all children between the ages of 5 and 9 who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians. Children age 15 and younger accounted for 8 percent of the pedestrian fatalities in 2006 and 25 percent of all pedestrians injured in traffic crashes.

Table 1
Pedestrians Killed and Injured by Age Group, 2006

Age Group (Years)	Total Killed	Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Total Killed
<5	578	108	19
5-9	516	104	20
10-15	1,079	157	15
16-20	5,658	274	5
21-24	4,701	290	6
25-29	4,025	317	8
30-34	3,144	298	9
35-39	3,065	341	11
40-44	3,296	429	13
45-49	3,343	506	15
50-54	2,889	427	15
55-59	2,400	307	13
60-64	1,778	260	15
65-69	1,406	202	14
70-74	1,205	172	14
75-79	1,271	215	17
80+	2,135	315	15
Unknown	153	62	41
Total	42,642	4,784	11
Age Group (Years)	Total Injured	Pedestrians Injured	Percentage of Total Injured
<5	56,000	2,000	3
5-9	63,000	4,000	6
10-15	121,000	9,000	7
16-20	410,000	7,000	2
21-24	273,000	3,000	1
25-29	264,000	5,000	2
30-34	205,000	3,000	1
35-39	205,000	4,000	2
40-44	209,000	5,000	2
45-49	190,000	5,000	3
50-54	155,000	2,000	2
55-59	132,000	3,000	2
60-64	90,000	3,000	4
65-69	62,000	2,000	4
70-74	49,000	1,000	2
75-79	44,000	1,000	3
80+	47,000	2,000	4
Total	2,575,000	61,000	2

“In 2006, nearly one-fifth of the children between the ages of 5 and 9 killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians.”

The above numbers are not actual counts, but estimates of the actual counts. The estimates are calculated from data obtained from a nationally representative sample of crashes collected through NHTSA's General Estimates System (GES). Estimates should be rounded to the nearest 1,000.

Estimates less than 500 indicate that the sample size was too small to produce a meaningful estimate and should be rounded to 0.

Table 2
Nonoccupant Traffic Fatalities, 1996-2006

Year	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other	Total
1996	5,449	765	154	6,368
1997	5,321	814	153	6,288
1998	5,228	760	131	6,119
1999	4,939	754	149	5,842
2000	4,763	693	141	5,597
2001	4,901	732	123	5,756
2002	4,851	665	114	5,630
2003	4,774	629	140	5,543
2004	4,675	727	130	5,532
2005	4,892	786	186	5,864
2006	4,784	773	183	5,740

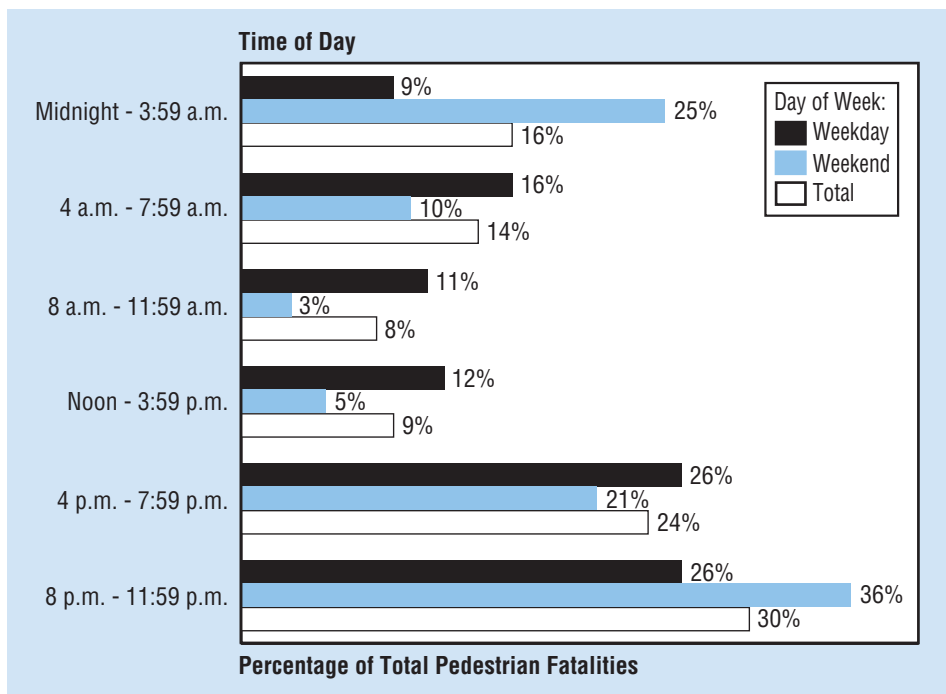
Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 83 percent of all nonoccupant fatalities in 2006. The 773 pedalcyclist fatalities accounted for 13 percent, and the remaining 3 percent were skateboard riders, roller skaters, etc.

Time of Day and Day of Week

Thirty-nine percent of the 369 young (under age 16) pedestrian fatalities occurred in crashes between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Nearly one-half (49%) of all pedestrian fatalities occurred on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday: 16 percent, 17 percent, and 16 percent, respectively.

Figure 2
Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 2006



“Thirty-nine percent of all young (under age 16) pedestrian fatalities occurred between 3 and 7 p.m.”

Important Safety Reminders

- Drivers are required to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing streets in marked or unmarked crosswalks in most situations. They need to be especially careful at intersections where the failure to yield right-of-way often occurs when drivers are turning onto another street and a pedestrian is in their path.
- When possible, cross the street at a designated crosswalk. Always stop and look left, right, and left again before crossing. If a parked vehicle is blocking the view of the street, stop at the edge line of the vehicle and look around it before entering the street.
- Increase visibility at night by carrying a flashlight when walking and by wearing retro-reflective clothing that helps to highlight body movements.
- It is much safer to walk on a sidewalk, but if you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic.

“Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or the pedestrian — was reported in 49 percent of all pedestrian fatalities.”

Alcohol Involvement

Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 49 percent of the traffic crashes that resulted in pedestrian fatalities. Of the pedestrians involved, 35 percent had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or higher. Of the drivers involved in fatal crashes, only 14 percent had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher, less than one-half the rate for the pedestrians. In 6 percent of the crashes, both the driver and the pedestrian had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher.

Table 3

Alcohol Involvement in Fatal Pedestrian Crashes, 2006

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01 – .07 g/dL		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC ≥ .08 g/dL		Total	
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	51%		2%		7%		2,843	61%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01 – .07 g/dL	4%		0%		1%		213	5%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC ≥ .08 g/dL or Greater	27%		2%		6%		1,642	35%
Total	3,848	82%	180	4%	670	14%	4,698	100%

Note: The alcohol levels in this table are determined using the alcohol levels of the involved pedestrian fatalities and all the involved drivers (fatality and other)

Table 4

Alcohol Involvement for Pedestrians Killed in Fatal Crashes by Age, 1996 and 2006

Age (Years)	1996					2006				
	Number of Fatalities	% with BAC .00 g/dL	% with BAC .01 – .07 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .08 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .01 g/dL (Any Alcohol)	Number of Fatalities	% with BAC .00 g/dL	% with BAC .01 – .07 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .08 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .01 g/dL (Any Alcohol)
16-20	291	64	5	31	36	274	67	5	28	33
21-24	286	43	7	50	57	290	41	4	55	59
25-34	765	35	6	59	65	615	44	6	49	56
35-44	932	39	4	56	61	770	45	5	50	55
45-54	684	51	5	44	49	933	48	6	46	52
55-64	502	64	4	32	36	567	67	4	28	33
65-74	514	79	4	17	21	374	81	4	14	19
75-84	503	90	3	7	10	402	90	3	8	10
85 +	193	94	0	6	6	128	92	3	5	8
Total*	4,670	57	4	39	43	4,353	58	5	37	42

*Excludes pedestrians under 16 years old and pedestrians of unknown age.

Table 5

Pedestrians Killed and Injured and Fatality and Injury Rates by Age and Sex, 2006

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
<5	64	10,442	0.61	44	9,976	0.44	108	20,418	0.53
5-9	78	10,077	0.77	26	9,633	0.27	104	19,710	0.53
10-15	100	12,779	0.78	56	12,176	0.46	157	24,955	0.63
16-20	179	10,878	1.65	94	10,312	0.91	274	21,189	1.29
21-24	217	8,751	2.48	72	8,167	0.88	290	16,918	1.71
25-34	484	20,565	2.35	129	19,851	0.65	615	40,416	1.52
35-44	558	21,850	2.55	210	21,817	0.96	770	43,667	1.76
45-54	693	21,290	3.26	232	21,989	1.06	933	43,278	2.16
55-64	383	15,224	2.52	183	16,363	1.12	567	31,587	1.80
65-74	229	8,670	2.64	143	10,247	1.40	374	18,917	1.98
75-84	208	5,298	3.93	190	7,748	2.45	402	13,047	3.08
85 +	72	1,688	4.26	55	3,609	1.52	128	5,297	2.42
Unknown	44	-	-	10	-	-	62	-	-
Total	3,309	147,512	2.24	1,444	151,886	0.95	***4,784	299,398	1.60

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
<5	1,000	10,442	12	1,000	9,976	6	2,000	20,418	9
5-9	3,000	10,077	28	1,000	9,633	10	4,000	19,710	20
10-15	4,000	12,779	29	5,000	12,176	41	9,000	24,955	35
16-20	4,000	10,878	38	3,000	10,312	32	7,000	21,189	35
21-24	2,000	8,751	22	1,000	8,167	15	3,000	16,918	19
25-34	5,000	20,565	25	3,000	19,851	14	8,000	40,416	20
35-44	5,000	21,850	24	3,000	21,817	15	9,000	43,667	20
45-54	4,000	21,290	19	3,000	21,989	14	7,000	43,278	17
55-64	3,000	15,224	22	3,000	16,363	16	6,000	31,587	19
65-74	2,000	8,670	18	2,000	10,247	15	3,000	18,917	16
75-84	1,000	5,298	11	2,000	7,748	20	2,000	13,047	17
85 +	1,000	1,688	32	**	3,609	13	1,000	5,297	19
Total	35,000	147,512	23	26,000	151,886	17	61,000	299,398	20

* Rate per 100,000 population. ** Less than 500. *** Includes 31 fatalities of unknown sex.

Note: Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Source: Population — Bureau of the Census projections.

For more information:

Information on traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, NVS-421, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20590. NCSA can be contacted on 800-934-8517. Fax messages should be sent to 202-366-7078. General information on highway traffic safety can be accessed by Internet users at <http://www.nhtsa.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/nca>. To report a safety-related problem or to inquire about motor vehicle safety information, contact the Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236.

Other fact sheets available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis are *Overview, Alcohol, African American, Bicyclists and Other Cyclists* (formerly titled *Pedalcyclists*), *Children, Hispanic, Large Trucks, Motorcycles, Occupant Protection, Older Population, Race and Ethnicity, Rural/Urban Comparisons, School Transportation-Related Crashes, Speeding, State Alcohol Estimates, State Traffic Data, and Young Drivers*. Detailed data on motor vehicle traffic crashes are published annually in *Traffic Safety Facts: A Compilation of Motor Vehicle Crash Data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System and the General Estimates System*. The fact sheets and annual Traffic Safety Facts report can be accessed online at <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CMSWeb/index.aspx>.

Table 6
Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rates by State, 2006

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	1,208	4,599	78	6.5	1.7
Alaska	74	670	9	12.2	1.34
Arizona	1,288	6,166	167	13	2.71
Arkansas	665	2,811	31	4.7	1.1
California	4,236	36,458	717	16.9	1.97
Colorado	535	4,753	59	11	1.24
Connecticut	301	3,505	36	12	1.03
Delaware	148	853	27	18.2	3.16
Dist of Columbia	37	582	17	45.9	2.92
Florida	3,374	18,090	546	16.2	3.02
Georgia	1,693	9,364	148	8.7	1.58
Hawaii	161	1,285	31	19.3	2.41
Idaho	267	1,466	8	3	0.55
Illinois	1,254	12,832	138	11	1.08
Indiana	899	6,314	73	8.1	1.16
Iowa	439	2,982	25	5.7	0.84
Kansas	468	2,764	23	4.9	0.83
Kentucky	913	4,206	52	5.7	1.24
Louisiana	982	4,288	96	9.8	2.24
Maine	188	1,322	10	5.3	0.76
Maryland	651	5,616	94	14.4	1.67
Massachusetts	430	6,437	61	14.2	0.95
Michigan	1,085	10,096	136	12.5	1.35
Minnesota	494	5,167	38	7.7	0.74
Mississippi	911	2,911	56	6.1	1.92
Missouri	1,096	5,843	76	6.9	1.3
Montana	263	945	12	4.6	1.27
Nebraska	269	1,768	9	3.3	0.51
Nevada	432	2,496	52	12	2.08
New Hampshire	127	1,315	6	4.7	0.46
New Jersey	772	8,725	165	21.4	1.89
New Mexico	484	1,955	69	14.3	3.53
New York	1,456	19,306	312	21.4	1.62
North Carolina	1,559	8,857	173	11.1	1.95
North Dakota	111	636	4	3.6	0.63
Ohio	1,238	11,478	96	7.8	0.84
Oklahoma	765	3,579	46	6	1.29
Oregon	477	3,701	47	9.9	1.27
Pennsylvania	1,525	12,441	166	10.9	1.33
Rhode Island	81	1,068	15	18.5	1.41
South Carolina	1,037	4,321	125	12.1	2.89
South Dakota	191	782	7	3.7	0.9
Tennessee	1,287	6,039	91	7.1	1.51
Texas	3,475	23,508	379	10.9	1.61
Utah	287	2,550	29	10.1	1.14
Vermont	87	624	0	0	0
Virginia	963	7,643	82	8.5	1.07
Washington	630	6,396	66	10.5	1.03
West Virginia	410	1,818	20	4.9	1.1
Wisconsin	724	5,557	55	7.6	0.99
Wyoming	195	515	6	3.1	1.17
U.S. Total	42,642	299,398	4,784	11.2	1.6
Puerto Rico	507	3,928	139	27.4	3.54

Note: Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

Sources: Fatalities — Fatality Analysis Reporting System, NHTSA. Population — Bureau of the Census.