

Table 1104. Fatal Motor Vehicle Accidents—National Summary: 1990 to 2008

[Based on data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). FARS gathers data on accidents that result in loss of human life. FARS is operated and maintained by National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA), National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA). FARS data are gathered on motor vehicle accidents that occurred on a roadway customarily open to the public, resulting in the death of a person within 30 days of the accident. Collection of these data depend on the use of police, hospital, medical examiner/coroner, and Emergency Medical Services reports; state vehicle registration, driver licensing, and highway department files; and vital statistics documents and death certificates. See source for further detail]

Item	1990	1995	2000	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Fatal crashes, total	39,836	37,241	37,526	38,444	39,252	38,648	37,435	34,017
One vehicle involved	23,445	21,250	21,117	21,836	22,678	22,701	22,167	20,554
Two or more vehicles involved	16,391	15,991	16,409	16,608	16,574	15,947	15,268	13,463
Persons killed in fatal crashes ¹	44,599	41,817	41,945	42,836	43,510	42,708	41,259	37,261
Occupants	33,890	33,064	36,348	37,304	37,646	36,956	35,701	31,979
Drivers	22,854	22,370	25,567	26,871	27,491	27,348	26,570	24,175
Passengers	10,931	10,576	10,695	10,355	10,069	9,507	9,036	7,729
Other	105	118	86	78	86	101	95	75
Motorcyclist	3,244	2,227	2,897	4,028	4,576	4,837	5,174	5,290
Nonoccupants	7,465	6,526	5,597	5,532	5,864	5,752	5,504	5,282
Pedestrians	6,482	5,584	4,763	4,675	4,892	4,795	4,654	4,378
Pedalcyclists	859	833	693	727	786	772	698	716
Other	124	109	141	130	186	185	152	188
Occupants killed by vehicle type:								
Passenger cars	24,092	22,423	20,699	19,192	18,512	17,925	16,614	14,587
Mini-compact (95 inches)	3,556	2,207	1,113	599	452	416	347	269
Subcompact (95 to 99 inches)	4,753	4,584	3,660	2,718	2,536	2,228	1,931	1,653
Compact (100 to 104 inches)	5,310	6,899	7,022	6,650	6,288	6,105	5,538	4,737
Intermediate (105 to 109 inches)	4,849	4,666	5,204	5,667	5,571	5,461	5,243	4,692
Full-size (110 to 114 inches)	2,386	2,116	2,287	2,354	2,491	2,520	2,410	2,170
Largest (115 inches and over)	2,249	1,297	897	807	796	773	780	740
Unknown	989	654	516	397	378	422	365	326
Motorcycles and Other Motorized Cycles	3,129	2,114	2,897	4,028	4,576	4,837	5,174	5,290
Motorcycles	3,014	2,001	2,783	3,827	4,418	4,679	4,986	5,040
Other motorized cycles	115	113	114	201	158	158	188	250
Light trucks ²	8,601	9,568	11,526	12,674	13,037	12,761	12,458	10,764
Pickup	5,979	5,938	6,003	5,838	6,067	5,993	5,847	5,073
Utility	1,214	1,935	3,358	4,760	4,831	4,928	4,834	4,186
Van	1,154	1,639	2,129	2,046	2,112	1,815	1,764	1,491
Other	254	56	36	30	27	25	13	14
Large trucks ³	705	648	754	766	804	805	805	677
Medium trucks	134	96	106	99	118	107	112	87
Heavy trucks	571	552	648	667	686	698	693	592
Buses	32	33	22	42	58	27	36	67
Other vehicles	296	307	401	512	492	500	540	520
Unknown	164	85	49	90	167	101	74	74
Persons involved in fatal crashes	107,777	102,102	100,716	100,760	101,262	98,356	94,338	84,026
Occupants	99,297	94,621	94,325	94,579	94,614	91,860	88,136	78,066
Drivers	58,893	56,164	57,280	58,395	59,220	57,846	56,019	50,186
Passengers	40,229	38,252	36,889	35,992	35,231	33,826	31,919	27,720
Other	175	205	156	192	163	188	198	160
Nonoccupants	8,480	7,481	6,391	6,181	6,648	6,496	6,202	5,960
Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) ⁴ (bil.)	2,144	2,423	2,747	2,965	2,989	3,014	3,032	2,974
Licensed drivers (1,000)	167,015	176,628	190,625	198,889	200,549	212,810	205,742	208,321
Registered vehicles (1,000)	184,275	197,065	217,028	237,949	245,628	251,415	255,748	257,494
Percent distribution of fatal accidents								
by the highest driver (BAC) in accident: ⁵								
0.00 percent	54.0	62.1	62.7	64.3	63.3	62.6	62.4	62.9
0.01 to 0.07 percent	6.3	5.5	5.6	5.1	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.5
0.08 percent and over	39.4	32.1	31.4	30.4	31.1	31.4	31.5	31.4
Percent distribution of fatal accidents								
by the highest (BAC) in accident: ⁵								
0.00 percent	49.5	57.7	58.7	60.5	59.5	58.4	58.4	58.5
0.01 to 0.07 percent	6.5	5.7	5.9	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.1	5.7
0.08 percent and over	44.0	36.7	35.4	34.2	34.9	35.6	35.6	35.8
Fatalities per 100,000 resident population								
Under 5 years old	4.90	4.30	3.70	3.16	2.94	2.83	2.46	1.96
5 to 9 years old	5.14	4.48	3.55	3.13	3.00	2.64	2.39	1.97
10 to 15 years old	7.60	7.23	5.65	5.43	4.67	4.34	4.28	3.41
16 to 20 years old	36.66	31.59	29.38	28.80	27.48	26.83	25.15	20.89
21 to 24 years old	33.47	29.68	27.02	26.66	27.73	28.08	27.07	23.39
25 to 34 years old	22.78	19.44	17.29	17.28	17.82	17.95	16.91	15.58
35 to 44 years old	16.11	15.10	15.08	14.55	15.08	14.71	14.19	12.74
45 to 54 years old	14.83	13.39	13.79	14.47	14.59	14.43	14.02	12.96
55 to 64 years old	15.00	13.92	13.61	13.19	13.88	13.29	12.59	11.98
65 to 74 years old	17.03	16.64	15.29	14.87	15.16	13.84	13.47	12.24
75 years old and over	25.45	26.09	23.29	21.36	20.47	18.68	18.07	16.37
Fatalities per 100 million VMT ⁴	2.08	1.73	1.53	1.44	1.46	1.42	1.36	1.25
Fatalities per 100,000 licensed drivers	26.70	23.68	22.00	21.54	21.70	21.06	20.05	17.89
VMT ⁵ per registered vehicle	11,637	12,294	12,657	12,461	12,168	11,990	11,855	11,550
Fatalities per 100,000 registered vehicles	24.20	21.22	19.33	18.00	17.71	16.99	16.13	14.47
Fatal crashes per 100 million VMT ⁴	2.08	1.73	1.53	1.44	1.46	1.42	1.36	1.25
Fatalities per 100,000 resident population	17.88	15.91	14.87	14.63	14.72	14.31	13.69	12.25

¹ Deaths within 30 days of the accident. Starting with 1995, total does not include motorcyclist data. ² Trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, including pickups, vans, truck-based station wagons, and utility vehicles. ³ Trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating of over 10,000 pounds. ⁴ VMT = vehicle miles of travel. ⁵ BAC = blood alcohol concentration.

Source: U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatality Analysis Reporting System, annual. See also <<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CATS/index.aspx>>.