

Table 1105. Fatal Motor Vehicle Accidents—National Summary: 1990 to 2009

[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	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Fatal crashes, total	39,836	37,241	37,526	39,252	38,648	37,435	34,172	30,797
One vehicle involved	23,445	21,250	21,117	22,678	22,701	22,167	20,644	18,745
Two or more vehicles involved	16,391	15,991	16,409	16,574	15,947	15,268	13,528	12,052
Persons killed in fatal crashes ¹	44,599	41,817	41,945	43,510	42,708	41,259	37,423	33,808
Occupants	33,890	33,064	36,348	33,070	32,119	30,527	26,791	24,474
Drivers	22,854	22,370	25,567	23,237	22,831	21,717	19,279	17,640
Passengers	10,931	10,576	10,695	9,750	9,187	8,716	7,441	6,770
Other	105	118	86	83	101	94	71	64
Motorcyclists	3,244	2,227	2,897	4,576	4,837	5,174	5,312	4,462
Nonoccupants	7,465	6,526	5,597	5,864	5,752	5,558	5,320	4,872
Pedestrians	6,482	5,584	4,763	4,892	4,795	4,699	4,414	4,092
Pedalcyclists	859	833	693	786	772	701	718	630
Other	124	109	141	186	185	158	188	150
Occupants killed by vehicle type:								
Passenger cars	24,092	22,423	20,699	18,512	17,925	16,614	14,646	13,095
Mini-compact (95 inches)	3,556	2,207	1,113	452	416	347	270	212
Subcompact (95 to 99 inches)	4,753	4,584	3,660	2,536	2,228	1,931	1,667	1,333
Compact (100 to 104 inches)	5,310	6,899	7,022	6,288	6,105	5,538	4,780	4,128
Intermediate (105 to 109 inches)	4,849	4,666	5,204	5,571	5,461	5,243	4,763	4,393
Full-size (110 to 114 inches)	2,386	2,116	2,287	2,491	2,520	2,410	2,210	2,175
Largest (115 inches and over)	2,249	1,297	897	796	773	780	755	674
Unknown	989	654	516	378	422	365	201	180
Motorcycles and Other Motorized Cycles	3,129	2,114	2,897	4,576	4,837	5,174	5,312	4,462
Motorcycles	3,014	2,001	2,783	4,418	4,679	4,986	5,060	4,222
Other motorized cycles	115	113	114	158	158	188	252	240
Light trucks ²	8,601	9,568	11,526	13,037	12,761	12,458	10,816	10,287
Pickup	5,979	5,938	6,003	6,067	5,993	5,847	5,097	4,792
Utility	1,214	1,935	3,358	4,831	4,928	4,834	4,214	4,091
Van	1,154	1,639	2,129	2,112	1,815	1,764	1,492	1,394
Other	254	56	36	27	25	13	13	10
Large trucks ³	705	648	754	804	805	805	682	503
Medium trucks	134	96	106	118	107	112	91	81
Heavy trucks	571	552	648	686	698	693	592	422
Buses	32	33	22	58	27	36	67	26
Other vehicles	296	307	401	492	500	540	523	481
Unknown	164	85	49	167	101	74	57	82
Persons involved in fatal crashes	107,777	102,102	100,716	101,262	98,356	94,338	84,510	76,309
Occupants	99,297	94,621	94,325	94,614	91,860	88,136	78,500	70,845
Drivers	58,893	56,164	57,280	59,220	57,846	56,019	50,416	45,230
Passengers	40,229	38,252	36,889	35,231	33,826	31,919	27,924	25,470
Other	175	205	156	163	188	198	160	145
Nonoccupants	8,480	7,481	6,391	6,648	6,496	6,202	6,010	5,464
Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) ⁴ (bil.)	2,144	2,423	2,747	2,989	3,014	3,031	2,977	2,954
Licensed drivers (1,000)	167,015	176,628	190,625	200,549	202,810	205,742	208,321	209,618
Registered vehicles (1,000)	184,275	197,065	217,028	247,031	252,930	257,472	259,360	258,958
Percent distribution of fatal accidents								
by the highest driver (BAC) in accident: ⁵								
0.00 percent	54.0	62.1	62.7	63.3	62.6	62.4	63.1	62.3
0.01 to 0.07 percent	6.3	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.6	5.6
0.08 percent and over	39.4	32.1	31.4	31.1	31.4	31.5	31.1	31.9
Percent distribution of fatal accidents								
by the highest (BAC) in accident: ⁵								
0.00 percent	49.5	57.7	58.7	59.5	58.4	58.4	58.6	58.0
0.01 to 0.07 percent	6.5	5.7	5.9	5.6	6.0	6.1	5.8	5.7
0.08 percent and over	44.0	36.7	35.4	34.9	35.6	35.6	35.5	36.3
Fatalities per 100,000 resident population								
Under 5 years old	4.90	4.30	3.70	2.94	2.81	2.44	1.95	2.02
5 to 9 years old	5.14	4.48	3.55	3.00	2.62	2.36	1.95	1.84
10 to 15 years old	7.60	7.23	5.65	4.67	4.33	4.27	3.41	3.02
16 to 20 years old	36.66	31.59	29.38	27.48	26.63	24.97	20.78	18.08
21 to 24 years old	33.47	29.68	27.02	27.73	27.78	26.74	23.25	19.11
25 to 34 years old	22.78	19.44	17.29	17.82	17.99	16.92	15.66	13.69
35 to 44 years old	16.11	15.10	15.08	15.08	14.78	14.27	12.88	11.62
45 to 54 years old	14.83	13.39	13.79	14.59	14.47	14.06	13.07	12.10
55 to 64 years old	15.00	13.92	13.61	13.88	13.31	12.61	12.03	10.87
65 to 74 years old	17.03	16.64	15.29	15.16	13.82	13.46	12.26	11.42
75 years old and over	25.45	26.09	23.29	20.47	18.76	18.17	16.56	15.52
Fatalities per 100 million VMT ⁴	2.08	1.73	1.53	1.46	1.42	1.36	1.26	1.14
Fatalities per 100,000 licensed drivers	26.70	23.68	22.00	21.70	21.06	20.05	17.96	16.13
VMT ⁵ per registered vehicle	11,637	12,294	12,657	12,100	11,916	11,772	11,478	11,407
Fatalities per 100,000 registered vehicles	24.20	21.22	19.33	17.61	16.89	16.02	14.43	13.06
Fatal crashes per 100 million VMT ⁴	2.08	1.73	1.53	1.46	1.42	1.36	1.26	1.14
Fatalities per 100,000 resident population	17.88	15.91	14.87	14.71	14.30	13.68	12.30	11.01

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>>.