

Traffic Safety Facts

2005 Data

Pedestrians

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

In 2005, 4,881 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes in the United States — a decrease of 13 percent from the 5,584 pedestrians killed in 1995.

On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 108 minutes and injured in a traffic crash every 8 minutes.

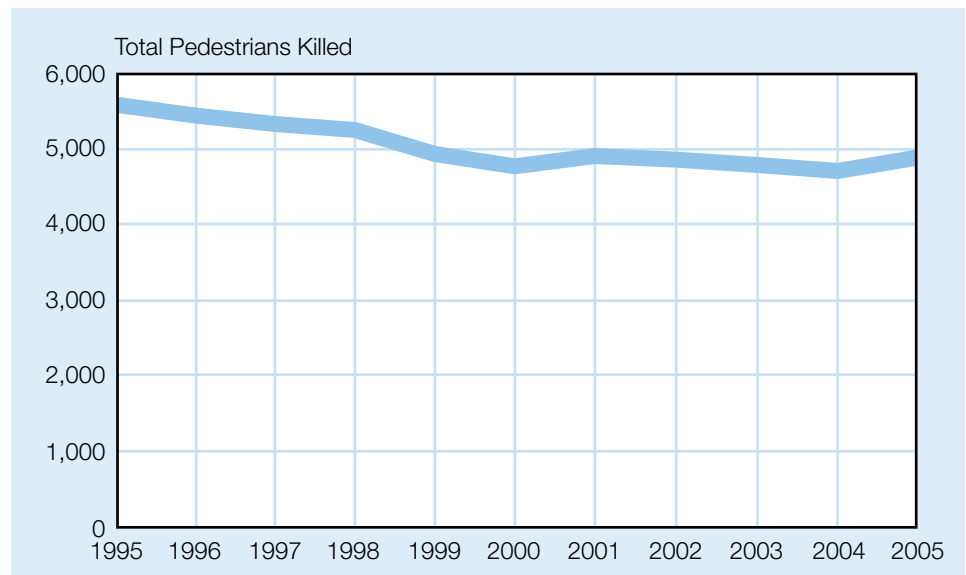
There were 64,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 2005.

Most pedestrian fatalities in 2005 occurred in urban areas (74%), at non-intersection locations (80%), in normal weather conditions (89%), and at night (67%).

More than two-thirds (70%) of the pedestrians killed in 2005 were males. In 2005, the male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.35 — more than triple the rate for females (0.96 per 100,000 population). In 2005, the male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 26, compared with 17 for females (see Table 5).

“In 2005, 4,881 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — a 13-percent decrease from the number reported in 1995.”

Figure 1
Total Pedestrian Fatalities by Year 1995-2005



Age

Pedestrians (age 70+) accounted for 16 percent (770) of all pedestrian fatalities and an estimated 5 percent (3,000) of all pedestrians injured in 2005.

“In 2005, the fatality rate for pedestrians (age 70+) was 2.88 per 100,000 population – higher than for any other age group.”

In 2005, nearly one-fifth (18%) 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 2005 and 28 percent of all pedestrians injured in traffic crashes.

Table 1
Pedestrians Killed and Injured by Age Group, 2005

Age Group (Years)	Total Killed	Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Total Killed
<5	590	113	19
5-9	585	108	18
10-15	1,173	167	14
16-20	5,699	281	5
21-24	4,622	296	6
25-29	3,852	294	8
30-34	3,232	319	10
35-39	3,127	343	11
40-44	3,443	461	13
45-49	3,295	473	14
50-54	2,872	428	15
55-59	2,371	334	14
60-64	1,813	221	12
65-69	1,480	211	14
70-74	1,336	195	15
75-79	1,410	221	16
80+	2,286	354	15
Unknown	257	62	24
Total	43,443	4,881	11
Age Group (Years)	Total Injured	Pedestrians Injured	Percentage of Total Injured
<5	56,000	3,000	5
5-9	74,000	7,000	10
10-15	141,000	8,000	6
16-20	432,000	7,000	2
21-24	297,000	6,000	2
25-29	267,000	3,000	1
30-34	227,000	4,000	2
35-39	208,000	3,000	1
40-44	218,000	5,000	2
45-49	203,000	4,000	2
50-54	165,000	4,000	3
55-59	130,000	3,000	3
60-64	90,000	2,000	2
65-69	56,000	2,000	3
70-74	49,000	1,000	3
75-79	38,000	1,000	4
80+	48,000	1,000	2
Total	2,699,000	64,000	2

“In 2005, 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, 1995-2005

Year	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other	Total
1995	5,584	833	109	6,526
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	4,881	784	184	5,849

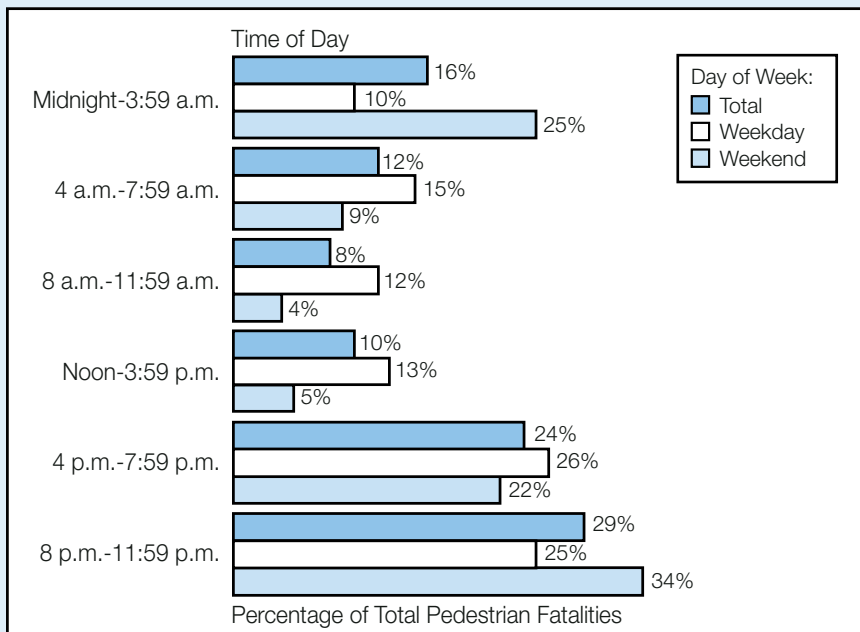
Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 83 percent of all nonoccupant fatalities in 2005. The 784 pedalcyclist fatalities accounted for 13 percent, and the remaining 3 percent were skateboard riders, roller skaters, etc.

Time of Day and Day of Week

Forty-three percent of the 388 young (under age 16) pedestrian fatalities occurred in crashes between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Nearly one-half (48%) of all pedestrian fatalities occurred on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday: 16.6 percent, 18.3 percent, and 13.5 percent, respectively.

Figure 2
Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 2005



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

“Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 44 percent of all pedestrian fatalities.”

Alcohol Involvement

Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 44 percent of the traffic crashes that resulted in pedestrian fatalities. Of the pedestrians involved, 32 percent had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 grams per deciliter (g/dL) or higher. Of the drivers involved in fatal crashes, only 11 percent had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher, less than one-half the rate for the pedestrians. In 5 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, 2005

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement	Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01-.07 g/dL	Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC .08 g/dL or Greater	Total
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	56%	1%	6%	3067 64%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01-.07 g/dL	3%	0%	1%	194 4%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .08 g/dL or Greater	26%	1%	5%	1,552 32%
Total	4131 86%	148 3%	534 11%	4,813 100%

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, 1995 and 2005

Age (Years)	1995				2005			
	Number of Fatalities	% with BAC .00 g/dL	% with .01 ≥ BAC ≥ .07 g/dL	% with BAC .08 g/dL or Greater	Number of Fatalities	% with BAC .00 g/dL	% with .01 ≥ BAC ≥ .07 g/dL	% with BAC .08 g/dL or Greater
16-20	296	68	4	28	281	69	4	27
21-24	292	44	6	50	296	50	4	46
25-34	836	40	6	54	613	46	6	48
35-44	954	41	6	53	804	44	6	50
45-54	664	50	4	46	901	53	4	43
55-64	478	63	4	33	555	69	5	26
65-74	529	76	4	20	406	84	3	14
75-84	495	91	3	6	423	93	1	6
85 +	239	93	2	5	152	96	1	3
Total*	4,783	58	5	37	4,431	61	4	34

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

Important Safety Reminders

Safety Tips for the Pedestrian Fact Sheet:

- 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 cross-walk. 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.

Table 5
Pedestrians Killed and Injured and Fatality and Injury Rates by Age and Sex, 2005

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
<5	73	10,381	0.7	40	9,922	0.4	113	20,304	0.56
5-9	61	9,993	0.61	47	9,545	0.49	108	19,539	0.55
10-15	99	12,931	0.77	68	12,313	0.55	167	25,244	0.66
16-20	199	10,696	1.86	82	10,137	0.81	281	20,834	1.35
21-24	225	8,702	2.59	71	8,155	0.87	296	16,857	1.76
25-34	453	20,421	2.22	160	19,722	0.81	613	40,143	1.53
35-44	592	21,940	2.7	212	21,922	0.97	804	43,862	1.83
45-54	688	20,895	3.29	213	21,587	0.99	901	42,482	2.12
55-64	390	14,627	2.67	165	15,729	1.05	555	30,356	1.83
65-74	286	8,529	3.35	120	10,110	1.19	406	18,640	2.18
75-84	245	5,279	4.64	178	7,775	2.29	423	13,054	3.24
85 +	80	1,604	4.99	72	3,492	2.06	152	5,096	2.98
Unknown	41	-	-	9	-	-	62	-	-
Total	3,432	146,000	2.35	1,437	150,411	0.96	***4,881	296,410	1.65

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
<5	2,000	10,381	16	1,000	9,922	12	3,000	20,304	14
5-9	4,000	9,993	41	3,000	9,545	36	7,000	19,539	38
10-15	5,000	12,931	35	4,000	12,313	29	8,000	25,244	32
16-20	4,000	10,696	41	2,000	10,137	24	7,000	20,834	33
21-24	3,000	8,702	37	3,000	8,155	37	6,000	16,857	37
25-34	4,000	20,421	21	3,000	19,722	14	7,000	40,143	17
35-44	5,000	21,940	25	2,000	21,922	8	7,000	43,862	17
45-54	5,000	20,895	22	4,000	21,587	17	8,000	42,482	20
55-64	3,000	14,627	23	2,000	15,729	11	5,000	30,356	17
65-74	2,000	8,529	18	2,000	10,110	16	3,000	18,640	17
75-84	1,000	5,279	24	1,000	7,775	10	2,000	13,054	16
85 +	**	1,604	2	**	3,492	6	**	5,096	4
Total	38,000	146,000	26	26,000	150,411	17	64,000	296,410	22

* Rate per 100,000 population. ** Less than 500. *** Includes 2 fatalities of unknown sex.

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

Source: Population — Bureau of the Census projections.

Table 6

For more information

Information on youth safety is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, NPO-101, 400 Seventh Street SW., Washington, DC 20590. NCSA information can also be obtained by telephone or by fax-on-demand at 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 www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/ncsa. 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*, *Bicyclists and Other Cyclists* (formerly titled *Pedalcyclists*), *Children*, *Large Trucks*, *Motorcycles*, *Occupant Protection*, *Older Population*, *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 www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/ncsa.

Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rates by State, 2005

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	1,131	4,558	72	6.4	1.58
Alaska	72	664	7	9.7	1.05
Arizona	1,177	5,939	157	13.3	2.64
Arkansas	648	2,779	37	5.7	1.33
California	4,329	36,132	742	17.1	2.05
Colorado	606	4,665	48	7.9	1.03
Connecticut	274	3,510	34	12.4	0.97
Delaware	134	844	11	8.2	1.3
Dist of Columbia	48	551	16	33.3	2.91
Florida	3,543	17,790	576	16.3	3.24
Georgia	1,729	9,073	150	8.7	1.65
Hawaii	140	1,275	35	25	2.74
Idaho	275	1,429	9	3.3	0.63
Illinois	1,361	12,763	164	12	1.28
Indiana	938	6,272	63	6.7	1
Iowa	450	2,966	24	5.3	0.81
Kansas	428	2,745	24	5.6	0.87
Kentucky	985	4,173	54	5.5	1.29
Louisiana	955	4,524	109	11.4	2.41
Maine	169	1,322	9	5.3	0.68
Maryland	614	5,600	102	16.6	1.82
Massachusetts	442	6,399	76	17.2	1.19
Michigan	1,129	10,121	137	12.1	1.35
Minnesota	559	5,133	44	7.9	0.86
Mississippi	931	2,921	72	7.7	2.46
Missouri	1,257	5,800	88	7	1.52
Montana	251	936	13	5.2	1.39
Nebraska	276	1,759	8	2.9	0.45
Nevada	427	2,415	63	14.8	2.61
New Hampshire	166	1,310	5	3	0.38
New Jersey	748	8,718	154	20.6	1.77
New Mexico	488	1,928	61	12.5	3.16
New York	1,429	19,255	321	22.5	1.67
North Carolina	1,534	8,683	164	10.7	1.89
North Dakota	123	637	9	7.3	1.41
Ohio	1,323	11,464	95	7.2	0.83
Oklahoma	802	3,548	50	6.2	1.41
Oregon	488	3,641	48	9.8	1.32
Pennsylvania	1,616	12,430	159	9.8	1.28
Rhode Island	87	1,076	14	16.1	1.3
South Carolina	1,093	4,255	98	9	2.3
South Dakota	186	776	14	7.5	1.8
Tennessee	1,270	5,963	70	5.5	1.17
Texas	3,504	22,860	419	12	1.83
Utah	282	2,470	20	7.1	0.81
Vermont	73	623	3	4.1	0.48
Virginia	947	7,567	88	9.3	1.16
Washington	647	6,288	71	11	1.13
West Virginia	374	1,817	23	6.1	1.27
Wisconsin	815	5,536	44	5.4	0.79
Wyoming	170	509	7	4.1	1.37
U.S. Total	43,443	296,410	4,881	11.2	1.65
Puerto Rico	453	3,912	133	29.4	3.4

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

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