



Traffic Safety Facts 2002

Pedestrians



A Public Information Fact Sheet on Motor Vehicle and Traffic Safety Published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's National Center for Statistics and Analysis

In 2002, 4,808 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes in the United States — a decrease of 13 percent from the 5,549 pedestrians killed in 1992.

On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 109 minutes.

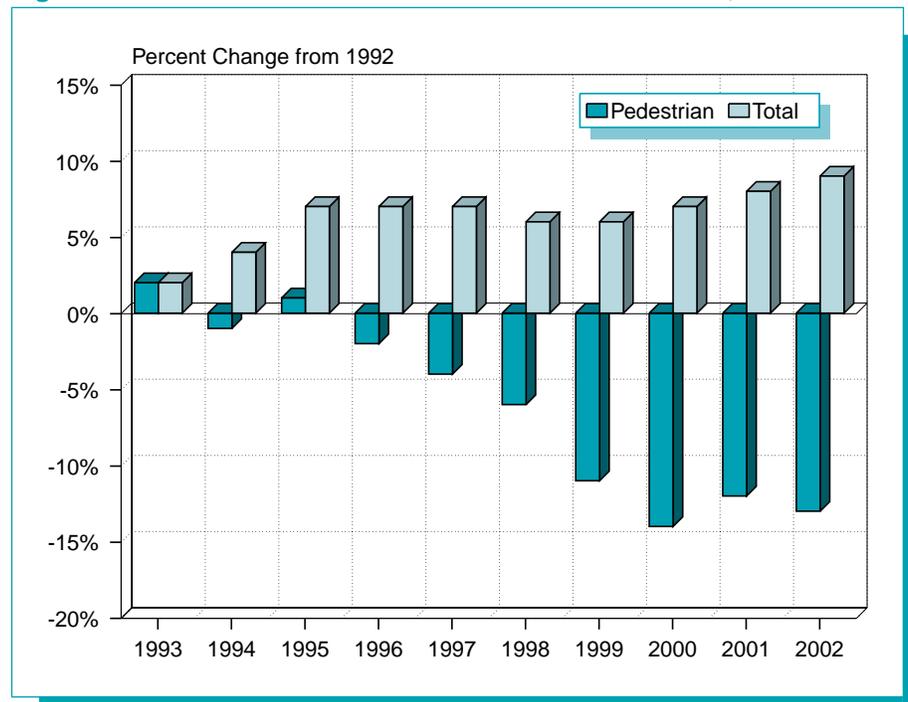
There were 71,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 2002.

On average, a pedestrian is injured in a traffic crash every 7 minutes.



“In 2002, 4,808 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — 13 percent below the number reported in 1992.”

Figure 1. Trends in Pedestrian and Total Traffic Fatalities, 1992-2002



Most pedestrian fatalities in 2002 occurred in urban areas (71 percent), at nonintersection locations (78 percent), in normal weather conditions (89 percent), and at night (65 percent).

More than two-thirds (68 percent) of the 2002 pedestrian fatalities were males. In 2002, the male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.31 — more than double the rate for females (1.05 per 100,000 population). The male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population in 2002 was 29, compared with 20 for females (see Table 5).

In 2002, almost one-fourth (23 percent) of all children between the ages of 5 and 9 years who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians. Nearly one-fifth (17 percent) of all traffic fatalities under age 16 were pedestrians, and 6 percent of all the people under age 16 who were injured in traffic crashes were pedestrians.

Older pedestrians (ages 70+) accounted for 17 percent of all pedestrian fatalities and 6 percent of all pedestrians injured in 2002. In 2002, the death rate for this group, both males and females, was 3.21 per 100,000 population — higher than for any other age group.

Table 1. Pedestrians Killed and Injured by Age Group, 2002

Age Group (years)	Total Killed	Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Total Killed
0–4	607	119	20
5–9	607	139	23
10–15	1,328	176	13
16–20	6,277	283	5
21–24	4,415	243	6
25–29	3,607	279	8
30–34	3,253	318	10
35–39	3,320	387	12
40–44	3,456	464	13
45–49	3,094	442	14
50–54	2,563	357	14
55–59	1,867	255	14
60–64	1,641	237	14
65–69	1,338	215	16
70+	5,284	836	16
Unknown	158	58	—
Total	42,815	4,808	11
Age Group (years)	Total Injured	Pedestrians Injured	Percentage of Total Injured
0–4	62,000	3,000	5
5–9	88,000	5,000	6
10–15	153,000	10,000	7
16–20	503,000	7,000	1
21–24	312,000	2,000	1
25–29	286,000	7,000	2
30–34	254,000	6,000	2
35–39	248,000	6,000	2
40–44	231,000	5,000	2
45–49	199,000	4,000	2
50–54	161,000	3,000	2
55–59	123,000	3,000	2
60–64	89,000	3,000	3
65–69	61,000	2,000	4
70+	154,000	4,000	3
Total	2,926,000	71,000	2

“Almost one-fourth of the children between 5 and 9 years old killed in traffic crashes in 2002 were pedestrians.”

Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 86 percent of all nonoccupant fatalities in 2002. The 662 pedalcyclist fatalities accounted for 12 percent, and the remaining 2 percent were skateboard riders, roller skaters, etc.

Table 2. Nonoccupant Traffic Fatalities, 1992-2002

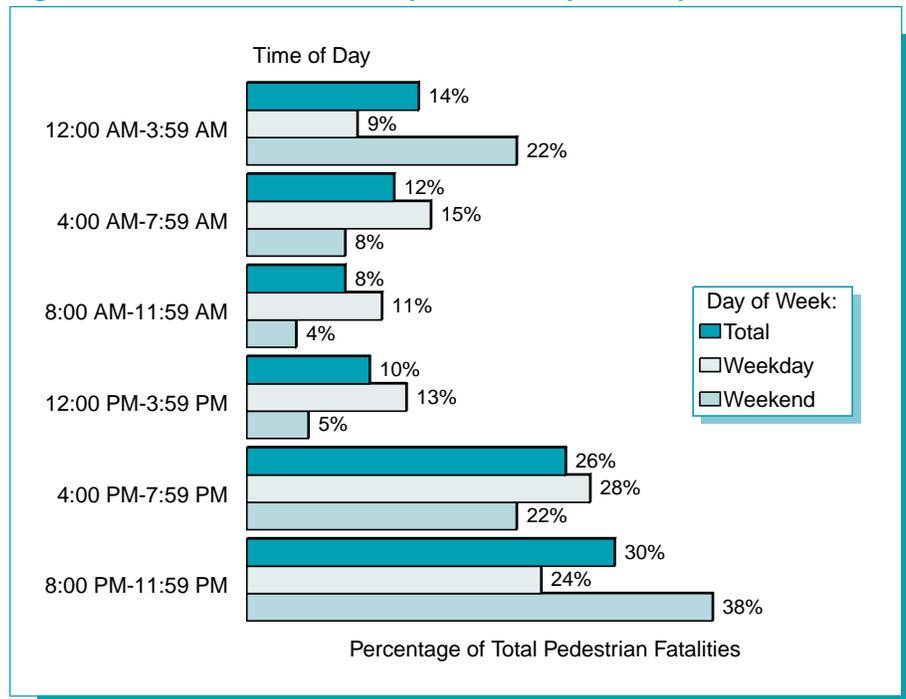
Year	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other	Total
1992	5,549	723	98	6,370
1993	5,649	816	111	6,576
1994	5,489	802	107	6,398
1995	5,584	833	109	6,526
1996	5,449	765	154	6,368
1997	5,321	814	153	6,288
1998	5,228	760	131	6,119
1999	4,939	754	149	5,842
2000	4,763	693	141	5,597
2001	4,901	732	123	5,756
2002	4,808	662	113	5,583

“Forty percent of all young pedestrian fatalities (under 16) occurred between 5 and 9 PM.”

Forty percent of the 434 pedestrian fatalities under 16 years of age were killed in crashes that occurred between 5:00 PM and 9:00 PM.

Nearly one-half (47 percent) of all pedestrian fatalities occurred on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday: 16 percent, 18 percent, and 13 percent, respectively.

Figure 2. Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 2002



In 2001, NHTSA began using a revised method — **multiple imputation** — to estimate missing information about blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels for persons involved in fatal crashes. The alcohol estimates in this fact sheet are based on the new imputation method. More information on the new multiple imputation method, including detailed tabulations of alcohol involvement in various categories (age, sex, time of day, etc.), is available in NHTSA Technical Report DOT HS 809 403, Transitioning to Multiple Imputation: A New Method to Estimate Missing Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) Values in FARS.

Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in nearly one-half (46 percent) of the traffic crashes that resulted in pedestrian fatalities. Of the pedestrians involved, 34 percent were intoxicated, with blood alcohol concentrations (BAC) of 0.08 grams per deciliter (g/dl) or greater. The intoxication rate for the drivers involved was only 13 percent, less than one-half that for the pedestrians. In 5 percent of the crashes, both the driver and the pedestrian were intoxicated.

Table 3. Alcohol Involvement in Fatal Pedestrian Crashes, 2002

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement	Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.01-0.07 g/dl	Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.08 g/dl or Greater	Total
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	54%	2%	7%	2,947 62%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.01-0.07 g/dl	3%	0%	1%	188 4%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.08 g/dl or Greater	27%	1%	5%	1,589 34%
Total	3,954 84%	168 4%	602 13%	4,724 100%

“Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in nearly one-half of all pedestrian fatalities.”

Table 4. Alcohol Involvement for Pedestrians Killed in Fatal Crashes by Age, 1992 and 2002

Age (years)	1992		2002		Change in Percentage, 1992-2002
	Number of Fatalities	Percentage with BAC 0.08 g/dl or Greater	Number of Fatalities	Percentage with BAC 0.08 g/dl or Greater	
16-20	327	31	283	31	0
21-24	304	54	243	49	-9
25-34	897	61	597	48	-21
35-44	863	55	851	53	-4
45-54	590	45	799	46	2
55-64	481	32	492	30	-6
Over 64	1,272	12	1,051	10	-17
Total*	4,734	39	4,316	36	-8

*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, 2002

Age (years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
0-4	76	10,025	0.76	43	9,584	0.45	119	19,609	0.61
5-9	84	10,188	0.82	55	9,713	0.57	139	19,901	0.70
10-15	110	12,920	0.85	66	12,308	0.54	176	25,228	0.70
16-20	206	10,488	1.96	77	9,909	0.78	283	20,397	1.39
21-24	200	8,238	2.43	43	7,863	0.55	243	16,101	1.51
25-34	433	20,203	2.14	164	19,726	0.83	597	39,928	1.50
35-44	596	22,367	2.66	255	22,550	1.13	851	44,917	1.89
45-54	573	19,676	2.91	226	20,408	1.11	799	40,084	1.99
55-64	340	12,784	2.66	152	13,817	1.10	492	26,602	1.85
65-69	138	4,439	3.11	77	5,142	1.50	215	9,581	2.24
70-79	268	6,933	3.87	208	9,181	2.27	477	16,114	2.96
80+	202	3,399	5.94	157	6,508	2.41	359	9,907	3.62
Unknown	42	—	—	15	—	—	**58	—	—
Total	3,268	141,661	2.31	1,538	146,708	1.05	4,808	288,369	1.67

Age (years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
0-4	2,000	10,025	17	1,000	9,584	12	3,000	19,609	14
5-9	4,000	10,188	35	2,000	9,713	16	5,000	19,901	26
10-15	5,000	12,920	41	5,000	12,308	39	10,000	25,228	40
16-20	3,000	10,488	31	4,000	9,909	42	7,000	20,397	36
21-24	2,000	8,238	21	1,000	7,863	9	2,000	16,101	15
25-34	8,000	20,203	40	5,000	19,726	24	13,000	39,928	32
35-44	6,000	22,367	27	4,000	22,550	20	10,000	44,917	23
45-54	5,000	19,676	27	2,000	20,408	10	7,000	40,084	18
55-64	4,000	12,784	33	2,000	13,817	14	6,000	26,602	23
65-69	1,000	4,439	25	1,000	5,142	23	2,000	9,581	24
70-79	1,000	6,933	11	1,000	9,181	15	2,000	16,114	14
80+	***	3,399	12	1,000	6,508	21	2,000	9,907	18
Total	41,000	141,661	29	29,000	146,708	20	71,000	288,369	25

* Rate per 100,000 population.

** Includes 2 fatalities of unknown sex.

*** Less than 500.

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

Source: Population — Bureau of the Census projections.

For more information:

Information on pedestrian traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, NPO-121, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. NCSA information can also be obtained by telephone or by fax-on-demand at 1-800-934-8517. FAX messages should be sent to (202) 366-7078. General information on highway traffic safety can be accessed by Internet users at <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/nca>. To report a safety-related problem or to inquire about motor vehicle safety information, contact the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393.

Other fact sheets available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis are *Overview, Alcohol, Occupant Protection, Older Population, Speeding, Young Drivers, Pedalcyclists, Children, Large Trucks, Motorcycles, School Transportation-Related Crashes, State Traffic Data, and State Alcohol Estimates*. 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*.

Table 6. Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rates by State, 2002

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (Thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	1,033	4,487	60	5.8	1.3
Alaska	87	644	14	16.1	2.2
Arizona	1,117	5,456	154	13.8	2.8
Arkansas	640	2,710	33	5.2	1.2
California	4,078	35,116	707	17.3	2.0
Colorado	742	4,507	69	9.3	1.5
Connecticut	322	3,461	50	15.5	1.4
Delaware	124	807	16	12.9	2.0
District of Columbia	47	571	7	14.9	1.2
Florida	3,132	16,713	487	15.5	2.9
Georgia	1,523	8,560	161	10.6	1.9
Hawaii	119	1,245	33	27.7	2.7
Idaho	264	1,341	15	5.7	1.1
Illinois	1,411	12,601	186	13.2	1.5
Indiana	792	6,159	53	6.7	0.9
Iowa	404	2,937	19	4.7	0.6
Kansas	512	2,716	23	4.5	0.8
Kentucky	915	4,093	55	6.0	1.3
Louisiana	875	4,483	93	10.6	2.1
Maine	216	1,294	14	6.5	1.1
Maryland	659	5,458	104	15.8	1.9
Massachusetts	459	6,428	59	12.9	0.9
Michigan	1,277	10,050	175	13.7	1.7
Minnesota	657	5,020	50	7.6	1.0
Mississippi	885	2,872	55	6.2	1.9
Missouri	1,208	5,673	87	7.2	1.5
Montana	270	909	14	5.2	1.5
Nebraska	307	1,729	12	3.9	0.7
Nevada	381	2,173	52	13.6	2.4
New Hampshire	127	1,275	6	4.7	0.5
New Jersey	773	8,590	178	23.0	2.1
New Mexico	449	1,855	60	13.4	3.2
New York	1,522	19,158	336	22.1	1.8
North Carolina	1,575	8,320	176	11.2	2.1
North Dakota	97	634	2	2.1	0.3
Ohio	1,418	11,421	87	6.1	0.8
Oklahoma	734	3,494	53	7.2	1.5
Oregon	436	3,522	48	11.0	1.4
Pennsylvania	1,614	12,335	153	9.5	1.2
Rhode Island	84	1,070	9	10.7	0.8
South Carolina	1,053	4,107	98	9.3	2.4
South Dakota	180	761	8	4.4	1.1
Tennessee	1,175	5,797	72	6.1	1.2
Texas	3,725	21,780	397	10.7	1.8
Utah	328	2,316	25	7.6	1.1
Vermont	78	617	4	5.1	0.6
Virginia	914	7,294	88	9.6	1.2
Washington	659	6,069	69	10.5	1.1
West Virginia	439	1,802	28	6.4	1.6
Wisconsin	803	5,441	50	6.2	0.9
Wyoming	176	499	4	2.3	0.8
U.S. Total	42,815	288,369	4,808	11.2	1.7
Puerto Rico	510	3,859	172	33.7	4.5

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

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