



Pedestrians

In 2011, 4,432 pedestrians were killed and an estimated 69,000 were injured in traffic crashes in the United States. On average, a pedestrian was killed every two hours and injured every eight minutes in traffic crashes.

A pedestrian, as defined for the purpose of this Traffic Safety Fact Sheet, is any person on foot, walking, running, jogging, hiking, sitting or lying down who is involved in a motor vehicle traffic crash. Also, a traffic crash is defined as an incident that involves one or more vehicles where at least one vehicle is in transport and the crash originates on a public trafficway. Crashes that occurred exclusively on private property, including parking lots and driveways, were excluded.

The 4,432 pedestrian fatalities in 2011 were an increase of 3 percent from 2010, but a decrease of 7 percent from 2002. In 2011, pedestrian deaths accounted for 14 percent of all traffic fatalities, and made up 3 percent of all the people injured in traffic crashes (Table 1).

In 2011, 4,432 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — a 3-percent increase from the number reported in 2010.

Table 1

Total Fatalities and Pedestrian Fatalities in Traffic Crashes, 2002–2011

Year	Total Fatalities	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total Fatalities
2002	43,005	4,851	11
2003	42,884	4,774	11
2004	42,836	4,675	11
2005	43,510	4,892	11
2006	42,708	4,795	11
2007	41,259	4,699	11
2008	37,423	4,414	12
2009	33,883	4,109	12
2010	32,999	4,302	13
2011	32,367	4,432	14

In 2011, almost three-fourths (73%) of pedestrian fatalities occurred in an urban setting versus a rural setting. Over two-thirds (70%) of pedestrian fatalities occurred at non-intersections versus at intersections. Eighty-eight percent of pedestrian fatalities occurred during normal weather conditions (clear/cloudy), compared to rain, snow and foggy conditions. A majority of the pedestrian fatalities, 70 percent, occurred during the nighttime (6 p.m. – 5:59 a.m.). Between 2010 and 2011 all these percentages stayed relatively level (Table 2).

In 2011, pedestrian deaths accounted for 14 percent of all traffic fatalities in motor vehicle traffic crashes. Since 2002, the number of pedestrian fatalities has decreased by 7 percent.

Table 2

Percentage of Pedestrian Fatalities in Relation to Land Use, Non-Motorist Location, Weather and Time of Day

Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Pedestrians Killed	
	2010	2011
Land Use		
Rural	27%	27%
Urban	73%	73%
Non-Motorist Location		
Intersection	21%	19%
Non-Intersection	68%	70%
Other	10%	10%
Weather		
Clear/Cloudy	88%	88%
Rain	9%	9%
Snow	1%	1%
Fog	1%	1%
Time of Day*		
Daytime	32%	30%
Nighttime	68%	70%

Note: Percentage of unknown values are not displayed.

* Daytime: 6 a.m.–5:59 p.m. Nighttime: 6 p.m.–5:59 a.m.

Age

Older pedestrians (age 65+) accounted for 19 percent (844) of all pedestrian fatalities and an estimated 10 percent (7,000) of all pedestrians injured in 2011 (Table 3).

In 2011, the fatality rate for older pedestrians (age 65+) was 2.04 per 100,000 population – higher than the rate for all the other ages (Table 4).

In 2011, over one-fifth (21%) of all children between the ages of 10 and 15 who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians. Children age 15 and younger accounted for 6 percent of the pedestrian fatalities in 2011 and 19 percent of all pedestrians injured in traffic crashes (Table 3).

Table 3

Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Fatalities and Injuries and Pedestrians Killed or Injured, by Age Group, 2011

Age Group (Years)	Total Killed	Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Total Killed
<5	360	70	19
5-9	344	63	18
10-15	637	131	21
16-20	3,410	252	7
21-24	3,282	305	9
25-29	3,077	343	11
30-34	2,420	282	12
35-39	2,095	277	13
40-44	2,228	287	13
45-49	2,443	409	17
50-54	2,634	487	18
55-59	2,152	356	17
60-64	1,824	300	16
65-69	1,349	214	16
70-74	1,182	195	16
75-79	1,025	177	17
80+	1,840	258	14
Unknown	65	26	40
Total	32,367	4,432	14
Age Group (Years)	Total Injured	Pedestrians Injured	Percentage of Total Injured
<5	48,000	2,000	4
5-9	56,000	4,000	6
10-15	89,000	7,000	8
16-20	296,000	9,000	3
21-24	232,000	6,000	3
25-29	236,000	6,000	2
30-34	181,000	4,000	2
35-39	171,000	4,000	2
40-44	161,000	4,000	3
45-49	167,000	4,000	2
50-54	158,000	5,000	3
55-59	133,000	4,000	3
60-64	103,000	4,000	4
65-69	63,000	2,000	4
70-74	45,000	2,000	4
75-79	33,000	1,000	2
80+	43,000	2,000	5
Total	2,217,000	69,000	3

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

In 2011, almost one-fifth of the children between the ages of 5 and 9 killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians.

Gender

In 2011, more than two-thirds (70%) of the pedestrians killed were males, and the male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.01 — more than double the rate for females (0.85 per 100,000 population). The male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 24, compared with 20 for female (Table 4).

Table 4

Pedestrians Killed and Injured and Fatality and Injury Rates by Age and Sex, 2011

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
<5	43	10,300	0.42	27	9,863	0.27	70	20,162	0.35
5–9	36	10,384	0.35	27	9,950	0.27	63	20,334	0.31
10–15	83	12,717	0.65	48	12,145	0.40	131	24,862	0.53
16–20	173	11,339	1.53	79	10,745	0.74	252	22,083	1.14
21–24	232	8,963	2.59	73	8,594	0.85	305	17,558	1.74
25–34	432	21,044	2.05	193	20,746	0.93	625	41,790	1.50
35–44	392	20,223	1.94	172	20,404	0.84	564	40,628	1.39
45–54	662	22,019	3.01	234	22,699	1.03	896	44,718	2.00
55–64	492	18,358	2.68	164	19,704	0.83	656	38,062	1.72
65–74	266	10,476	2.54	143	12,005	1.19	409	22,482	1.82
75–84	185	5,573	3.32	121	7,602	1.59	306	13,175	2.32
85 +	70	1,894	3.70	59	3,843	1.54	129	5,737	2.25
Total¹	3,086	153,291	2.01	1,345	158,301	0.85	4,432	311,592	1.42
Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
<5	1,000	10,300	12	1,000	9,863	5	2,000	20,162	9
5–9	2,000	10,384	20	1,000	9,950	14	4,000	20,334	17
10–15	4,000	12,717	34	3,000	12,145	22	7,000	24,862	28
16–20	5,000	11,339	43	4,000	10,745	37	9,000	22,083	40
21–24	4,000	8,963	41	2,000	8,594	27	6,000	17,558	34
25–34	5,000	21,044	22	5,000	20,746	23	10,000	41,790	23
35–44	5,000	20,223	24	3,000	20,404	14	8,000	40,628	19
45–54	5,000	22,019	22	5,000	22,699	20	9,000	44,718	21
55–64	3,000	18,358	17	5,000	19,704	24	8,000	38,062	21
65–74	2,000	10,476	18	2,000	12,005	19	4,000	22,482	19
75–84	1,000	5,573	20	1,000	7,602	12	2,000	13,175	16
85 +	0	1,894	26	0	3,843	11	1,000	5,737	16
Total²	37,000	153,291	24	32,000	158,301	20	69,000	311,592	22

* Rate per 100,000 population

** Less than 500 injured, injury rate not shown

¹Total killed includes 26 of unknown age.

²Note: Totals may not equal sum of components due to independent rounding.

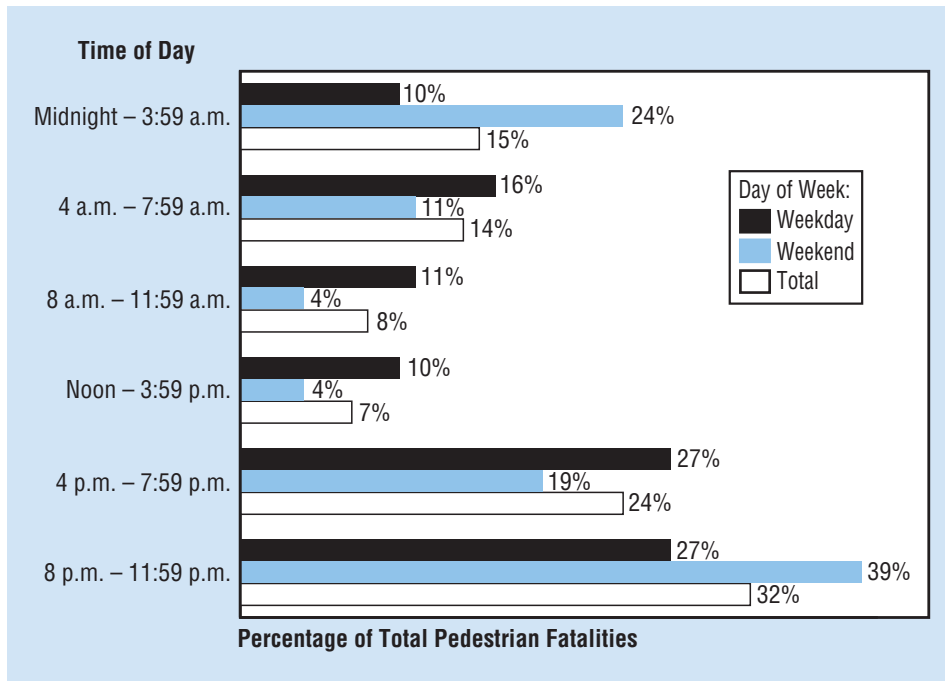
Source: Fatalities—Fatality Analysis Reporting System, NHTSA. Injured—General Estimates System, NHTSA. Population—Bureau of the Census.

Thirty-two percent of pedestrian fatalities occurred between 8 p.m. and 11:59 p.m.

Time of Day and Day of Week

Thirty-two percent of the pedestrian fatalities occurred in crashes between 8 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. The highest percentage of weekday and weekend fatalities also occurred between 8 p.m. and 11:59 p.m. (27% and 39%, respectively). The lowest occurred between noon and 3:59 p.m. (10% and 4%, respectively; Figure 1).

Figure 1

Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 2011**Alcohol Involvement**

Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 48 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 these fatal crashes, only 13 percent had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher (Table 5).

Of the pedestrians who were killed in fatal crashes, 37 percent had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher. Pedestrians ages 25-34 who were killed had the highest percentage of alcohol impairment at 50 percent (Table 6).

Alcohol involvement—either for the driver or the pedestrian—was reported in 48 percent of all fatal pedestrian crashes.

Table 5

Alcohol Involvement in Crashes That Resulted in Pedestrian Fatalities, 2011

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01–.07 g/dL		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC .08 g/dL or Greater		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	2,262	52	66	2	297	7	2,625	60
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01–.07 g/dL	152	3	11	0	30	1	192	4
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .08 g/dL or Greater	1,233	28	60	1	254	6	1,547	35
Total	3,647	84	136	3	581	13	4,365	100

Note: The alcohol levels in this table are determined using the alcohol levels of the pedestrians killed and the involved drivers (killed and other).

Table 6

Alcohol Involvement for Pedestrians Killed in Fatal Crashes by Age, 2002 and 2011

Age (Years)	2002					2011				
	Number of Fatalities	% With BAC=.00	% With BAC=.01-.07	% With BAC=.08+	% With BAC=.01+	Number of Fatalities	% With BAC=.00	% With BAC=.01-.07	% With BAC=.08+	% With BAC=.01+
16-20	284	62	6	32	38	252	70	5	25	30
21-24	246	44	7	49	56	305	48	4	49	52
25-34	602	46	5	49	54	625	46	4	50	54
35-44	859	42	5	53	58	564	47	6	47	53
45-54	813	50	5	45	50	896	46	6	48	54
55-64	499	65	5	30	35	656	61	4	35	39
65-74	468	82	3	15	18	409	81	3	16	19
75-84	430	92	2	7	8	306	90	3	7	10
85 +	166	95	1	4	5	129	92	4	4	8
Total*	4,367	59	4	36	41	4,142	58	5	37	42

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

For more information:

Information on traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA), NVS-424, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. NCSA can be contacted at 800-934-8517 or via the following e-mail address: ncsaweb@dot.gov. General information on highway traffic safety can be accessed by Internet users at www.nhtsa.gov/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 *Alcohol-Impaired Driving*, *Bicyclists and Other Cyclists*, *Children*, *Large Trucks*, *Motorcycles*, *Occupant Protection*, *Older Population*, *Overview*, *Passenger Vehicles*, *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 www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CATS/index.aspx.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Important Safety Reminders

For Pedestrians:

- Walk on a sidewalk or path whenever they are available.
- If there is no sidewalk or path available, walk facing traffic (on the left side of the road) on the shoulder, as far away from traffic as possible. Keep alert at all times; don't be distracted by electronic devices, including radios, smart phones and other devices that take your eyes (and ears) off the road environment.
- Be cautious night and day when sharing the road with vehicles. Never assume a driver sees you (he or she could be distracted, under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, or just not seeing you). Try to make eye contact with drivers as they approach you to make sure you are seen.
- Be predictable as a pedestrian. Cross streets at crosswalks or intersections whenever possible. This is where drivers expect pedestrians.
- If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area, wait for a gap in traffic that allows you enough time to cross safely, and continue to watch for traffic as you cross.
- Stay off of freeways, restricted-access highways and other pedestrian-prohibited roadways.
- Be visible at all times. Wear bright clothing during the day, and wear reflective materials or use a flash light at night.
- Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and judgment too.

For Drivers:

- Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times. Very often pedestrians are not walking where they should be.
- Be especially vigilant for pedestrians in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or in bad weather.
- Slowdown and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
- Always stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the crosswalk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
- Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. They are stopped to allow pedestrians to cross the street.
- Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Follow the speed limit, especially around pedestrians.
- Follow slower speed limits in school zones and in neighborhoods where there are children present.

— NHTSA's Safety Countermeasures Division

Table 7

Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Fatalities, Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities, and Fatality Rates by State, 2011

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	894	4,802,740	79	8.8	1.64
Alaska	72	722,718	9	12.5	1.25
Arizona	825	6,482,505	147	17.8	2.27
Arkansas	549	2,937,979	42	7.7	1.43
California	2,791	37,691,912	625	22.4	1.66
Colorado	447	5,116,796	45	10.1	0.88
Connecticut	220	3,580,709	26	11.8	0.73
Delaware	99	907,135	18	18.2	1.98
Dist of Columbia	27	617,996	8	29.6	1.29
Florida	2,398	19,057,542	490	20.4	2.57
Georgia	1,223	9,815,210	130	10.6	1.32
Hawaii	100	1,374,810	23	23.0	1.67
Idaho	167	1,584,985	9	5.4	0.57
Illinois	918	12,869,257	134	14.6	1.04
Indiana	750	6,516,922	61	8.1	0.94
Iowa	360	3,062,309	25	6.9	0.82
Kansas	386	2,871,238	14	3.6	0.49
Kentucky	721	4,369,356	50	6.9	1.14
Louisiana	675	4,574,836	88	13.0	1.92
Maine	136	1,328,188	10	7.4	0.75
Maryland	485	5,828,289	102	21.0	1.75
Massachusetts	337	6,587,536	58	17.2	0.88
Michigan	889	9,876,187	138	15.5	1.40
Minnesota	368	5,344,861	39	10.6	0.73
Mississippi	630	2,978,512	47	7.5	1.58
Missouri	784	6,010,688	75	9.6	1.25
Montana	209	998,199	15	7.2	1.50
Nebraska	181	1,842,641	7	3.9	0.38
Nevada	246	2,723,322	46	18.7	1.69
New Hampshire	90	1,318,194	5	5.6	0.38
New Jersey	627	8,821,155	142	22.6	1.61
New Mexico	353	2,082,224	41	11.6	1.97
New York	1,169	19,465,197	287	24.6	1.47
North Carolina	1,227	9,656,401	160	13.0	1.66
North Dakota	148	683,932	9	6.1	1.32
Ohio	1,016	11,544,951	104	10.2	0.90
Oklahoma	696	3,791,508	43	6.2	1.13
Oregon	331	3,871,859	46	13.9	1.19
Pennsylvania	1,286	12,742,886	147	11.4	1.15
Rhode Island	66	1,051,302	14	21.2	1.33
South Carolina	828	4,679,230	113	13.6	2.41
South Dakota	111	824,082	7	6.3	0.85
Tennessee	946	6,403,353	80	8.5	1.25
Texas	3,016	25,674,681	421	14.0	1.64
Utah	240	2,817,222	30	12.5	1.06
Vermont	55	626,431	3	5.5	0.48
Virginia	764	8,096,604	73	9.6	0.90
Washington	457	6,830,038	64	14.0	0.94
West Virginia	337	1,855,364	20	5.9	1.08
Wisconsin	582	5,711,767	57	9.8	1.00
Wyoming	135	568,158	6	4.4	1.06
U.S. Total	32,367	311,591,917	4,432	13.7	1.42
Puerto Rico	359	3,706,690	110	30.6	2.97

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

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