

# Traffic Safety Facts

2018 Data

July 2020

DOT HS 812 948



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

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

## 2018 State Traffic Data

### Key Findings

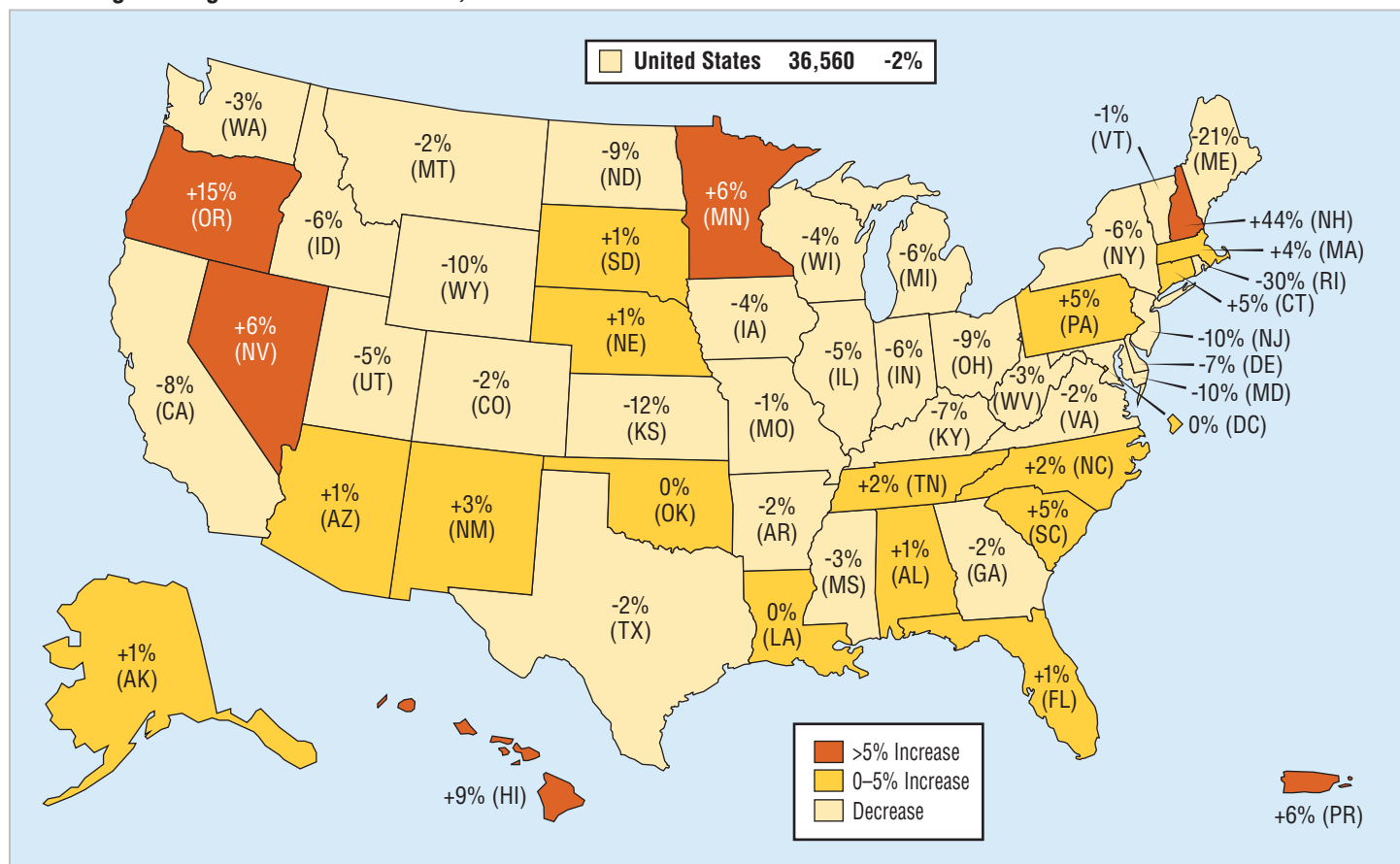
- Traffic fatalities decreased by 2 percent from 2017 to 2018 (37,473 to 36,560) for the United States.
- The fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (VMT) was 1.13 for the United States in 2018, but ranged from a high of 1.83 to a low of 0.54 among States.
- Thirty-two States showed decreases in traffic fatalities between 2017 and 2018. They accounted for 1,295 fewer fatalities.
- Since 1975 the first year that the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) began collecting data, the rate of traffic fatalities per 100 million VMT in the United States has decreased by 66 percent (3.35 to 1.13).
- From 2009 to 2018 Utah had the largest increase in the percentage of alcohol-impaired fatalities at 35 percent, while West Virginia had the greatest decrease at 39 percent.
- Seventy-one percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in New Hampshire in 2018 were unrestrained, the highest percentage in the country
- In 9 States, 70 percent or more of motorcyclists killed were known to be unhelmeted at the time of the crashes in 2018.

This fact sheet contains information on fatal motor vehicle crashes and fatalities, based on data from FARS. Refer to the end of this publication for more information on FARS.

### Overview

In 2018 there were 36,560 fatalities in the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia, excluding Puerto Rico), a decrease of 2 percent from 2017 (37,473). Figure 1 shows the 2018 traffic fatalities and the percentage change from 2017 for each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. New Hampshire, Oregon, and Hawaii had the greatest fatality increases from 2017 to 2018 at 44 percent, 15 percent, and 9 percent, respectively, while Rhode Island and Maine had the greatest decreases at 30 percent and 21 percent, respectively.

Figure 1  
**Percentage Change in Traffic Fatalities, 2017–2018**



Source: FARS 2017 Final File, 2018 ARF  
 Note: Puerto Rico is not included in the U.S. national total.

### State Traffic Fatality Tables

Table 1 shows traffic fatalities and the fatality rates based on population, licensed drivers, registered vehicles, and VMT for 2018.

- The fatality rate per 100 million VMT was 1.13 for the United States in 2018, but ranged from a high of 1.83 (South Carolina) to a low of 0.54 (Massachusetts) among States.
- In 2018 for the United States, the fatality rate per 100,000 population was 11.17, the rate per 100,000 licensed drivers was 16.07, and the rate per 100,000 registered vehicles was 12.31.
- In 2018 Mississippi had the highest fatality rate per 100,000 population (22.23) in the United States, while the District of Columbia had the lowest (4.41).

Table 2 shows the changes in the population and VMT between 2009 and 2018.

- From 2009 to 2018 there was a 7-percent increase in the population of the United States.
- From 2009 to 2018 there was a 10-percent increase in the number of VMT in the United States.

Table 3 compares previous years of traffic fatalities, from 1975 to 2018.

- Thirty-two States showed decreases in traffic fatalities between 2017 and 2018. There were 1,295 fewer fatalities.
- Eighteen States and Puerto Rico showed increases in traffic fatalities between 2017 and 2018. They accounted for an additional 400 fatalities.
- Eleven States have decreased traffic fatalities by more than, or almost half since 1975, the first year FARS data collection began.

Table 4 compares traffic fatality rates from 1975 to 2018, based on 100 million VMT.

- Since 1975, the first year FARS data was collected, the rate of traffic fatalities in the United States has decreased 66 percent (3.35 to 1.13).
- The greatest rate decrease since 1975 was in Massachusetts and Wyoming. The fatality rates in both States have decreased by 80 percent.

Table 5 compares the alcohol involvement in fatal traffic crashes for 2009 and 2018.

- In 2018 alcohol-impaired driving (blood alcohol concentration [BAC]=.08+ grams per deciliter [g/dL]) was involved in 29 percent of traffic fatalities in the United States, down from 32 percent in 2009.
- From 2009 to 2018 Utah had the largest increase in the percentage of alcohol-impaired fatalities at 35 percent (17% to 23%), while West Virginia had the greatest decrease at 39 percent (31% to 19%).
- Sixty-five percent of drivers killed in 2018 in the United States were tested for alcohol and their results were known, while only 23 percent of drivers who survived fatal crashes were tested with known results.

Table 6 shows speeding-related traffic fatalities and the roadway function class for 2018.

- There were 9,378 speeding-related fatalities in the United States in 2018.
- In the United States, Texas had the largest number of speeding-related fatalities (990), while the District of Columbia had the fewest (15).
- More than 4 out of 5 (7,945 or 85%) speeding-related fatalities in 2018 occurred on non-interstates.

Table 7 shows restraint use for passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2018.

- In 2018 almost half (47%) of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in the United States were unrestrained (based on known restraint use).
- Seventy-one percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in New Hampshire in 2018 were unrestrained (based on known restraint use), the highest percentage in the country.

Table 8 shows motorcyclists killed and their helmet use in 2018.

- Thirty-eight percent of motorcyclists killed in the United States in 2018 were known to be unhelmeted.
- In 9 States, 70 percent or more of motorcyclists killed were known to be unhelmeted in 2018. New Hampshire, which is one of these 9 States, does not have laws that require helmet use for any age motorcyclist. The other 8 States only have partial helmet-use laws.

Table 9 shows the percentage of traffic fatalities by the person type for 2018. The table also shows the percentage of traffic fatalities by vehicle type for 2018.

- Half the people killed in the United States in 2018 traffic crashes were drivers (50%), followed by passengers (16%), motorcyclists (14%), pedestrians (17%), and pedalcyclists (2%).
- In 2018 passenger cars and light trucks accounted for more than three-fourths (77% cumulatively, and 39% and 38%, respectively) of the vehicles involved in fatal motor vehicle traffic crashes.

Table 1  
**Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rates, by State, 2018**

State	Traffic Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Licensed Drivers (thousands)	Registered Vehicles (thousands)	Vehicle Miles Traveled (millions)	Fatality Rates per			
						100,000 Population	100,000 Licensed Drivers	100,000 Registered Vehicles	100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled
Alabama	953	4,888	3,999	5,300	71,167	19.50	23.83	17.98	1.34
Alaska	80	737	536	804	5,487	10.85	14.92	9.95	1.46
Arizona	1,010	7,172	5,285	5,806	66,145	14.08	19.11	17.39	1.53
Arkansas	516	3,014	2,145	2,817	36,675	17.12	24.05	18.32	1.41
California	3,563	39,557	27,039	31,022	348,796	9.01	13.18	11.49	1.02
Colorado	632	5,696	4,245	5,356	53,954	11.10	14.89	11.80	1.17
Connecticut	294	3,573	2,606	2,880	31,596	8.23	11.28	10.21	0.93
Delaware	111	967	787	1,008	10,179	11.48	14.11	11.01	1.09
District of Columbia	31	702	528	352	3,691	4.41	5.87	8.81	0.84
Florida	3,133	21,299	15,369	17,496	221,816	14.71	20.39	17.91	1.41
Georgia	1,504	10,519	7,169	8,513	131,456	14.30	20.98	17.67	1.14
Hawaii	117	1,420	948	1,267	10,887	8.24	12.34	9.23	1.07
Idaho	231	1,754	1,253	1,880	17,709	13.17	18.44	12.29	1.30
Illinois	1,031	12,741	8,715	10,589	107,954	8.09	11.83	9.74	0.96
Indiana	858	6,692	4,589	6,191	81,529	12.82	18.70	13.86	1.05
Iowa	318	3,156	2,260	3,692	33,282	10.08	14.07	8.61	0.96
Kansas	404	2,912	2,149	2,684	32,190	13.88	18.80	15.05	1.26
Kentucky	724	4,468	3,033	4,368	49,544	16.20	23.87	16.57	1.46
Louisiana	768	4,660	3,425	3,885	50,045	16.48	22.42	19.77	1.53
Maine	137	1,338	1,041	1,126	14,784	10.24	13.17	12.17	0.93
Maryland	501	6,043	4,408	4,205	59,775	8.29	11.37	11.91	0.84
Massachusetts	360	6,902	4,935	5,061	66,772	5.22	7.29	7.11	0.54
Michigan	974	9,996	7,154	8,387	102,398	9.74	13.62	11.61	0.95
Minnesota	381	5,611	3,391	5,404	60,438	6.79	11.24	7.05	0.63
Mississippi	664	2,987	2,058	2,067	40,730	22.23	32.26	32.12	1.63
Missouri	921	6,126	4,273	5,499	76,595	15.03	21.55	16.75	1.20
Montana	182	1,062	806	1,845	12,700	17.13	22.57	9.86	1.43
Nebraska	230	1,929	1,420	1,961	20,975	11.92	16.19	11.73	1.10
Nevada	330	3,034	1,983	2,514	28,319	10.88	16.64	13.12	1.17
New Hampshire	147	1,356	1,162	1,346	13,776	10.84	12.65	10.92	1.07
New Jersey	564	8,909	6,343	6,055	77,539	6.33	8.89	9.31	0.73
New Mexico	391	2,095	1,458	1,824	27,288	18.66	26.81	21.43	1.43
New York	943	19,542	12,194	11,482	123,510	4.83	7.73	8.21	0.76
North Carolina	1,437	10,384	7,509	8,210	121,127	13.84	19.14	17.50	1.19
North Dakota	105	760	561	900	9,856	13.81	18.71	11.67	1.07
Ohio	1,068	11,689	8,033	10,914	114,474	9.14	13.30	9.79	0.93
Oklahoma	655	3,943	2,504	3,699	45,433	16.61	26.16	17.71	1.44
Oregon	506	4,191	2,931	3,943	36,848	12.07	17.27	12.83	1.37
Pennsylvania	1,190	12,807	8,991	10,728	102,109	9.29	13.23	11.09	1.17
Rhode Island	59	1,057	757	872	8,009	5.58	7.79	6.76	0.74
South Carolina	1,037	5,084	3,846	4,458	56,801	20.40	26.96	23.26	1.83
South Dakota	130	882	638	1,269	9,719	14.74	20.36	10.24	1.34
Tennessee	1,041	6,770	5,422	5,771	81,321	15.38	19.20	18.04	1.28
Texas	3,642	28,702	17,370	22,186	282,037	12.69	20.97	16.42	1.29
Utah	260	3,161	2,031	2,373	32,069	8.22	12.80	10.96	0.81
Vermont	68	626	565	620	7,346	10.86	12.04	10.97	0.93
Virginia	820	8,518	5,929	7,605	85,336	9.63	13.83	10.78	0.96
Washington	546	7,536	5,910	7,152	62,367	7.25	9.24	7.63	0.88
West Virginia	294	1,806	1,137	1,694	19,447	16.28	25.86	17.36	1.51
Wisconsin	588	5,814	4,288	5,683	65,885	10.11	13.71	10.35	0.89
Wyoming	111	578	419	837	10,438	19.21	26.48	13.26	1.06
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>36,560</b>	<b>327,167</b>	<b>227,549</b>	<b>297,043</b>	<b>3,240,327</b>	<b>11.17</b>	<b>16.07</b>	<b>12.31</b>	<b>1.13</b>
Puerto Rico*	308	3,195	-	2,647	15,020	9.64	-	11.64	2.05

Sources: Fatalities—FARS 2018 ARF; Licensed Drivers—Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Registered Vehicles by State (estimated)—FHWA; Registered Vehicles for USA—R.L. Polk & Co. and FHWA; Population—Census Bureau; Vehicle Miles Traveled—FHWA

\*Licensed driver data not available

Table 2  
Population and Vehicle Miles Traveled, by State, 2009 and 2018

State	2009 Population (thousand)	2018 Population (thousand)	Percent Population Change (2009-2018)	2009 Vehicle Miles Traveled (millions)	2018 Vehicle Miles Traveled (millions)	Percent Vehicle Miles Traveled Change (2009-2018)
Alabama	4,758	4,888	+3%	61,300	71,167	+16%
Alaska	699	737	+6%	4,933	5,487	+11%
Arizona	6,343	7,172	+13%	61,628	66,145	+7%
Arkansas	2,897	3,014	+4%	33,154	36,675	+11%
California	36,961	39,557	+7%	324,486	348,796	+7%
Colorado	4,972	5,696	+15%	46,230	53,954	+17%
Connecticut	3,562	3,573	+0%	31,420	31,596	+1%
Delaware	892	967	+8%	9,080	10,179	+12%
District of Columbia	592	702	+19%	3,608	3,691	+2%
Florida	18,653	21,299	+14%	196,379	221,816	+13%
Georgia	9,621	10,519	+9%	109,258	131,456	+20%
Hawaii	1,347	1,420	+5%	9,973	10,887	+9%
Idaho	1,554	1,754	+13%	15,531	17,709	+14%
Illinois	12,797	12,741	-0%	105,846	107,954	+2%
Indiana	6,459	6,692	+4%	76,628	81,529	+6%
Iowa	3,033	3,156	+4%	31,065	33,282	+7%
Kansas	2,833	2,912	+3%	29,497	32,190	+9%
Kentucky	4,317	4,468	+4%	47,355	49,544	+5%
Louisiana	4,492	4,660	+4%	44,863	50,045	+12%
Maine	1,330	1,338	+1%	14,491	14,784	+2%
Maryland	5,730	6,043	+5%	55,293	59,775	+8%
Massachusetts	6,518	6,902	+6%	54,812	66,772	+22%
Michigan	9,902	9,996	+1%	96,769	102,398	+6%
Minnesota	5,281	5,611	+6%	56,879	60,438	+6%
Mississippi	2,959	2,987	+1%	40,427	40,730	+1%
Missouri	5,961	6,126	+3%	69,003	76,595	+11%
Montana	984	1,062	+8%	11,011	12,700	+15%
Nebraska	1,813	1,929	+6%	19,359	20,975	+8%
Nevada	2,685	3,034	+13%	20,454	28,319	+38%
New Hampshire	1,316	1,356	+3%	12,975	13,776	+6%
New Jersey	8,756	8,909	+2%	73,029	77,539	+6%
New Mexico	2,037	2,095	+3%	26,013	27,288	+5%
New York	19,307	19,542	+1%	133,491	123,510	-7%
North Carolina	9,450	10,384	+10%	102,590	121,127	+18%
North Dakota	665	760	+14%	8,154	9,856	+21%
Ohio	11,529	11,689	+1%	110,591	114,474	+4%
Oklahoma	3,718	3,943	+6%	46,997	45,433	-3%
Oregon	3,809	4,191	+10%	33,972	36,848	+8%
Pennsylvania	12,667	12,807	+1%	103,206	102,109	-1%
Rhode Island	1,054	1,057	+0%	8,250	8,009	-3%
South Carolina	4,590	5,084	+11%	49,130	56,801	+16%
South Dakota	807	882	+9%	8,838	9,719	+10%
Tennessee	6,306	6,770	+7%	70,226	81,321	+16%
Texas	24,802	28,702	+16%	229,984	282,037	+23%
Utah	2,723	3,161	+16%	26,264	32,069	+22%
Vermont	625	626	+0%	7,646	7,346	-4%
Virginia	7,926	8,518	+7%	80,927	85,336	+5%
Washington	6,667	7,536	+13%	56,417	62,367	+11%
West Virginia	1,848	1,806	-2%	19,606	19,447	-1%
Wisconsin	5,669	5,814	+3%	58,157	65,885	+13%
Wyoming	560	578	+3%	9,568	10,438	+9%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>306,772</b>	<b>327,167</b>	<b>+7%</b>	<b>2,956,764</b>	<b>3,240,327</b>	<b>+10%</b>
Puerto Rico	3,740	3,195	-15%	19,040	15,020	-21%

Sources: Population—Census Bureau; Vehicle Miles Traveled – FHWA



Table 3  
**Traffic Fatalities and Percentage Change, by State, 1975–2018**

State	Fatalities				Percentage Change		
	1975	2009	2017	2018	1975–2018	2009–2018	2017–2018
Alabama	902	848	948	953	+6%	+12%	+1%
Alaska	112	64	79	80	-29%	+25%	+1%
Arizona	670	806	998	1,010	+51%	+25%	+1%
Arkansas	559	596	525	516	-8%	-13%	-2%
California	4,092	3,090	3,884	3,563	-13%	+15%	-8%
Colorado	581	465	648	632	+9%	+36%	-2%
Connecticut	389	224	281	294	-24%	+31%	+5%
Delaware	122	116	119	111	-9%	-4%	-7%
District of Columbia	70	29	31	31	-56%	+7%	0%
Florida	1,998	2,560	3,116	3,133	+57%	+22%	+1%
Georgia	1,360	1,292	1,540	1,504	+11%	+16%	-2%
Hawaii	144	109	107	117	-19%	+7%	+9%
Idaho	281	226	245	231	-18%	+2%	-6%
Illinois	2,041	911	1,090	1,031	-49%	+13%	-5%
Indiana	1,128	693	916	858	-24%	+24%	-6%
Iowa	670	371	330	318	-53%	-14%	-4%
Kansas	509	386	461	404	-21%	+5%	-12%
Kentucky	863	791	782	724	-16%	-8%	-7%
Louisiana	934	824	770	768	-18%	-7%	0%
Maine	223	159	173	137	-39%	-14%	-21%
Maryland	670	549	558	501	-25%	-9%	-10%
Massachusetts	864	340	347	360	-58%	+6%	+4%
Michigan	1,779	872	1,031	974	-45%	+12%	-6%
Minnesota	754	421	358	381	-49%	-10%	+6%
Mississippi	546	700	685	664	+22%	-5%	-3%
Missouri	1,045	878	932	921	-12%	+5%	-1%
Montana	291	221	186	182	-37%	-18%	-2%
Nebraska	369	223	228	230	-38%	+3%	+1%
Nevada	218	243	311	330	+51%	+36%	+6%
New Hampshire	151	110	102	147	-3%	+34%	+44%
New Jersey	1,043	584	624	564	-46%	-3%	-10%
New Mexico	555	361	380	391	-30%	+8%	+3%
New York	2,366	1,158	1,006	943	-60%	-19%	-6%
North Carolina	1,506	1,313	1,412	1,437	-5%	+9%	+2%
North Dakota	167	140	116	105	-37%	-25%	-9%
Ohio	1,766	1,022	1,179	1,068	-40%	+5%	-9%
Oklahoma	757	737	657	655	-13%	-11%	0%
Oregon	562	377	439	506	-10%	+34%	+15%
Pennsylvania	2,078	1,256	1,137	1,190	-43%	-5%	+5%
Rhode Island	110	83	84	59	-46%	-29%	-30%
South Carolina	820	894	989	1,037	+26%	+16%	+5%
South Dakota	195	131	129	130	-33%	-1%	+1%
Tennessee	1,126	986	1,024	1,041	-8%	+6%	+2%
Texas	3,372	3,104	3,732	3,642	+8%	+17%	-2%
Utah	272	244	273	260	-4%	+7%	-5%
Vermont	143	74	69	68	-52%	-8%	-1%
Virginia	993	758	839	820	-17%	+8%	-2%
Washington	758	492	563	546	-28%	+11%	-3%
West Virginia	461	357	304	294	-36%	-18%	-3%
Wisconsin	930	561	613	588	-37%	+5%	-4%
Wyoming	210	134	123	111	-47%	-17%	-10%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>44,525</b>	<b>33,883</b>	<b>37,473</b>	<b>36,560</b>	<b>-18%</b>	<b>+8%</b>	<b>-2%</b>
Puerto Rico	496	365	290	308	-38%	-16%	+6%

Source: FARS 1975–2017 Final File, 2018 ARF

Table 4  
**Traffic Fatality Rates and Percentage Change, by State, 1975–2018**

State	Fatality Rate per 100 Million VMT				Percentage Change		
	1975	2009	2017	2018	1975–2018	2009–2018	2017–2018
Alabama	3.63	1.38	1.34	1.34	-63%	-3%	0%
Alaska	4.38	1.30	1.43	1.46	-67%	+12%	+2%
Arizona	4.19	1.31	1.53	1.53	-63%	+17%	0%
Arkansas	4.01	1.80	1.44	1.41	-65%	-22%	-2%
California	3.09	0.95	1.13	1.02	-67%	+7%	-10%
Colorado	3.50	1.01	1.21	1.17	-67%	+16%	-3%
Connecticut	2.13	0.71	0.89	0.93	-56%	+31%	+4%
Delaware	3.37	1.28	1.14	1.09	-68%	-15%	-4%
District of Columbia	2.27	0.80	0.83	0.84	-63%	+5%	+1%
Florida	3.24	1.30	1.42	1.41	-56%	+8%	-1%
Georgia	3.46	1.18	1.23	1.14	-67%	-3%	-7%
Hawaii	3.47	1.09	1.00	1.07	-69%	-2%	+7%
Idaho	4.78	1.46	1.42	1.30	-73%	-11%	-8%
Illinois	3.56	0.86	1.01	0.96	-73%	+12%	-5%
Indiana	3.02	0.90	1.12	1.05	-65%	+17%	-6%
Iowa	3.75	1.19	0.99	0.96	-74%	-19%	-3%
Kansas	3.29	1.31	1.43	1.26	-62%	-4%	-12%
Kentucky	3.50	1.67	1.59	1.46	-58%	-13%	-8%
Louisiana	4.60	1.84	1.56	1.53	-67%	-17%	-2%
Maine	3.14	1.10	1.17	0.93	-70%	-15%	-21%
Maryland	2.66	0.99	0.93	0.84	-68%	-15%	-10%
Massachusetts	2.75	0.62	0.55	0.54	-80%	-13%	-2%
Michigan	3.06	0.90	1.01	0.95	-69%	+6%	-6%
Minnesota	2.94	0.74	0.60	0.63	-79%	-15%	+5%
Mississippi	3.80	1.73	1.68	1.63	-57%	-6%	-3%
Missouri	3.41	1.27	1.23	1.20	-65%	-6%	-2%
Montana	5.08	2.01	1.47	1.43	-72%	-29%	-3%
Nebraska	3.29	1.15	1.09	1.10	-67%	-4%	+1%
Nevada	4.74	1.19	1.13	1.17	-75%	-2%	+4%
New Hampshire	2.85	0.85	0.75	1.07	-62%	+26%	+43%
New Jersey	2.15	0.80	0.81	0.73	-66%	-9%	-10%
New Mexico	5.59	1.39	1.28	1.43	-74%	+3%	+12%
New York	3.63	0.87	0.81	0.76	-79%	-13%	-6%
North Carolina	4.14	1.28	1.18	1.19	-71%	-7%	+1%
North Dakota	3.71	1.72	1.19	1.07	-71%	-38%	-10%
Ohio	2.75	0.92	0.99	0.93	-66%	+1%	-6%
Oklahoma	3.33	1.57	1.33	1.44	-57%	-8%	+8%
Oregon	3.53	1.11	1.19	1.37	-61%	+23%	+15%
Pennsylvania	3.26	1.22	1.12	1.17	-64%	-4%	+4%
Rhode Island	1.94	1.01	1.05	0.74	-62%	-27%	-30%
South Carolina	3.98	1.82	1.78	1.83	-54%	+1%	+3%
South Dakota	3.76	1.48	1.34	1.34	-64%	-9%	0%
Tennessee	3.42	1.40	1.24	1.28	-63%	-9%	+3%
Texas	3.99	1.35	1.37	1.29	-68%	-4%	-6%
Utah	3.42	0.93	0.87	0.81	-76%	-13%	-7%
Vermont	4.32	0.97	0.93	0.93	-78%	-4%	0%
Virginia	2.87	0.94	0.98	0.96	-67%	+2%	-2%
Washington	3.16	0.87	0.92	0.88	-72%	+1%	-4%
West Virginia	4.36	1.82	1.59	1.51	-65%	-17%	-5%
Wisconsin	3.25	0.96	0.94	0.89	-73%	-7%	-5%
Wyoming	5.36	1.40	1.26	1.06	-80%	-24%	-16%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>3.35</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>-66%</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>-3%</b>
Puerto Rico	7.27	1.92	1.93	2.05	-72%	+7%	+6%

Sources: FARS 1975–2017 Final File, 2018 ARF; Vehicle Miles Traveled – FHWA

Table 5

### Percentage of Fatalities That Involved Driver Alcohol Use in Fatal Traffic Crashes and Driver Alcohol Test Results, by State, 2009 and 2018

State	Percentage of Fatalities by Highest Driver BAC in the Crash						Percentage of Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes Tested for BAC With Known Results in 2018	
	Alcohol Involved (BAC=.01+ g/dL)			Alcohol-Impaired (BAC=.08+ g/dL)			Killed	Survived
	2009	2018	Percentage Change	2009	2018	Percentage Change		
Alabama	38%	31%	-18%	31%	26%	-16%	58%	35%
Alaska	40%	45%	+13%	34%	36%	+6%	71%	34%
Arizona	33%	33%	0%	27%	28%	+4%	62%	15%
Arkansas	36%	33%	-8%	29%	26%	-10%	75%	65%
California	36%	35%	-3%	30%	30%	0%	65%	22%
Colorado	38%	35%	-8%	34%	30%	-12%	87%	20%
Connecticut	51%	45%	-12%	43%	39%	-9%	54%	16%
Delaware	41%	32%	-22%	39%	25%	-36%	84%	17%
District of Columbia	41%	34%	-17%	36%	29%	-19%	77%	39%
Florida	36%	30%	-17%	30%	26%	-13%	56%	12%
Georgia	31%	30%	-3%	26%	25%	-4%	54%	21%
Hawaii	53%	38%	-28%	48%	30%	-38%	86%	21%
Idaho	29%	28%	-3%	26%	25%	-4%	72%	33%
Illinois	42%	36%	-14%	34%	30%	-12%	84%	25%
Indiana	36%	31%	-14%	30%	26%	-13%	27%	42%
Iowa	32%	31%	-3%	26%	27%	+4%	57%	20%
Kansas	37%	24%	-35%	32%	22%	-31%	28%	27%
Kentucky	30%	23%	-23%	24%	19%	-21%	73%	42%
Louisiana	44%	33%	-25%	35%	28%	-20%	85%	69%
Maine	33%	36%	+9%	29%	30%	+3%	83%	70%
Maryland	36%	31%	-14%	30%	24%	-20%	75%	11%
Massachusetts	38%	40%	+5%	31%	33%	+6%	91%	2%
Michigan	33%	33%	0%	28%	27%	-4%	53%	41%
Minnesota	31%	33%	+6%	25%	28%	+12%	86%	22%
Mississippi	37%	30%	-19%	33%	25%	-24%	46%	13%
Missouri	41%	30%	-27%	34%	26%	-24%	78%	61%
Montana	42%	48%	+14%	37%	43%	+16%	87%	70%
Nebraska	40%	34%	-15%	31%	29%	-6%	74%	60%
Nevada	38%	33%	-13%	28%	26%	-7%	66%	24%
New Hampshire	32%	37%	+16%	26%	33%	+27%	93%	63%
New Jersey	31%	28%	-10%	25%	22%	-12%	82%	27%
New Mexico	35%	35%	0%	31%	28%	-10%	74%	5%
New York	34%	38%	+12%	27%	33%	+22%	69%	8%
North Carolina	32%	34%	+6%	27%	29%	+7%	50%	11%
North Dakota	42%	32%	-24%	39%	27%	-31%	82%	10%
Ohio	37%	32%	-14%	32%	28%	-13%	83%	24%
Oklahoma	35%	27%	-23%	31%	22%	-29%	90%	44%
Oregon	37%	36%	-3%	30%	30%	0%	71%	20%
Pennsylvania	37%	33%	-11%	32%	28%	-13%	52%	14%
Rhode Island	48%	43%	-10%	41%	34%	-17%	88%	12%
South Carolina	47%	32%	-32%	42%	28%	-33%	71%	4%
South Dakota	45%	38%	-16%	41%	35%	-15%	85%	80%
Tennessee	35%	28%	-20%	30%	23%	-23%	44%	37%
Texas	47%	46%	-2%	40%	40%	0%	49%	13%
Utah	24%	27%	+13%	17%	23%	+35%	89%	35%
Vermont	37%	34%	-8%	32%	23%	-28%	91%	28%
Virginia	37%	35%	-5%	32%	29%	-9%	86%	1%
Washington	47%	36%	-23%	42%	30%	-29%	79%	18%
West Virginia	37%	24%	-35%	31%	19%	-39%	85%	2%
Wisconsin	44%	40%	-9%	37%	34%	-8%	83%	46%
Wyoming	42%	36%	-14%	36%	30%	-17%	42%	17%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>-11%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>-9%</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>23%</b>
Puerto Rico	39%	48%	+23%	30%	40%	+33%	100%	59%

Source: FARS 2009 Final File, 2018 ARF

Note: Percentages are computed based on unrounded estimates.



Table 6

**Speeding-Related Traffic Fatalities, by State and Roadway Function Class, 2018**

State	Total Fatalities	Speeding-Related Fatalities by Roadway Function Class							
		Total*	Interstate Rural	Interstate Urban	Non-Interstate Freeway and Expressway	Non-Interstate Other Principal Arterial	Non-Interstate Minor Arterial	Non-Interstate Collector	Non-Interstate Local
Alabama	953	262	16	18	0	48	54	90	36
Alaska	80	42	9	6	0	6	6	14	1
Arizona	1,010	285	38	25	22	57	74	34	31
Arkansas	516	131	6	9	0	37	23	19	37
California	3,563	927	39	133	117	259	153	121	105
Colorado	632	210	12	15	7	69	50	31	26
Connecticut	294	90	0	14	11	15	25	12	13
Delaware	111	33	0	2	5	5	3	12	6
District of Columbia	31	15	0	1	0	0	1	0	13
Florida	3,133	303	6	11	11	89	61	39	42
Georgia	1,504	267	4	29	5	53	69	59	48
Hawaii	117	51	0	6	0	26	19	0	0
Idaho	231	46	2	2	0	14	8	8	12
Illinois	1,031	434	22	55	0	113	105	82	57
Indiana	858	188	14	11	0	44	34	61	24
Iowa	318	62	10	5	0	11	11	13	12
Kansas	404	94	13	7	4	17	10	14	29
Kentucky	724	111	9	4	1	27	22	32	15
Louisiana	768	136	6	17	1	30	22	33	27
Maine	137	42	1	1	0	8	9	17	6
Maryland	501	123	2	18	5	27	32	16	18
Massachusetts	360	95	0	16	2	23	26	13	14
Michigan	974	245	5	30	13	44	61	52	40
Minnesota	381	113	5	9	0	21	42	25	9
Mississippi	664	48	0	4	0	7	7	18	12
Missouri	921	367	19	25	24	82	80	74	63
Montana	182	67	8	1	1	22	6	13	16
Nebraska	230	29	8	0	0	3	6	7	5
Nevada	330	92	6	5	5	27	27	10	11
New Hampshire	147	71	6	7	0	18	10	8	22
New Jersey	564	114	1	6	9	42	25	8	23
New Mexico	391	132	8	5	0	45	18	29	26
New York	943	274	13	10	18	75	28	14	116
North Carolina	1,437	327	10	32	6	149	30	33	67
North Dakota	105	40	6	0	0	15	5	9	5
Ohio	1,068	290	9	24	9	39	46	92	64
Oklahoma	655	147	4	12	6	27	31	38	29
Oregon	506	110	4	0	0	37	30	30	9
Pennsylvania	1,190	455	23	33	22	89	108	92	88
Rhode Island	59	27	1	5	5	6	2	0	8
South Carolina	1,037	447	44	25	9	90	211	19	49
South Dakota	130	52	7	1	5	15	9	7	8
Tennessee	1,041	167	3	15	2	30	43	38	36
Texas	3,642	990	50	136	64	268	164	220	87
Utah	260	70	5	6	0	30	10	10	8
Vermont	68	25	4	0	0	2	5	8	6
Virginia	820	241	8	23	3	51	56	67	25
Washington	546	179	8	23	0	48	39	40	18
West Virginia	294	88	4	9	0	16	17	27	15
Wisconsin	588	186	5	11	4	53	32	41	39
Wyoming	111	38	8	0	0	14	3	8	5
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>36,560</b>	<b>9,378</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>2,343</b>	<b>1,968</b>	<b>1,757</b>	<b>1,481</b>
Puerto Rico	308	82	12	6	2	17	18	21	6

Source: FARS 2018 ARF

\*Includes fatalities that occurred on roads for which the roadway function class was unknown.

Table 7  
**Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities, by State and Restraint Use, 2018**

State	Restraint Use						Total		Percent Restrained Based on Known Use	Percent Unrestrained Based on Known Use
	Restrained		Unrestrained		Unknown					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Alabama	299	42%	354	49%	63	9%	716	100%	46%	54%
Alaska	20	44%	20	44%	5	11%	45	100%	50%	50%
Arizona	197	39%	237	47%	67	13%	501	100%	45%	55%
Arkansas	143	41%	177	51%	30	9%	350	100%	45%	55%
California	1,169	61%	598	31%	156	8%	1,923	100%	66%	34%
Colorado	171	43%	216	54%	15	4%	402	100%	44%	56%
Connecticut	74	43%	69	40%	30	17%	173	100%	52%	48%
Delaware	29	47%	32	52%	1	2%	62	100%	48%	52%
District of Columbia	3	38%	1	13%	4	50%	8	100%	75%	25%
Florida	848	54%	695	44%	39	2%	1,582	100%	55%	45%
Georgia	448	45%	441	44%	105	11%	994	100%	50%	50%
Hawaii	12	32%	16	43%	9	24%	37	100%	43%	57%
Idaho	58	39%	78	52%	13	9%	149	100%	43%	57%
Illinois	327	49%	245	37%	92	14%	664	100%	57%	43%
Indiana	273	49%	210	37%	78	14%	561	100%	57%	43%
Iowa	120	54%	78	35%	25	11%	223	100%	61%	39%
Kansas	129	46%	127	46%	22	8%	278	100%	50%	50%
Kentucky	235	46%	279	54%	0	0%	514	100%	46%	54%
Louisiana	207	45%	222	48%	36	8%	465	100%	48%	52%
Maine	51	50%	50	50%	0	0%	101	100%	50%	50%
Maryland	159	54%	104	36%	29	10%	292	100%	60%	40%
Massachusetts	64	31%	103	50%	40	19%	207	100%	38%	62%
Michigan	353	55%	183	29%	104	16%	640	100%	66%	34%
Minnesota	123	49%	84	33%	45	18%	252	100%	59%	41%
Mississippi	206	42%	281	57%	5	1%	492	100%	42%	58%
Missouri	232	35%	379	58%	44	7%	655	100%	38%	62%
Montana	45	34%	85	64%	2	2%	132	100%	35%	65%
Nebraska	57	35%	88	53%	20	12%	165	100%	39%	61%
Nevada	89	52%	76	44%	7	4%	172	100%	54%	46%
New Hampshire	28	29%	68	69%	2	2%	98	100%	29%	71%
New Jersey	161	54%	126	42%	11	4%	298	100%	56%	44%
New Mexico	87	39%	112	50%	23	10%	222	100%	44%	56%
New York	258	55%	153	33%	56	12%	467	100%	63%	37%
North Carolina	523	55%	393	41%	42	4%	958	100%	57%	43%
North Dakota	29	38%	37	49%	10	13%	76	100%	44%	56%
Ohio	320	44%	333	46%	75	10%	728	100%	49%	51%
Oklahoma	205	46%	205	46%	35	8%	445	100%	50%	50%
Oregon	156	54%	76	26%	58	20%	290	100%	67%	33%
Pennsylvania	263	35%	384	51%	101	14%	748	100%	41%	59%
Rhode Island	13	43%	13	43%	4	13%	30	100%	50%	50%
South Carolina	315	46%	330	49%	33	5%	678	100%	49%	51%
South Dakota	29	31%	59	63%	6	6%	94	100%	33%	67%
Tennessee	348	51%	290	42%	46	7%	684	100%	55%	45%
Texas	1,221	52%	926	39%	198	8%	2,345	100%	57%	43%
Utah	87	56%	50	32%	19	12%	156	100%	64%	36%
Vermont	20	38%	30	58%	2	4%	52	100%	40%	60%
Virginia	260	47%	294	53%	0	0%	554	100%	47%	53%
Washington	183	55%	109	33%	39	12%	331	100%	63%	37%
West Virginia	94	48%	70	36%	33	17%	197	100%	57%	43%
Wisconsin	204	49%	153	37%	57	14%	414	100%	57%	43%
Wyoming	33	43%	39	51%	5	6%	77	100%	46%	54%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>10,978</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>9,778</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>1,941</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>22,697</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>47%</b>
Puerto Rico	57	43%	77	57%	0	0%	134	100%	43%	57%

Source: FARS 2018 ARF

Table 8  
Motorcyclist Fatalities, by State and Helmet Use, 2018

State	Helmet Use						Total		Known Helmet Use	
	Helmeted		Unhelmeted		Unknown				Percent Helmeted	Percent Unhelmeted
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Alabama	72	88%	10	12%	0	0%	82	100%	88%	12%
Alaska	6	50%	5	42%	1	8%	12	100%	55%	45%
Arizona	63	42%	68	46%	18	12%	149	100%	48%	52%
Arkansas	19	29%	45	68%	2	3%	66	100%	30%	70%
California	449	92%	30	6%	9	2%	488	100%	94%	6%
Colorado	45	44%	58	56%	0	0%	103	100%	44%	56%
Connecticut	20	41%	28	57%	1	2%	49	100%	42%	58%
Delaware	8	47%	9	53%	0	0%	17	100%	47%	53%
District of Columbia	5	63%	3	38%	0	0%	8	100%	63%	38%
Florida	278	48%	285	50%	11	2%	574	100%	49%	51%
Georgia	134	87%	16	10%	4	3%	154	100%	89%	11%
Hawaii	12	35%	22	65%	0	0%	34	100%	35%	65%
Idaho	17	45%	21	55%	0	0%	38	100%	45%	55%
Illinois	31	26%	87	73%	1	1%	119	100%	26%	74%
Indiana	21	18%	89	76%	7	6%	117	100%	19%	81%
Iowa	14	33%	29	67%	0	0%	43	100%	33%	67%
Kansas	22	34%	39	61%	3	5%	64	100%	36%	64%
Kentucky	35	37%	60	63%	0	0%	95	100%	37%	63%
Louisiana	71	90%	2	3%	6	8%	79	100%	97%	3%
Maine	5	22%	18	78%	0	0%	23	100%	22%	78%
Maryland	48	77%	13	21%	1	2%	62	100%	79%	21%
Massachusetts	53	90%	6	10%	0	0%	59	100%	90%	10%
Michigan	79	55%	58	41%	6	4%	143	100%	58%	42%
Minnesota	17	29%	42	71%	0	0%	59	100%	29%	71%
Mississippi	35	85%	6	15%	0	0%	41	100%	85%	15%
Missouri	98	87%	12	11%	3	3%	113	100%	89%	11%
Montana	10	48%	11	52%	0	0%	21	100%	48%	52%
Nebraska	9	39%	2	9%	12	52%	23	100%	82%	18%
Nevada	46	78%	9	15%	4	7%	59	100%	84%	16%
New Hampshire	6	21%	21	75%	1	4%	28	100%	22%	78%
New Jersey	45	85%	7	13%	1	2%	53	100%	87%	13%
New Mexico	20	44%	20	44%	5	11%	45	100%	50%	50%
New York	135	91%	5	3%	9	6%	149	100%	96%	4%
North Carolina	176	92%	15	8%	0	0%	191	100%	92%	8%
North Dakota	5	31%	11	69%	0	0%	16	100%	31%	69%
Ohio	48	33%	95	66%	2	1%	145	100%	34%	66%
Oklahoma	26	29%	60	66%	5	5%	91	100%	30%	70%
Oregon	66	85%	4	5%	8	10%	78	100%	94%	6%
Pennsylvania	66	40%	92	56%	7	4%	165	100%	42%	58%
Rhode Island	7	39%	10	56%	1	6%	18	100%	41%	59%
South Carolina	41	29%	98	70%	2	1%	141	100%	29%	71%
South Dakota	4	25%	11	69%	1	6%	16	100%	27%	73%
Tennessee	153	91%	12	7%	3	2%	168	100%	93%	7%
Texas	205	49%	194	47%	17	4%	416	100%	51%	49%
Utah	23	49%	22	47%	2	4%	47	100%	51%	49%
Vermont	5	71%	1	14%	1	14%	7	100%	83%	17%
Virginia	95	95%	5	5%	0	0%	100	100%	95%	5%
Washington	75	94%	5	6%	0	0%	80	100%	94%	6%
West Virginia	23	59%	14	36%	2	5%	39	100%	62%	38%
Wisconsin	30	36%	53	64%	0	0%	83	100%	36%	64%
Wyoming	6	40%	9	60%	0	0%	15	100%	40%	60%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>2,982</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>1,847</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4,985</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>38%</b>
Puerto Rico	7	16%	37	84%	0	0%	44	100%	16%	84%

Source: FARS 2018 ARF

Table 9

## Traffic Fatalities and Vehicles Involved in Fatal Crashes, by State, Person Type, and Vehicle Type, 2018

State	Total Fatalities	Percent Fatalities Who Were (by Person Type)*					Total Vehicles Involved	Percent Vehicles That Were Involved (by Vehicle Type)				
		Drivers	Passengers	Motorcyclists	Pedestrians	Pedal-cyclists		Passenger Cars	Light Trucks	Large Trucks	Motorcycles	Other/Unknown
Alabama	953	62%	16%	9%	11%	1%	1,321	41%	41%	9%	6%	3%
Alaska	80	45%	21%	15%	18%	0%	104	24%	49%	8%	13%	6%
Arizona	1,010	40%	16%	15%	23%	2%	1,404	36%	36%	6%	11%	11%
Arkansas	516	60%	15%	13%	12%	1%	735	32%	44%	12%	9%	2%
California	3,563	40%	16%	14%	25%	4%	4,986	45%	33%	7%	10%	4%
Colorado	632	47%	19%	16%	14%	3%	897	30%	45%	10%	12%	3%
Connecticut	294	45%	17%	17%	20%	0%	417	51%	29%	7%	12%	1%
Delaware	111	42%	15%	15%	21%	5%	168	41%	38%	7%	11%	4%
Dist of Columbia	31	16%	10%	26%	35%	10%	44	55%	16%	7%	18%	5%
Florida	3,133	39%	14%	18%	22%	5%	4,564	42%	34%	7%	13%	3%
Georgia	1,504	53%	17%	10%	17%	2%	2,165	42%	38%	9%	7%	4%
Hawaii	117	23%	9%	29%	36%	2%	157	28%	43%	4%	22%	3%
Idaho	231	56%	18%	16%	7%	1%	316	31%	37%	16%	12%	5%
Illinois	1,031	53%	17%	12%	16%	2%	1,481	43%	35%	11%	8%	3%
Indiana	858	54%	16%	14%	13%	3%	1,218	38%	38%	12%	10%	2%
Iowa	318	62%	15%	14%	7%	2%	469	32%	40%	14%	10%	4%
Kansas	404	60%	16%	16%	7%	1%	568	32%	40%	14%	11%	2%
Kentucky	724	58%	16%	13%	10%	1%	1,033	38%	40%	10%	9%	2%
Louisiana	768	50%	14%	10%	21%	4%	1,070	37%	43%	9%	8%	2%
Maine	137	60%	17%	17%	5%	1%	179	35%	40%	9%	13%	3%
Maryland	501	44%	16%	12%	26%	1%	741	47%	33%	9%	8%	2%
Massachusetts	360	49%	11%	16%	22%	1%	491	43%	35%	8%	13%	1%
Michigan	974	52%	16%	15%	15%	2%	1,480	41%	40%	7%	10%	2%
Minnesota	381	54%	16%	15%	11%	2%	538	35%	41%	8%	11%	4%
Mississippi	664	61%	19%	6%	13%	1%	898	37%	42%	11%	5%	5%
Missouri	921	59%	17%	12%	10%	0%	1,344	38%	41%	10%	9%	3%
Montana	182	64%	15%	12%	8%	1%	214	22%	55%	8%	10%	4%
Nebraska	230	57%	23%	10%	10%	0%	353	30%	46%	13%	6%	4%
Nevada	330	42%	12%	18%	24%	2%	452	42%	36%	5%	13%	3%
New Hampshire	147	56%	16%	19%	6%	1%	193	33%	42%	10%	15%	1%
New Jersey	564	40%	16%	9%	31%	3%	782	45%	34%	10%	7%	4%
New Mexico	391	42%	22%	12%	21%	3%	520	34%	41%	13%	9%	3%
New York	943	41%	12%	16%	28%	3%	1,291	41%	35%	8%	12%	4%
North Carolina	1,437	53%	17%	13%	16%	1%	2,065	41%	39%	8%	10%	2%
North Dakota	105	59%	18%	15%	6%	2%	144	18%	49%	19%	12%	3%
Ohio	1,068	56%	16%	14%	12%	2%	1,576	41%	35%	11%	10%	3%
Oklahoma	655	58%	16%	14%	9%	2%	975	34%	42%	12%	10%	2%
Oregon	506	47%	20%	15%	16%	2%	665	28%	39%	10%	11%	12%
Pennsylvania	1,190	52%	15%	14%	17%	2%	1,686	42%	36%	8%	10%	4%
Rhode Island	59	37%	17%	31%	12%	2%	82	46%	24%	2%	24%	2%
South Carolina	1,037	54%	14%	14%	16%	2%	1,475	41%	40%	8%	9%	2%
South Dakota	130	57%	22%	12%	8%	0%	148	31%	40%	15%	11%	3%
Tennessee	1,041	53%	17%	16%	13%	1%	1,518	39%	38%	9%	11%	3%
Texas	3,642	51%	18%	11%	17%	2%	5,222	33%	43%	13%	8%	3%
Utah	260	47%	19%	18%	14%	1%	376	36%	39%	9%	13%	4%
Vermont	68	59%	22%	10%	9%	0%	86	50%	31%	9%	7%	2%
Virginia	820	56%	15%	12%	14%	1%	1,154	44%	36%	9%	9%	2%
Washington	546	45%	18%	15%	19%	3%	762	42%	37%	8%	11%	2%
West Virginia	294	57%	20%	13%	7%	2%	409	33%	40%	12%	9%	6%
Wisconsin	588	59%	16%	14%	10%	1%	799	40%	37%	9%	10%	4%
Wyoming	111	62%	19%	14%	5%	0%	137	20%	47%	20%	11%	1%
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>36,560</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>51,872</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Puerto Rico	308	31%	13%	14%	38%	3%	407	48%	28%	4%	11%	10%

Source: FARS 2018 ARF

\*Includes other/unknown person type.

## Restraint Use and Motorcycle Helmet Use Laws

### Restraint Use Laws

- The first mandatory belt use law was enacted in New York in 1984.
- The first mandatory child restraint use law was implemented in Tennessee in 1978.

Adult belt use laws are in effect in 49 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The laws differ from State to State, according to the type and age of the vehicle, occupant age, and seating position, etc. The goals of these laws are to promote belt use and thereby reduce deaths and injuries in motor vehicle crashes.

In 2018 the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and 34 States had primary seat belt laws in effect, enabling law enforcement officers to stop vehicles and write citations when they observed violations of the seat belt law. In another 15 States the laws specified secondary enforcement, meaning that law enforcement officers were permitted to write citations only after a vehicle was stopped for some other traffic infraction. New Hampshire is the only State without a seat belt law for adults, although it does have a primary child passenger safety law that covers all drivers and passengers under age 18.

Since 1985 all 50 States and the District of Columbia have had child restraint use laws in effect. Child restraint use laws differ from State to State, in terms of the ages of children covered and in other important ways, including height and weight limits, seating position requirements, and various exemptions and exceptions.

The most current information on seat belt laws and child passenger safety laws is available on the website of the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) at [www.ghsa.org](http://www.ghsa.org).

- Seat belt laws—[www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/seatbelt\\_laws.html](http://www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/seatbelt_laws.html).
- Child passenger safety laws—[www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/childsafety\\_laws.html](http://www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/childsafety_laws.html).

In 2018 seat belt use rates in the United States ranged from 76.4 percent in New Hampshire to 97.8 percent in Hawaii. Twenty-four States and the District of Columbia achieved belt use rates of 90 percent or higher. These results are from probability-based observational surveys conducted by 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories. The nationwide seat belt use rate in 2018 was 89.6 percent, as measured by NHTSA's National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS). NOPUS is a national probability-based survey, which is independent from State belt use surveys. Observed seat belt use rates for the States and the Nation in 2018 can be found in *Seat Belt Use in 2018—Use Rates in the States and Territories*, Report No. DOT HS 812 763, <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812763>.

### Motorcycle Helmet Use Laws

In 2018 only 19 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico required helmet use by all motorcyclists. In 28 States helmet use was required for only a subset of motorcyclists (typically, motorcyclists under 18), and 3 States (Illinois, Iowa, and New Hampshire) do not require helmet use for motorcyclists of any age. The most current information on helmet use laws is available on the GHSA website at [www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/helmet\\_laws.html](http://www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/helmet_laws.html).

According to results from NOPUS, the overall rate of DOT-compliant motorcycle helmet use in the United States was 71.0 percent in 2018. Helmet use continued to be significantly higher in States that required all motorcyclists to be helmeted than in other States. Information on motorcycle helmet use in 2018 can be found in *Motorcycle Helmet Use in 2018—Overall Results*, Report No. DOT HS 812 720, <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812720>.

This fact sheet contains information on motor vehicle fatalities and fatal crashes based on data from FARS. FARS is a census of fatal crashes within the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico (although Puerto Rico is not included in U.S. totals).



## Fatality Analysis Reporting System

FARS contains data on every fatal traffic crash in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. To be included in FARS, a crash must involve a motor vehicle traveling on a public trafficway and must result in the death of a vehicle occupant or a nonoccupant within 30 days of the crash. The Annual Report File (ARF) is the FARS data file associated with the most recent available year, which is subject to change when it is finalized about a year later. The updated version of the file is aptly known as the Final file. The additional time between the ARF and the Final file provides the opportunity for submission of

important variable data requiring outside sources, which may lead to changes in the final counts.

The updated final counts for a given previous calendar year will be reflected with the release of the recent year's Annual Report File. For example, along with the release of the 2018 ARF this year, the 2017 Final file was also released to replace last year's 2017 ARF. The final fatality count for 2017 is 37,473, which is updated from 37,133 from the 2017 ARF a year ago.

The suggested APA format citation for this document is:

National Center for Statistics and Analysis. (2020, July) *State traffic data: 2018 data* (Traffic Safety Facts. Report No. DOT HS 812 948). National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

## For More Information

Information on traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA), NSA-230, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. NCSA can be contacted at 800-934-8517 or by email at [NCSARequests@dot.gov](mailto:NCSARequests@dot.gov). General information on highway traffic safety can be found at [www.nhtsa.gov/research-data](http://www.nhtsa.gov/research-data). 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 in Passenger Vehicles*, *Older Population*, *Passenger Vehicles*, *Pedestrians*, *Rural/Urban Comparison of Traffic Fatalities*, *School-Transportation-Related Crashes*, *Speeding*, *State Alcohol-Impaired-Driving Estimates*, *Summary of Motor Vehicle Crashes*, and *Young Drivers*. Detailed data on motor vehicle traffic crashes are published annually in *Traffic Safety Facts: A Compilation of Motor Vehicle Crash*. The fact sheets and annual Traffic Safety Facts report can be found at <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov>.



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