



# Pedestrians

In 2010, 4,280 pedestrians were killed and an estimated 70,000 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. For the purpose of this Traffic Safety Fact Sheet a traffic crash is an incident that involves one or more vehicles where at least one vehicle is in-transport and the crash originates on a public traffic way. Crashes that occurred exclusively on private property, including parking lots and driveways, were excluded.

The 4,280 pedestrian fatalities in 2010 were an increase of 4 percent from 2009, but a decrease of 13 percent from 2001. In 2010, pedestrian deaths accounted for 13 percent of all traffic fatalities, and made up 3 percent of all the people injured in traffic crashes.

*In 2010, 4,280 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — a 4-percent increase from the number reported in 2009.*

Table 1

**Total Fatalities and Pedestrian Fatalities in Traffic Crashes, 2001-2010**

Year	Total Fatalities	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total Fatalities
2001	42,196	4,901	12
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	32,885	4,280	13

Almost three-fourths (73%) of pedestrian fatalities occurred in an urban setting versus a rural setting. Nearly four-fifths (79%) 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, 68 percent, occurred during the nighttime. Between 2009 and 2010 all these percentages stayed relatively level.

*In 2010, pedestrian deaths accounted for 13 percent of all traffic fatalities in motor vehicle traffic crashes. Since 2001, the number of pedestrian fatalities has decreased by 13 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	
	2009	2010
<b>Land Use</b>		
Rural	28%	27%
Urban	72%	73%
<b>Non-Motorist Location</b>		
Intersection	25%	21%
Non-Intersection	75%	79%
<b>Weather</b>		
Clear/Cloudy	89%	88%
Rain	9%	9%
Snow	1%	1%
Fog	1%	1%
<b>Time of Day</b>		
Daytime	31%	32%
Nighttime	69%	68%

## Age

Older pedestrians (age 65+) accounted for 19 percent (826) of all pedestrian fatalities and an estimated 11 percent (8,000) of all pedestrians injured in 2010.

In 2010, the fatality rate for older pedestrians (age 65+) was 2.04 per 100,000 population – higher than the rate for all the other ages.

In 2010, almost one-fifth (19%) 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 7 percent of the pedestrian fatalities in 2010 and 23 percent of all pedestrians injured in traffic crashes.

Table 3

### Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Fatalities and Injuries and Pedestrians Killed or Injured, by Age Group, 2010

Age Group (Years)	Total Killed	Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Total Killed
<5	402	94	23
5-9	353	68	19
10-15	673	131	19
16-20	3,441	282	8
21-24	3,325	277	8
25-29	3,103	328	11
30-34	2,435	271	11
35-39	2,236	281	13
40-44	2,299	292	13
45-49	2,598	394	15
50-54	2,481	404	16
55-59	2,239	368	16
60-64	1,770	247	14
65-69	1,345	201	15
70-74	1,033	160	15
75-79	1,088	171	16
80+	2,018	294	15
Unknown	46	17	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,885</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>13</b>
Age Group (Years)	Total Injured	Pedestrians Injured	Percentage of Total Injured
<5	41,000	2,000	5
5-9	58,000	5,000	8
10-15	96,000	9,000	9
16-20	309,000	8,000	3
21-24	240,000	4,000	2
25-29	227,000	6,000	2
30-34	179,000	4,000	2
35-39	173,000	4,000	2
40-44	172,000	4,000	2
45-49	170,000	5,000	3
50-54	166,000	5,000	3
55-59	122,000	4,000	3
60-64	98,000	3,000	3
65-69	66,000	3,000	5
70-74	41,000	2,000	4
75-79	35,000	2,000	4
80+	46,000	1,000	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,239,000</b>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>3</b>

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

### Gender

More than two-thirds (69%) of the pedestrians killed in 2010 were males. In 2010, the male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 1.94 — more than double the rate for females (0.85 per 100,000 population). In 2010, the male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 25, compared with 20 for female.

*In 2010, almost one-fifth of the children between the ages of 5 and 9 killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians.*

Table 4

**Pedestrians Killed and Injured and Fatality and Injury Rates by Age and Sex, 2010**

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
<5	59	10,318	0.57	35	9,883	0.35	94	20,201	0.47
5-9	43	10,407	0.41	25	9,975	0.25	68	20,382	0.33
10-15	80	12,767	0.63	51	12,174	0.42	131	24,941	0.53
16-20	197	11,411	1.73	85	10,858	0.78	282	22,269	1.27
21-24	207	8,729	2.37	70	8,383	0.84	277	17,111	1.62
25-34	443	20,739	2.14	156	20,508	0.76	599	41,247	1.45
35-44	390	20,396	1.91	183	20,585	0.89	573	40,981	1.40
45-54	580	22,149	2.62	218	22,864	0.95	798	45,013	1.77
55-64	434	17,739	2.45	181	19,028	0.95	615	36,766	1.67
65-74	227	10,161	2.23	134	11,681	1.15	361	21,841	1.65
75-84	186	5,486	3.39	139	7,578	1.83	326	13,063	2.50
85 +	86	1,807	4.76	53	3,726	1.42	139	5,533	2.51
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2,946</b>	<b>152,108</b>	<b>1.94</b>	<b>1,333</b>	<b>157,242</b>	<b>0.85</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>309,350</b>	<b>1.38</b>
Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
<5	2,000	10,318	15	**	9,883	4	2,000	20,201	9
5-9	2,000	10,407	21	2,000	9,975	23	5,000	20,382	22
10-15	5,000	12,767	39	4,000	12,174	32	9,000	24,941	36
16-20	4,000	11,411	37	4,000	10,858	39	8,000	22,269	38
21-24	3,000	8,729	31	2,000	8,383	21	4,000	17,111	26
25-34	5,000	20,739	26	4,000	20,508	20	10,000	41,247	23
35-44	5,000	20,396	25	3,000	20,585	12	8,000	40,981	19
45-54	4,000	22,149	20	5,000	22,864	23	10,000	45,013	22
55-64	4,000	17,739	21	3,000	19,028	17	7,000	36,766	19
65-74	3,000	10,161	25	2,000	11,681	20	5,000	21,841	22
75-84	1,000	5,486	22	1,000	7,578	16	2,000	13,063	18
85 +	**	1,807	11	**	3,726	12	1,000	5,533	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,000</b>	<b>152,108</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>157,242</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>70,000</b>	<b>309,350</b>	<b>23</b>

\* Rate per 100,000 population

\*\* Less than 500 injured, injury rate not shown

<sup>1</sup>Total killed includes 17 of unknown age.

Note: 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.

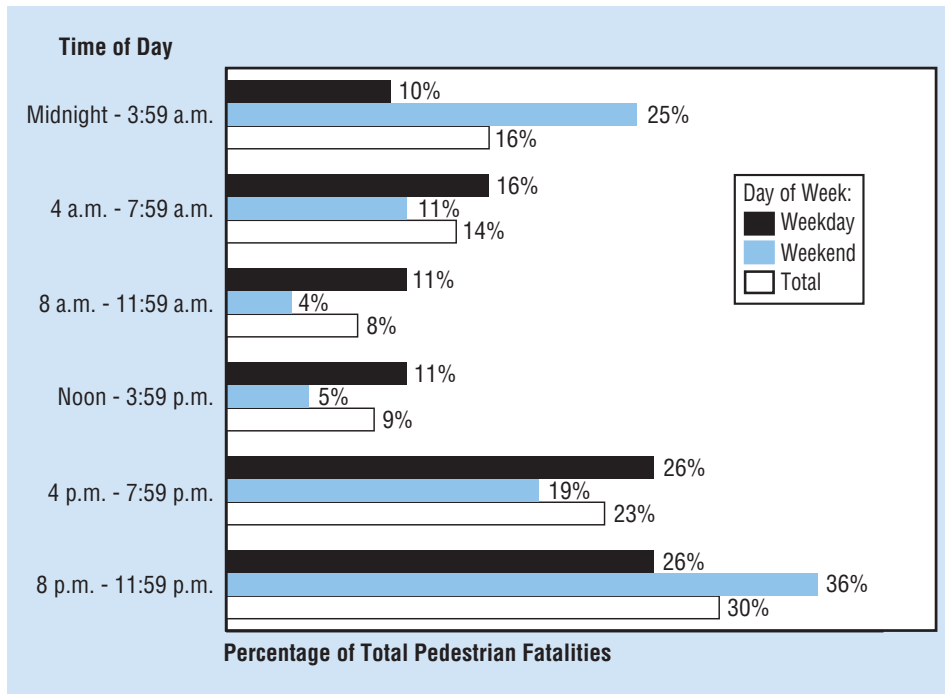
*Thirty percent of pedestrian fatalities occurred between 8 p.m. and 11:59 p.m.*

**Time of Day and Day of Week**

Thirty percent of the pedestrian fatalities occurred in crashes between 8 p.m. and 11:59 p.m.

Nearly one-half (48%) of all pedestrian fatalities occurred on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (16%, 17%, and 15%, respectively).

Figure 1  
**Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 2010**



## Alcohol Involvement

Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 47 percent of the traffic crashes that resulted in pedestrian fatalities. Of the pedestrians involved, 33 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 14 percent had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher, less than two-fifths the rate for the pedestrians. In 6 percent of the crashes, both the driver and the pedestrian had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher.

Table 5  
**Alcohol Involvement in Crashes That Resulted in Pedestrian Fatalities, 2010**

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC=.01-.07		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC=.08+		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	2,251	53	78	2	305	7	2,634	62
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01-.07 g/dL	138	3	10	0	37	1	184	4
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC=.08 g/dL or Greater	1,072	25	70	2	267	6	1,409	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,461</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4,227</b>	<b>100</b>

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

*Alcohol involvement—either for the driver or the pedestrian—was reported in 47 percent of all fatal pedestrian crashes.*

Table 6

**Alcohol Involvement for Pedestrians Killed in Fatal Crashes by Age, 2001 and 2010**

Age (Years)	2001					2010				
	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	294	67	4	29	33	282	73	4	23	27
21-24	275	47	8	45	53	277	46	7	48	54
25-34	564	44	5	51	56	599	44	7	49	56
35-44	912	42	6	52	58	573	49	5	46	51
45-54	800	51	6	43	49	798	49	5	46	51
55-64	465	64	5	31	36	615	63	4	33	37
65-74	402	83	4	14	17	361	82	3	14	18
75-84	479	91	3	6	9	326	93	2	5	7
85 +	177	92	3	5	8	139	95	2	3	5
<b>Total*</b>	<b>4,368</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>3,970</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>40</b>

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

### Important Safety Reminders

- 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 crosswalk. 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.

### 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](mailto:ncsaweb@dot.gov). General information on highway traffic safety can be accessed by Internet users at [www.nhtsa.gov/NCSA](http://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](http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/CATS/index.aspx).



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

Table 7

**Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Fatalities, Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities, and Fatality Rates by State, 2010**

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	862	4,785,298	61	7.1	1.27
Alaska	56	713,985	6	10.7	0.84
Arizona	762	6,413,737	146	19.2	2.28
Arkansas	563	2,921,606	37	6.6	1.27
California	2,715	37,349,363	599	22.1	1.60
Colorado	448	5,049,071	36	8.0	0.71
Connecticut	319	3,577,073	46	14.4	1.29
Delaware	101	899,769	22	21.8	2.45
Dist of Columbia	24	604,453	13	54.2	2.15
Florida	2,445	18,843,326	487	19.9	2.58
Georgia	1,244	9,712,587	168	13.5	1.73
Hawaii	113	1,363,621	26	23.0	1.91
Idaho	209	1,571,450	10	4.8	0.64
Illinois	927	12,843,166	115	12.4	0.90
Indiana	754	6,490,621	62	8.2	0.96
Iowa	390	3,049,883	18	4.6	0.59
Kansas	431	2,859,169	15	3.5	0.52
Kentucky	760	4,346,266	61	8.0	1.40
Louisiana	710	4,544,228	74	10.4	1.63
Maine	161	1,327,567	12	7.5	0.90
Maryland	493	5,785,982	101	20.5	1.75
Massachusetts	314	6,557,254	58	18.5	0.88
Michigan	942	9,877,574	128	13.6	1.30
Minnesota	411	5,310,584	35	8.5	0.66
Mississippi	641	2,970,036	50	7.8	1.68
Missouri	819	5,996,231	55	6.7	0.92
Montana	189	990,898	8	4.2	0.81
Nebraska	190	1,830,429	8	4.2	0.44
Nevada	257	2,704,642	36	14.0	1.33
New Hampshire	128	1,316,759	9	7.0	0.68
New Jersey	556	8,801,624	139	25.0	1.58
New Mexico	346	2,065,932	33	9.5	1.60
New York	1,200	19,392,283	303	25.3	1.56
North Carolina	1,319	9,561,558	169	12.8	1.77
North Dakota	105	674,499	7	6.7	1.04
Ohio	1,080	11,536,182	93	8.6	0.81
Oklahoma	668	3,761,702	62	9.3	1.65
Oregon	317	3,838,957	56	17.7	1.46
Pennsylvania	1,324	12,709,630	145	11.0	1.14
Rhode Island	66	1,052,886	8	12.1	0.76
South Carolina	810	4,636,312	90	11.1	1.94
South Dakota	140	816,463	9	6.4	1.10
Tennessee	1,031	6,356,897	87	8.4	1.37
Texas	2,998	25,257,114	345	11.5	1.37
Utah	236	2,776,469	26	11.0	0.94
Vermont	71	625,960	4	5.6	0.64
Virginia	740	8,024,617	73	9.9	0.91
Washington	458	6,744,496	61	13.3	0.90
West Virginia	315	1,853,973	13	4.1	0.70
Wisconsin	572	5,691,047	52	9.1	0.91
Wyoming	155	564,460	3	1.9	0.53
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>32,885</b>	<b>309,349,689</b>	<b>4,280</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>1.38</b>
Puerto Rico	340	3,722,133	101	29.7	2.71

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

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