

Traffic Safety Facts 1996

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



Pedestrians



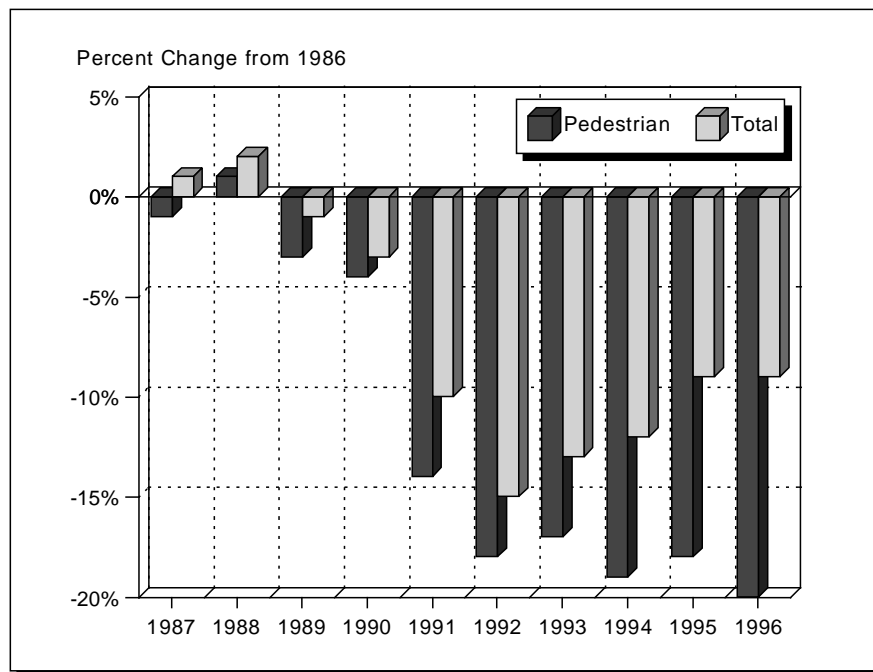
In 1996, 5,412 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes in the United States — a decrease of 20 percent from the 6,779 pedestrians killed in 1986.

On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 97 minutes.

There were 82,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 1996.

On average, a pedestrian is injured in a traffic crash every 6 minutes.

Figure 1. Trends in Pedestrian and Total Traffic Fatalities, 1986-1996



“In 1996, 5,412 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — 20 percent below the number reported in 1986.”

Most pedestrian fatalities in 1996 occurred in urban areas (71 percent), at nonintersection locations (77 percent), in normal weather conditions (88 percent), and at night (65 percent).

More than two-thirds (69 percent) of the 1996 pedestrian fatalities were males. The male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.90 — more than double the rate for females (1.22 per 100,000 population). The male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 35, compared with 27 for females (see Table 4).



In 1996, nearly one-third (31 percent) of all children between the ages of 5 and 9 years who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians. More than one-fifth (22 percent) of all traffic fatalities under age 16 were pedestrians, and 7 percent of all traffic injuries under age 16 were pedestrians.

Older pedestrians (ages 70+) accounted for 18 percent of all pedestrian fatalities and 2 percent of all pedestrian injuries. The death rate for this group, both males and females, was 3.92 per 100,000 population — higher than for any other age group.

Table 1. Pedestrian Fatalities and Injuries by Age Group, 1996

Age Group (years)	Total Traffic Fatalities	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percentage of Total Fatalities
0-4	886	206	23
5-9	812	254	31
10-15	1,591	255	16
16-20	5,791	289	5
21-24	4,112	281	7
25-29	4,033	327	8
30-34	3,577	435	12
35-39	3,525	464	13
40-44	2,989	463	15
45-49	2,488	367	15
50-54	1,876	310	17
55-59	1,562	260	17
60-64	1,457	238	16
65-69	1,532	257	17
70+	5,546	940	17
Unknown	130	66	--
Total	41,907	5,412	13
Age Group (years)	Total Traffic Injuries	Pedestrian Injuries	Percentage of Total Injuries
0-4	87,000	5,000	6
5-9	122,000	10,000	8
10-15	204,000	15,000	7
16-20	600,000	9,000	1
21-24	353,000	5,000	1
25-29	385,000	6,000	2
30-34	354,000	5,000	1
35-39	311,000	4,000	1
40-44	271,000	5,000	2
45-49	213,000	5,000	2
50-54	152,000	3,000	2
55-59	112,000	2,000	2
60-64	88,000	1,000	1
65-69	80,000	2,000	2
70+	178,000	4,000	2
Total	3,511,000	82,000	2

“Nearly one-third of children between 5 and 9 years old killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians.”

Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 86 percent of all nonoccupant fatalities in 1996. The 761 pedalcyclist fatalities accounted for 12 percent, and the remaining 2 percent were skateboard riders, roller skaters, etc.

Table 2. Nonoccupant Traffic Fatalities, 1986-1996

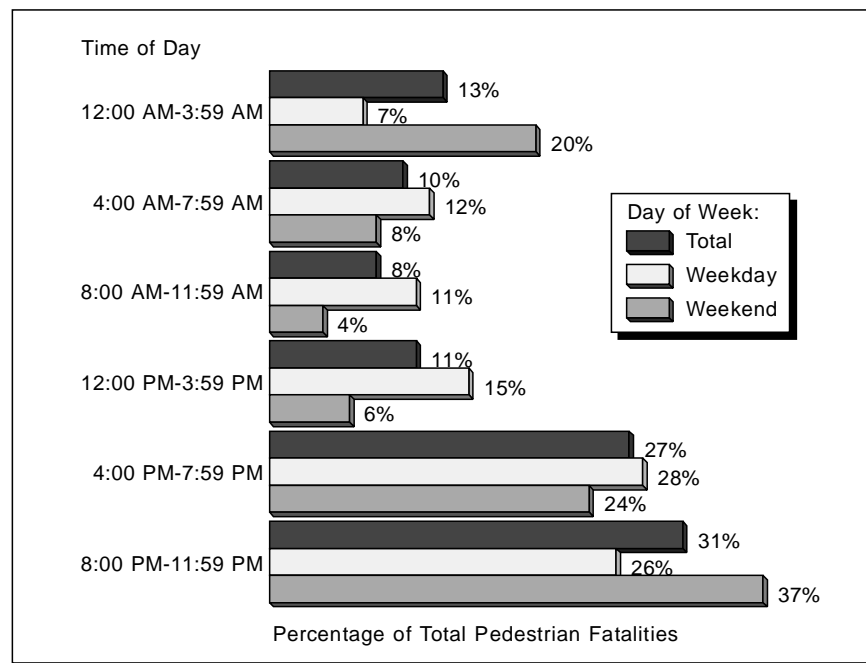
Year	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other	Total
1986	6,779	941	133	7,853
1987	6,745	948	132	7,825
1988	6,870	911	136	7,917
1989	6,556	832	107	7,495
1990	6,482	859	124	7,465
1991	5,801	843	124	6,768
1992	5,549	723	98	6,370
1993	5,649	816	111	6,576
1994	5,489	802	107	6,398
1995	5,584	833	109	6,526
1996	5,412	761	153	6,326

“Nearly one-half of all young pedestrian fatalities (under 16) occurred between 4 and 8 PM.”

Almost half (43 percent) of the 715 pedestrian fatalities under 16 years of age were killed in crashes that occurred between 4:00 PM and 8:00 PM.

Nearly one-half of all pedestrian fatalities occurred on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday: 17 percent, 17 percent, and 14 percent, respectively.

Figure 2. Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 1996



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 pedestrian fatalities, 32.3 percent were intoxicated, with blood alcohol concentrations (BAC) of 0.10 grams per deciliter (g/dl) or greater. The intoxication rate for the drivers involved was 12.0 percent, less than half that for the pedestrians. In 5.3 percent of the crashes, both the driver and the pedestrian were intoxicated.

In 1996, the highest rate of intoxication for pedestrians killed in traffic crashes was reported for pedestrians 25 to 34 years old. Intoxication rates by age group were as follows: 16 to 20 years, 34.5 percent; 21 to 24 years, 45.4 percent; 25 to 34 years, 55.0 percent; 35 to 44 years, 50.7 percent; 45 to 54 years, 39.7 percent; 55 to 64 years, 30.4 percent; 65 years and older, 11.1 percent.

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

For all pedestrian fatalities 16 years of age or older, the reported intoxication rate in 1996 was 36.0 percent, 2 percent lower than the 36.9 percent intoxication rate reported for the same group in 1986. By age groups of pedestrian fatalities, changes in intoxication rates over this period were as follows: an 11 percent decrease for those 45 to 54 years old, an 11 percent decrease for those 21 to 24 years old, a 10 percent decrease for those 55 to 64 years old, a 3 percent decrease for those 16 to 20 years old, a 3 percent increase for those 35 to 44 years old, a 3 percent increase for those 65 and over, and a 4 percent increase for those 25 to 34 years old.

Table 3. Alcohol Involvement in Fatal Pedestrian Crashes, 1996

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement	Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.01–0.09 g/dl	Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.10 g/dl or Greater	Total
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	52.7%	3.4%	5.7%	3,299 61.8%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.01–0.09 g/dl	4.4%	0.6%	1.0%	323 6.0%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.10 g/dl or Greater	24.0%	3.0%	5.3%	1,722 32.3%
Total	4,331 81.1%	370 7.0%	642 12.0%	5,343 100.0%

Table 4. Pedestrian Fatalities and Injuries and Fatality and Injury Rates by Age and Sex, 1996

Age (years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
0-4	134	9,868	1.36	72	9,418	0.76	206	19,286	1.07
5-9	171	9,954	1.72	83	9,487	0.87	254	19,441	1.31
10-15	161	11,675	1.38	94	11,095	0.85	255	22,770	1.12
16-20	217	9,511	2.28	72	8,933	0.81	289	18,444	1.57
21-24	211	7,159	2.95	70	6,830	1.02	281	13,989	2.01
25-34	565	20,191	2.80	197	20,177	0.98	762	40,368	1.89
35-44	671	21,569	3.11	256	21,825	1.17	927	43,393	2.14
45-54	501	15,837	3.16	176	16,533	1.06	677	32,370	2.09
55-64	362	10,166	3.56	136	11,195	1.21	498	21,361	2.33
65-69	177	4,507	3.93	80	5,384	1.49	257	9,892	2.60
70-79	289	6,638	4.35	219	9,012	2.43	508	15,650	3.25
80+	251	2,736	9.18	181	5,583	3.24	432	8,319	5.19
Unknown	48	--	--	16	--	--	66	--	--
Total	3,758	129,810	2.89	1,652	135,474	1.22	5,412	265,284	2.04

Age (years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injuries	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injuries	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injuries	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
0-4	3,000	9,868	32	2,000	9,418	20	5,000	19,286	26
5-9	7,000	9,954	66	3,000	9,487	36	10,000	19,441	51
10-15	8,000	11,675	68	7,000	11,095	63	15,000	22,770	65
16-20	5,000	9,511	48	4,000	8,933	45	9,000	18,444	47
21-24	2,000	7,159	26	3,000	6,830	44	5,000	13,989	35
25-34	7,000	20,191	32	5,000	20,177	23	11,000	40,368	27
35-44	6,000	21,569	26	4,000	21,825	18	10,000	43,393	22
45-54	4,000	15,837	27	4,000	16,533	21	8,000	32,370	24
55-64	2,000	10,166	16	2,000	11,195	16	3,000	21,361	16
65-69	1,000	4,507	23	1,000	5,384	16	2,000	9,892	19
70-79	1,000	6,638	20	1,000	9,012	15	3,000	15,650	18
80+	1,000	2,736	21	1,000	5,583	18	2,000	8,319	19
Total	45,000	129,810	35	36,000	135,474	27	82,000	265,284	31

* Rate per 100,000 population.

** Includes two fatalities of unknown sex.

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 fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, NRD-31, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to Ms. Louann Hall 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.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/nscsa>. To report a safety-related problem or to inquire about motor vehicle safety information, contact the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393.

Table 5. Pedestrian Fatalities and Fatality Rates by State, 1996

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	1,143	4,273	86	7.5	2.0
Alaska	80	607	8	10.0	1.3
Arizona	993	4,428	159	16.0	3.6
Arkansas	615	2,509	27	4.4	1.1
California	3,989	31,878	786	19.7	2.5
Colorado	617	3,822	73	11.8	1.9
Connecticut	310	3,274	50	16.1	1.5
Delaware	116	724	20	17.2	2.8
District of Columbia	62	543	21	33.9	3.9
Florida	2,753	14,399	536	19.5	3.7
Georgia	1,574	7,353	161	10.2	2.2
Hawaii	148	1,183	29	19.6	2.5
Idaho	258	1,189	13	5.0	1.1
Illinois	1,477	11,846	201	13.6	1.7
Indiana	984	5,840	76	7.7	1.3
Iowa	465	2,851	22	4.7	0.8
Kansas	491	2,572	22	4.5	0.9
Kentucky	841	3,883	54	6.4	1.4
Louisiana	781	4,350	113	14.5	2.6
Maine	169	1,243	16	9.5	1.3
Maryland	608	5,071	126	20.7	2.5
Massachusetts	417	6,092	73	17.5	1.2
Michigan	1,505	9,594	192	12.8	2.0
Minnesota	576	4,657	47	8.2	1.0
Mississippi	811	2,716	48	5.9	1.8
Missouri	1,149	5,358	97	8.4	1.8
Montana	200	879	13	6.5	1.5
Nebraska	293	1,652	18	6.1	1.1
Nevada	348	1,603	68	19.5	4.2
New Hampshire	134	1,162	18	13.4	1.5
New Jersey	818	7,987	178	21.8	2.2
New Mexico	481	1,713	62	12.9	3.6
New York	1,564	18,184	371	23.7	2.0
North Carolina	1,493	7,322	169	11.3	2.3
North Dakota	85	643	4	4.7	0.6
Ohio	1,395	11,172	121	8.7	1.1
Oklahoma	772	3,300	61	7.9	1.8
Oregon	524	3,203	60	11.5	1.9
Pennsylvania	1,469	12,056	215	14.6	1.8
Rhode Island	69	990	16	23.2	1.6
South Carolina	930	3,698	101	10.9	2.7
South Dakota	175	732	10	5.7	1.4
Tennessee	1,239	5,319	94	7.6	1.8
Texas	3,741	19,128	445	11.9	2.3
Utah	321	2,000	33	10.3	1.7
Vermont	88	588	8	9.1	1.4
Virginia	875	6,675	114	13.0	1.7
Washington	712	5,532	92	12.9	1.7
West Virginia	345	1,825	23	6.7	1.3
Wisconsin	761	5,159	53	7.0	1.0
Wyoming	143	481	9	6.3	1.9
U.S. Total	41,907	265,284	5,412	12.9	2.0
Puerto Rico	601	3,783	201	33.4	5.3

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

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