

Pedestrians

“In 2007, 4,654 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — a 13-percent decrease from the number reported in 1997.”

A pedestrian is defined as any person not in or upon a motor vehicle or other vehicle.

In 2007, 4,654 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes in the United States — a decrease of 13 percent from the 5,321 pedestrians killed in 1997.

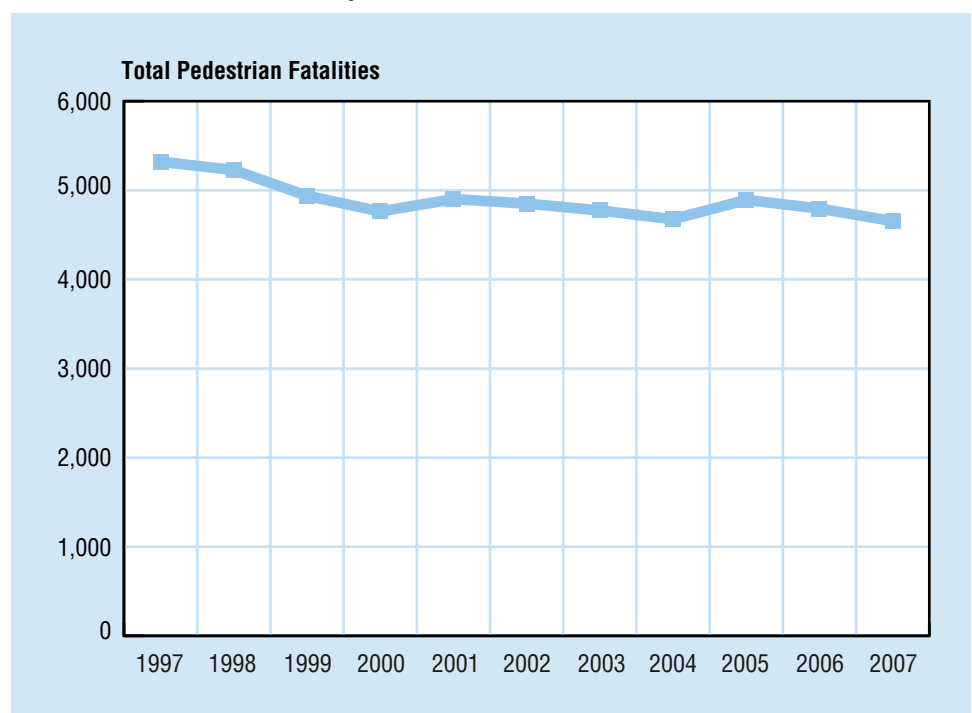
On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 113 minutes and injured in a traffic crash every 8 minutes.

There were 70,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 2007.

Most pedestrian fatalities in 2007 occurred in urban areas (73%), at non-intersection locations (77%), in normal weather conditions (90%), and at night (67%).

More than two-thirds (70%) of the pedestrians killed in 2007 were males. In 2007, the male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.19 — more than double the rate for females (0.91 per 100,000 population). In 2007, the male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 26, compared with 20 for females (see Table 5).

Figure 1
Total Pedestrian Fatalities by Year 1997-2007



Age

Pedestrians (age 70+) accounted for 16 percent (721) of all pedestrian fatalities and an estimated 6 percent (4,000) of all pedestrians injured in 2007.

“In 2007, the fatality rate for pedestrians (age 70+) was 2.66 per 100,000 population – higher than for any other age group.”

In 2007, one-fifth (20%) 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 8 percent of the pedestrian fatalities in 2007 and 23 percent of all pedestrians injured in traffic crashes.

Table 1

Pedestrians Killed and Injured by Age Group, 2007

Age Group (Years)	Total Killed	Pedestrians Killed	Percentage of Total Killed
<5	508	106	21
5-9	470	93	20
10-15	1,044	155	15
16-20	5,338	287	5
21-24	4,530	296	7
25-29	3,932	341	9
30-34	2,864	265	9
35-39	3,022	354	12
40-44	3,060	400	13
45-49	3,261	469	14
50-54	2,869	447	16
55-59	2,384	306	13
60-64	1,717	188	11
65-69	1,334	182	14
70-74	1,268	200	16
75-79	1,247	192	15
80+	2,083	329	16
Unknown	128	44	34
Total	41,059	4,654	11
Age Group (Years)	Total Injured	Pedestrians Injured	Percentage of Total Injured
<5	56,000	2,000	4
5-9	65,000	5,000	7
10-15	108,000	9,000	8
16-20	391,000	8,000	2
21-24	267,000	6,000	2
25-29	256,000	6,000	2
30-34	214,000	4,000	2
35-39	194,000	3,000	2
40-44	182,000	5,000	3
45-49	192,000	6,000	3
50-54	155,000	4,000	3
55-59	126,000	3,000	2
60-64	89,000	2,000	2
65-69	66,000	2,000	2
70-74	47,000	1,000	2
75-79	41,000	1,000	3
80+	42,000	2,000	5
Total	2,491,000	70,000	3

“In 2007, nearly one-fifth of the children between the ages of 5 and 9 killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians.”

The above numbers are not actual counts, but estimates of the actual counts. The estimates are calculated from data obtained from a nationally representative sample of crashes collected through NHTSA's General Estimates System (GES). Estimates should be rounded to the nearest 1,000.

Estimates less than 500 indicate that the sample size was too small to produce a meaningful estimate and should be rounded to 0.

Table 2
Nonoccupant Traffic Fatalities, 1997-2007

Year	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other	Total
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	4,851	665	114	5,630
2003	4,774	629	140	5,543
2004	4,675	727	130	5,532
2005	4,892	786	186	5,864
2006	4,795	772	185	5,752
2007	4,654	698	147	5,499

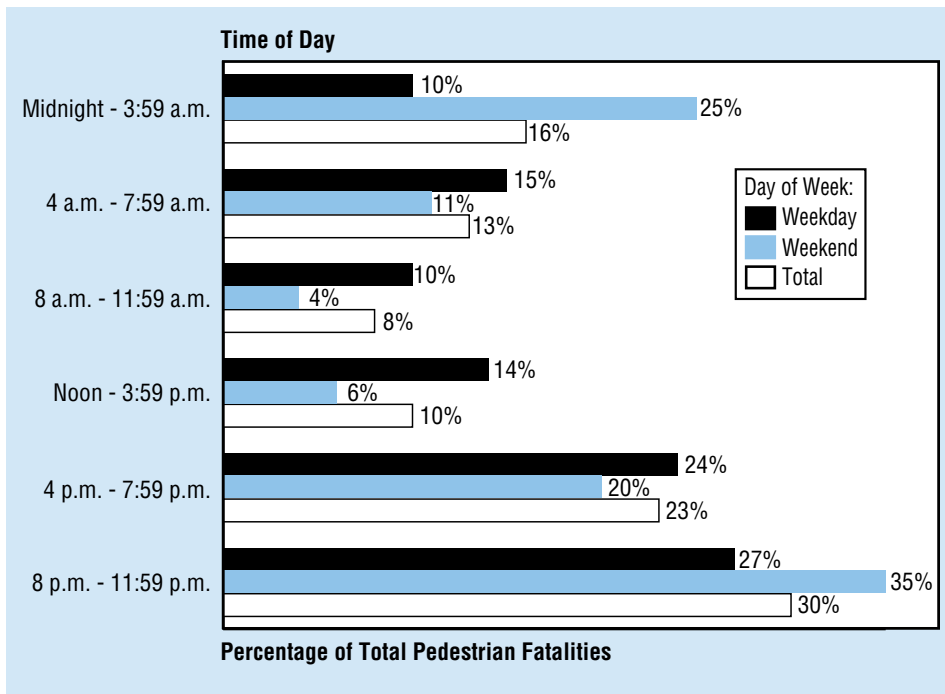
Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 85 percent of all nonoccupant fatalities in 2007. The 698 pedalcyclist fatalities accounted for 13 percent, and the remaining 3 percent were skateboard riders, roller skaters, etc.

Time of Day and Day of Week

Thirty-six percent of the 354 young (under age 16) pedestrian fatalities occurred in crashes between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

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

Figure 2
Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 2007



“Thirty-six percent of all young (under age 16) pedestrian fatalities occurred between 3 and 7 p.m.”

Important Safety Reminders

- Drivers are required to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians crossing streets in marked or unmarked crosswalks in most situations. Pedestrian 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 movement.
- It is much safer to walk on a sidewalk, but if you must walk in the street, walk facing traffic.

“Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or the pedestrian — was reported in 49 percent of all pedestrian fatalities.”

Alcohol Involvement

Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 49 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 fatal crashes, only 14 percent had a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher, less than one-half 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 3

Alcohol Involvement in Fatal Pedestrian Crashes, 2007

	No Driver Alcohol Involvement		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01 – .07 g/dL		Driver Alcohol Involvement, BAC ≥ .08 g/dL		Total	
No Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement	51%		3%		7%		2,775	61%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC .01 – .07 g/dL	3%		0%		1%		198	4%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC ≥ .08 g/dL or Greater	27%		2%		6%		1,605	35%
Total	3,694	81%	240	5%	644	14%	4,578	100%

Note: The alcohol levels in this table are determined using the alcohol levels of the involved pedestrian fatalities and all the involved drivers (fatality and other)

Table 4

Alcohol Involvement for Pedestrians Killed in Fatal Crashes by Age, 1997 and 2007

Age (Years)	1997					2007				
	Number of Fatalities	% with BAC .00 g/dL	% with BAC .01 – .07 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .08 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .01 g/dL (Any Alcohol)	Number of Fatalities	% with BAC .00 g/dL	% with BAC .01 – .07 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .08 g/dL	% with BAC ≥ .01 g/dL (Any Alcohol)
16-20	301	71	4	25	29	287	69	5	26	31
21-24	253	48	7	45	52	296	43	5	51	57
25-34	762	41	4	55	59	606	45	5	51	55
35-44	932	43	4	53	57	754	47	6	47	53
45-54	700	55	5	40	45	916	47	4	49	53
55-64	499	68	4	28	32	494	66	4	30	34
65-74	507	82	2	15	18	382	80	4	16	20
75-84	465	91	3	6	9	387	89	2	9	11
85 +	202	92	3	5	8	134	90	5	5	10
Total*	4,621	61	4	35	39	4,256	58	5	37	42

*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, 2007

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Killed**	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
<5	62	10,603	0.58	44	10,121	0.43	106	20,724	0.51
5-9	59	10,149	0.58	34	9,701	0.35	93	19,850	0.47
10-15	99	12,582	0.79	56	11,997	0.47	155	24,579	0.63
16-20	204	10,966	1.86	83	10,411	0.80	287	21,378	1.34
21-24	229	8,711	2.63	67	8,152	0.82	296	16,863	1.76
25-34	449	20,683	2.17	157	19,908	0.79	606	40,591	1.49
35-44	552	21,619	2.55	202	21,543	0.94	754	43,161	1.75
45-54	667	21,595	3.09	249	22,280	1.12	916	43,875	2.09
55-64	344	15,775	2.18	150	16,937	0.89	494	32,712	1.51
65-74	253	8,887	2.85	129	10,465	1.23	382	19,352	1.97
75-84	217	5,313	4.08	170	7,711	2.20	387	13,024	2.97
85 +	84	1,777	4.73	50	3,735	1.34	134	5,512	2.43
Unknown	40	0	0	4	0	0	44	0	0
Total	3,259	148,659	2.19	1,395	152,962	0.91	4,654	301,621	1.54

Age (Years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injured	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
<5	1,000	10,603	12	1,000	10,121	9	2,000	20,724	10
5-9	3,000	10,149	32	2,000	9,701	17	5,000	19,850	25
10-15	4,000	12,582	33	5,000	11,997	40	9,000	24,579	37
16-20	3,000	10,966	27	5,000	10,411	50	8,000	21,378	38
21-24	3,000	8,711	39	3,000	8,152	34	6,000	16,863	37
25-34	7,000	20,683	33	3,000	19,908	17	10,000	40,591	25
35-44	5,000	21,619	21	4,000	21,543	17	8,000	43,161	19
45-54	7,000	21,595	30	3,000	22,280	15	10,000	43,875	23
55-64	3,000	15,775	18	2,000	16,937	14	5,000	32,712	16
65-74	2,000	8,887	17	1,000	10,465	12	3,000	19,352	14
75-84	2,000	5,313	34	1,000	7,711	15	3,000	13,024	23
85 +	0	1,777	13	0	3,735	7	0	5,512	9
Total	39,000	148,659	26	31,000	152,962	20	70,000	301,621	23

* Rate per 100,000 population

** Includes 44 fatalities of unknown sex

Note: Injuries fewer than 500 are rounded to zero.

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

Source: Population - Bureau of the Census projections**For more information:**

Information on traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, NVS-424, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. NCSA can be contacted at 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 www.nhtsa.gov/portal/site/nhtsa/nca. 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 *Overview, Alcohol, African American, Bicyclists and Other Cyclists (formerly titled Pedalcyclists), Children, Hispanic, Large Trucks, Motorcycles, Occupant Protection, Older Population, 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.

Table 6
Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rates by State, 2007

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	1,110	4,628	69	6.2	1.49
Alaska	84	683	14	16.7	2.05
Arizona	1,066	6,339	154	14.4	2.43
Arkansas	650	2,835	45	6.9	1.59
California	3,974	36,553	640	16.1	1.75
Colorado	554	4,862	58	10.5	1.19
Connecticut	277	3,502	31	11.2	0.89
Delaware	117	865	16	13.7	1.85
Dist of Columbia	44	588	19	43.2	3.23
Florida	3,214	18,251	531	16.5	2.91
Georgia	1,641	9,545	153	9.3	1.60
Hawaii	138	1,283	27	19.6	2.10
Idaho	252	1,499	17	6.7	1.13
Illinois	1,249	12,853	171	13.7	1.33
Indiana	898	6,345	59	6.6	0.93
Iowa	445	2,988	23	5.2	0.77
Kansas	416	2,776	20	4.8	0.72
Kentucky	864	4,241	44	5.1	1.04
Louisiana	985	4,293	107	10.9	2.49
Maine	183	1,317	10	5.5	0.76
Maryland	614	5,618	116	18.9	2.06
Massachusetts	417	6,450	61	14.6	0.95
Michigan	1,088	10,072	131	12.0	1.30
Minnesota	504	5,198	33	6.5	0.63
Mississippi	884	2,919	58	6.6	1.99
Missouri	992	5,878	79	8.0	1.34
Montana	277	958	15	5.4	1.57
Nebraska	256	1,775	8	3.1	0.45
Nevada	373	2,565	52	13.9	2.03
New Hampshire	129	1,316	13	10.1	0.99
New Jersey	724	8,686	149	20.6	1.72
New Mexico	413	1,970	52	12.6	2.64
New York	1,333	19,298	278	20.9	1.44
North Carolina	1,675	9,061	171	10.2	1.89
North Dakota	111	640	5	4.5	0.78
Ohio	1,257	11,467	107	8.5	0.93
Oklahoma	754	3,617	66	8.8	1.82
Oregon	455	3,747	48	10.5	1.28
Pennsylvania	1,491	12,433	151	10.1	1.21
Rhode Island	69	1,058	13	18.8	1.23
South Carolina	1,066	4,408	106	9.9	2.40
South Dakota	146	796	7	4.8	0.88
Tennessee	1,210	6,157	69	5.7	1.12
Texas	3,363	23,904	387	11.5	1.62
Utah	299	2,645	32	10.7	1.21
Vermont	66	621	4	6.1	0.64
Virginia	1,027	7,712	88	8.6	1.14
Washington	568	6,468	60	10.6	0.93
West Virginia	431	1,812	27	6.3	1.49
Wisconsin	756	5,602	58	7.7	1.04
Wyoming	150	523	2	1.3	0.38
U.S. Total	41,059	301,621	4,654	11.3	1.54
Puerto Rico	452	3,941	144	31.9	3.65

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

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