



# Traffic Safety Facts 1998

## Pedestrians



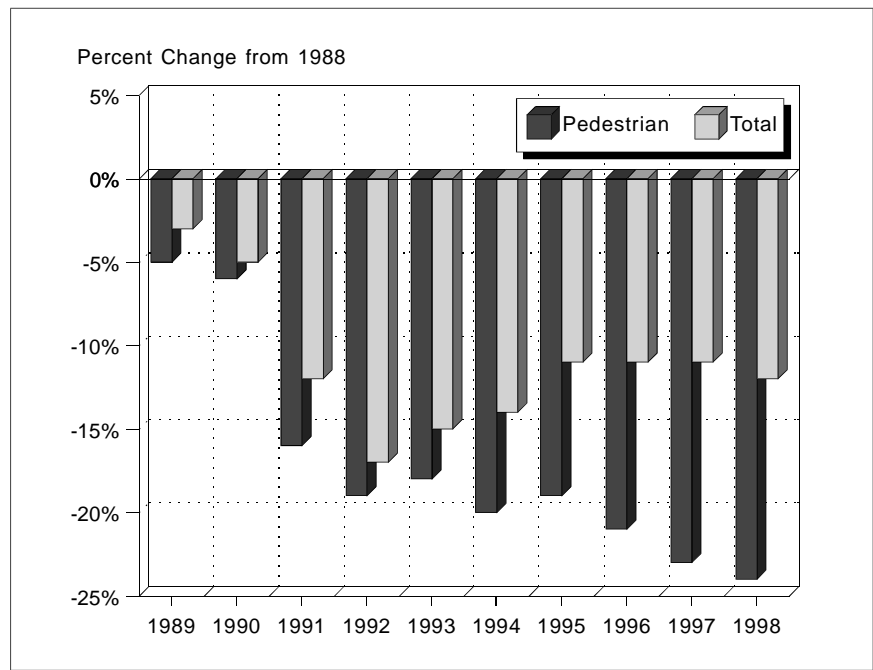
In 1998, 5,220 pedestrians were killed in traffic crashes in the United States — a decrease of 24 percent from the 6,870 pedestrians killed in 1988.

On average, a pedestrian is killed in a traffic crash every 101 minutes.

There were 69,000 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes in 1998.

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

**Figure 1. Trends in Pedestrian and Total Traffic Fatalities, 1988-1998**



***“In 1998, 5,220 pedestrians died in traffic crashes — 24 percent below the number reported in 1988.”***

Most pedestrian fatalities in 1998 occurred in urban areas (69 percent), at nonintersection locations (78 percent), in normal weather conditions (88 percent), and at night (64 percent).

More than two-thirds (68 percent) of the 1998 pedestrian fatalities were males. The male pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 population was 2.69 — more than double the rate for females (1.20 per 100,000 population). The male pedestrian injury rate per 100,000 population was 31, compared with 21 for females (see Table 4).

In 1998, one-fourth (25 percent) of all children between the ages of 5 and 9 years who were killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians. Nearly one-fifth (19 percent) of all traffic fatalities under age 16 were pedestrians, and 6 percent of all traffic injuries under age 16 were pedestrians.

Older pedestrians (ages 70+) accounted for 18 percent of all pedestrian fatalities and 5 percent of all pedestrian injuries. The death rate for this group, both males and females, was 3.86 per 100,000 population — higher than for any other age group.

**Table 1. Pedestrian Fatalities and Injuries by Age Group, 1998**

Age Group (years)	Total Traffic Fatalities	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percentage of Total Fatalities
0-4	757	170	22
5-9	796	202	25
10-15	1,437	208	14
16-20	5,727	301	5
21-24	3,769	253	7
25-29	3,626	297	8
30-34	3,302	383	12
35-39	3,542	483	14
40-44	3,154	451	14
45-49	2,646	425	16
50-54	2,139	303	14
55-59	1,740	278	16
60-64	1,462	243	17
65-69	1,491	210	14
70+	5,778	958	17
Unknown	105	55	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,471</b>	<b>5,220</b>	<b>13</b>
Age Group (years)	Total Traffic Injuries	Pedestrian Injuries	Percentage of Total Injuries
0-4	80,000	3,000	4
5-9	103,000	8,000	8
10-15	185,000	10,000	6
16-20	554,000	7,000	1
21-24	305,000	4,000	1
25-29	339,000	4,000	1
30-34	295,000	5,000	2
35-39	282,000	7,000	2
40-44	251,000	4,000	2
45-49	209,000	4,000	2
50-54	158,000	3,000	2
55-59	114,000	1,000	1
60-64	90,000	2,000	3
65-69	67,000	1,000	2
70+	161,000	4,000	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,192,000</b>	<b>69,000</b>	<b>2</b>

***“One-fourth of the children between 5 and 9 years old killed in traffic crashes in 1998 were pedestrians.”***

Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 85 percent of all nonoccupant fatalities in 1998. The 761 pedalcyclist fatalities accounted for 12 percent, and the remaining 2 percent were skateboard riders, roller skaters, etc.

**Table 2. Nonoccupant Traffic Fatalities, 1988-1998**

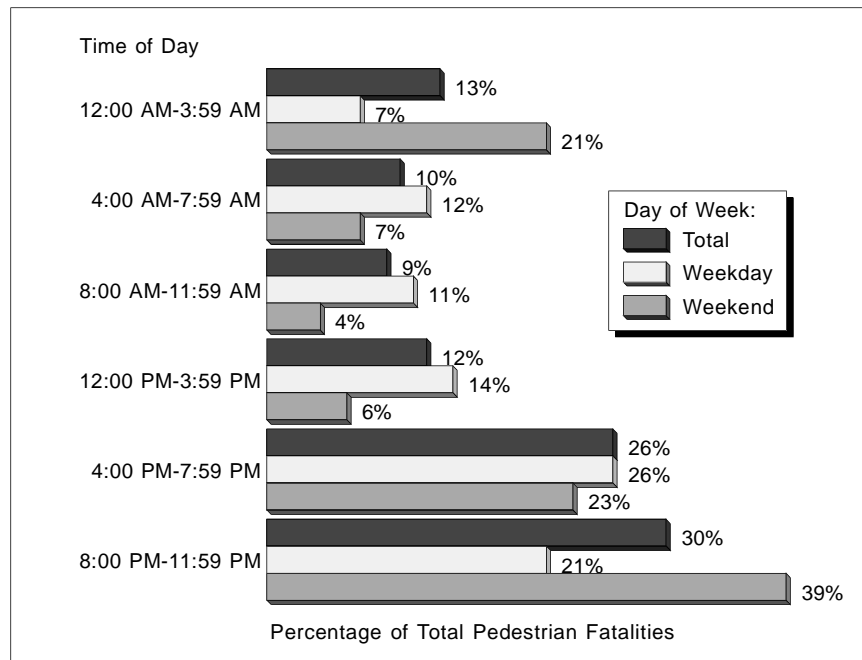
Year	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other	Total
1988	6,870	911	136	7,917
1989	6,556	832	107	7,495
1990	6,482	859	124	7,465
1991	5,801	843	124	6,768
1992	5,549	723	98	6,370
1993	5,649	816	111	6,576
1994	5,489	802	107	6,398
1995	5,584	833	109	6,526
1996	5,449	765	154	6,368
1997	5,321	814	153	6,288
1998	5,220	761	131	6,112

**“Forty-four percent of all young pedestrian fatalities (under 16) occurred between 4 and 8 PM.”**

Forty-four percent of the 580 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: 16 percent, 18 percent, and 13 percent, respectively.

**Figure 2. Pedestrian Fatalities by Time of Day and Day of Week, 1998**



Alcohol involvement — either for the driver or for the pedestrian — was reported in 46 percent of the traffic crashes that resulted in pedestrian fatalities. Of the pedestrians involved, 31 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 only 12 percent, less than one-half that for the pedestrians. In 5 percent of the crashes, both the driver and the pedestrian were intoxicated.

In 1998, the highest rate of intoxication for pedestrians killed in traffic crashes was reported for pedestrians 35 to 44 years old. Intoxication rates by age group were as follows: 16 to 20 years, 34 percent; 21 to 24 years, 48 percent; 25 to 34 years, 46 percent; 35 to 44 years, 48 percent; 45 to 54 years, 40 percent; 55 to 64 years, 28 percent; 65 years and older, 10 percent.

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

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For all pedestrian fatalities 16 years of age or older, the reported intoxication rate in 1998 was 34 percent, 3 percent lower than the 35 percent intoxication rate reported for the same group in 1988. By age groups of pedestrian fatalities, changes in intoxication rates over this period were as follows: a 15 percent decrease for those 55 to 64 years old, a 13 percent decrease for those 25 to 34 years old, an 11 percent decrease for those 16 to 20 years old, a 9 percent decrease for those 45 to 54 years old, a 6 percent decrease for those 21 to 24 years old, a 2 percent increase for those 35 to 44 years old, and an 11 percent increase for those 65 and older.

**Table 3. Alcohol Involvement in Fatal Pedestrian Crashes, 1998**

	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	54%	3%	5%	3,248 63%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.01–0.09 g/dl	5%	1%	1%	325 6%
Pedestrian Alcohol Involvement, BAC 0.10 g/dl or Greater	23%	3%	5%	1,575 31%
<b>Total</b>	4,208 82%	345 7%	596 12%	5,149 100%

Table 4. Pedestrian Fatalities and Injuries and Fatality and Injury Rates by Age and Sex, 1998

Age (years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*	Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Fatality Rate*
0-4	102	9,696	1.05	68	9,270	0.73	170	18,966	0.90
5-9	128	10,195	1.26	74	9,726	0.76	202	19,921	1.01
10-15	121	11,854	1.02	87	11,281	0.77	208	23,135	0.90
16-20	214	9,983	2.14	87	9,445	0.92	301	19,429	1.55
21-24	198	7,059	2.80	55	6,833	0.80	253	13,892	1.82
25-34	510	19,254	2.65	170	19,521	0.87	680	38,774	1.75
35-44	652	22,101	2.95	282	22,419	1.26	934	44,520	2.10
45-54	539	16,900	3.19	189	17,685	1.07	728	34,585	2.10
55-64	373	10,806	3.45	148	11,870	1.25	521	22,676	2.30
65-69	129	4,393	2.94	81	5,201	1.56	210	9,593	2.19
70-79	305	6,854	4.45	234	9,166	2.55	539	16,020	3.36
80+	238	2,952	8.06	181	5,836	3.10	419	8,788	4.77
Unknown	44	--	--	9	--	--	**55	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,553</b>	<b>132,046</b>	<b>2.69</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>138,252</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>5,220</b>	<b>270,299</b>	<b>1.93</b>

Age (years)	Male			Female			Total		
	Injuries	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injuries	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*	Injuries	Population (thousands)	Injury Rate*
0-4	2,000	9,696	19	1,000	9,270	16	3,000	18,966	17
5-9	6,000	10,195	55	3,000	9,726	29	8,000	19,921	42
10-15	6,000	11,854	51	4,000	11,281	37	10,000	23,135	44
16-20	4,000	9,983	44	3,000	9,445	32	7,000	19,429	38
21-24	2,000	7,059	24	3,000	6,833	38	4,000	13,892	31
25-34	6,000	19,254	29	4,000	19,521	20	9,000	38,774	24
35-44	6,000	22,101	29	4,000	22,419	19	11,000	44,520	24
45-54	4,000	16,900	25	2,000	17,685	14	7,000	34,585	19
55-64	2,000	10,806	21	1,000	11,870	12	4,000	22,676	16
65-69	1,000	4,393	13	1,000	5,201	14	1,000	9,593	14
70-79	2,000	6,854	22	1,000	9,166	13	3,000	16,020	17
80+	***	2,952	14	1,000	5,836	9	1,000	8,788	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>132,046</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29,000</b>	<b>138,252</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>69,000</b>	<b>270,299</b>	<b>26</b>

\* Rate per 100,000 population.

\*\* Includes 2 fatalities of unknown sex.

\*\*\* Less than 500.

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. NCSA information can also be obtained by telephone or by fax-on-demand 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/ncsa>. 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, 1998

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Resident Population (thousands)	Pedestrian Fatalities	Percent of Total	Pedestrian Fatalities per 100,000 Population
Alabama	1,071	4,352	79	7.4	1.8
Alaska	71	614	8	11.3	1.3
Arizona	980	4,669	155	15.8	3.3
Arkansas	625	2,538	47	7.5	1.9
California	3,494	32,667	697	19.9	2.1
Colorado	628	3,971	73	11.6	1.8
Connecticut	329	3,274	45	13.7	1.4
Delaware	115	744	15	13.0	2.0
District of Columbia	54	523	15	27.8	2.9
Florida	2,824	14,916	531	18.8	3.6
Georgia	1,569	7,642	167	10.6	2.2
Hawaii	120	1,193	23	19.2	1.9
Idaho	265	1,229	7	2.6	0.6
Illinois	1,393	12,045	187	13.4	1.6
Indiana	978	5,899	71	7.3	1.2
Iowa	449	2,862	25	5.6	0.9
Kansas	493	2,629	35	7.1	1.3
Kentucky	858	3,936	61	7.1	1.5
Louisiana	922	4,369	112	12.1	2.6
Maine	192	1,244	13	6.8	1.0
Maryland	606	5,135	105	17.3	2.0
Massachusetts	406	6,147	84	20.7	1.4
Michigan	1,367	9,817	171	12.5	1.7
Minnesota	650	4,725	55	8.5	1.2
Mississippi	948	2,752	59	6.2	2.1
Missouri	1,169	5,439	102	8.7	1.9
Montana	237	880	13	5.5	1.5
Nebraska	315	1,663	21	6.7	1.3
Nevada	361	1,747	46	12.7	2.6
New Hampshire	128	1,185	11	8.6	0.9
New Jersey	743	8,115	154	20.7	1.9
New Mexico	424	1,737	58	13.7	3.3
New York	1,498	18,175	357	23.8	2.0
North Carolina	1,596	7,546	197	12.3	2.6
North Dakota	92	638	4	4.3	0.6
Ohio	1,422	11,209	134	9.4	1.2
Oklahoma	755	3,347	46	6.1	1.4
Oregon	538	3,282	66	12.3	2.0
Pennsylvania	1,481	12,001	166	11.2	1.4
Rhode Island	74	988	11	14.9	1.1
South Carolina	1,002	3,836	111	11.1	2.9
South Dakota	165	738	7	4.2	0.9
Tennessee	1,216	5,431	82	6.7	1.5
Texas	3,577	19,760	461	12.9	2.3
Utah	350	2,100	43	12.3	2.0
Vermont	104	591	11	10.6	1.9
Virginia	935	6,791	102	10.9	1.5
Washington	660	5,689	75	11.4	1.3
West Virginia	354	1,811	35	9.9	1.9
Wisconsin	714	5,224	63	8.8	1.2
Wyoming	154	481	4	2.6	0.8
<b>U.S. Total</b>	<b>41,471</b>	<b>270,299</b>	<b>5,220</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Puerto Rico	558	3,827	191	34.2	5.0

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

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