

Pedestrian- Who is at Risk?

A Pedestrian was killed every 71 minutes in traffic crashes in 2021.

71

Older adults and children

Pedestrians aged 65 and older accounted for 20% of all pedestrian deaths in 2020.

One in every five children under the age of 15 killed in traffic crashes were pedestrians in 2020.



Alcohol- impaired drivers and pedestrians

46% of crashes that resulted in a pedestrian death involved alcohol for the driver and/or the pedestrian.

32% fatal pedestrian crashes involved a pedestrian with a blood alcohol concentration of at least 0.08.

13% involved a driver with a blood alcohol concentration of at least 0.08.L.

Additional Risk Factors

Higher vehicle speeds increase both the likelihood of a pedestrian being struck by a car and the severity of injury.

Most pedestrian deaths occur in urban areas, at non-intersection locations, and at night.



Pedestrian Safety Tips



At some point in the day, everyone is a pedestrian, and unfortunately pedestrian fatalities remain high.

1. Be predictable. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.
2. Walk on sidewalks whenever they are available.
3. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
4. Keep alert at all times; don't be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes (and ears) off the road.
5. Whenever possible, cross streets at crosswalks or intersections, where drivers expect pedestrians. Look for cars in all directions, including those turning left or right. Follow pedestrian signals.
6. If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows enough time to cross safely; continue watching for traffic as you cross.
7. Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach to make sure you are seen.
8. Be visible at all times. Wear bright clothing during the day, and wear reflective materials or use a flashlight at night.
9. Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways, or backing up in parking lots.
10. Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and your judgment.