

Traffic Safety Facts

2015 Data

June 2017

DOT HS 812 412



Key Findings

- Traffic fatalities increased by 7 percent from 2014 to 2015 (32,744 to 35,092) for the United States.
- The fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled was 1.13 for the United States in 2015, but ranged from a high of 1.89 to a low of 0.52 among States.
- Thirty-five States showed an increase in traffic fatalities between 2014 and 2015. They accounted for an additional 2,612 fatalities from 2014 to 2015.
- Since 1975, the first year that the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) began collecting data, the rate of traffic fatalities per 100 million miles traveled in the United States has decreased by 66 percent (3.35 to 1.13).
- From 2006 to 2015, Alaska had the largest increase in the percentage of alcohol-impaired-driving fatalities at 38 percent, while Mississippi had the greatest decrease at 30 percent.
- In 2015, 75 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in Wyoming were known to be unrestrained, the highest in the country.
- In 10 States, 70 percent or more of motorcyclists killed were known to be unhelmeted at the time of the crash in 2015.



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National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

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State Traffic Data

In this fact sheet, the 2015 State Traffic Data is presented in the following order:

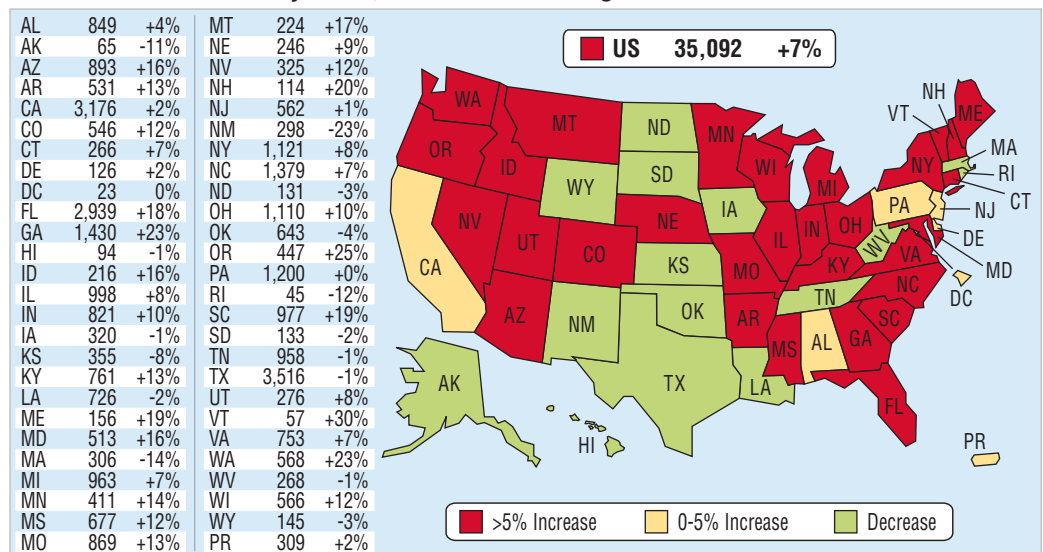
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Overview

In 2015, there were 35,092 fatalities in the United States (50 States and the District of Columbia, excluding Puerto Rico), an increase of 7 percent from 2014 (32,744). Figure 1 shows the 2015 traffic fatalities and the percent change from 2014 for each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Vermont and Oregon had the greatest fatality increases from 2014 to 2015 at 30 percent and 25 percent, respectively, while New Mexico and Massachusetts had the greatest decreases at 23 percent and 14 percent, respectively.

Figure 1

2015 Traffic Fatalities by State, and Percent Change From 2014



NOTE: Puerto Rico is not included in the U.S. National Total.

Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2014 Final File and 2015 Annual Report File (ARF).

State Traffic Fatality Tables

Table 1 shows traffic fatalities and the fatality rates based on population, licensed drivers, registered vehicles, and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) for 2015.

- The fatality rate per 100 million VMT was 1.13 for the United States in 2015, but ranged from a high of 1.89 to a low of 0.52 among States.
- In 2015, South Carolina had the highest fatality rate per 100 million VMT (1.89), while Massachusetts had the lowest (0.52).
- In 2015 for the United States, the rate per 100,000 population was 10.92, the rate per 100,000 licensed drivers was 16.09, and the rate per 100,000 registered vehicles was 12.47.
- In 2015, Wyoming had the highest fatality rate per 100,000 population (24.74) in the United States, while the District of Columbia had the lowest (3.42).

Table 2 compares previous years of traffic fatalities, from 1975 to 2015.

- Thirty-five States showed an increase in traffic fatalities between 2014 and 2015. They accounted for an additional 2,612 fatalities from 2014 to 2015.
- Seven States have decreased traffic fatalities by more than half since 1975, the first year FARS data collection began.

Table 3 compares traffic fatality rates from 1975 to 2015, based on 100 million VMT.

- Since 1975, which was the first year that FARS data was collected, the rate of traffic fatalities in the United States has decreased 66 percent (3.35 to 1.13).
- The greatest rate decrease in a State since 1975 is Vermont. Its fatality rate has decreased by 82 percent (4.32 to 0.78).

Table 4 compares the alcohol involvement in fatal traffic crashes for 2006 and 2015.

- In 2015, alcohol-impaired driving (blood alcohol concentration [BAC]=.08+ grams per deciliter [g/dL]) was involved in 29 percent of traffic fatalities in the United States, which was down from 32 percent in 2006.
- From 2006 to 2015, Alaska had the largest increase in the percentage of alcohol-impaired fatalities at 38 percent (26% to 36%), while Mississippi had the greatest decrease at 30 percent (37% to 26%).

- In 2015, 70 percent of drivers killed were tested for alcohol and their results were known in the United States, while only 27 percent of drivers who survived fatal crashes were tested with known results.

Table 5 shows speeding-related traffic fatalities and the roadway function class for 2015.

- There were 9,557 speeding-related fatalities in the United States in 2015.
- In the United States, Texas had the largest number of speeding-related fatalities (1,105), while the District of Columbia had the fewest (7).
- Almost four out of five (7,578) speeding-related fatalities in 2015 occurred on non-interstates.

Table 6 shows restraint use for passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2015.

- In 2015, almost half of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in the United States were known to be unrestrained.
- In 2015, 75 percent of the passenger vehicle occupants killed in Wyoming were known to be unrestrained, the highest percentage in the country.

Table 7 shows motorcyclists killed and their helmet use in 2015.

- In 2015, 40 percent of motorcyclists killed in the United States were known to be unhelmeted.
- In 10 States, 70 percent or more of motorcyclists killed were known to be unhelmeted in 2015. Two of these 10 States (Illinois and Iowa) do not have laws that require helmet use for any age motorcyclist. The other 8 States only have partial helmet-use laws.

Table 8 shows the percentage of traffic fatalities by the person type for 2015. The table also shows the percentage of traffic fatalities by vehicle type for 2015.

- The majority of people killed in the United States in 2015 traffic crashes were drivers (50%), followed by passengers (18%), pedestrians (15%), motorcyclists (14%), and pedalcyclists (2%).
- In 2015, passenger vehicles and light trucks accounted for more than three-fourths (40% and 38%, respectively) of the vehicles involved in fatal motor vehicle traffic crashes.

Table 1
Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rates, by State, 2015

State	Traffic Fatalities	Population (thousands)	Licensed Drivers (thousands)	Registered Vehicles (thousands)	Vehicle Miles Traveled (millions)	Fatality Rates per			
						100,000 Population	100,000 Licensed Drivers	100,000 Registered Vehicles	100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled
Alabama	849	4,859	3,907	5,400	67,257	17.47	21.73	15.72	1.26
Alaska	65	738	533	815	5,045	8.80	12.19	7.97	1.29
Arizona	893	6,828	4,979	5,631	65,045	13.08	17.94	15.86	1.37
Arkansas	531	2,978	2,120	2,772	34,897	17.83	25.05	19.15	1.52
California	3,176	39,145	25,533	29,424	335,539	8.11	12.44	10.79	0.95
Colorado	546	5,457	3,975	5,005	50,437	10.01	13.74	10.91	1.08
Connecticut	266	3,591	2,567	2,842	31,592	7.41	10.36	9.36	0.84
Delaware	126	946	743	964	9,931	13.32	16.97	13.07	1.27
District of Columbia	23	672	456	323	3,557	3.42	5.05	7.12	0.65
Florida	2,939	20,271	14,263	16,105	206,982	14.50	20.61	18.25	1.42
Georgia	1,430	10,215	6,906	8,138	118,107	14.00	20.71	17.57	1.21
Hawaii	94	1,432	910	1,242	10,301	6.57	10.33	7.57	0.91
Idaho	216	1,655	1,135	1,854	16,662	13.05	19.03	11.65	1.30
Illinois	998	12,860	8,462	10,595	105,223	7.76	11.79	9.42	0.95
Indiana	821	6,620	4,468	6,045	78,819	12.40	18.38	13.58	1.04
Iowa	320	3,124	2,224	3,637	33,161	10.24	14.39	8.80	0.96
Kansas	355	2,912	2,029	2,635	31,379	12.19	17.50	13.47	1.13
Kentucky	761	4,425	3,021	4,152	48,675	17.20	25.19	18.33	1.56
Louisiana	726	4,671	3,357	3,901	48,180	15.54	21.63	18.61	1.51
Maine	156	1,329	1,020	1,104	14,629	11.74	15.30	14.13	1.07
Maryland	513	6,006	4,186	4,135	57,516	8.54	12.26	12.41	0.89
Massachusetts	306	6,794	5,041	5,070	59,257	4.50	6.07	6.04	0.52
Michigan	963	9,923	7,104	8,294	97,843	9.71	13.55	11.61	0.98
Minnesota	411	5,490	3,351	5,281	57,395	7.49	12.26	7.78	0.72
Mississippi	677	2,992	1,988	2,069	39,890	22.62	34.05	32.72	1.70
Missouri	869	6,084	4,213	5,624	71,918	14.28	20.63	15.45	1.21
Montana	224	1,033	781	1,645	12,345	21.69	28.67	13.62	1.81
Nebraska	246	1,896	1,394	1,981	20,101	12.97	17.64	12.42	1.22
Nevada	325	2,891	1,836	2,316	25,925	11.24	17.71	14.03	1.25
New Hampshire	114	1,331	1,075	1,296	13,094	8.57	10.61	8.80	0.87
New Jersey	562	8,958	6,179	5,939	75,393	6.27	9.09	9.46	0.75
New Mexico	298	2,085	1,468	1,823	27,435	14.29	20.30	16.34	1.09
New York	1,121	19,796	11,690	10,639	127,230	5.66	9.59	10.54	0.88
North Carolina	1,379	10,043	7,161	7,929	111,879	13.73	19.26	17.39	1.23
North Dakota	131	757	545	891	10,036	17.31	24.04	14.71	1.31
Ohio	1,110	11,613	7,923	10,557	113,673	9.56	14.01	10.51	0.98
Oklahoma	643	3,911	2,622	2,989	47,713	16.44	24.53	21.52	1.35
Oregon	447	4,029	2,809	3,607	35,999	11.09	15.92	12.39	1.24
Pennsylvania	1,200	12,803	8,943	10,599	100,945	9.37	13.42	11.32	1.19
Rhode Island	45	1,056	745	875	7,833	4.26	6.04	5.14	0.57
South Carolina	977	4,896	3,684	4,163	51,726	19.95	26.52	23.47	1.89
South Dakota	133	858	656	1,082	9,324	15.49	20.28	12.29	1.43
Tennessee	958	6,600	4,621	5,612	76,670	14.51	20.73	17.07	1.25
Texas	3,516	27,469	15,880	21,865	258,122	12.80	22.14	16.08	1.36
Utah	276	2,996	1,914	2,229	29,604	9.21	14.42	12.38	0.93
Vermont	57	626	549	655	7,314	9.10	10.39	8.70	0.78
Virginia	753	8,383	5,820	7,239	82,625	8.98	12.94	10.40	0.91
Washington	568	7,170	5,516	6,725	59,653	7.92	10.30	8.45	0.95
West Virginia	268	1,844	1,167	1,613	19,827	14.53	22.96	16.61	1.35
Wisconsin	566	5,771	4,195	5,467	62,073	9.81	13.49	10.35	0.91
Wyoming	145	586	422	815	9,597	24.74	34.32	17.79	1.51
U.S. Total	35,092	321,419	218,084	281,312	3,095,373	10.92	16.09	12.47	1.13
Puerto Rico	309	3,474	0	2,647	14,564	8.89	0	11.67	2.12

Sources: Fatalities—FARS 2015 ARF; Licensed Drivers (estimated)—Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Registered Vehicles by State (estimated)—FHWA; Registered Vehicles for USA—R.L. Polk & Co. and FHWA; Population—Bureau of the Census; Vehicle Miles Traveled—FHWA.

Note: Licensed driver data not available for Puerto Rico.

Table 2
Traffic Fatalities and Percent Change, by State, 1975–2015

State	Fatalities				Percent Change		
	1975	2006	2014	2015	1975–2015	2006–2015	2014–2015
Alabama	902	1,207	820	849	-6%	-30%	+4%
Alaska	112	74	73	65	-42%	-12%	-11%
Arizona	670	1,293	773	893	+33%	-31%	+16%
Arkansas	559	665	470	531	-5%	-20%	+13%
California	4,092	4,240	3,102	3,176	-22%	-25%	+2%
Colorado	581	535	488	546	-6%	+2%	+12%
Connecticut	389	311	248	266	-32%	-14%	+7%
Delaware	122	148	124	126	+3%	-15%	+2%
District of Columbia	70	37	23	23	-67%	-38%	0%
Florida	1,998	3,357	2,494	2,939	+47%	-12%	+18%
Georgia	1,360	1,693	1,164	1,430	+5%	-16%	+23%
Hawaii	144	161	95	94	-35%	-42%	-1%
Idaho	281	267	186	216	-23%	-19%	+16%
Illinois	2,041	1,254	924	998	-51%	-20%	+8%
Indiana	1,128	902	745	821	-27%	-9%	+10%
Iowa	670	439	322	320	-52%	-27%	-1%
Kansas	509	468	385	355	-30%	-24%	-8%
Kentucky	863	913	672	761	-12%	-17%	+13%
Louisiana	934	987	740	726	-22%	-26%	-2%
Maine	223	188	131	156	-30%	-17%	+19%
Maryland	670	652	442	513	-23%	-21%	+16%
Massachusetts	864	429	354	306	-65%	-29%	-14%
Michigan	1,779	1,086	901	963	-46%	-11%	+7%
Minnesota	754	494	361	411	-45%	-17%	+14%
Mississippi	546	911	607	677	+24%	-26%	+12%
Missouri	1,045	1,096	766	869	-17%	-21%	+13%
Montana	291	264	192	224	-23%	-15%	+17%
Nebraska	369	269	225	246	-33%	-9%	+9%
Nevada	218	431	291	325	+49%	-25%	+12%
New Hampshire	151	127	95	114	-25%	-10%	+20%
New Jersey	1,043	771	556	562	-46%	-27%	+1%
New Mexico	555	484	386	298	-46%	-38%	-23%
New York	2,366	1,454	1,041	1,121	-53%	-23%	+8%
North Carolina	1,506	1,554	1,284	1,379	-8%	-11%	+7%
North Dakota	167	111	135	131	-22%	+18%	-3%
Ohio	1,766	1,238	1,006	1,110	-37%	-10%	+10%
Oklahoma	757	765	669	643	-15%	-16%	-4%
Oregon	562	478	357	447	-20%	-6%	+25%
Pennsylvania	2,078	1,525	1,195	1,200	-42%	-21%	+0%
Rhode Island	110	81	51	45	-59%	-44%	-12%
South Carolina	820	1,045	823	977	+19%	-7%	+19%
South Dakota	195	191	136	133	-32%	-30%	-2%
Tennessee	1,126	1,284	963	958	-15%	-25%	-1%
Texas	3,372	3,531	3,536	3,516	+4%	-0%	-1%
Utah	272	287	256	276	+1%	-4%	+8%
Vermont	143	87	44	57	-60%	-34%	+30%
Virginia	993	962	703	753	-24%	-22%	+7%
Washington	758	633	462	568	-25%	-10%	+23%
West Virginia	461	410	272	268	-42%	-35%	-1%
Wisconsin	930	724	506	566	-39%	-22%	+12%
Wyoming	210	195	150	145	-31%	-26%	-3%
U.S. Total	44,525	42,708	32,744	35,092	-21%	-18%	+7%
Puerto Rico	496	509	304	309	-38%	-39%	+2%

Source: FARS 1975–2014 Final File, 2015 ARF.

Table 3
Traffic Fatality Rates and Percent Change, by State, 1975–2015

State	Fatality Rate per 100 Million VMT				Percent Change		
	1975	2006	2014	2015	1975–2016	2006–2015	2014–2015
Alabama	3.63	1.99	1.25	1.26	-65%	-37%	+1%
Alaska	4.38	1.49	1.50	1.29	-71%	-13%	-14%
Arizona	4.19	2.07	1.23	1.37	-67%	-34%	+11%
Arkansas	4.01	2.01	1.38	1.52	-62%	-24%	+10%
California	3.09	1.29	0.93	0.95	-69%	-26%	+2%
Colorado	3.50	1.10	1.00	1.08	-69%	-2%	+8%
Connecticut	2.13	0.98	0.80	0.84	-61%	-14%	+5%
Delaware	3.37	1.57	1.29	1.27	-62%	-19%	-2%
District of Columbia	2.27	1.02	0.65	0.65	-71%	-36%	0%
Florida	3.24	1.65	1.24	1.42	-56%	-14%	+15%
Georgia	3.46	1.49	1.04	1.21	-65%	-19%	+16%
Hawaii	3.47	1.58	0.93	0.91	-74%	-42%	-2%
Idaho	4.78	1.76	1.15	1.30	-73%	-26%	+13%
Illinois	3.56	1.17	0.88	0.95	-73%	-19%	+8%
Indiana	3.02	1.27	0.94	1.04	-66%	-18%	+11%
Iowa	3.75	1.40	1.03	0.96	-74%	-31%	-7%
Kansas	3.29	1.55	1.25	1.13	-66%	-27%	-10%
Kentucky	3.50	1.91	1.40	1.56	-55%	-18%	+11%
Louisiana	4.60	2.17	1.53	1.51	-67%	-30%	-1%
Maine	3.14	1.25	0.92	1.07	-66%	-14%	+16%
Maryland	2.66	1.16	0.78	0.89	-67%	-23%	+14%
Massachusetts	2.75	0.78	0.62	0.52	-81%	-33%	-16%
Michigan	3.06	1.04	0.93	0.98	-68%	-6%	+5%
Minnesota	2.94	0.87	0.63	0.72	-76%	-17%	+14%
Mississippi	3.80	2.20	1.54	1.70	-55%	-23%	+10%
Missouri	3.41	1.59	1.08	1.21	-65%	-24%	+12%
Montana	5.08	2.34	1.58	1.81	-64%	-23%	+15%
Nebraska	3.29	1.39	1.15	1.22	-63%	-12%	+6%
Nevada	4.74	1.97	1.15	1.25	-74%	-37%	+9%
New Hampshire	2.85	0.93	0.73	0.87	-69%	-6%	+19%
New Jersey	2.15	1.02	0.74	0.75	-65%	-26%	+1%
New Mexico	5.59	1.88	1.52	1.09	-81%	-42%	-28%
New York	3.63	1.03	0.81	0.88	-76%	-15%	+9%
North Carolina	4.14	1.53	1.19	1.23	-70%	-20%	+3%
North Dakota	3.71	1.41	1.28	1.31	-65%	-7%	+2%
Ohio	2.75	1.11	0.89	0.98	-64%	-12%	+10%
Oklahoma	3.33	1.57	1.40	1.35	-59%	-14%	-4%
Oregon	3.53	1.35	1.03	1.24	-65%	-8%	+20%
Pennsylvania	3.26	1.41	1.20	1.19	-63%	-16%	-1%
Rhode Island	1.94	0.98	0.66	0.57	-71%	-42%	-14%
South Carolina	3.98	2.08	1.65	1.89	-53%	-9%	+15%
South Dakota	3.76	2.08	1.47	1.43	-62%	-31%	-3%
Tennessee	3.42	1.82	1.33	1.25	-63%	-31%	-6%
Texas	3.99	1.48	1.45	1.36	-66%	-8%	-6%
Utah	3.42	1.11	0.93	0.93	-73%	-16%	0%
Vermont	4.32	1.11	0.62	0.78	-82%	-30%	+26%
Virginia	2.87	1.19	0.87	0.91	-68%	-24%	+5%
Washington	3.16	1.12	0.80	0.95	-70%	-15%	+19%
West Virginia	4.36	1.96	1.42	1.35	-69%	-31%	-5%
Wisconsin	3.25	1.22	0.84	0.91	-72%	-25%	+8%
Wyoming	5.36	2.07	1.59	1.51	-72%	-27%	-5%
U.S. Total	3.35	1.42	1.08	1.13	-66%	-20%	+5%
Puerto Rico	7.27	2.59	2.09	2.12	-71%	-18%	+1%

Source: FARS 1975–2014 Final File, 2015 ARF; Vehicle Miles Traveled – FHWA.

Table 4
Alcohol Involvement in Fatal Traffic Crashes, by State, 2006 and 2015

State	Percentage of Fatalities by Highest Driver BAC in the Crash						Percentage of Drivers Involved in Fatal Crashes Tested for BAC With Known Results in 2015	
	BAC .01+ g/dL			BAC .08+ g/dL			Killed	Survived
	2006	2015	Percent Change	2006	2015	Percent Change		
Alabama	37%	34%	-8%	31%	29%	-6%	63%	42%
Alaska	30%	38%	+27%	26%	36%	+38%	88%	65%
Arizona	38%	36%	-5%	31%	31%	0%	79%	28%
Arkansas	37%	33%	-11%	30%	28%	-7%	71%	69%
California	35%	34%	-3%	30%	29%	-3%	56%	22%
Colorado	39%	33%	-15%	33%	28%	-15%	87%	20%
Connecticut	41%	44%	+7%	36%	39%	+8%	88%	27%
Delaware	33%	36%	+9%	29%	33%	+14%	72%	19%
District of Columbia	39%	39%	0%	34%	26%	-24%	83%	38%
Florida	33%	32%	-3%	28%	27%	-4%	58%	15%
Georgia	32%	29%	-9%	27%	26%	-4%	59%	21%
Hawaii	47%	41%	-13%	37%	35%	-5%	83%	37%
Idaho	38%	37%	-3%	32%	32%	0%	67%	36%
Illinois	44%	36%	-18%	36%	31%	-14%	79%	28%
Indiana	32%	26%	-19%	27%	22%	-19%	51%	56%
Iowa	32%	29%	-9%	27%	24%	-11%	66%	30%
Kansas	33%	27%	-18%	27%	24%	-11%	54%	45%
Kentucky	28%	29%	+4%	24%	25%	+4%	77%	46%
Louisiana	44%	39%	-11%	38%	34%	-11%	80%	74%
Maine	38%	44%	+16%	28%	33%	+18%	89%	77%
Maryland	36%	38%	+6%	29%	31%	+7%	82%	11%
Massachusetts	40%	39%	-3%	33%	31%	-6%	76%	3%
Michigan	37%	33%	-11%	31%	28%	-10%	57%	39%
Minnesota	36%	35%	-3%	30%	28%	-7%	87%	24%
Mississippi	41%	31%	-24%	37%	26%	-30%	46%	13%
Missouri	43%	30%	-30%	35%	26%	-26%	79%	58%
Montana	43%	41%	-5%	40%	34%	-15%	91%	71%
Nebraska	32%	34%	+6%	27%	26%	-4%	85%	70%
Nevada	40%	35%	-13%	33%	30%	-9%	96%	29%
New Hampshire	38%	36%	-5%	36%	29%	-19%	88%	63%
New Jersey	36%	25%	-31%	28%	20%	-29%	80%	27%
New Mexico	32%	36%	+13%	28%	33%	+18%	74%	8%
New York	36%	33%	-8%	30%	28%	-7%	81%	9%
North Carolina	32%	35%	+9%	27%	30%	+11%	80%	7%
North Dakota	43%	46%	+7%	37%	38%	+3%	90%	21%
Ohio	37%	33%	-11%	31%	28%	-10%	85%	39%
Oklahoma	31%	31%	0%	26%	27%	+4%	89%	47%
Oregon	37%	41%	+11%	31%	35%	+13%	89%	38%
Pennsylvania	37%	34%	-8%	32%	30%	-6%	71%	18%
Rhode Island	46%	51%	+11%	37%	43%	+16%	90%	28%
South Carolina	46%	35%	-24%	40%	31%	-23%	74%	6%
South Dakota	41%	35%	-15%	35%	33%	-6%	92%	89%
Tennessee	38%	31%	-18%	32%	26%	-19%	72%	46%
Texas	46%	44%	-4%	40%	38%	-5%	48%	15%
Utah	22%	19%	-14%	19%	16%	-16%	82%	48%
Vermont	32%	28%	-13%	30%	27%	-10%	75%	52%
Virginia	35%	34%	-3%	31%	28%	-10%	78%	1%
Washington	42%	33%	-21%	35%	26%	-26%	83%	26%
West Virginia	32%	31%	-3%	26%	27%	+4%	88%	8%
Wisconsin	49%	38%	-22%	42%	33%	-21%	87%	50%
Wyoming	38%	42%	+11%	32%	38%	+19%	55%	33%
U.S. Total	37%	34%	-8%	32%	29%	-9%	70%	27%
Puerto Rico	35%	41%	+17%	28%	34%	+21%	100%	73%

Source: FARS 2006 Final File, 2015 ARF.

Table 5

Speeding-Related Traffic Fatalities, by Roadway Function Class and State, 2015

State	Total Traffic Fatalities	Speeding-Related Fatalities by Roadway Function Class							
		Total	Interstate Rural	Interstate Urban	Non-Interstate Freeway and Expressway	Non-Interstate Other Principal Arterial	Non-Interstate Minor Arterial	Non-Interstate Collector	Non-Interstate Local
Alabama	849	236	10	6	1	35	54	66	36
Alaska	65	22	7	4	0	2	1	6	1
Arizona	893	307	37	23	18	83	57	38	51
Arkansas	531	90	4	5	7	17	15	12	30
California	3,176	955	51	127	203	206	172	123	72
Colorado	546	216	20	17	5	77	32	38	26
Connecticut	266	73	1	11	10	12	21	8	9
Delaware	126	34	0	0	0	6	2	12	5
District of Columbia	23	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Florida	2,939	320	7	8	5	80	16	2	45
Georgia	1,430	268	6	26	5	48	54	61	68
Hawaii	94	40	0	4	0	25	11	0	0
Idaho	216	49	7	1	0	9	6	12	3
Illinois	998	369	17	42	2	94	78	74	62
Indiana	821	232	18	15	1	43	39	55	61
Iowa	320	49	2	2	1	13	9	9	13
Kansas	355	128	5	6	3	39	16	24	35
Kentucky	761	140	7	2	7	19	25	60	20
Louisiana	726	165	12	9	1	35	27	44	35
Maine	156	60	2	0	1	8	3	27	19
Maryland	513	121	0	11	1	4	11	9	7
Massachusetts	306	80	0	12	1	24	17	12	14
Michigan	963	264	19	15	16	52	61	45	55
Minnesota	411	82	5	1	1	11	25	23	16
Mississippi	677	96	1	3	1	10	35	22	24
Missouri	869	310	17	26	24	57	47	70	69
Montana	224	91	11	0	1	22	7	26	23
Nebraska	246	37	2	2	2	12	10	0	9
Nevada	325	111	6	12	7	26	37	8	13
New Hampshire	114	56	1	7	1	18	5	7	17
New Jersey	562	128	0	7	17	27	38	20	2
New Mexico	298	130	12	12	4	31	20	14	24
New York	1,121	343	12	21	17	80	39	25	149
North Carolina	1,379	547	24	30	17	275	33	49	119
North Dakota	131	43	2	0	1	15	12	6	7
Ohio	1,110	207	4	11	10	20	47	67	46
Oklahoma	643	171	9	11	6	28	22	40	55
Oregon	447	118	11	4	0	32	21	35	15
Pennsylvania	1,200	540	23	37	10	109	100	89	146
Rhode Island	45	20	1	3	4	5	3	0	4
South Carolina	977	361	47	17	16	63	119	59	40
South Dakota	133	31	6	3	0	9	2	8	3
Tennessee	958	187	4	26	1	31	43	45	37
Texas	3,516	1,105	78	130	80	214	125	151	0
Utah	276	58	4	11	4	15	2	12	6
Vermont	57	21	0	2	0	6	1	9	3
Virginia	753	104	4	6	4	28	25	25	8
Washington	568	156	6	15	7	26	27	47	27
West Virginia	268	66	2	6	2	8	17	16	15
Wisconsin	566	167	10	3	2	44	38	39	31
Wyoming	145	46	3	1	0	15	4	9	13
U.S. Total	35,092	9,557	537	754	527	2,168	1,631	1,658	1,594
Puerto Rico	309	118	7	11	1	35	36	23	5

Source: FARS 2015 ARF.

Note: The total column for speeding-related fatalities includes fatalities that occurred on roads for which the function class was unknown.

Table 6
Passenger Vehicle Occupant Fatalities, by Restraint Use and State, 2015

State	Restraint Use						Total		Percent "Known" Restrained	Percent "Known" Unrestrained
	Restrained		Unrestrained		Unknown					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Alabama	251	39%	355	55%	41	6%	647	100%	41%	59%
Alaska	14	38%	15	41%	8	22%	37	100%	48%	52%
Arizona	182	37%	250	51%	59	12%	491	100%	42%	58%
Arkansas	151	40%	190	51%	32	9%	373	100%	44%	56%
California	1,061	60%	545	31%	155	9%	1,761	100%	66%	34%
Colorado	147	42%	188	54%	11	3%	346	100%	44%	56%
Connecticut	69	45%	66	43%	19	12%	154	100%	51%	49%
Delaware	32	49%	30	46%	3	5%	65	100%	52%	48%
District of Columbia	5	83%	1	17%	0	0%	6	100%	83%	17%
Florida	779	53%	604	41%	80	5%	1,463	100%	56%	44%
Georgia	488	48%	410	41%	109	11%	1,007	100%	54%	46%
Hawaii	11	30%	15	41%	11	30%	37	100%	42%	58%
Idaho	63	39%	94	58%	6	4%	163	100%	40%	60%
Illinois	300	47%	242	38%	99	15%	641	100%	55%	45%
Indiana	279	48%	221	38%	76	13%	576	100%	56%	44%
Iowa	123	52%	101	43%	12	5%	236	100%	55%	45%
Kansas	114	45%	127	50%	15	6%	256	100%	47%	53%
Kentucky	249	45%	308	55%	1	0%	558	100%	45%	55%
Louisiana	187	39%	247	52%	44	9%	478	100%	43%	57%
Maine	48	48%	53	52%	0	0%	101	100%	48%	52%
Maryland	189	60%	86	27%	40	13%	315	100%	69%	31%
Massachusetts	46	27%	83	48%	43	25%	172	100%	36%	64%
Michigan	313	54%	190	33%	81	14%	584	100%	62%	38%
Minnesota	156	56%	85	30%	39	14%	280	100%	65%	35%
Mississippi	236	43%	309	57%	1	0%	546	100%	43%	57%
Missouri	217	35%	356	57%	47	8%	620	100%	38%	62%
Montana	47	28%	114	67%	9	5%	170	100%	29%	71%
Nebraska	47	25%	118	63%	21	11%	186	100%	28%	72%
Nevada	91	52%	72	41%	13	7%	176	100%	56%	44%
New Hampshire	27	36%	47	64%	0	0%	74	100%	36%	64%
New Jersey	176	58%	117	38%	11	4%	304	100%	60%	40%
New Mexico	70	38%	88	48%	24	13%	182	100%	44%	56%
New York	314	56%	171	30%	79	14%	564	100%	65%	35%
North Carolina	501	53%	402	42%	45	5%	948	100%	55%	45%
North Dakota	29	29%	63	63%	8	8%	100	100%	32%	68%
Ohio	291	39%	385	52%	69	9%	745	100%	43%	57%
Oklahoma	195	44%	218	49%	28	6%	441	100%	47%	53%
Oregon	154	53%	76	26%	58	20%	288	100%	67%	33%
Pennsylvania	271	35%	402	51%	111	14%	784	100%	40%	60%
Rhode Island	10	37%	16	59%	1	4%	27	100%	38%	62%
South Carolina	281	46%	306	50%	30	5%	617	100%	48%	52%
South Dakota	27	29%	60	64%	7	7%	94	100%	31%	69%
Tennessee	302	44%	332	49%	50	7%	684	100%	48%	52%
Texas	1,264	54%	859	37%	204	9%	2,327	100%	60%	40%
Utah	85	49%	81	47%	8	5%	174	100%	51%	49%
Vermont	14	41%	17	50%	3	9%	34	100%	45%	55%
Virginia	249	45%	301	54%	3	1%	553	100%	45%	55%
Washington	206	56%	113	31%	50	14%	369	100%	65%	35%
West Virginia	72	38%	99	52%	21	11%	192	100%	42%	58%
Wisconsin	176	45%	167	43%	45	12%	388	100%	51%	49%
Wyoming	26	24%	79	74%	2	2%	107	100%	25%	75%
U.S. Total	10,635	47%	9,874	44%	1,932	9%	22,441	100%	52%	48%
Puerto Rico	60	44%	77	56%	0	0%	137	100%	44%	56%

Source: FARS 2015 ARF.

Table 7
Motorcyclist Fatalities, by Helmet Use and State, 2015

State	Helmet Use						Total		Percent "Known" Helmeted	Percent "Known" Unhelmeted
	Helmeted		Unhelmeted		Unknown					
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent		
Alabama	57	85%	9	13%	1	1%	67	100%	86%	14%
Alaska	6	55%	4	36%	1	9%	11	100%	60%	40%
Arizona	55	40%	74	54%	7	5%	136	100%	43%	57%
Arkansas	29	37%	48	61%	2	3%	79	100%	38%	62%
California	432	94%	22	5%	8	2%	462	100%	95%	5%
Colorado	39	37%	67	63%	0	0%	106	100%	37%	63%
Connecticut	20	38%	31	58%	2	4%	53	100%	39%	61%
Delaware	13	68%	6	32%	0	0%	19	100%	68%	32%
District of Columbia	2	67%	1	33%	0	0%	3	100%	67%	33%
Florida	316	51%	283	46%	17	3%	616	100%	53%	47%
Georgia	138	91%	10	7%	4	3%	152	100%	93%	7%
Hawaii	10	38%	16	62%	0	0%	26	100%	38%	62%
Idaho	10	32%	21	68%	0	0%	31	100%	32%	68%
Illinois	40	27%	105	71%	2	1%	147	100%	28%	72%
Indiana	17	16%	79	73%	12	11%	108	100%	18%	82%
Iowa	9	22%	31	76%	1	2%	41	100%	23%	78%
Kansas	15	34%	28	64%	1	2%	44	100%	35%	65%
Kentucky	30	33%	61	67%	0	0%	91	100%	33%	67%
Louisiana	78	86%	12	13%	1	1%	91	100%	87%	13%
Maine	8	25%	24	75%	0	0%	32	100%	25%	75%
Maryland	69	92%	6	8%	0	0%	75	100%	92%	8%
Massachusetts	39	85%	7	15%	0	0%	46	100%	85%	15%
Michigan	75	53%	57	40%	9	6%	141	100%	57%	43%
Minnesota	18	30%	38	62%	5	8%	61	100%	32%	68%
Mississippi	29	78%	8	22%	0	0%	37	100%	78%	22%
Missouri	86	89%	7	7%	4	4%	97	100%	92%	8%
Montana	5	21%	18	75%	1	4%	24	100%	22%	78%
Nebraska	18	72%	4	16%	3	12%	25	100%	82%	18%
Nevada	41	75%	11	20%	3	5%	55	100%	79%	21%
New Hampshire	10	38%	16	62%	0	0%	26	100%	38%	62%
New Jersey	43	86%	7	14%	0	0%	50	100%	86%	14%
New Mexico	19	50%	18	47%	1	3%	38	100%	51%	49%
New York	143	89%	14	9%	3	2%	160	100%	91%	9%
North Carolina	176	92%	14	7%	2	1%	192	100%	93%	7%
North Dakota	5	63%	3	38%	0	0%	8	100%	63%	38%
Ohio	55	33%	112	67%	1	1%	168	100%	33%	67%
Oklahoma	26	29%	62	70%	1	1%	89	100%	30%	70%
Oregon	55	90%	3	5%	3	5%	61	100%	95%	5%
Pennsylvania	87	49%	89	50%	2	1%	178	100%	49%	51%
Rhode Island	5	56%	4	44%	0	0%	9	100%	56%	44%
South Carolina	55	30%	129	70%	0	0%	184	100%	30%	70%
South Dakota	9	29%	22	71%	0	0%	31	100%	29%	71%
Tennessee	109	89%	12	10%	2	2%	123	100%	90%	10%
Texas	201	45%	231	52%	11	2%	443	100%	47%	53%
Utah	15	42%	18	50%	3	8%	36	100%	45%	55%
Vermont	11	100%	0	0%	0	0%	11	100%	100%	0%
Virginia	75	95%	3	4%	1	1%	79	100%	96%	4%
Washington	72	94%	4	5%	1	1%	77	100%	95%	5%
West Virginia	25	78%	7	22%	0	0%	32	100%	78%	22%
Wisconsin	15	19%	65	80%	1	1%	81	100%	19%	81%
Wyoming	7	29%	17	71%	0	0%	24	100%	29%	71%
U.S. Total	2,922	59%	1,938	39%	116	2%	4,976	100%	60%	40%
Puerto Rico	19	40%	29	60%	0	0%	48	100%	40%	60%

Source: FARS 2015 ARF.

Table 8

Traffic Fatalities and Vehicles Involved in Fatal Crashes, by Person Type and State, 2015

State	Total	Percent Who Were (by Person Type)*					Total	Percent That Were (by Vehicle Type)				
		Drivers	Passengers	Motorcyclists	Pedestrians	Pedal-cyclists		Passenger Cars	Light Trucks	Large Trucks	Motorcycles	Other/Unknown
Alabama	849	61%	18%	8%	12%	1%	1,183	40%	42%	9%	6%	3%
Alaska	65	48%	17%	17%	18%	0%	88	16%	58%	1%	14%	11%
Arizona	893	42%	19%	15%	17%	3%	1,241	36%	38%	7%	11%	8%
Arkansas	531	58%	19%	15%	8%	1%	733	34%	44%	9%	11%	2%
California	3,176	40%	17%	15%	23%	4%	4,417	45%	34%	7%	11%	3%
Colorado	546	48%	18%	19%	11%	2%	789	34%	42%	8%	13%	3%
Connecticut	266	49%	13%	20%	17%	1%	374	47%	28%	9%	15%	2%
Delaware	126	38%	16%	15%	28%	2%	191	51%	26%	6%	10%	6%
District of Columbia	23	13%	13%	13%	57%	4%	30	47%	33%	7%	10%	3%
Florida	2,939	37%	15%	21%	21%	5%	4,165	44%	33%	5%	15%	3%
Georgia	1,430	56%	18%	11%	13%	2%	2,047	40%	40%	9%	8%	3%
Hawaii	94	26%	15%	28%	27%	2%	126	29%	44%	5%	21%	2%
Idaho	216	56%	26%	14%	4%	0%	280	33%	44%	9%	11%	4%
Illinois	998	51%	16%	15%	15%	3%	1,361	43%	35%	8%	11%	3%
Indiana	821	54%	19%	13%	12%	1%	1,166	39%	38%	11%	9%	2%
Iowa	320	56%	21%	13%	8%	2%	421	31%	45%	12%	10%	3%
Kansas	355	59%	21%	12%	7%	1%	467	37%	37%	14%	9%	3%
Kentucky	761	58%	19%	12%	9%	1%	1,080	39%	40%	9%	9%	4%
Louisiana	726	54%	15%	13%	14%	5%	1,005	35%	45%	7%	9%	3%
Maine	156	50%	17%	21%	12%	0%	190	37%	39%	5%	17%	2%
Maryland	513	47%	18%	15%	18%	2%	723	46%	32%	7%	10%	4%
Massachusetts	306	46%	11%	15%	24%	3%	412	48%	32%	7%	11%	2%
Michigan	963	47%	17%	15%	17%	3%	1,439	41%	39%	7%	10%	2%
Minnesota	411	58%	14%	15%	9%	2%	594	40%	36%	10%	10%	4%
Mississippi	677	62%	23%	5%	9%	1%	873	38%	46%	8%	4%	3%
Missouri	869	57%	18%	11%	12%	1%	1,233	39%	41%	9%	8%	4%
Montana	224	60%	21%	11%	6%	0%	269	28%	52%	7%	9%	5%
Nebraska	246	59%	20%	10%	8%	2%	332	34%	44%	11%	8%	3%
Nevada	325	39%	18%	17%	20%	3%	454	41%	36%	6%	13%	5%
New Hampshire	114	50%	16%	23%	7%	3%	143	46%	30%	4%	18%	1%
New Jersey	562	40%	17%	9%	30%	3%	761	47%	33%	8%	7%	5%
New Mexico	298	47%	20%	13%	18%	2%	383	30%	42%	14%	10%	4%
New York	1,121	38%	16%	14%	27%	3%	1,505	43%	33%	8%	11%	5%
North Carolina	1,379	52%	18%	14%	13%	2%	1,949	44%	38%	6%	10%	2%
North Dakota	131	63%	24%	6%	5%	1%	168	21%	45%	25%	5%	4%
Ohio	1,110	55%	16%	15%	10%	2%	1,639	42%	34%	11%	10%	2%
Oklahoma	643	55%	19%	14%	11%	1%	890	35%	40%	12%	10%	2%
Oregon	447	51%	17%	14%	15%	2%	597	38%	40%	8%	11%	3%
Pennsylvania	1,200	55%	16%	15%	13%	1%	1,679	41%	35%	10%	11%	4%
Rhode Island	45	47%	16%	20%	18%	0%	58	45%	34%	3%	14%	3%
South Carolina	977	51%	16%	19%	13%	2%	1,406	39%	38%	7%	14%	2%
South Dakota	133	51%	21%	23%	4%	1%	169	28%	43%	8%	20%	2%
Tennessee	958	58%	17%	13%	11%	1%	1,358	38%	42%	8%	10%	2%
Texas	3,516	50%	20%	13%	15%	1%	4,891	35%	42%	11%	9%	3%
Utah	276	49%	19%	13%	17%	2%	420	35%	45%	9%	9%	3%
Vermont	57	47%	18%	19%	9%	7%	70	41%	33%	7%	16%	3%
Virginia	753	60%	17%	10%	10%	2%	1,016	42%	40%	7%	8%	3%
Washington	568	48%	20%	14%	15%	2%	789	44%	38%	4%	10%	4%
West Virginia	268	64%	17%	12%	7%	0%	355	32%	45%	6%	9%	7%
Wisconsin	566	56%	16%	14%	10%	3%	802	40%	39%	7%	11%	3%
Wyoming	145	59%	21%	17%	3%	0%	192	21%	45%	20%	13%	1%
U.S. Total	35,092	50%	18%	14%	15%	2%	48,923	40%	38%	8%	10%	3%
Puerto Rico	309	35%	11%	16%	33%	4%	395	56%	21%	4%	13%	6%

**Other/Unknown* person types are not shown.

Source: FARS 2015 ARF.

Restraint Use and Motorcycle Helmet Use Laws

Restraint Use Laws

The first mandatory belt use law was enacted in the State of New York in 1984. Adult belt use laws are now in effect in 49 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The laws differ from State to State, according to the type and age of the vehicle, occupant age and seating position, etc. The goal of these laws is to promote belt use, and thereby reduce deaths and injuries in motor vehicle crashes.

In 2015, 34 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico had primary seat belt laws in effect, enabling law enforcement officers to stop vehicles and write citations when they observed violations of the seat belt law. In 15 States, the laws specified secondary enforcement, meaning that law enforcement officers were permitted to write citations only after a vehicle was stopped for some other traffic infraction. New Hampshire is the only State without a seat belt law for adults, although it does have a primary child passenger safety law that covers all drivers and passengers under the age of 18.

The first mandatory child restraint use law was implemented in the State of Tennessee in 1978. Since 1985, all 50 States and the District of Columbia have had child restraint use laws in effect. Child restraint use laws differ from State to State, in terms of the ages of children covered and in other important ways, including height and weight limits, seating position requirements, and various exemptions and exceptions.

The most current information on seat belt laws and child passenger safety laws is available through the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) at www.ghsa.org:

- Seat belt laws—www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/seatbelt_laws.html
- Child passenger safety laws—www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/childsafety_laws.html

In 2015, seat belt use rates in the United States ranged from 69.5 percent in New Hampshire to 97.3 percent in California and Georgia. Nineteen States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto

Rico achieved belt use rates of 90 percent or higher. These results are from probability-based observational surveys conducted by 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories. The nationwide seat belt use rate in 2015 was 88.5 percent, as measured by NHTSA's National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS). NOPUS is a national probability-based survey, which is independent from State belt use surveys. Observed seat belt use rates for the States and the Nation in 2015 can be found in *Seat Belt Use in 2015—Use Rates in the States and Territories*, DOT HS 812 274, <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812274>.

Motorcycle Helmet Use Laws

In 2015, 19 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico required helmet use by all motorcyclists. In 28 States, helmet use was required for only a subset of motorcyclists (typically, motorcyclists under age 18), and 3 States (Illinois, Iowa, and New Hampshire) do not require helmet use for motorcyclists of any age. The most current information on helmet use laws is available at www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/helmet_laws.html.

According to results from NOPUS, the overall rate of DOT-compliant motorcycle helmet use in the United States was 60.7 percent in 2015. Helmet use continued to be significantly higher in States that required all motorcyclists to be helmeted than in other States. Information on motorcycle helmet use in 2015 can be found in *Motorcycle Helmet Use in 2015—Overall Results*, DOT HS 812 275, <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812275>.

This fact sheet contains information on motor vehicle fatalities and fatal crashes, based on data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). FARS is a census of fatal crashes within the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico (although Puerto Rico is not included in U.S. totals).

The suggested APA format citation for this document is:

National Center for Statistics and Analysis. (2017, June) *State traffic data: 2015 data* (Traffic Safety Facts. Report No. DOT HS 812 412). Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For More Information:

Information on traffic fatalities is available from the National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA), NSA-230, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590. NCSA can be contacted at 800-934-8517 or by e-mail at ncsaweb@dot.gov. General information on highway traffic safety can be found at 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*, *Passenger Vehicles*, *Pedestrians*, *Rural/Urban Comparison*, *School-Transportation-Related Crashes*, *Speeding*, *State Alcohol Estimates*, *Summary of Motor Vehicle Crashes*, 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 found at <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov>.



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