

Automated Enforcement & Traffic Safety Research 2016-2019



Red Light



Red-Light-Running Deaths Hit 10-Year High

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Aug. 2019

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety is a not-for-profit charitable research organization. The foundation does research on how to prevent traffic-related injuries and deaths, and educates drivers on traffic safety best practices. This study examined nationwide crash data from 2017 in relation to red-light-running incidents. According to the study,

- 939 people were killed by red-light-running crashes in 2017, a 28% increase since 2012 and a 10-year high.
- 28% of crashes at a signalized intersection are due to drivers running red lights.
- 46% of those killed in red-light-running crashes were passengers or people in other vehicles. 35% were the drivers who ran the red light. 5% were pedestrians or cyclists.
- The foundation cites red-light cameras as an effective way to deter red-light running.

Website: <https://newsroom.aaa.com/2019/08/red-light-running-deaths-hit-10-year-high>

Turning Off Red Light Cameras Costs Lives, New Research Shows

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, July 2016

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety is an educational and scientific nonprofit, researching ways to reduce motor vehicle-related fatalities. The research outlined in this report explored the impact of red-light cameras in 79 cities, analyzing the correlation between activating or removing red-light cameras and fatal car crashes between 2010 and 2014.

- Research found red-light cameras saved 1,300 lives in 2014.
- Fatal crashes at signalized intersections were 21% and 14% lower, respectively, in cities with cameras after cameras were turned on than would have been expected without cameras.
- 30% and 16% higher, respectively, in 14 cities that terminated cameras during 2010-2014 after cameras were terminated than expected had cameras remained.
- 18% and 8% higher, respectively, in all 19 cities that removed cameras, but not significantly.

Website: <https://www.iihs.org/iihs/news/desktopnews/turning-off-red-light-cameras-costs-lives-new-research-shows>

Speed



Speed Limit Increases are Tied to 37,000 Deaths Over 25 Years

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, 2019

As an educational and scientific nonprofit, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety researches ways to reduce motor vehicle-related fatalities. These findings reveal 37,000 people have died due to rising speed limits over the last 25 years. This includes more than 1,900 deaths in 2017 alone. IIHS President David Harkey points to “effective, high-visibility enforcement and traffic engineering measures” as potential solutions.

Website: <https://www.iihs.org/iihs/news/desktopnews/speed-limit-increases-are-tied-to-37-000-deaths-over-25-years>

2017 Traffic Safety Culture Index

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, Mar. 2018

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, a not-for-profit, charitable research organization, conducts a yearly survey to identify driver behaviors and attitudes nationwide. The 2017 report reveals that speeding is a prevalent issue in communities across the U.S., but it is still viewed as a negative driving behavior.

- 50.3% of respondents said they went 15 mph above the speed limit on a highway.
- 47.6% said they went 10 mph over the limit on a residential street.
- Only 23.9% of drivers saw exceeding the speed limit by 15 mph on a highway as acceptable.
- Only 14% saw exceeding the speed limit by 10 mph on residential streets as acceptable.

Website: <https://aaafoundation.org/2017-traffic-safety-culture-index>

Reducing Speeding-related Crashes Involving Passenger Vehicles

National Transportation Safety Board, Jul. 2017

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent, federal agency tasked with promoting transportation safety. In this study, the NTSB found that speeding killed just as many people as drunk driving between 2005 and 2014, recommending automated enforcement to help curb speeding and save lives.

Website: <https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/PR20170725b.aspx>

School Bus

2016-2017 National School Bus Loading and Unloading Survey

Kansas State Department of Education, National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, Jan. 2018

The Kansas State Department of Education School Bus Safety Unit partnered with the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, a nationwide organization providing leadership and assistance to the school transportation community, to study fatalities related to school bus transportation during the 2016-2017 school year. The report includes descriptions of each incident, and several included drivers who were not abiding by red-light or school bus laws. According to the report:

- 75% of fatalities were due to another vehicle, not the bus itself.
- 50% of recorded school-bus related fatalities between 2012 and 2017 occurred on Thursdays.
- 87.5% of fatalities occurred in a rural setting.

Website: <https://www.napt.org/files/2016-17LoadingSurvey1-18-18.pdf>

2018 Stop-arm Violation Count

National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services, 2018

The National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services – a nationwide association of transit professionals – found students are most vulnerable when they leave the bus. During a single day in 2018, bus drivers in 38 states were instructed to record the number of violations by private motorists. By the end of the day, there were almost 84,000 recorded violations.

Website: <http://www.nasdpts.org/stoparm/2018/index.html>



Pedestrian

Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities by State

Governors Highway Safety Administration, 2018

The Governors Highway Safety Administration is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit helping address behavioral highway safety issues. This study projected that 2018 would see the highest number of pedestrian deaths in three decades – 6227 deaths. Reasons include reckless driving behaviors, unsafe crosswalks and more.

Website: <https://www.ghsa.org/resources/Pedestrians19>

On Foot, At Risk

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, 2018

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety is an educational and scientific nonprofit, researching ways to make roadways safer. This report, catalyzed by a fatality caused by an automated vehicle in Tempe, Ariz., investigated pedestrian deaths in recent years.

- Pedestrian deaths have increased 46% since their lowest point in 2009.
- Incidents were common in non-intersection areas, as well as in the dark.
- 6,000 pedestrians were killed in crashes in 2016.
- Pedestrian deaths contribute to 16% of all car-related fatalities.

Website: <https://www.iihs.org/iihs/news/desktopnews/on-foot-at-risk-study-highlights-rising-pedestrian-deaths-points-toward-solutions>

Special Investigation Report: Pedestrian Safety

National Transportation Safety Board, 2018

The National Transportation Safety Board, tasked with improving safety conditions on roadways across the United States, made several recommendations to improve pedestrian safety based on a 2016 public forum. Among these recommendations was installing speed and red-light cameras to deter risky driving behaviors that can lead to fatal crashes.

Website: <https://www.ntsb.gov/safety/safety-studies/Pages/SIR1803.aspx>





Government

2019 Roadmap for State Highway Safety Laws

[Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, Jan. 2018](#)

Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety is an alliance of consumer, medical, public health and safety groups and insurance companies and agents working together to make America's roads safer. This report rates all 50 states on their progress toward enacting 16 traffic laws to improve public safety. There are 406 laws needed to meet all of the Advocates' optimal recommendations, and no state has all 16 recommended laws.

Website: <https://saferoads.org/roadmap-reports>

Vision Zero

Vision Zero Network

[Global Vision Zero Network website](#)

Vision Zero is a collaborative initiative to eliminate all traffic-related deaths by 2050. Comprehensive information about the global Vision Zero campaign can be found here. Includes case studies, a list of participating cities and information on how to get involved.

Website: <https://visionzeronetwork.org>

Road to Zero

[Road to Zero Report – National Safety Council, Apr. 2018](#)

The National Safety Council is a non-profit, public health organization. In this document, they outline ways to achieve zero traffic-related fatalities by the year 2050 as outlined by Vision Zero. The plan includes embracing advanced preventative technology, educating community members about the dangers of distracted driving and encouraging a "safety culture."

Website: <https://www.nsc.org/Portals/0/Documents/DistractedDrivingDocuments/Driver-Tech/Road%20to%20Zero/The-Report.pdf?ver=2018-04-17-111652-263>



Reach Vision Zero with Redflex

[Redflex website](#)

Redflex outlines ways jurisdictions can utilize automated enforcement to help meet the goals outlined by Vision Zero.

Website: <https://redflex.com/us/insight/achieve-vision-zero-with-redflex-photo-enforcement-solutions>

Traffic Justice: Achieving Effective and Equitable Traffic Enforcement in the Age of Vision Zero Fordham Urban Law Journal, 2017

[Fordham Urban Law Journal, 2017](#)

The Fordham Urban Law Journal addresses policy issues in urban areas. The report analyzes the recommendations outline in Vision Zero, taking racial and social inequities and issues surrounding traditional policing into consideration. The author cites deterrence tactics as one of the most promising ways to reduce fatalities, pointing out that New York City saw a decline in traffic related deaths after installing automated speed enforcement cameras (among other measures).

Website:

<https://ir.lawnet.fordham.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://www.google.com/&httpsredir=1&article=2702&context=uj>





General

Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities in 2018

U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, June 2019

According to an early statistical projection of traffic fatalities for 2018, an estimated 36,750 people died in motor vehicle crashes. This is a slight decrease (1%) from data from 2017, though there was a noted increase in fatalities involving cyclists and pedestrians.

Website: <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812749>

U.S. DOT Announces 2017 Roadway Fatalities Down

U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Oct. 2018

2017 highway fatality numbers were down following two consecutive years of large increases. 37,133 people died in motor vehicle crashes during 2017, a 2% decrease from 2016. In addition, pedestrian fatalities declined about 2% and more fatalities occurred in urban than rural areas. "Dangerous actions such as speeding, distracted driving and driving under the influence are still putting Americans, their families and those they share the road with at risk," said NHSTA Deputy Administrator Heidi R. King.

Website: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/us-dot-announces-2017-roadway-fatalities-down>



Finding Focus on the Road

Volvo and The Harris Poll, 2018

A survey conducted by Volvo and The Harris Poll sought to illuminate different sources of distraction while driving for different age groups. The survey was conducted online between June 5 to 7, 2018, with 2,035 U.S. adults aged 18 or older, among whom 1,665 drive a vehicle. Survey results included:

- 55% of respondents cited driving distracted as the top threat to safety on the road, 31% said driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, 8% said driving aggressively and 3% said driving over the speed limit.
- Those belonging to the Gen X and Millennial generations said they were most likely to use a cell phone while driving (81%).
- Most Americans (71%) admit to using their phones while they drive, mostly to talk (93%) and to dial (74%).

Website: <https://assets.volvocars.com/us/~media/us/downloads/reports/finding-focus-on-the-road.pdf?la=en-us>