



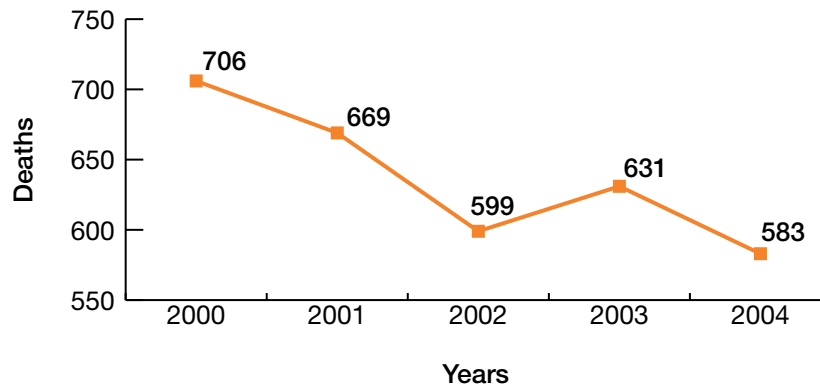
Pedestrian Safety



Key Facts

- Each year, approximately 630 child pedestrian fatalities occur.

Total Pedestrian Deaths, children 0-14 years



- Children sustain more than 39,000 nonfatal pedestrian injuries each year.
- Approximately 70 percent of pedestrian deaths are motor vehicle-related.
- Between 1995 and 2005, the number of child pedestrian fatalities decreased by 51 percent.
- Children under 10 years of age are unable to correctly gauge the speed of vehicles putting them at greater risk for injury and death.

When and Where

- Other than in the street, driveways, parking lots and on sidewalks are where young children ages 0-2 years suffer the highest number of injuries as pedestrians.
- 83 percent of child pedestrian deaths occur at non-intersection locations.
- 1 in 4 child pedestrian deaths occur between 6 - 9p.m.
- On average, 12 children die each year in school bus-related crashes.

Who

- Males sustain almost two-thirds of all child pedestrian deaths.
- Black children have a pedestrian injury death rate almost twice that of white children.
- 4 out of 5 driveway-related incidents occur to children ages 4 and under.
- Parents of children who suffer from a pedestrian-related injury are three times less likely to practice other preventive behaviors and are more likely to be single parents, young mothers or both.

Proven Interventions

- Policies that increase the number of people walking and bicycling have shown to be an effective method for improving the safety of people walking and bicycling.

Laws and Regulations

- In 2005, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) was signed into law. The SAFETEA-LU includes the establishment of Safe Routes to School, a program with the goal of making it safer for children to walk or bike to school. The Safe Routes to School program aims to:
 1. Fix or improve sidewalks
 2. Execute traffic calming and speed reduction measures
 3. Improve pedestrian and bicycle crossings
 4. Conduct public education campaigns to encourage walking and biking to school.
- State and local laws created to protect child pedestrians include:
 - Lower speed limits in residential areas
 - Protection of pedestrians in crosswalks
 - Providing pedestrian walkways
 - Prohibition of vehicles from passing school buses while loading and unloading passengers
 - Providing crossing guards and requiring pedestrians to not cross streets at locations other than designated crosswalks.