



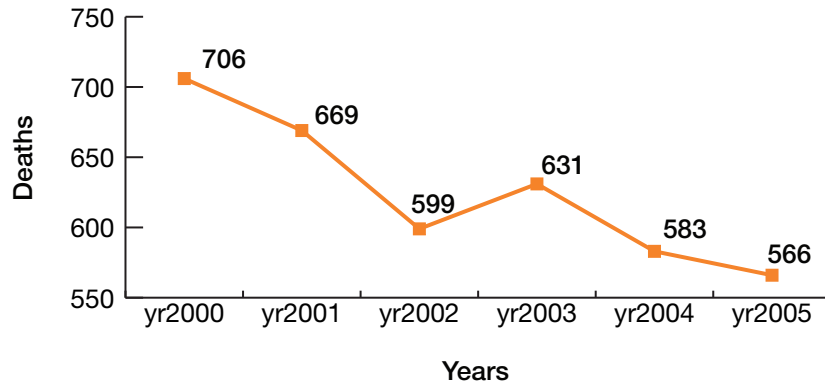
# Pedestrian Safety



## Key Facts

- Each year, approximately 626 child pedestrian fatalities occur.

Total Pedestrian Deaths, children 0-14 years



- Children sustain almost 38,500 nonfatal pedestrian injuries each year.
- In 2006, there were 566 pedestrian fatalities in children ages 14 years and under. The year prior, 583 children died and nearly 70 percent of these deaths were motor vehicle-related traffic crashes.
- 32,590 children were treated in hospital emergency rooms for pedestrian-related injuries in 2006.
- Between 1995 and 2005, the number of child pedestrian fatalities decreased by 40 percent.
- The maturity level of a child under 10 years of age makes him/her 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

- Almost two-thirds of childhood pedestrian deaths occur to males.
- 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 appears 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.