

2007 California Quick Collision Facts

During 2007, California had a total of 501,908 traffic collisions: 3,557 fatal; 184,994 injury; and 313,357 property damage only. This is the lowest number of fatal collisions since 2001, which was 3,517 and also the lowest number of injury collisions since 1982, which was 184,972.

There were 2,443 vehicle occupants killed with 802 not using safety equipment and 192,387 injured with 13,378 not using safety equipment.

A traffic collision was reported every one minute and three seconds.

On average one person was killed every two hours and twelve minutes as a result of a traffic collision.

On average one person was injured every one minute and 58 seconds as a result of a traffic collision.

Children under the age of 15 accounted for 21.1% of pedestrian victims and 19.6% of bicycle victims (victims killed and injured).

For each person killed, there were 67 persons injured.

Speed was indicated as the Primary Collision Factor in 28.5% of the fatal and injury collisions.

Fatal and injury truck collisions where the truck driver was at fault was the lowest number since these numbers have been documented with 72 fatal and 3,095 injury collisions.

Beginning in 1999, motorcyclist victims began to increase over the all time low experienced in 1998. Motorcyclists killed in 2007 increased 132.5% from 1998 and those injured increased 76.5% over that same year. Licensed motorcycle drivers in 2007 increased 39.6% over 1998.

There were 465 motorcyclist victims killed of which 77 did not indicate safety equipment used and 11,172 motorcyclist victims injured of which 1,526 did not indicate safety equipment used.

In 2007, alcohol involved fatal collisions decreased 5.1% and alcohol involved persons killed also decreased 6.8% over the previous year. This is the first decrease in these numbers in the last ten years.

Since 1998, the number of licensed drivers in California has increased 14.0%. Of the licensed drivers in California, 22.5% were under 30 years of age; however, drivers under 30 years of age comprise 35.4% of all drivers in fatal and injury collisions. Drivers at fault under 30 years of age comprise 41.2% of all drivers at fault in fatal and injury collisions.

Since 1998, California's population has increased 12.8%. On an average one out of every 9,521 persons living in California was killed in a traffic collision; on an average one out of every 142 persons was injured; and on an average one out of every 69 licensed drivers was involved in a fatal or injury traffic collision.

As a result of the 3,557 fatal collisions, 3,967 persons were killed for an average of 1.1 deaths per fatal collision.

There were 1.18 persons killed and 79.60 persons injured for every 100 million vehicle miles of travel. (These are more commonly known as the mileage death and mileage injury rates.) Since 1998, the estimated vehicle miles of travel have increased 15.4%.

Hit-and-run was indicated in 10.2% of the fatal and injury collisions.

California has not had a day without a traffic fatality since September 12, 2000.