

2011 California Quick Collision Facts

During 2011, California had a total of 161,743 fatal and injury traffic collisions: 2,628 fatal; and 159,115 injury. This is the lowest number of fatal collisions since 1935, which was 2,607 and also the lowest number of injury collisions since 1968, which was 156,547.

There were 1,597 vehicle occupants (excludes bicyclist, pedestrian, motorcyclist/moped, emergency vehicle, and buses) killed, with 434 not using safety equipment, and 167,980 injured, with 8,344 not using safety equipment.

Vehicle occupants killed decreased 1.1 percent from 2010. Vehicle occupants injured decreased 1.6 percent over that same year.

On average, a fatal and injury traffic collision was reported every three minutes and 15 seconds.

On average, one person was killed every three hours and 5 minutes as a result of a traffic collision.

On average, one person was injured every two minutes and 20 seconds as a result of a traffic collision.

Children under the age of 15 accounted for 16.4 percent of pedestrian victims and 13.7 percent of bicycle victims (victims killed and injured).

For each person killed, there were 80 persons injured.

Speed was indicated as the primary collision factor (PCF) in 30.1 percent of the fatal and injury collisions.

Fatal truck collisions where the truck driver was at fault have increased to 57 from 41 fatal truck collisions, and injury truck collisions where the truck driver was at fault have increased to 2,257 from 2,156 in 2010.

In 2011, there were 417 motorcyclist victims killed of which 61 did not indicate safety equipment used and 10,906 motorcyclist victims injured of which 1,394 did not indicate safety equipment used.

In 2010, there were 348 motorcyclist victims killed and 9,969 motorcyclists victims injured. Motorcyclists killed in 2011 increased 19.8 percent from 2010 and those injured increased 9.4 percent over that same year. Licensed motorcycle drivers in 2011 increased 3.1 percent over 2010.

There were 435 motorcyclists involved in fatal collisions of which 278 were the driver at fault. This indicates 63.9 percent of motorcyclists involved in fatal collisions were at fault.

Of the 435 motorcyclists involved in fatal collisions, 147 (33.8 percent) were involved in fatal collisions where no other party was involved. The motorcyclist was at fault 92.5 percent of the time in solo motorcycle fatal collisions.

In 2011, alcohol involved fatal collisions decreased 4.6 percent and alcohol involved persons killed also decreased 1.6 percent over the previous year. This is the fourth year in a row to show a decrease in the number of alcohol involved fatal collisions and persons killed in those collisions.

Since 2002, the number of licensed drivers in California has increased 6.0 percent. Of the licensed drivers in California, 22.5 percent were under 30 years of age; however, drivers under 30 years of age comprised 32.9 percent of all drivers in fatal and injury collisions. Drivers at fault under 30 years of age comprised 38.9 percent of all drivers at fault in fatal and injury collisions.

Since 2002, California's population has increased 6.4 percent. On average one out of every 13,252 persons living in California was killed in a traffic collision; on an average one out of every 167 persons was injured; and on an average one out of every 82 licensed drivers was involved in a fatal or injury traffic collision.

As a result of the 2,628 fatal collisions, 2,835 persons were killed for an average of 1.1 deaths per fatal collision.

There were 0.87 persons killed and 69 persons injured for every 100 million vehicle miles of travel (these are more commonly known as the mileage death and mileage injury rates). Since 2002, the estimated vehicle miles of travel have increased 1.3 percent.

Hit-and-run was indicated in 9.1 percent of the fatal and injury collisions.

In 2011, California had no days without a traffic fatality. The last year with a day without a motor vehicle traffic fatality was 2009 with three such days: March 30, June 10, and September 5.