

# 2013 California Quick Collision Facts

During 2013, California had a total of 159,762 fatal and injury traffic collisions: 2,853 fatal; and 156,909 injury. This is the lowest number of fatal collisions since 1937, when there were 2,850 as well as the lowest number of injury collisions since 1968, when there were 156,547.

There were 1,686 vehicle occupants indicated using safety equipment (excluding pedestrian, bicyclist, emergency vehicle, and buses) killed; of these, 436 were not using safety equipment. There were 166,952 vehicle occupants injured; of these, 7,599 were not using safety equipment.

The number of vehicle occupants killed decreased 0.4 percent from 2012, yet the number of vehicle occupants injured increased 0.7 percent over that same year.

On average, a fatal and injury traffic collision was reported every three minutes and 17 seconds.

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

On average, one person was injured every two minutes and 21 seconds as a result of a traffic collision.

Children under the age of 15 accounted for 15.2 percent of pedestrian victims and 10.7 percent of bicycle victims (killed and injured).

For each person killed, there were 72 persons injured.

Speed was indicated as the primary collision factor in 30.3 percent of the fatal and injury collisions.

Fatal truck collisions where the truck driver was at fault have decreased from 75 to 70, and injury truck collisions where the truck driver was at fault have increased from 2,211 to 2,360 in 2012.

In 2013, there were 463 motorcyclists killed, of which 80 did not indicate safety equipment used. There were 11,946 motorcyclists injured, of which 1,538 did not indicate safety equipment used.

In 2012, there were 451 motorcyclists killed and 11,472 motorcyclists injured. Motorcyclists killed increased 2.7 percent from 2012 and those injured increased 4.1 percent over that same year. Licensed motorcycle drivers in 2013 increased 1.2 percent over 2012.

There were 484 motorcyclists involved in fatal collisions, of which 318 were the driver at fault. This indicates 65.7 percent of motorcyclists involved in fatal collisions were at fault.

Of the 484 motorcyclists involved in fatal collisions, 149 (30.8 percent) were involved in fatal collisions where no other party was involved. The motorcyclist was at fault 94.6 percent of the time in solo motorcycle fatal collisions.

In 2013, alcohol involved fatal collisions decreased 0.8 percent. Persons killed when alcohol was involved also decreased 2.4 percent over the previous year. This was the sixth year in a row to show a decrease in the number of alcohol involved fatal collisions and persons killed in those collisions.

Since 2004, the number of licensed drivers in California has increased 7.9 percent. Of the licensed drivers in California, 22.5 percent were under 30 years of age; however, drivers under 30 years of age comprised 32.8 percent of all drivers in fatal and injury collisions. Drivers at fault under 30 years of age comprised 39 percent of all drivers at fault in fatal and injury collisions.

Since 2004, California's population has increased 4.3 percent. On average one out of every 12,295 persons living in California was killed in a traffic collision; one out of every 171 persons was injured; and one out of every 59 licensed drivers was involved in a fatal or injury traffic collision.

As a result of the 2,853 fatal collisions, 3,104 (1,597 drivers, 591 passengers, 752 pedestrians, and 164 bicyclists) persons were killed. This is an average of 1.1 deaths per fatal collision.

There were 0.94 persons killed and 68 persons injured for every 100 million vehicle miles of travel (these are more commonly known as the mileage death and mileage injury rates). Since 2004, the estimated vehicle miles of travel has increased 0.2 percent.

Hit-and-run was indicated in 9.0 percent of the fatal and injury collisions.

In 2013, California had one day without a traffic fatality: August 13. The last year without a motor vehicle traffic fatality was in 2009, when there were three such days: March 30, June 10, and September 5.