

2019 California Quick Crash Facts

During 2019, California had a total of 190,649 fatal and injury traffic crashes: 3,438 fatal and 187,211 injury. Fatal crashes were lower than 2018 where there were 3,478 fatal crashes. Injury crashes were also lower than 2018 where there were 191,971 injury crashes.

There were 1,987 vehicle occupants killed (excluding pedestrian, bicyclist, emergency vehicle, and bus); of these, 415 were not using safety equipment. There were 218,707 vehicle occupants injured; of these, 8,514 were not using safety equipment.

The number of vehicle occupants killed decreased by 3.5 percent over 2018 and the number of vehicle occupants injured also decreased by 2.0 percent over the same year.

On average, a fatal or injury traffic crash was reported every 3 minutes.

On average, 1 person was killed every 2 hours and 20 minutes as a result of a traffic crash.

On average, 1 person was injured every 1 minute and 57 seconds as a result of a traffic crash.

Children under the age of 15 accounted for 10 percent of pedestrian victims and 9.3 percent of bicycle victims (killed and injured).

For each person killed, there were 72 persons injured.

Speed was indicated as the primary crash factor in 31.4 percent of the fatal and injury crashes.

Fatal truck crashes where the truck driver was at fault have decreased from 84 in 2018, to 83 in 2019. Injury truck crashes where the truck driver was at fault have decreased from 3,098 in 2018, to 3,038 in 2019.

In 2019, there was no indication of safety equipment use in 46 of the 484 motorcyclist fatalities. Also, there was no indication of safety equipment use in 2,069 of the 12,935 motorcyclist injuries.

In 2018, there were 511 motorcyclists killed and 14,073 motorcyclists injured. Motorcyclists killed in 2019 decreased by 5.2 percent from 2018 and those injured decreased 9.2 percent over that same year. Licensed motorcycle drivers in 2019 decreased 1 percent over 2018.

There were 499 motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes, of which 334 were the fault of the rider. This indicates 66.9 percent of motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes were at fault.

Of the 499 motorcyclists involved in fatal crashes, 140 (28.1 percent) were involved in fatal crashes where no other party was involved. The motorcyclist was at fault 95 percent of the time in solo motorcycle fatal crashes.

In 2019, alcohol involved fatal crashes decreased 0.6 percent. Persons killed when alcohol was involved also decreased 2.9 percent over the previous year.

Since 2010, the number of licensed drivers in California has increased 14.7 percent. Of the licensed drivers in California, 21.1 percent were under 30 years of age; however, drivers under 30 years of age comprised 31 percent of all drivers in fatal and injury crashes. Drivers at fault under 30 years of age comprised 35.9 percent of all drivers at fault in fatal and injury crashes.

Since 2010, California's population has increased 6.5 percent. On average, 1 out of every 10,600 persons living in California was killed in a traffic crash; 1 out of every 148 persons was injured; and 1 out of every 76 licensed drivers was involved in a fatal or injury traffic crash.

As a result of the 3,438 fatal crashes, 3,737 (1,891 drivers, 651 passengers, 1,034 pedestrians, and 161 bicyclists) persons were killed. This is an average of 1.1 deaths per fatal crash.

There were 1.06 persons killed and 77 persons injured for every 100 million vehicle miles of travel (these are more commonly known as the mileage death and mileage injury rates). Since 2010, the estimated vehicle miles of travel has increased 7.1 percent.

Hit-and-run was indicated in 10.7 percent of the fatal and injury crashes.

In 2019, California did not have a day without a traffic fatality. The last recorded dates or times without motor vehicle traffic fatalities were on June 30, 2015; August 13, 2013; and in 2009 when there were three such days: March 30, June 10, and September 5.