

## SUMMARY OF 2006 CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BUS COLLISION DATA

The following is a summary of California school bus collision data for the 2006 calendar year. This data reflects those collisions which occurred while school buses were transporting one or more students to or from school, or school-related activities. School pupil transportation agencies may use this information to identify primary collision factors and direct their training resources accordingly. This data should assist school pupil transportation agencies in reducing incidents of school bus-involved collisions and ensure the safe transportation of California's school pupils.

### SYNOPSIS

**Mileage:** In 2006, 25,822 school buses were operated in California; an increase of 408 from 2005. These vehicles traveled 315,463,456 miles; a 2.4 percent decrease in miles traveled when compared to the 2005 calendar year.

**Collisions:** The total number of school bus collisions in 2006 increased by 63 to 2,345; a 2.6 percent increase from 2005. Of the 2006 collisions, 10 resulted in 6 fatalities; 6 more than the previous year. However, none of the fatalities involved school pupil passengers. The last school pupil passenger death occurred in 1995.

**Injury collisions:** The total number of injury collisions in 2006 decreased to 391 from 396 the previous year; a 1.2 percent decrease.

**School Bus Driver-at-Fault Collisions:** School bus driver error was the primary collision factor for 990 school bus collisions for 2006; a 10.7 percent increase from the previous year. Of the driver-at-fault collisions, 821 (83 percent) occurred in Type 1 school buses and 169 (17 percent) occurred in Type 2 school buses.

- ❖ A Type 1 school bus is a vehicle designed to carry more than 16 passengers and the driver.
- ❖ A Type 2 school bus is a vehicle designed to carry not more than 16 passengers and the driver, or a vehicle manufactured on or after April 1, 1977, having a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, and designed to carry not more than 20 passengers and the driver.

**School Bus Collisions and Other Than School Bus at Fault:** Drivers of other vehicles were responsible for 1,097 (53 percent) of the total school bus collisions.

**TABLE 1**

**2006 CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BUS COLLISION STATISTICS**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Fatal Collisions</b>	<b>10</b>
School bus vs. pedestrian	4
School bus vs.	6
<b>Injury Collisions</b>	<b>391</b>
School bus vs. pedestrian	13
School bus vs. other motor vehicle	205
School bus vs. parked vehicle	9
School bus vs. bicycle	9
School bus vs. animal	2
School bus vs. fixed object	15
School bus vs. other object	4
Non-Clsn	133
Not stated	1
<b>Property Damage Collisions</b>	<b>1,944</b>
School bus vs. pedestrian	1
School bus vs. other motor vehicle	1,306
School bus vs. motor veh on other road	6
School bus vs. parked vehicle	325
School bus vs. bicycle	4
School bus vs. animal	15
School bus vs. fixed object	231
School bus vs. other object	41
Non-Clsn	14
Not stated	1
<b>Total Collisions</b>	<b>2,345</b>

**Note:** Non-Collisions (Non-Clsn): These collisions do not reflect an impact with any party or object. These school bus collisions are a result of injury to a pupil inside the school bus due to acceleration, deceleration, or other movement of the vehicle. For example, a driver brakes firmly, the pupil hits their head on the seat in front of them and is injured (as a result of the rapid deceleration).

TABLE 2

2004 – 2006 CALIFORNIA SCHOOL BUS COLLISION PUPIL INJURY STATISTICS

CATEGORY	2004	2005	2006
Pupil Passengers Killed	0	0	0
<b>Total Pupil Passengers Killed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Pupil Pedestrians Killed	0	0	2
<b>Total Pupil Pedestrians Killed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
<u>Pupil Passengers Injured:</u>			
Severe Injuries	0	0	2
Other Visible Injuries	89	60	63
Complaint of Pain	423	340	322
<b>Total Pupil Passengers Injured</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>387</b>
<u>Pupil Pedestrians Injured:</u>			
Severe Injuries	0	1	1
Other Visible Injuries	7	4	7
Complaint of Pain	3	4	2
<b>Total Pupil Pedestrians Injured</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>

**TABLE 3**

**2006 SCHOOL BUS PASSENGERS KILLED AND INJURED BY EXTENT OF INJURY, PRIMARY COLLISION FACTOR (PCF), AND PUBLIC, PRIVATE, OR CONTRACTUAL (Contr.) SCHOOL BUS TYPE I OR II (SB I or II)**

<b>PCF and SB Type</b>	<b>Total Killed</b>	<b>Total Injured</b>	<b>Severe Injury</b>	<b>Other Visible Injury</b>	<b>Complaint of Pain</b>
<b><u>Non-Clsn.:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>120</b>
Public SB I	0	108	0	28	80
Public SB II	0	9	0	3	6
Private SB II	0	1	0	0	1
Contr. SB I	0	42	0	12	30
Contr. SB II	0	5	0	2	3
<b><u>Other Motor Vehicle:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>174</b>
Public SB I	0	134	0	13	119
Public SB II	0	11	0	0	11
Private SB I	0	4	0	0	4
Private SB II	0	1	0	0	1
Contr. SB I	0	33	0	2	31
Contr. SB II	0	9	0	1	8
<b><u>Parked Motor Vehicle:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
Public SB I	0	3	0	0	3
Contr. SB I	0	1	0	0	1
<b><u>Bicycle:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Public SB I	0	1	0	0	1
<b><u>Animal:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Public SB I	0	3	0	1	2
<b><u>Fixed Object:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>
Public SB I	0	13	0	1	12
Contr. SB I	0	5	0	0	5
<b><u>Other Object:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
Public SB I I	0	2	0	0	2
Contr. SB I	0	2	0	0	2
<b><u>Not Stated:</u></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Public SB I	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>322</b>

**TABLE 4**

**2006 SCHOOL BUS TYPE I AND II COLLISIONS BY PRIMARY COLLISION FACTOR (PCF)**

PCF	Public SB I	Public SB II	Private SB I	Private SB II	Contractual SB I	Contractual SB II	Total
Driver Alcohol/ Drugs	8	0	2	1	1	1	13
Impede Traffic	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unsafe Speed	194	45	12	3	111	42	407
Too Close	8	2	0	0	0	1	11
Wrong Side	27	3	1	0	16	4	51
Improper Pass	59	7	2	1	52	8	129
Lane Change	63	12	2	5	57	9	148
Improper Turn	340	70	7	5	157	43	622
Right-of-Way Auto	74	16	3	1	43	13	150
Right-of-Way Pedestrian	3	1	0	0	2	1	7
Pedestrian Violation	5	0	0	0	1	1	7
Stop Sign or Signal	39	5	1	1	20	7	73
Start or Backing	198	38	6	2	88	30	362
Hazardous Parking	1	2	0	0	1	1	5
Other Equipment	2	0	1	0	3	0	6
Other Haz.	10	1	0	0	2	0	13
Other Improper Driving	88	19	5	2	25	13	152
Not Driver	95	14	1	2	38	7	157
Unknown	22	2	0	1	5	1	31
Not Stated	7	2	0	0	3	1	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>2,358</b>

**NOTE:** The total number of school bus collisions identified in Table 4 differs by thirteen collisions from the total number of school bus collisions in Table 1. The reason for the difference is that Table 4 includes school bus collisions where two school buses were involved and accounts for each school bus separately. In other words, Type 1 school buses were involved in fifty-eight collisions with another Type 1; Type 1 school buses were involved in two collisions with Type 2 school buses.

**TABLE 5**

**2006 SCHOOL BUS TYPE I AND II AT-FAULT COLLISIONS BY PRIMARY COLLISION FACTORS (PCF)**

<b>PCF</b>	<b>Public SB I</b>	<b>Public SB II</b>	<b>Private SB I</b>	<b>Private SB II</b>	<b>Contractual SB I</b>	<b>Contractual SB II</b>	<b>Total</b>
Unsafe Speed	63	18	6	1	45	7	140
Too Close	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Wrong Side	4	1	0	0	6	2	13
Improper Pass	9	1	1	1	13	2	27
Lane Change	15	2	1	3	19	0	40
Improper Turn	232	40	3	3	90	24	392
Right-of-Way Auto	20	5	3	0	21	2	51
Right-of-Way Pedestrian	3	1	0	0	2	1	7
Stop Sign or Signal	3	0	0	1	2	1	7
Start or Backing	114	18	3	1	52	15	203
Hazardous Parking	1	1	0	0	0	1	3
Other Equip	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other Hazard	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
Other Improper Driving	59	10	4	0	15	5	93
Not Stated	4	0	0	0	2	1	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>990</b>

**TABLE 6**  
**SCHOOL BUS COLLISIONS BY MONTH**  
**2006**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Fatal</b>	<b>Injury</b>	<b>PDO</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
January	1	39	168	208
February	1	33	165	199
March	3	36	204	243
April	0	40	154	194
May	3	42	215	260
June	0	32	140	172
July	1	17	61	79
August	0	19	89	108
September	0	31	211	242
October	0	39	220	259
November	1	33	184	218
December	0	30	133	163
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>1,944</b>	<b>2,345</b>

Questions regarding this information may be directed to Commercial Vehicle Section at (916) 445-1865.