

Motor Vehicle Collisions



Risk Factors:

- **Age**
20-34 year olds are more likely to be in a collision, followed by 35-69 year olds. The group least likely to be involved in a collision are <13 years old.
- **Sex**
Males are impacted the most by collisions and, as a result, have higher per capita crash rates than females at all ages.
- **Impaired Driving**
The risk of being in a motor vehicle collision is more pronounced when using drugs and alcohol in combination.
- **Seat Belt Use**
Unrestrained occupants are more likely to be fatally injured compared to restrained occupants in the event of a collision.
- **Location**
Motor vehicle collisions to pedestrians are more likely to happen in areas further from an intersection. Most pedestrian deaths happen in urban areas.

Motor Vehicle Collisions are an unintended event that cause death, injury, or property damage involving a motor vehicle in transport (in motion or in readiness for motion) on a roadway (a way or place) any part of which is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

Facts

- The rate of motor vehicle collision deaths increased from 10.7 deaths per 100,000 in 2010 to 12.9 deaths per 100,000 in 2021.
- Alcohol-impaired driver related accidents accounted for 30% of all traffic related deaths in the United States in 2020.

Common Motor Vehicle Type Collisions include:

- Passenger Vehicle
- Pedestrian
- Motorcycle
- Bicycle
- Truck

For more information and data go to www.SDHealthStatistics.com
Community Health Statistics Unit:
619-692-6667

Prevention

- **Wear a seat belt**
Wearing a seat belt reduces the likelihood of death in the event of a collision
- **Avoid impaired driving**
Alcohol, prescription/over-the-counter medication, and other illicit drugs impair driving.
- **Avoid distracted driving**
There are three types of distraction:
Visual: Taking eyes off the road.
Manual: Taking hands off the wheel.
Cognitive: Taking mind off driving.
- **Use a booster seat for children up to 8 years old**
- **Avoid the Eight Danger zones**
Parents should be aware and inform their children.

Resources

CDC Transportation Safety

<https://www.cdc.gov/transportationsafety/>

Eight Danger Zones:

<https://www.cdc.gov/parentsarethekey/danger/>

