



NSC Motor Vehicle Fatality Estimates

Prepared by the Statistics Department
National Safety Council

Motor-vehicle deaths continue to increase in first six months of 2016.

Motor-vehicle deaths for January through June of 2016 totaled 19,100. This figure is up 9% from the corresponding period in 2015. The January through June figure for 2016 was up 18% from the 2014 figure. The 6-month total for 2015 was 17,530, an 8% increase from 2014. The 2014 figure was 2% lower than 2013. The estimated annual population death rate is 12.9 deaths per 100,000 population, an 8% increase from the preliminary 2015 rate of 11.9. The estimated annual mileage death rate is 1.3 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, an increase of 8% from the preliminary 2015 rate of 1.2. If the level of increase in fatalities observed during the first two quarters were to remain through the end of the year, total motor vehicle fatalities in 2016 could possibly exceed 40,000 for the first time in nine years.

The increase in fatalities in 2016 likely reflects the effects of the low real gas prices that have averaged over 16% below 2015 levels for first six months of 2016, helping to produce a 3.3% increase in cumulative vehicle mileage through May. It should be noted that gas prices and the economy are strongly connected and it is difficult to isolate the impact of lower gas prices from the overall impact of an improving economy.

Medically consulted motor-vehicle injuries for the first six months of 2016 are estimated to be about 2,196,000. As a result of a refinement made last year to the medically consulted injury estimate, comparison of medically consulted injuries to previous years is not appropriate.

The estimated cost of motor-vehicle deaths, injuries, and property damage through June was \$205.5 billion. Due to recent updates to the Council's cost model, comparison of current year cost estimates to previous years is not appropriate.

Table 1
June 2016
Motor-Vehicle Deaths and Changes
United States, Six Months, 2013 to 2016*


Month	Number of Deaths				Percent Changes				
	2013	2014	2015	2016	Corresponding Month			Four Month Moving Average +	
					2014 to 2016	2014 to 2015	2015 to 2016	2014 to 2015	2015 to 2016
January	2,642	2,572	2,810	2,760	7%			-2%	3%
February	2,296	2,248	2,380	2,890	29%			21%	6%
March	2,791	2,589	2,810	3,090	19%			10%	9%
April	2,719	2,720	2,890	3,200	18%			11%	10%
May	2,988	3,038	3,320	3,500	15%			5%	11%
June	3,181	3,084	3,320	3,660	19%			10%	9%
6 Months	16,617	16,251	17,530	19,100	18%			9%	
July	3,119	3,227	3,650					13%	9%
August	3,378	3,277	3,680					12%	11%
September	3,184	3,069	3,450					12%	11%
October	3,173	3,304	3,510					6%	11%
November	3,076	3,175	3,180					3%	8%
December	2,822	3,095	3,300					7%	6%
TOTAL	35,369	35,398	38,300	39,870 #					

NOTE: National Safety Council figures are not comparable to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration figures. NSC counts both traffic and nontraffic deaths that occur within a year of the accident, while NHTSA counts only traffic deaths that occur within 30 days.

The 2013 and 2014 data are from the National Center for Health Statistics. All other figures are National Safety Council estimates.

* Latest updates: 2013--2/5/15; 2014--1/13/16; 2015--2/18/16.

+ Four-Month Moving Average is based on changes between the totals of four consecutive months. Adding several months together tends to smooth out single-month changes that may be affected by differences in the number of weekends in a month from one year to the next or by other random variations.

 Denotes change of less than 0.5%.

Deaths for the twelve-month period ending June 2016.

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Table 2
State Motor-Vehicle Deaths, Changes, and Rates

State	Number of Months Reported	Deaths Identical Periods			Percent Changes	
		2016	2015	2014	2015 to 2016	2014 to 2016
<i>TOTAL U.S.</i>	6	19,100	17,530	16,251	9%	18%
Alabama	6	479	381	412	26%	16%
Alaska	6	34	27	32	26%	6%
Arizona	6	473	451	382	5%	24%
Arkansas	6	263	237	207	11%	27%
California	6	1,702	1,566	1,302	9%	31%
Colorado	6	254	236	200	8%	27%
Connecticut	6	138	95	119	45%	16%
Delaware	6	60	47	65	28%	-8%
Dist. of Columbia	6	9	10	13	-10%	-31%
Florida	6	1,590	1,441	1,114	10%	43%
Georgia	6	701	657	522	7%	34%
Hawaii	6	48	52	54	-8%	-11%
Idaho	6	115	84	79	37%	46%
Illinois	6	494	442	399	12%	24%
Indiana	6	383	356	289	8%	33%
Iowa	6	182	134	133	36%	37%
Kansas	6	195	149	184	31%	6%
Kentucky	6	373	326	300	14%	24%
Louisiana	6	314	330	275	-5%	14%
Maine	6	63	62	60	2%	5%
Maryland	6	231	224	188	3%	23%
Massachusetts	6	179	149	146	20%	23%
Michigan	6	462	409	407	13%	14%
Minnesota	6	173	187	149	-7%	16%
Mississippi	6	326	288	286	13%	14%
Missouri	6	410	383	348	7%	18%
Montana	6	77	72	79	7%	-3%
Nebraska	6	100	109	108	-8%	-7%
Nevada	6	141	147	134	-4%	5%
New Hampshire	6	61	38	38	61%	61%
New Jersey	6	272	245	267	11%	2%
New Mexico	6	187	131	169	43%	11%
New York	6	411	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	6	668	634	531	5%	26%
North Dakota	6	45	61	50	-26%	-10%
Ohio	6	505	499	425	1%	19%
Oklahoma	6	322	303	319	6%	1%
Oregon	6	217	204	128	6%	70%
Pennsylvania	6	569	552	518	3%	10%
Rhode Island	6	23	21	23	10%	0%
South Carolina	6	458	445	367	3%	25%
South Dakota	6	44	44	67	0%	-34%
Tennessee	6	502	437	453	15%	11%
Texas	6	1,824	1,643	1,668	11%	9%
Utah	6	133	129	108	3%	23%
Vermont	6	31	19	17	63%	82%
Virginia	6	348	344	308	1%	13%
Washington	6	253	235	225	8%	12%
West Virginia	6	109	119	107	-8%	2%
Wisconsin	6	277	254	214	9%	29%
Wyoming	6	42	66	65	-36%	-35%

NOTE: Deaths are reported by state traffic authorities. ALL FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY. To ensure proper comparisons, 2014 and 2015 figures are preliminary figures covering the same reporting period as those for 2016. The total for 2014 is from the National Center for Health Statistics.

States in **bold**: States with a decrease in deaths from 2015 to 2016.