



Municipal Traffic Safety Initiatives Pedestrian Safety



JUST THE FACTS

NATIONALLY:

- In 2022 (<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813590>),
 - there were 7,522 pedestrians killed in traffic crashes, a 0.7percent increase from the 7,470 pedestrian fatalities in 2021. It is the highest since 1981 when 7,837 pedestrians died in traffic crashes .
 - there were an estimated 67,336 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes, an 11-percent increase from 60,579 pedestrians injured in 2021 (NHTSA, pedestrian).
 - every 70 minutes, a pedestrian was killed in a traffic crash
- Pedestrian deaths accounted for 18 percent of all traffic fatalities and 3 percent of all people injured in traffic crashes in 2022.
- Seventeen percent of the children 14 and younger killed in traffic crashes in 2022 were pedestrians.

TEXAS:

- Pedestrian fatalities totaled 807 in 2023. This is a 0.98% decrease from 2022 (<https://www.txdot.gov/content/dam/docs/trf/crash-reports-records/2023/01.pdf>).

IT'S THE LAW

- A traffic control signal displaying green (go), red (stop), and yellow (caution) lights or lighted signal applies to pedestrians unless otherwise directed by a special pedestrian control signal.¹
- Pedestrians should use crosswalks and cross at corners whenever possible.²
- Pedestrians should stay on the right-hand side of crosswalks within the crosswalk lines.³
- Drivers must yield to a pedestrian at marked crosswalks.⁴
- Pedestrians should yield to vehicles on the roadway if crossing the street at a place other than a marked crosswalk, pedestrian tunnel or crossing.⁵
- If a sidewalk is provided and accessible to the pedestrian, the pedestrian should not walk along or on a roadway.⁶
- If a sidewalk is not available, a pedestrian may walk along and, on a highway, facing highway traffic (left-hand side or on the shoulder).⁷

KEEP IT SAFE

- Always cross at intersections. If the "Don't Walk" signal is flashing, pedestrians may finish crossing the street. Pedestrians may not begin crossing the street when the "Don't Walk" signal is flashing.
- Before crossing the street, make sure the street is clear by looking left- then right- then left again.
- Children under age 10 should hold hands with an adult or older sibling when crossing the street or in a parking lot.
- Be careful around parked cars or school buses by keeping an eye out for traffic or for cars turning and backing up. Even if the child can see the driver, the driver may not see the child.
- Do not run into the street, even to chase a friend, pet or toy.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Safety Tips Pedestrians and School Buses](#)⁸
- [NHTSA, Pedestrian, Traffic Safety Facts, 2022 data](#)⁹
- [TxDOT Pedestrian Safety Campaign](#)¹⁰
- [Texas Drivers Handbook](#)¹¹

For more information: www.tmcec.com/mtsi

MTSI, Pedestrian Safety, Page 1 of 2,
Last revised on December 11, 2024

¹ Texas Transportation Code, Section 552.001 (Traffic Control Signals).

² Texas Department of Transportation, *Safety Tips Pedestrians and School Buses*, Retrieved on April 28, 2011, from <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/safety/tips/pedestrians.htm> (hereinafter referred to as *TxDOT Safety Tips Pedestrians and School Buses*).

³ See *TxDOT Safety Tips Pedestrians and School Buses* – endnote 6

⁴ Texas Transportation Code, Section 552.003 (Pedestrian Right-of-Way at Crosswalk).

⁵ Texas Transportation Code, Section 552.003 (Pedestrian Right-of-Way at Crosswalk).

⁶ Texas Transportation Code, Section 552.006 (Use of Sidewalk).

⁷ Texas Transportation Code, Section 552.006 (Use of Sidewalk); See *TxDOT Safety Tips Pedestrians and School Buses* – endnote 6

⁸ See *TxDOT Safety Tips Pedestrians and School Buses* – endnote 6

⁹ Texas AgriLife Extension Service, *Pedestrian Safety Fact Sheet*, Retrieved on April 28, 2011, from http://fcs.tamu.edu/safety/passenger_safety/pdf/pedestrian_safety_fact_sheet.pdf.

¹⁰ Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center, *Pedestrian Crash Facts*, Retrieved on April 28, 2011, from <http://www.walkinginfo.org/facts/facts.cfm>.

¹¹ Texas Department of Public Safety, *Texas Drivers Handbook* (revised October 2008), Retrieved on April 28, 2011, from <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/documents/DL-7.pdf>.