

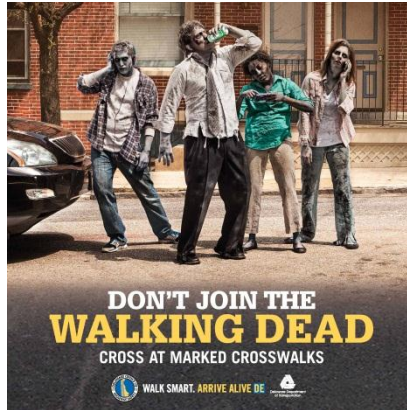


2013 Delaware Pedestrian Fact Sheet

- As of July 26, 2013, there have been 12 fatal pedestrian crashes in which 13 pedestrians were killed on Delaware roadways.
- 5 in Sussex County, 7 in New Castle County, 1 in Kent County.
- 10 Males ages 37 – 79.
- 3 Females ages 30 – 77.
- Visibility of the pedestrian seems to be an issue for those pedestrians who are killed but not for those who are only injured.
 - Not being visible was noted for 13 of the 30 deaths in 2012. Not being visible was noted for 6 of the 13 deaths so far in 2013. Only 22 of the 347 pedestrians injured in 2012 were “not visible” while 11 out of 157 injured were “not visible” in 2013.
- Alcohol and drug involvement on the part of the pedestrian fatalities is frequent but less frequent for those pedestrians who are injured only.
 - Last year 17 out of 30 pedestrians killed were under the influence of alcohol and / or drugs. This year, 7 out of 13 fatalities were under the influence.
 - For the injured pedestrians, the frequency is much less. Last year, 37 out of 347 injured were under the influence of alcohol and / or drugs while this year, 20 out of 157 were.
- Most often the pedestrian is in the travel lane prior to the crash. The next most often noted location for the pedestrian is the shoulder / roadside. Pedestrians actions that contributed to the crashes include:
 - Darting or dashing out into traffic.
 - Failure to yield the right of way to traffic.
 - In roadway.
 - Not visible (wearing dark clothing, not carrying a light or reflective items, walking in unlighted area).
 - Walking on the wrong side of roadway.
- Most deaths occur after dark. Over half of the pedestrian deaths occurred in dark – not lighted conditions.

Sussex County specific Pedestrian Fatals

- 4 crashes that killed 5 pedestrians happened between June 8 and July 11.
- All Males ages 37 – 79.
- In the areas of Route 1 and Route 54.
- Alcohol involved on part of at least 3 pedestrians and 1 driver.
- Crashes occurred between 8:51 pm and 11:03 pm.
- Actions noted that contributed to pedestrian crash and fatalities include:
 - Pedestrian stepping into the lane of traffic.
 - Pedestrian attempting to cross road and entered lane in front of traffic.
 - Pedestrian stepped from median into travel lane in front of traffic.
 - Pedestrian walking wrong direction (back to traffic) in turn lane.
- None of the crashes happened at crosswalks or signaled or marked intersections.



By following these basic safety tips and pedestrian laws, everyone can learn to Walk Smart. *Don't Join the Walking Dead.*

- Cross only at crosswalks or intersections with signals or traffic signs. Look left, right, and left again. Only start to cross when it's clear.
- Do not risk crossing outside of a crosswalk or intersection just because it's more convenient, especially on high speed roadways. Speeding cars cannot stop in time for you.
- Use sidewalks. If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far off the edge of the road as possible.
- Do not step into a crosswalk if it will create a hazard to motorists. When it is clear to cross, continue to watch for traffic while crossing the street until you have safely reached the other side.
- Make yourself visible to motorists when walking at night and walk against traffic. Carry a flashlight or other reflective items.
- Do not hitchhike.
- Teach children not to run into the street after balls or other toys, and don't allow them to cross alone until you've practiced the basics with them hundreds of times.
- Do not walk under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Impaired walking is like impaired driving; it is illegal and can be deadly.
- If your vehicle breaks down on an interstate or busy roadway, don't leave your vehicle. Instead call #77 or 911 for assistance. Motorists can also call #77 to report a disabled vehicle they see on the roadways.
- If you are driving, be on the lookout for pedestrians near the roadway. They might be walking/crossing where you least expect them.

For more information on Pedestrian Safety Laws go to Delaware Code Title 21, Chapter 41, Subchapter V. Pedestrians' Rights and Duties. <http://delcode.delaware.gov/title21/c041/sc05/index.shtml>