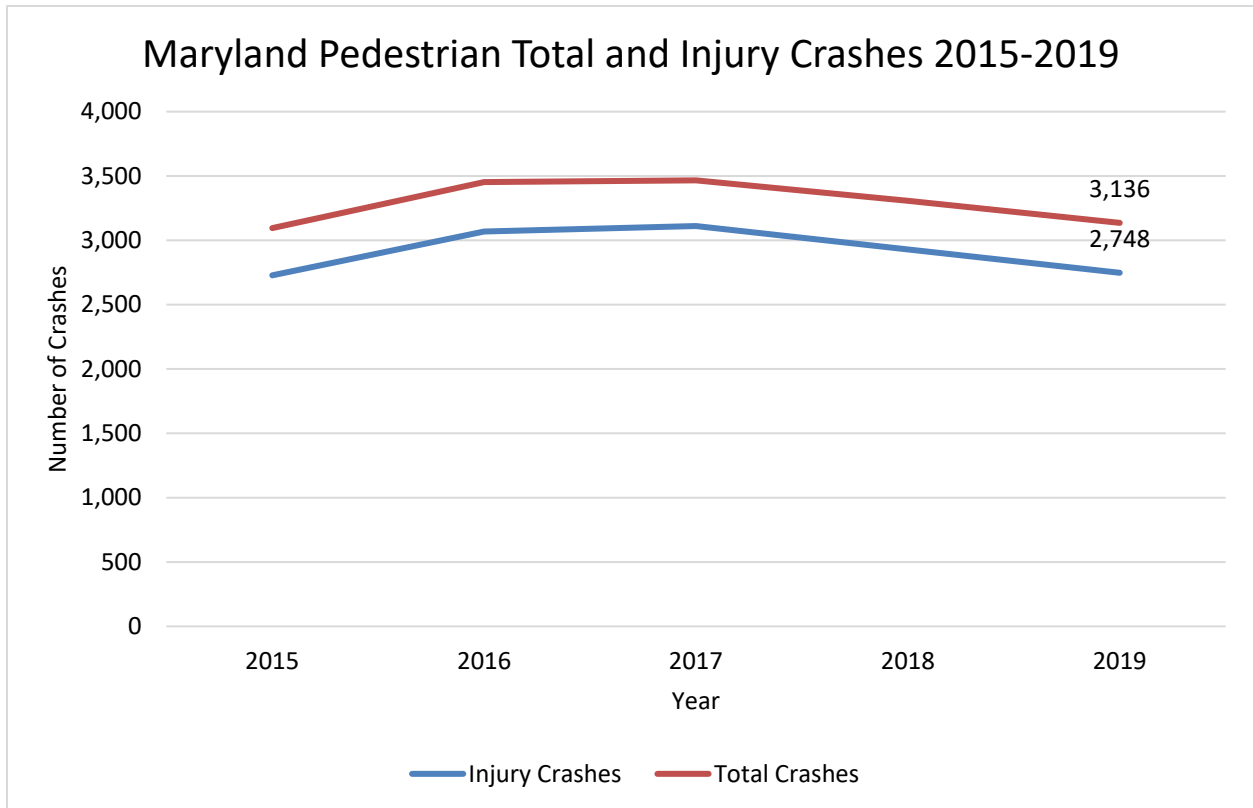


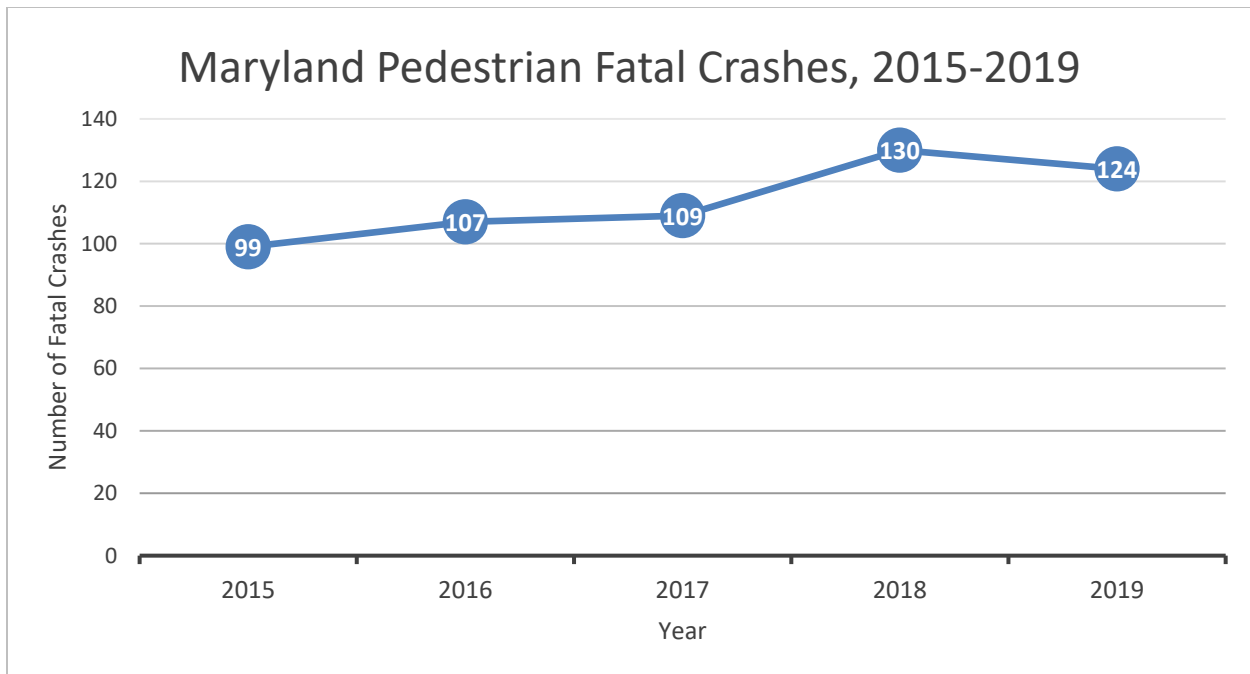
PEDESTRIAN PROGRAM AREA BRIEF

BACKGROUND

Pedestrian safety is an issue that affects everyone in Maryland; young and old, drivers and walkers, during the day and at night. Everyone is a pedestrian in some capacity at one point or another. Many unnecessary injuries and fatalities occur because of intoxication, ignorance, or inattentiveness by either or both motorists and/or pedestrians. Maryland's roadways should be safe places for all transportation modes. Laws related to pedestrian safety need to be enforced and drivers and pedestrians need to be educated on the laws and how to do their part to improve their safety.

THE FACTS





- Motor vehicle crashes are a huge threat to public health.** Motor vehicle crashes continue to be a leading cause of death in the United States¹. In 2018, approximately 6.7 million crashes were reported; approximately 29 percent resulted in an injury or fatality².
- Pedestrian³-involved crashes in Maryland are decreasing since 2017.** Overall, the number of pedestrian crashes and those resulting in injuries and/or fatalities have increased in Maryland over the past five years, but the rate of increase flatlined from 2016-2017. The number of pedestrian-involved crashes and pedestrian-involved crashes resulting in injury were slightly lower in 2018 and 2019 when compared to 2017.
- Fatalities are high among pedestrian-involved crashes.** Annually, Maryland drivers were involved in over 3,000 pedestrian crashes. In 2019, pedestrian crashes accounted for three percent of the State’s approximately 116,000 crashes but accounted for 23 percent of statewide fatalities. Approximately one out of every four people killed in Maryland in a traffic crash was a pedestrian on foot.
- Metropolitan areas have the highest concentration of pedestrian-involved crashes⁴.** Between 2015 and 2019, about 91 percent of pedestrian-involved crashes occurred in Baltimore and Washington metropolitan areas. Although most pedestrian-involved crashes occurred in

92 percent of pedestrian-involved crashes in Maryland in 2019 resulted in ***injury or death.***

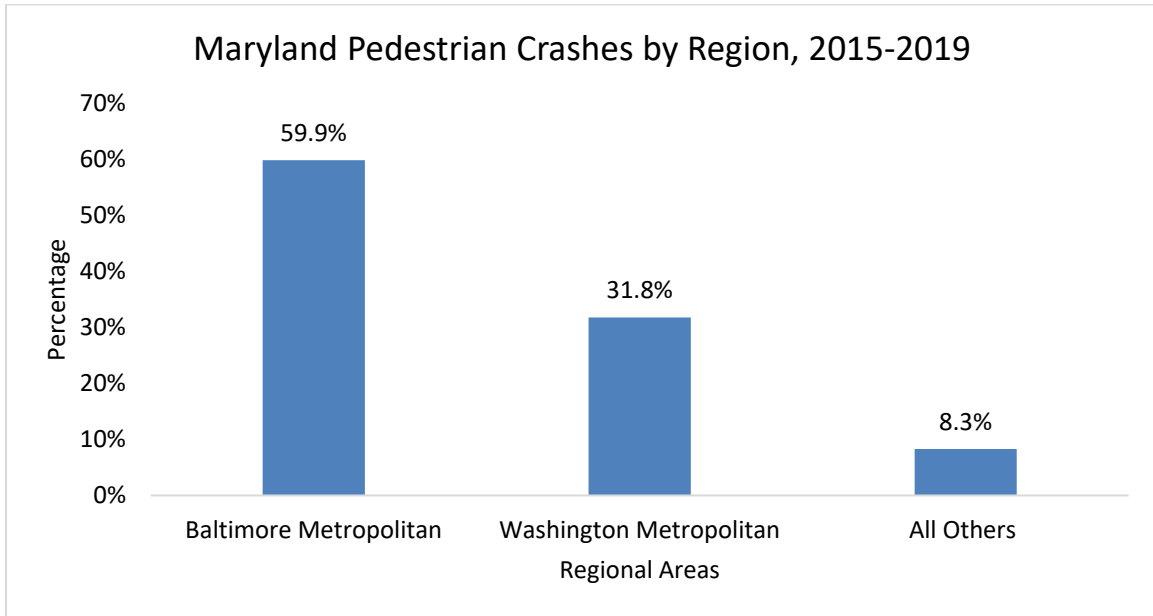
¹ CDC National Vital Statistics Reports – 10 Leading Causes of Death

² National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Traffic Safety Facts Annual Report Tables, National Statistics 2010-2018

³ ACRS Non-Motorist Type 01

⁴ Baltimore Metropolitan area is comprised of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard and Queen Anne’s Counties, and Baltimore City as designated by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. The Washington Metropolitan Area is defined as Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, and Prince George’s Counties as designated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Baltimore City, Prince George’s County accounted for the greatest number of crashes resulting in a fatality.



- **Pedestrian-involved crashes are highest during the fall season.** The number of pedestrian crashes and total statewide crashes showed a similar distribution throughout the year. The fall season accounted for the highest number of total and fatal pedestrian crashes.
- **Fridays and evening hours are dangerous times for pedestrians.** On average, Friday was the peak day for pedestrian crashes overall and injury crashes. However, the highest percentage of fatal crashes occurred on Saturday. Nearly half of all pedestrian crashes occurred between 3 p.m. and 10 p.m.; however, close to 50 percent of pedestrian crashes resulting in fatalities occurred during the early- to late-evening hours (6 p.m. – midnight).
- **Young adults account for a large share of pedestrian-involved crashes, older adults account for a large share of fatal pedestrian-involved crashes.** Just over a quarter of pedestrian crashes in Maryland involved drivers of age 34 and younger. Pedestrians between the ages of 20 and 34 accounted for nearly 30 percent of those either struck by vehicles or involved in a crash where an injury occurred; however, older pedestrians (ages 50-64) comprised just under 30 percent of those involved in fatal crashes.
- **Males are most often the victims and drivers in pedestrian-involved crashes.** Males accounted for the greatest number of pedestrians involved in crashes, as 72 percent of pedestrian fatalities were male. Approximately 44 percent of all drivers involved in a pedestrian crash were male.

MARYLAND’S PEDESTRIAN SAFETY LAWS

For Drivers

- **TR§21-502(a)2 Failure to stop for pedestrian in crosswalk**
Driver of a vehicle shall come to a complete stop when a pedestrian crossing the roadway in a crosswalk is: (i) on the half of the roadway on which the vehicle is traveling or (ii) approaching from an adjacent lane on the other half of the roadway.

Penalty: \$80 or up to \$500.00. One Point.

- **TR§21-502(c) Passing a vehicle stopped for a pedestrian**
It is unlawful for a driver to pass a vehicle that is stopped for a pedestrian either in a marked or unmarked crosswalk.
Penalty: \$80 or up to \$500.00. One Point.
- **TR§21-202(c, e) Failure to yield right-of-way when turning on green signal or green arrow**
Vehicles facing a circular green signal, including any vehicle turning left or right, shall yield right-of-way to any pedestrian lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk.
Penalty: \$90 or up to \$500.00. One Point.
- **TR§21-202(h) Failure to stop at clearly marked stop line**
Vehicles facing a steady circular red signal or red arrow signal shall stop at the near side of the intersection at a clearly marked stop line, or before entering the crosswalk.
- **Penalty: \$140 or up to \$500.00. Two Points.**
TR§21-202(k) Failure to yield to pedestrian before turning on red
Vehicles facing a red signal shall, after stopping, yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk.
Penalty: \$90 or up to \$500.00. One Point.
- **TR§21-504(a, b, c) Failure to exercise due care to avoid hitting a pedestrian**
The driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian, shall warn any pedestrian by sounding a horn, and shall exercise proper precaution on observing any confused or incapacitated pedestrians.
Penalty: \$70 or up to \$500.00. One Point.
- **TR§21-801(h) Special dangers as to pedestrians**
The driver of a vehicle shall drive at an appropriate, reduced speed when any special danger exists as to pedestrians.
Penalty: \$90 or up to \$500.00. One Point.

For Pedestrians

- **TR§21-202(l) Failure to obey red traffic signal**
Pedestrian facing a steady red traffic signal alone may not enter the roadway.
Penalty: \$80 or up to \$500.00.
- **TR§21-203(c) Failure to obey pedestrian control signal**
Pedestrian may not start to cross the roadway in the direction of a solid “don’t walk” or “upraised hand” signal.
Penalty: \$40 or up to \$500.00.
- **TR§21-503(a) Failure to yield right-of-way to vehicle**
If a pedestrian crosses a roadway at any point other than in a marked crosswalk or in an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, the pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle.
Penalty: \$40 or up to \$500.00.
- **TR§21-503(c) Failure to cross at signalized intersection**

Between adjacent intersections at which a traffic control signal is in operation, a pedestrian may cross only in a marked crosswalk.

Penalty: \$40 or up to \$500.00.

- **TR§21-503(d) Crossing intersection diagonally**
Pedestrian may not cross an intersection diagonally unless authorized by a traffic control device.
Penalty: \$40 or up to \$500.00.
- **TR§21-506(a, b) Pedestrian unlawfully on roadway**
Where a sidewalk is provided, a pedestrian may not walk along and on an adjacent roadway.
Where no sidewalk is provided, a pedestrian may walk only on the left shoulder or on the left side of the roadway, facing traffic.
Penalty: \$40 or up to \$500.00.

MARYLAND'S PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PROGRAMS

Look Alive (Signal Woman)

Introduced in 2019 by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, *Look Alive* brought a regional pedestrian safety campaign to the Baltimore metropolitan area, similar to the regional approach used in the *Washington Street Smart* campaign. Safety messaging targets drivers and pedestrians on safe behaviors and traffic safety laws. The large regional education outreach activities are coupled with expanded police enforcement of laws protecting pedestrians.

Look Up, Look Out

Introduced in 2016, Maryland's *Look Up, Look Out* campaign is a statewide campaign that includes transit, radio, outdoor and social media advertising. The campaign also includes increased law enforcement and safety ambassadors strategically located at high priority locations throughout areas such as the Baltimore and Washington Regions' jurisdictions where pedestrian-involved crashes are especially high.

Street Smart Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Campaign

Established in 2002 in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area, the *Street Smart* campaign continues to address pedestrian safety issues through coordinated education and enforcement activities. The *Street Smart D.C.* campaign is managed by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and its Transportation Planning Board.

The *Street Smart* campaign components include:

- Media campaign with television and radio public service announcements, outdoor advertising and outreach materials;
- Editorials in numerous newspapers describing the pedestrian and bicycle crash problems;
- Street Teams and outreach in High Crash Corridors;
- Literature distribution utilizing geographic-specific information; and
- Law enforcement operations targeting priority corridors and neighborhoods

Walk Smart Pedestrian Safety Campaign

During the past five years in Ocean City, the *Walk Smart* campaign collaborates with the Maryland Highway Safety Office, Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), Maryland State Police, local law enforcement and many other partners to support the comprehensive pedestrian safety campaign to reduce injuries and fatalities at the beach. The *Walk Smart* campaign leveraged resources to integrate the four Es (Engineering, Education, Enforcement and EMS) of traffic safety into pedestrian safety.

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TIPS

Pedestrian safety is an issue that affects every community in Maryland. Everyone is a pedestrian. Many unnecessary injuries and fatalities occur because of distraction or intoxication of either or both drivers and pedestrians. Roadways should be safe places for everyone regardless of their transportation mode. Here are a few tips for pedestrians and motorists to help keep pedestrians as safe as possible on our roads:

For Pedestrians

- Walk smart. Be predictable when walking. Use sidewalks where provided and cross only at crosswalks. Stay off highways and restricted zones.
- Pay attention and always look left, right, and left again before crossing the street.
- Avoid distractions and the use of electronic devices while walking. Focus on getting to your destination safely.
- Crosswalks and traffic lights don't stop cars! The WALK signal does not mean it is safe to cross. It only means it is your turn to cross. Check that traffic has come to a stop before crossing.
- Always look both ways before stepping between stopped vehicles as they may block your view of moving traffic.
- Wear brightly colored clothing to be easily seen day or night. At night, also wear reflective materials.
- Walk only on the sidewalk. If there isn't a sidewalk nearby, walk on the side of the road facing traffic.
- Stand a safe distance away from the roadway and traffic while waiting for a bus.
- Remember to look left, right and left again before crossing the street.

For Drivers

- Always come to a complete stop at stop signs and stop lights.
- Always yield to pedestrians and stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk, even if it is not marked.
- Pay attention. Slow down. Be especially attentive around school zones and in neighborhoods where children are active.
- Avoid distractions while driving. Keep your eyes on the road and focus on getting where you need to go safely.
- Keep your windshield and headlights clean for maximum visibility.

WHO TO CONTACT ABOUT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN MARYLAND

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION

- Contact: MDOT MVA's Press Information at 410-762-5188