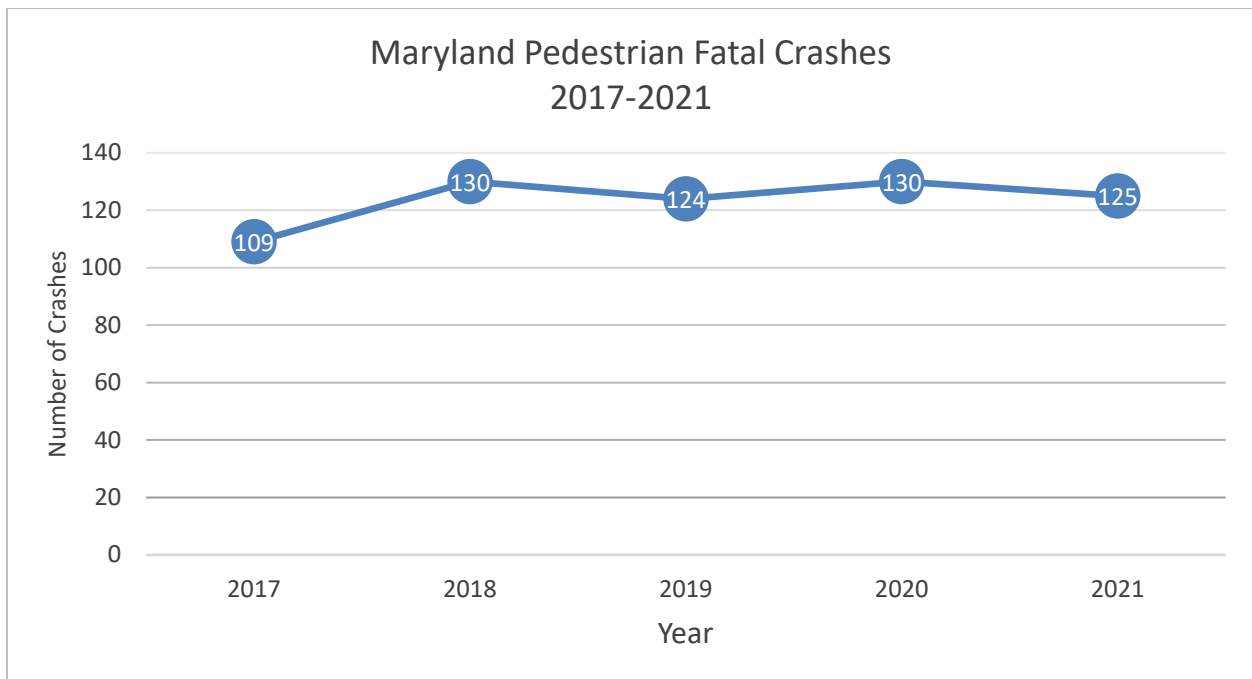
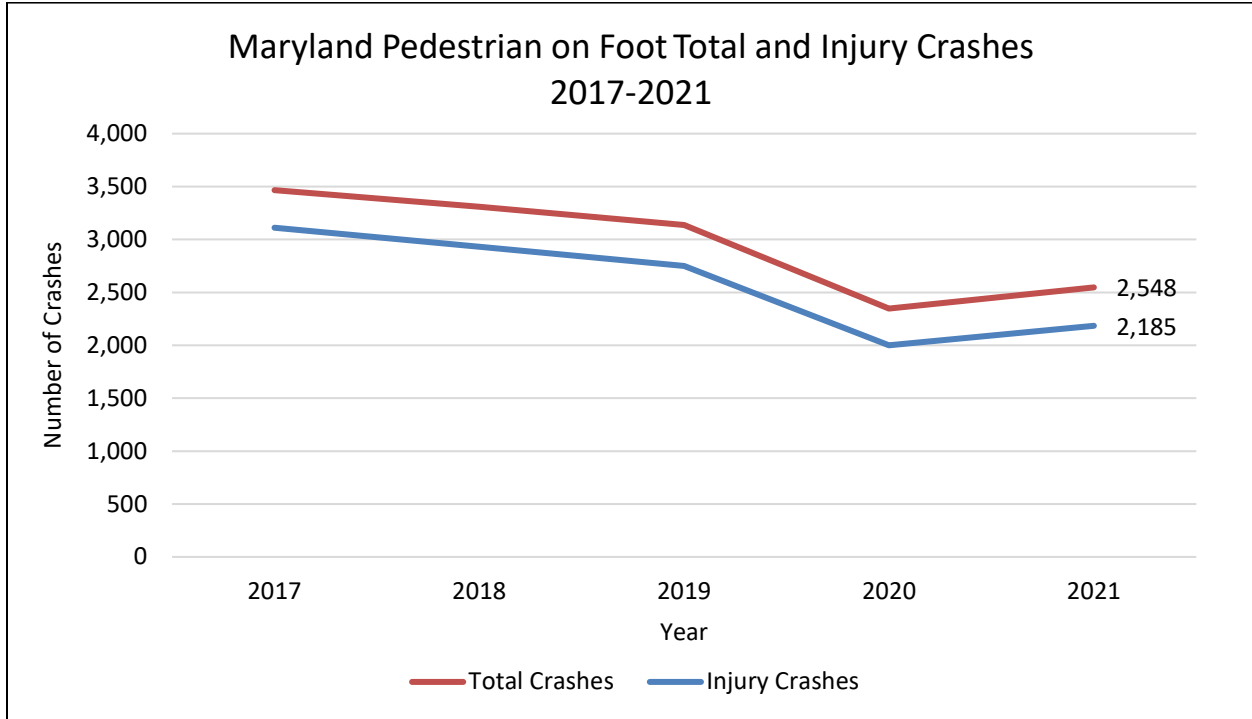


THE FACTS



- **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 2020, approximately 5.3 million crashes were reported, representing a 22 percent decrease from year 2019². However, according to NHTSA early estimates, fatalities in 2021 increased by more than 10 percent over fatalities in 2020. Due to an increase in vehicle miles traveled, the fatality rate for 2021 was 1.33 fatalities per 100 million VMT, representing a slight decrease from the 1.34 fatality rate in 2020³.
- **The number of pedestrian-involved crashes in Maryland have declined from 3,466 in 2017 to 2,548 in 2021, representing a 26 percent decrease.**⁴ However, the number of pedestrian-involved crashes has increased by 9 percent since 2020.
- **Fatalities are high among pedestrian-involved crashes.** Annually, Maryland drivers were involved in around 3,000 pedestrian crashes. In 2021, pedestrian crashes accounted for less than three percent of the State’s approximately 109,000 crashes but accounted for nearly 23 percent of statewide fatalities. From 2017 to 2021, one out of every four people killed in Maryland in a traffic crash was a pedestrian on foot⁵.
- **Metropolitan areas have the highest concentration of pedestrian-involved crashes**⁶. Between 2017 and 2021, 92 percent of pedestrian-involved crashes occurred in the Baltimore and Washington metropolitan areas. Although most pedestrian-involved crashes occurred in Baltimore City (31 percent), Prince George’s County accounted for the greatest number of crashes resulting in a fatality (24 percent).

91 percent of pedestrian-involved crashes in Maryland in 2021 resulted in *injury or death.*

¹ CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)— Motor Vehicle Crash Deaths — United States and 28 Other High-Income Countries, 2015 and 2019, July 1, 2022

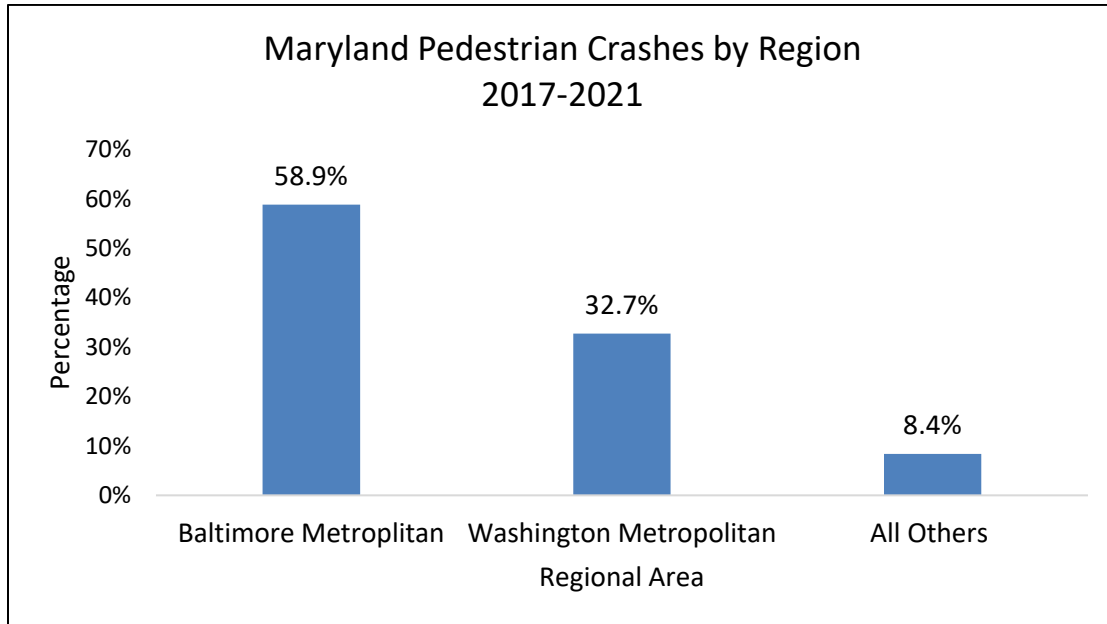
² National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Traffic Safety Facts 2020 Data: Summary of Motor vehicle Crashes, Report Generated: September 2022
<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813369>

³ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Traffic Safety Facts: Early Estimates of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rate by Sub-Categories in 2021, Report Generated: May 2022
<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813298>

⁴ In 2020, the world experienced the COVID-19 pandemic which contributed to significant changes in roadway travel and driver behavior. Reduced vehicle miles traveled, and open roadways resulted in an increase in speed and other risky driving behaviors. While overall fatalities increased in 2020, the reduced travel contributed to marked decreases for injury and overall crashes at the statewide and jurisdictional level. Therefore, this anomalous year must be considered when drawing conclusions based on the use of 2020 crash data to evaluate highway safety programs and trends. With COVID still very much a part of life in 2021, though with a gradual return to openness and increased travel, 2021 must also be considered in the context of a national health emergency.

⁵ Pedestrian on Foot: A person involved in a crash with a motor vehicle and reported as a ‘pedestrian’ (01 only) non-motorist type from the Automated Crash Reporting System (ACRS).

⁶ 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.



- Pedestrian-involved crashes are highest during the fall season (September-December).** Thirty-eight percent of pedestrian-involved injury crashes also occurred between September and December. In addition, over 42 percent of the fatal pedestrian-involved crashes occurred between August and November, compared to 26 percent occurring during the Spring months (March-June).
- Fridays and evening hours are dangerous times for pedestrians.** On average, Friday was the peak day for pedestrian crashes overall and injury crashes (17 percent). However, the highest percentage of fatal crashes occurred on Saturdays (17 percent). Over half (54 percent) of all pedestrian crashes occurred between 2 p.m. and 10 p.m.; however, 50 percent of pedestrian crashes resulting in fatalities occurred during the early-to-late-evening hours (6 p.m.–midnight).
- Young adult drivers and pedestrians (ages 20-34 years old) account for a large share of pedestrian-involved crashes, though a high proportion of fatalities are older adult pedestrians (age 50 and older).** 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 28 percent of those either struck by vehicles or involved in a crash where an injury occurred; however, older pedestrians (ages 50 and older) accounted for 44 percent of those involved in fatal crashes.
- Males are most often the victims in injury and fatal pedestrian-involved crashes.** Males accounted for the greatest number of pedestrians involved in crashes, as 56 percent of injured pedestrians and 72 percent of pedestrian fatalities were male.

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