Pedestrians involved in motor vehicle incidents constitute a unique subset of crash victims by age group and the type of safety equipment that can protect them.

As highlighted in the second column, just 6,200 (1.5%) of all 422,889 crashes in Illinois in 2007 involved pedestrians. However, these crashes accounted for 165 (14.7%) of all 1,126 fatal crashes. Pedestrian fatalities accounted for 172 (13.8%) of all 1,250 traffic fatalities.

Demographic Facts

- 3,524 (55.7%) of all 6,327 pedestrians involved in crashes were male where sex was known
- 1,285 (21.2%) of all 6,065 pedestrians involved in crashes were children aged 5 to 15 where age was known

Note: Data as of March 23, 2009; with 422,889 crash records, 785,918 vehicle records and 983,373 person records

Funding and development of this fact sheet was provided by: Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois EMSC (a collaborative program between the Illinois Department of Public Health and Loyola University Medical Center) and the CADE Group at the University of Illinois at Chicago. June 2009
Pedestrian Vulnerability

Pedestrians are particularly vulnerable, which is reflected in the enormous disparity in injuries and fatalities among pedestrians involved in crashes in comparison to occupants (drivers and passengers).

- Pedestrians involved in crashes were 9.5 times more likely to be non-fatally injured and 18.8 times more likely to be fatally injured as occupants involved in crashes.

**Fatality Rates by Age**

- Fatality rates for pedestrians who were involved in crashes varied by age.
- Among children, the fatality rate was inversely related to age such that younger children were more likely to be fatally injured than older children.
- Among adults, fatality rates increased with age.

**Geographic Facts**

- 4,764 (76.8%) of all 6,200 crashes involving pedestrians took place in Cook County
  - In comparison, Cook County accounts for just 43.3% of the overall population of Illinois⁷ and just 30.6% of the average vehicle miles traveled in Illinois†
- 6,015 (97.0%) of all 6,200 crashes involving pedestrians took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use.