

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2007

School Transportation

Although national studies (such as the 2002 report "School Bus Safety: Crashworthiness Research" by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) verify statistically the safety of school bus transportation, any event involving these vehicles has the potential to affect the lives of many children.

	All Crashes	School Transportation-Related Crashes
Crashes:	422,889	2,506
Fatal Crashes:	1,126	0 ^a
Injury Crashes:	73,220	110 ^a
Total People Involved:	983,373 ^b	2,669 ^c
Total Fatalities:	1,250 ^b	0 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	103,174 ^b	257 ^c

^a Numbers only reflect crashes in which fatality or non-fatal injury was specifically a child aged 18 or younger

^b Totals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 983,373 total people = 973,034 occupants + 10,339 non-occupants

^c Numbers include children aged 18 or younger (passengers and non-occupants)

There were 2,506 school transportation-related crashes* in Illinois in 2007, accounting for 0.6% of all 422,889 crashes. Even though there were a few fatalities in school transportation-related crashes (5 out of 1,250 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2007), none were among children aged 18 or younger.

School Hours

School transportation related crashes were concentrated before and after typical school hours, with 1,532 (61.1%) of all 2,506 such crashes taking place either 7:00-8:59 am or 2:00-3:59 pm.

Time of Day	School Transportation Related Crashes	Injuries		Fatalities	
		All	School Age	All	School Age
midnight-6:59 am	87	23	6	1	0
7-7:59 am	383	143	83	1	0
8-8:59 am	369	87	18	1	0
9-9:59 am	133	20	0	0	0
10-10:59 am	84	32	13	0	0
11-11:59 am	101	19	3	1	0
noon-12:59 pm	109	31	10	0	0
1-1:59 pm	123	22	5	0	0
2-2:59 pm	287	77	24	0	0
3-3:59 pm	493	141	70	0	0
4-4:59 pm	173	34	9	1	0
5-11:59 pm	164	45	16	0	0
Total	2506	674	257	5	0

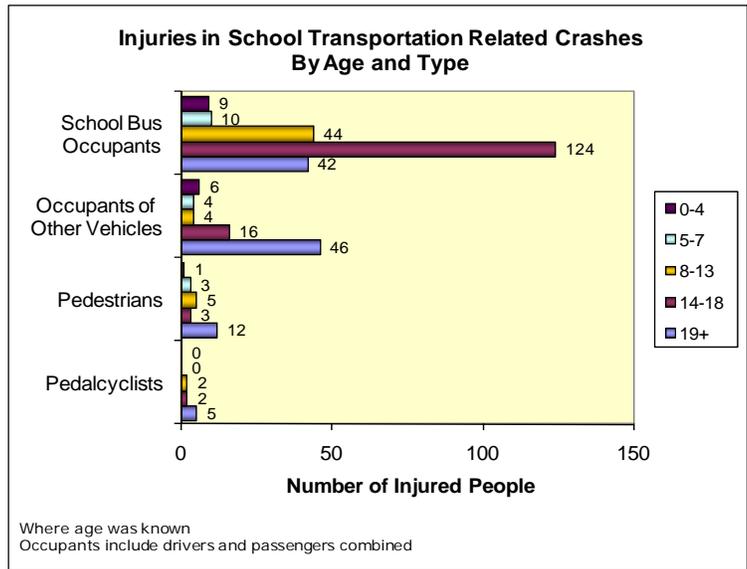
(Where time of day was known)

* Crashes were classified as school transportation-related if they involved direct contact with a school bus or vehicle being used as a school bus (including stopped school buses) or if they involved a vehicle passing a stopped school bus in a crash also involving a child non-occupant such as a pedestrian or pedalcyclist (aged 18 or younger)

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

Injured Occupants and Pedestrians

- Only 257 (39.1%) of the 658 occupants and pedestrians injured in school transportation-related crashes were children aged 18 or younger.
- Among the 257 children who were injured in school transportation-related crashes, 4 (1.6%) were pedalcyclists and 12 (4.7%) were pedestrians.
- 187 (72.8%) of the 257 children who were injured in school transportation-related crashes were occupants of buses or vehicles being used as buses.



Road Use and Geographic Facts

- 2,265 (90.4%) of all 2,506 school transportation-related crashes took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use
- 1,259 (50.2%) of all 2,506 school transportation-related crashes took place in Cook County
 - In comparison, Cook County accounts for just 30.6% of the average vehicle miles traveled in Illinois[†]

	Crashes Involving School Transportation		Crashes Not Involving School Transportation	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
Chicago	726	(29.0%)	120,118	(28.6%)
Suburban Cook County	533	(21.3%)	85,515	(20.3%)
Chicago Collar Counties	640	(25.5%)	86,955	(20.7%)
Rest of State - Urban	377	(15.0%)	65,035	(15.5%)
Rest of State - Rural	230	(9.2%)	62,760	(14.9%)

Note: Counties were stratified according to criteria defined by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for the Illinois Department of Public Health
URL: <http://app.idph.state.il.us/brfss/default.asp>

[†] Source: Illinois Travel Statistics 2007, Illinois Department of Transportation