

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2008

Children (Aged 14 & Younger)

Motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading causes of mortality and severe injury for children in Illinois.

	All Crashes	Crashes Involving Children (Aged 14 & Younger)
Crashes:	408,399	38,478
Fatal Crashes:	950	41 ^a
Injury Crashes:	67,845	5,839 ^a
Total People Involved:	937,463 ^b	61,376 ^c
Total Fatalities:	1,043 ^b	43 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	94,098 ^b	7,364 ^c

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

^b Totals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 937,463 total people = 927,093 occupants + 10,370 non-occupants

^c Numbers include children only (occupants and non-occupants)

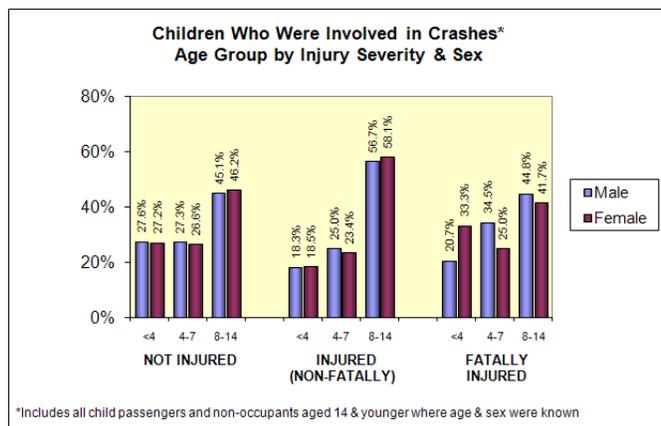
Children aged 14 and younger were involved in 38,478 (9.4%) of all 408,399 crashes that occurred in Illinois in 2008, either as passengers, drivers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists or other non-occupants of vehicles. Children accounted for 43 (4.1%) of all 1,043 traffic fatalities overall. They accounted for 41 (10.6%) of all 388 fatalities among passengers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists and other non-occupants.

	All		Fatally Injured	
	Total All Ages	Children Aged 14 & Younger	Total All Ages	Children Aged 14 & Younger
	N	N (%)	N	N (%)
Passengers	230,830	59,249 (25.7)	223	25 (11.2)
Pedestrians	6,058	1,095 (18.1)	135	11 (8.1)
Pedalcyclists	3,892	862 (22.1)	27	5 (18.5)
Other non-occupants	420	6 (1.4)	3	0 (0.0)
Subtotal	241,200	61,212 (25.4)	388	41 (10.6)
Drivers	696,263	164 (<0.1)	655	2 (0.3)
Total	937,463	61,376 (6.5)	1,043	43 (4.1)

Demographics

Where age & sex were known, 29,260 (49.6%) of all 59,046 child passengers and 1,335 (68.0%) of all 1,963 child non-occupants aged 14 & younger were male.

Children aged 8 to 14 who were involved in crashes in any capacity other than as drivers were 1.4 times as likely to be non-fatally injured & 1.1 times as likely to be fatally injured as those aged 7 & younger.



Note: Data as of January 6, 2010; with 408,399 crash records, 751,885 vehicle records and 937,463 person records

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Restraint Use by Child Passengers

Restraint use was reported for 51,600 (87.1%) of all 59,249 child passengers aged 14 and younger who were involved in crashes.* Children who did not use seat belts or child restraints properly were 1.3 times more likely to be non-fatally injured and 14.3 times more likely to be fatally injured in crashes than children who did use restraints properly.

Proper Restraint Use Reported*	Passengers Aged 14 And Younger	Injured N (%)	Fatally Injured N (%)
Yes	51,600	4,627 (9.0)	8 (0.016)
No	7,649	906 (11.8)	17 (0.222)
Total	59,249	5,533 (9.3)	25 (0.042)

Improperly Used Child Restraints

When child restraints were used improperly, children were 99.9 times more likely to be fully or partially ejected from the vehicle during the crash and were 2.5 times more likely to be trapped and require being extricated.†

Child Restraint Use	Passengers Aged 14 and Younger	Ejected N (%)	Trapped/ Extricated N (%)
Used Properly	15,697	7 (0.04)	31 (0.20)
Used Improperly	202	9 (4.46)	1 (0.50)

Seating Location of Child Passengers in Vehicle

Children who were involved in crashes in Illinois in 2008 as passengers were more likely to be non-fatally injured and fatally injured if they were not seated in the front or back seats of a vehicle.

- Just 4,222 (7.2%) of all 58,332 child passengers were positioned in places other than the front and back seats, including riding or hanging in either open or enclosed areas of vehicles (such as bus seats), but 5 (18.5%) of all 27 child passenger fatalities were among these children.‡
- Among all children who were involved in crashes as passengers, those not seated in front or back seats were 2.9 times as likely to be fatally injured as those who were seated.

Seating Location ²	Uninjured N (%)	Non-Fatally Injured N (%)	Fatally Injured N (%)	Total N (%)
Front	10,159 (19.2)	1,330 (24.4)	4 (14.8)	11,493 (19.7)
Back	38,823 (73.5)	3,776 (69.2)	18 (66.7)	42,617 (73.1)
Other	3,867 (7.3)	350 (6.4)	5 (18.5)	4,222 (7.2)
Total	52,849 (100.0)	5,456 (100.0)	27 (100.0)	58,332 (100.0)

* For all children aged 14 & younger where seating location was known

* Percent using restraints was defined as the number of children for whom seat belt use or proper child restraint use was reported divided by the total number of children involved in crashes; "No" in this table refers to no restraint used or no use reported

† Where child restraint use and ejection/entrapment/extrication were known

‡ Where seating location was known

Geographic Facts

- Just 5,171 (14.1%) of all 36,565 crashes involving child passengers took place in Chicago, compared with 106,522 (28.6%) of all 371,834 crashes in which no child passenger was involved.
- In contrast, 759 (39.8%) of all 1,905 crashes involving child non-occupants such as pedestrians and pedalcyclists took place in Chicago, compared with 110,934 (27.3 %) of all 406,494 crashes in which no child non-occupant was involved.

	Passengers		Non-Occupants (i.e. pedestrians, etc.)	
	Crashes Involving Child Passengers n (%)	Crashes Involving No Child Passengers n (%)	Crashes Involving Child Non-Occupants n (%)	Crashes Involving No Child Non-Occupants n (%)
Chicago	5,171 (14.1%)	106,522 (28.6%)	759 (39.8%)	110,934 (27.3%)
Suburban Cook County	8,160 (22.3%)	77,346 (20.8%)	419 (22.0%)	85,087 (20.9%)
Chicago Collar Counties	10,084 (27.6%)	75,285 (20.2%)	304 (16.0%)	85,065 (20.9%)
Rest of State - Urban	7,363 (20.1%)	56,650 (15.2%)	274 (14.4%)	63,739 (15.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	5,787 (15.8%)	56,031 (15.1%)	149 (7.8%)	61,669 (15.2%)

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>

Time of Day/Day of Week

Crashes involving child passengers and crashes involving child non-occupants such as pedestrians and pedalcyclists were both concentrated during the day time, roughly between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. Crashes involving child non-occupants were particularly concentrated before and after typical school hours (7:00 am to 9:00 am and 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm).

