

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2009

Older Population (Aged 70 & Above)

As our population ages, an evaluation of motor vehicle incidents involving the elderly is of increasing interest.

	All Crashes	Crashes Involving Older Population
Crashes:	292,439	24,795
Fatal Crashes:	832	119 ^a
Injury Crashes:	63,382	4,215 ^a
Total People Involved:	682,674 ^b	29,007 ^c
Total Fatalities:	911 ^b	125 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	89,188 ^b	4,662 ^c

^a Numbers only reflect crashes in which fatality or non-fatal injury was specifically aged 70 & above

^b Totals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 682,674 total people = 673,838 occupants + 8,836 non-occupants

^c Numbers include those aged 70 & above only (occupants and non-occupants)

Older adults aged 70 and above were involved in 24,795 (8.5%) of all 292,439 crashes that occurred in Illinois in 2009 as drivers, passengers, or non-occupants of vehicles such as pedestrians and pedalcyclists. They represent 125 (13.7%) of all 911 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2009. Just 5.1% of drivers in all crashes were older adults, but 9.1% of drivers in fatal crashes and 13.6% of fatally injured drivers were older adults.*

	Percent in Age Group										Total
	0-5	6-15	16-20	21-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-69	70+	
Licensed Drivers ^{1,2}	N/A	N/A	6.9	6.7	17.6	17.9	19.9	15.8	5.2	10.0	100.0
Drivers in crashes ¹	N/A	N/A	13.6	10.5	21.7	18.3	17.1	10.8	2.9	5.1	100.0
Drivers in fatal crashes ¹	N/A	N/A	9.4	10.3	22.3	17.8	16.7	11.3	3.2	9.1	100.0
Fatally injured drivers ¹	N/A	N/A	9.2	11.2	18.7	16.2	17.1	10.8	3.1	13.6	100.0
Population ³	7.9	13.6	7.2	5.5	13.8	13.5	14.6	11.5	3.8	8.8	100.0
Fatally injured passengers	5.4	6.9	18.6	12.7	16.7	11.8	6.4	5.9	1.0	14.7	100.0
Fatally injured pedestrians	1.8	2.7	4.5	3.6	14.4	14.4	23.4	14.4	6.3	14.4	100.0
Fatally injured pedalcyclists	5.0	15.0	10.0	0.0	20.0	20.0	15.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	100.0
Total traffic fatalities	1.5	2.4	10.8	10.3	17.7	15.0	15.5	10.0	3.1	13.7	100.0

¹ Ages 16 and above, where age was known

² Source: Highway Statistics 2009, Federal Highway Administration

³ Source: Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau; estimated for age groups 0-5 and 6-15 based on published data for ages 0-15

* Where driver age was known

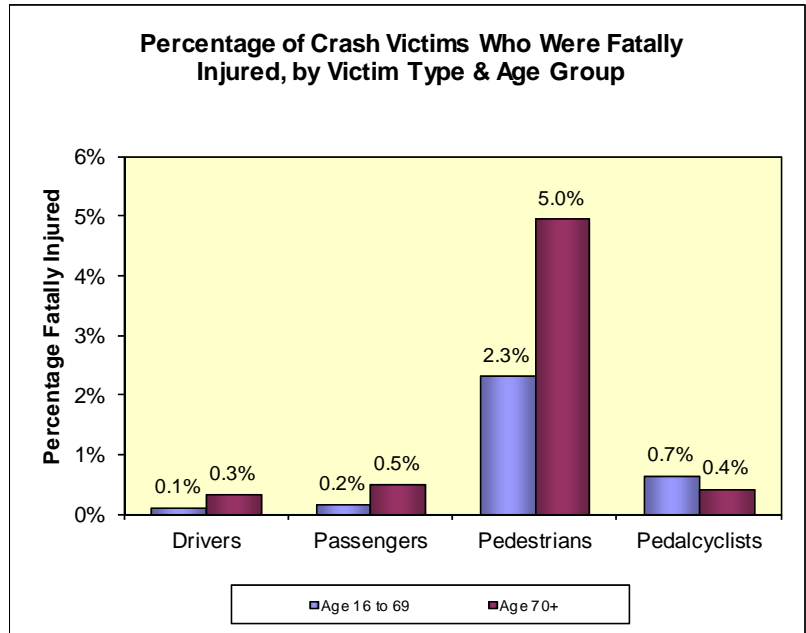
Note: Data as of October 4, 2010; with 292,439 crash records, 539,717 vehicle records and 673,839 person records.

The law regarding the reporting threshold for Property Damage Only crashes was amended effective January 1, 2009, resulting in decreased reporting of crashes in this specific category. It did not affect the reporting of injury or fatal crashes. For details of the reporting amendment, see also <http://app.idph.state.il.us/emrpt/crash.asp>.

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Vulnerability

- Among adults, percent fatalities for drivers, passengers and pedestrians all followed similar trends, with percent fatalities increasing as age advanced*
- Overall, older adults who were involved in crashes in Illinois in 2009 in any capacity (driver, passenger or non-occupant) were 3.0 times more likely to be fatally injured than people aged 16 to 69*



Seat Belt Use

- 19,518 (87.9%)[†] of all 22,209 older **drivers** of passenger cars/light trucks[‡] reported using seat belts
 - In comparison, 337,253 (85.5%) of all 394,257 younger drivers (aged 16 to 69) of passenger cars/light trucks reported using seat belts
- 5,156 (90.7%)[†] of all 5,682 older **passengers** of passenger cars/light trucks[‡] reported using seat belts
 - In comparison, 74,091 (58.4%) of all 87,273 younger passengers (aged 16 to 69) of passenger cars/light trucks reported using seat belts

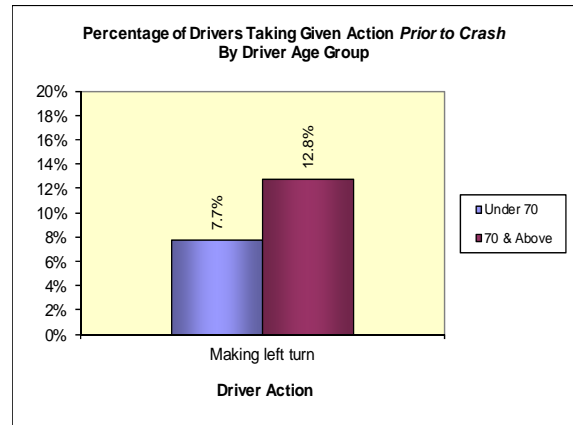
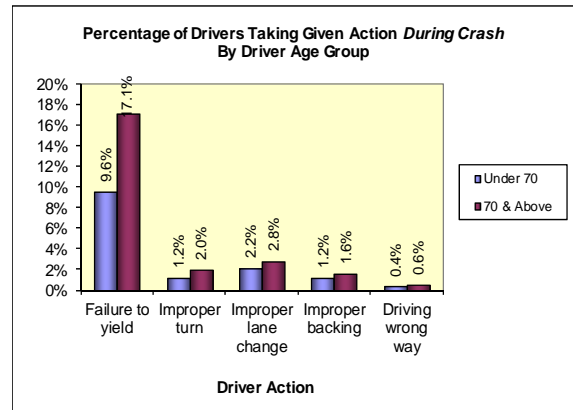
[†] Percent using seat belts was defined as the number of people for whom seat belt use was reported divided by the total number of people involved in crashes.

[‡] Passenger cars and light trucks for this analysis were defined as passenger cars, pickup trucks, vans, minivans and SUV's according to classifications used by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Older Drivers

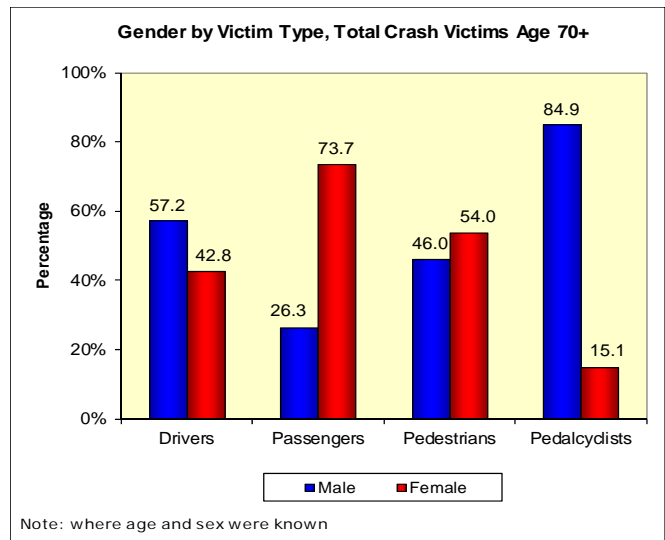
Driving errors and other actions taken by older drivers aged 70 and above before and during crashes tend to be different than those taken by younger drivers.

- Older drivers who were involved in crashes were 1.7 times more likely than younger drivers to have made driving errors such as those shown at right.
 - Together, these errors account for 24.0% of older drivers' actions during crashes.
- Older drivers who were involved in crashes were also 1.7 times more likely than other drivers to have been making a left turn prior to the crash, whether or not it was classified by police as an improper turn.
- 12,863 (51.9%) of all 24,795 crashes involving older drivers were intersection-related, compared with 99,670 (37.2%) of all 267,644 crashes in which no older driver was involved.
- Just 2,009 (7.6%) of all 24,795 crashes involving older drivers were speeding-related, compared with 35,279 (13.2%) of all 267,644 crashes in which no older driver was involved.
- By collision type, 3,301 (13.3%) of all 24,795 crashes involving older drivers were single vehicle crashes, compared with 69,414 (25.9%) of all 267,644 crashes in which no older driver was involved.



Demographic Facts[§]

- 13,043 (57.2%) of all 22,788 older drivers involved in crashes were male, compared with 241,895 (57.1%) of all 423,278 younger drivers.
- 1,538 (26.3%) of all 5,847 older passengers involved in crashes were male, compared with 67,225 (46.9%) of all 143,336 younger passengers.
- 134 (46.0%) of all 291 older pedestrians involved in crashes were male, compared with 2,771 (55.6%) of all 4,986 younger pedestrians.
- 45 (84.9%) of all 53 older pedalcyclists involved in crashes were male, compared with 2,407 (77.5%) of all 3,107 younger pedalcyclists.



[§] Where age and sex were known

Geographic Facts

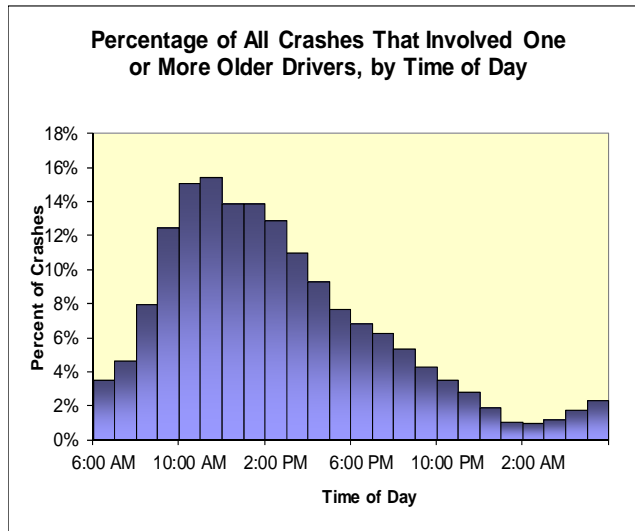
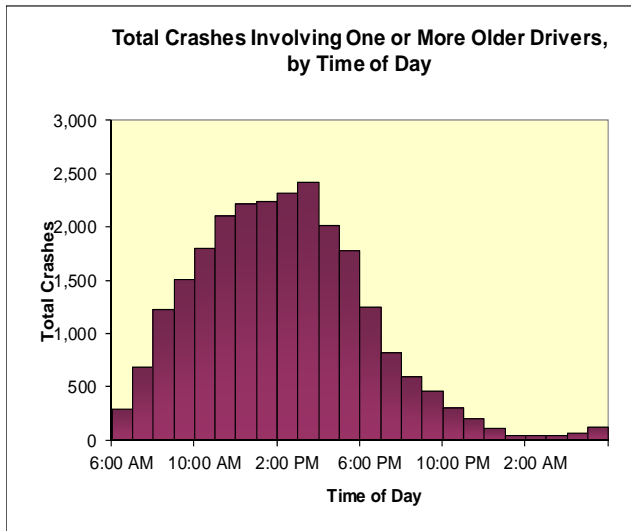
- 21,104 (85.1%) of all 24,795 crashes involving older drivers took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use, compared with 222,352 (83.1%) of all 267,644 other crashes
- 10,337 (41.7%) of all 24,795 crashes involving older drivers took place in Cook County
 - In comparison, Cook County accounts for 38.8% of the overall population of Illinois aged 70 and above** and just 31.2% of the average vehicle miles traveled in Illinois††

	Crashes Involving One or More Older People	Crashes Involving No Older People
	n (%)	n (%)
Chicago	4,476 (18.1%)	77,508 (29.0%)
Suburban Cook County	5,861 (23.6%)	50,650 (18.9%)
Chicago Collar Counties	4,737 (19.1%)	54,043 (20.2%)
Rest of State - Urban	4,861 (19.6%)	43,215 (16.1%)
Rest of State - Rural	4,860 (19.6%)	42,228 (15.8%)

Note: Counties were stratified according to criteria defined by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System for the Illinois Department of Public Health

Time of Day

- 22,442 (90.5%) of all 24,795 crashes involving one or more older drivers occurred between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.††
- In comparison, 193,849 (72.4%) of all 267,644 crashes involving no older drivers occurred between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.§§
- Overall, 24,795 (8.5%) of all 292,439 crashes that occurred in Illinois in 2009 involved one or more older drivers, but that rate varied by time of day.§§
 - The highest involvement rate for older drivers was between 11:00 am and 12:00 pm, when 2,105 (15.4%) of all 13,651 crashes involved one or more older drivers.§§
 - The lowest involvement rate for older drivers was between 2:00 am and 3:00 am, when 50 (1.0%) of all 4,980 crashes involved one or more older drivers.§§



** Source: Census 2010, U.S. Census Bureau

†† Source: Illinois Travel Statistics 2009, Illinois Department of Transportation

‡‡ Where time of day was known