

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2011

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:	281,914	1,589
Fatal Crashes:	835	1 ^a
Injury Crashes:	60,056	97 ^a
Total People Involved:	665,697 ^b	2,204 ^c
Total Fatalities:	918 ^b	2 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	84,215 ^b	153 ^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. 665,697 total people = 657,345 occupants + 8,352 non-occupants

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

There were just 1,589 school transportation-related crashes* in Illinois in 2011, accounting for 0.6% of all 281,914 crashes. These crashes accounted for 6 (0.7%) of all 918 fatalities in 2011, with two among children aged 18 or younger.

School Hours

School transportation related crashes were concentrated before and after typical school hours, with 951 (59.8%) of all 1,589 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	85	36	13	0	0
7-7:59 am	253	70	20	0	0
8-8:59 am	216	51	16	2	2
9-9:59 am	81	26	4	0	0
10-10:59 am	40	10	4	0	0
11-11:59 am	60	9	1	1	0
noon-12:59 pm	62	36	3	1	0
1-1:59 pm	66	18	5	0	0
2-2:59 pm	187	57	28	1	0
3-3:59 pm	295	109	47	0	0
4-4:59 pm	124	34	6	1	0
5-11:59 pm	120	25	6	0	0
Total	1589	481	153	6	2

(Where time of day was known)

* Crashes involving direct contact with a school bus or with vehicles being used as a school bus (stopped school buses are included). In addition, vehicles passing a stopped school bus in a crash were included if they involved a child non-occupant such as a pedestrian or pedalcyclist (aged 18 or younger).

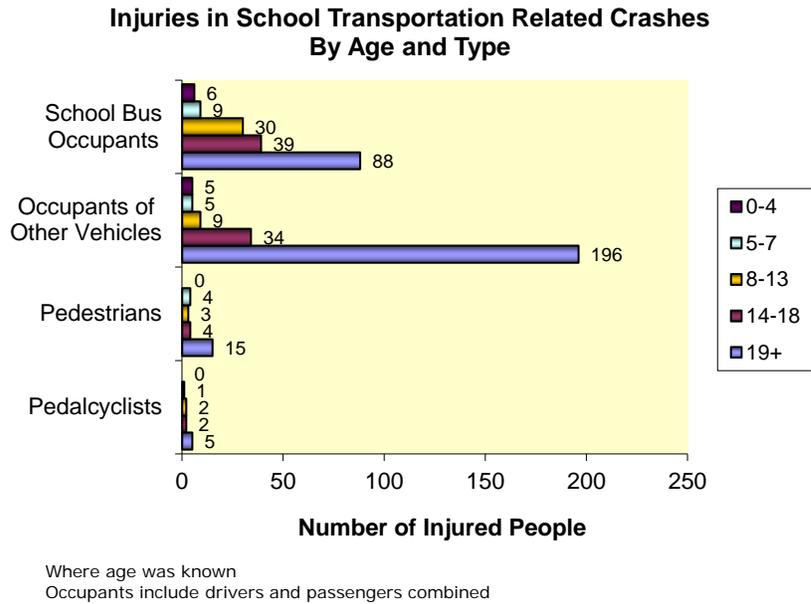
Note: Data as of October 22, 2012; with 281,914 crash records, 523,044 vehicle records and 665,697 person records.

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/emsrpt/crash.asp>.

Funding and development of this fact sheet was provided by: Illinois Department of Transportation and Illinois EMSC (a collaborative program between the Illinois Department of Public Health and Loyola University Medical Center). June 2013

Injured Occupants and Pedestrians

- Among the 481 occupants and pedestrians injured in school transportation-related crashes with known age, 153 (31.8%) were children aged 18 or younger.
- Among the 153 children who were injured in school transportation-related crashes, 5 (3.3%) were pedalcyclists and 11 (7.2%) were pedestrians.



- 84 (54.9%) of the 153 children who were injured in school transportation-related crashes were occupants of buses or vehicles being used as buses.

Road Use and Geographic Facts

- 1,437 (90.4%) of all 1,589 school transportation-related crashes took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use
- 831 (52.3%) of all 1,589 school transportation-related crashes took place in Cook County
 - In comparison, Cook County accounts for just 30.7% of the annual vehicle miles traveled in Illinois[†]

	Crashes Involving School Transportation n (%)	Crashes Not Involving School Transportation n (%)
Chicago	503 (31.7%)	77,437 (27.6%)
Suburban Cook County	328 (20.6%)	55,231 (19.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	343 (21.6%)	56,346 (20.1%)
Rest of State - Urban	266 (16.7%)	46,767 (16.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	149 (9.4%)	44,544 (15.9%)

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 2011, Illinois Department of Transportation