

## Traffic deaths in Massachusetts increased 24% between 2019 and 2021, report says

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BOSTON – When the pandemic first hit, traffic dropped dramatically. But new research shows that traffic deaths have increased in Massachusetts in recent years.

Data from the nonprofit organization TRIP found that traffic fatalities increased 24% in Massachusetts between 2019 and 2021. Pedestrian fatalities also increased 18% and bicyclist fatalities increased 16%.



Traffic deaths increased 24% in Massachusetts between 2019 and 2021, TRIP reports. CBSBoston

There were 334 road traffic fatalities in 2019 and 413 in 2021, the data shows.

Research has shown that drivers on the road during the pandemic have engaged in riskier behaviors such as speeding, drunk driving, and not wearing a seat belt.

“It is possible that many of the people who were willing to travel, and even increase their travel, despite the health risks associated with the pandemic, were already more willing than average to take other risks,” the AAA foundation said. for road safety.

TRIP said that changing these behaviors could reduce the risk of a serious accident.

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