



## Report: Traffic fatalities dropped in 2024

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Last year, U.S. traffic fatalities decreased for the third straight year, according to a recent report by TRIP, a national transportation research nonprofit organization.

Despite the drop, traffic fatalities were significantly higher than in 2014.

The record low for U.S. traffic fatalities was reached in 2011 when there were 32,749 deaths. In 2018, the number was 36,835. Traffic fatalities increased dramatically in 2020 and 2021, as a consequence of increased risks drivers took during the COVID-19 pandemic, before falling annually from 2022 through 2024. The fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles of travel in 2024 was 11 percent.

Fatalities from speeding-related traffic crashes increased 16 percent and crashes involving alcohol spiked 22 percent from 2019 to 2023.

“This report underscores the urgent need for sustained investment and coordinated action to reverse the troubling trend in traffic fatalities,” Mike Hare, American Traffic Safety Services Association chairman, said. “While recent declines are encouraging, the human and economic toll remains far too high.”

Fatal and serious traffic crashes in 2024 caused \$455 billion in economic costs and \$1.38 trillion in quality-of-life costs.

The report highlights traffic fatality trends, examines what caused an increase in traffic fatalities, and recommends a comprehensive approach to reduce fatalities.