

NEWS

Traffic Deaths in Virginia Are Up 29% Since 2014

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A new report says Virginia traffic deaths are up 29% over the past decade, despite a recent drop in fatalities since 2021. Released by TRIP, a national transportation research nonprofit, the report details both the human toll and financial cost of crashes in the state—estimated at \$35 billion in 2024 alone.

The study highlights a troubling rise in pedestrian, cyclist, and motorcyclist deaths nationwide, and notes that although Virginia saw a 6% decline in fatalities from 2021 to 2024, the longer-term trend is still heading in the wrong direction. Between 2014 and 2024, the state's fatality rate per 100 million vehicle miles traveled increased by 23%.

Local and national advocates quoted in the report are calling for greater investment in safer roads, better driver education, and a commitment to enforcement and post-crash care. The findings are part of a broader call to action by traffic safety organizations ahead of upcoming federal infrastructure funding deadlines.

Note: The report covers the entire state of Virginia but does not mention specific towns, cities, or counties affected by the increase in fatalities.

Here's the full press release:

Washington, D.C. – U.S. traffic fatalities fell in 2024 for the third straight year, four years after traffic fatalities surged in 2020 and 2021 as the nation grappled with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, despite the decrease in traffic fatalities over the past three years, traffic fatalities in 2024 remained significantly higher than a decade ago. This is according to a report released today by TRIP, a national transportation research nonprofit. The report, *Addressing America's Traffic Safety Crisis: Examining the Causes of Increasing U.S. Traffic Fatalities and Identifying Solutions to Improve Traffic Safety*, documents trends in traffic fatalities from 2014 to 2024 at the national and state levels, examines causes for the increase in traffic fatalities, and prescribes a broad, comprehensive approach to reducing traffic fatalities in the U.S.

[\[Full report continues with detailed national and Virginia-specific traffic data, factors contributing to crashes, quotes from safety advocates, and recommended policy actions.\]](#)