

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2008

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:	408,399	2,556
Fatal Crashes:	950	1 ^a
Injury Crashes:	67,845	119 ^a
Total People Involved:	937,463 ^b	3,549 ^c
Total Fatalities:	1,043 ^b	1 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	94,098 ^b	215 ^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. 937,463 total people = 927,093 occupants + 10,370 non-occupants

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

There were just 2,556 school transportation-related crashes* in Illinois in 2008, accounting for 0.6% of all 408,399 crashes. Even though there were a few fatalities in school transportation-related crashes (6 out of 1,043 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2008), only one was among children aged 18 or younger.

School Hours

School transportation related crashes were concentrated before and after typical school hours, with 1,532 (61.1%) of all 2,506 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	114	19	1	0	0
7-7:59 am	391	128	51	1	1
8-8:59 am	373	103	46	1	0
9-9:59 am	114	27	6	0	0
10-10:59 am	76	30	5	0	0
11-11:59 am	100	22	8	0	0
noon-12:59 pm	128	18	4	2	0
1-1:59 pm	103	31	13	0	0
2-2:59 pm	258	72	23	1	0
3-3:59 pm	529	116	41	1	0
4-4:59 pm	218	36	6	0	0
5-11:59 pm	152	27	11	0	0
Total	2556	629	215	6	1

(Where time of day was known)

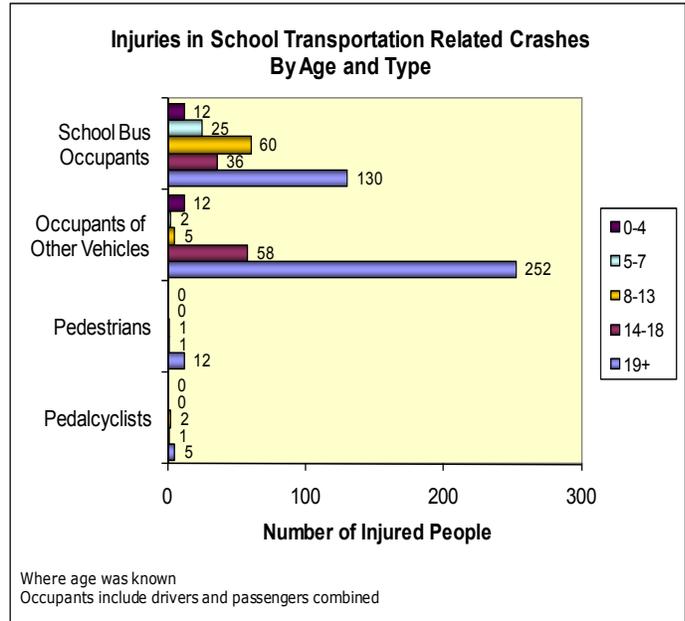
* Crashes were classified as school transportation-related if they involved direct contact with a school bus or vehicle being used as a school bus (including stopped school buses) or if they involved a vehicle passing a stopped school bus in a crash also involving a child non-occupant such as a pedestrian or pedalcyclist (aged 18 or younger)

Note: Data as of January 6, 2010; with 408,399 crash records, 751,885 vehicle records and 937,463 person records

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Injured Occupants and Pedestrians

- Where age was known, 215 (35.0%) of the 614 occupants and pedestrians injured in school transportation-related crashes were children aged 18 or younger.
- Among the 215 children who were injured in school transportation-related crashes, 3 (1.4%) were pedalcyclists and 2 (0.9%) were pedestrians.
- 133 (61.9%) of the 215 children who were injured in school transportation-related crashes were occupants of buses or vehicles being used as buses.



Road Use and Geographic Facts

- 2,276 (89.0%) of all 2,556 school transportation-related crashes took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use
- 1,221 (47.8%) of all 2,556 school transportation-related crashes took place in Cook County
 - In comparison, Cook County accounts for just 31.0% of the average vehicle miles traveled in Illinois[†]

	Crashes Involving School Transportation		Crashes Not Involving School Transportation	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
Chicago	649	(25.4%)	111,044	(27.4%)
Suburban Cook County	572	(22.4%)	84,934	(20.9%)
Chicago Collar Counties	672	(26.3%)	84,697	(20.9%)
Rest of State - Urban	413	(16.2%)	63,600	(15.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	250	(9.8%)	61,568	(15.2%)

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 2008, Illinois Department of Transportation