

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2012

Children (Aged 14 & Younger)

Motor vehicle crashes are one of the leading causes of mortality and severe injury for children in Illinois.

	All Crashes	Crashes Involving Children (Aged 14 & Younger)
Crashes:	274,291	28,682
Fatal Crashes:	886	34 ^a
Injury Crashes:	60,284	5,169 ^a
Total People Involved:	649,023 ^b	45,860 ^c
Total Fatalities:	956 ^b	37 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	83,810 ^b	6,567 ^c

^a Numbers only reflect crashes in which fatality or non-fatal injury was specifically a child

^b Totals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 649,023 total people = 640,402 occupants + 8,621 non-occupants

^c Numbers include children only (occupants and non-occupants)

Children aged 14 and younger were involved in 28,682 (10.5%) of all 274,291 crashes that occurred in Illinois in 2012, either as passengers, drivers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists or other non-occupants of vehicles. Children accounted for 37 (3.9%) of all 956 traffic fatalities overall. They accounted for 37 (10.4%) of all 357 fatalities among passengers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists and other non-occupants.

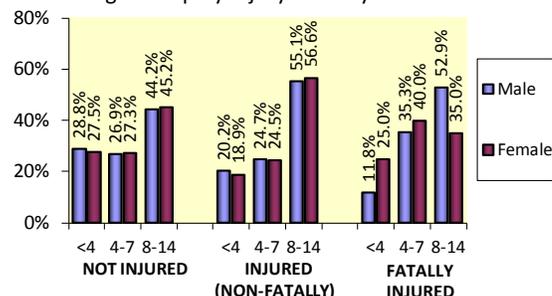
	All		Fatally Injured	
	Total All Ages	Children Aged 14 & Younger	Total All Ages	Children Aged 14 & Younger
	N	N (%)	N	N (%)
Passengers	167,398	44,393 (26.5)	187	26 (13.9)
Pedestrians	5,066	768 (15.2)	139	6 (4.3)
Pedalcyclists	3,489	570 (16.3)	29	5 (17.2)
Other non-occupants	66	16 (24.2)	2	0 (0.0)
Subtotal	176,019	45,747 (26.0)	357	37 (10.4)
Drivers	473,004	113 (<0.1)	599	0 (0.0)
Total	649,023	45,860 (7.1)	956	37 (3.9)

Demographics

Where age & sex were known, 21,826 (49.4%) of all 44,212 child passengers and 872 (64.4%) of all 1,354 child non-occupants aged 14 & younger were male.

Children aged 8 to 14 who were involved in crashes in any capacity other than as drivers were 1.5 times as likely to be non-fatally injured but only 0.9 times as likely to be fatally injured as those aged 7 & younger.

Children Who Were Involved in Crashes*
Age Group by Injury Severity & Sex



*Includes all child passengers and non-occupants aged 14 & younger where age & sex were known

Safety Equipment Use by Child

Note: Data as of March 28, 2014; with 274,291 crash records, 511,337 vehicle records and 649,023 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>.

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Passengers

Safety equipment use was reported for 39,240 (88.4%) of all 44,393 child passengers aged 14 and younger who were involved in crashes.* Children who did not use safety equipment such as seat belts or child restraints properly were 1.6 times more likely to be non-fatally injured and 7.6 times more likely to be fatally injured in crashes than children who did use safety equipment properly.†

Safety Equipment Use Reported*	Passengers Aged 14 And Younger	Injured	Fatally Injured
		N (%)	N (%)
Yes	39,240	4,337 (11.1)	13 (0.033)
No	5,153	908 (17.6)	13 (0.252)
Total	44,393	5,245 (11.8)	26 (0.059)

Improperly Used Child Restraints

When child restraints were used improperly, children were 78.7 times more likely to be fully or partially ejected from the vehicle during the crash. No children wearing restraints improperly in 2012 were trapped and required extrication.†,‡

Child Restraint Use	Passengers Aged 14 and Younger	Ejected	Trapped/ Extricated
		N (%)	N (%)
Used Properly	13,284	4 (0.03)	18 (0.14)
Used Improperly	211	5 (2.37)	2 (0.95)

Seating Location of Child Passengers in Vehicle

Children who were involved in crashes in Illinois in 2012 as passengers were more likely to be non-fatally injured and fatally injured if they were not seated in the front or back seats of a vehicle.

- Just 3,304 (7.5%) of all 44,249 child passengers were positioned in places other than the front and back seats, including riding or hanging in either open or enclosed areas of vehicles (such as bus seats), but 3 (11.5%) of all 26 child passenger fatalities were among these children.§
- Among all children who were involved in crashes as passengers, those not seated in front or back seats were 1.5 times as likely to be fatally injured as those who were seated.†

Seating Location ^a	Uninjured	Non-Fatally Injured	Fatally Injured	Total
	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
Front	6,565 (16.8)	1,133 (21.6)	3 (11.5)	7,701 (17.4)
Back	29,536 (75.8)	3,688 (70.4)	20 (76.9)	33,244 (75.1)
Other	2,887 (7.4)	414 (7.9)	3 (11.5)	3,304 (7.5)
Total	38,988 (100.0)	5,235 (100.0)	26 (100.0)	44,249 (100.0)

^a For all children aged 14 & younger where seating location was known

* Percent using safety equipment was defined as the number of children for whom seat belt use, proper child restraint use or appropriate helmet use was reported divided by the total number of children involved in crashes; "No" in this table refers to no restraint used or no use reported

† Relative risk was calculated before the rates were rounded for display in the table

‡ Where child restraint use was known

§ Where seating location was known

Geographic Facts

- Just 4,332 (15.8%) of all 27,362 crashes involving child passengers took place in Chicago. Alternatively, 73,083 (29.6%) of all 246,929 crashes in which no child passenger was involved occurred in Chicago.
- In contrast, 488 (36.9%) of all 1,324 crashes involving child non-occupants such as pedestrians and pedalcyclists took place in Chicago, compared with 76,927 (28.2%) of all 272,967 crashes in which no child non-occupant was involved.

	Crashes Involving Passengers		Crashes Involving Non-Occupants (i.e. pedestrians, etc.)	
	Crashes Involving Child Passengers	Crashes Involving No Child Passengers	Crashes Involving Child Non-Occupants	Crashes Involving No Child Non-Occupants
	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Chicago	4,332 (15.8%)	73,083 (29.6%)	488 (36.9%)	76,927 (28.2%)
Suburban Cook County	5,800 (21.2%)	48,291 (19.6%)	302 (22.8%)	53,789 (19.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	7,315 (26.7%)	48,162 (19.5%)	216 (16.3%)	55,261 (20.2%)
Rest of State - Urban	5,663 (20.7%)	39,582 (16.0%)	185 (14.0%)	45,060 (16.5%)
Rest of State - Rural	4,252 (15.5%)	37,811 (15.3%)	133 (10.0%)	41,930 (15.4%)

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>

Time of Day

Crashes involving child passengers and crashes involving child non-occupants such as pedestrians and pedalcyclists were both concentrated during the day time, roughly between 7:00 am and 7:00 pm. Crashes involving child non-occupants were particularly concentrated before and after typical school hours (7:00 am to 9:00 am and 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm).

