

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2011

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:	281,914	29,151
Fatal Crashes:	835	33 ^a
Injury Crashes:	60,056	5,191 ^a
Total People Involved:	665,697 ^b	46,806 ^c
Total Fatalities:	918 ^b	36 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	84,215 ^b	6,613 ^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. 665,697 total people = 657,345 occupants + 8,352 non-occupants

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

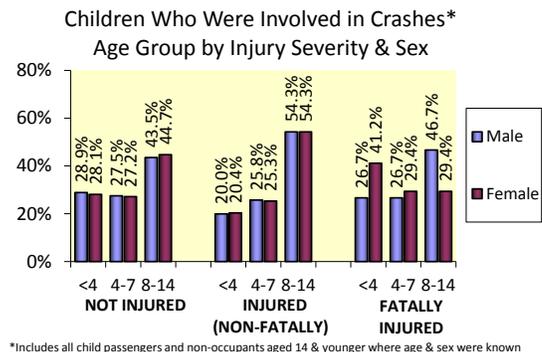
Children aged 14 and younger were involved in 29,151 (10.3%) of all 281,914 crashes that occurred in Illinois in 2011, either as passengers, drivers, pedestrians, pedalcyclists or other non-occupants of vehicles. Children accounted for 36 (3.9%) of all 918 traffic fatalities overall. They accounted for 32 (9.1%) of all 350 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	172,765	45,335 (26.2)	183	19 (10.4)
Pedestrians	5,162	862 (16.7)	135	8 (5.9)
Pedalcyclists	3,136	576 (18.4)	27	4 (14.8)
Other non-occupants	54	11 (20.4)	5	1 (20.0)
Subtotal	181,117	46,784 (25.8)	350	32 (9.1)
Drivers	484,580	22 (<0.1)	568	4 (0.7)
Total	665,697	46,806 (7.0)	918	36 (3.9)

Demographics

Where age & sex were known, 22,340 (49.5%) of all 45,147 child passengers and 986 (68.0%) of all 1,449 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 1.4 times as likely to be non-fatally injured but only 0.7 times as likely to be fatally injured as those aged 7 & younger.



Note: Data as of October 22, 2012; with 281,914 crash records, 523,044 vehicle records and 665,697 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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Safety Equipment Use by Child Passengers

Safety equipment use was reported for 40,017 (88.3%) of all 45,335 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 1.4 times more likely to be non-fatally injured and 5.5 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	40,017	4,404 (11.0)	11 (0.027)
No	5,318	809 (15.2)	8 (0.150)
Total	45,335	5,213 (11.5)	19 (0.042)

Improperly Used Child Restraints

When child restraints were used improperly, children were 89.3 times more likely to be fully or partially ejected from the vehicle during the crash. No children wearing restraints improperly in 2011 were trapped and required extrication.†,‡

Child Restraint Use	Passengers Aged 14 and Younger	Ejected	Trapped/ Extricated
		N (%)	N (%)
Used Properly	13,476	5 (0.04)	11 (0.08)
Used Improperly	181	6 (3.31)	0 (0.00)

Seating Location of Child Passengers in Vehicle

Children who were involved in crashes in Illinois in 2011 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 3,570 (7.9%) of all 45,210 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 (15.8%) of all 19 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 2.5 times as likely to be fatally injured as those who were seated.†

Seating Location ^a	Non-Fatally			Total
	Uninjured	Injured	Fatally Injured	
	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)	N (%)
Front	6,586 (16.5)	1,076 (20.7)	3 (15.8)	7,665 (17.0)
Back	30,200 (75.5)	3,762 (72.3)	13 (68.4)	33,975 (75.1)
Other	3,204 (8.0)	363 (7.0)	3 (15.8)	3,570 (7.9)
Total	39,990 (100.0)	5,201 (100.0)	19 (100.0)	45,210 (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 and ejection/entrapment/extrication were known

§ Where seating location was known

Geographic Facts

- Just 4,188 (15.1%) of all 27,801 crashes involving child passengers took place in Chicago. Alternatively, 73,752 (29.0%) of all 254,113 crashes in which no child passenger was involved occurred in Chicago.
- In contrast, 591 (41.9%) of all 1,411 crashes involving child non-occupants such as pedestrians and pedalcyclists took place in Chicago, compared with 77,349 (27.6%) of all 280,503 crashes in which no child non-occupant was involved.

	Crashes Involving Passengers		Crashes Involving Non-Occupants (i.e. pedestrians, etc.)	
	Crashes Involving Child Passengers n (%)	Crashes Involving No Child Passengers n (%)	Crashes Involving Child Non-Occupants n (%)	Crashes Involving No Child Non-Occupants n (%)
Chicago	4,188 (15.1%)	73,752 (29.0%)	591 (41.9%)	77,349 (27.6%)
Suburban Cook County	5,970 (21.5%)	49,589 (19.5%)	285 (20.2%)	55,274 (19.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	7,376 (26.5%)	49,313 (19.4%)	231 (16.4%)	56,458 (20.1%)
Rest of State - Urban	5,832 (21.0%)	41,201 (16.2%)	187 (13.3%)	46,846 (16.7%)
Rest of State - Rural	4,435 (16.0%)	40,258 (15.8%)	117 (8.3%)	44,576 (15.9%)

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).

