



## **NSC Motor Vehicle Fatality Estimates**

Prepared by the Statistics Department  
National Safety Council

### **Motor-vehicle deaths up 14% in first six months of 2015.**

Motor-vehicle deaths for January through June of 2015 totaled 18,630. This figure is up 14% from the corresponding 6-month period in 2014. The June figure for 2015 was up 12% from the 2013 figure. The 6-month total for 2014 was 16,400, a 1% decrease from 2013. The 2013 figure was 5% lower than 2012. The estimated annual population death rate is 12.5 deaths per 100,000 population, up 13% from the preliminary 2014 rate of 11.1. The estimated annual mileage death rate is 1.3 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, up 8% from the preliminary 2014 rate of 1.2. If the level of increase in fatalities observed during the first two quarters were to remain through the end of the year, total motor-vehicle fatalities in 2015 could possibly exceed 40,000 for the first time in eight years.

The increase in fatalities in 2015 likely reflects the effects of the low real gas prices that have averaged 30% below 2014 levels over the first two quarters of 2015, helping to produce a 3.4% increase in cumulative vehicle mileage through May. It should be noted that gas prices and the economy are strongly connected and it is difficult to isolate the impact of lower gas prices from the overall impact of an improving economy.

Medically consulted motor-vehicle injuries for the first six months of 2015 are estimated to be about 2,254,000, an increase of 30% from 2014. Medically consulted injuries are not comparable to previous disabling injury estimates.

The estimated cost of motor-vehicle deaths, injuries, and property damage through June was \$152.0 billion, a 24% increase from 2014. The costs include wage and productivity losses, medical expenses, administrative expenses, employer costs, and property damage.

**Table 1**  
**June 2015**  
**Motor-Vehicle Deaths and Changes**  
**United States, Six Months, 2012 to 2015\***


Month	Number of Deaths				Percent Changes				
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Corresponding Month			Four Month Moving Average +	
					2013 to 2015	2013 to 2014	2014 to 2015	2013 to 2014	2014 to 2015
January	2,782	2,642	2,580	2,980	13%		16%		8%
February	2,533	2,296	2,280	2,480	8%		9%		9%
March	2,954	2,791	2,600	2,950	6%		13%		12%
April	2,906	2,719	2,740	3,070	13%		12%		13%
May	3,145	2,988	3,060	3,560	19%		16%		13%
June	3,235	3,181	3,140	3,590	13%		14%		14%
6 Months	17,555	16,617	16,400	18,630	12%		14%		
July	3,336	3,119	3,180			2%		1%	
August	3,267	3,378	3,220			-5%		-1%	
September	3,151	3,184	3,030			-5%		-2%	
October	3,090	3,173	3,250			2%		-1%	
November	3,022	3,076	3,200			4%		-1%	
December	2,994	2,822	3,120			11%		3%	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,415</b>	<b>35,369</b>	<b>35,400</b>	<b>37,630 #</b>					

NOTE: National Safety Council figures are not comparable to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration figures. NSC counts both traffic and nontraffic deaths that occur within a year of the accident, while NHTSA counts only traffic deaths that occur within 30 days.

The 2012 and 2013 data are from the National Center for Health Statistics. All other figures are National Safety Council estimates.

\* Latest updates: 2012--11/6/14; 2013--2/5/15; 2014--2/25/15.

+ Four-Month Moving Average is based on changes between the totals of four consecutive months. Adding several months together tends to smooth out single-month changes that may be affected by differences in the number of weekends in a month from one year to the next or by other random variations.

 Denotes change of less than 0.5%.

# Deaths for the twelve-month period ending June 2015.


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**Table 2**  
**State Motor-Vehicle Deaths, Changes, and Rates**

State	Number of Months Reported	Deaths Identical Periods			Percent Changes	
		2015	2014	2013	2014 to 2015	2013 to 2015
<i>TOTAL U.S.</i>	6	18,630	16,400	16,617	14%	12%
<b>Alabama</b>	6	381	412	422	-8%	-10%
<b>Alaska</b>	6	27	32	24	-16%	13%
Arizona	6	451	382	419	18%	8%
Arkansas	6	237	207	249	14%	-5%
California	6	1,566	1,302	1,471	20%	6%
Colorado	6	236	200	202	18%	17%
<b>Connecticut</b>	6	95	119	116	-20%	-18%
<b>Delaware</b>	6	47	65	50	-28%	-6%
<b>Dist. of Columbia</b>	6	10	13	18	-23%	-44%
Florida	6	1,441	1,114	1,172	29%	23%
Georgia	6	657	522	573	26%	15%
<b>Hawaii</b>	6	52	54	61	-4%	-15%
Idaho	6	84	79	81	6%	4%
Illinois	6	442	399	475	11%	-7%
Indiana	6	356	289	328	23%	9%
Iowa	6	134	133	137	1%	-2%
<b>Kansas</b>	5	125	151	126	-17%	-1%
Kentucky	6	326	300	321	9%	2%
Louisiana	6	330	275	321	20%	3%
Maine	6	62	60	53	3%	17%
Maryland	6	224	188	217	19%	3%
Massachusetts	6	149	146	123	2%	21%
Michigan	6	409	407	380	0%	8%
Minnesota	6	187	149	158	26%	18%
Mississippi	2	70	63	77	11%	-9%
Missouri	6	383	348	333	10%	15%
<b>Montana</b>	6	72	79	103	-9%	-30%
Nebraska	6	109	108	97	1%	12%
Nevada	6	147	134	126	10%	17%
New Hampshire	6	38	38	52	0%	-27%
<b>New Jersey</b>	6	245	267	250	-8%	-2%
<b>New Mexico</b>	6	131	169	135	-22%	-3%
New York	6	430	-	-	-	-
North Carolina	6	634	531	593	19%	7%
North Dakota	6	61	50	67	22%	-9%
Ohio	6	499	425	439	17%	14%
<b>Oklahoma</b>	6	303	319	263	-5%	15%
Oregon	6	204	128	136	59%	50%
Pennsylvania	6	552	518	553	7%	11%
<b>Rhode Island</b>	6	21	23	19	-9%	11%
South Carolina	6	445	367	344	21%	29%
<b>South Dakota</b>	6	44	67	48	-34%	-8%
<b>Tennessee</b>	6	437	453	442	-4%	-1%
<b>Texas</b>	6	1,643	1,668	1,667	-1%	-1%
Utah	6	129	108	83	19%	55%
Vermont	6	19	17	25	12%	-24%
Virginia	6	344	308	335	12%	3%
Washington	6	235	225	191	4%	23%
West Virginia	4	69	66	88	5%	-22%
Wisconsin	6	254	214	228	19%	11%
Wyoming	6	66	65	46	2%	43%

NOTE: Deaths are reported by state traffic authorities. ALL FIGURES ARE PRELIMINARY. To ensure proper comparisons, 2013 and 2014 figures are preliminary figures covering the same reporting period as those for 2015.

States in **bold**: States with a decrease in deaths from 2014 to 2015.

 Denotes change of less than 0.5%.