

2008 School Bus Crashes

Fact Sheet



Oklahoma Department of Public Safety -- Highway Safety Office
 3223 N. Lincoln Blvd. | Oklahoma City, OK 73105 | www.ohso.ok.gov | Phone: 405/523-1570 | FAX: 405/523-1586

School Bus Fatal Crashes and Fatalities Five-Year Trend					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
School Bus Fatal Crashes	2	1	0	1	1
Total Fatal Crashes	667	708	668	653	673
School Bus as Percentage of Total Fatal Crashes	0.30%	0.14%	0.0%	0.15%	0.15%
Fatalities Occurring in School Bus Crashes	3	2	0	1	1
Total Fatalities	777	800	765	770	751
Percentage of Fatalities Occurring in School Bus Crashes	0.39%	0.25%	0.0%	.13%	0.13%

The table above illustrates that both the number of fatal crashes and the number of fatalities involving school buses were less than one percent of the total number of crashes reported each year between 2004 and 2008.

Crashes, Injuries & Fatalities

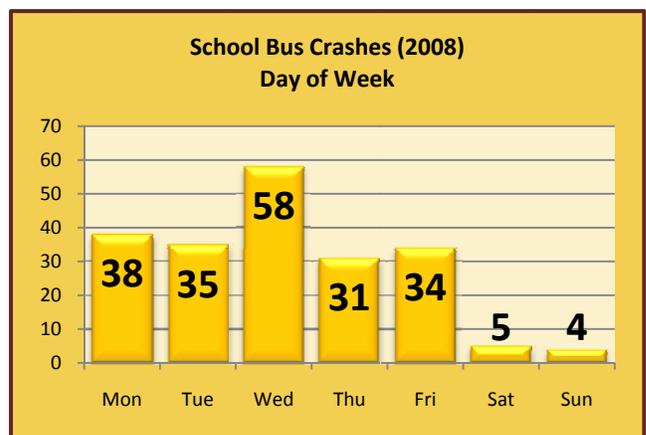
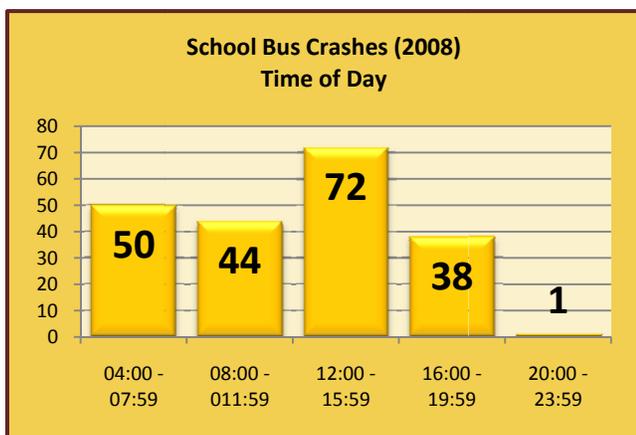
In 2008, Oklahoma reported 205 crashes involving a school bus, less than one percent of the total 72,667 crashes. There was one fatal crash and 49 injury crashes. These crashes resulted in one fatality and 89 persons injured.

The one fatality was an occupant of a pickup truck. Of the 89 persons injured, 54 were occupants in a school bus. Of the 54 school bus occupants injured, 7 were drivers and 47 were passengers.

Time & Day of Crashes

School bus crashes occurred more often between the hours of 12:00 Noon (12:00) and 3:59 p.m. (15:59) than any other time of day. More crashes occurred on Wednesday than any other day of the week.

Between 2004 and 2008, there were seven fatalities in crashes involving a school bus, six of which occurred in the other vehicle involved.



School Bus Driver Age & Gender

Drivers in school buses accounted for less than one percent of the total 129,472 drivers involved in 2008 crashes. Of the 201 drivers in school buses, 25.9% were age 55-64, 23.4% were age 45-54 and 15.4% were age 65-74. Some 59.2% of the school bus drivers were male.

Drivers of School Bus In 2008 Crashes					
Driver Age	Drivers				% of Total Drivers
	Unknown	Female	Male	Total	
Unknown	2		1	3	1.5%
16 - 24		3	3	6	3.05%
25 - 34		9	13	22	10.9%
35 - 44		15	13	28	13.9%
45 - 54		24	23	47	23.4%
55 - 64		24	28	52	25.9%
65 - 74		5	26	31	15.4%
75+			12	12	6.0%
Total	2	80	119	201	

Driver Contributing Factors

The five primary contributing factors by school bus drivers were: (1) Other Improper Act/Movement with 11.4%, (2) Inattention with 10.4%, (3) Failed to Yield with 9.5%, (4) Improper Turn with 5.5% and (5) Changed Lanes Unsafely with 3.0%.

The five primary contributing factors by drivers in other vehicles were: (1) Inattention with 12.6%, (2) Failed to Yield with 10.9%, (3) Unsafe Speed with 9.7%, (4) Other Improper Act/Movement with 5.7% and (5) Followed too Closely with 5.1%.

Drivers in School Bus Crashes (2008) Driver Contributing Factor					
Driver Contributing Factor	School Bus Drivers		Other Vehicles		Total Drivers
	Number of Drivers	% of Total Drivers	Number of Drivers	% of Total Drivers	
Changed Lanes Unsafely	6	3.0%	2	1.1%	8
Failed To Stop	1	0.5%	7	4.0%	9
Failed To Yield	19	9.5%	19	10.9%	38
Followed Too Closely	5	2.5%	9	5.1%	14
Improper Overtaking	2	1.0%	1	0.6%	3
Improper Parking	1	0.5%	0	0.0%	1
Improper Start	1	0.5%	2	1.1%	3
Improper Turn	11	5.5%	5	2.9%	16
Inattention	21	10.4%	22	12.6%	44
Left of Center	3	1.5%	5	2.9%	8
No Improper Action by Driver	99	49.3%	73	41.7%	173
Other Improper Act/Movement	23	11.4%	10	5.7%	33
Stopped in Traffic Lane	0	0.0%	1	0.6%	1
Unsafe Speed	6	3.0%	17	9.7%	24
Unsafe Vehicle	3	1.5%	0	0.0%	3
DUI-Alcohol	0	0.0%	1	0.6%	1
DUI-Drugs	0	0.0%	1	0.6%	1
Totals	201		175		380

Additional Facts

- ◆ 64.4% of school bus crashes in 2008 occurred on city streets.
- ◆ 94.1% of school bus crashes in 2008 occurred in daylight.
- ◆ 31.2% of school bus crashes in 2008 occurred in residential areas.
- ◆ 85.9% of school bus crashes in 2008 occurred in clear/cloudy weather.
- ◆ 86.8% of school bus crashes in 2008 involved one other vehicle.
- ◆ 51.7% of school bus crashes in 2008 were intersection related.
- ◆ 75.6% of school bus crashes in 2008 reported no injuries.
- ◆ One bicyclist and three pedestrians were involved in school bus crashes in 2008.
- ◆ Four school bus drivers and four drivers in other vehicles in 2008 school bus crashes were drinking while driving.