

Quick Facts

Illinois Crash Information 2003

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.

	<u>All Crashes</u>	<u>School Transportation-Related Crashes</u>
Crashes:	437,289	2,611
Fatal Crashes:	1,308	3 ^a
Injury Crashes:	88,585	454 ^a
Total People Involved:	989,697 ^b	1,548 ^c
Total Fatalities:	1,454 ^b	1 ^c
Total Non-Fatal Injuries:	131,279 ^b	209 ^c

^aNumbers only reflect crashes in which fatality or non-fatal injury was specifically a child aged 18 or younger

^bTotals include occupants and non-occupants; e.g. 989,697 total people = 980,219 occupants + 9,478 non-occupants

^cNumbers include children aged 18 or younger (occupants and non-occupants)

There were 2,611 school transportation-related crashes* in Illinois in 2003. These crashes accounted for 3 fatalities (0.2% of all 1,454 traffic fatalities in Illinois in 2003), one of which was a child aged 18 or younger.

School Hours

School transportation related crashes were concentrated before and after typical school hours, with 61.1% of all such crashes taking place either 7:00-8:59 am or 2:00-3:59 pm.

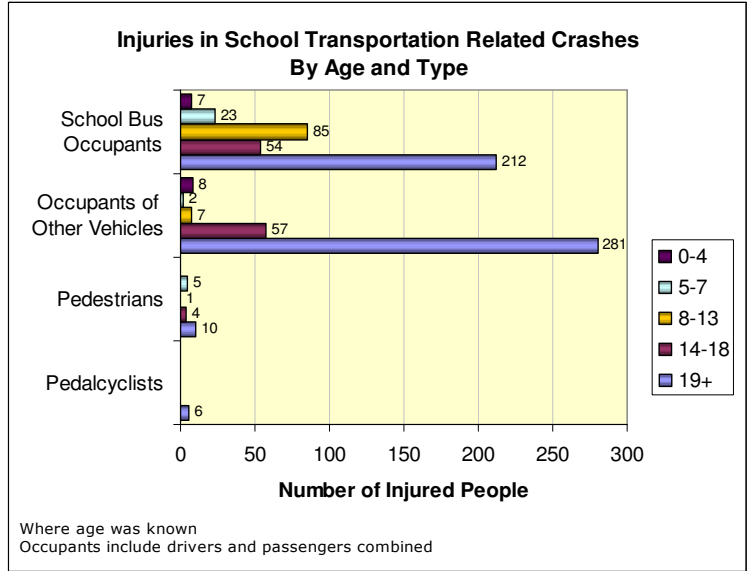
Time of Day	School Transportation Related Crashes	Injuries		Fatalities	
		All	School Age	All	School Age
midnight-6:59 am	105	33	1	1	0
7-7:59 am	390	123	41	2	1
8-8:59 am	423	101	25	0	0
9-9:59 am	110	17	0	0	0
10-10:59 am	77	37	4	0	0
11-11:59 am	107	44	14	0	0
noon-12:59 pm	117	58	12	0	0
1-1:59 pm	124	37	12	0	0
2-2:59 pm	304	113	33	0	0
3-3:59 pm	474	140	40	0	0
4-4:59 pm	188	55	17	0	0
5-11:59 pm	187	47	10	0	0
Total	2606	805	209	3	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)

Injured Occupants and Pedestrians

- Only 209 (26.05%) of the 805 occupants and pedestrians injured in school transportation related crashes were children aged 18 or younger
- Among the 209 children who were injured, 10 (4.8%) were pedestrians.
- 169 (80.9%) of the children who were injured in school transportation related crashes were occupants of buses or vehicles being used as buses.



Road Use and Geographic Facts

- 2,421 (92.7%) of all 2,611 school transportation-related crashes took place on roads or highways that were classified as "urban" use
- 1,459 (55.9%) of all 2,611 school transportation-related crashes took place in Cook County
 - In comparison, Cook County accounts for just 31.8% of the average vehicle miles traveled in Illinois[†]

	Crashes Involving School Transportation		Crashes Not Involving School Transportation	
	n	(%)	n	(%)
Chicago	932	(35.7%)	129,494	(29.8%)
Suburban Cook County	527	(20.2%)	89,766	(20.7%)
Chicago Collar Counties	583	(22.3%)	84,236	(19.4%)
Rest of State - Urban	348	(13.3%)	66,548	(15.3%)
Rest of State - Rural	221	(8.5%)	64,634	(14.9%)

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>

[†] Source: Illinois Travel Statistics 2003, Illinois Department of Transportation