

Pedestrian injury facts for Alberta

- During 1997 there were 1,253 pedestrians involved in casualty collisions. Of these, 45 died as the result of the collision.¹
- On average, at least three pedestrians are involved in collisions daily in Alberta.¹
- In 1997, pedestrians between the ages of 15 and 24 were most at risk for being injured.¹
- Pedestrian injuries are most likely to occur during the evening rush hour, between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.¹
- Pedestrians violate the “DON’T WALK” signal about 50% of the time.² Jaywalking is also a common pedestrian error.³
- Of the pedestrians involved in injury collisions during 1997, 13.1% were found to have consumed alcohol prior to the injury event.¹ Among pedestrians involved in a collision where someone died, 38.5% had been drinking or were considered alcohol impaired at the time of the crash.¹
- Most pedestrian injuries involving children younger than age five occur within one block of the child’s home. One study showed that toddlers are most likely to be injured while playing in their driveway (or sidewalk) when drivers are backing up vehicles. Preschoolers tend to be injured while crossing “mid-block” on residential streets.⁴

Top-Three Driver Errors (1997 Alberta statistics)¹

- Nearly 34% of the drivers who were involved in pedestrian collisions failed to yield to the right of way of the pedestrian;
- 8% had been backing up unsafely; and
- 2% had run off the road.

NOTE: Nearly 50% of drivers were considered to have been driving properly by police

1. Alberta Transportation and Utilities (1997), [Traffic Collision Statistics](#)
2. Dewar, R. (1992). [Driver and Pedestrian Characteristics](#) In J.Pline (ed.), Traffic Engineering Handbook (4th Edition).
3. City of Edmonton, Transportation and Planning Branch (1998)
4. Winn, DG, Agran, PF and Castillo, DN (1991). [Pedestrian Injuries to Children Younger Than 5 Years of Age](#). Pediatrics, 88(4). 776-782

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