

Alarming Dangers in School Zones



The Facts About Teen Pedestrians

5  /week

There are 5 teen pedestrian deaths every week in the United States.

13% 
 There has been a 13% increase in the pedestrian death rate for 12-19 year olds since 2013.

Age 15-19

 population pedestrian deaths

In 2015, while teens ages 15-19 made up 26 percent of all children ages 0-19 years, they made up about half of the pedestrian fatalities.

We observed 39,000 middle and high school students and 56,000 drivers in school zones in 2016.

Distracted walking is on the rise. We observed it in 1 in 4 high school students and 1 in 6 middle school students.



Distracted teens were most likely to be wearing headphones or texting.



Unsafe street crossing behavior was observed in about 80% of students.



Unsafe drop-off or pick-up behavior was observed in nearly 1 in 3 drivers.



What Communities Can Do to Protect Kids on the Move

Install proven interventions, like crosswalks, speed limits, visible signs and traffic lights.

Marked crosswalks were missing in 3 out of 10 observed crossings.



Set and enforce speed limits in school zones at no more than 20 mph.

Low speed limits (≤20 mph) were observed in only about 4 out of 10 school zones.



Educate parents and students about dangerous walking and driving habits (e.g., crossing mid-block, texting or talking on the phone.)

Implement and enforce school drop-off/pick-up policies.

