

# PORTLAND 2023 DEADLY TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | 2023



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In 2023, 69 people were killed in traffic crashes in Portland, the highest death toll in at least three decades and surpassing 2021's record high.

Sustained levels of traffic deaths have persisted in the state and across the U.S. since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020. Traffic deaths overall, as well as traffic death rates per 100,000, have increased nationwide, in Oregon, and in Portland since 2014.

Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) remains committed to installing safety improvements and expanding our partnerships to address complex, new, and deadly patterns in traffic crashes.

## Traffic deaths by mode of travel

People in motor vehicles	32
People on motorcycles	11
Pedestrians*	24
People on bicycles	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>

Data: Portland Police Bureau.

\*Includes people walking, using mobility devices, riding skateboards, or on e-scooters.

## DEADLY CRASH LOCATIONS

- Three-quarters of deadly crashes occurred on the **High Crash Network**, Portland's 30 deadliest streets and intersections.
- Deadly crashes are more likely to take place on **wide streets**.
- Sixty-one percent of traffic deaths took place on **city streets**, 35% on state-owned streets, and 4% on Multnomah County bridges.
- The rate of traffic deaths in **East Portland** is two-thirds greater than the rest of the city.
- People living in high **PBOT Equity Matrix** scores areas experienced three times more traffic deaths compared to the rest of Portland.

## PORTLAND CRASH TRENDS

Since Portland adopted Vision Zero (2015) and PBOT began implementing the Vision Zero Action Plan (2017), some trends have endured while others are more recent.

**74%** of traffic deaths occurred on the **High Crash Network**, a percent that is consistently high.

**58%** of traffic deaths involved **speeding**, a top factor in deadly factors year after year.

**35%** of traffic death victims were **pedestrians**. This is the first year that pedestrian deaths were lower since 2020 when pedestrian deaths dramatically increased.

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