

2026 National Work Zone Awareness Week

April 20–24, 2026

Work zones are essential for updating infrastructure but present risks to both safety and mobility. Crashes in work zones result from many factors, including nighttime work, high-speed traffic, lack of protective barriers, impaired driving, extreme weather, heavy machinery, tight timelines, crowded spaces, poor visibility, communication problems, and challenging site conditions.

SAFE ACTIONS SAVE LIVES



Source: Federal Highway Administration.

On average, at least two people are killed in work zones every day.¹

PAY ATTENTION, especially at night.

More than half of all fatal work zone crashes occurred at night in 2024.²

For more information on advancing nighttime work zone safety visit: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/everydaycounts/edc_8/nighttime_work_zone_safety.cfm.

KEEP YOUR DISTANCE:

Speeds can change unexpectedly.

In 2024, rear-end collisions caused nearly **one-quarter** of all fatal work zone crashes.³

SLOW DOWN:

Speeding reduces your reaction time.

In 2024, speed was a factor in more than **one-third** of fatal work zone crashes.⁴

WATCH FOR PEDESTRIANS:

They may be in your driving path.

In 2024, nearly 170 pedestrians (including construction, maintenance, and utility workers) and pedalcyclists were killed in work zones.⁵

ALLOW EXTRA SPACE:

Large vehicles need room to maneuver.

In 2024, large trucks or buses were involved in nearly **one-third** of fatal work zone crashes.⁶

AVOID DISTRACTIONS:

Unpredictable zones require full focus.

In 2024, distractions were involved in more than **one in eight** fatal work zone crashes.⁷

For access to resources, guidance, and training, check out the following websites:

- ▶ The FHWA Work Zone Management Program: <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz>
- ▶ The National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse: <https://www.workzonesafety.org>

¹⁻⁷ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) *Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2024 Annual Report File*. FARS data shown here are from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

WORK ZONE FATALITIES BY PERSON TYPE

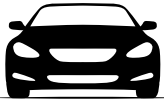
2023

TOTAL FATALITIES: 905

2024

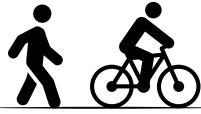
TOTAL FATALITIES: 850

DRIVERS and PASSENGERS



709 | **673**
in 2023 | in 2024

PEDESTRIANS and PEDALCYCLISTS



187 | **169**
in 2023 | in 2024

OTHERS*



9 | **8**
in 2023 | in 2024

* Includes occupant of motor vehicle not in transport, occupant of a nonmotor vehicle transport device, persons on personal conveyances, persons in or on buildings, unknown type of nonoccupant, and unknown occupant type in a motor vehicle in transport.

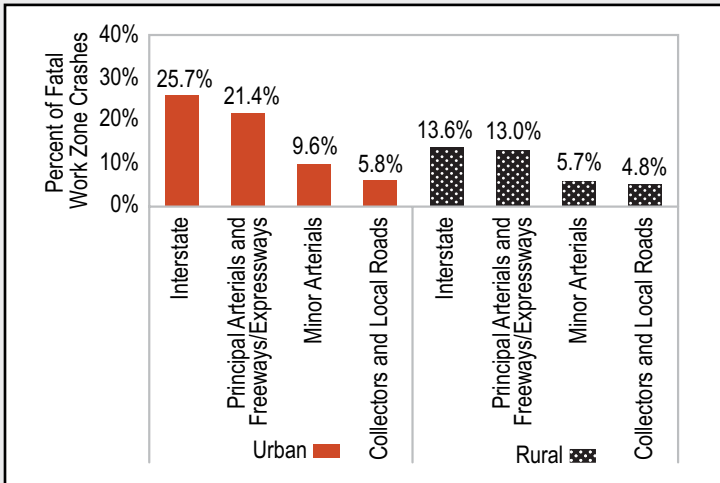
Data Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration *Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2023 Final File and 2024 Annual Report File*. FARS data shown here are from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Three Primary Types of Fatal Work Zone Crashes, 2023–2024 Comparison

Type	2023	2024
Involving a Rear-End Collision	21% - 173	22% - 169
Involving Large Trucks or Buses	31% - 257	31% - 236
Where Speeding Was a Factor	29% - 242	34% - 262

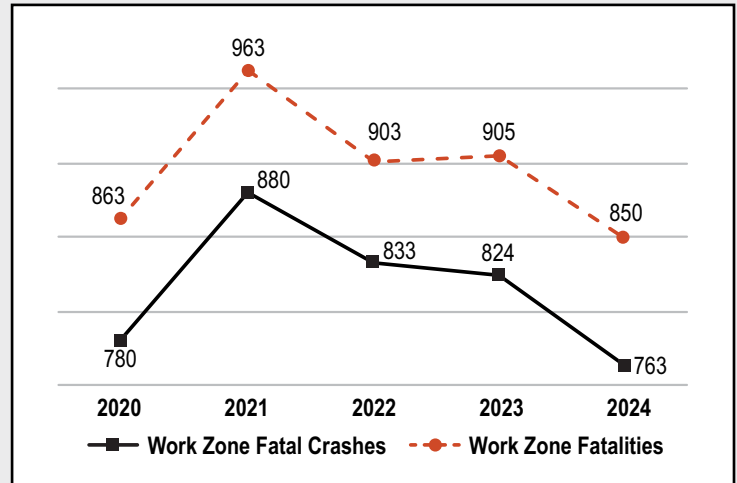
Data Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration *Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2023 Final File and 2024 Annual Report File*. FARS data shown here are from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Distribution of Fatal Work Zone Crashes by Functional Classification and Land Use, 2022–2024 Average



Data Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration *Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2022-2023 Final Files and 2024 Annual Report File*. FARS data shown here are from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Work Zone Fatal Crashes and Fatalities



Data Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration *Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) 2020-2023 Final Files and 2024 Annual Report File*. FARS data shown here are from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Trends: From 2023 to 2024, work zone fatalities decreased by about 6 percent; however, there were increases in the percentage of fatal work zone crashes where speeding was a factor and those involving rear-end collisions.⁸

⁸NHTSA *FARS 2023 Final File and 2024 Annual Report File*. FARS data shown here are from the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Note: The NHTSA FARS data may be updated intermittently. Data shown here reflect what NHTSA reported as of April 2026.