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North Carolina Car Accident Statistics 2026

NCDMV Crash Facts 2025 vs 2024 vs 2023 vs 2022, plus federal FARS and NHTSA figures

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1,524
North Carolina traffic deaths in 2025 (NCDMV)

1.15
deaths per 100M vehicle miles

-12.0%
vs 1,732 in 2024

Key findings

- North Carolina recorded 1,524 traffic deaths in 2025, down 12.0% from 1,732 in 2024 and from 1,784 in 2022 (NCDMV Crash Facts). It is the lowest total since 2019.
- The mileage death rate fell to 1.15 per 100 million vehicle miles, from 1.36 in 2024 and 1.50 in 2022, while miles driven rose 3.9% to about 132.0 billion.
- 279,270 reportable crashes (-1.9%) and 107,076 people injured (-5.7%) in 2025.
- 359 alcohol-related deaths (23.6% of all deaths) and 335 speed-related deaths (22.0%).
- 262 pedestrians, 164 motorcyclists and 33 pedalcyclists were killed, all fewer than in 2024.
- 44% of people killed in vehicle types with seat belts were unbelted.
- Federal figures: FARS counted 1,619 North Carolina deaths in 2024; NHTSA projects 1,410 for 2025.

Online version with sources and FAQ: https://autoinsurancebundle.pro/statistics/north-carolina-car-accident-statistics/
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North Carolina: 2022 vs 2023 vs 2024 vs 2025 (NCDMV Crash Facts)

Statistic	2022 report	2023	2024	2025 report
People killed	1,784	1,686	1,732	1,524
Fatal crashes	1,647	1,565	1,622	1,419
Reportable crashes	273,732	284,157	284,546	279,270
People injured	110,544	115,009	113,602	107,076
Deaths per 100M vehicle miles	1.50	1.38	1.36	1.15
Deaths per 100,000 people	16.67	15.56	15.68	13.61
Alcohol-related deaths	448	377	361	359
Speed-related deaths	426	389	370	335
Distracted-driving deaths	164	132	147	119
Pedestrians killed	269	250	281	262
Motorcyclists killed	201	202	193	164
Pedalcyclists killed	20	40	40	33
Killed while unbelted (share)	45%	44%	40%	44%
Vehicle miles traveled	118.8 billion	122.2 billion	127.0 billion	132.0 billion

Alcohol, speed, distraction and seat belt rows use the five-year table in the 2025 report so that all years follow the same definitions. Unbelted share = unbelted deaths as a share of deaths in vehicle types with seat belts (2025: 451 of 1,035). Per-100,000 figures are as printed in each annual report.

Federal figures for North Carolina

- FARS 2024 annual report file: 1,619 deaths, 14.7 per 100,000 people, 1.24 per 100 million vehicle miles (IIHS Fatality Facts 2024).
- NHTSA early estimate for 2025: 1,410 deaths (-12.9%), 1.12 per 100 million vehicle miles (DOT HS 813 800). Projection; will be revised.

Why older articles still say 1,784

The NCDMV 2022 Crash Facts total of 1,784 deaths (1.50 per 100 million miles) was the recent peak and is still widely quoted. Many other pages show 1,732 for 2024 as the latest year. The 2025 report shows 1,524, the fewest since 2019 (1,470).

Insurance context

- Minimum liability for policies issued or renewed on or after July 1, 2025: 50/100/50 ($50,000 per person / $100,000 per crash bodily injury, $50,000 property damage), up from 30/60/25 (NCDMV).
- Average auto insurance expenditure: $1,038.44 per insured vehicle in 2024, vs $930.78 in 2023 and $1,431.63 for the U.S. (NAIC 2024 Average Premium Supplement, Table 4).

Methodology

NCDMV Crash Facts is compiled by the Traffic Records Unit and Traffic Safety Unit from law enforcement crash reports (DMV-349) in the statewide crash database. The 2025 edition uses 2025 crash data received prior to August 2026. NCDMV defines a fatal crash as one in which at least one person dies within 12 months; NHTSA FARS counts deaths within 30 days, so FARS totals are lower. Vehicle miles are estimated from gasoline tax revenue. The 2025 report's summary bullet lists 163 motorcyclists killed and its comparative table lists 164; this report uses the table. Percent changes are NCDMV's; other calculations are ours.

Sources

- NCDMV, North Carolina 2025 Traffic Crash Facts (2025 crash data received prior to August 2026)
- NCDMV, North Carolina Traffic Crash Facts 2024, 2023 and 2022
- IIHS-HLDI, Fatality Facts 2024: State by state
- NHTSA, Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities and Fatality Rate in 2025, DOT HS 813 800 (April 2026)
- NCDMV, Vehicle Insurance Requirements
- NAIC, 2024 Auto Insurance Database Average Premium Supplement (September 2026)

How to cite

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