Motor Vehicle Traffic Injuries are a leading cause of injury related death in New York County. Crash related injuries are also a leading cause of injury related hospitalization and injury related emergency department (ED) visits in New York County.

Crash-related injuries are not accidents! They are not random, uncontrollable acts of fate, but occur in predictable patterns, with recognizable risk factors and among identifiable populations. A crash-related injury is a predictable and preventable event!

Magnitude of the Crash Problem

- Every **week**, because of a traffic-related crash, an average of:
  - 1 New York County resident died
  - 14 New York County residents were hospitalized
  - 100 New York County residents were treated in an ED

- Annually, traffic crashes resulted in an average of:
  - $32.4 million in hospitalization charges
    - Approximately $7 million was charged to publicly funded programs, such as Medicaid, Medicare, VA health care, and corrections.
  - $10.6 million in ED charges

- 20% of hospitalized crash victims are released to another hospital, rehabilitation center or long term care, incurring additional costs
Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) can result from traffic related crashes and may result in the loss of independent function, requiring long-term care, and increased life-long expenses.

⇒ Among New York County Residents that were hospitalized following a traffic crash 32.2% were diagnosed with a TBI, with more than a third of pedestrians and bicyclists sustaining a TBI.
⇒ The risk of TBI can be reduced by wearing your seat belt!
⇒ Bicyclists and Motorcyclists who wear helmets reduce their risk of a TBI!

Who is at Risk for Crash-Related Injuries?

- Although most crash victims in New York State were vehicle occupants, a higher percentage of bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorcyclists were injured severely enough to require hospitalization.

In New York County:

- Males are more likely to have died, been hospitalized, or received outpatient treatment at an ED following a traffic crash.
- Traffic-related crash injuries occur in all age groups.

Treatment at a Hospital Following a Crash

For more detailed information on motor vehicle traffic crashes in New York State:

Please see the detailed county tables provided at [www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/traffic](http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/traffic)

Or visit the Governors Traffic Safety Committee website at [www.safeny.com](http://www.safeny.com).

For additional questions or customized data requests, you may also contact the NYS Department of Health, Bureau of Injury Prevention at (518) 473-1143, injury@health.state.ny.us.