

# School Bus Safety – Collision Statistics

Every school day throughout the country, over 50,000 school buses transport approximately 2.2 million children to and from school, resulting in an estimated 792 million student trips annually across Canada. The National Collision Database (NCDB) shows that children traveling to school by school bus are 72 times safer than those traveling to school by car, and 45 times safer than those walking and cycling to school. Consistent with the commitment set out in the Preliminary Report of the Task Force on School Bus Safety (s.3.1.2.2), the following statistics aim to highlight comparisons in fatalities and injuries that occur in and around school loading zones, and those that occur inside the bus.

## Exterior Safety Features on School Buses

- Painted bright yellow to stand out
- Strategically placed flashing lights to indicate the presence of children on the road
- Stop arm to prevent motorists from passing while children are crossing the road
- Equipped with a series of special mirrors to improve the driver’s visibility
- Pedestrian crossing control arm so that children will cross far enough in front of the bus

## School Aged Casualties Involving a School Bus

- Between 1998 and 2017, there were a total of 24 fatalities where a school bus was involved
- 5 of the fatalities and 3,789 injuries were passengers on the bus (2% of these injuries were considered serious)
- 19 fatalities and 426 injuries occurred outside the bus

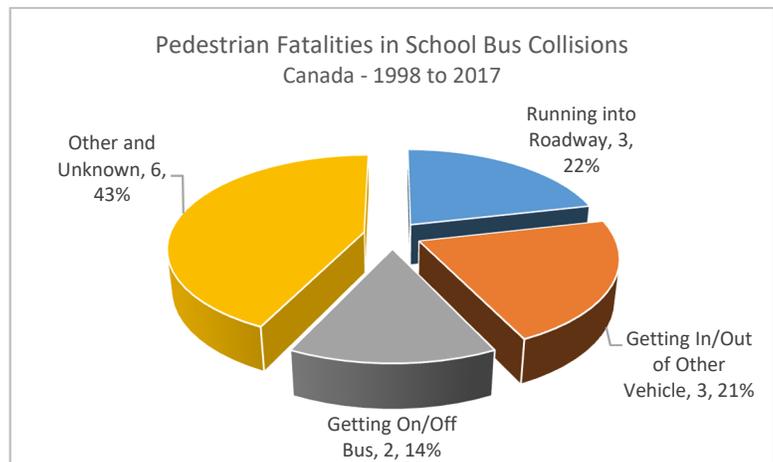
	Fatalities	Injuries
School Bus Passenger	5	3,789
Pedestrian / Cyclist	19	426

## School Bus Collisions Involving Pedestrians and Cyclists

From 1998 to 2017, there were 18 pedestrian fatalities and 348 pedestrian injuries in collisions involving a school bus.

Of the fatalities, 14 pedestrians were struck by a school bus, shown by type of collision in the chart to the right. In the remaining 4 fatalities, the pedestrians were struck by another type of vehicle.

During the same period, there was 1 cyclist fatality and 78 cyclist injuries in collisions involving a school bus.



Failure to yield the right of way and driver distraction/inattention were the leading contributing factors in fatal (16% and 15%, respectively) and injury (9% and 12%, respectively) collisions involving school buses.

## School Aged Casualties 1998-2017

	Fatalities	Injuries
School Bus Passenger	5	3,789
Cyclist	41	9,493
Pedestrian	158	22,629
Passenger Vehicle	395	64,512

NCDB, Canada, 1998 to 2017, filtered for school-related travel (weekdays, September- June, during morning/afternoon school transportation hours)

The Task Force is committed to continue gathering evidence that draws on both quantitative and qualitative data, given that less than 1% of school transportation-related fatalities and 4% of school transportation-related injuries are associated with school bus occupants.