GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
401 E Street, SW – 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20024

# DC Traffic-Related Fatalities: January 1, 2018, to December 31, 2022

*Report Date: August 16, 2023*

The DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) investigated **165** fatalities resulting from traffic-related accidents that took place within the District of Columbia from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2022. This report examines calendar year trends, mode of injury, and demographic characteristics among this population of decedents observed at the OCME.

## Trends in DC Traffic-Related Accidental Deaths

The number of traffic-related fatalities that occurred in DC slightly increased between 2018 and 2022 (Fig. 1).

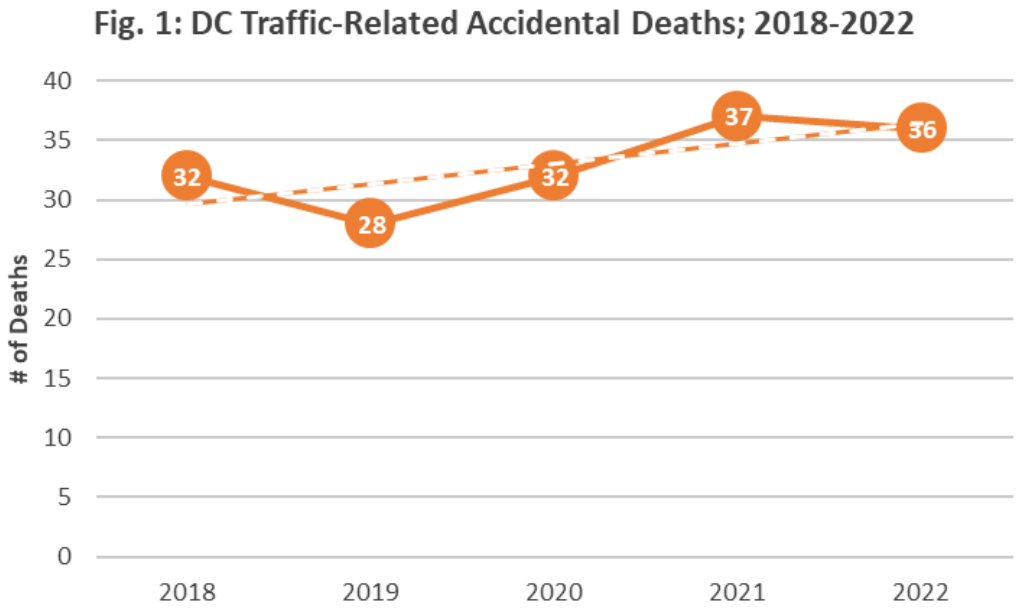
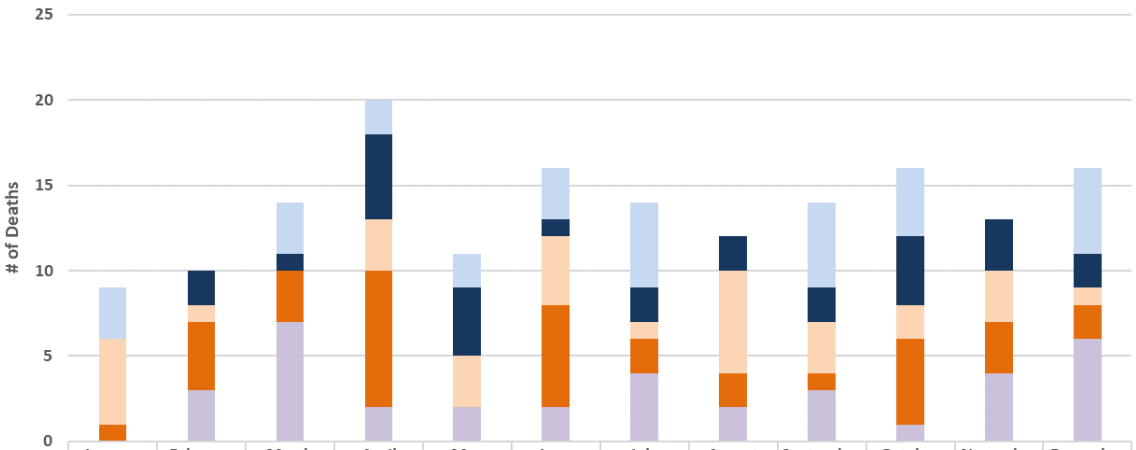


Fig. 2: DC Traffic-Related Accidental Deaths by Month and Year; 2018-2022



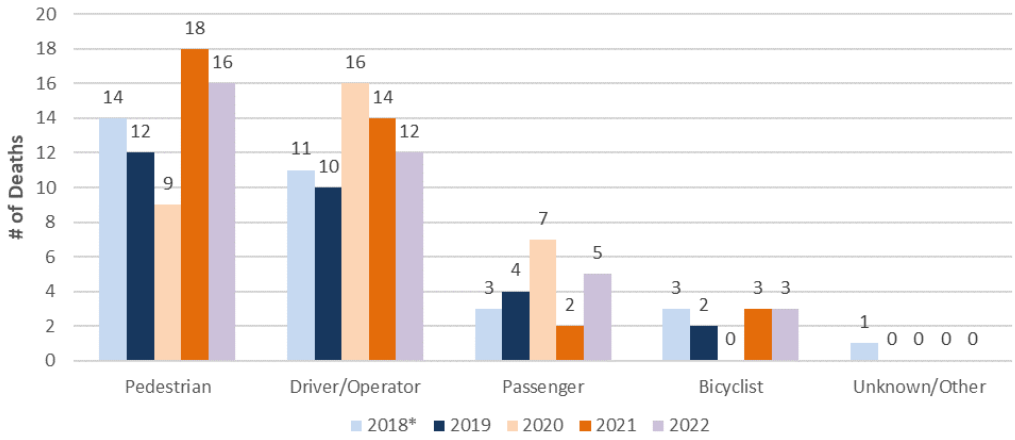

| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2018 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| 2019 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 |
| 2020 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| 2021 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| 2022 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 |

From 2018 to 2022, OCME investigated **20** DC traffic-related accidental deaths in the month of April. **8** fatalities occurred specifically in April 2021 (Fig. 2).

## Mode of Injury

Overall, **42%** of DC traffic-related accidental deaths occurred among pedestrians, **38%** occurred among drivers/operators, and **13%** occurred among passengers (Fig. 3).

Fig. 3: DC Traffic-Related Accidental Deaths by Mode of Injury; 2018-2022

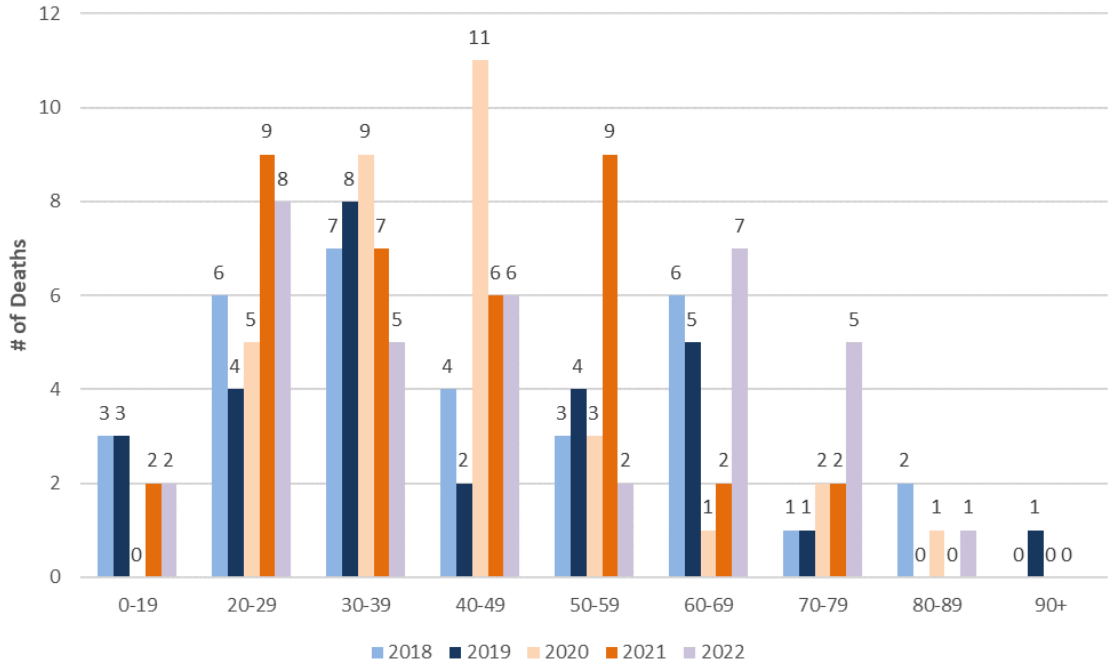


## Demographics

*Age*

Approximately **59%** of traffic-related accidental deaths occurred among adults between the ages of 20 to 49 years old. **22%** of deaths occurred among people ages 30 to 39 (Fig. 4).

Fig. 4: DC Traffic-Reated Accidental Deaths by Age Range; 2018-2022




*Gender and Race/Ethnicity*

Traffic-related accidental deaths were most common among black males (**58%**) (Table 1).

**Table 1: DC Traffic-Related Accidental Deaths by Gender and Race/Ethnicity; 2018-2022**

| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Male** | | | | | |
| Black | 18 | 17 | 18 | 20 | 23 |
| White | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| Hispanic | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Other | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| **Female** | | | | | |
| Black | 3 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 5 |
| White | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| Other | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |