

Safety Check ✓

From the Safety Chick

Bicycle Safety Statistics

One of the websites I visit occasionally is www.bicyclesafe.com. (Website and articles by Michael Bluejay.) The primary article on the site is “How Not to Get Hit by Cars,” a detailed look at cyclists and how they interact with cars. In addition to text, there are numerous diagrams and suggestions about avoiding the situation. There are a lot of other links to articles, statistics and safe riding information. One of the links is to a section on Bicycle Safety Statistics, see clip below.

Where cyclists die or crash (www.bicycleuniverse.info)

U.S. cyclists are three more times likely to be killed than German cyclists and six times more than Dutch cyclists, whether compared per-trip or per-distance traveled. (Reuters, Aug. 28, 2003, by Maggie Fox)

Cyclist fatalities occurred more frequently in urban areas (66%), at nonintersection locations (67%), between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. (30%), and during the months of June, July, and August (36%). ([NHTSA](#), 2004)

Riding on the sidewalk is several more times more dangerous than riding in the street. ([William Moritz, 1998](#))

Most deaths on major roads. Fifty-seven percent of bicycle deaths in 1999 occurred on major roads, and 37 percent occurred on local roads. (6)

Streets with bike lanes have a significantly lower crash rate than either major or minor streets without any bicycle facilities (38 and 56% respectively). ([William Moritz, 1998](#))

Streets with bike lanes are safer than those without. Article also has information about the safety of bike paths. ([BicyclingInfo.org](#), 2004)

Four states lead cycling deaths. Four states (California, Florida, New York, and Texas) accounted for 43% of bicycle deaths in 1999. (6)