



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



2025 National Work Zone Awareness Week

Respect the Zone So We All Get Home

April 21–25, 2025

Source: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) spotlights safety and mobility challenges in and around work zones nationwide. Work zones, and the people working in them, are an important part of maintaining and upgrading the transportation system.

Work zone safety is a component of national efforts led by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), such as *23 Code of Federal Regulations Part 630 Subparts J and K*. These regulations include several work zone safety measures. For example, **Subpart J** requires agencies to identify safety performance measures and monitor safety performance in work zones, and **Subpart K** requires agencies to use positive protection devices, at a minimum, in work zones “with high anticipated operating speeds that provide workers with no means of escape from motorized traffic intruding into the workspace, unless an engineering study determines otherwise.”

The number of work zone fatalities decreased in 2022, for the first time since 2018.¹

Consider the following actions behind the wheel to improve work zone safety for all:



Avoid distractions. Focus on driving safely through the work zone and avoid distractions such as phones.



Reduce speed. Obey posted speed limits through work zones.



Be aware of workers. Work areas are often close to travel lanes, so be vigilant and slow down when workers are present.



Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists. Work zones often restrict where nonmotorized road users can travel and may make their travel more hazardous.



Give commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) space.* Narrow lanes, unexpected lane shifts, and longer braking distances are challenges for large vehicles. Allow extra space for all large vehicles to safely navigate work zones.



Reroute. Follow signed detours or view traveler information sources that display active work zones and select alternate routes.

Fatal highway worker injury numbers have decreased from 124 in 2018 to 94 in 2022. FHWA will continue to help improve safety in work zones to sustain this trend.²

Source: Getty Images.

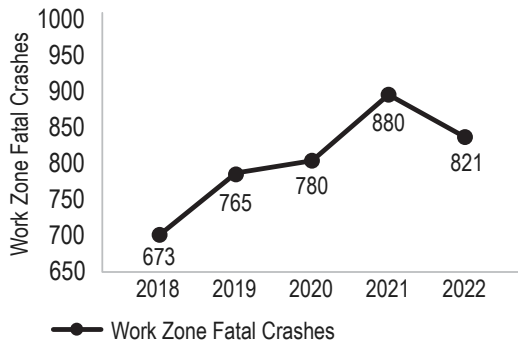
Visit the FHWA “Work Zone Management Program” website at <https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/> and the “National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse” website at <https://www.workzonesafety.org> for access to resources, guidance, and training.

*CMVs refer to large trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 10,001 lbs or more.

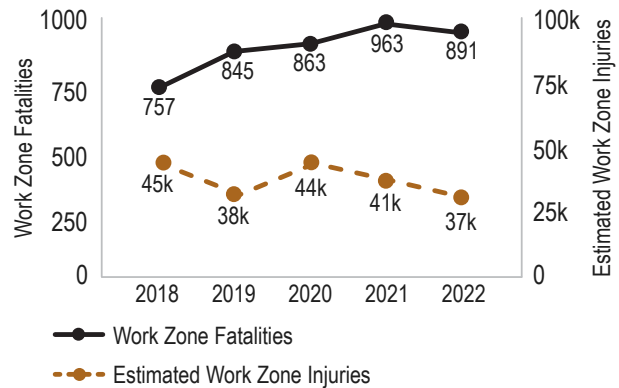
The number of fatalities in work zone-related motor vehicle crashes decreased by 8 percent from 2021 to 2022.³

Similarly, there were an estimated 37,000 injuries in work zone-related motor vehicle crashes in 2022, which was a 10-percent decrease from 2021 and is lower than any other year since 2015.⁴

Work Zone Fatal Crashes, 2018–2022⁵



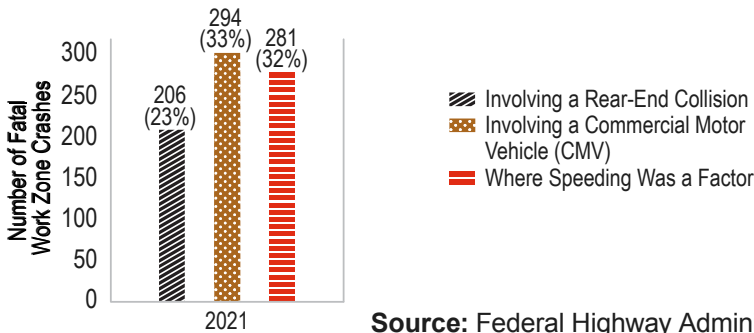
Fatalities and Estimated Injuries Occurring in Work Zones, 2018–2022⁶



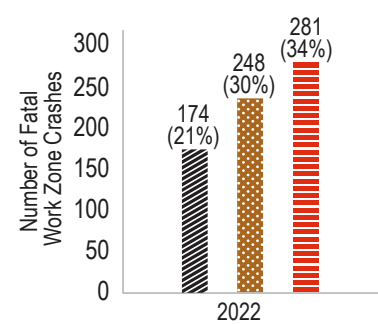
Source: Federal Highway Administration.

From 2021 to 2022, changes included slight decreases in the percentage of fatal work zone crashes involving rear-end collisions and those involving a CMV, and a slight increase in the percentage of fatal work zone crashes that involved speeding.⁷

Fatal Work Zone Crashes in 2021⁸



Fatal Work Zone Crashes in 2022⁹

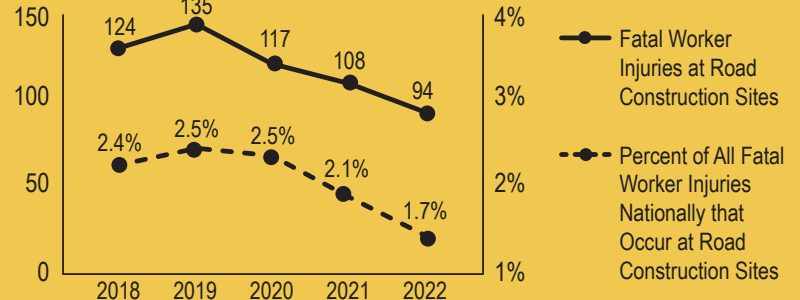


Source: Federal Highway Administration.

Based on Bureau of Labor Statistics Data¹⁰

Since 2019, fatal highway worker injuries at road construction sites from all causes have decreased. Data from 2018 to 2022 indicate that more than three-fourths of all fatal highway worker injuries at road construction sites are the result of motor vehicle crashes where the worker is the driver or a passenger (27 percent) or a worker on foot who is struck by a motor vehicle (49 percent). It is not known how many of the workers on foot were struck by motorists versus struck by construction vehicles.

Fatal Worker Injuries at Work Construction Sites¹¹



Source: Federal Highway Administration.

^{1, 3-9} Fatality Analysis Reporting System. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC. Accessible at <https://www.nhtsa.gov/research-data/fatality-analysis-reporting-system-fars>

^{2, 10, 11} Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC. Accessible at <https://www.bls.gov/iif/home.htm#2022>

Except for the statutes and regulations cited, the contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the States or the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide information regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

March 2025
FHWA-HOP-25-146