



# VITALS

A Weekly Safety Newsletter For Medical Transport Professionals

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## Not-In-traffic Auto Deaths



You read a great deal about traffic safety and crashes. NHTSA has published the results of its "Not-in-Traffic Surveillance." It used police reports, death certificates, emergency room records, and its own Special Crash Investigation program to gather data. Non-traffic accidents occurred on private roads, in driveways and parking lots. There were 841,000 injuries and 1,747 fatalities. On the other hand, in 2008 traffic fatalities were down 8% to about 39,800. The decline is attributed to safety improvements in car design and a decline in miles driven because of high gas prices.

Here is a list of the type of accident and the number of deaths related to each type.

### Type of Accident

### Number of Deaths

Occupant in Non-traffic single vehicle crash	496
Non-occupant in non-traffic crash	393
Non-occupant in non-traffic backover	221
Struck by falling vehicle	168
CO from vehicle exhaust	147
Fall from vehicle	88
Vehicle fire	57
Occupant in non-traffic multi-vehicle crash	49
Struck by object	44
Hyperthermia	37
Hypothermia	14
Poisoning in vehicle from other source	9
Exploding tire	7
Vehicle window asphyxia	5
Electrocution	4
Drowning	3
Closed in trunk	3
Radiator fluid burns	2



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