



# Safety Bulletin

AMTA Alberta Motor Transport Association

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Most pedestrian collisions happen during rush hour periods, when both drivers and pedestrians are rushing to get home. Seasonal changes in daylight during October and November can also make seeing pedestrians more difficult. Pedestrians are vulnerable as they lack the protection of a vehicle's safety features should a collision occur. Both pedestrians and drivers should acknowledge each other and make eye contact with one another at walkways, intersections and crosswalks.

### THE FACTS

- Between 2011 and 2015, **on average, 44 pedestrians were killed and more than 1,187 were injured each year.**
- The **majority of pedestrian casualty collisions (96.4 per cent) occurred in urban areas** in 2015.
- **50 per cent of drivers** involved in pedestrian casualty collisions **failed to yield the right of way** to the pedestrian. (2015)
- In 2015, the **casualty rates were highest for pedestrians between the ages of 15 to 19** (per 10,000 population). However, **86 per cent of pedestrians killed** were 25 and older.
- The **likeliest time for these collisions was between 3 - 7 p.m.**, and **more incidents occurred on Tuesdays** than any other day (2015).
- In 2015, **13 per cent of pedestrians involved in fatal collisions were impaired by alcohol.** Another 8.7 per cent had been drinking prior to the collision.
- The **City of Edmonton 2016 Traffic Safety Culture Survey** Indicated:
  - Close to half of respondents said they avoid certain streets or intersections because they feel they are too dangerous, even if rarely, and the majority indicated they never cross the road when it's a red light for pedestrians.
  - Only a small percentage of respondents reported that they purposely wear reflective clothing often or always. In contrast, the vast majority said they make eye contact with drivers before crossing the street at least sometimes, and more than half said they always do this. More than two-thirds of respondents said they never use MP3/iPod/music devices while walking or running.



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**WHEN EYES LOCK IT'S SAFER TO WALK.**  
Pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility.