

THE BRISKMAN GUARANTEE

You will receive a free consultation with an experienced attorney

PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENT LAWYERS IN CHICAGO



BRISKMAN + BRISKMAN + GREENBERG



PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS ARE ON THE RISE

Chicago's green spaces and relatively flat streets make it one of the country's most walkable cities. While traveling on foot should be safe if basic rules are being obeyed, too often pedestrians are vulnerable to accidents that cause serious, sometimes even fatal, injuries. In many cases, distracted driving or other forms of driver negligence are to blame for pedestrian accidents.

Every year, thousands of pedestrians are injured or killed as a result of preventable traffic crashes.

Pedestrian fatalities have followed an upward trajectory in the U.S. over the past 20 years. A 2022 Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) report revealed there were over 7,500 pedestrian deaths in the U.S. that year, which is the highest number recorded since 1981. Experts attribute the spike in part to an increase in distractions like smartphone use. Cars and SUVs are also getting larger and heavier. Since 2013, there has been a 50 percent increase in the number of SUVs that have

played a role in pedestrian deaths. Pedestrians hit by larger, heavier vehicles are more likely to suffer severe, possibly fatal, injuries than those struck by smaller cars.

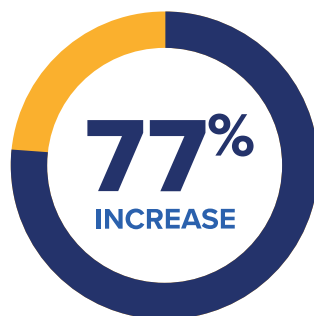
While pedestrian accidents are relatively rare, they are more likely to cause serious injury or death than are accidents with multiple vehicles involved. Pedestrian accidents accounted for around one percent of all Illinois crashes but were responsible for three percent of all injuries and 3.5 percent of traffic fatalities. Accidents involving pedestrians made up 1.3 percent of total crashes but 18 percent of fatal crashes.

In Illinois, 3,520 pedestrians were injured in 2021, with 861 of those individuals suffering serious, debilitating injuries. While people associate pedestrians with city streets, the injury distribution in Illinois is more closely split between rural and urban areas than might be expected. Sixty percent of pedestrian injuries happened in urban areas, which means a significant 40 percent happened on rural roads.

TRAFFIC DEATHS: NATIONWIDE THERE HAS BEEN A



IN MOTOR VEHICAL
FATALITIES



IN PEDESTRIAN
FATALITIES

MORE THAN
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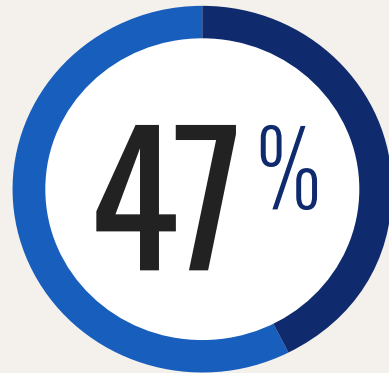
DRIVER NEGLIGENCE IS A COMMON CAUSE OF PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENTS

Illinois walkways and sidewalks are used by a range of pedestrians including walkers, joggers, wheelchair users and skateboarders. Drivers are expected to obey the rules of the road and be mindful of pedestrians. This means that they need to be extra cautious in pedestrian-heavy areas such as shopping centers, residential neighborhoods, parks and school zones.

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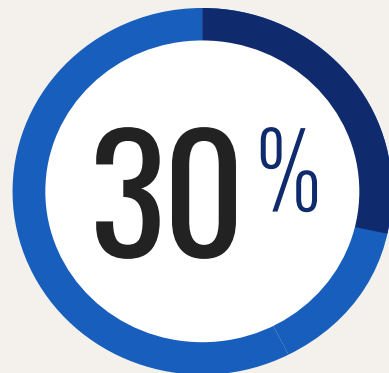
However, sometimes drivers pay attention only to other vehicles on the road while ignoring the need to check for pedestrians. Illinois drivers must yield to pedestrians when turning at intersections. Pedestrians also have the right of way in many other situations, such as when they are in a marked crosswalk, following a walk signal, or leaving or entering the road from a driveway.

Drivers are not the only ones prone to distractions. Even though pedestrians have the right of way, they also have the responsibility to look both ways before crossing and to take reasonable actions to be safe. In some pedestrian accidents, a person may be jay-walking or be distracted by their smartphone, talking to a friend or listening to music while walking.



ALCOHOL

— — — — —
Factors that contribute to fatal pedestrian accidents
— — — — —



**FAILURE TO YIELD
RIGHT OF WAY**

Following are some common behaviors that can cause pedestrian accidents:



FAILING TO OBEY TRAFFIC
SIGNS OR SIGNALS



NOT YIELDING TO
PEDESTRIANS



BACKING UP
WITHOUT LOOKING



IMPROPER LANE
USAGE



SPEEDING



RECKLESS DRIVING



DRIVING UNDER
THE INFLUENCE OF
DRUGS OR ALCOHOL



DISTRACTED
DRIVING



AGGRESSIVE
DRIVING

TESTIMONIALS

It was a painless process

Unlike the car accident, it was a painless process. They followed up with me often keeping me up to date on the progress. The case was settled and I was provided with a check for my damages. It was friendly and professional, and they took the time to explain everything.

- D. Magdalin

Additional factors that can cause pedestrian accidents

Cracked, uneven sidewalks or roads may discourage pedestrians from using them, for example. In such cases, a third party like a local government agency can be held liable. If you or a loved one has been hurt in a pedestrian accident, you may be able to pursue compensation for your injuries through an insurance settlement or a lawsuit.

With the introduction of dockless electric scooters, pedestrians have another potential safety hazard to contend with. Unfortunately, scooters have already resulted in accidents in Chicago and across other U.S. cities.

While many cases have involved scooter riders suffering injuries, there have also been reports of pedestrians getting hurt. Scooters that are left lying around on sidewalks or blocking business entryways pose a tripping hazard. They can put pedestrians at risk of slip and fall accidents. Riders who lose control of their scooters can also end up colliding with walkers, causing serious injuries.

Illinois is still grappling with how to regulate electric scooters. While the state continues to mull various safety measures and laws, pedestrians need to remain extra cautious.

Types of injuries common to Chicago pedestrian accidents:

While car drivers and passengers have seatbelts, airbags and the advantage of being in a vehicle to potentially lessen the severity of injuries sustained during a crash, pedestrians are not afforded such protection. When a person traveling on foot is hit by a vehicle, the results are frequently catastrophic.

Some of the most common kinds of injuries that victims suffer in pedestrian crashes include, but are not limited to:

- **Broken bones**
- **Head injuries**
- **Neck injuries**
- **Back injuries**
- **Nerve damage**
- **Dislocated joints or limbs**
- **Internal organ damage**
- **Cuts, scrapes and bruises**

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PURSUING COMPENSATION FOR YOUR INJURIES

Under Illinois law, victims of pedestrian accidents have limited time in which to file a personal injury claim. This time frame is known as the statute of limitations. Generally, you must file a claim within two years of being injured in an accident. Failure to meet this deadline could mean that you lose your right to pursue compensation. As a result, it is important to seek legal representation as soon as possible.

At the Chicago law firm of Briskman Briskman & Greenberg, we are confident that we can help you get the compensation you deserve in a timely manner. Our [personal injury attorneys](#) understand the emotional, physical and financial devastation that an accident can cause.

We use our years of experience to pursue the maximum compensation possible for past and future medical expenses, lost wages, and other damages. You can focus on recovering from your injuries while we handle the entire legal process.

Safety Tips for Pedestrians

While it is impossible to control or predict driver behavior, there are some simple tips that pedestrians can follow to minimize their risk of being injured in a pedestrian accident.

- Walk on a sidewalk whenever possible
- Carry a flashlight at night or during low visibility
- Cross streets at designated crosswalks and avoid jay-walking
- Wear bright or reflective clothing when walking in the dark
- If there is no sidewalk, walk so that you face oncoming traffic

STEPS TO TAKE AFTER A PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENT



Seek Medical Attention:

A pedestrian accident can cause varying degrees of injury. However, you should make sure to promptly go see a doctor for treatment in all circumstances. Many injuries such as traumatic brain injury or internal bleeding can be difficult to detect.



Get a Copy of the Accident Report:

Call the police to the scene after your pedestrian accident. The officer will create an accident report. Make sure to obtain a copy of the report. It will serve as important evidence if you decide to file a personal injury claim later.



Hold on to Key Documents:

Keep records of insurance company letters, receipts from accident-related expenses, and witness contact information. You should also document the scene of the pedestrian accident with photos and notes.



Contact a Pedestrian Accident Lawyer:

You should speak to a personal injury attorney as soon as possible after your pedestrian accident. The lawyer can guide you through the legal process of pursuing compensation while you focus on recovering from your injuries.

Illinois motorists have a duty to always drive in a safe and responsible manner. Pedestrians who are injured as a result of a driver's negligence can pursue a claim for compensation. At Briskman Briskman & Greenberg, we have over 30 years of experience handling Illinois pedestrian accident cases, and we routinely handle cases against the nation's largest insurance companies.



BRISKMAN + BRISKMAN + GREENBERG

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Injured in a Chicago Pedestrian Accident?

CONTACT BRISKMAN BRISKMAN & GREENBERG

Pedestrian accidents can cause a wide range of injuries that may not only require medical attention but also long-term therapy and rehabilitation. In some cases, they may lead to permanent damage that may affect your ability to perform daily tasks or return to work.

If you or a family member was injured in a pedestrian accident, you may be able to receive compensation through a personal injury lawsuit against the responsible parties. You can recover damages for pain and suffering, medical expenses, costs for therapy, and lost income, among others.

Briskman Briskman & Greenberg represents clients in Chicago and throughout Illinois. [Contact our law firm today](#) to learn more and speak directly to a knowledgeable personal injury attorney.

We offer free initial consultations. No fee unless we are successful.