

# Pedestrian & School Bus Safety Fact Virginia 2007

Children are the most common pedestrians and also the group that is most at risk for pedestrian-related injury and death. Begin to teach and practice pedestrian safety with young children, but remember that young children need constant adult supervision around traffic.

## Pedestrian Injuries in Virginia, 2007

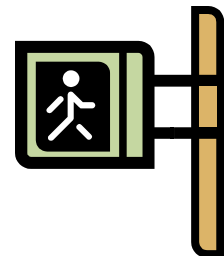
- There were 94 pedestrian deaths in 2007. A majority (77%) involved motor vehicles.
- There were 366 hospital discharges related to pedestrian injuries. Motor vehicle were involved in 84% of these cases.
- The average length of hospital stay was 8 days, with a median charge for an episode of care of \$24,791.50 .
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) occurred in 18% of cases.

## PREVENTION TIPS:

### *Pedestrian Safety*

Children are the most common pedestrians and also the group that is most at risk for pedestrian-related injury and death. To avoid being hit by a moving vehicle, children should be taught to:

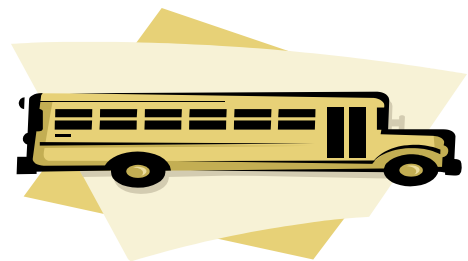
- Learn and obey traffic signals and signs.
- Cross the street at corners using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Never run out between parked cars or in the middle of the block.
- Always look LEFT, RIGHT and LEFT again before crossing the street.
- Walk on the sidewalk, when possible.
- Walk facing traffic.
- Always watch for cars.
- Hold hands with an adult in parking lots.
- Never run out in the street for any reason.
- Play in safe places away from the street.
- Never play in the driveway.



### *School Bus Safety*

The school bus is one of the safest forms of highway transportation. However, getting on and off the school bus is often the most dangerous portion of the school bus ride.

- Stand at least 10 feet or 5 giant steps from the road while waiting for the bus.
- Never run, push, or shove by the bus stop.
- Get on only when the bus is completely stopped.
- Always hold the handrail getting on and off the bus.
- Get on and off the bus without pushing.
- Stay out of the "Danger Zone", 10 feet in front of the bus.
- Cross the street in front of the bus, never behind.
- Cross the street 10 feet in front of the bus, keeping eye contact with the driver.
- Stop at the edge of the bus and look left, right and left again for passing cars.
- Tell the bus driver if something drops near the bus; never bend down near or under the bus.



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