

Get the Facts — Red-Light Cameras Save Lives

- More than **60 Floridians lost their lives**, making Florida the third-most deadly state in the nation for red-light running crashes. (*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2010*)
- Florida is the **deadliest state** in the U.S. for pedestrians — and bicyclists are at an even higher risk. (*USA Today, 3/10*)
- Florida has been in the top three states for bicycle and pedestrian fatalities every year since 2001. (*USA Today, 3/10*)

Florida hosts the top four most dangerous metropolitan areas in the nation: (1) Orlando-Kissimmee, (2) Tampa-St. Petersburg, (3) Jacksonville and (4) Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach.

(*"Dangerous by Design," 2011*)

These four areas combined had 3,359 pedestrian deaths occur over the last decade:

- ▶ Orlando-Kissimmee had 557 pedestrian deaths.
 - ▶ Tampa-St. Petersburg had 905 pedestrian deaths. (*21.5% of its traffic-related deaths*).
 - ▶ Jacksonville had 342 pedestrian deaths.
 - ▶ Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach had 1,555 pedestrian deaths. (*21.6% of its traffic-related deaths*).
- The National Safety Council estimates the comprehensive cost — including both economic and diminished quality-of-life costs — for each traffic death at \$4.3 million. Pedestrian deaths from the above four metro areas amount to \$14.4 billion.
 - A recent Tampa Bay Times poll showed **72% of residents statewide support the cameras**, agreeing they make roads safer, and **67% want to keep them**.

A Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles survey of 73 Florida communities with red-light safety cameras showed that from July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, there was:

- A 56% decrease in the total number of crashes.
- A 44% drop in angle collisions.
- A 41% reduction in rear-end crashes.

Proven Results

Statewide, the presence of red-light safety cameras is changing driver behavior, as demonstrated by the fact that of all red-light running citations issued in Florida in 2011, 94% were issued to the same vehicle only once.

■ Apopka

- One intersection saw a 72% drop in crashes, while another saw a 64% drop.

■ Collier County

- Red-light crashes dropped 25% at intersections with cameras, according to the Collier County Sheriff's Department.

■ Hillsborough County

- In 2011, Transportation for America listed Tampa as the second-most dangerous metropolitan area for pedestrians.
- Since the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office adopted its red-light camera program in 2008, crashes went from more than 500 a year to fewer than 300 a year.
- In 2012, City of Tampa Police Department records showed crashes at red-light intersections have dropped by 29% since installing cameras.

■ Miami Gardens

- Since the inception of their program, crashes have been reduced by 83% at the 12 monitored intersections.

■ North Miami

- Traffic accidents have declined by 60% since the inception of the program.

■ Orlando

- Since the program launched, accidents fell from 99 to 66 at 10 intersections and rear-end collisions dropped 20%.

■ Pembroke Pines

- Since the 2011 inception of the program, there's been a 46% decrease in the average annual number of traffic crashes at intersections with cameras.

■ Pinellas County

- In St. Petersburg, red-light related crashes have dropped 60% since the red-light safety camera program began in 2011.
- A Dec. 2011 poll by the Tampa Bay Times and Bay News 9 found that 57% of Pinellas County residents favored the cameras.

■ Temple Terrace

- Traffic violations have dropped by 67% in the two years since Temple Terrace began its red-light camera program.

Florida is the deadliest state in the U.S. for pedestrians...

Red-Light Safety Cameras — Get the Facts on Money

The primary goal of all road safety programs is to make streets safer for all drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians. Of course, there is a cost to operating these programs, and those people who violate the law by running red lights pay fines that help cover expenses.

These civil fines go directly back into the community and, in some cases, are dedicated toward parks, hospitals, medical research and schools. Here is how it is distributed:

\$83 State's General Revenue Fund.

\$75 local government.

\$10 local trauma centers.

All in **\$3 million** monthly to general fund.

Trauma centers and The Miami Project received nearly **\$7.3 million** within the past two years.

Fatalities

Florida's 62 red-light running fatalities **cost its communities \$337 million.**

Nationally, traffic fatalities and injuries **cost each American an average of \$1,522 each year** for emergency, police, legal and administrative services, and other expenses.

By reducing crashes, **intersection safety cameras save communities \$39,000 to \$50,000 annually** per intersection.

The Fatality Analysis Reporting System reports that Florida fatalities from red-light running crashes have been reduced from:

93 fatalities in **2007**

76 fatalities in **2008**

62 fatalities in **2009**

61 fatalities in **2010**

[AAA. Crashes vs. Congestion, What's the Cost to Society? Cambridge Systematics. March 2008.](#)
[Federal Highway Administration, Safety Evaluation of Red-Light Cameras. April 2005. p. 4.](#)

Injuries

In 2007, Florida recorded nearly 138,700 injury crashes.

- Of these, nearly 6,300 can be attributed to disregarding a traffic signal, including running a red light;
- **Total costs to Florida: \$791 million.**

In 2008, Florida recorded nearly 128,600 injury crashes.

- Of these, nearly 6,000 can be attributed to disregarding a traffic signal, including running a red light;
- **Total costs to Florida: \$755 million.**

In 2009, Florida recorded approximately 126,000 injury crashes.

- Of these, more than 5,550 can be attributed to disregarding a traffic signal, including running a red light;
- **Total costs to Florida: \$699 million.**

In 2010, Florida recorded nearly 124,500 injury crashes.

- Of these, less than 5,000 can be attributed to disregarding a traffic signal, including running a red light;
- **Total costs to Florida: \$692 million.**

All injury statistics were an AAA estimated cost of \$126,000 per injury crash in 2009 dollars. Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, Traffic Crash Statistics Report [2007](#), [2008](#), [2009](#), [2010](#). AAA Crashes vs. Congestion, What's the Cost to Society? Cambridge Systematics, [March 2008](#) and [November 2011](#).

Property Damage

In 2007, there were 117,658 vehicle and/or property damage only crashes in Florida.

- 1,464 can be categorized as due to disregard of a traffic signal, including running a red light.

In 2008, there were 112,416 vehicle and/or property damage only crashes in Florida.

- 1,513 can be categorized as due to disregard of a traffic signal, including running a red light.

In 2009, there were 107,731 vehicle and/or property damage only crashes in Florida.

- 1,422 can be categorized as due to disregard of a traffic signal, including running a red light.

In 2010, there were 108,353 vehicle and/or property damage only crashes in Florida.

- 1,365 can be categorized as due to disregard of a traffic signal including running a red light.

Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles [2007](#), [2008](#), [2009](#), [2010](#).