NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS LOADING AND UNLOADING SURVEY

2009-2010

leadership and support for student learning

Kansas
state department of
Education

www.ksde.org
January 2011

The National School Bus Loading and Unloading Survey is a collection of fatality accident records provided by the state agencies responsible for school transportation safety and/or accident records*. Only those fatalities involving school children in or around the loading or unloading areas of a school bus or transit bus are included in this survey. On-board fatalities are excluded.

** Numbers are only as accurate as the reporting agency has provided.*

2009-2010 National School Bus Loading & Unloading Survey

Limited quantities of this document are available from the address provided below. Please feel free to reproduce and utilize the survey data as desired, as it provided specifically for this purpose.

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This survey is provided annually to the school transportation industry in an effort to alert individuals and organizations of the dangers involved in loading and unloading school children. Fatalities continue to occur at the bus stop, caused by a variety of circumstances and errors on the part of the school bus driver or passing motorist. It points out the continuing need for forceful, advanced instruction to school bus drivers and students, as well as the need to increase our efforts to thoroughly inform the driving public about the requirements of the school bus stop law.

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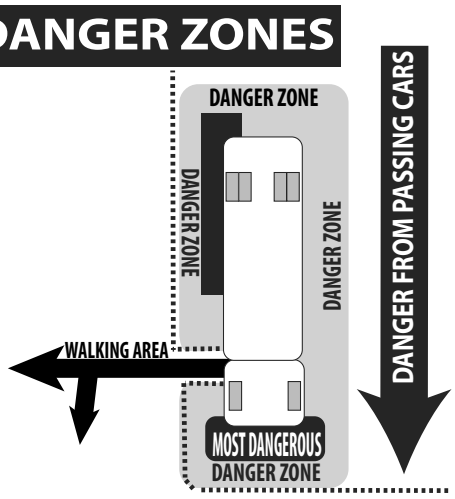
Reports of Fatalities by State - 2009

Total Fatalities 13

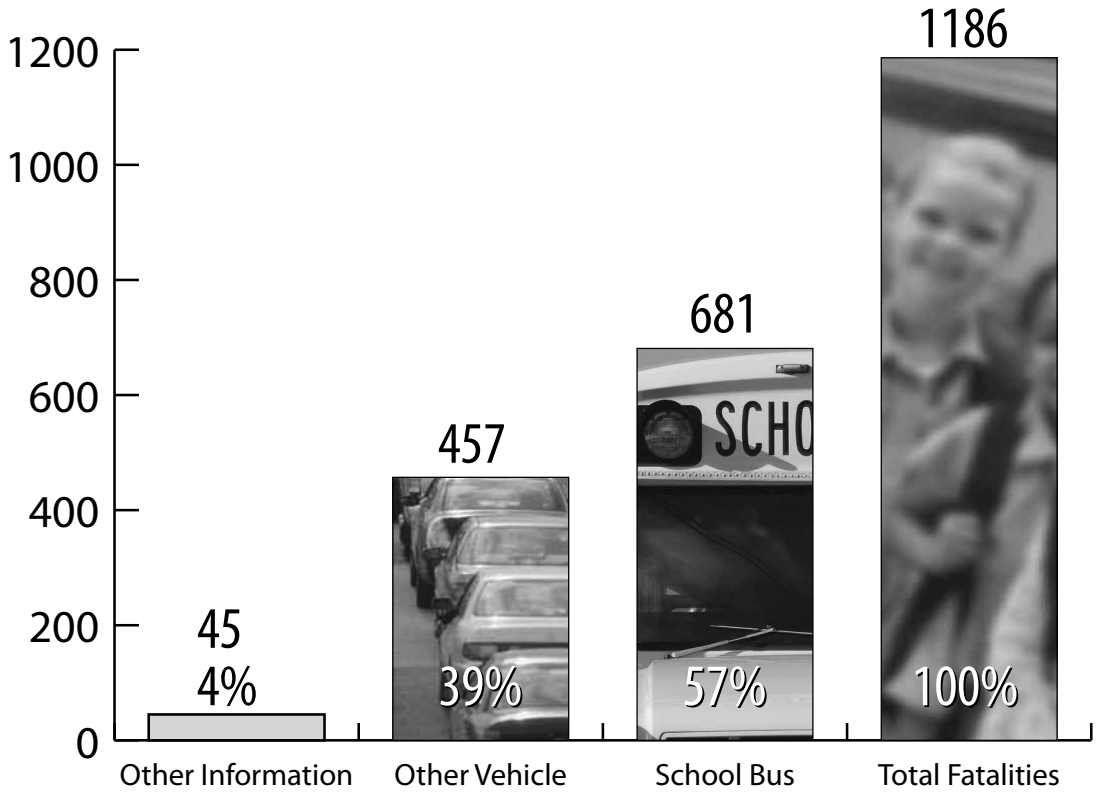
50 States & Washington, D.C. Surveyed	2006	2007	2008	2009
Number reporting fatalities	5	5	11	8
Number reporting no fatalities	45	45	39	43
Number not Reporting	1	1	0	0

2009-2010 Fatality Report

1. Alabama: A nine-year-old girl exited the school bus on the way home from school. As she was walking down the right side of the bus out of view of the driver, the girl lost her balance and fell underneath the right rear wheels of the bus which rolled over her.
2. Georgia: A twelve-year-old male walked into the path of a school bus while waiting at his school bus stop. The student was struck by the right front tires of a school bus. (The school bus the student was going to ride to school was the third school bus in line of the approaching vehicles.)
3. Georgia: As the five-year-old male exited the school bus in the afternoon, he was struck and killed by the right front tire of the school bus. The investigation found that the driver failed to count students as they exited the bus.
4. Georgia: A five-year-old female exited the school and was struck and killed by a passing motorist that failed to stop. To avoid hitting a vehicle that had stopped behind the school bus, she swerved to the right hit the student as she exited the school bus.
5. Georgia: A fourteen-year-old female missed her school bus stop and was attempting to catch the school bus at another location. The school bus was at an intersection attempting to turn right. This was not a scheduled bus stop, and as the female student attempted to cross in front of the bus to the driver's left side, the driver did not see the student approaching due to darkness. The female was struck and killed by the left front wheels.
6. Georgia: A seven-year-old male and another student were crossing the roadway to board the school bus. The school bus driver had the eight-way lights activated, but the elderly driver stated he did not see school bus or the children in the fog until it was too late to avoid hitting the students. Both students were struck. The seven-year-old died from his injuries.
7. Kansas: A nine-year-old female was waiting at the bus stop when she was struck and killed by right front tire of the school bus. The driver advised he was north bound when he drove off the right shoulder and struck a stop sign with the mirror of his vehicle. He then backed up the bus and turned left onto the intersecting street. As he was continuing his route, the children on the bus advised him that he had struck the nine-year-old student. She was pronounced dead at the scene.
8. Mississippi: A five-year-old male was struck and killed by a passing motorist. No incident details were available from the state.
9. Minnesota: A seven-year-old male was struck by the front bumper of the school bus, then was run over and killed by the rear dual wheels.
10. North Carolina: A driver of an on-coming vehicle had initially stopped for the school bus, stating she thought the bus was about to turn left. As the motorist realized that the school bus was not going to turn in front of her, she proceeded straight ahead and struck and killed a six-year-old female as she crossed the street after exiting the school bus. Witnesses stated that all appropriate signals and lights were activated on the school bus.
11. Ohio: A fifteen-year-old female was crossing the street to her school bus when she was struck and killed by an on-coming vehicle. The school bus was stopped with its red traffic control lights and stop sign activated. The motorist was cited for violating the law requiring all vehicles to stop for the school bus.
12. Ohio: A fifteen-year-old female was walking to her bus stop and walked into the street in front of a moving school bus. The school bus driver was in the process of turning left and was looking away from the student as she walked into the path of the school bus. The female was struck and killed by the right front wheels of the school bus.
13. Pennsylvania: A six-year-old male was dropped off by his school bus near his home. Without notice the student ran out in front of the school bus and was struck by the front wheels. He later died from his injuries.



40 Year Totals: School Related Vehicle versus the Other Vehicle



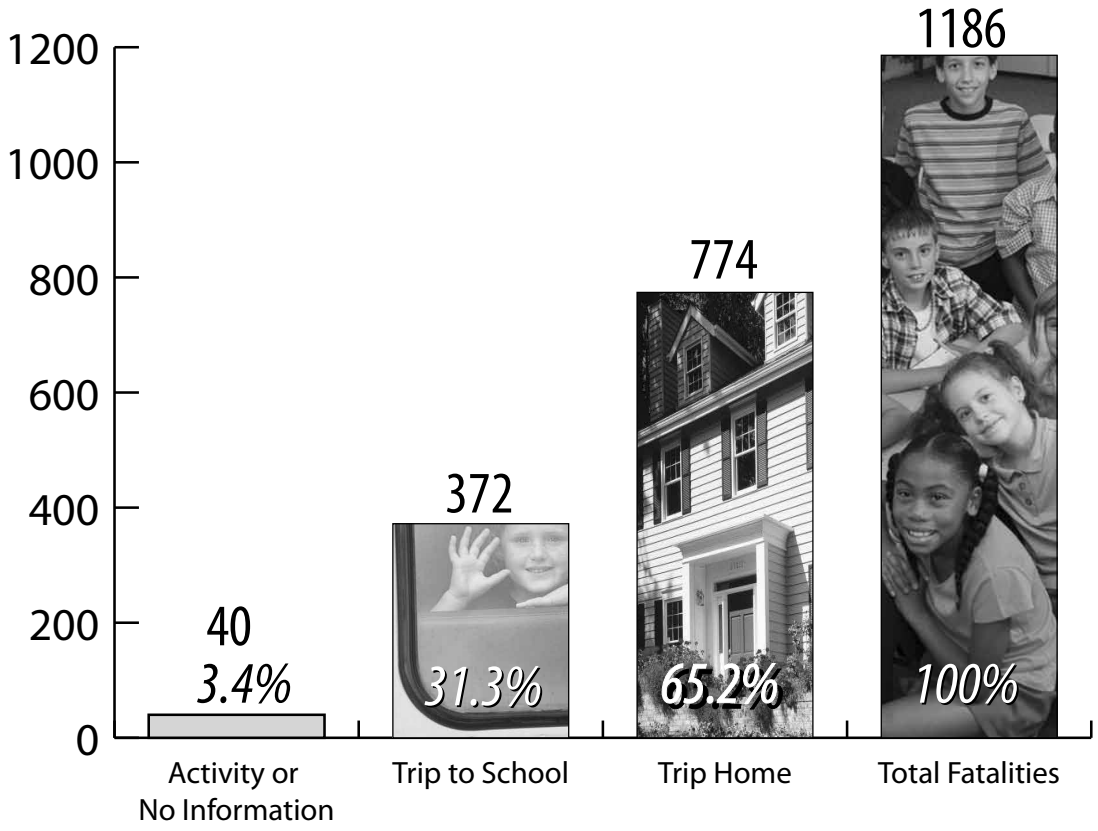
School Children Killed by Vehicle Passing School Bus	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total	4	4	7	5
Other	0	0	0	0
(School Bus & other vehicle) **Total**	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

School Children's Position When Killed by School Bus	2006	2007	2008	2009
Front of Bus	2	1	3	6
Back of Bus	1	0	7	2
Total	**3**	**1**	**10**	**8**

Objects Caught, Dropped Objects or Fell Down	2006	2007	2008	2009
Object Caught in Handrail	0	0	0	0
Object Caught in Closed Door	0	0	0	0
Dropped Object	0	0	1	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**

School Bus Size	2006	2007	2008	2009
Type A	0	0	0	0
Type B	0	0	0	0
Type C	2	0	6	7
Type D	1	1	3	1
Public Transit	0	0	0	0
Other	3	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	1	0
Total	**7**	**1**	**10**	**8**

40 Year Totals: Destination



School Children Killed	2006	2007	2008	2009
Going to School	4	2	13	6
Activity Trip	0	0	0	0
Going Home	3	3	3	7
No information	0	0	1	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Place Pupil Was Killed	2006	2007	2008	2009
Unloading on School Ground A.M.	0	0	2	0
Loading on School Ground P.M.	0	0	0	0
Waiting at Bus Stop A.M.	2	2	7	3
Getting off of Bus P.M.	3	0	3	6
Walking/Running to Bus Stop A.M.	2	0	5	3
Walking/Running from Bus Stop P.M.	0	3	0	1
Road, Street or Highway	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
No Information	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Day and Month of Fatality

Day of the Week Fatality Occurred (2009 only)	2009
Monday	3
Tuesday	2
Wednesday	5
Thursday	2
Friday	1
Saturday	0
Sunday	0
Unknown	0

Month Fatality Occurred	2006	2007	2008	2009
January	1	2	4	1
February	1	0	3	1
March	0	0	0	3
April	1	0	5	0
May	0	0	0	2
June	0	0	1	1
July	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	1	1
September	2	2	1	2
October	0	0	1	0
November	2	0	1	0
December	0	1	0	2
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Light and Weather Conditions

Light Condition	2006	2007	2008	2009
Dawn	2	0	1	3
Dusk	0	0	0	0
Daylight	3	4	15	9
Dark	2	1	1	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Road Conditions	2006	2007	2008	2009
Dry	6	3	14	12
Wet	1	1	2	1
Snow/Slush	0	0	1	0
Ice/Snow Packed	0	1	0	0
Mud/Dirt/Sand	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

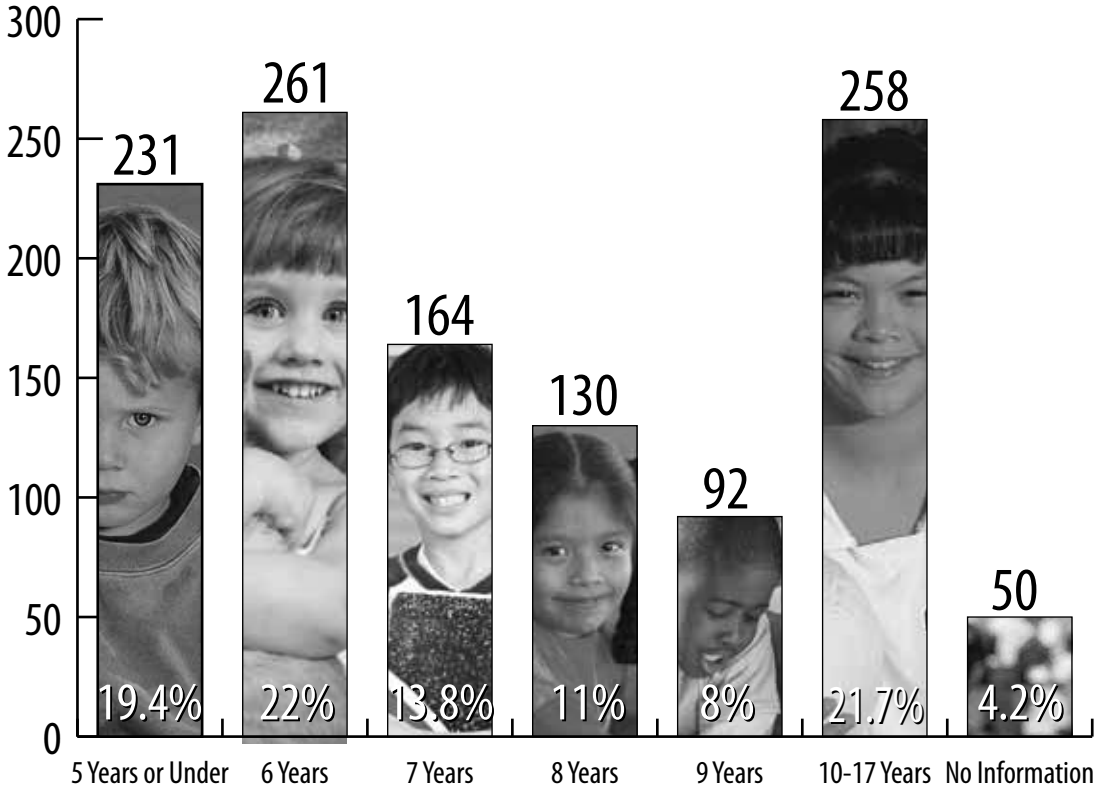
Weather Conditions	2006	2007	2008	2009
Clear	6	4	13	10
Cloudy	0	1	2	1
Cloudy/Raining	1	0	0	1
Rain	0	0	1	0
Snow/Sleet/Ice	0	0	1	0
Fog	0	0	0	1
Unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Area and Road Types

Area Fatality Occurred	2006	2007	2008	2009
Urban	3	2	11	10
Rural	4	3	6	3
No Information	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Type of Road	2006	2007	2008	2009
Gravel	0	0	0	2
City Street	2	1	8	10
State Highway	2	2	4	1
Federal Highway	1	0	0	0
Interstate	0	0	0	0
County Road	2	0	1	0
Other	0	2	4	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

40 Year Totals: Fatalities by Age



Age of Pupil Killed *(years)*	2006	2007	2008	2009
2	0	0	1	0
3	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	2	0
5	1	1	0	3
6	1	1	1	2
7	0	0	2	2
8	0	0	1	0
9	1	1	1	2
10	0	1	0	0
11	0	0	3	0
12	1	0	3	1
13	0	0	0	0
14	1	0	0	1
15	1	0	1	2
16	1	0	2	0
17	0	1	0	0
No Information	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Sex of Child	2006	2007	2008	2009
Female	3	1	5	7
Male	4	4	12	6
Number not Reporting	0	0	0	0
Total	**7**	**5**	**17**	**13**

Summary of Interesting Loading and Unloading Statistics

- During the past 40 years 788 fatalities occurred to students 2 - 9 years of age or 66%.
- In 2009-2010 students departing from the bus or on their way home involved 53.8% of all fatalities.
- Fatalities attributed to the school bus were 61.5%. Those involving "the other vehicle," were 38.4% for 2009-2010.

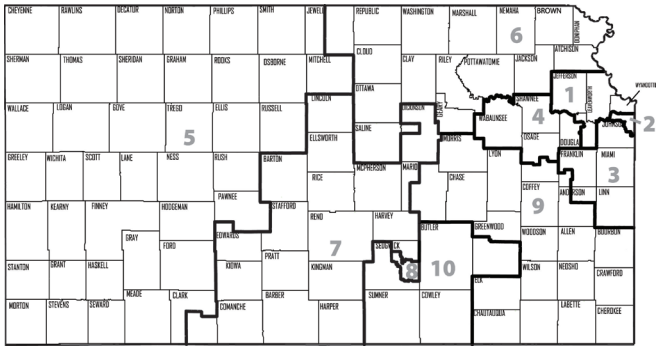
Kansas State Board of Education
120 S.E. 10th Avenue • Topeka, Kansas 66612-1182

Education Priorities of the Kansas State Board of Education

Ensure that all students meet or exceed high academic standards and are prepared for their next steps (e.g., the world of work and/or post secondary education). To accomplish the mission of the Kansas State Board of Education, the Board has identified four goals. They are as follows:

- Redesign the delivery system to meet our students' changing needs.
- Provide an effective educator in every classroom.
- Ensure a visionary and effective leader in every school.
- Improve collaboration with families and communities, constituent groups and policy partners.

Kansas State Board of Education
Adopted 5/2009



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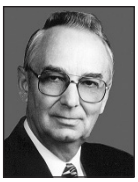

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An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency
The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:
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