

Safe Streets and Roads for All Average Annual Fatality Rate

This document provides instructions on how to obtain the necessary data and calculate the Average Annual Motor Vehicle-Involved Roadway Fatalities for inclusion in a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant application. The SS4A [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) requires that applicants use the most recent five years of data available in the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). **FARS data from 2019-2023 should be used.**

This document uses an example of **Washington County, Maryland** for collecting and calculating the data.

Retrieving Fatality Data from FARS

1. Go to the [Fatality and Injury Reporting System Tool \(FIRST\)](#) website to view the FARS data. At the top of the screen, select the tab for **"People."** Under "Select Fatality and/or Injury," select **"Persons Killed in Fatal Crashes"** and select **2019-2023** under "Time Frame."
2. To select a county or city, first select "State" and type in or select the state. Type in or select the county OR city in the appropriate box. Note: Users cannot select both cities and counties due to potential overlapping boundaries. In the example below, Maryland is selected as the state and Washington is selected as the county.

The screenshot shows the FARS data selection interface. At the top, there are tabs for "Crashes", "Vehicles", "People", "Drivers", "Occupants", "Pedestrians", and "Pedalcyclists". The "People" tab is selected. Below the tabs, there are three main sections:

- Select Fatality and/or Injury:** This section contains several radio button options. "Persons Killed in Fatal Crashes" is selected. Other options include "Persons Involved in Fatal Crashes", "All Persons Involved in Motor Vehicle Crashes", "Estimated Persons Involved in Injury Only Motor Vehicle Crashes", "Estimated Persons Involved in Property-Damage-Only (PDO) Motor Vehicle Crashes", "Estimated Persons Involved in Injury and PDO Non-Fatal Motor Vehicle Crashes", and "All Persons Involved in Motor Vehicle Crashes". There are also two red asterisked notes: "* No Region, State, County or City is available for Injury, PDO, and All crashes data." and "** Changing Metric types, resets all panels to application default values."
- Select Time Frame:** This section shows a "Time Frame" dropdown set to "Years" and a horizontal timeline. The timeline has markers for 2009, 2014, 2019, and 2023. A blue bar highlights the period from 2019 to 2023.
- Select State or Region:** This section has a "State" radio button selected. Below it are three input boxes: "Maryland", "Washington", and "All Cities". There are also two red asterisked notes: "* County and City selections are available only when a single State is selected." and "* Users cannot select both Cities and Counties due to potential overlapping boundaries." Below these is an "NHTSA Region" radio button option and another red asterisked note: "* State/County/City/Region selections are only available for Fatal Crashes."

3. Click Submit.

- The output will resemble the table below. The TOTAL number of Persons Killed in Fatal Crashes over the five-year period (**89**) is located in the bottom right cell of the table, highlighted in the table below.

Persons Killed in Fatal Crashes

Year*	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
2019	4	1	2	0	2	2	1	1	3	7	4	1	28
2020	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	0	10
2021	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	2	1	0	2	0	12
2022	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	5	0	2	2	1	21
2023	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	4	0	1	1	18
Total	9	5	6	4	6	7	5	10	10	13	11	3	89

*Note that if there were no fatalities in the jurisdiction during one or more of the years, no row for that year will be shown.

Calculating Fatality Rate per 100,000 Population

Jurisdiction Population

For purposes of the FY26 SS4A application, you must use the 2020 U.S. Census population, consistent with the population data provided elsewhere in your SS4A application. If multiple jurisdictions are involved in the application, combine the populations and use the total in the calculation described below.

Average Annual Fatality Rate (per 100,000 population)

To calculate the Average Annual Fatality Rate (per 100,000 population), use the following equation:

$$\left(\frac{\text{Total Number of Vehicle Crashes}/5}{\text{Jurisdiction Population \#}} \right) * 100,000 = \left(\frac{\frac{89}{5}}{150,600} \right) * 100,000 = 11.8$$