

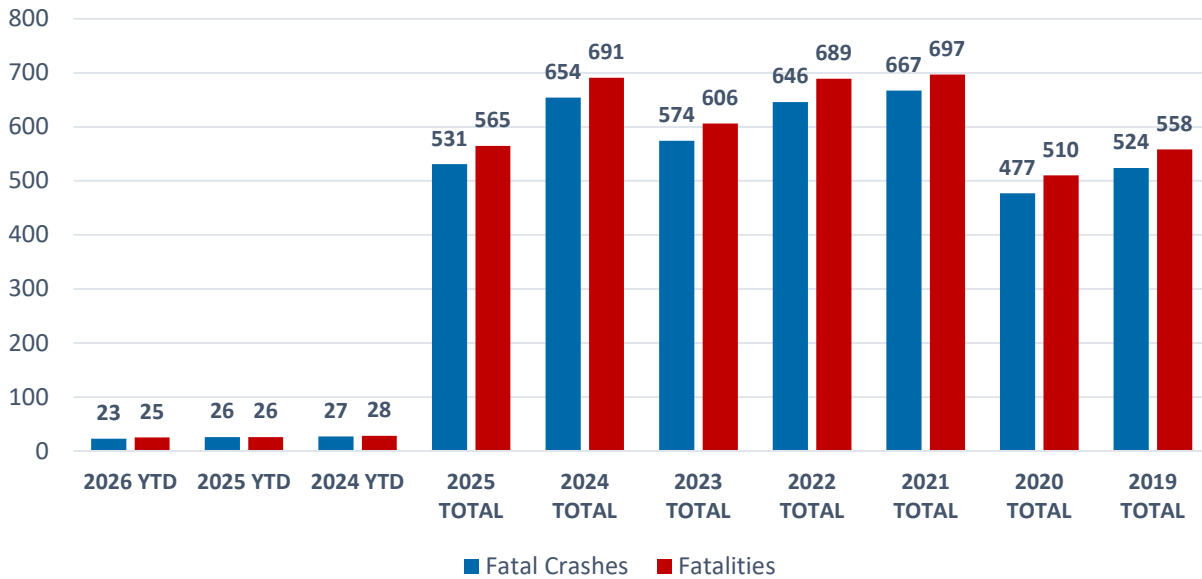


NEW JERSEY

Traffic Safety Bulletin

January 20, 2026

Year to Date — Statewide Fatal Crash Statistics



FATAL CRASHES	
2026	23
2025	26
2024	27
2025 TOTALS	531
2024	654
2023	574
2022	646
2021	667
2020	477

FATALITIES	
2026	25
2025	263
2024	28
2025 TOTALS	565
2024	691
2023	606
2022	689
2021	697
2020	510

- YTD Percentage Change 2025 – 2026: -3.8% (-1)
- TOTAL Percentage Change 2024 – 2025: -7.1% (-2)

Fatal crash data can be viewed as a barometer or measuring stick of the state's overall roadway health. Sustained traffic safety engagement and enforcement decrease the physical, emotional, and monetary victimization of the motoring public due to violent traffic collisions. Please join us in SAVING LIVES and REDUCING INJURIES from traffic crashes.

www.NJSafeRoads.com



— Moving Toward Zero Fatalities —



NEW JERSEY E-BIKE LAW, Effective Date: January 19, 2026

New Jersey has enacted updated statewide regulations governing electric bicycles (e-bikes). The law establishes licensing, registration, and insurance requirements and clarifies rules for both riders and motorists. The goal is to create consistent standards, reduce crashes, and promote safer shared road use.

WHAT IS COVERED

E-Bike Classifications:

1. Class 1 & Class 2 – Maximum speed: 20 mph
2. Class 3 – Maximum speed: 28 mph; treated similarly to motorized bicycles

All e-bikes in New Jersey now require a licensed rider, state registration, and insurance coverage. These measures are intended to enhance safety, accountability, and responsible e-bike use on New Jersey roadways.

NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR RIDERS

Licensing Requirements:

- Possess a valid NJ driver's license, OR
- Be at least 15 years old and obtain a motorized bicycle license

Registration:

- All e-bikes must be registered with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC).

Insurance:

- E-bike owners must carry liability insurance, similar to motor vehicles.

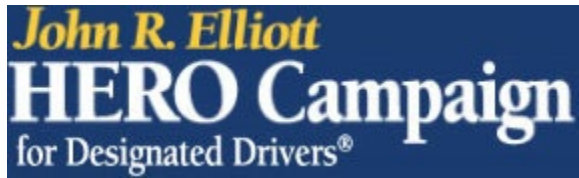
Minimum Age:

- Riders under 15 years old are not permitted to operate e-bikes with motor assistance.

LAW ENFORCEMENT GUIDANCE

Initial enforcement emphasis is expected to focus on education and compliance rather than strict penalties. N.J.S.A. 39:4-14.16 – 39:4-14.17, Violation Fine: \$50

- Focus on education first
- Encourage voluntary compliance
- Address unsafe behaviors such as dangerous or reckless riding and unlicensed or uninsured operation



John's Law Anniversary

This April marks the 25th anniversary of “John’s Law,” one of New Jersey’s most significant impaired-driving statutes and a cornerstone of our state’s commitment to traffic safety. John’s Law was enacted in 2001 following the tragic death of Ensign John R. Elliott, who was killed by an intoxicated driver while returning home from the United States Naval Academy. The driver who struck John had been arrested for DWI earlier that same night, released, and allowed to regain access to his vehicle. Determined to prevent other families from experiencing similar loss, John’s parents, Bill and Muriel Elliott, worked tirelessly with lawmakers and law enforcement leaders to strengthen New Jersey’s impaired-driving laws.

Key Provision of John’s Law

Under John’s Law, when a motorist is arrested for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) in New Jersey, the vehicle they were operating must be impounded for a minimum of 12 hours. This requirement ensures that an impaired driver cannot immediately return to the road and create further danger. The law also requires documentation when a third party takes custody of the vehicle, reinforcing accountability and giving officers clear authority to safeguard the public after an arrest.

Why It Still Matters

Impaired driving remains a serious threat on New Jersey roadways. Alcohol-involved crashes continue to account for approximately 20–30 percent of traffic fatalities statewide each year. John’s Law has proven to be a critical tool in preventing repeat offenses and stopping intoxicated drivers from re-entering traffic after arrest.

The HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers

In addition to John’s Law, the Elliott family established the HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to preventing drunk-driving tragedies by promoting the use of safe, sober designated drivers.

The HERO Campaign works closely with law enforcement, schools, military organizations, and community partners to build a culture where having a designated driver is a routine and responsible choice.

More information and resources are available at: www.herocampaign.org



Super Bowl Buzzed Driving Prevention Material

We're 30 days away from kickoff! This timely safety messaging can help boost traffic safety communication efforts. Use this themed material to encourage people to plan for a safe, sober ride home before the big game. Many assets are available in English and Spanish.

[Get Material Now](#)

On behalf of the NHTSA team, thanks for your proactive support in saving lives on our America's roads.



Scroll through the calendar and click any date for campaign material. Printable PDFs and events calendar are available [here](#).



Goal Zero Statewide Rollout

Friday January 16, 2026 from 3-7pm.

[GOAL ZERO REPORTING LINK](#)

Follow the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, and visit [NJSafeRoads.com](https://www.njsaferoads.com).

Traffic Safety Marketing: Communication Resources

For States, Partner Organizations, and Highway Safety Professionals



DDEF- Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund

Funds are secured upon conviction

Refusal statute is still a problem: Use 39:4-50.4A

Can be used to purchase 9510 breath testing device

Overtime rate for enforcement is not capped at \$70

Over \$5 million in unclaimed/unused funds

Contact Steve Slimowicz at hts.ddef@njoag.gov (609-917-8530)



Contact: William “Will” Yarzab, Street Smart NJ Coordinator

Tel: 973.877.8120 Cell: 908.229.4018 Wyarzab@njtpa.org



The IACP is now accepting workshop proposals for the [Impaired Driving and Traffic Safety \(IDTS\) Conference](#) taking place August 21-23, 2026, in Anaheim, California.

2026 NHTSA Communications Calendar



There will be a change with the 2026 tuning fork testing due to a scheduling conflict with NJ Weights and Measures. Testing will take place during March for departments “A” through “M,” and departments “N” through “Z” in April. If your needs preclude your following the schedule, then you can avail yourself of either date.

Attached is a copy of the Weights and Measures tuning fork rules and a copy of the tuning fork application. Costs are \$10 per fork tested. It is advised to have your purchase order attached to the application so W&M can process it at the time of testing.

Inspection and Test Radar Turning Forks Application



The 2026 Summit Hub is Now Live!

We are excited to announce that the online **Summit Hub for the 2026 NJ Bike & Walk Summit is now available!** Visit the 2026 Summit Hub for more information about the event, including registration and sponsorship opportunities!

When: Saturday, March 7, 2026

Where: The Conference Center at the Crowne Plaza Princeton, 900 Scudders Mill Road Plainsboro, NJ 08536. *(Please use 870 Scudders Mill Road the main and closest entrance to the event).*

[Visit the 2026 Summit Hub](#)



Latest News & Articles of Interest

[Click on Links](#)

[N.J. traffic deaths drop 15% in 2025 from 30-year high in previous year](#)

[Hall of Fame coach and wife killed as SUV crashes into South Jersey house](#)

[NHTSA opens probe into about 600,000 GM vehicles over engine failure issue](#)

[AAA Calls on Passengers to Help Prevent Dangerous Driving](#)

[Pedestrian killed after being struck by 2 vehicles in South Jersey](#)

[Winter road safety tips from AAA](#)

[Why US cities are reverting 1-way streets back to their original 2-way design](#)

[Sherrill names Colorado DMV official to head N.J. Motor Vehicles](#)

[Unlicensed Drivers Comprise One-Quarter Of Street Fatalities: Data \(New York\)](#)

[N.J. statewide traffic enforcement blitz Friday targets dangerous driving behaviors](#)

[Traffic Deaths Decline In 2025 NJ In Most But Not All Counties](#)

[Traffic Fatality Rate Hits 10-Year Low, but Late 2025 Trends Raise Concern](#)

[GM recalls more than 80K Chevy vehicles over serious pedestrian safety risk](#)

[A Spike in Semi-Truck Crashes in Arkansas Highlights a National Highway Safety Crisis.](#)

[US issues safety warning after more deadly crashes involving faulty Chinese-made airbag parts](#)

[New Jersey Traffic Fatalities Decline by Approximately 15% in 2025](#)

[UPDATE: Attorney General's Office Releases Video Footage and Radio Communications from September 28, 2025 Fatal Crash in North Bergen, N.J.](#)

[Cars in his living room? Harding resident asks for help to end speeding, crashes on Kitchell Road](#)



RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK

**Center for Advanced Infrastructure
and Transportation**

School of Engineering

1. Data-Driven Countermeasures for Traffic Safety

February 10-11, 2026 8a-4p Rutgers

(Mine data, submit a 1-year grant to DHTS and employ countermeasures to address a traffic safety concern)

[NJDHTS - Data-Driven Countermeasures for Traffic Safety \(In-person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

2. Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity

February 20, 2026 8a-4p Ocean County

(Why we do it, traffic laws, professional conduct, traffic stop procedures, documentation and court room testimony)

[Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity \(In-Person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

3. Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity

February 27, 2026 8a-4p Morris County

(Why we do it, traffic laws, professional conduct, traffic stop procedures, documentation and court room testimony)

[Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity \(In-Person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

4. Traffic Incident Management

March 05, 2026 8a-1p Virtual

(Crash scene safety)

[NJLTAP - Traffic Incident Management \(Webinar\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

5. Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity

March 13, 2026 8a-4p Middlesex County

(Why we do it, traffic laws, professional conduct, traffic stop procedures, documentation and court room testimony)

[Traffic Enforcement & Engagement Acuity \(In-Person\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

6. NJTR-1 Refresher

March 27, 2026 8a-1p Virtual

(Completing the Crash Report Accurately)

[NJDHTS - NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher \(Webinar\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)

7. NJTR-1 Refresher

March 31, 2026 8a-1p Virtual

(Completing the Crash Report Accurately)

[NJDHTS - NJTR-1 Crash Form Refresher \(Webinar\) - Rutgers CAIT](#)



Fundamentals of At-Scene Crash Investigation

A new one-week class is replacing the two-week Basic Crash Investigation Class

The pilot class is scheduled to be held at the
Morris County Police Academy

February 23 to 27, 2026

For the course syllabus and to register, go to

<https://form.jotform.com/242975471866169>

Technical Crash Investigation and Vehicle Dynamics Analysis

A new two-week class is replacing the Advanced Crash Investigation Class

The pilot class is scheduled to be held at the
Somerset County Emergency Services Training Academy

March 2 to 13, 2026

For the course syllabus and to register, go to

<https://form.jotform.com/242976277850167>

Technical Crash Investigation and Vehicle Dynamics Analysis Class

April 6 to 17, 2026

Burlington County ESTC

Registration link <https://form.jotform.com/260055641047148>

14th

Registration opens January



This one-day LASER Speed Enforcement Operator's Course (LIDAR) provides law enforcement officers with both classroom instruction and hands-on outdoor practical exercises.

These courses are sponsored by Laser Technology Inc. (LTI) and is offered at no cost to attending officers.

Scheduled Classes (all classes start at 9:00 am)

February 12, 2026 (Thursday) - Stafford Twp (Ocean County)

March 17, 2026 (Tuesday) - Bridgewater Twp (Somerset County)

[Click here for more details and to register for one of these classes.](#)

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If you have any questions or issues with enrollment, contact Rich Maxwell at richard.maxwell@kean.edu or by cell at (732) 567-7431.



Save the Date

NJ Police Traffic Officers Association Meeting

Date: February 4, 2026 @ 1000

Location: AAA Hamilton, NJ

NJSACOP Monthly Briefing

Date: February 5, 2026 @ 1000

Location: Double Tree 700 Hope Road
Tinton Falls, NJ

If you have any questions, or suggestions for future posts, please do not hesitate to contact the NJSACOP Traffic Safety Team @ mmorris@njsacop.org & wparenti@njsacop.org. Our Statewide Traffic Safety Coalition is constantly looking for new ideas, images, and traffic safety success stories to publicize. Thank you in advance for your efforts in making our roadways safe. **#SafeRoadsNJ**

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