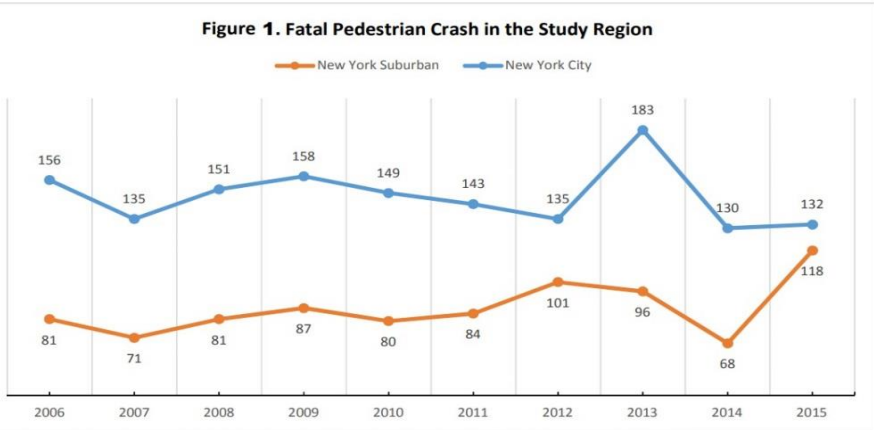


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## NYMTC REPORT: NEW YORK STREETS SAFER FOR PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS

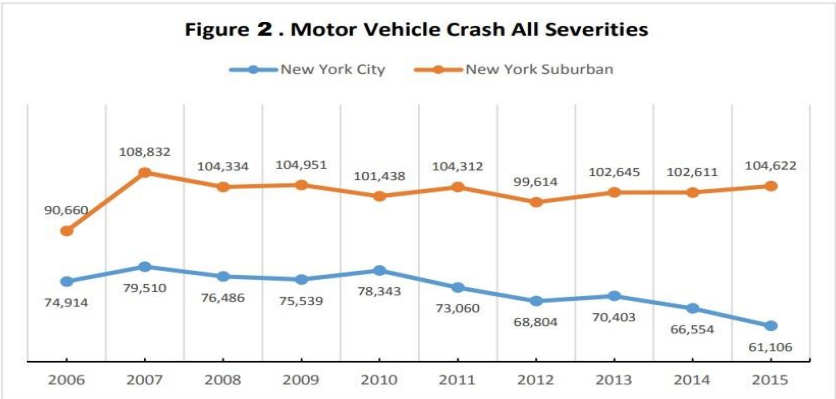
NEW YORK –As thousands of families walk to school this October as part of International Walk to School Month, new data from the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) finds that streets are now safer in New York City and its surrounding counties.



Offering a very interesting picture into the overall safety of the New York metropolitan area’s transportation system, the 2015 Regional Transportation Statistical Report dives into key figures related to accidents involving pedestrians, bicyclists and motor vehicles over a 10-year period that concluded in 2015.

Within New York City, fatal pedestrian crashes continued to decrease to approximately 130 accidents in 2014 after recording an all-time high in 2013 for the period (See Figure 1). Also, motor vehicle crashes continued to trend downward in the five boroughs (See Figure 2). For instance, in 2015, there were 61,106 crashes, which was approximately 18,000 below the reported crashes in 2007 and nearly 5,000 below the reported crashes in 2014. Additionally, from 2013 to 2015, New York City experienced a decline of approximately 800 fatal and injury crashes that involved bicycle riders and motor vehicles (See Figure 3).

Meanwhile, New York’s suburban counties (Dutchess, Nassau, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester Counties) saw fatal crashes involving pedestrians (See Figure 1) and motor vehicle crashes (See Figure 2) increase. However, fatal and injury crashes involving



bicyclists and motor vehicles (See Figure 3) experienced a steady decline over the 10-year period prior to 2015's low of 965 reported incidents.

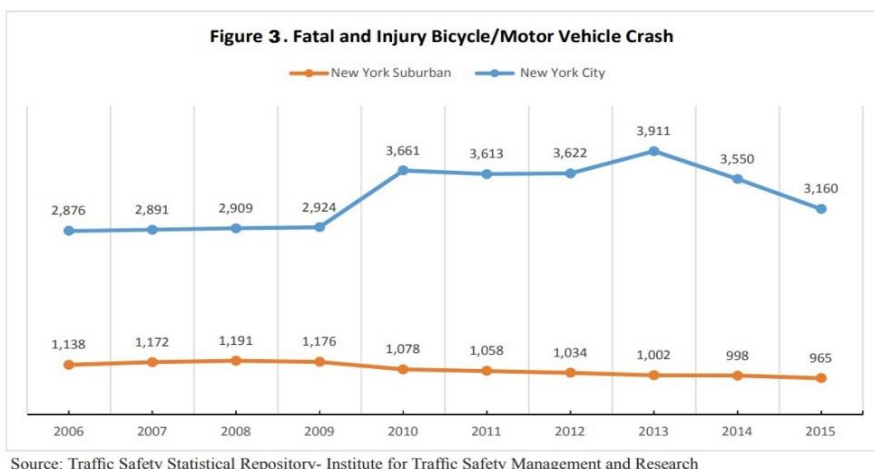
Focused on improving the region's transportation system for the future, Plan 2045 – NYMTC's current Regional Transportation Plan – features safety as a regional goal that is paramount to the transportation planning process. The [Regional Transportation Statistical Report](#) includes key statistics, which serve as a report card on the overall region's performance toward achieving mobility and safety objectives.

Efforts have been in place at the local and state level to implement safety improvements and raise community awareness within NYMTC's planning region. Previously, New York City launched "[Vision Zero](#)" in 2014 to eliminate traffic fatalities. Also, there are programs like "[Safety City](#)" that work to teach New York City school children about traffic safety. Other similar programs include the New York City Department of Transportation's (NYC DOT) "[We're Walking Here](#)" initiative, which invites students to discuss ways to change

our behavior on the streets in order to lower traffic fatalities and injuries. Additionally, the [Safe Routes to School \(SRTR\) program](#) – a federal, state and local effort supported by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and other NYMTC member agencies – seeks to assist New York communities in developing and implementing projects and programs that encourage walking and bicycling to school while enhancing overall safety.

As listed in NYMTC's [Regional Transportation Plan](#), pedestrian safety efforts – led by its member agencies – have focused on all age groups and populations. For instance, New York City's "Safe-Streets-for-Seniors" program – a pedestrian safety initiative for New York City's older residents – and NYSDOT's "Safe Seniors" pilot program in Long Island seek to educate and inform our region's seniors. Within NYMTC's 10-county planning region, there are similar programs that aim to encourage the safe travel of pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists (See [Chapter 5: Transportation System Management & Operations](#)). Also, information regarding initiatives to enhance the region's pedestrian and bicycle transportation system can be found in the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Element of Plan 2045](#).

For more information, please view the Regional Transportation Statistical Report [here](#).



The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues, develop regional plans and make decisions on the use of federal transportation funds for its planning area. NYMTC is comprised of nine voting members and seven advisory members who develop plans, goals and a shared vision for the region's transportation network, which includes a planning area that covers 2,440 square miles and includes a population of 12.4 million, which was approximately 64% of New York State's population, based on the 2010 Census.