

Safety Bulletin		Department HSEQ	Safety Bulletin Number 2019-0401
Subject Pedestrian Safety		Issuing Authority SAFETY	
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Subject Overview: As many of us need to cross traffic on a frequent, sometimes daily basis, we need to keep pedestrian safety in mind. Often, the quick route is not the safest route. You may save a few seconds in taking the shortcut, but are those few seconds saved really worth the risk? According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were 5,987 pedestrians killed in traffic accidents in 2016. This marked the highest number of pedestrians killed since 1990. As distraction is still a nagging problem amongst motorists (April is National Distracted Driving Month!), pedestrians need to be alert of their surroundings at all times and avoid distractions themselves!



Michael Mingo from MTC Facilities safely utilizing the crosswalk

Pedestrian Accident Statistics

Of the 2016 pedestrian fatalities:

- 76% occurred in urban areas;
- 72% occurred outside of intersections;
- 75% occurred after sunset;
- 20% were hit and run incidents;
- Most likely to be struck by the front of vehicles;
- With the national average of pedestrian fatalities at 16%, New York State had the highest percentage at 29.7%.



Pedestrian Safety Tips

- Walk on the sidewalk or designated areas as much as possible;
- Obey pedestrian traffic signals;
- Look left, right, left before crossing a street;
- Navigate streets at marked crosswalks or intersections;
- Make eye contact with the driver, but never assume that a driver will stop;
- Cross the street only after all vehicles have stopped;
- Wear bright or reflective clothes, especially after dark;
- Never begin crossing in front of a parked vehicle;
- Refrain from talking on the phone, texting, or wearing headphones;
- Watch for turning vehicles, vehicle blind spots may exist;
- Walk, avoid running;
- Pay attention and keep watch for the unexpected!