

Economic Benefits of Red-Light and Speed Safety Cameras



Myth V. Fact

Myth – If red-light cameras reduce intersection crashes, the cost for these crashes should also decrease.

Fact: **The need to reduce traffic crashes is always present**, but from a cost perspective the need for more effective safety measures is especially timely because **costs per crash are rising even though the number of crashes is declining**. From 2005 to 2012, total fatalities have decreased 21.6%, yet the cost per fatal crash has risen 100%.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Traffic Safety Facts. Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities in 2012, May 2013.

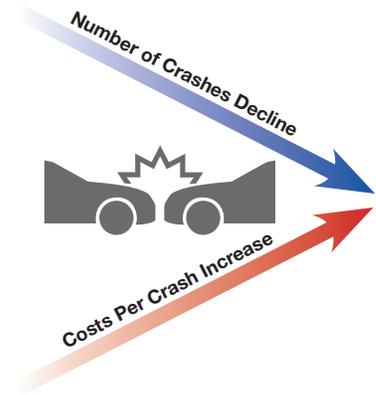
Fact: **The cost of a traffic crash on the community is on the rise.**

When adjusted for inflation, **a traffic fatality will cost society \$6.42 million** in 2013, a 100 percent increase from \$3.2 million 2005.

Source: AAA. Amount is based on 11 cost components selected by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) including workplace, medical costs, property damage and emergency services. One fatality in 2009 cost \$6 million.

Fact: **Injury crash costs are on the same upward trajectory.** The community's cost of an injury crash is up from \$68,170 in 2005 to \$134,843 in 2013, a **97.8% increase** from 2005.

Source: AAA. Amount is based on 11 cost components selected by FHWA including workplace, medical costs, property damage and emergency services.



Private insurance companies pay **50% of the societal costs** associated with every traffic crash, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The 33,780 estimated traffic fatalities in 2012 cost society **\$216 billion at \$6.4 million per fatality** and cost insurance companies **\$108 billion**. If red-light and speed safety cameras **reduced total fatalities** by an additional **25%**, the savings to the insurance industry as a whole would amount to:

- A **\$27 billion reduction** in costs for **8,445 fewer traffic fatalities** in 2012.
- An **\$8.1 billion reduction** in costs for **2,534 fewer speeding fatalities** in 2012.
- A **\$559 million savings** in expenses for **178 lives saved** from the 714 red light running fatalities in 2011.
- A **\$1.9 billion reduction** in expenses from **29,500 fewer red-light running crash-related injuries** at \$133,555 per injury cost to society.



Making Life Safer and Easier on the Road Ahead™

888.776.8475 | www.atsol.com

EB0913





Studies

According to FHWA, the **cost of a single motor vehicle fatality** is **\$6 million** in 2009 dollars.

Source: AAA. Amount is based on 11 cost components selected by FHWA including workplace, medical costs, property damage and emergency services.

According to NHTSA, private insurers pay approximately **50% of all vehicle crash costs**.

Source: NHTSA. *The Economic Impact of Motor Vehicle Crashes, 2000.*

Red-light safety cameras saved 159 lives and **reduced red-light running fatalities** by **24 percent** in 14 of the largest populated U.S. cities.

Source: "Effects of Red Light Camera Enforcement on Fatal Crashes in Large U.S. Cities" Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, February 2011.

Crash Facts

Fatal traffic crashes increased 4.4% from 32,367 in 2011 to 33,780 in 2012, the first increase in total traffic fatalities since 2005, according to the latest estimates from NHTSA.

Sources: NHTSA. *Traffic Safety Facts. Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities for the First Quarter of 2013. August 2013.*

NHTSA. *Traffic Safety Facts. Early Estimate of Motor vehicle Traffic Fatalities in 2012. May 2013.*

In 2012, **93 people died each day** in a traffic crash.

An estimated **10,134 people were killed in speed-related crashes** in 2012, up from 9,944 in 2011, according to the latest NHTSA estimates.

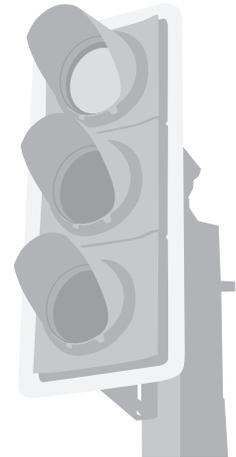
Source: Estimate based on 30% of all fatalities being speed related and NHTSA. *Traffic Safety Facts. Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities for the First Quarter of 2013. August 2013.*

Speed-related traffic crashes killed an estimated **28 people each day** in 2012.

An estimated **845 people died each month** in 2012 in speed-related traffic crashes.

On average, **27 people died in speed-related crashes each day** in 2011. That's 829 people each month and 9,944 people for the year, according to the NHTSA's National Center for Statistics and Analysis.

NHTSA estimates that the economic cost of speed-related collisions is **\$40.4 billion each year** - \$76,865 per minute or \$1,281 per second.



Making Life Safer and Easier on the Road Ahead™

888.776.8475 | www.atsol.com

EB0913

