

Making Our Communities a Safer Place

Pedestrian Safety

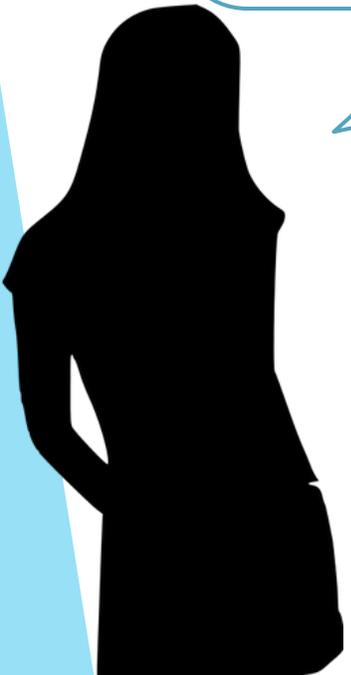


Key Vocabulary

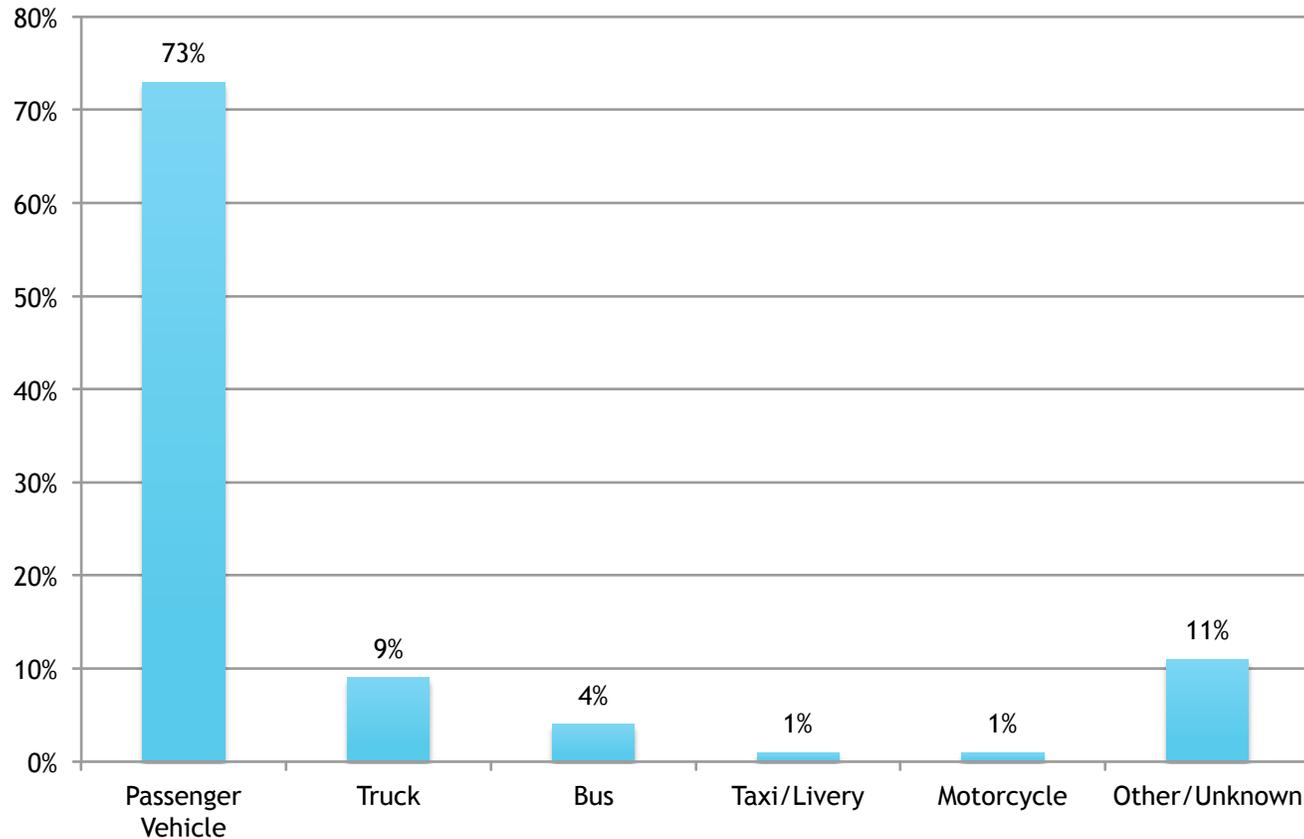
- ▶ Pedestrian
- ▶ Pedestrian Safety
- ▶ Passenger Vehicle
- ▶ Fatalities
- ▶ Medians

New York City's Problem: Pedestrian Safety

Hi, my name is Chin. I live in Sunset Park in the borough of Brooklyn, New York. I walk to school every morning. I have to cross a street with many lanes of traffic. My mom says that there have been a lot of incidents when cars hit people in the crosswalk on that street. I don't feel safe crossing there and am worried every time I do.



Looking Closer at the Problem: Fatalities

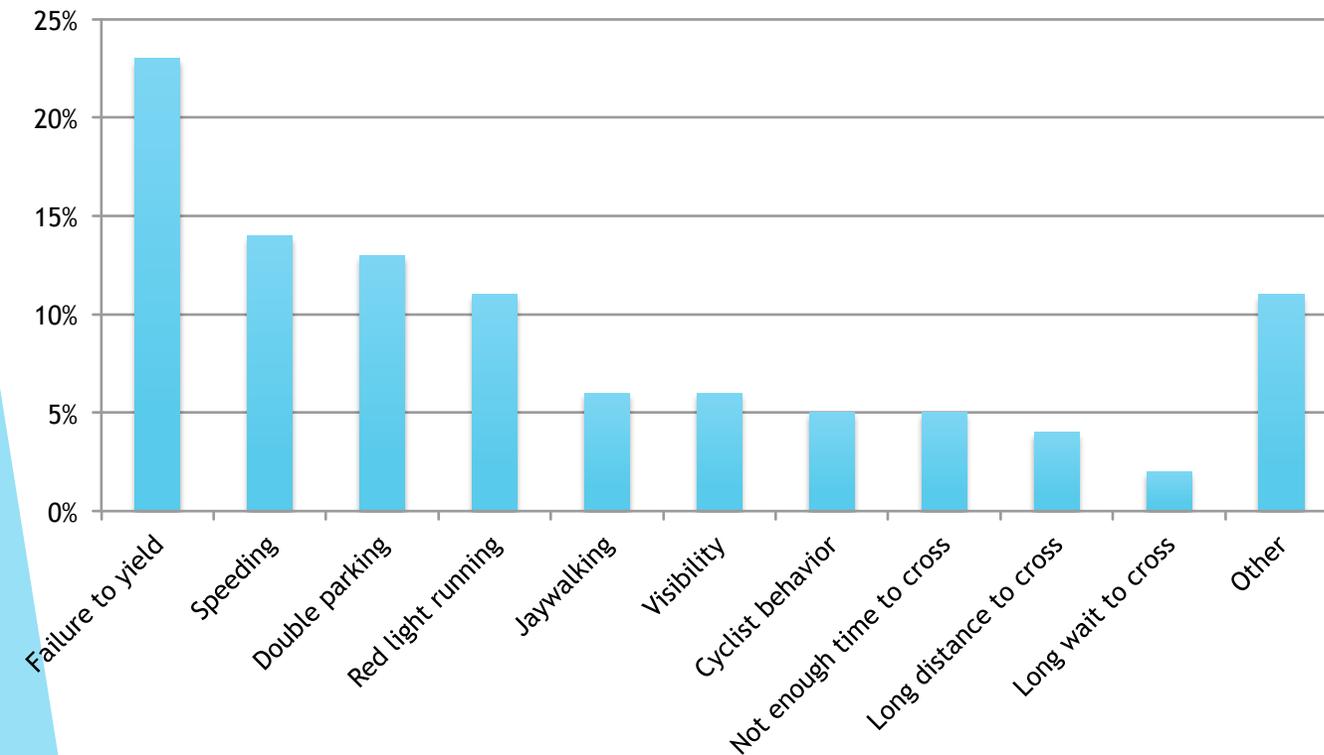


Percent of Pedestrian Fatalities by Mode, Brooklyn

In Brooklyn, almost three-quarters of pedestrian fatalities happened because of a crash with a passenger vehicle (cars, minivans and SUVs).



Looking Closer at the Problem



Pedestrian Complaints by Category, Manhattan

Pedestrian safety is an issue in all the boroughs. My friends who live in Manhattan feel the same way when they travel to school.

- People living in Manhattan cited failing to yield, speeding, red-light running, and double parking as key factors in pedestrian fatalities.
- In Manhattan, there is an average of 34 pedestrian deaths each year.

Possible Solutions

My friends and I have been thinking about possible solutions. Here are some of our ideas to help solve the pedestrian safety problem in New York City.



One solution is to add more slow-down zones in our neighborhood. In these slow-down zones, we would have larger speed limit signs that are visible for drivers.



Another solution is to re-design the street. We could add more bike lanes. We could also add more medians at the center of streets with multiple lanes of traffic.



Maybe we don't have to change the streets at all. We could hand out information about pedestrian safety to educate pedestrians and drivers about how to safely share our streets.



Collaborative Discussion Questions

You will be divided into small groups and given one of Chin's three solutions to discuss. Together, answer some of the questions below:

- ▶ How would this solution benefit pedestrians? How would it make it easier and safer for pedestrians to get around?
- ▶ What are some challenges that might occur as a result of this solution?
- ▶ Is this the best solution to address pedestrian safety in New York City? Why or why not?